

Outstanding tailor-made and small group dive holidays

Welcome

Welcome to our latest seasonal brochure; designed to inspire your next dive adventure with the very best diving and snorkelling holidays.

In this issue we introduce new resorts, tailor-made holidays and a liveaboard in our regular *What's Bubbling* feature. We also bring you a special feature on Indonesia covering Raja Ampat, Halmahera and the Banda Sea, highlight our small group diving holidays and showcase the top dive experiences in the Philippines. Don't miss our guide on the best diving spots in the Maldives and we share just some of the wonderful feedback we've received from our valued clients.

Our expert Dive Team are not only highly experienced divers but have travelled extensively and have successfully created thousands of tailor-made holidays. In this brochure the team share their favourite trip recommendation - see pages 16-17 to find out more.

We also include some exciting new ideas for chartering your own liveaboard, ideal for your club or group of dive buddies and include our usual seasonal escapes to inspire your next holiday.

We look forward to welcoming you on your next dive adventure.

The Dive Worldwide Team

A Message from Bite-Back

Like you, we can't imagine a world without sharks. That's why we're working incredibly hard to remove retail opportunities for shark products, challenge the way the media reports shark stories, push for improved legislation and educate young minds.

It's an approach that's working and it's an approach that prompted the TV presenter and naturalist, Steve Backshall MBE to describe Bite-Back as 'the UK charity doing most for sharks'.

Because of our work, Britain is the first country in Europe to ban the import and export of shark fins. And, because of our campaigns, it's now impossible to buy shark meat from any mainstream retailer. With the support of people like you across the UK, we even encouraged the country's biggest health food retailer Holland & Barrett to remove shark cartilage capsules from its entire network. Plus, in a bid to change the negative narrative around sharks, we're constantly holding the media to account for the provocative and sensational language used to describe shark encounters. And now, as we celebrate our 20th year, the charity has launched the very first, free-to-download, teacher pack for 7–11-year-old students that's aligned with the national curriculum.

Of course there's still lots to do. That's why we'd love your support for these and future projects. So please head over to www.bite-back.com to find out how you can help us save the sharks, protect the oceans and spread the word in 2024.

V Date





Holiday prices are based on two persons sharing, including flights from the UK, accommodation, transfers and diving, except where specified. Prices correct at time of print (February 2024).

Our Diving Holidays

We offer exceptional tailor-made and small group liveaboard and resort-based dive holidays in over 200 locations worldwide. With over 20 years' experience, our friendly Dive Team includes highly experienced divers who take pleasure in hand-picking the best diving and snorkelling experiences for you!

Liveaboard Adventures

We offer the widest range of liveaboards in the UK, including a growing range of exclusive departures. Liveaboards allow divers to explore areas beyond the reach of dive resorts, transporting you to some of the most remote and spectacular diving destinations on Earth for world-class diving.

Resort-Based Holidays

We feature a wealth of resorts around the world to suit all tastes and budgets. As a specialist diving tour operator, we select resorts with on-site dive centres which offer a friendly, professional service and excellent diving. Our portfolio of accommodation options range from stylish resorts to smaller, characterful hotels and guesthouses.

Small Group Diving Adventures

Our collection of small group adventures has expanded over the years and we now offer departures to Indonesia, the Maldives, Philippines, the Galápagos and St Helena amongst others. All these trips offer a unique experience, superb diving, great value and plenty of camaraderie along the way!

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Dedicated to Swight



We're deeply saddened to share the news that our dear colleague and friend, Sarah Wight, aka 'Swight', recently lost her battle with cancer. Swight was our Product Manager for the past 13 years, and in that time created numerous magical diving

adventures. Her smile, humour and enthusiasm brightened our lives, and we'll all miss her terribly. Marine conservation was hugely important to Swight and in her honour 'Bite-Back', a charity which was close to her heart, is our chosen charity for 2024. We dedicate this brochure to her.

Opening Hours

We're open from 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday, and also on Saturdays from 9am to 1pm in January, February and March.

What's Bubbling

We're continually evolving and expanding our portfolio to bring you the very best choice of new destinations, resorts, liveaboards and trip ideas for your next dive holiday. To keep up-to-date, sign up to 'What's Bubbling' our regular e-newsletter and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Coral Eye, Indonesia

Coral Eye is located in Pulau Bangka, surrounded by the Celebes Sea, the Moluccas Sea and the Pacific Ocean, giving it a vast biodiversity of marine life. Originally built as a marine research outpost, the resort still hosts researchers and it retains its passion for the environment. Accommodation options include Sea View and Garden View Villas,

and the resort is home to white sandy beaches, a spa and a camera room. The house reef is a photographer's paradise, and on local dives you can enjoy various underwater seascapes such as wall dives, huge volcanic boulders covered in hard and soft corals and also muck sites.

10 days from £2,775



The Fives Beach Hotel & Residences, Mexico

Nestled amidst lush greenery and situated on a white sand coast with panoramic views of the Caribbean Sea, The Fives Beach Hotel and Residences offer an unforgettable holiday for discerning divers who enjoy luxury breaks. The resort is modern with Mayan influences, has an array of restaurants, seven pools, and is close

to Mayan ruins. Diving opportunities include the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef and the world-famous Cenotes, among other renowned dive sites, and there's something for most experience levels. The Fives Beach Hotel also has a dedicated dive centre or diving can be arranged with Pro Dive.

8 days from £3,145



Nestled at the base of a dormant volcano and surrounded by 40 hectares of lush gardens and azure seas, this resort is a sophisticated and environmentally conscious haven for divers and nature lovers alike. The resort features a total of 32 cottages, deluxe rooms, and suites. The one-bedroom cottages are ideal for divers, offering an attractive blend of

value and luxury. Facilities include a large pool area, a botanical garden to relax in, and a restaurant and bar that serve exceptional food and drink. The diving opportunities explore colourful reefs and wrecks from the American War of Independence. There are also snorkelling opportunities.

9 days from £2,595



MY Sea Gypsy, Philippines

Experience the best diving locations the Philippines has to offer on the luxurious MY Sea Gypsy. With a maximum of eight guests, this boutique liveaboard was completely refitted in 2021 and offers superb comfort and unparalleled diving experiences. After you've finished diving for the day, you can enjoy a massage and wonderful food. The Sea Gypsy provides

a range of itineraries visiting locations when conditions are at their best. Starting the year in the Visayas with the sardines of Moalboal and the thresher sharks in Malapascua, the departures then move to Tubbataha Natural Park and at the end of the year, some trips include Donsol and its whale sharks.

11 days from £4,175



Indonesia: West Komodo Explorer

Treat yourself to sunrises over Komodo National Park, daily boat dives to fabulous locations and unlimited house reef diving at this secret spot on the tranquil shores of Sumbawa island on this 14-day diving itinerary. After a blissful seven night stay at the Kalimaya Dive Resort complete your adventure with three nights in Bali to soak up the sights

and sounds of the Island of the Gods, enjoy more diving or simply relax. Diving highlights include thrilling drift dives and schooling pelagics around Gili Banta, the famous black sand muck sites of Sangaeng Volcano, and varied marine life from shark to bumblebee shrimp.

14 days from £3,145



Dive & Discover Kenya

Immerse yourself in some of Africa's finest diving on this deluxe diving adventure to Kenya's Watamu National Park. Created in 1968, Watamu was one of the first of its kind in Africa, boasting excellent diving and snorkelling for all experience levels. Over 1,000 species of fish have been identified here and visitors may encounter devil rays, mantas and whale sharks (in season), dolphins and turtles. Lovers of smaller marine life will not go disappointed, with a range of marine life hiding amongst the hard coral reefs. For those looking to explore Kenya's topside wildlife opportunities, there are multiple options to extend this



In our first article, Dive Consultant Cath Bates experienced some exhilarating diving on a recent visit to Raja Ampat aboard the Emperor Raja Laut, and here shares just some of her trip highlights.

In the far easterly province of West Papua in the Coral Triangle sits Raja Ampat.

Between the Indian and Pacific Oceans, deep sea currents funnel through a 1,500-island archipelago. The "Four Kings" are marine protected areas and no-take zones called Waigeo, Batanta, Salawati and Misool. The Emperor Raja Laut is a 31 metre schooner-style yacht that holds just 12 guests. I boarded in Sorong around lunchtime. That same afternoon I was already in the water, diving the island of Mansuar at Yenbuba Jetty.

There followed six more days of exhilarating diving on this North and Central itinerary but you can opt for a longer alternative which includes Misool in the south. Here were a few of the outstanding moments.

Along the Western edge of the Dampier Strait Mayhem is a large pinnacle that's home to a massive variety of fish. In an attempt to evade the upwelling current, they teeter at the edge of the reef. I passed tall barrel sponges, huge brain and porites corals, low mushroom and staghorn corals followed by a random whip coral garden. A wobbegong shark tried to evade us by sitting motionless on top of a green table coral, but we managed to catch a glimpse.

In notoriously calm waters northwest of Batanta are the Fam islands. Melissa's Garden is an oval reef on a plateau between three islands. There was so much macro life here hiding in delicate rolling staghorn coral: pughead pipefish within an anemone; ribbon eels bobbing up and down and yellow damsel fish among the coral branches.

At The Maze we crossed the equator during a dive! It was like being in a giant mushroom forest amongst the limestone pinnacles. Mother Nature slammed her angry waves against the increasingly worn stalks while schooling fusiliers glided by with ease.

We ended one day with a night dive at the Pearl Farm jetty. Nothing could prepare me for Raja Ampat in the full moon rush hour! A netted ceratosoma glowed like a peacock in the light of my torch; decorator crabs threw debris onto their bodies and scurried past us while a tiny painted frogfish balanced in the current, sideways on one webbed foot. Some of the other

divers were even lucky enough to see a "walking" epaulette shark.

The current against the west side of Kawe Island picked us up and threw us right into the action of Changgo (otherwise known as "Do It Again"). Much of the underwater landscape in the north is cracks and swimthroughs. Schooling grunts and sweetlips hung motionless in these, mocking us as we were unable to stop! A school of bigeye trevally swirled past as fast as a tornado.

Manta Ridge is in the Dampier Strait between Gam and Mansuar. You're requested to stay off the cleaning stations and be no shallower than 10-12 metres. This allows the mantas to be cleaned undisturbed. I had never seen such massive reef mantas in all my years of diving. We were lucky enough to have six reef mantas playing together, blocking out the sun above us.

Blue Magic has water as blue as blue can be. Its oval shape again provides a splitting current. Grey reef sharks sped by on the deep plateau, eyeing up schools of Spanish mackerel, while yellowtail barracuda and bigeye trevally jostled for space. The shallower slope was very pretty and you can often see oceanic manta at the cleaning station.







Cape Kri is famous for having the largest biodiversity of fish recorded anywhere in Raja Ampat. Marine scientist Dr Gerry Allen counted 374 species here at the northeast point of Kri Island during just one dive! At 35 metres there's a school of more than 75 sweetlips. A whirlpool effect is created by current rising from the depths and over the ridge, and this brings food for the fauna that lives here. Cape Kri had three of the largest black sweetlips I had ever seen; three turtles graced us with their presence in just five minutes; rabbitfish, jacks, two kinds of reef sharks, Moorish idols, various types of angelfish ... I could just go on and on. Our guide Donny even found a threadlike Pontoh's pygmy seahorse on a delicate piece of flotsam.

The trip was interspersed with some land tours which allowed us to explore the area from higher viewpoints as well as skiff rides in amongst the ancient limestone, coral and plankton islands. These were some of the most nutrient-rich waters I've ever had the pleasure to dive. Next time I'll be sure to include the south as well. What a good excuse to return?!

Raja Ampat Liveaboard



Halmahera Uncovered



Dive journalist John Liddiard headed to Spice Island Resort in Halmahera and was won over by the diving and the resort. On John's first day he saw a barrel-sponge squat lobster, numerous pygmy seahorse, ornate ghost pipefish, nudibranchs, soft coral crabs and a

hawksbill turtle. Read on to find out more about this extraordinary dive hotspot!



Spice Island Resort is located on Kusu island in the Halmahera province of Indonesia. This is where you go to get away from the busier destinations. A couple of the nearby islands have similarly sized small dive-resorts, but we don't run into them. It's one of those places where there's so much good diving and so few divers that no one needs to crowd.

The dive guides constantly find us cool stuff. The regular briefing is that: "This site is good for big and small things. We'll look for the small animals. For big fish, look out into the blue and you can find them for yourself."

Resort manager Kurt sums it up: "All our guests are experienced divers. They don't need micro-managing. They just need an expert eye to show them the best there is to be found."

The house reef is truly exceptional. It's called the house reef, but would be better described as the house channel. The hard and soft coral here's simply superb. Excellent condition, high coverage,

beautifully intact and with a hell of a lot of fish to enjoy.

This is the place to dive for the big scenes, though Erick, our dive guide, finds us a pygmy seahorse and a soft coral crab, not the first and not the last. He finds them at least once a day, and multiples on some dives.

A couple of hundred metres off the house reef, the coral rises again to a plateau at 18 metres. We wait for the tide to slacken, tie off and follow the line down. Like the house reef, it's covered with fish from small to very big, including a family of potato grouper that disappear deep beneath an overhang at their first sighting of divers. After a sting ray and a few sharks off the wall, my attention is drawn to another bargibanti pygmy seahorse in a fan, and then a ghost pipefish right at the time we really should be heading back up the line.

The muck diving site of Karao, under the legs of the village pier, is also a must for lovers of ornate ghost pipefish. Every trip to Indonesia reveals a different balance

of macro life. On this adventure we had countless pygmy seahorses, ghost pipefish, soft coral crabs and barrelsponge squat lobsters.

Between dives is the usual eat and sleep, and that's it. This is a destination for dedicated divers. There's plenty of scenery for those liking the big picture, sharks and bigger fish for those wanting to hang off the reef and hope for that magical encounter and while, this is not a dedicated critter location, no one wanting to see critters could be disappointed. As Kurt sums it up, divers who have travelled this far have come here to dive. They need a clean place to stay, good food and good diving. The resort scores on all three. The kitchen even has an ice cream machine with daily production of various tropical fruit flavours as one of the dessert options. My vote is for the mango.

Spice Island Halmahera

Banda & Beyond



Around two years ago, Joanna Charter, Product Executive had not been diving for some time due to travel restrictions, so was keen to plan her long-awaited bucket list trip. Here, Joanna shares the highlights of her Indonesian adventure which covered approximately 700 nautical miles and included the muck haven Ambon, a

liveaboard in the Banda Sea, and the biodiversity capital of the world: Raja Ampat.







Ambon, just a short domestic flight from Jakarta, is best known for its elusive psychedelic frogfish. However, this macro diving paradise has much more to offer, such as an amazing array of octopuses mimic, wonderpus, long-legged, coconut, blue ring and more - and frogfish (painted, warty, hairy etc). We spotted so many ornate ghost pipefish that we stopped bothering to point them out. And the marmite of the ocean ... nudibranchs. For me, these were firmly in the "It's a bright slug stop banging your tank!" category, but I confess the mystical waters of Ambon converted me. By the end of the day, I was comparing photographs and discussing different species, which were astoundingly varied.

Having taken up underwater photography, I found our guides were invaluable. Their skills in pointing out new critters rivalled the legendary Lembeh divers. Compared with world-leading macro sites like Dumaguete and Lembeh, Ambon is much quieter, but I'd argue that the marine life is just as good.

My next stop was a liveaboard in the Banda Sea, an ocean expanse covering half a million square kilometres and hosting large schools of pelagic fish, including shoaling jacks, barracuda and snapper. After a calm crossing, I enjoyed diving around sea mounds, sloping reefs and the walls of uninhabited islands. I was delighted to discover that the reefs were just as colourful and vibrant as those at Raja Ampat. But Banda's crown jewel was a site called Babylon.

Diving at dusk, the current was ripping and our reef hooks were at the ready. I took shelter between two giant sponges as shadows started emerging from the deep. At least 50 scalloped hammerheads began to cruise past. The sharks were unfazed by us, but at 30 metres+ we couldn't stay long with these elegant beauties. I still have goosebumps thinking about that encounter.

Raja Ampat brought a delight of colours, diversity, and density; from shoaling silver and spade fish at Four Kings, to inquisitive oceanic manta rays which circled our

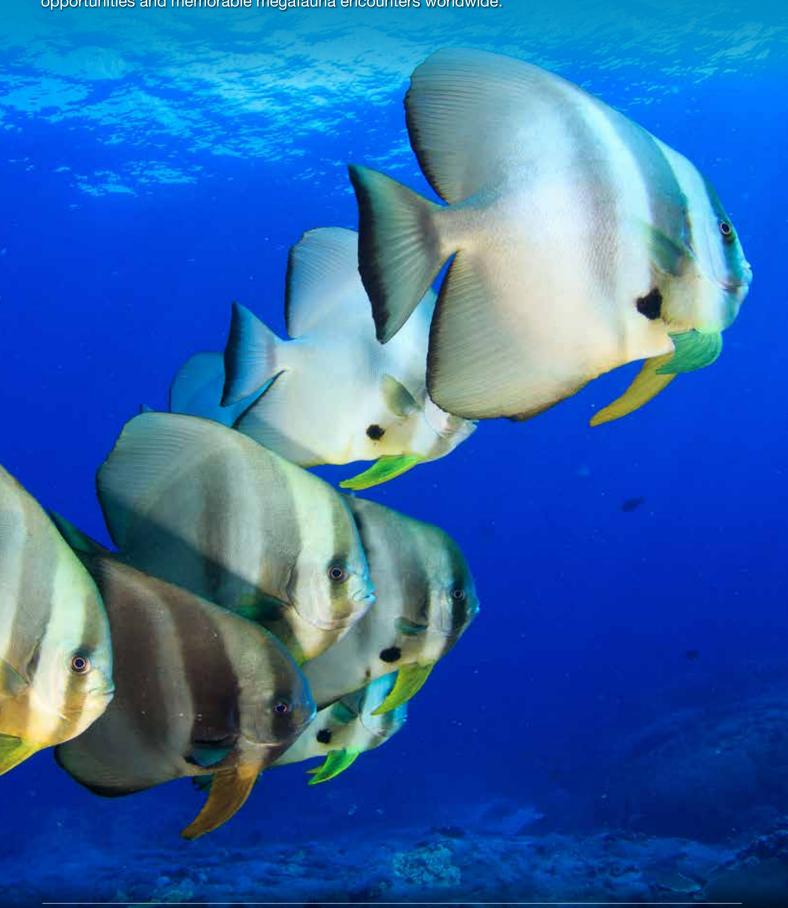
group at Magic Mountain. My personal favourite dive was an underwater plateau that sits from about six to 30 metres at Sardine Reef, close to Cape Kri. Bommies had developed on a coral-encrusted wall, and as we dropped, we were met by schooling barracuda picking off fusiliers and a sleepy tassel wobbegong perched under a coral overhang. I barely moved during that dive, entranced as I was by bumphead parrot fish, giant trevally, tuna, sweetlips, and streams of shoaling fish life was all around us!

The Banda Sea has many hidden gems to be discovered, and can only be dived during two short periods of the year. The transit sailings allow a wonderful cross section of diving which I highly recommend. I returned home with the rambling log book, pictures that I'll show anyone who will let me, and memories that still make me smile.

Banda Islands Liveaboard

Group Diving Adventures

Our small group diving holidays allow you to dive with like-minded people, make friends, and experience incredible diving. Take a look at six of the fantastic small group holidays we offer. Each unique adventure is designed to maximise your experience with superb photography opportunities and memorable megafauna encounters worldwide.





Borneo Discovery

Discover Borneo's world-class dive sites in the company of writer, photographer and SCUBA magazine editor Simon Rogerson. The picture-perfect dive sites offer barracuda, manta rays, and patrolling sharks followed by magical topside adventures, including encounters with orangutans and sun bears. This trip is ideal for those wanting to explore the wonders of this remote region in the company of likeminded divers.

Departs: 1 Jun 2024 Group size: 20 15 days from £4,565



Bali Photo Safari: Reefs & Rice Fields

Enjoy a mesmerising adventure to Bali with award-winning photojournalist Saeed Rashid, exploring two photogenic regions designed for divers, underwater photographers and non-divers alike. With up to 24 dives on offer, either from shore or from boat, you'll experience the excellent biodiversity of northeastern Bali along with the famous wreck of the USS Liberty. Dives can also be exchanged for relaxing spa treatments, or even local land tours.

Departs: 23 Jun 2024 Group size: 14 12 days from £3,095



Maldives Manta Ray Extravaganza

Join marine conservationist and cameraman, **Danny Copeland** on this exclusive liveaboard adventure, diving the best sites in the Baa, Raa and Lhaviyani atolls. Timed to align with the peak aggregation of reef manta rays at Hanifaru Bay, this once-in-a-lifetime trip is perfect for divers who love big fish encounters. Other megafauna action includes: green and hawksbill turtles, Napolean wrasse, and whale sharks.

Departs: 11 Sep 2024 Group size: 18 13 days from £3,650



Galápagos Whale Shark Expedition

This bucket list cruise takes you to the Galápagos Islands in prime whale shark season. Here we encounter the incredible and diverse marine life of the Galápagos, including marine iguana, Galápagos penguin, sea lion and multiple shark species during this week-long exploration of the finest dive sites in the region. We'll be joined by marine biologist Sofía Green Iturralde who works with the Galápagos Whale Shark Project.

Departs: 23 Sep 2024 Group size: 15 10 days from £6,995



Mozambique Shark Diving Expedition

Big fish lovers will delight in this adventure to Mozambique's best diving regions. Beginning in the diving hotspot of Morrungulo, this fun and adventurous small group tour also visits Tofo before heading south to finish at Ponto do Ouro. The trip offers the chance to see up to 16 different species of shark, including tiger, hammerhead, leopard, grey reef and whale shark, along with other exciting and unusual marine life.

Departs: 17 Nov 2024 Group size: 16 14 days from £3,345



Dive & Discover St Helena

Travel to this remote island destination with **Danny Copeland** during peak whale shark season and discover plenty of South Atlantic marine life including numerous species of dolphin, wahoo, tuna, dorado and Chilean devil rays. The trip includes morning dives, at least two days' snorkelling with whale sharks and the chance to explore topside with the opportunity to uncover the mysteries of this special island.

Departs: 6 Feb 2025 Group size: 12 12 days from £4,645

Boutique Boats

Special liveaboard memories are made just as much by your fellow divers as by underwater encounters. We've always been able to make recommendations to suit your marine life desires. Now, we're excited to be able to offer you something extraordinary: a boutique dive experience for you, your friends, and your family.

We've handpicked three liveaboard boats that have the capacity of just eight guests. Small and perfectly formed, these vessels bring a luxury villa experience to the water. Relax aboard with your friends and dive with your trusted buddies for an underwater adventure you'll remember.

Even more notable are the itineraries these bijou boats dive into, read on to find out more about the options available.

Indonesia

Komodo is famed for its extraordinary diversity and stunning vistas above and below the ocean surface. Dragons roam the land, and underwater, you can expect everything from manta ray to seahorse amid the vibrancy and swirl of colourful life.



Duyung Baru, Indonesia

Part of an established fleet, you can expect quality and expertise from a professional dive operation, alongside a passion for sustainability. This liveaboard can comfortably accommodate eight guests over four en suite cabins. The vessel has traditional lines and enjoys a regal opulence from its polished dark wood interior. Cabins are spacious and comfortable; there's shared space to relax in peace or socialise - however the mood takes you. The forward dive deck has been designed with divers in mind; the two RIBs are what you'll dive from, allowing for a personalised dive plan.





The Philippines

Dive the pristine coral reefs of Tubbataha, explore the wrecks of Coron, spot thresher sharks in Malapascua, dive with sardines in Moalboal, and swim with whale sharks in Donsol. A multitude of options await.

The Azores

Known for its pelagic action, this Atlantic archipelago welcomes you to enjoy its waters alongside shark, tuna, bonito, and manta ray. Baixa Do Ambrosio and Dollabarat are the much sought-after sites that promise submerged seamount action on a level you won't find anywhere else in Europe.



MY Sea Gypsy, Philippines

The elegant lines of this vessel are worthy of a Bond Film, and the sleekness flows through to the interior. Refitted in 2021, the vessel is bright and modern, with plenty of space for its eight guests. Luxury spills over three decks: four en suite cabins comprised of an owner suite, a master bedroom, and two twin cabins complement the shared spaces. Relax in the spacious salon or laze in comfort on the bow or stern chilling zones. MY Sea Gypsy is equipped with state-of-the-art stabilisers that minimise seasickness and ensure smooth cruising, whatever the sea conditions.

11 days from £4,175



Water & Wind, Azores

At 7.5 metres wide, this catamaran offers a breadth of space that single-hulled vessels cannot match. Four cabins each with large letterbox windows and a dedicated bathroom accommodate six to eight divers, and twin cabins have solid dividers for comfort and privacy. A comfortable salon flows through to an outdoor lounge and onto a dive deck from which you can step straight into the ocean without needing a transfer. And when it comes to relaxing, is there anywhere better than the trampoline netting that's uniquely catamaran? The dedicated crew includes an international chef supplying superb quality meals.

Recommended Diving Holidays

Diving trips hand-picked by our expert team

Our friendly dive experts have travelled the world, logging hundreds or even thousands of dives. As experienced travel and diving professionals, the team know exactly where the most jaw-dropping dive sites, fascinating marine life and healthy corals can be found. Here each team member shares their favourite recommended dive holiday.



Philippines: Dive into Luxury



Joanna Charter: I've visited the Philippines a couple of times and love sharing my knowledge with clients. A particular favourite of mine

is Dumaguete because there's a great mix of diving and the marine life is so easy to access. You'll find everything from tiny frogfish along the Dauin coast to big green turtles on Apo Island. I like to combine Dumaguete with even more amazing diving in Anda for the perfect diving holiday.

14 days from £4,295



Belize: Belize Discovere



Anna Williams: I spent nearly 10 years as a dive instructor in Belize and fell in love with the country. It has everything from beautiful

rainforests and nature to incredible atolls, wonderful Mayan archaeological sites and friendly, welcoming locals – all in a country the size of Wales! There's simply so much to do there and I love working with customers to bring together the perfect itinerary for them.

13 days from £3,165



Mexico: Socorro Liveaboard



Cath Bates: I revel in arranging trips to the Revillagigedo
Archipelago (geddit?). This area is otherwise known as the Socorro islands. A Socorro

liveaboard experience will exceed your expectations, due to the personal and close-up interactions with giant Pacific manta rays and playful dolphins, alongside the chance of meeting 12 different species of sharks on the itinerary. By the way, did I mention the amazing tacos?

12 days from £4,595



Tanzania: Dive Mafia Island



Georgia Randalls: I really love arranging adventures for clients that are a little off-thebeaten-track, and Mafia Island fits the bill perfectly. It has a

superbly managed marine park, which is home to beautiful corals and vibrant marine life. In season, over 100 whale sharks gather in the calm waters around the island! Despite this, Mafia Island is seldom visited by divers. A hidden gem!





Maldives: Ari Atoll Experience



Jobi Chan: I was lucky to work as a diving instructor in South Ari Atoll in the Maldives and encountering whale sharks along the outer reef,

between Maamigili and Dhigurah Island was undoubtedly my best diving memory. Dive sites such as Broken Rock and Kudurah Thila only add to the appeal. I love arranging adventures for other divers so that they can enjoy the same wonderful experience.

9 days from £3,095



Indonesia: Discover Bali



Philippa Anderson: There's so much to see and do in Bali! The amazing diving varies from action dives off Nusa Penida where you can find mola mola

and manta rays - to fascinating muck dives with critters off the Tulamben coast. You can combine this with a culture stop in the rice paddies of Ubud or even head to the more remote western region for nature and solitude.

16 days from £2,345



Papua New Guinea: Dive & Discover



Phil North: What an incredible country! I have a thirst for adventure and few places can match Papua New Guinea. Your journey there is amply

rewarded with some of the best diving on the planet, incredible beauty above the waves and some truly unique cultural experiences. Walindi and Lissenung are two exceptional diving locations that make a magical combination.

The Philippines

Islands of Opportunity



Dive Manager Phil North has a great affinity with Southeast Asia, and the Philippines is one of his favourite places to dive. Here, he shares some of the best experiences to be found in this archipelago of over 7,000 islands.

'The Philippines packs a real punch in the diving world, with a choice of dive experiences that few others can match. Whether you're a wreck diver, a big fish lover or a critter hunter, this marvellous country has something for you. So let's set our compasses east and explore the finest dive adventures in the Philippines.'





Island Hopping Adventures

With so many islands, you're really spoilt for choice in the Philippines, and it's a destination that lends itself to longer stays visiting two or more different dive spots. Much of the island-hopping adventures are focused on the Central Visayas region, where the islands of Cebu, Negros and Bohol bring a wealth of wonderful diving experiences.

Magic Dive Experience - 15 days from £2,895 Island Hopping Dive Safari - 18 days from £2,995



UNESCO World Heritage Site of Tubbataha

Rising from abyssal depths in the centre of the Sulu Sea, Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park may be more difficult to reach than other areas of the Philippines, but those that make the effort are sure to be rewarded. One of Asia's premier liveaboard diving locations, these remote islands, reefs and atolls can be visited between March and June each year and promise stunning corals, impressive biodiversity and thrilling marine life encounters.

Tubbataha Liveaboard - 10 days from £3,895



Thresher sharks are one of the most beautiful and extraordinary species of shark, with elongated tail fins used to whip and stun their prey. They're also one of the most elusive. However at one special spot just off the island of Malapascua, they're seen consistently early each morning as they seek the services of cleaner wrasse. Threshers aren't the only highlight of this little hideaway, where divers can delight in everything from mandarin fish to manta ray.

Malapascua Dive Adventure - 11 days from £1,995



Go Critter Hunting

With its location in the heart of the famed Coral Triangle, the Philippines is awash with underwater treasures, and let's face it, who doesn't love a treasure hunt? Rare and unusual animals of every shape and hue are just waiting to be discovered (and photographed) by eagle-eyed divers. Head to Anilao to marvel at a multitude of nudibrancs, be dazzled by the diversity of Dauin, or savour the secrets of Anda; the choice is yours.

Dive Dumaguete - 11 days from £2,045



Explore WWII Wrecks

Situated between Palawan and Mindoro in western Philippines, Coron Bay is a beautiful area of limestone karst scenery and hidden islands. It was here in September 1944 that a Japanese supply fleet was sunk after an attack by the Americans. 80 years on, it offers the best wreck diving in Southeast Asia, with 11 wrecks waiting to be explored comprising gun boats, cargo and supply vessels and a sea plane tender.

Dive Coron Bay - 13 days from £2,995



Sail Round the Visavas by Liveaboard

While some prefer to explore the Visayas region on an islandhopping adventure, others opt to tour the diving highlights by liveaboard. Many itineraries focus on the southern Visayas, including the turtles and coral scenes of Balicasag and Apo Island. Others also head north to take in Malapascua, while select itineraries head east to Southern Leyte, offering the chance to see whale shark in season.

Visayas Liveaboard - 12 days from £3,795

Seasonal Escapes

We offer an extensive range of dive holidays at the optimum time to visit some of the world's most impressive destinations and enjoy the amazing marine life at its best. Here our expert Dive Team selects some of their favourite dive escapes for each season.

Spring (Mar-May)



Truk - Wreck Extravaganza

Considered the best wreck diving destination in the world, explore an entire Japanese WWII fleet complete with sake cups and fighter planes. A must for any experienced diver.

13 days from £3,395



Western Australia Diving

Explore the wonders of Ningaloo Reef and the Gulf in WA. Spend your days diving, discovering coral bommies, and observing the diverse array of over 500 marine species that inhabit these waters.

16 days from £4,895



Belize Discovered

Discover the world's second-longest barrier reef, diving into a sparkling marine habitat with nurse shark, stingray and angel fish before embarking on a jungle adventure to explore Mayan ruins and caving.

13 days from £3,165



Mexico - Cenotes and Reefs

Dive into the captivating beauty of Yucatan's Cenotes for a unique experience, and explore the vibrant marine life of the Mesoamerican barrier reef, home to colourful coral gardens and plenty of hawksbill turtle encounters.

9 days from £2,095



Visit Tobago

With something for every skill level, divers can spend a week exploring the marine life on shallow reefs. For the more experienced, the island offers thrilling drift diving opportunities and the chance to photograph critters.

9 days from £1,645



<u>Visit Grenada</u>

Explore marine life on wrecks and along colourful reefs, where sightings of turtle, nurse shark, spotted eagle ray, and seahorse are all possible. An ideal trip for both novice and experienced divers.

66 Cath is fab, she understands the type of holiday we enjoy, and has never failed to deliver, this makes our holiday stress free. The reefs in Belize were pristine, there were plenty of big nurse sharks which came up very close. The whole experience of going out to a variety of tiny atolls and landing on them for lunch was incredible. >>

Franciska D, Belize April 2023

Summer (Jun-Aug)



Malta & Gozo - Wrecks & Caves

Start your week exploring Malta's wrecks, caves, and rich history, before spending a few days on the island of Gozo, known for its shore diving. Here, you can dive the Blue Hole at Dwejra and discover caves and caverns.

11 days from £1,195



Costa Rica - Cocos Liveaboard

Cocos stands out as one of the world's best liveaboard destinations. Anticipate encounters with hammerhead, silky, silvertip and whitetip shark, along with the possibility of manta ray.

14 days from £6,595



Visit the Azores

The marine life of the Azores includes stingray, devil ray, barracuda and dolphin, while divers can also enjoy arches, caves, gorges, reefs and wrecks. This trip offers sites suitable for a range of abilities.

8 days from £1,695



Iceland - Silfra Diving

Perfect for a short break, you'll dive between two continents in Iceland's crystal clear waters and experience one of the top cold water dive sites in the world. This unique trip is certainly one for the bucket list!

4 days from £1,195 (boat only)



Indonesia - Komodo Liveaboard

Dive one of Indonesia's most iconic and thrilling regions by liveaboard and discover diverse marine life, ranging from shark and manta ray to vibrant corals and elusive critters.

11 days from £3,495



Indonesia - Schools & Critters

Combining Bunaken Marine Park and the Lembeh Strait, you'll experience world-class diving, abundant turtles and varied marine life, including the rare and unusual, making this a wildlife enthusiasts' dream.

66 There was fantastic diving, a good boat and a great group of people on the trip. We saw everything we'd hoped for and more and had some exceptional diving experiences. The boat is very spacious and the crew was excellent.

Keith J, Maldives, July 2023

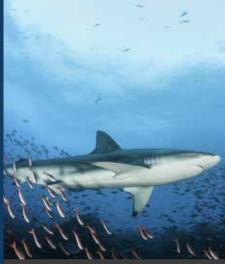
Autumn (Sep-Nov)



Maldives - Dive Baa Atoll

Escape the crowds and unwind in a relaxed atmosphere while diving this UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Take a trip to Hanifaru for the chance to see both manta ray and whale shark.

10 days from £2,995



Galápagos Liveaboard

A trip of a lifetime destination for all experienced divers, the Galápagos Islands host spectacular wildlife above and below the water, including hammerhead shark, whale shark, silky shark and penguin.

10 days from £5,995



Kruger Safari & Mozambique

Enjoy this winning combination for those looking for safari experience and big marine encounters. Starting with a visit to Kruger National Park, the adventure continues with fabulous diving in Tofo.

13 days from £3,395



Caribbean - Visit Bonaire

Undeniably the shore diving capital of the world, explore some of the island's 85 dive sites at your own pace. The best way to explore both the diving and topside opportunities is with our unique dive and drive itinerary.

9 days from £2,295



Oman - Dive Daymaniyat

Experience some of the best diving in Oman from the comfort of a hotel and see highlights such as leopard shark, soft purple coral, and stingray; you might even be lucky and encounter a whale shark!

9 days from £2,295



Egypt - Pyramids and Reefs

Dive into history and explore the coral reefs of the Red Sea and the Pyramids of Giza on one itinerary. There are 35 dive sites to enjoy, with blossoming coral gardens teeming with marine life.

66 It was great being in a lovely remote place far away from the crowds with a relaxed, friendly atmosphere and fantastic diving. The best bit was seeing the amazing array of critters, including frogfish and seahorses, and seeing really healthy reefs with significant biodiversity. The guides were excellent at spotting and pointing out wildlife. I loved the traditional wooden dhow boats and sailing under wind power some days.

Faye W, Mafia Island, Tanzania, Jan 2023

Winter (Dec-Feb)



Mexico - Socorro Liveaboard

Experienced divers shouldn't miss out on visiting this Pacific diving mecca acclaimed for its majestic manta ray population, along with shark, dolphin, and humpback whale

12 days from £4,595



Indonesia - Critters & Kings

Take your diving to the next level by combining critter hunting in Ambon with the majestic manta rays of Raja Ampat for an enriching twin-centre holiday in the epicentre of the Coral Triangle.

16 days from £6,195



Thailand - Laid-back Lanta

The ideal trip for non-divers and divers alike, you'll be blessed with great beaches, magical sunsets and a laid-back ambience. The colourful dive sites include limestone reefs and varied marine life.

11 days from £1,765



Polar Circle & Antarctic Peninsula

Embrace the cold on a voyage into the Antarctic Circle for the chance to dive with fur seal, leopard seal and penguin. You'll cross the infamous Drake Passage and enjoy guided shore excursions. Suitably qualified divers only.

12 days from £8,745 (boat only)



Southern Maldives Liveaboard

Journey off-the-beaten-track to explore some of the most untouched and exciting diving in the Indian Ocean. Indulge in unspoiled coral reefs and some of the best shark encounters in the Maldives.

10 days from £3,795



Tanzania - Dive Mafia Island

Relax under palm trees and dive into the coral reefs of Mafia Island in Tanzania. Chole Bay is home to varied marine life, including turtles. Visit this hidden gem in winter to experience the annual whale shark aggregation.

The Magical Maldives

Out of the Blue

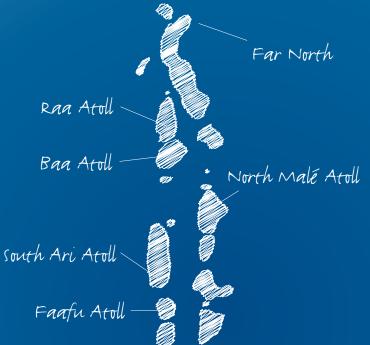
This chain of atolls and islands in the Indian Ocean holds an almost mythic status for scuba divers. Here, we share the key diving regions and their marine life highlights.

Baa & Raa Atolls

Baa Atoll is where Hanifaru Bay lies. It's a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve where, from June to September, whale shark and manta ray congregate to feed. It's an experience like nothing else. Liveaboards visit seasonally, or divers can enjoy this area from the comfort of a resort.

South Ari Atoll

With manta ray, whale shark, and healthy, plentiful reefs, South Ari has all the action and picturesque vistas the Maldives is famous for. A regular stop on liveaboard itineraries, this iconic area is also blessed with excellent resort-based diving options.



Far North

Off-the-beaten-track, the far north of the Maldives is visited on select liveaboard itineraries in September and October each year. Expect great shark life, manta cleaning stations, green turtles and beautiful corals.

North Malé Atoll

The original heart of Maldivian diving, North Malé Atoll has some superb dive sites and requires minimal onward travel. The diving is rich and plentiful with a wide variety of sites to choose from. Manta ray are commonly seen between January and April.

Deep South (Gan, Addu)

This region is characterised by high-octane shark-fuelled diving, and best dived by liveaboard between January and March each year. Hook on in the channel and watch the ocean unravel as you dive with tiger, grey reef, hammerhead and whale shark



Faafu Atoll

With one solitary dive resort, visitors to Faafu Atoll will benefit from uncrowded dive sites and a distinctly laid-back charm. Divers can look forward to some spectacular channel dives patrolled by grey reef shark, eagle ray, and so much more.









Client Feedback

We love to hear about our client's diving adventures and really value the feedback we receive. We're delighted to share just some highlights from trips over the last few months.



Joanne A. Mexico, Jul 2023

66 Our travel consultant gave us great advice and their careful organisation meant that our holiday logistics came together seamlessly. We enjoyed beautiful pristine coral, plentiful fish and marine life, fabulous underwater topography, and swim-throughs. We also had lovely turtles and nurse sharks, along with octopuses on night dive. There were helpful and friendly staff at the hotel; the accommodation had good food and was very comfortable. >>

Darren L, South Africa, Aug 2023

66 The scuba diving was amazing, as was the cage diving experience. The real highlight was scuba diving with the Cape fur seals, and diving around some of the wrecks was very interesting. The dive centre were brilliant and very knowledgeable about the local dive sites and wildlife. Just being in the beautiful surroundings was very enjoyable.



Alexander N, Australia, Sep 2023

66 It was the fulfilment of a lifetime's ambition. Every part of my expedition to Australia was fabulous. The crew onboard the ship were fantastic, from the skipper to the shark wranglers, to the chefs, all first class and couldn't be more friendly or helpful. I would recommend this adventure to anyone in an instant, and I haven't even mentioned the fantastic great white sharks! The trip will live with me forever. >>

Paul P. Indonesia, Oct 2023

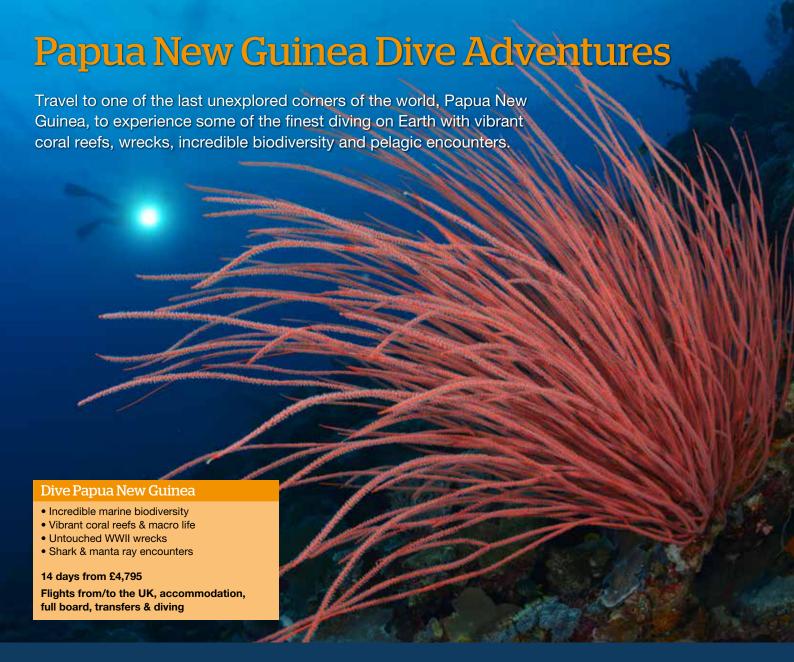
66 We can't really do justice to the time we had in a short review. The staff at the resort couldn't have been better, the food was excellent and varied, and the accommodation was lovely. We saw turtles, sharks, fabulous corals and smaller fish life, as well as plenty of small critters. Diving was slow and relaxed both on the walls and slopes. We had an excellent, friendly, and knowledgeable guide. >>





Andrew Y. Bonaire, Oct 2023

66 We had two centres with very different vibes in each and lots of freedom. The highlight was seeing lots of wonderful healthy reefs, despite some issues with coral reefs elsewhere in the Caribbean. We also saw frogfish, lots of squid and loads of seahorses. During a night dive, we even saw tarpon feeding. >>



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