

News, Travel & Events

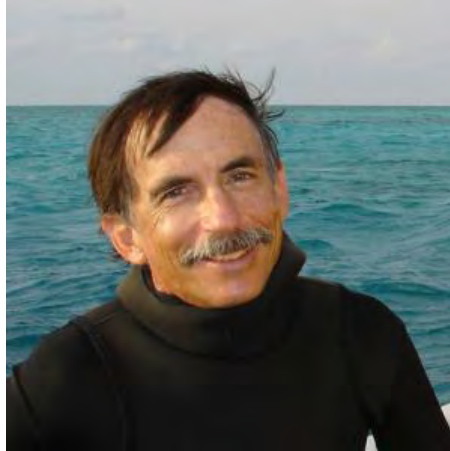
Snorkel with Humpback Whales Kingdom of Tonga Sept. 26-Oct 5 and Oct. 6-16, 2018

Following a sold-out and highly successful trip in 2017, marine wildlife photographer and biologist Doug Perrine will lead two tours in 2018 for Oceanic Society Expeditions to swim with humpback whales in the Vava'u Islands of Tonga.

Guests will stay at a comfortable beachfront resort, and enjoy 6 days of seeking out humpback whales on a small boat during the latter part of the reproductive season when most calves have developed to the point that mothers are more confident letting them satisfy their curiosity about humans.

An additional boat day will be spent learning about and assisting with Tongan ecosystems and environmental challenges in partnership with a local environmental group, plus there will be a free day for snorkeling, paddling, or relaxing around the resort.

The guide and naturalist for



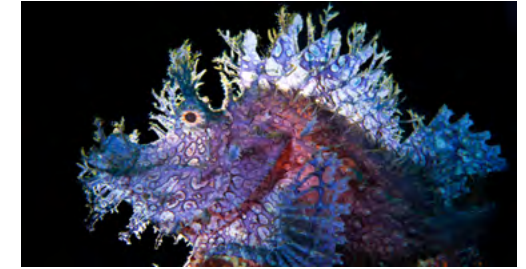
this trip, Doug Perrine, has a master's degree in marine biology and over 20 years experience as a volunteer data collector with the Hawaii Whale Research Foundation in addition to years of experience photographing many species of whales around the world. A winner of the grand prize in the Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition, with photos published in National Geographic, BBC Wildlife, and hundreds of other magazines, he will



be available throughout the trip to offer personal advice on photography, as well as to share his knowledge of whale behavior. Space is limited. Details on the expedition can be found on the Oceanic Society website at

<http://www.oceanicsociety.org/expeditions/tonga-snorkeling-with-humpback-whales--72>

Martyn Guess Anilao workshop
May 2018



Join Martyn Guess on this dedicated photo workshop in the heart of Anilao at Aiyanar Beach & Dive Resort with world class critter diving.

There will be a 1:2 guide: diver ratio. Martyn Guess will be running his much loved macro workshop throughout the trip.

www.scubatravel.com



DIVERS
a resort where diving is passion



DIVE RESORT
ALOR ARCHIPELAGO
INDONESIAN SEAS

www.alor-divers.com



**BASKING SHARK
SCOTLAND**



Join us for your 2018 adventure
Sharks, Seals, Cetaceans, Puffins
Peak tour season July-August
www.baskingsharkscotland.co.uk

Lembbeh Photo Workshop 2018

28th July - 4th August 2018



We are happy to announce our 6th annual Underwater Tribe/NAD Lembbeh Photo Fun Week with Doug Sloss for July and August 2018.

Our 2017 Lembbeh Photo Workshop was a resounding success once again with 16 happy attendees who joined us for a week full of fun.

We have scheduled our Lembbeh Photo Workshop 2018 starting on the 28th of July until the 4th of August for 7 nights and 17 dives total. The package includes return airport transfer, full board meals at the resort, 2 to 1 guest to dive guide ratio, digital copies of the outlines, and of course daily photo tuition.

We will be limiting the numbers

of participants during the week in order to give everyone as much personal attention as possible. We will have up to 3 photography instructors on hand during the event and everyone will have a chance to dive with each of them.

What sets an Underwater Tribe photo workshop apart from the others is the fact that our instructors are "hands on" teaching while underwater. We don't take our cameras underwater, we use slates only and dive with each student to help them achieve the best results possible.

www.underwatertribe.com

www.uwpmag.com



GregorySweeney.com Photography Adventures

Swim with Whale Sharks

Isla Mujeres, Mexico




4 days on a private, small group charter

July 19- 24 2018
Aug 30 - Aug 4 2018

A Note from Captain Paul Watson



Forty years ago in August 1977, I established the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. Today, thanks to supporters like you, we are an international movement. We have hundreds of dedicated volunteers that participate in ground campaigns all over the world, crew our ten ships on sea campaigns, and work to spread awareness about our organization in their local communities.

Our Neptune's Navy is actively stopping poachers on the land and in the waters of Mexico, Liberia, Gabon, the Baltic, Panama, Galapagos, Australia, the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, the Southern Ocean, and the North Atlantic. Our organization is saving lives and upholding international conservation law. Our important work is only possible because of our supporters - individuals who care about biodiversity in the sea and the protection of our oceans.

I'd like to extend my deepest



thanks to you for your generosity in supporting our life-saving efforts. As you know, if the oceans die, we all die. I am thankful that you are helping us save the oceans and the wildlife that call the oceans home.

www.seashepherd.org

[Donate](#)

Bali Photo Workshop July 2018 with Doug Sloss, Mike Veitch and Luca Vaime July 21 - 26 2018

Once again we are offering a Bali Photo Workshop that will take place immediately before our Lembbeh Photo Workshop in July 2018.

We will be basing ourselves in the Tulamben area at the Mimpi Tulamben Resort and enjoying 14 dives in the Tulamben, Seraya, and Amed areas working on both macro and wide angle techniques.

We will do 3 dives per day on the 22nd to the 25th and 2 dives on the 26th before heading back to Sanur for a final night presentation.

The diving in the Tulamben area is mostly shore diving, we certainly suggest bringing open heel fins with booties. We will be doing a mix of black sand diving for macro as well as a few coral reefs as well as the Liberty shipwreck.

We don't have any night dives scheduled as part of the workshop, however, we can certainly organize those on the day for anyone who is interested. We will be doing 3 day dives each day with the photo instructors talking about photo



techniques on location for each site.

In the evenings we will meet for photo critiquing, one to one discussion, and short presentations.

www.underwatertribe.com

BEHIND EVERY MARINE SHOW
DRAMA UNFOLDS.

NANUQ WAS RIPPED FROM HIS FAMILY
MEMBERS AND FORCED TO LIVE IN
A TANK WITH TWO CAPTIVE-BORN BELUGAS
WHOM HE DID NOT KNOW.
IN FEBRUARY 2015, NANUQ WAS ATTACKED
BY THESE TWO BELUGAS.
TRAPPED AND UNABLE TO ESCAPE,
NANUQ DIED A SLOW DEATH
FROM HIS INJURIES.

www.seashepherdglobal.org



CAPTIVITY KILLS. STOP SUPPORTING MARINE PARKS.

Nature Photography of the Year



The Nature Photography of the year is hosted by Association of Slovenian Nature Photographers. The Contest is open to amateur as well as professional photographers from around the world.

Categories:

1. Mammals
2. Birds
3. Other (except mammals or birds)
4. Plants (including lichens, mushrooms, etc.)

5. Natural Landscapes

6. Man and Nature

Closing date: January 31, 2018

The total prize value will be higher than 2.000 €

All selected photos will be presented on exhibition traveling across Slovenia and in a high quality hard cover book, which will be received by each participant of the contest. Best photographers in each category will receive a prize money.

www.photonature.si

Nusa Island, Kavieng, PNG August 2018

Join downunderpix for an underwater photography trip to Nusa Island Retreat. Leaving 19 August 2018, this trip has something for everyone. The estimated cost of \$5,076 per person twin share includes:
* Return economy airfares Brisbane to Kavieng (via Port Moresby) flying Air Nuigini. * 11 nights accommodation in a Premium room. * All meals *



2 dives a day for 9 days with Scuba Ventures Kavieng. * 2 residual air dives on plane wrecks. * Free shore dives at Scuba Ventures Jetty.

www.downunderpix.com

www.uwpmag.com



Celebrate the Sea Festival

Manado, North Sulawesi

31st March - 5th April 2018

Ocean Geographic is pleased to announce the 13th Celebrate the Sea Festival in Manado, North Sulawesi from 31 March - 5 April 2018. Previously staged in association with the World Festival of Underwater Pictures (Le Festival Mondial de l'Image Sous-Marine – Marseille) from 2002 to 2013, Celebrate the Sea is regarded as one of the most significant underwater photographic events in the world outside Europe. The 2018 festival in Manado will take place in conjunction with the 5th annual 'Ocean Geographic Pictures of the Year' competition.

The principal highlight of the 2018 festival is the international underwater shoot-out competition. With cash and holiday prize monies

valued at around USD 50,000 spread across five categories and the 'Master of the Competition' award.

The festival will open on 31 March 2018 with a full-day keynote conference by a panel of international speakers, together with an opening ceremony hosted by the provincial government of North Sulawesi.

The mission of the 13th Celebrate the Sea Festival is to use the power of pictures to inspire conservation and protection of the ocean environment. The 2018 festival will be used as a platform to call for the ban of shark fins in restaurants, and to work towards eliminating single-use plastic in North Sulawesi.

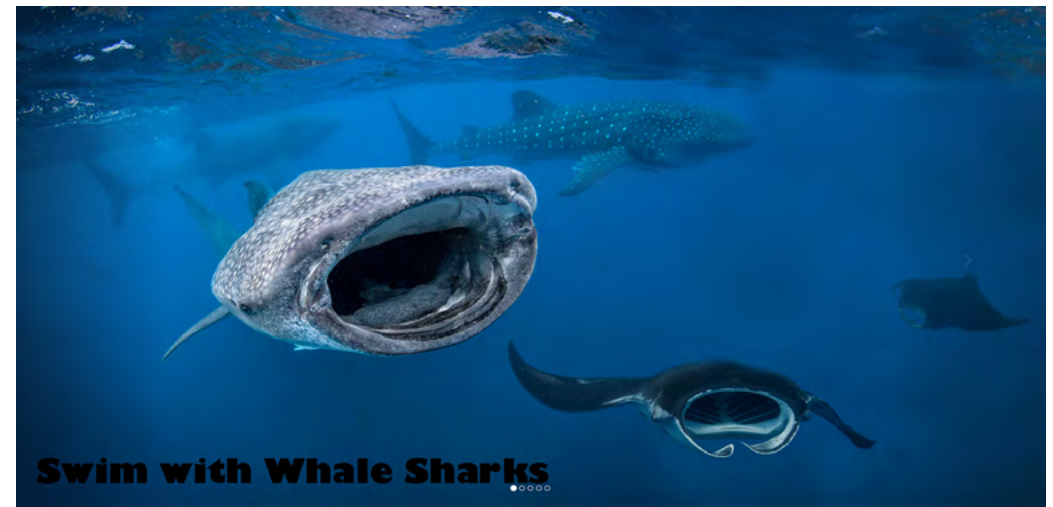
www.celebratethesea.com

Swim with Whale Sharks & Giant Mantas

Small Group on a Private Charter in Isla Mujeres, Mexico

July 30 - August 4th 2018

July 19 - August 24th 2018



Photograph hundreds of whale sharks and giant mantas in the warm blue water off the tip of the Yucatan Peninsula as they feed and ather in the largest aggregation in the world. Photographer Gregory Sweeney is your escort for this photography tour on our private 36ft charter that leaves daily from the docks of Isla Mujeres.

We stay all day snorkeling with whale sharks for maximum time in the water photographing and enjoying this incredible encounter. The whale sharks feed at the surface making the photo opportunities spectacular and easy. Only snorkeling gear is required.

As we are in blue water, visits by other pelagic species such as sailfish

and manta rays are possible. Limited to 6 guests only. This is a NON SCUBA and suitable for those who are comfortable with a snorkel in open water.

Trip Fee Includes:

4 days on the water in our chartered boat
5 nights in a beachside resort (Playa Media Luna) with swimming pool and shared room equipped with tv, free wifi, phone, AC
Weight belts
A shared golf cart or taxi to help move equipment to/from the boat
Light breakfast (at hotel) and Lunch (on boat)

www.gregorysweeney.com

Norway Photo Workshop

16 to 23 September 2018

Wetpixel will be hosting their first temperate water photographic workshop at Gulen Dive Resort, Norway from 16 to 23 September 2018.

Shooting in cooler water has challenges that are unique and this workshop aims to specifically address these.

Normally the biggest problem with temperate water workshops is that it is hard to guarantee acceptable dive conditions. Gulen Dive Resort is uniquely placed to offer guaranteed diving and great visibility.

It has a wide variety of spectacular diving, including kelp forests, soft coral reefs, amazing wrecks and fascinating macro life.

We will be conducting the workshop days aboard their bespoke dive boat MS Vikingfjord.

The plan will be to have formal talks about technique each morning, followed by two dives from the boat. In between the dives, we will be able to conduct image reviews and brainstorming session in the boat's large and comfortable saloon area. Each evening will consist of a more formal image review, which will also cover some post processing ideas.

The workshop will be conducted by Wetpixel Editor Adam Hanlon. Resident in the UK, his staple is diving and shooting in cool water. His temperate water images have received international awards and he runs regular training underwater photography training sessions. He has also co-presented several workshops with Alex Mustard.

Perhaps most valuable will be the opportunity to discuss images and ideas with Adam and the other workshop participants throughout the



workshop. With this in mind, there is deliberately no competitive element to it.

The workshop is suitable for anyone that takes pictures underwater and is comfortable with diving in temperate water.

The package includes:

7 Nights accommodation at Gulen Dive Resort

Full board: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Wide angle wreck and scenic diving including air filling, tank and weights.

Workshop lectures and presentations. Practical lesson on wrecks sites.



Tips and gratuities

Airport transfers on arrival and departure.

Diving equipment hire (including drysuits) is available. Please contact Gulen for prices and availability.

Prices and payment schedule:

Price per person \$3850. A deposit of \$1500 secures your place. Second payment of \$1000 is due on 01 March 2018, with balances due on 01 August 2018.

<http://wetpixel.com/i.php/gulenws18/>

www.uwpmag.com

12th Edition of the Blue Dolphin of Malta International Underwater Competition



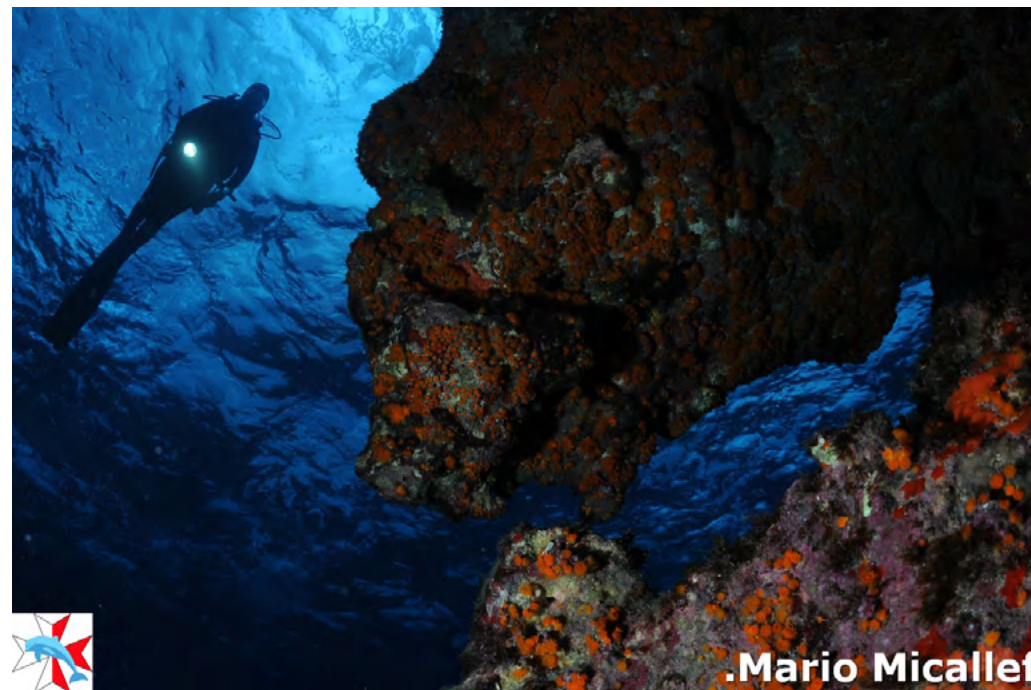
The 12th Edition of the Blue Dolphin of Malta International Underwater Competition was held last weekend in Gozo and was organised by the Federation of Underwater Activities Malta with the assistance of the Ministry for Gozo.

The competition, which has been held since 1987, was organised again after a gap of 13 years. A total of 17 divers participated with 11 of them travelling from Italy to take part specifically in this competition and to enjoy the many scuba diving sites

Gozo and Comino offer.

A panel of judges from UK and Malta judged the competitors' photographs. Unfortunately, the weather only permitted for one dive to be carried out however the results, as remarked by the Head Judge (Christian Llewellyn - UK) still reached a very high level which was remarkable considering the worsening weather conditions.

The shore and seaborne teams from Emergency Response and Rescue Corps (Gozo) provided peace



of mind to the organisers should their assistance have been needed.

An Award ceremony was held in a hotel in Marsalforn on Saturday 11th November 2017, during which competition prizes sponsored by M&A Malta and Salpa Sub and trophies were presented to Alfio Scuderi (Italy – Best Picture), Mario Micallef (Malta – DSLR Camera Category), Loredana Iuranello (Italy - Compact Camera). The Awards were presented by the Hon. Justyne Caruana, Minister for Gozo, Mr. Joe Cassar, MOC Secretary and Mr. Alexander Arena, FUAM President.



www.fuam.org.mt

Why Wakatobi

Wakatobi Resort is consistently ranked as one of the top-rated diving and snorkeling destinations in the world, and it is a special favorite with underwater photographers and videographers. Here are a dozen reasons why.

1. Proactive Protection

Wakatobi Resort sits within a private marine reserve created and operated by the resort's founders. Covering more than 20 kilometers of reef line, this sanctuary encompasses some of the most spectacular and biologically-rich underwater landscapes in the region. Since the establishment of the reserve in the 1990s, fish populations have increased, and corals have returned to near-pristine status.

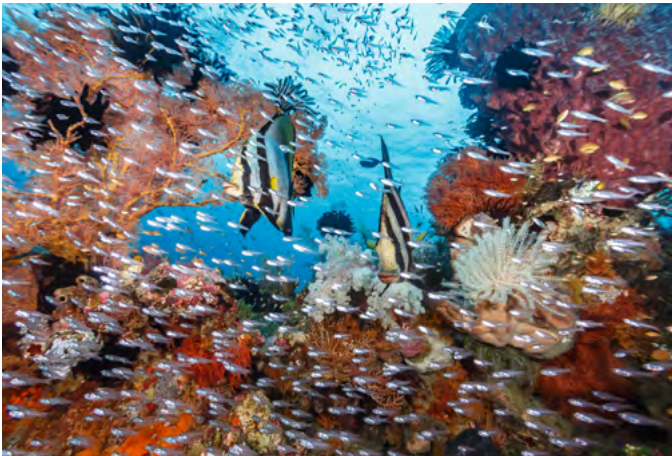
2. High Critter Counts

Wakatobi Resort is located in the heart of the Coral Triangle, which nurtures the planet's highest levels of marine bio-diversity. On the reefs surrounding the resort, underwater photographers will find more than 500 varieties of hard and soft corals, 2,000-plus species of fish life and many thousands more invertebrates.

3. Underwater Diversity

The dive sites surrounding Wakatobi Resort offer a diverse range of underwater scenery. Many begin as shallow reefs that rise to within a meter or two of the surface then transition dramatically to steep slopes or walls. At many sites, the reef topographies are ideally suited to multi-level profiles, and it is quite common for divers to log bottom times of up to 70 minutes while remaining within a no-stop dive profile.

*Photos by Didi Lotze, Walt Stearns, Glen Cowans
and Mathis Weatherall*



4. Roomy Dive Boats

Wakatobi Resort operates a fleet of custom-built 21-meter dive boats. These vessels are designed for passenger comfort, with shaded decks, extra-spacious benches, dedicated gear storage bins, dedicated camera rinse bins and work tables that are out of the way of other divers and snorkelers.

5. Expert Guides

Wakatobi's dive guides are there to assist in image making rather than dictate dive plans. They understand the needs of underwater photographers, and are there to provide appropriate support. They are experts at finding small and cryptic marine life, and can even work as "human tripods," to assist photographers when they are working close to the reef with small subjects.

6. World's Best Shore Dive

Photographers have immediate all-day access to the House Reef, which has been named the world's number one shore dives. Shooters have been known to spend entire days working along small areas of this formation, discovering a wealth of interesting subjects at every turn. In addition, the dive staff operates small taxi boats that ferry divers and snorkelers up current so they can drift leisurely back along the wall.

7. Full Imaging Support

The resort's dive center includes a dedicated, climate controlled camera

room fitted with worktables and numerous charging stations. A full range of pro photography services are available, including one-on-one workshops on image processing, and in-water sessions with Wakatobi's resident photo pro.

8. Pro-Level Equipment

The resort's photo center maintains two complete Seacam housed systems available for rent: one with a Canon 5D Mark II, the second with a Canon 5D Mark III. Each can be fitted with a wide choice of lenses and matching ports, along with Seacam strobes to complement the system. In addition, the center stocks a number of compact camera systems, including the Olympus Tough 3 and Canon G12.

9. Easy Transfers

Direct charter flights from Bali arrive at the resort's own airstrip in just 2.5 hours, and provide ample baggage allowances for camera gear. At all stages of luggage transfer, from airport to dive center to dive boat, Wakatobi's staff takes extra precautions with camera equipment. Wakatobi also maintains an airport concierge staff in Bali to greet arriving passengers, assist with all details of transfer and hotels, transportation and activities for those wishing to make a Bali layover.

10. Shoreside Comforts

After a day on the reefs, guest can relax in a casually elegant setting of charming beachfront bungalows and



private villas perched on the shoreline. Wakatobi is a world-class resort, with spa services, fine dining and attentive personal service.

11. Something for All

Non-diving spouses or family members can enjoy a wide range of additional activities. Water sports include kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, wakeboarding and even kite surfing. Guests can wander the island's nature trail, relax in the library, tour local villages, or sign up for an Indonesian cooking or culture class.

12. The Pelagian Option

In addition to its land-based facilities, Wakatobi Resort operates



Pelagian. This 35-meter luxury dive yacht conducts one-week liveaboard cruises to more remote areas of the Wakatobi archipelago and the southern coast of Buton Island. Carrying a maximum of ten guests, and offering roomy hotel-like cabins, Pelagian combines five-star service and fine dining with unique access to a wide range of dive sites.

There are just some of the reasons why Wakatobi Resort truly is a world-class destination for underwater imaging.

To discover all this idyllic destination has to offer, why not go and experience it for yourself?

www.wakatobi.com



SONY ALPHA A7R III SONY ALPHA A9

Two incredibly powerful cameras, one smart housing. Suitable for scuba, snorkel, surf, pool, and any application in or around the water. Optional TTL circuitry provides lightning fast strobe recycle time and extended camera battery life. A redesigned control set, ultra-durable new ABS-PC blend construction, and the versatile Dry Lock (DL) port system make this system ready for anything you want to throw at it.

Read more at ikelite.com.

