

News, Travel & Events



Celebrate the Sea Festival

Manado, North Sulawesi
31 March to 4 April 2018

Ocean Geographic is pleased to announce the 13th Celebrate the Sea Festival in Manado, North Sulawesi from 31 March to 4 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 was known 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 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. Past presenters at Celebrate the

Sea include some of the world's most prominent luminaries in underwater imaging and science, including: Stan Waterman, David Doubilet, Jennifer Hayes, Ron & Valerie Taylor, Dr Sylvia Earle, Dr Phil Nyutten, Howard and Michele Hall, Peter Scoones, Dr Gerry Allen, Emory Kristof, Michael AW, Dr Carden Wallace, Dr Lindsay Porter, Howard Shaw, Neville Coleman, Leandro Blanco and Dr Mark Erdmann to name just a few. Without doubt, the luminaries for 2018 will be equally impressive.

The principal highlight of the 2018 festival is the international underwater shoot-out competition. With cash and holiday prize monies value at around USD 35,000 spread

over five categories, it may be the most lucrative shoot-out competition in the world. The overall winner will be named 'Master of the Competition' with a cash bounty of IDR 66 million (about USD 5,000). Prizes are funded by the provincial government of Manado and supporting resorts of the North Sulawesi Watersports Association.

Competition participants can submit entries into the five categories taken on a maximum of 10 qualifying dives in their chosen supporting resort from 1-3 April. Cameras must be set to the correct Manado time and date before diving commences. Only material from up to 10 dives can be submitted to the competition. Participants can arrive earlier, or undertake more than 10 dives between 1-3 April, to be arranged directly with their chosen resort.

www.celebratethesea.oneocean.com



NAD-Lembah Resort is a small, owner-operated, photography-oriented dive resort in the Lembah Strait.

Situated in a private bay on Lembah Island, you can enjoy being away from the hustle and bustle of the mainland.

Guaranteed 2:1 guest to guide ratio as standard, which makes for a private dive experience and lots of time to take pictures.

NAD is often the choice of film crews and production companies. We also offer Blackwater Night and Mandarin Fish Dives if you would like to try something different!



NAD
l e m b e h
North Sulawesi, Indonesia

General enquiries: +62 812 475 6661
info@nad-lembeh.com
www.nad-lembeh.com

Capturing Shetland's underwater gannets with Richard Shucksmith



With a 6ft wingspan, pristine white plumage, black wingtips, yellow saturation to the head and an impressive dagger-shaped bill, the Northern Gannets is not only Europe's largest but also one of its most attractive breeding seabirds.

Nesting in colonies numbering into the 10 000's and occupying some of the continent's most remote and dramatic sea cliffs and reaching diving speeds of over 60mph on entering the sea in search of their prey, the northern gannet is an iconic species which offers exciting opportunities for nature photography.

Over the last five years by

studying the gannet's behaviour, and understanding the movement of the fish they feed on, I have been able to successfully predict the best times to photograph gannets underwater.

This is a unique opportunity with no one else offering the chance to capture the dramatic diving behaviour of gannets. Shetland is one of the best places in the UK to photograph gannets underwater because of the beautiful clear oceanic seas that surround the islands. Furthermore, not all places gannets will dive around a boat but here on Shetland they have got used to my RIB and several thousands gannets can be circling and



diving round the boat at any one time.

Number of people: 1-6 to photograph gannets underwater. Group size is limited due to the available space on the boat to make sure everyone has a great experience and makes great images.

Duration: 4 to 6 hours out on sea.

When: To photograph gannets underwater is run between April to the end of June. Please email Richard for more information.

info@shetlandphototours.co.uk
www.shetlandphototours.co.uk

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2nd Underwater Photo Shootout

with Scott Portelli

Lord Howe Island

3rd - 12th June 2018



Pro Dive Lord Howe Island and Pro Dive Travel will host the 2nd annual Underwater Photography Shootout in conjunction with award winning wildlife, nature, aerial and underwater photographer Scott Portelli. Participants will have the opportunity to attend Scott's Workshops throughout the event receiving invaluable tuition.

There are a number of brilliant prizes to be won during the competition including Whale Watching Tours in Tonga, Dive

Packages, Dive Gear and more. Winners to be announced at an Awards Ceremony at the LHI Golf Club.

Price includes: Return flights from Sydney, Airport transfers, 9 nights accommodation staying at Leanda Lei Apartments, 10 Dive Package, 1 Night Dive, Dive gear, Morning refreshments on dive days, Dinner (2 course) at Anchorage Restaurant on arrival day, BBQ dinner after night dive, Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony at the Golf Club.

www.scottportelli.com

www.prodivelordhoweisland.com.au/products/shootout



Issue 101/7

Basking Shark Scotland 2018 News



Our first news for a while and we've been juggling trying to keep on top of the office with our baby Mara. Things are slowly getting better with her now she is 3 months old and around 8lbs so she's doing really well. However we're still not in the office full time, so bear with us on enquiries.

Shane had two trips out to the Arctic for the orca this winter, some successes and some frustrations. Always a tricky environment to have certainties but never a dull moment!

As we are now coming into February, it feels like spring is getting closer. Our season will be upon us in no time at all and we've shared some

tour info below. The short basking shark season is booking fast so don't delay if you want specific dates.

Do check out our blog on helping reducing plastics and help our shark science project with buying a sustainable basking shark cup. There was also good news this week with the government committing funds to the basking shark MPA process, so that will make for exiting stuff this year.

Chin up for the last of the winter - spring is on her way. Keep in touch with us on social.

www.baskingsharkscotland.co.uk

www.uwpmag.com

Raja Ampat 2019 with Immersed Imaging

May 3-13, 2019



From pelagic drift dives to magical muck dives and even some habitats that are special to Raja Ampat such as clear water mangroves with corals growing right next to them. There are thousands of potential dive sites in Raja Ampat. Exploration is still continuing and on every trip there are chances for new and amazing discoveries.

Join Todd Winner and Michael Zeigler of Immersed Imaging aboard the Indo Siren!

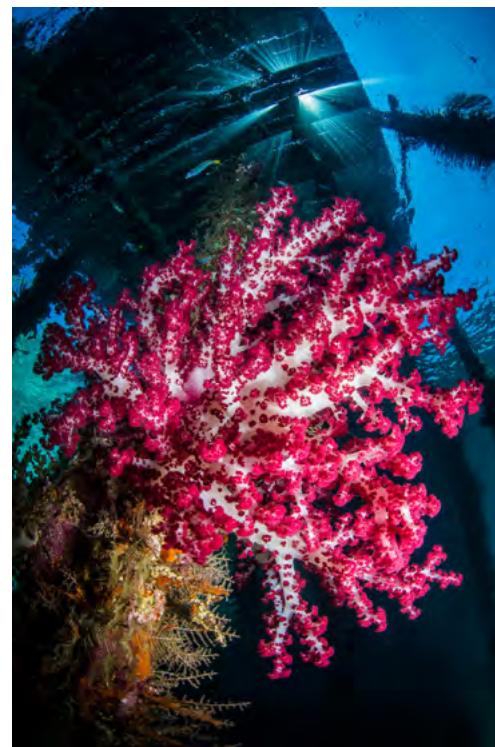
We will work with you one-on-one with you to help you improve your underwater photography and videography as we explore everything from pelagic drift dives to magical muck dives in Raja Ampat.

Clear water mangroves with

colorful corals offer incredible photographic potential, and we'll help you make the most out of each opportunity. We will also be exploring the amazing soft corals of Citrus Ridge, the unforgettable manta ray action at Mansuar, the incredible seahorses and pelagics of Dampier Strait, and more!

As Nauticam Ambassadors, we'll be onboard to assist you with any imaging needs you may have, including private tutoring, workshops, and demo accessories at no additional cost.

Our goal is to help you elevate your imaging skills while having a great time exploring all that Raja



Ampat has to offer.

The 10-night charter is \$5,340 per person and includes the following:
3 days in the Misool area
Fam Penemu & Yangeffo islands
Citrus Ridge (Wonderful soft corals)
Airborek Island (Famous pier dive)
Mansuar (Manta Ray action)
Dampier Strait (seahorses to pelagics)
Cape Kri and Sardine (speedy drift dives)

A \$300 deposit is required to hold your spot. Space is limited, and we hope to see you onboard!

Oasis Photo Contest



After the success of last year edition (27.000 photos in the contest from 62 nations) Oasis PhotoContest is ready to start again, with some interesting additions.

First of all, as you can see from the unrelenting timer, we have delayed registration deadline to 10th March 2018. Secondly, we have added three more category "open", for which a raw file is not required, so that photos taken with compact cameras, smartphones and tablets are eligible for the contest. Finally, we have increased category prizes, which will now be awarded not only to the winner, but also to the runner up.

Categories: - Landscapes - Mammals - Birds and bats - All the other animals - Underwater photography - Storyboard - Plants

<http://oasisphotocontest.it/intro>

www.immersedimaging.com/raja-ampat.html

THE SHOOTOUT

LEMBEH vs GULEN
ROUND TWO
15-23 June 2018

Join Wetpixel at the premier imaging event of 2018

The SHOOTOUT, which will be held from 15 to 23 June 2018, will again pitch two teams head to head in a live underwater photography contest. A team from the beautiful Gulen Dive Resort in Norway will be competing with their opposing team at the equally beautiful Lembah Resort in Indonesia.

The Lembah vs Gulen Shootout will take place June 15-23, 2018, at the Lembah Resort in Indonesia and the Gulen Diver Resort in Norway to decide which team of underwater shutterbugs can come up with the best images in a series of team and individual categories.

This year the teams will be guided and mentored by professional and acclaimed underwater photographers, striving to produce amazing images.

“The quality of images that were produced by the teams in 2016 under contest conditions is a true tribute to their abilities. The 2018 SHOOTOUT will provide the same challenges and an opportunities for all photographers to show their mettle. Join a team and help decide which will be the winner!”

For the participants, the SHOOTOUT is the unique opportunity to focus completely on creating stunning imagery. Team captains Alex Mustard and Keri Wilk will provide guidance to their teams on how to get the winning shots but also will be



making tactical decisions about image selection. They will, of course, also be helping team members to create stunning imagery by extracting the very best of their photographic ability

Wetpixel will be reporting live from the SHOOTOUT will feature a program of live broadcasts and reports from the event, including video discussions with the captains and teams. We are proud to announce that the SHOOTOUT will be covered widely in the diving media at the same time.

We are actively seeking team members. If you think you have what it takes and would like to participate in what will be the most talked about



and fun event in underwater imaging during 2018, contact Gulen Dive Resort or Lembah Resort directly.

Two continents, two hemispheres, two climates: ONE WINNER

www.gulendiveresort.com
www.lembehresort.com
www.amustard.com
www.keriwilk.com



International Year of the Reef (IYOR) 2018

The International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) has declared 2018 as the third International Year of the Reef (IYOR). IYOR is a global effort which aims to increase awareness and understanding about the values of, and threats to, coral reefs, and to support related conservation, research and management efforts. Reef Check Malaysia (RCM) is planning various activities in Malaysia in conjunction with IYOR 2018 and hopes to work with local partners including government, tourism industry and NGOs on this important initiative.

IYOR 2018 aims to strengthen global awareness of coral reefs and associated ecosystems, promote partnerships and share information between stakeholders for the sustainable management of coral reefs, as well as identify and implement effective management strategies for conservation and sustainable use of these ecosystems. This is in line with RCM's current

efforts in Malaysia, which focus on helping stakeholders to implement sustainable coral reef management. IYOR 2018 provides an opportunity to extend efforts to raise awareness among Malaysians about the value and importance of coral reefs, the threats they face and what we can all do to contribute to reef conservation.

RCM will kick off its IYOR 2018 programme with a beach clean-up in March 2018. This clean-up effort will be conducted with several of our partners on the islands of Tioman, Mantanani, Sibutu Tinggi, Pangkor, Perhentian and Mabul. This effort is to highlight the issue of marine debris, specifically plastic waste, which represents a serious threat to marine ecosystems. Recent photos from Tioman and Mantanani islands clearly demonstrate the need for action.

www.reefcheck.org.my

PhD Course - Documentation Techniques for Scientific Divers

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KUNGL. VETENSKAPSKA AKADEMIEN
THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Course Content
SLR photography (macro, wide angle)
Photogrammetry (2D and 3D)
Photo-stacking, underwater tablet
Stereo-video techniques
Time lapse, AUV and drone
Video outreach

Apply Now!
Deadline: 1-Apr
Contact: maria.asplund@gu.se
Course leader: Dr. Eduardo Infantes

Kristineberg, University of Gothenburg
Sweden: 13-24 Aug 2018

Photo: Ronny Waigeld

Lisa Collins Underwater Photography Workshop 24th May to 8th June 2019

Lisa Collins is going to be with us again, this time for a combined workshop with Lembeh Resort, in the famous Lembeh straights. Lisa is offering a combo trip with 7 nights at Lembeh and 8 nights at Siladen.

At Lembeh, Lisa will be focusing more on close up and macro fish portraiture, where the dive sites and marine life lend themselves perfectly for these techniques. At Siladen, located in the stunningly beautiful Bunaken Marine Park, famous for it's amazing visibility and incredible walls full of corals and marine life, Lisa will be focusing more on wide angle and close focus wide angle, with a little macro thrown in for good measure.

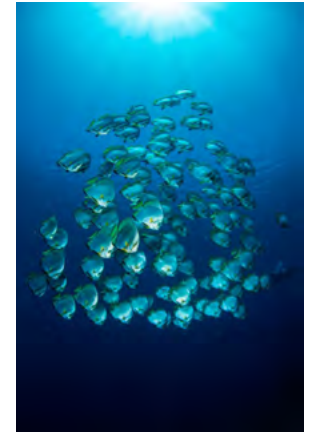
This combo workshop is a perfect way to hone your complete underwater photography skills at two of the best resorts in Indonesia.

Lisa is an award winning underwater photographic journalist who is a regular major feature writer for many dive publications.

“Siladen Resort and Spa was the perfect place to run the workshop, offering a luxury unrivalled by most other underwater photography workshop. In the middle of Bunaken National Marine Park, the location of Siladen couldn't have been better



to access the incredibly beautiful, healthy reefs and stunning walls teeming with marine life as well as muck diving full of weird and wonderful critters.”



Lembeh Resort from 24th to 31st May 2019,

Siladen Resort & Spa from 31st May to 8th of June 2019

If you are interested in joining us for either of the dates, or would like some more information regarding these workshops or other upcoming events, contact us at:

ana@siladen.com

www.uwpmag.com

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