

News, Travel & Events

Red Sea Expedition

with Brandi Mueller and Tobias Friedrich

November 12-19, 2020



© Brandi Mueller with Ikelite Housing

Perfect for photographers of all levels, spend a week on the luxurious Omneia Spirit liveaboard with Ikelite Ambassador Brandi Mueller and Tobias Friedrich.

The Red Sea has endless opportunities for underwater photographers including a variety of subjects from colorful fish and corals, wrecks, sharks, and more.

During surface intervals learn from the pros during lectures, editing

sessions, and one-on-one training.

Learn more about underwater photography techniques while shooting and diving with like-minded underwater photographers in the beautiful Red Sea.

Spaces limited, contact

brandimueller@gmail.com

www.ikelite.com

Paul 'Duxy' Duxfield in Lembeh and Manado!

November 5th to 16th 2020



Duxy helps you improve your photographic skills whilst exploring the walls & reefs on the Bunaken Marine Park and the macro heaven of Lembeh.

With 5 nights/4 days diving at White Sands Lembeh and 4 nights/3 days diving at Bunaken Oasis, it's the perfect trip for taking your underwater photography to the next level. Extensions at both resorts are possible, subject to availability.

From £3395 per person. Includes: Return economy flights UK to Manado (different routing options available)

5 nights at White Sands Lembeh in an air-conditioned Oceanfront Cottage, full Board- 4 days diving, 3 boat dives per day. Local transfers.

4 nights at Bunaken Oasis Dive Resort & Spa in a luxury cottage, full Board. 3 days diving, 3 dives per day. Free Nitrox. Free night dive and 1 free massage. Local transfers.



www.diversettravel.co.uk

www.bunakenoasis.com

www.uwpmag.com



Lembah Photo & Video Workshop

November 23rd to December 3rd, 2020



University of Miami Underwater Photo Contest

Each spring, the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science hosts an underwater photography contest open to amateur photographers who earn no more than 20 percent of their income from photography.

Since its inception in 2005, the contest has drawn entrants from across the globe submitting more than 400 images per year.

Photographs are judged in five separate categories: Fish or Marine Animal Portrait, Macro, Wide Angle, Student, and Best Overall. The



winning images are announced at one of the Rosenstiel School's Sea Secrets lectures and are displayed in a traveling exhibit throughout the South Florida community.

www.rsmas.miami.edu

We are very excited to offer this 10 night trip to Indonesia to participate in a one of our photography workshops.

Price includes transfer from Manado to the resort, nitrox, and 26 daytime boat dives. This resort offers a 2:1 diver to guide ratio + Reef Photo staff will be there too for photo support and expert guidance. Don't miss your chance to come along, so reserve your spot by putting down \$1000 deposit today.

Dive packages include full board (3 meals per day), hot drinks and water, evening dinner on the day of arrival, and breakfast on the day

of departure. The dives stated in the package are day boat dives only. Dives are non-transferrable and unused dives non-refundable.

The resort does offer specialty dives for those that are interested: night dives, mandarin fish dives, and black-water dives for an additional fee. Minimum of 2 divers to book.

The Lembah Strait region offers more than just face to face encounters with weird and wonderful muck critters. We also have wall diving, technical diving, big fish dives but most importantly – a lot of muck and sand.

www.reefphoto.com

Lembeh vs Anilao Shootout 2020



Wetpixel is proud to announce that two macro photography heavyweights will be slugging it out live to discover which will be champion in December 2020.

In Lembeh's corner, we have NAD's team captained by Serge Abourjeily with Marcello Di Francesco's from Solitude Lembeh Resort while in Anilao's corner is Tim Ho's team at Aiyanar Beach and William Tan's at Solitude Acacia Resort. The bout will be the ultimate live photography shootouts and the most momentous event in the underwater imaging calendar for 2020.

All the resorts are seeking

photographers NOW to join their teams and help Anilao or Lembeh win the coveted title. The photographers will also be competing for individual glory and a fantastic array of prizes.

The fight is scheduled from 8 to 15 December 2020, and Wetpixel, along with the entire underwater imaging media, will be reporting throughout. If you can't be there, you can still be involved in the contest by casting your vote for your favorite image from each categories' online gallery.

Two Heavyweights - One Winner

www.wetpixel.com

Beneath the Sea March 27-29, 2020

Living in or traveling through the US northeast this March? Join Ikelite at the Meadowlands Expo Center in Seacaucus, NJ, for the 2020 Beneath the Sea dive show!

Come by booth 406-408 to chat with us and drool over all of the latest and greatest in underwater photography. Our team will be in the booth all weekend to answer all of your questions about cameras and underwater photography. This is a great opportunity to get face time with the experts and get the advice you need to take your photography to the next level.

Beneath the Sea is America's largest consumer dive and travel show and features a weekend of workshops and seminars in addition to exhibits by major equipment manufacturers and travel destinations from around the world.

Our Team

John Brigham is the Vice President & head of product development at Ikelite. He was born with a flair for design and an entrepreneurial spirit as son of Ikelite founder Ike Brigham. He worked his way up in the business and is a



natural fit in the R&D side of things. John dives the equipment as much as possible to test product and put himself in the "fins" of the user. You may also find him on the other end of an email or phone call when you reach out for product advice and support. .

Ambassador Steve Miller has been a passionate teacher of underwater photography since 1980. In addition to creating aspirational photos as an ambassador, he leads the Ikelite Photo School, conducts equipment testing, contributes content and photography, represents us at dive shows and events, provides one-on-one photo advice to customers, and participates in product research and development.

www.ikelite.com



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www.bunakenoasis.com
info@bunakenoasis.com



Set in the world-famous Bunaken National Marine Park, Bunaken Oasis offers a truly luxurious diving experience.

Exceptional air-conditioned cottages with sea-view balconies. Chill-out bar, and gourmet panoramic restaurant.
Custom-built spa with qualified therapists.

Panoramic freshwater infinity pool

From water-makers, with UV treatment, to black water treatment, Oasis was designed to minimise any impact on the environment.

5* PADI-affiliated dive centre, designed for photographers, and dive boats that are second to none, with freshwater deck showers, toilets and, above all, space.



2020 Two Fish Divers Underwater Photo Competition

Shoot And Win
A Free 7 Night Stay
And Diving At Any
Location!

To celebrate our amazing marine life and the diversity of our locations around Indonesia we are holding an underwater photo competition – it's free to enter and you could win a free 7 night stay including 6 days of diving at any of our Two Fish Divers locations in Indonesia!

Simply send us your favourite image underwater photos from your 2020 dives with us (max. 5 images per booking) and we'll upload the best 10 winning images each month to our FaceBook page for public voting. The top two images voted on by the public will go forward to the final round of voting in January 2021.



Whether you shoot marine life, divers, wrecks, reefs or muck send in your top 5 shots for judging. Winner will be notified by email before January 15th 2021.

www.twofishdivers.com/2020/01/underwater-photo-competition-2020

www.uwpmag.com

Baja Mexico Dive Safari including Magdalena Bay for Striped Marlin



In November 2020 Photographer Gregory Sweeney will be leading this photography trip to dive and photograph the best locations in Baja, Mexico.

We start in Port San Carlos where Magdalena Bay is host to the largest striped marlin migration in the world. We will be on our own boat from 7am to 4pm looking for sea birds who will point us to the epic hunting action going on underwater. The marlins hunt the sardines as do the sharks and seals. Under the surface will be a frenzy of action as marlin hunt in cooperation maneuvering the

bait balls until one by one they attack and take their meal. We often get a static bait ball and stay in the water for over half an hour.

We transfer to La Paz where we do a dive unique to La Paz: a night dive with mobula rays. Plankton are drawn like a magnet to our lights and schools of rays come swooping in to dive down to feed in the sand. It is non-stop swirling action at night. We also dive at a sealion colony where these friendly mammals swirl around us and interact.

We end in Cabo Pulmo National Park where protected marine habitat



and pristine coral draws an enormous amount of tropical fish, seals, turtles, and more. Large schools of jacks are an awesome sight as the formation pulses and morphs before us. We do dives specifically for bull sharks who lurk and patrol on the scattered remains of ship wrecks.

This unique and action packed trip showcases the best of Baja Mexico and has plenty of marine wildlife encounters and photo opportunities.

Contact Gregory Sweeney for more information

info@gregorysweeney.com

Shark-Cast Our New Podcast!



It's taken a while to get it all organised, recorded and uploaded to all the feeds, but we're now on the airwaves! We've started this as a outlet to keep in touch with all things Basking Shark Scotland, along with discussion of shark news, research and marine conservation. Have a listen to the first edition where we talk about the recent news on basking sharks IUCN classification, and hear how our trip to Norway went! Our 2nd programme will be out very soon! If you've got any ideas for topics, discussions or want to be part of it then give us a shout!

<https://anchor.fm/shark-cast>
www.baskingsharkscotland.co.uk



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- Stunning Scenery
- One - Seven Day Tours
- Guided by Marine Biologists
- Scientific Research Programme



Sea Shepherd California Clean Up

Over the past six seasons of the campaign, more than 1000 pieces of illegal fishing gear have been removed from the Upper Gulf of California. This federally-protected and UNESCO recognized area is home to the vaquita, the most endangered marine mammal in the world.

Sea Shepherd crews have removed more than 650,000 feet (200,000 meters) of illegal gear from the vaquita habitat, equivalent to over 450 times the height of the Empire State Building.

Gillnets, which are prohibited in the area, are the primary threat to

the survival of the vaquita – a species whose numbers have seen a rapid decline over past decades. At present, it is estimated that only 6-19 vaquitas remain in existence.

“This highlights the importance of our work in the area,” says JP Geoffroy, Campaign Leader for Operation Milagro, continuing, “there are so many illegal nets in these waters, and every net we remove can mean the difference between survival and extinction for the vaquita. We are not going to stop, we are not going to back down. The survival of a species is at stake.”

<https://seashepherd.org/donation/>

www.uwpmag.com

European native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) image competition

Wildlife photographers across the UK are being challenged to capture underwater images of the rare European native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), as international conservation charity ZSL (Zoological Society of London) launches a national native oyster hunt to galvanise support for the species.

Suffering a 95% decline in population over the last 200 years due to historic overfishing, habitat loss, pollution and the introduction of diseases - images of the species in their natural habitat on the seabed are very rare.

Now ZSL, who run the National Native Oyster Network jointly with the University of Portsmouth (UoP) are calling on the British and Irish public to help them gather visuals of the iconic native species.

Project managers hope that images and video generated through the competition will help to answer questions around the oysters' recovery, including revealing if there are indeed any oyster reefs left and whether other endangered species like the spiny seahorse (*Hippocampus histrix*) or European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) are associated with the habitat. The images will also be used by oyster conservationists to promote the importance of the humble mollusc.

Left undisturbed, oysters will

settle on top of one another forming a 3-dimensional reef structure. Much like coral reef ecosystems in tropical seas, or trees in a forest, oysters grow a habitat in which other species thrive - creating marine mega cities in the form of an oyster reef. However, none are currently known to still exist in the UK and Ireland.

Judged by a panel of professional photographers; Tom Gilks, Picture Editor at BBC Wildlife Magazine, Tom Mason, professional wildlife photographer and Nikon Europe Optics Ambassador and oyster expert Dr Philine zu Ermgassen of the European Native Oyster Restoration Alliance (NORA) - the competition will run from 1st March through to 31st of September with the winners announced on December 1st 2020.

The winner will win a one-day advanced photography workshop hosted at ZSL with professional photographer and National Geographic Explorer, Dave Stevenson and a BSAC (British Sub-Aqua Club) diving membership including access to UK-wide training, a monthly magazine, insurance cover and discounts on dive holidays, kindly donated by BSAC. Runner-up prizes include a BSAC membership and a £100 voucher towards completing any PADI training also generously donated



by the Oyster Diving Company, the UK's premier PADI scuba diving and travel company.

Applicants will need to send their photographs (with a maximum of three images and/or three videos per entrant) to NativeOyster@zsl.org with their full name, contact details and location the photograph was taken. More information can be found at the link below.

The oyster restoration work is part of ZSL's Mother Thames campaign, celebrating the incredible variety of life below the surface of the River Thames - which will culminate in the publication of the first-ever State of the Thames Report this summer. To learn more about the work please visit:

www.zsl.org/motherthames

www.nativeoysternetwork.org/nativeoysterquest

2020 Digital Shootout In Bonaire - June 6-20, 2020



Take it seriously or take it slow, the Digital Shootout is an underwater photography/videography vacation designed to take the shooter in the group to the next level. If you're a new or an intermediate shooter, the Digital Shootout is our fast-track to better underwater imaging. In six days of seminars and diving, the Digital Shootout team will help dial in your underwater system and shooting techniques. Enter your best images in the final contest to win trips, gear, and more from our great sponsors.

The Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino is ideally located along the west coast of Bonaire just steps from the capital city of Kralendijk. Guests may enjoy an easy 10 minute walk to the restaurants, bars, and shops of Bonaire's charming capital.

Each afternoon we offer professionally produced seminars on basic and advanced photo and

video techniques. Just learning how to assemble your camera for the first time? Looking for the secrets of exposure and strobe placement? Our seminars are world renowned for their simple delivery of complex topics and will take you to the next level.

The workshops and experts assembled at this event will whisk you along the learning curve of underwater photography. By the end of the week, you will be shooting well enough to enter our friendly competition. The best images shot during the week will be awarded over \$30,000 in prizes.

www.backscatter.com

www.thedigitalshootout.com



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