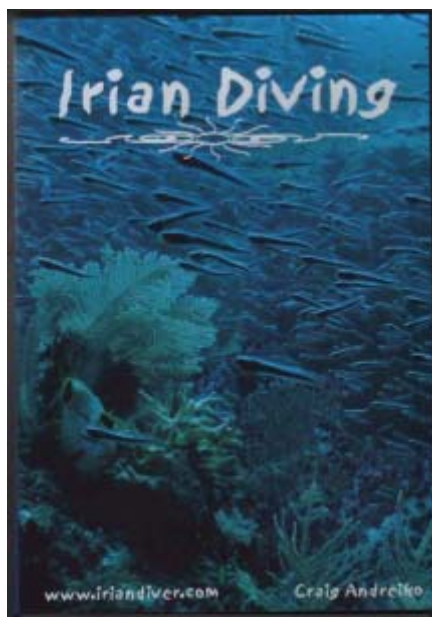


Book and DVD reviews by Peter Rowlands

Irian diving by Craig Andreiko



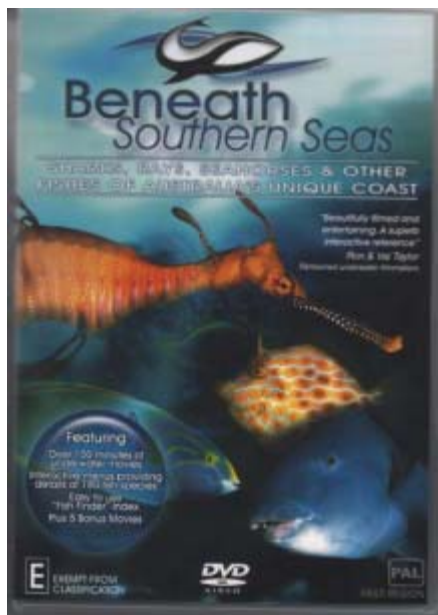
This simple DVD is in two parts - firstly a narrated introduction to the area and the dive set up (although I understand the owner in the DVD is no longer in charge). This provides helpful information for those considering a visit to this area.

The second is unfortunately not narrated and you are left to watch competent footage of what looks like an excellent series of dive sites. The accompanying music score is, however, pleasant.

Irian Diving is a useful visual aid to promote the area. However it would have been more helpful to split the underwater section either into separate dive sites or marine life and the lack of an informative narrative is a lost opportunity.

For further details contact Craig Andreiko
www.iriandiver.com

Beneath Southern Seas by Coral Sea Television



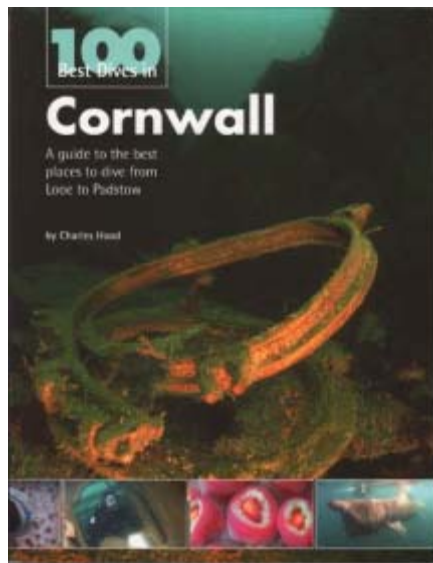
This excellent DVD uses the presentation format to its best and provides comprehensive information about Australia's southern seas.

There is nearly 100 minutes of professionally shot and well narrated footage depicting more than 180 fish species and there is also a detailed static information section for each. The fish are separated into Sharks & Rays, Coastal, schooling, bottom dwellers and rare/protected.

The final section is bonus material showing how the DVD was produced, a 27 minute musical movie "Fish soup", a tour of the Australian Museum's fish collection, an 8 minute audio visual and finally a taster of their next DVD on invertebrates.

If it is anything like this one, it will be well worth just under £20 inc postage.
www.beneathsouthernseas.com.au

100 best dives in Cornwall by Charles Hood



They say you should never judge a book by its cover but I understand I am outvoted when it comes to my opinion about this one. I would have preferred an open water scene rather than some scrap metal but what do I know?

That said, 100 best dives in Cornwall is a well illustrated and very informative book about this very popular UK diving destination. It covers sites on both the south and north coasts.

Each site has a longitude and latitude position, a rating of how easy/difficult it is, where to launch and when to dive and the nearest dive shop service. Finally there is a brief description of what you are likely to see.

The end section includes very useful information about launch sites, dive shops and local services.

100 best dives in Cornwall is good value at £16.95 and should be available in all good dive shops or from Circle Books 020 8332 2709.