

We've all had to learn how to take pictures underwater. In my day it was books and magazine articles plus monthly visits to the British Society of Underwater Photographers meetings in London.

That was fine if you lived in London but for most others it was theoretical rather than practical learning. The opportunity to mingle and learn from other photographers started with competitions like the BSoUP 'Splash In' in the UK and Shootouts in the US.

Sadly the UK based live events have long since faded away but the US Shootouts have gone from strength to strength. They are now supported by the industry's biggest and best manufacturers and most talented educators to provide a very special opportunity to learn and practice new techniques on site with the almost unique opportunity to see and handle the latest underwater photography equipment.

It is the perfect combination of learning and practicing at the same time in an ideal location for underwater photography.

Hats off to all involved because these events take a lot of organisation but they provide an opportunity to learn like no other.

Editorial

Seeds of local talent

UwP has always tried to encourage contributions from those whose camera set up is either not the latest and shiniest or the largest and most expensive. In addition we always love to hear from those who dive locally in conditions far less favourable than a colourful coral reef.

This issue is a shining example with Tony Reed's excellent images shot in UK waters using not just a compact but a three models old one and then lighting it with a simple hand held video light. The results are exceptional and should inspire compact users to persevere.

Sticking with the 'basic talent grown at home' theme we also have the interview with National Geographic photographer Brian Skerry whose career started in his backyard of Maine - temperate limited waters with just a Nikonos 11 - but his determination and what he learnt in his apprenticeship there would stand him in good stead. He must now be the most influential underwater photographer of our time.

Encouraging and including emerging home grown talent will always be at the top of UwP's agenda.

Video in UwP

It's very hard to cover video techniques in a downloadable publication; including video clips would make the file too large to download.

There is, however, a lot you can learn from listening to other videographers and that's why we have Colin Marshall's interview with Alex del Olmo. It's a text only article but if you are interested in video you will, as I did, come away having a better insight of his techniques. Think of it as a written podcast.

Alex produces videos of a very high standard both visually and emotionally. Camera movements are buttery smooth, macro is rock steady and the soundtracks well chosen.

If you shoot video check out his work in the link below then read his interview and you will improve your footage subliminally.

www.naucratesuw.com

One's enough

Looking at Martin Broen's iconic Cenotes images reminds me of when my late great mentor, Peter Scoones, said, in all seriousness, "Only I should be allowed to go underwater to capture the fragile underwater world for everyone to see and appreciate. That way it will be preserved and protected from the inevitable damage that mass tourism would bring."

Looking at, and being able to appreciate without diving there, the beauty of Martin's images of such a fragile, unique and precious environment, I can't help but think that Mr Scoones was onto something there.

Peter Rowlands
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News, Travel & Events

World Oceans Underwater Photography Workshop with Jason Washington and Andrew McLachlan Grand Cayman September 29 – October 5, 2024

Join Jason Washington and Andrew McLachlan on Grand Cayman for our inaugural World Oceans Underwater Photography Workshop.

Grand Cayman offers world class diving with crystal-clear waters, vibrant coral reefs and abundant marine life. Together our expertise will help you improve your skills, from technical aspects like camera settings and lighting to artistic elements such as composition and framing.

Workshops often cater to different skill levels, from beginners to advanced photographers. Personalized instruction ensures that you receive guidance suited to your experience, helping you advance your skills more effectively to create more dramatic imagery.

Practical, hands-on experience will be the cornerstone of this workshop. You'll have the opportunity to apply what you learn in real-time, with immediate feedback from

instructors, which can significantly enhance your learning process and photographic results.

The workshop includes a mix of underwater sessions with question-and-answer periods, we will cover post-processing techniques, image editing, and photo critiques. This holistic approach will ensure a well-rounded learning experience.

Attending a workshop allows you to meet and interact with other photography enthusiasts. This can lead to the exchange of ideas, techniques, and tips, as well as the possibility of forming lasting connections with like-minded individuals.

Combine the travel, adventure, and learning in this underwater photography workshop for a memorable and transformative experience that will enhance your photography skills while you enjoy one of the most beautiful underwater

environments in the world.

The maximum number of participants is 12.

\$1550.00 USD includes:

- Daily boat dives
- In-depth photographic instruction prior to each dive with in-the-field image review
- Question and answer session (before and after each dive)
- Photo editing session

What's Not Included:

- Flights to and from Grand Cayman
- Accommodation (recommended hotels: Hampton Inn, Sunshine Suites & Indigo Bay)
- Meals
- Car Rental (if required)

www.andrewmclachlan.ca

Jason Washington

Workshop

€2,000 Cash Prize for the Winning Photo of the Year, sponsored by boot Düsseldorf!

Submit your most captivating underwater images captured between November 2nd, 2023 and November 1st, 2024,

Capture Glory and have a chance to win incredible prizes in 9 exciting categories!

REGISTERED TODAY >>>>

9 challenging categories

- Best Picture of the Year
- Amateurs
- Best 5 Images
- Wide Angle
- Macro
- UW Fashion
- Black Water
- Environmental
- Video Clips of the World

www.worldshootout.org

Gregory Sweeney Photography - Photo Tours



Snorkel with Sperm Whales



Beluga Encounters



African Safaris

GregorySweeney.com

1-on-1 with Grant Thomas

Direct interaction with a photo pro is the fastest and easiest way to make dramatic improvements in your skills.

Ikelite ambassador Grant Thomas has been internationally recognized for his work, most recently being announced as a finalist in “Wrecks of the World” and “Best 5 Images” categories in the 2020 Underwater World ShootOut.

Grant offers personalized classes



on all aspects of photography and videography. Sessions can take place online or in person (within the UK). Each session is planned with you in advance and tailored to meet your exact needs.

www.grantthomasphotography.com

Six Senses Laamu - Maldives

May 1-31, 2025



Erin Quigley is headed back to the Maldives for the month of May! Join her at the incomparable Six Senses Laamu. Come for a week or stay for the entire month for some well-deserved pampering and dive the spectacular reefs of Laamu Atoll. This is not a structured trip, there is no daily schedule. Hang out with Erin and dive with her in paradise.

Beautifully remote, yet accessible by plane from Malé (MLE) International Airport, Six Senses Laamu is set in a palm-fringed lagoon to fill you with wonder and fuel your wanderlust. Villas with all the creature comforts are set either on stilts over the water or on the beachfront and are an easy wander from the resort’s restaurants, lounges, and amazing Maldives attractions and destinations.

Six Senses Laamu is the only dive

resort in the Laamu Atoll so we are virtually guaranteed of having the dive sites to ourselves when we go out, something that is extremely rare for a world-class diving area and almost unheard of for a place with mantas year-round.

Six Senses Laamu has 97 spacious water and beachfront villas, carefully designed to harmonize with the outstanding natural beauty of the island. They offer privacy, coziness, and comfort. True to the Six Senses’ philosophy of being in harmony with the environment, all of Six Senses Laamu’s villas are crafted from local and sustainable materials.

www.backscatter.com