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News, Travel & Events

2004 City Seahorse Trips

Raja Ampat Liveaboard Photo/
Dive Tours
November 14 - December 7,
2004
(2 trips)



Deb Fugitt will escort liveaboard trips to Indonesia's Raja Ampat islands during the best season for photography.

She would like to emphasize that these are not exploration trips. Deb dived Raja Ampat for the last 5 years with over 500 dives pinpointing the best areas of the best dive sites for photography while working for the local dive operation. The trip is planned to put photographers on these sites in the right place, in the conditions for current, marine life, visibility and

lighting that provide the best photo opportunities.

Raja Ampat offers unique dive sites with the highest diversity of marine life ever recorded, plus outstanding topside beauty.

The 10, 14 or 28 night trips are aboard Queen of the Sea, a new owner operated luxury Indonesia liveaboard and can be arranged by contacting Deb, debf@cityseahorse.com, 817 626-0636. Details at www.cityseahorse.com/rajaampat

**Vanuatu "Over & Under" Diving
Tour
May 20 - June 6, 2004**

This is a strategically planned trip for photographers which combines diving on newly explored areas of Vanuatu that were off-limits to tourists until recently, with a visit to Pentecost island for the land-diving and a visit to Mt. Yasur, the active volcano on the island of Tanna during the full moon.

The 9 night diving trip aboard The Silent One includes a day at Pentecost Island to see N'gol, the land-diving ceremony where men and boys jump from a tall scaffolding tied with a vine around an ankle to bless



the yam harvest. They are the original bungy jumpers. The liveaboard dates are May 23- June 1.

Expect wide-angle and macro uw photo ops, plus outstanding topside opportunities along the way. The trip culminates on June 3 - 5 in a 3 day excursion to the island of

Tanna to photograph its active volcano at full moon.

The trip is priced with air from LAX including the liveaboard, all hotels, domestic air, Pentecost and Tanna trips. May be priced without international air. Contact Deb Fugitt, debf@cityseahorse.com, 817 626-0636. Details at

www.cityseahorse.com/vanuatuu

Great flight deals

These days it is Good News for those flying from the USA to Southeast Asia.

Starting in February 2004, Singapore Airlines will be making aviation history by flying non-stop from LAX to Singapore!

Cathay Pacific has an All-Asia pass at an amazing US\$999 for a 21day go-anywhere deal ... including Bali (Beijing, Bangkok, Singapore, Manila, etc) and there are even deals in the fine print for 4*hotels in Hong Kong at US\$25/night.

They are also offering US\$599 to Singapore; US\$799 from NYC

Air Paradise, Bali's own airline, will launch their new website in mid-January. The site will have a general information page on Bali to give visitors insight into Balinese culture, scenery, style.

For further details visit www.Cathay-usa.com for Americans and www.CathayPacific.com for the rest of us.

Backscatter photo trips 2004

Digital shootout in Taveuni, Fiji

Topics:: digital photo, Photoshop

Seminars by:: Backscatter, Adobe, Light & Motion

Gear support:: free demo gear, Epson prints

5/5 0 5/16 2004

Channel Islands Mini Workshops

Topics: Digital, film & video

Seminars by:: Backscatter

Gear support:: free demo gear, E6 processing

1/21 - 01/24, 4/17 - 04/20, 7/17 - 07/20, 7/21 - 07/24, 8/25 - 08/28, 9/25 - 09/28, 11/03 - 11/08, 12/08 - 12/11

Advanced photo Vancouver Island

Topics: Digital

Seminars by: Backscatter

Gear support:: Back-up gear, tech support

6/1 - 6/12

Great White Sharks Guadalupe Island, Mexico

Gear support:: Free demo gear, E6 processing

11/19 - 11/24

Digital Indonesia Alor / Komodo

Topics:: digital photo

Seminars by: Backscatter, Light & Motion, Jim Watt

Gear support:: Free demo gear

11/28 - 12/10, 12/11 - 12/23

Please see their website or contact them for details.

<http://www.backscatter.com>

Wetpixel.com redesign

On Jan 24, 2004, a new Wetpixel.com was unveiled, showcasing several new features and featuring stronger site integration for the already active community. What this means for Wetpixel users is that logging on to the site gives you seamless integration between the bulletin boards, reviews, news, and features. You will now be able to search the entire website with the push of a button. One login does it all!

A few highlights of the new design include:

- A links section, where you can submit and manage links about your own underwater imaging sites.
- Wiseman Beginner Column, which is being updated with over a dozen articles for new underwater photographers.
- News and content submission: members will soon be able to log in and submit their own content.

Founded in 1999, Wetpixel is a hub for digital underwater imaging and hosts over 1700 underwater photographers who sharing information and photographs in its community forums area.

www.wetpixel.com

Komodo with Mark Webster

Mark Webster will be leading a photo workshop group in December 2004 to the extraordinarily rich waters of the Komodo National Park with Kararu Dive Voyages.

The voyage will commence in Bali and sail to the islands on Komodo and Rinca which are famed for their diversity of unusual and rare marine life. You can expect everything from whale sharks to pigmy seahorses and everything in between.

The boat is well equipped for photographers and understands their needs including the preference for solo diving, although the guides are invaluable for discovering those rare critters.

See Mark's website for further details www.photec.co.uk or visit www.kararu.com for details of the boat.

CORNSoUP back

The Cornwall Society of Underwater Photographers (CORNSoUP) had been in existence for a number of years but was fairly small. At the end of last summer, in recognition of the fact that Cornwall boasts a particularly high number of talented individuals in this field, new life was breathed into the club.

The aim was to encourage the local talent in video, digital photography, slide and print and to give everyone a forum to show and discuss their work (and stand around in a pub and talk about f-stops!).

Not a branch of BSUP, the club meets every month or so on an informal basis. There are no membership fees, rules or age limits.

The group has grown rapidly and there are already over thirty professional, keen amateur and interested people involved. The emphasis is on getting the talent that

is around Cornwall to come out of the woodwork and show their stuff and help promote the underwater world.

In fact there has been interest in attending from across the border in Devon.....even they're welcome! Anyone wanting to know more e-mail cornsoup@sevensenseimages.com

Photo tours 2004

There is a lot to be said for traveling with a specialist who is knowledgeable of the area and is there to share their expertise and make sure that your trip runs smoothly. All of the photo pros are good friends and fun people to travel with.

In 2004 we still have a few spaces on the following trips:

March 11 - March 26, 2004
Pelagian - Kupang to Sorong - Hosted by Stuart & Michele Westmorland
July 10-23, 2004 Pelagian -
Sorong-Sorong - Hosted by Larry + Denise Tackett,

July 27-Aug 9, 2004 Pelagian -
Sorong-Sorong - Hosted by Larry + Denise,
Oct 20-Nov 5, 2004 Pindito -
Mauere to Sorong - hosted by Clay Wiseman,

November 14-29, 2004 Pelagian
- Sorong-Kupang - Hosted by Larry + Denise

Further details are at
[www.reefrainforest.com/
specgroups.htm](http://www.reefrainforest.com/specgroups.htm)

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Bali, Komodo, Wakatobi,
Manado, Kungkungan Bay

Palau, Yap, Truk
Bikini Atoll
Australia's Coral Sea
Papua New Guinea, Solomons
French Polynesia
Fiji, Hawaii,
Sea of Cortez
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Cocos & Malpelo Islands
The Galapagos
Wrecks of Palau

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