

News, Travel & Events

Sea Shepherd Operation Musashi



The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society has announced its fifth Antarctic Whale Defense Campaign to the Southern Oceans to defend whales from the Japanese whaling fleet. This year's campaign has been named Operation Musashi in reference to the legendary Japanese strategist, Miyamoto Musashi (1584-1645) known as a great samurai warrior, strategist and tactician and a personal role model and hero to Captain Paul Watson, Founder and President of Sea Shepherd.

"We intend to sink the Japanese fleet economically," said Captain Paul Watson. "Our strategy is to prevent whales from being killed, to force the Japanese whalers to spend money on fuel without killing whales. We will once again intervene against illegal Japanese whaling and once again we

www.uwpmag.com

intend to save the lives of as many whales as we can with the resources available to us. We have been the cause of the Japanese whaling fleet losing profits for three years in a row. We intend to make it a fourth year of red ink for the whaler's books."

The Japanese whaling fleet will depart from Japan next month. The Sea Shepherd ship Steve Irwin will also depart at the end of November from Brisbane, Australia. The Japanese fleet and the Steve Irwin should arrive in the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary around the same time. Sea Shepherd will not depend on the government of Australia to help the whales.

www.seashepherd.org

Greenpeace Surrenders to the Japanese Whaling Fleet

Greenpeace has officially announced that they will not be sending a ship to the Southern Oceans to oppose whaling by the Japanese Whaling fleet. This means that Sea Shepherd will be alone in our high seas opposition to illegal Japanese whaling operations when the whaling season opens in a month.

"As a Greenpeace co-founder, I am deeply offended that Greenpeace has been raising millions of dollars in the name of defending whales all year and now two weeks before the Japanese whaling fleet is scheduled to depart, they announce they will not be going," said Captain Paul Watson. "In my opinion they collected funds under false pretenses and now they have abandoned the whales. Shame on them."

www.greenpeace.org



Seatool Nikon D300 housing



Small and light enough to hand carry on aircraft, the Seatool ND300 offers exceptional underwater balance.

All camera controls are placed within easy reach, even for divers with small hands. The command dials and shutter release are exactly where you expect them to be for effortless operation, even one handed.

Your new Seatool ND300 housing comes standard with connections for optically fired strobes with optional single or dual Nikonos style bulkheads.

The Seatool ND300 offers three viewfinder options: Optical window, 45° or 180° Inon Magnifying Viewfinders.

www.reefphoto.com
www.seatoolusa.com

Alex Mustard U/w Photography Workshop
Red Sea. 27th June to 4th July 2009.



Join underwater photographer Alex Mustard for his 2009 workshop in the northern Red Sea. As in previous years, this workshop is scheduled specifically to coincide with the aggregations of snappers, emperors, trevallies, batfish, barracuda and unicornfish at Ras Mohammed. But we will also dedicate time to photographing the photogenic wrecks and reefs that characterise this region.

The workshop is aimed at DSLR photographers and is designed to help you progress from taking images that come out to photos that stand out. The workshop will also focus on various

wide angle techniques such as strobe positioning, working with models and filter photography. The workshop will also cover fish portraiture and photographing marine life behaviour.

MV Whirlwind has been especially chosen for this trip because of her underwater photographer-friendly design, great hospitality and the diving freedom essential for producing stunning images. The cost is £1050. London to London – full package price.

For more details please contact Alex at

alex@amustard.com

DivePhotoGuide.com

**DivePhotoGuide
Awarded Best
Website At Antibes**

Popular underwater photography & video portal DivePhotoGuide has been presented with the best website award at the 35th Annual World Festival of Underwater Images, one of the most prestigious underwater photo & film festival in the world, held annually in Antibes, France.

Founder and Publisher Jason Heller said: “We are honored to receive this recognition from such a prestigious competition and I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our readers from around the world as well as our exceptional team - Wendy Heller, Matt Weiss, Gyula Somogyi, Richard Morris, Andrea & Antonella Ferrari, Keri Wilk and Miguel Novey. I’m honored to have such an amazing bunch of people on our team who share an intense passion for underwater imagery and the ocean.”

www.divephotoguide.com



**Seatool Sony
HDR-SR11/12**



The Seatool SR11/SR12 underwater housing for the Sony HDV Handycam HDR-SR11/SR12 is one of the smallest, lightest underwater video housings ever produced.

At just 1.5kg it's small and light enough to hand carry on aircraft and because the housing body conforms so closely to the camera, the housing attains nearly neutral buoyancy (slightly negative) for effortless handling underwater.

The housing utilizes a flip out mirror & lcd reversing circuit, allowing the user to take advantage of the camera's LCD Screen for composition. Optional 3" external monitor now available.

www.reefphoto.com
www.seatoolusa.com

12th International Underwater Film Festival in Belgrade, Serbia

December 12th to 16th 2008

12th International Underwater Film Festival Belgrade
December 2008.



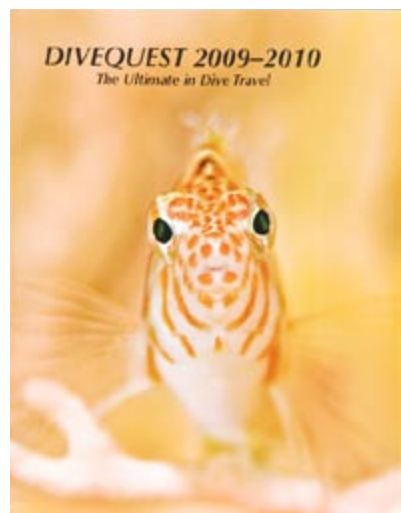
We are very pleased to announce the 12th International Underwater Film Festival in Belgrade, Serbia. This event will be held, like every year, during the beginning of December, from 12th to 16th 2008.

Films for the contest would have to be 2007. or 2008. production, with at least 30% underwater shots and formats are BETA SP, DV Cam or MiniDV (PAL)

The subject is free. Competition admission is free. Deadline is November 15th, 2008.

www.kpa.co.yu

Divequest 2009-2010 catalogue



Divequest arranges professionally organized, dedicated diving holidays of the highest quality to the finest dive destinations in the world.

Our aim is to make your holiday a rich and unforgettable experience. Dive in warm, crystal-clear waters. Float effortlessly through underwater forests and gardens of coral surrounded by rainbow-coloured reef fish. Enjoy the thrill of an encounter with a swirling school of barracuda, an elegant White-tipped Reef Shark gliding by or a breathtaking meeting with Manta Rays. Divequest makes it possible for people. Divequest caters for individuals, couples, families or small groups of friends and larger groups originating from dive centres, dive

shops, clubs or societies groups of 10 or more often qualify for special rates. We also arrange our own group dive adventures, including photographic expeditions and courses, that are guided by skilled and experienced leaders.

Wonderful diving, efficient travel arrangements, high quality dive operations and mostly superior accommodation combine to make Divequest holidays rather special. We select our dive centres with great care, looking for attention to quality, safety and a friendly and personal approach rather than budget prices. Wherever possible our accommodations are chosen because they conform with the Divequest philosophy of high quality combined with the personal touch.

We provide all our clients with comprehensive pre-departure information, including a detailed description of each holiday in our brochure, and all relevant information about such matters as visas, customs, currency, health, flight details, luggage allowances, transfer arrangements, travel insurance, clothing, equipment and guide books. All our information is computerized and is constantly being updated.

www.divequest.co.uk



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Oxygène Indonesia



ECO DIVERS
NORTH SULAWESI - INDONESIA

Eco Divers teams up with Oxygène Diving

From October 2008, Eco Divers is teaming up with Oxygène Diving. With its roots in Scandinavia, Oxygène is an international network of dive retail stores, dive resorts and liveaboards in Sweden, Finland, England, Malta, Egypt, Philippines, Pemba, Croatia, Estonia, Canada and Tenerife. The Oxygène Diving core values are: Caring, Competent, and Fun.

Oxygène was looking to expand its dive centre chain to North Sulawesi, in order to offer its client-base more destination choice and saw Eco Divers as the most suited dive centre for their high standards, so the marketing cooperation was formed.

“We are delighted to be working with Eco Divers,” says Henrik Almers, CEO of Oxygène International. Eco Divers’ Managing Director, Jim Yanny, added, “We have always aimed high to provide excellent service levels and products. We immediately recognized a high level of affinity with the core values of the Oxygène group and believe that this cooperation will bring benefits to our business and, more importantly, to our customers.”

www.oxygenediving.com
www.eco-divers.com



5 **important reasons to make Reef Photo and Video your choice for underwater photo and video**

1 **We are divers and photographers**

Everyone on our friendly staff is an underwater photographer. We use the gear that we sell, and we keep up with the latest imaging products for both underwater and topside.

2 **U/W photography is our only business**

We're not a dive shop and we're more than a camera store. We concentrate all of our energy on the constantly changing world of underwater imaging.

3 **Selection and Inventory**

Our huge inventory from over 58 manufacturers means that we probably have what you need in stock. Orders for in-stock items placed by 4pm EST ship the same day!

4 **Service After the Sale**

Our in-house technicians are experts in repair and service of your equipment. In addition, our custom shop can fabricate those 'outside-the-box' parts that you may require.

5 **Free Ground Shipping!**

Orders over \$200 qualify for **FREE** domestic Ground shipping via UPS!

www.reefphoto.com



DIVEQUEST

presents

Explore the Caribbean's barrier reef



Sam Bean is an up and coming talent in underwater photography. Her focus and determination enable her to capture and present award winning images.

This trip to Roatan is a fantastic opportunity to learn how to achieve your photographic best whilst diving on some of the Caribbean's most stunning barrier reef sites.

Sam will be there to support and help you to develop your existing photographic expertise, to work with the strengths of your own photographic system and to explore your creative ideas. For further details, contact Divequest.

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Photographers of all levels will help celebrate the beauty and delicacy of the marine environment as the 4th annual international underwater photography and video competition series hosted by UnderwaterCompetition.com kicks off this week.

The competition has become the "Superbowl" of international underwater imagery competitions, with over \$75,000 of world-class prizes, major industry involvement, and the opportunity to have your images showcased to the world as some of the best. Esteemed judges include leading professional underwater photographers, cinematographers and magazine editors from around the world.

The unique competition series was founded by professional underwater photographers Jason Heller & Eric Cheng and hosted by popular websites DivePhotoGuide.com and Wetpixel.com. The series is held in association with two leading scuba diving expos on opposite sides of the world, simultaneously - Our

World Underwater, now in its 39th year and one of the largest consumer scuba diving expos in the US, and DEEP Indonesia, the first and only scuba diving and watersports expo in Indonesia.

New this year is a novice category in the Our World Underwater competition, which opens up the competition to a far greater number of scuba divers who are casual underwater photographers.

Deadline for submissions Jan 15, 2009

Winners for each respective competition will be announced live on stage at either the Our World Underwater film festival in Chicago (February 20-22, 2009), or at DEEP Indonesia in Jakarta (March 27 - 29, 2009)

www.underwatercompetition.com

As with all UnderwaterCompetition.com events, 15% of entry proceeds will be donated to marine conservation efforts.

Lembeh Straits Photo Workshop with Mark Webster

31 Oct to 7 Nov 2009



Lembeh Straits is now known to most underwater photographers as the muck diving capital of the world. Almost every weird critter you can imagine is found in Lembeh Straits – from mimic and ‘wonderpus’ octopus, Rhinopias scorpion fish, hairy frog fish to the diminutive pigmy seahorses and a host of other colourful and astonishing subjects in between.

Mark’s workshop will combine this with the luxurious accommodations of the Lembeh Resort on the shores of Lembeh Island, just minutes away from more than 40 dive sites. If you need the variety then Lembeh also has some excellent reef diving on offer and even some shipwrecks. The dive centre has remarkable guides that know all

the secrets of Lembeh and will even help you search for a specific critter to complete your portfolio.

The workshop will be suitable for both DSLR and compact users. Mark will be on hand to help and advise on the best techniques and solutions whatever equipment you choose to use and make a number of themed presentations on techniques to ensure successful results. The week closes with a competition to find the best image taken during the workshop.

The cost of the workshop with will be \$1625.

www.photec.co.uk

Kima Bajo Resort & Spa and Eco Divers

The best of both worlds



Dive from traditional style boats with modern facilities. Small dive groups of no more than four and a maximum of eight guests per boat.

New Kima Bajo dive and accommodation packages for 2008

4 nights all inclusive package (2 dives per day) US\$ 690

4 nights all inclusive package (3 dives per day) US\$ 750

Includes diving, accommodation, meals, airport transfers, taxes & service



Kungkungan Bay Resort, Lembeh
4 nights all inclusive package US\$ 750
(free transfer when you combine Kima Bajo)



Tasik Ria Resort, Manado
4 nights all inclusive package US\$ 540



www.eco-divers.com



Medex 2009, Istanbul

March 18th -22nd

The 2nd Medex 2009 which is the biggest fair of Mediterranean Basin shall be held in İstanbul Fuar Merkezi (İstanbul Fair Center) on March 18-22, 2009.

Within the scope of Medex Istanbul, which is the biggest underwater and nature sports fair of our country and the Mediterranean Basin, local and foreign diving and nature tours, diving centers, diving schools and sportive fishing shall be introduced. Furthermore, The 2nd Free Diving and Underwater Hunting Symposium and Participant Training and Publicity Seminar to which national and international speakers are going to attend with different subjects shall take place.

Beside the fact that Medex 2009 is a commercial platform, it has undertaken a significant task in the publicity of international underwater and nature sports tourism. Our fair, which is a meeting point for professionals in different sectors that are in connection with the

subject such as tourism offices, travel agencies and facilities, has a broad repercussion in visual and written media in respect to the significance and vulnerability of the subject. Underwater and nature sports activity center which has a demonstration pool, pressure chamber and a climbing wall shall have the characteristic of an information and entertainment center.

Moreover, International Underwater Photography Contest whose sponsor is Marine Photo Magazine shall be organized for the first time and traditionalized. The prize-worthy photographs shall be rewarded with Medex International Underwater Photography Award. The opening ceremony and cocktail shall be held on March 18, 2009 with the participation of VIP guests; various shows and demonstrations shall take place.

www.medexistanbul.com

www.uwpmag.com

Photo: Martin Edge

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Raja Ampat Tourism Entry Tag Contest



After three weeks of public voting, Marcio Lisa won first place in the 2009 Raja Ampat Tourism Entry Tag Contest with his dramatic silhouette of a manta ray.

He will receive an 11-day, all-inclusive diving package at Papua Diving's Kri Resort in Raja Ampat. The two runners up will each receive a copy of the fabulous, soon-to-be-released book, "Raja Ampat through the lens of ...", which includes contributions from 10 of the world's leading underwater photographers.

All contributors and supporters of the 2009 Raja Ampat entrance tag design contest are commended for their support and submissions.

www.wetpixel.com/raja

Seayoo.com

Seayoo, which appeared for the first time this month, is the first geographically-aware web site of its kind, enabling its members to meet other divers and find relevant content close to their homes or diving locations. Members are invited to share information about new diving locations, post photos, list equipment for sale and much more.

A social network with user-generated content, Seayoo allows divers to keep in touch with each other and to meet new diving partners, while providing an exchange of information about dive sites, facilities and suppliers to help members with their travel plans and to provide a free place to publish diving articles, photos and videos.

Seayoo was conceived by Michel Braunstein, a passionate diver and underwater photographer, after his own personal website, www.braunstein.co.il, was chosen as the best promotion diving website at the Antibes 34th World Festival of Underwater Pictures in 2007. David Pilosof, the famous veteran underwater photographer and creator of renowned photo album "Samantha", joined Seayoo as a partner.

www.seayoo.com

DivePhotoGuide.com

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