

News, Travel & Events

Siren Fleet Underwater Photography Workshops 2014



Worldwide Dive and Sail has always been a keen supporter of underwater photographers and our Siren Fleet yachts are designed and updated to accommodate the growing needs of underwater photographers.

We've put together two in-depth photography workshops for you to enjoy this year in Fiji.

Hosts, Douglas Hoffman and Gerald Rambert, are both seasoned professionals, experienced in teaching the use of compact and SLR cameras.

Douglas leads groups on international trips three times a year, with well over 10,000 hours in the water he has specialised in the coral reefs in Fiji.

Gerald, from Mauritius will give afternoon and evening presentations

on a range of subjects and provides individual in-water instruction and between dive coaching to ensure you develop your own techniques and style at an individual pace.

Both will work alongside our guests to focus attention on where each individual needs it most – on board and underwater!

A series of afternoon and evening presentations will be provided, on topics including "Framing and Composition", "Lighting and the use of Flashes", "Wide-Angle" and "Buoyancy Control".

Douglas Hoffman's trip is from 19th -26th May 2014 and Gerald Rambert's is from 14th -24th June 2014.

Raja Ampat March 2 - 13, 2015

We have chartered the MSV Amira. We will make sure that you will see the best that Raja Ampat has to offer, tailoring it to your desires.

Raja Ampat is located in the northwestern tip of Indonesia's Papuan "Bird's Head Seascape," and lies in the heart of the coral triangle, the most bio-diverse marine region on earth. The islands of Raja Ampat offer a world of thrilling big animal encounters, the chance to see new species, pristine reefs of hard and soft corals and some of the world's most



intriguing macro creatures. Surveys suggest that the marine life diversity in the Raja Ampat area is the highest recorded on earth.

www.scubadiveasia.com

Dive with Great Hammerheads & Bull Sharks in Bimini

Jan 25th - 31st 2015



See our other
Underwater Photography Adventures
with Tiger Sharks, Whale Sharks, & Manatees

www.GregorySweeney.com

www.sirenfleet.com/liveboard-diving/photo-trips-2014.html

www.uwpmag.com

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www.openfotosub.es/en



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www.elhierro.travel



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14th Marmara Underwater Photo & Video Festival



The International Marmara Underwater Photo & Video Festival, which shows us a visual spectacle by bringing underwater world to surface, will celebrate its 14th year!

Since 1993, the Festival has been organized by "Türk Balıkadamlar Spor Kulübü" (1954) which is the first and one of the major underwater sports clubs in Turkey.

This year, as in previous years, the festival has been dedicated to the memory of Mr. Haluk Cekan, an internationally renowned underwater photographer and documentary film maker who passed away in 2007.

"The Marmara International Underwater Images Festival" is a member of the European Underwater Images Festivals Association, an organization that hosts many important events in the underwater arena and is considered to be the authority in the field.

World leading photo and video experts will be hosted during the Festival. A social responsibility Project will also be presented during the highly anticipated Festival.

The festival consists of two separate competitions :

International Contest:

Previously shot and taken underwater photographs and videos from all over the world, no restrictions for region and date.

"Living Marmara" Contest:

Evaluation of photographs and films taken and shot underwater around Prince's Islands in the Marmara Sea during the contest.

The Application Deadline is 8th of June 2014

www.marmarafestival.org

www.uwpmag.com

World Shootout 2014 rewards amateur photographers with a \$1,500 check!



Taking underwater images using a compact camera system? We've got a \$1,500 check waiting just for you...

Submit a single image taken with a compact camera system during the months of January-July to the World ShootOut 2014 Amateurs Category and you might just be the proud winner of a \$1,500 check, courtesy of Unterwasser Magazine!

Images can be submitted to the competition by uploading them to the competition website during the months of January-July. Deadline for submitting images to the competition is July 31st, 2014.

www.worldshootout.org

www.uwpmag.com

Sign up to stop SeaWorld from imprisoning killer whales for profit

SeaWorld just got busted by a US government agency for violating the Animal Welfare Act -- and we may have a rare chance to end its animal cruelty for good.

SeaWorld imprisons orca whales in tiny, cage-like tanks -- and the USDA citation reveals conditions at the park are dangerous to the animals' health. SeaWorld is still defending its barbaric practices, but huge pressure is building on the company.

In a surprise move, a Californian assemblyman has just introduced a law to make it illegal to keep orcas in captivity. This could change everything -- but SeaWorld is already mounting a vicious campaign to defeat this assemblyman's brave move. We need to tell the State of California that the public won't accept SeaWorld's imprisonment of orcas any longer.

SeaWorld's actions are no surprise to anyone who has watched *Blackfish*, the documentary exposé showing how SeaWorld tortures these intelligent animals as they force them to perform tricks for the sake of entertainment and profits. But the Orca Welfare and Safety Act could change all that. The Act makes it illegal to "hold in captivity, or use, a wild-caught or captive-bred orca



for performance or entertainment purposes."

SeaWorld claim that the captivity of whales is about education, but we know better -- it's about profits. Through the years many groups, including SeaWorld's own trainers and staff, have called for the end of the imprisonment of whales.

But with recent scrutiny, the company is under more pressure than ever. After CNN aired the groundbreaking *Blackfish* documentary, the world now knows that SeaWorld still keeps orcas like Tilikum in captivity, taken from the wild at two years old. This is dangerous not just for Tilikum's own health, but for his trainers -- the

mental effects of being locked in a 20-by-30 foot dark metal container has seen him implicated in the deaths of three people.

This latest bust by the USDA for violating the Animal Welfare Act is just a sign that SeaWorld needs to stop this. Attendance is dwindling at SeaWorld as the world wises up about the cruelty of the business of capturing animals for entertainment. Parents and kids are understanding that forcing intelligent, sensitive animals to live in cages is a cruel, unethical practice. If this law passes, we can stop this practice in California for good.

Sign on to stop SeaWorld from imprisoning whales for profit.

<http://action.sumofus.org/a/seaworld-orcas-captivity-california-ban-blackfish/>



BigAnimals Expeditions

Blue Whales July 13-19 2014



Check out our special
Whale Sharks trips in
2014



Download our online brochure
HERE

After feeding in the Sea of Cortez during the spring months, the blue whales make their way to enjoy the warm waters off Southern California during summertime.

BigAnimals Expeditions has established a superb logistical infrastructure to make the most of this event by pinpointing daily the real-time location of the blue whale migration.

With the support of a scout plane and several reporting posts along the coast, we board our diving vessel and set sail each morning from San Diego, making our way directly into the path of the blue whales as they journey

north on their summer migration.

We only take 5 guests to keep environmental impact low, and snorkel to provide the best experience in the water. Once we are near the whales, it's into the kayaks - the best vehicle for getting close to the blues. Each kayak is powered by an expert sea kayaker who will paddle each of us out to experience the earth's most majestic animals.

Nick LeBeouf is leading the expedition. Space for 3 guests available (5 guests total)

www.biganimals.com

www.uwpmag.com

DiveQuest

THE ULTIMATE IN DIVING HOLIDAYS & UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS

Focus Grand Cayman Aug 30 - Sept 6, 2014



Join us at Focus Grand Cayman for world class diving on the North wall & Northwest Point, where sheer walls and hundreds of dive sites await you including the world famous Kittiwake wreck. You'll dive with Pros in the Photo and Video world, and meet many of the Who's Who in the Rebreather diving world.

New photo buffs and experienced shooters are welcome!

The fall offers laid back diving and you'll get a chance to test out the latest in underwater housings, strobes and cameras from Reef Photo & Video and Nauticam. Dive with Ryan

Canon, Chris Parsons, and Tanya Burnett from Island Exposure. Learn about new products and technologies, or test out a Semi or fully Closed Circuit Rebreather! This event is open to divers of all experience levels, including open circuit and Rebreather divers, with profiles for everyone from shallow reefs to sheer deep walls & wrecks.

www.focusgrandcayman.com

www.divequest-diving-holidays.co.uk

Truk: The Art of Underwater Photography with Shannon Conway 4-11th May 2014

Lembeh: Critters of the Black Sand with Graham Abbott 4-14 November 2014

Raja Ampat: Including the Blue Water Mangroves with Graham Abbott and Shannon Conway 14-25 November 2014 (FULLY BOOKED)

Ultimate Manado: Underwater and Topside with Nick and Caroline Robertson-Brown 6-20 September 2015

EMAIL: divers@divequest-diving-holidays.co.uk

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Christopher Bartlett trips Papua New Guinea and the Caribbean



An experienced professional photojournalist, Christopher's work has been published across the globe.

Christopher has spaces left on a Papua New Guinea FeBrina liveboard trip 3 to 11 September, visiting his favourite reefs, and those chosen by David Doubilet for the 125th anniversary edition of National Geographic, in the Witu Islands, Father's reefs and Kimbe Bay.

In the heart of the Coral Triangle, the world's most bio-diverse marine region, this itinerary combines a perfect mix of sea mounts, reefs, walls and muck dives, with a beautifully intact World War II Japanese Zero fighter plane as a bonus. Add in great viz, easy diving



conditions, up to 32 dives, and a Captain with 19 year's experience and knowledge and it's a total winner.

He has also put together an unprecedented Caribbean Shark and Whale safari. His 11-night "Phat Fish Fest" will take in the Tiger, lemon and nurse sharks of Tiger Beach, the Bull and great hammerhead sharks of Bimini, Stuart Cove's Shark adventure on New Providence, and the migrating humpback whales from Salt Cay, Turks and Caicos. 11 nights, four islands, five-inter-island flights, 1 helicopter transfer, 6 diving days, 3 snorkelling days, accommodation, photography coaching : \$4150 based on two sharing.

^twww.bartlettimages.com

www.bestofpng.com/pages/mv-febrina/photography-workshop-2014.php
www.indigosafaris.com/pages/caribbean-shark-and-whale-safari-2015.php

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www.uwpmag.com/?p=advertise

Digital Shootout Little Cayman June 14-21, 2014



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. It's also our most popular trip for shooters with an interested, but not die-hard, image-making travel partner. Spend the morning diving together. Afterwards, the partner can hang out at the beach or make afternoon boat dives while you attend the afternoon seminars. Circle back with the group each evening at the slide-show bar party for critiques with the pros.

Most of our repeat guests

consider the Shootout events the ultimate working vacation. 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.

Little Cayman is accessible via most major airlines. If you're traveling heavy, you'll incur excess bag fees but there should be no problem with you getting all of your camera and dive gear to the Digital Shootout in Little Cayman. No worries...

www.thedigitalshootout.com

Win an INON underwater LED



You can enter into a free draw to win an INON underwater LED light just by "Liking" The Underwater Camera Company's facebook page.

The specialist supplier of underwater photography equipment was set up by Mark Koekemoer and offers a great range of quality products. Mark's unique background means he can offer vital advice and, what's more, you'll always be dealing with him personally.

Mark is the co -designer of the



INON UK Level One beginner to intermediate underwater photography course and is currently developing the Level Two Creative Lighting Course on behalf of INON UK. Mark's expertise was called upon by Martin Edge as a specialty writer for The Underwater Photographer, considered the best manual on underwater imaging. Mark has also written many magazine features on underwater photography. He has regularly presented talks on underwater photography at dive shows. Mark has shot professionally for national newspapers, including images for the 2012 Olympics.

To win an INON LE350 LED light worth £149.95, visit his website and follow the facebook link. T&C Winner announced on 31 July 2014 on facebook. UK shipping Free. International shipping charges apply.

www.theunderwatercameracompany.com

UWP World Championship September 7-13, 2014 Eilat, Israel

In the world of art, media and creativity, some of the most impressive works introduced are those produced by successful teamwork. And so, Eilat Red Sea, PADI and Festival Mondial de L'image Sous Marine introduce the National Team competition, inviting photographers from the same country to team-up during the Eilat Red Sea event and to put together a stunning, award-winning portfolio of 6 images.

Images submitted to this category should be captured by team photographers during the Eilat Red Sea shoot-out, which takes place on September 7-13, 2014, in Eilat, Israel.

The judging phase will be featured in LIVE during the Festival Mondial de L'image Sous Marine, which takes place on October 30th – November 2nd, 2014, in Marseille, France. Each team will be ranked by the judges (70%), festival visitors (15%) and by public votes (15%). The team who managed to receive the highest integrated score will be announced as the winner and will be



awarded with \$3,000, sponsored by PADI.

Eilat Red Sea 2014

You're invited to take an exciting one-week break from your daily routine in the crystal clear water of the Red Sea. Meet people, dive, photograph fish & models, party all night long and perhaps even win some valuable prizes, including a \$10,000 USD check for the first prize of the main category!

The Eilat Red Sea event is celebrating a whole decade in Eilat, Israel. By now it's known worldwide as the International Underwater Photography Olympics and will take place this year on September 7-13.

Prizes include huge cash prizes, diving vacations in dreamy destinations, underwater photo equipment, scuba gear and more.

www.eilatredsea.com

Cocos Island, Costa Rica October 9 - 19, 2014

We have chartered the Sea Hunter. Join a great group of like-minded divers and UW photographers. Cocos Island is an underwater photographers dream. Beyond the stunning display of large pelagic fish like whitetip reef sharks, scalloped hammerheads, and grey reef sharks, you can also enjoy the viewings of thousands of other species. The lack of human inhabitants on Cocos Island supports



a pollutant-free environment that supports manta rays, marbled rays, tuna and dolphins as well as pilot whales, false killer whales, marlin and sailfish.

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Team Edition Open Fotosub Isla de El Hierro.2014

1st 2 Masters announced



The current world champion, David Barrio, is the first Master of the Team Edition Open Fotosub Isla de El Hierro. The Cabildo of El Hierro and the Canarian Government confirm that the world champion is the professional UW photographer chosen to direct one of the four teams that will compete this year in the international underwater photography competition.

The new Master also holds the Spanish underwater photography champion title, and twice champion of the Open of El Hierro. He has also won various national and international prizes, and his photographs and photo journals have been widely published.

David will assist the event with his model Luis Quintanilla, will lead the Yubarta team and his mission will be to direct the teaching and training of his team members, getting them

ready for the final competition phase when, with 15.000 euros at stake, they will face the other three teams.

The second Master is Franco Banfi who is a professional wildlife photographer and photo-journalist, well known for his expertise and accuracy in underwater imaging. Recently he specialized in leading photo expeditions and in giving workshops and seminars about photography in different locations.

For a long time, he has become known around the world for his versatility. He has meticulously documented a lot of uncommon animals and locations, wildlife and human relationship with nature, in environments from the Equator to the Poles.

The period for pre-registration in the 18th El Hierro "Team Edition" Open Fotosub started on 15th of

March. All interested photographers, as well as their assistants/models, may apply for pre-registration in the event, with no commitment, using the form you can find in the REGISTRATION section of the Blog.

Once the Masters who will lead each of the four teams of the Open (Yubarta, Solrayo, Zifio and Maroma) are announced, the organization will contact the pre-registered participants so they can formalize their inscription and express which team they would like to join, in order of preference.

The technical management of the event will take such preferences in consideration, in addition to the technical and competitive level of the pre-registered photographers, to determine the composition of the teams that will compete in La Restinga from the 16th to the 17th of October, once the training and teaching phase from the 12th to the 15th of the same month has ended.

It is important to highlight that this year's Open Fotosub is more open than ever to the participation of UW photographers of all experience levels, who will have the opportunity not only to participate integrated in teams of similar levels, but will also have the chance to improve their photography skills coached by some of the best underwater photography teachers.

www.openfotosub.es/en

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