

News, Travel & Events

Wetpixel Whalesharks 2017



Wetpixel has a long and proud tradition of offering amazing trips catering specifically to underwater image makers. Many of the images that you see in magazines or winning contests have been taken during our trips. Typically, we go to amazing places and ensure that the infrastructure is imaging friendly.

Wetpixel returns to Isla Mujeres in 2017 to observe and document the amazing whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) aggregation.

One of nature's most amazing and unique events, hundreds of whale sharks gather each year to feed on eggs spawned by bonito (*Euthynnus alletteratus*) off the island.

For 2017, we are running two five day trips:

From 07/30/2017 to 08/05/2017
(1 Spaces available)



From 08/04/2017 to 08/10/2017
(2 Spaces available)

We keep the participant numbers very low and maximise the time with the sharks by leaving early and getting back late. This makes them incredibly productive for image makers.

The trips are snorkeling only.

For full details including fee, please visit the expedition's page or e mail Adam

www.wetpixel.com/i.php/ws17
adam@wetpixel.com

Blue Whale Expedition June 25 - July 1st 2017



Join Big Animals in San Diego California to experience nature at its best with this heart pounding expedition.

You will experience raw excitement when you swim with the largest animal ever to live, bigger than all dinosaurs reaching up 100 feet.. weight over 180 tons, yet only feeding on plankton.

It is difficult to imagine just how huge these whales are until you're in the water with them.

We only provide small group expeditions so you can truly have a wonderful experience. This is a trip you will never forget.



During this Expedition, you will experience a true Ocean Safari with Giant Mola's, Dolphins, Sea Lions and other wonderful Ocean Life!

What makes this expedition so unique is that, in addition to having a scout plane with us every day, we also employ five master kayakers to paddle us as quietly as possible to the shy blue whales.

Everyone is kept apprised of all whale movements at all times so that your kayak will be able to reach your whale quickly and silently.

www.biganimals.com

Alor Photo contest 2016 winner

We have the 7th winner for our grand prix of 9 nights stay at Alor Divers Eco Resort!

The photo contest that started in 2010 already gained full momentum last year and is continuing full on in the same direction. This year numerous UW photographers submitted their amazing digital captures of Alor's marine beauty.

The decision was not an easy one to make and there was again a tight run for the prize. We use this opportunity to thank all the participants, we hope you join us

again in exploring the magnificent underwater life of Alor.

The prize for Best Portfolio of Annual Alor Divers Photo Contest 2016 goes to Anders Nyberg!

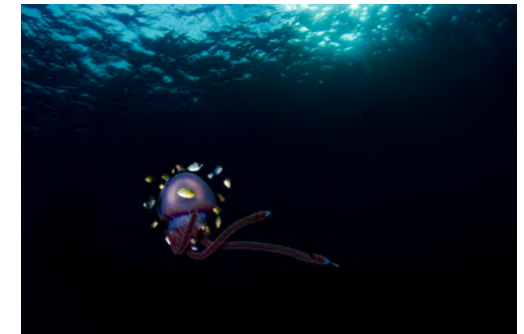
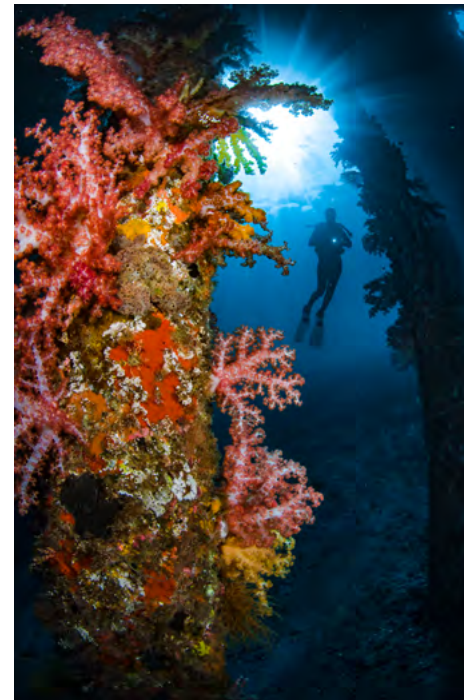
Of course he took his winning photos while diving with us in Alor in 2016

Congratulations to you Anders and we are looking forward to meeting again here at Alor Divers!

www.alor-divers.com

Anders Nyberg

www.worldoceanphoto.com



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scubadiveasia.com



<https://vimeo.com/172028218>



Underwater filmmaking with David Diley Marsa Shagra - Southern Red Sea 4 - 11 October 2017

David Diley, award winning Film-Maker and Underwater Cinematographer, is best known for his work with large sharks, stingray and commercial film productions for the UK Dive industry.

This workshop is open to anyone seriously interested in improving their underwater videography in an informal, friendly, non-competitive environment.

This week long Underwater Film-Maker Workshop will provide you with a fresh and more detailed take on traditional underwater videography workshops. You do not need the latest, most expensive

equipment to make good movies, with David's help you will be amazed at the result you can achieve with your GoPro or DSLR.

Designed to cater for all abilities but especially relevant to those at beginner and intermediate level, this workshop aims not only to expand your knowledge of the technical aspects of filming underwater, but more importantly, to inspire you to unlock your creativity to help you tell engaging stories using your own creative voice.



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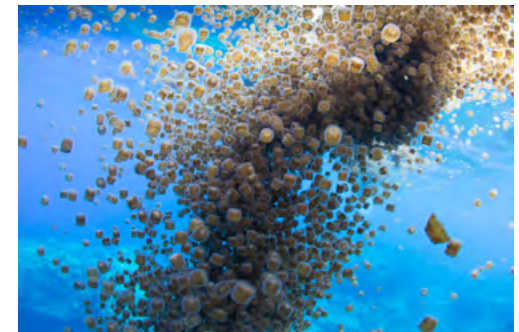
SIDE sponsors largest photography contest in Solomon Islands history



Solomon Islands Dive Expeditions along with our sister-company Dive Munda, is hosting the largest photography contest in Solomon Islands history. With over \$22,000USD (\$1.7 million SBD) in prizes, we expect to draw submissions from around the world.

Photographers are invited to submit their best photos or portfolios of life above or underwater in Solomon Islands. An international jury will reward the best portfolio along with best underwater shots. Up to 100 honorable mentions will be selected and submitted for public judging and selection of an additional prize winner.

Solomon Islands is still relatively undiscovered by travellers. We want our visitors to share their experiences and inspire others to visit these beautiful happi isles. From WWII relics scattered in the jungle to leaf-hut villages where traditional culture



is alive, there's so much on offer. Then there's the visual appeal, with scenery reminiscent of a Discovery Channel documentary: volcanic islands, croc-infested mangroves, huge lagoons, amazing underwater vistas and tropical islets. Travelling the Solomons onboard Taka allows divers and adventure seekers to discover the very best of the Central and Western provinces.

www.solomonsdiving.com/photo-contest-rules

www.uwpmag.com

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After 17 years of living and diving in Indonesia and more than 10 years organizing dive trips for my own clients - always in remote areas - I found out that one of the important keys for a successful and hassle free trip is to have a good travel agent.

From my belief and experience I can say a great advantage of travel agency based in Indonesia is that it can respond fast and efficiently to any trouble.

So Dive Explore Indonesia is born and offers you:

- * carefully selected choice of operators,
- * fast, efficient and reliable service (24h/7) even weekend and holidays,
- * exclusive promotions & great group offers

To help you make 2017 a great diving year, we are pleased to offer you an exclusive 5% discount on any booking! (Valid until Aug 30th 2017)

Please contact us for any query around this vast archipelago:

www.diveexploreindonesia.com

www.uwpmag.com



Maldives with Backscatter

Manta Bay on the Manthiri

September 2017

We just can't get enough of the amazing diving in the Maldives. This marks our 10th charter on the Manthiri since 2009 when we first witnessed the manta aggregation of Hanifaru. We've since fallen in love the surrounding reefs with gin clear water, lush soft corals and large schools of fish. These two 10 night charters are scheduled during the prime time of year to give us the best opportunities to see all the action.

Hanifaru Bay, Maldives is one of the greatest dive sites in the world. For a few months each year, ocean currents and wind patterns align to capture krill in this white sand bay in shallow water. This tiny bay acts as a natural krill net and thus attracts hundreds of manta rays and dozens

of whalesharks to feed on the dense krill buffet. When ocean conditions are perfect, divers can swim alongside the greatest gathering of mantas ever seen in the wild. When ocean currents are fickle, the bay can be nothing but sand. Good timing and luck are essential, thus our experienced boat and photo crew are essential for making the best out of our timing.

Boarding: September 16, 2017
9AM Returning: September 26, 2017
9AM. We suggest you arrive in Male (MLE) the day before the trip boards. You can fly home anytime on the return day. Contact us for more travel details.

For more information about the Manthiri, check out their Web site:
www.manthiriliveaboard.com

Blue Heron Bridge Photo Workshop

August 10-13, 2017

Take advantage of one of the finest macro sites in the world, our own Blue Heron Bridge, located in West Palm Beach, FL. This 3 day clinic focuses on macro photography, and there may not be a better setting anywhere in the world to hold this kind of class.

From composition to exposure to achieving that critical focus, this class will help you dial in your macro skills. We'll dive each of the 3 days, and given the shallow depth, you can expect to be able to dive for upwards of 2 hours depending on your air consumption. We'll do classroom before and after the dives, and we'll do daily critiques.

This class is intended for beginner to intermediate shooters, and all types of underwater camera systems are welcome. An orientation session will be held Thursday evening at the Reef Photo & Video Underwater Photography showroom in Fort Lauderdale.
Thursday Evening 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Camera Check, Slideshow, Orientation and Dive Site Briefing,



Reef Photo & Video retail location in Fort Lauderdale

Friday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM dive
approximately 9:30 AM
Saturday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM dive
approximately 10:15 AM
Sunday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM dive
approximately 11:00 AM

To provide you with the best experience, the schedule may be modified due to weather, ocean conditions, or other factors.

All divers will be required to carry a fishing line cutting device while diving.

<http://www.backscatter.com/learn/trips-and-classes/trips.php?ID=255>

http://reefphoto.com/shop/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=162&products_id=9135

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www.masterliveboards.com

2018 Shootout captains announced

Two eminent pro underwater photographers have joined The Shootout as team captains for 2018

The Shootout, which will be held from 15 to 23 June 2018, will again pitch two teams head to head in a live underwater photography contest. A team from the beautiful Gulen Dive Resort in Norway will be competing with their opposing team at the equally beautiful Lembeh Resort in Indonesia. The first contest, in 2016, resulted in the narrowest of last-minute victories for the team from Lembeh.

The 2018 event is proud to announce that captaining the Lembeh team will be the world-renown professional underwater photographer, Alex Mustard and in the corner for Gulen Dive Centre will be another big hitter of the underwater imaging world, Keri Wilk.

Keri captained the Gulen team in 2016, so he has a score to settle:

"If last year's 3-round nail-biter was any indication of what to expect, we should have another exciting battle on our hands," and he went on to state, "last year, Team Gulen showed the world that we could indeed compete with Lembeh. Next year, however, we aim to show that we can WIN!"

Both captains will not only be



providing guidance to their teams on how to get the winning shots but also will be making tactical decisions about image selection. They will, of course, also be helping team members to create stunning imagery by extracting the very best of their photographic ability.

Alex says: "Team Lembeh won the last Shootout, so the pressure is on me this time! It's such a fun event where the team has to all work together to ensure that everyone gets great images to be sure of success."

The Shootout will feature a program of live



broadcasts and reports from the event, including video discussions with the captains and teams.

Both Gulen Dive Resort and Lembeh Resort are actively seeking team members to help them to win. If you think you have what it takes and would like to participate in what will be the most talked about and fun event in underwater imaging during 2018, please contact Gulen Dive Resort or Lembeh Resort directly.

www.amustard.com
www.keriwilk.com

www.gulendiveresort.com/contact
www.lembehresort.com/contact

www.uwpmag.com

British and Irish Underwater Photography Championship 2017 26th August 2017

This competition engages the British and Irish underwater photography community in a one day competition shoot out. It is accessible to people who live and dive at different locations around Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Northern Ireland and England.

A 26th August on-the-day multi-location competition format reduces the travel and cost burden for competitors, whilst at the same time encouraging a level of participation commensurate with a true championship.

Photographers will compete for five awards and associated prizes, foremost being a trophy in memory of one of BSoUP's co-founders, the late Peter Scoones, and the title British & Irish Underwater Photography Champion 2017

Images can be taken and submitted electronically from anywhere within the championship geographic boundary from 10pm Friday 25th August to 10pm Saturday 26th August 2017. The competition is open to all underwater photographers of all nations, with contestants demonstrating the underwater photographic and post-production



skills to produce high impact British and Irish images within a limited time frame. Images can be from any body of salt or fresh water.

BSoUP will convene a panel of three judges (to be announced) during the week following the competition. The results will be announced week commencing 11th September and the awards presented in London on 19th December 2017.

www.biupc.photium.com

British Wildlife Photography Awards 2017 Closing date 3rd June 2017



The British Wildlife Photography Awards were established in 2009. The key aims of the Awards are to:

- Recognise the talents of photographers practicing in the UK, while at the same time highlight the great wealth and diversity of Britain's natural history.
- Celebrate British wildlife, in all its beauty and diversity, through a collection of inspirational photographs.
- Showcase the very best of our nature photography to a wide audience and engage all ages with evocative and

powerful imagery.

- Encourage discovery, exploration, conservation and enjoyment of our natural heritage.
- Raise awareness about British biodiversity, species and habitats.
- Winners and commended entrants have their work showcased in a national touring exhibition and in a stunning book.

www.bwpawards.org



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