

Parting Shot

Sponge crabs (Dromia erythropus) are a more or less regularly sighted reef denizen during night dives in the Indo-Pacific. They utilize their back legs to hold onto sponges they have collected and shaped to provide a mobile cover for their nocturnal meanders. Usually the sponges they carry with them become algae covered and tattered, making for still effective camouflage but not for very nice imagery. This particular Crab came darting off a substantial coral bommie and onto the sand flat in a direction towards another coral bommie on this patch reef and black sand slope environment in Dauin, Dumaguete, Philippines.

It is truly difficult to find an eye pleasing image of a Crab for laypersons not familiar with the ocean.

This particular individual with its snappy, bright yellow sponge 'hat' reminded me of Paddington the Bear instantly and I knew I had found the charismatic Crab of my dreams.



Nikon D810, Nikon 60mm macro, twin Inon Z-240s.

**Do you have a shot which has a story within a story?
If so e mail it with up to 500 words of text
and yours could be the next Parting Shot.**

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and yours could be in Uwp98



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