

News, Travel & Events

New from Master Liveboards: Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea



Following the recent merger with blue o two, Master Liveboards is pleased to announce yet another vessel to its ever growing network of worldwide liveaboards; the Solomons PNG Master.

Explore the Solomon Islands with its exquisite diving, truly one of the last diving frontiers, with pristine coral reefs and an unparalleled variety of marine life. Dive into history and explore the many WWII wrecks in the Iron Bottom Sound.

Sojourn comfortably on board the Solomons PNG Master that many will already know as Taka, the much respected vessel operating liveaboard cruises in the Solomon Islands since 2013 with Solomon Islands Dive Expeditions.

As the name suggests Master Liveboards is not offering just one,



but TWO new destinations; Papua New Guinea (PNG) is now on the menu as well!

From April 2018, Master Liveboards will be offering the best liveaboard diving in PNG for several months of the year, including amazing transition trips, aboard Solomons PNG Master.

The diving in PNG is virgin territory: so remote and unexplored to the extent that new marine species are still being discovered there. Schedules for Solomons PNG Master will be available and open for sale from the 21st of September with cruises in the Solomon Islands available immediately, with the first cruises to PNG starting in April 2018.

www.masterliveboards.com

Beneath the Sea 2018



Each year, Beneath the Sea is pleased to give underwater photographers and videographers a chance to compete with their peers from across the world.

Best-In-Show Prize (Video): The Stan Waterman Award for Excellence in Underwater Videography.

Best-In-Show Prize (Photo): The David Doubilet Award for Excellence in Underwater Photography.

Best In Show Prize (Creative): The Jim Church Award for Excellence in Underwater Creative Photography.

And many other prizes, including gift certifications and equipment from premier manufacturers. So start looking through your videos and images and find your best work to enter. But don't wait too long the deadline of December 31, 2017 is closer than you think!

www.beneaththesea.org

Master Liveboards

Dive the Bahamas
with the *Bahamas Master*
and come up close and
personal with tiger sharks,
lemon sharks, nurse sharks
and more!

**Specialists in
Underwater Photography**

Contact us for further information
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Arctic Whale Expeditions Winter 2017 - 2018



We currently have two small expeditions planned this winter as follows.

1) November Recce of the North

The herring migration (which the whales follow) is showing some interesting patterns and there may be some very good additional opportunities in early winter. We have a small group looking to come with us in mid November on an expedition to a new location which has reported good whale action. There may be a couple of spaces available for this, however they would be on application only. People interested

in joining would require to join on the understanding it's a new location and exploratory basis, along with being prepared for the conditions. If interested then please contact Shane to discuss.

2) January Peak Season

We will be running two weeks in our normal location where we have been based for the last four years. We only have 12 places left over the two weeks, so it's a first come first served basis.

<http://baskingsharkscotland.co.uk/our-tours/overseas-tours/swim-with-killer-whales-orcas-in-norway>



GregorySweeney.com Photography Adventures

Crocodiles & Whale Sharks

Xcalak, Chinchorro, & Isla Mujeres
Mexico

July 19 - 30 2018



Gregory Sweeney Photography Adventures

Tiger Shark & Hammerhead Diving
9 Day Live Aboard Dive Trip

www.TigerSharkDive.com March & April 2018
Tiger Beach and Bimini, Bahamas



BASKING SHARK SCOTLAND

Research expedition places still available in September & October

Join us for your 2017 adventure
400+ sharks in 2016 our season
Peak tour season July-August
Our brand new website is now live
www.baskingsharkscotland.co.uk

Anilao Photo & Video Workshop 2018

April 21- 28, 2018

This is a chance to learn and develop with professional instruction, unlimited support and a chance to be guided to striking imaging opportunities – every day.

Anilao is home to some of the finest Muck and Reef Macro diving in the world. The variety of species and environments that can be found within a 15 minute boat ride from the resort is simply staggering. There are also world class wide angle opportunities for those who can pull themselves away from the small stuff.

It is not uncommon to hear first time visitors to the area exclaim they have photographed more unusual critters around Anilao in a week, than years of international travel elsewhere. The exotic night diving options are second to none.

We have lined up the industry's leading experts in underwater imaging and equipment with Reef Photo and Video's own Kevin Palmer, Nauticam's Christopher Parsons and Tanya Burnett, Field Editor for Sport Diver magazine.

We have scheduled this trip for

http://reefphoto.com/shop/index.php?main_page=events&event_id=103



the absolute best time of year to dive Anilao, promising the best diving conditions and clearest visibility this destination has to offer.



BEHIND EVERY MARINE SHOW
DRAMA UNFOLDS.

NANUQ WAS RIPPED FROM HIS FAMILY
MEMBERS AND FORCED TO LIVE IN
A TANK WITH TWO CAPTIVE-BORN BELUGAS
WHOM HE DID NOT KNOW.
IN FEBRUARY 2015, NANUQ WAS ATTACKED
BY THESE TWO BELUGAS.
TRAPPED AND UNABLE TO ESCAPE,
NANUQ DIED A SLOW DEATH
FROM HIS INJURIES.

www.seashepherdglobal.org



CAPTIVITY KILLS. STOP SUPPORTING MARINE PARKS.

Truk Lagoon 2018 with Brook Peterson

Feb 25 - Mar 4, 2018



Bluewater Photo
© Joanna O'Shea

Find out why everyone loves Truk and join Bluewater Photo & Travel on the Truk Odyssey for a Photo Trip led by Brook Peterson. Brook will give presentations on wide-angle photography, and running image reviews for guests, along with offering one-on-one help as needed. Non photographers are welcome as well!

Truk Lagoon is the best wreck diving destination in the world, with over 60 World War II wrecks. The wrecks have a good amount of marine life on them, but some are quite deep, with the bottoms in the 100 - 150+ ft.

range. The name "Truk" is actually a corruption of the native name for this area, Chuuk, which is part of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Brook is an avid scuba diver and underwater photographer who enjoys capturing the beauty of the underwater environment throughout the world. She is an original member of the SEA&SEA Alpha program. Her work has been featured in both print and online magazines. She is the owner of Waterdog Photography and authors a blog on underwater photography and techniques.

<https://www.bluewaterphotostore.com/trip-truk-february-2018>

www.uwpmag.com

50% discount on all domestic flights



Dive Explore Indonesia would like to offer UwP readers a 50% discount on all domestic flights on any Indonesian destination booking.

Please put this promo code in your email subject : PROMO UPM99

This applies to all bookings made before 31st January 2018 and for travelling anytime in 2018.

We are a team of passionate divers with over a decade of experience in the diving industry in Indonesia.

We carefully select the liveaboards and resorts we offer to our guests, making sure that they comply with our main guidelines :

Safety Standards – Service – Quality of Equipment & Eco-Friendly Approach.

www.diveexploreindonesia.com

info@diveexploreindonesia.com

Palau Liveaboard

April 8-15, 2018

Join Optical Ocean Sales' owner Jack Connick for an amazing photo safari to Palau on the luxurious liveaboard Rock Islands Aggressor, based out of Koror, Palau.

We will explore the reefs and waters in and around the limestone rock islands of Palau. Dive sites will include WWII wrecks, German Channel, Ulong Channel, Blue Holes and the famous Blue Corner – Micronesia's most famous shark dive. The vessel is a spacious, comfortable catamaran. Stretching 106 feet, 31 feet wide and accommodates 18 guests who are pampered by a crew of 8! Deluxe cabins are en-suite with a/c. The Aggressor has large camera table and excellent photo facilities. Diving is conducted from a 30' hard boat that launches with a power lift system, divers, gear and all! Optical Ocean Sales is working closely with the Aggressor for a special dive trip that will emphasize photo opportunities.

Mantas in German Channel, Giant Napoleon wrasse, turtles, large schools of barracuda, huge tridacna clams and schools of small fish like trevally, triangle butterflyfish, and



countless sharks are also on the agenda of critters to view. And the reefs abound with macro subjects, small gobies, nudibranchs, shrimp and crabs are all on view against the soft and hard coral backdrops.

You also have an opportunity to step back in time and visit the island of Peleliu, site of one of the fiercest battles in the Pacific during WWII, as well as dive the more southern sites there.

<https://www.opticaloceansales.com/dive-picture-perfect-palau.html>



**Closing date is
January 2nd 2018**

The Underwater Photographer of the Year competition is now open for entries and the closing date is January 2nd 2018.

UPY has become a very prestigious competition and has attracted a world class standard of entries but there are categories for all levels to encourage all underwater photographers to enter and have the chance to be voted Underwater Photographer of the Year 2018.

One new category has been added; Black & White (International).

The judging team remains the same with Peter Rowlands as Chairman, Alex Mustard and Martin Edge. Peter, Alex and Martin will spend two days together in early January 2018 to give your entries the time and respect they deserve.

The results of UPY 2018 will be announced in mid February and then featured in most major newspapers, magazines and websites worldwide giving winners unprecedented coverage of their

Underwater Photographer of the Year 2017

'Dancing Octopus' Gabriel Barathieu (France)

In the lagoon of Mayotte, during spring low tides, there is very little water on the flats. Only 30 cm in fact. That's when I took this picture. I had to get as close as possible to the dome to create this effect. The 14 mm is an ultra wide angle lens with very good close focus which gives this effect of great size. The octopus appears larger, and the height of water also. Also, I didn't need flash because I had lots of natural light.



Judge's comments:

Alex Mustard: *Both balletic and malevolent, this image shows that the octopus means business as it hunts in a shallow lagoon. The way it moves is so different from any predator on land, this truly could be an alien from another world. A truly memorable creature, beautifully photographed.*

Peter Rowlands: *Vibrant contrasting colours, detailed delicate textures and a perfect pose. Add the right choice of lens for the situation and they all combine to produce a Champion.*

Martin Edge: *I cannot praise this photograph enough. As soon as I first set eyes on it as we worked our way through the Wide Angle Cat, I knew it was destined for a huge success. One amazing Image!*

work and who knows what opportunities might occur as a result of such coverage!

This is the prize that money cannot buy. The whole UPY team take great care (and pride) in fostering this relationship with all our media

partners on your behalf, and is a large part of the behind-the-scenes work undertaken to deliver the world's very best underwater photography competition.



NIKON D850

A full featured and durable waterproof housing for Nikon D850 DSLR cameras. Suitable for scuba, snorkel, surf, pool, and any application in or around the water. Built-in TTL circuitry provides lightning fast strobe recycle time and extended camera battery life. A redesigned control set, ultra-durable new ABS-PC blend construction, and the versatile Dry Lock (DL) port system make this system ready for anything you want to throw at it.

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