



Wakatobi, Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia

The idea of traveling for over 24 hours to go somewhere to dive can make anyone want to have second thoughts. I am more than glad that we went anyway. The diving at Wakatobi was beyond compare.

The flight was not anywhere near as bad as we imagined. Singapore Airlines treated us so well. The seats were comfortable and there was a constant supply of food and water and drinks. We flew to Bali and stayed two nights there then traveled on the final leg of our voyage. Wakatobi has a private charter plane that flies you to their island. When we arrived at the airstrip on the neighboring island of Tomia, it was pouring down rain. The locals quickly loaded us in minibuses and drove us to the harbor, where a Wakatobi dive boat was waiting for us. A 20-minute boat ride later, still raining, we landed at the resort. The dive guides and local workers helped us off the boat and led us to the restaurant where we enjoyed a late lunch and briefing about the procedures. We quickly found our way to our bungalows and waited for our luggage to be delivered. By dinnertime at 19:00 (or 7:00pm, for we Americans!), we had unpacked and were used to rinsing the sand off our feet in the footbaths in front of each bungalow. Because of the deluge of water from the skies, the group of guests scheduled to arrive on the later flight were unable to get to the island much before dinner, and we did not have our gear. Therefore, instead of doing our “checkout” dive on the first afternoon, we had to wait until the next morning for our first dive.

Day one (first full day) - after breakfast in the restaurant, we received our boat assignment for the week. The Aqua Immersion group was assigned to the Wakatobi VI. The dive briefing times for all three dives were posted on a white board in the restaurant daily. We usually had our first briefing at 7:40 and the boat left at 8:00. Our dive guides were Alex and C.J. Alex is from Switzerland and C.J. is from Canada. The first dive was our “Checkout” dive, which meant that we had to show the dive guides that we could clear our masks, have good buoyancy, and can buddy breathe. The only ones who did not have to show these skills were Brad and John, who were diving Inspiration/Evolution Rebreathers.

I am not going to go through each day’s diving because I do not have enough room! Each day, each dive was at another amazing dive site. And each one was better than the one before! We saw pygmy seahorses, ghost pipefish, nudibranchs and flat worms of all colors, lionfish galore, scorpion fish, mandarin fish, octopus (at night), a Spanish Dancer (also at night), cuttlefish, so many types and colors of coral that I can’t even begin to name them all, starfish in great numbers on each dive, needle fish, bat fish, frog fish, bumphead parrot fish, turtles, rock scallops, giant clams, gobys, microscopic shrimps, lobsters, and crabs, sea snakes (including the one that was on the jetty one night!), lizard fish, eels of all kinds, crocodile fish, butterfly fishes, angel fishes, and last (but not least) - ‘Nemo’! On every dive we saw at least one “brand” of clown fish. They were fun to watch. They are a very aggressive fish, defending their anemone, and protecting their eggs.

We were all treated like royalty the entire time we were there. The locals who work for the resort do every thing for you, from cleaning your bungalow and waiting on you in the restaurant to putting your gear together for you and carrying it to and from the boat every day. The only thing you truly had to do for your self was dive, eat, and sleep, which we all did in abundance!

Even with the 44 hours between Wakatobi and our drive way at home, this trip was well worth it. We will be going back.

-Cathy Mullin

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Travel Info

Little Cayman - June 29th – July 6th - \$1695pp

Bonaire – August 9th – 16th - \$1299pp

St. Lawrence – August 14th – 18th, 2008 - Don't miss the boat on this one – call today to reserve your spot! This trip is filling fast! Only a few spots left! Call for price.

Tahiti – September 6th – 13th, 2008 - \$3995 includes airfare from LAX

St. Lucia – September 20th – 27th, 2008 - \$1749pp Call today!

Future trips... Grand Cayman, Key Largo, Turks and Caicos, Truk (Chuuk) Lagoon - 2009, Crystal River, New Jersey, North Carolina, Belize.

Summer Is Here and Now's The Time To Get Certified.

Save on your PADI Open Water Certification fee when you book your trip with us.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JULY 2008

July 4th - Independence Day

July 5th - Country Blowout - Portage

July 20th - DAN BBQ (Join the Dive Club at this event)

July 24th - Dive Club Meeting

Aqua Immersion's Aquanauts Dive Club Meeting Report

Our next dive club meeting will be on Thursday, JULY 24th at 7:00 pm at the Winking Lizard - Bethel Road location. At the last meeting joined us for a discussion about. If you have not attended one of our meetings we invite you to do so. We have a great time - Great Food, Drinks and Company. The dive club has there own website now so we invite you to send over your club pictures or trip pictures and we will add them to the site. The website address is <http://aiaquanauts.angelfire.com>

2008 Dive Club Calendar - All meetings are held at the Winking Lizard on Bethel Rd. at 7:00pm. The dates are as follows:

January 24	July 24
February 28	August 28
March 27	September 25
April 24	October 23
May 22	November 20
June 26	December 18

Aqua Immersion Dive Literature Library is growing!!!!

Come in, browse our books, and take one home for your reading pleasure. We have Children's books, fiction and non-fiction. Honor system checkout process.

Store Specials

JULY Special – PADI Specialty of the Month - Deep Diver only \$99

Sign up for the AOW class to be held on July 26 and only pay \$189. (Course materials not included)

- Before your pool opens join our instructors and learn CPR and First Aid by taking our Emergency First Response Course.

HELP WANTED - We are looking for Instructors who want to stay busy. Not an Instructor yet - sign up for the IDC and then come talk with Joe. We are also accepting applications for retail sales - experience preferred. Swim Instructors needed. Call today to talk with Melissa or stop by the store.

Ohio Quarry Reports -

The Quarries are starting to warm up!!!

Circleville Twin Quarries - Temperature was 72 visibility was up to 25 feet. <http://www.twinquarries.com>

Portage Quarry and Recreation Club - Surface temp: Low 60's, Visibility: 20-30 feet. <http://www.portagequarry.com>

Lakeview Park - Lakeview's temperatures are in the
Gilboa Quarry - Temp is 77 at the surface with 50 ft. visibility. <http://www.divegilboa.com>

Whitestar Quarry - Water temperature was 69 on the surface 57 bottom temp and visibility @ 20ffw is 45 - 55ft.- <http://www.whitestarquarry.com>

TUESDAY NIGHT DIVES @ CIRCLEVILLE -

Join Jesse, Jeff and the rest of the guys at Circleville on Tuesday nights for the Tuesday Night Dives. First group goes in around 5:00 and the second group enters the water at 6:00. If you need a buddy or directions just ask.

Training

- Bubblemaker & PADI Seal Team
- Junior Open Water
- Junior Advanced Open Water
- Open Water

- Advanced Open Water
- Specialty Diver - Night Diver, Dry Suit Diver, Wreck Diver, Peak Performance Buoyancy Control, Underwater Photography & Videography, Boat Diver, Drift Diver, Underwater Naturalist, Underwater Navigation, Altitude Diver, AWARE Coral Reef Conservation, AWARE Fish Identification, Enriched Air Diver, Deep Diver, DPV Diver, Multilevel & Computer Diver, Solo Diver, Gas Blender, Decompression Theory & Advanced Nitrox Diver, Rebreather Training (closed & semi-closed), Trimix Diver
- Scuba Tune-up
- Emergency First Response/Medic First Aid
- Oxygen Provider
- Master Scuba Diver
- Rescue Diver
- Divemaster
- Open Water Scuba Instructor
- Master Scuba Diver Trainer

Training agencies utilized: PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors,) TDI (Technical Diving International,) SDI (Scuba Diving International,) ERDI (Emergency Response Diving International)

Service

- Air, nitrox, trimix, argon and oxygen fills
Nitrox fills are only \$14.00 (up to 40%) and there is no need to have your tank O2 cleaned to get a Nitrox fill. Ask about our fill card special!
- Cylinder visual inspections, valve repair, eddy current, oxygen cleaning, tumbling and hydrostatic testing
- Rental gear including drysuits
- Our service technicians are trained to service all lines of gear.

Dive Season has begun – have you had your gear serviced yet.

2008 Class Schedule

DISCOVER SCUBA

Discover Scuba Diving Know someone who is interested in learning to dive? They can come in and “try it” for a minimal fee. Then when they sign up for a class they will receive a discount and you will receive a referral point.

JULY 2, 5, 12, 16, 27, 30

AUGUST 2, 6, 8, 13, 18, 23, 27

OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE (CLASSROOM/POOL SCHEDULE)

JULY 2008

CLASS #OWQS080705 JULY 5 & 6 10:00AM-4:00PM

CLASS #OWQS080712 JULY 12 & 13 9:00AM-3:00PM

CLASS#OW080707 JULY 7,14,21,28 6:00PM-10:00PM

CLASS #OWT080715 JULY 15,17,22,24 6:00PM-9:00PM

CLASS#OWQS080719 JULY 19 & 20 10:00AM-4:00PM

AUGUST 2008

CLASS #OWQS080802 AUGUST 2 & 3 10:00AM-4:00PM

CLASS #OWT080805 AUGUST 5,7,12,14 6:00PM-9:00PM

CLASS #OW080811 AUGUST 11, 18, 25 6:00PM-9:00PM

CLASS #OWQS080816 AUGUST 16 & 17 10:00AM-4:00PM

CLASS #OWT080826 AUG 26,28,SEPT 2,4 6:00PM-9:00PM

CLASS #OWQS080830 AUGUST 30 & 31 10:00AM-4:00PM

OPEN WATER DIVER COURSE (OPEN WATER DIVE SCHEDULE)

JULY 2008

DIVES 1 & 2 JULY 5,12,19,26 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

DIVES 3 & 4 JULY 6,13,26,27 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

AUGUST 2008

DIVES 1 & 2 AUGUST 9,23,30 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

DIVES 3 & 4 AUGUST 10,24,31 CIRCLEVILLE @ 9:00AM

ADVANCED OPEN WATER DIVER COURSES

JULY 2008

CLASS #AOW080705 JULY 5 & 6 9:00AM

CLASS #AOW080719 JULY 26 & 27 9:00AM

AUGUST 2008

CLASS #AOW080809 AUGUST 9 & 10 9:00AM

CLASS #AOW080816 AUGUST 16 & 17 9:00AM

CLASS #AOW080830 AUGUST 30 & 31 9:00AM

RESCUE DIVER COURSES

JULY 2008

CLASS #RD080712 JULY 11 LECTURE 6:00-9:00PM

JULY 12 DIVES 10AM - 5PM

AUGUST 2008

CLASS #RD080802 AUGUST 1 LECTURE 6:00-9:00PM

AUGUST 2 DIVES 10AM - 5PM

CLASS #RD080823 AUGUST 22 LECTURE 6:00-9:00PM

AUGUST 23 DIVES 10AM - 5PM

SPECIALTY DIVER COURSES**JULY 2008**

CLASS # DN0080705, DAN O2, 10:00AM-3:00PM JULY 5

CLASS #EFR080708, EFR, 6:00-9:00PM JULY 8

CLASS # ES080709, Equip. Spec., 6:00-9:00PM JULY 9

CLASS# EA080723, Enriched Air, 6:00-9:00PM JULY 23

CLASS #EFR080725, EFR, 6:00-9:00PM JULY 25

CLASS #EFR080729, EFR, 6:00-9:00PM JULY 29

AUGUST 2008

CLASS #EA080808 Enriched Air, 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 8

CLASS #ES080813 Equip. Spec., 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 13

CLASS #EFR080815 EFR, 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 15

CLASS #EA080819 Enriched Air, 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 19

CLASS #EFR080829 EFR, 6:00-9:00PM AUGUST 29

If interested in a course not scheduled here, please call or come by the store; many courses are not pre-scheduled and are set up on an as needed basis.

DISCOVER REBREATHERS

Our Discover Rebreather class can accommodate your schedule. Limited space available so call today to schedule your spot.

JULY 2008

Discover Rebreather JULY 12

AUGUST 2008

Discover Rebreather AUGUST 17

ARTHRITIS FITNESS**JULY 2008**

JULY 1, 2, 3, 7, 11, 14, 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, 28, 29, 30

AUGUST 2008

AUGUST 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14, 18, 20, 21

PADI SEAL TEAM

PADI Seal Team - Now in session for ages 8 -12. Meeting once a month, the Seal Team is working on the history of diving timeline for the showroom, building an artificial reef for the pool to use for photography courses, and on just having fun in the water. Call for more information.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AUGUST.....

PADI Specialty of the Month – Wreck Diver free manual when you sign up for class.

AQUA IMMERSION IS TURNING 2 – COME CELEBRATE WITH US SATURDAY AUGUST 2ND– We will be offering some of the best pricing ever!!! Special activities, events, food, drinks, entertainment!

August 1 & 2 – Portage Quarry presents PARROTS OF THE CARIBBEAN

August 8-10 - Portage Quarry LEGENDS WEEKEND

Dive Club Meeting – AUGUST 28

Aqua Immersion
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Toll Free 1(877) DIV-AQUA
(1-877-348-2782)

Web Site coming soon!!!
www.aquaimmersion.com
Currently under construction

Store Hours:
Monday through Friday 10am - 8pm
Saturday 10am - 6pm
Sunday 1pm - 6pm