



HOLIDAY DIVER



Two Great Safaris - One Great Holiday



Stunning mantas are a highlight of this trip

A HOLIDAY that allows you to combine the excitement of an African safari with the beauty of an underwater 'safari' in the Indian Ocean is certainly not to be sniffed at. From lions to leopard sharks and from dic dics to devil rays – this is one holiday you wouldn't forget in a hurry!

If this has whet your appetite for adventure and sounds like your dream break then look no further, as Dive Worldwide are offering an expertly escorted 12-day Dive Safari off the unspoilt tropical beaches of Southern Mozambique during the season for humpback whale sighting, combined with an overland safari in South Africa's world famous Kruger National Park.

The first half of the holiday will be spent with Africa's 'Big Five' (lions, elephants, rhinos, buffalos and leopards) in Kruger National Park. You will be staying in thatched chalets at Pretoriuskop camp, which is situated in the southwest part of the park, an area surrounded by hills with many interesting and historic places to visit. From here you will explore the reserve with morning and afternoon game drives that will allow you to put your wildlife photography skills to the test!

If you are able to tear yourself away from this jaw-dropping locale for something a little more coastal, and as a reader of **SCOTTISH DIVER** I am certain you would be, you will then cross the border into

Mozambique and on to your waterfront base at Tofo. Tofo is a world-class dive destination and one of Mozambique's most beautiful areas with an expansive beach, where the trees are filled with parrots and monkeys, and the sea is rich with marine life and is particularly abundant in manta rays. From now until the end of October humpback whales will be passing through the area on their annual migration, and so to make your 'big five' spots become your 'big six' be sure to book your holiday within this period.

Dives will generally occur twice in the morning, where you will concentrate on the reefs that surround the area. It is during this time that you will spot mantas (often more than 10 per dive) and in most instances the magnificent humpbacks will pass you by too.

Other dives will include offshore reefs where you will see a variety of tropical underwater life, lots of large game fish, and fantastic schools of Devil Rays, White Tip and Leopard Sharks.

After your underwater encounters you will head back to South Africa for your final two

nights, which will be spent once again in Kruger National Park, this time at the Sundown Lodge and the Skukuza Camp where you will be able to participate in more game drives.

Your last night in Africa will be celebrated with a South African style 'braai' (BBQ) which will precede a night time safari with spot lamps – a memorable way to end a memorable trip!

The tour costs £1,575p/p (excluding school summer holiday dates) including scheduled flights, transfers, accommodation (3-nights safari lodge in South Africa, 6-nights beachfront chalets in Tofo,) most meals, two dives per day in Tofo (extra dives @ £15) with tanks, weights and air.

For further information about the holiday email info@diveworldwide.com or visit www.diveworldwide.com



Plenty of whales to see too

Filippino Adventures

THE PHILIPPINES is one of those destinations that many people dream of going to but rightly or wrongly believe is out of their reach financially.

It is a place where paradise truly exists, with palm-fringed beaches and sparkling, clear water the norm; and it is also a veritable diving paradise with an abundance of marine life and wrecks that are

sure to impress the most seasoned diver. Indeed it is home to mantas, threshers, various turtles, hammerheads, reef and greytip sharks and more coral species than anywhere else on the planet!

If diving in warm, clear waters takes your fancy and you want to try a diving holiday with a difference then find out what's on offer with Philippine Adventure Diving or

Philippine Travel, two specialist companies that focus on diving holidays in the Philippines.

Philippine Travel can be found at www.philippine-travel.co.uk/dive-holidays or call 0207 669 1254

Philippine Adventure Diving can be found at www.divepi.com or call 01273 494428

Lanzarote Is Now A Big Fish

IF AFRICA isn't to your taste - or is a little out of your budget! You could venture somewhere slightly closer to home and head to the Canary Island of Lanzarote where there are a number of spectacular dive sites to experience.

Thanks to the island's volcanic reefs and days of endless sun, water temperature is never below 18°C and as such supports an array of sea-life including rays, barracudas and angel sharks. Visibility is also impressive at between 30 and 50 metres giving you no cause for complaint.

The Marina Rubicon Diving Center in Lanzarote's Playa Blanca is a good place from which to base your diving holiday. It is recognised as the one of the top dive centres in Lanzarote and a leader in all areas of scuba diving education, so well placed to cater perfectly for both the novice and experienced diver. The centre is in an ideal location and with a purpose built boat and professional skipper you can be taken to more than 30 spectacular dive sites with pin point accuracy.

Dive sites include some off the islands of Lobos and Fuerteventura where you can

take full advantage of the array of sea-life that the Canary Islands archipelago has to offer. A qualified dive master will be on hand to guide you through your dives and ensure you get the best out of them and don't miss any of the features of each dive site.

Boat trips depart twice daily from the centre's own pier, the first of which is a half day excursion and includes two dives. In the afternoon there is another trip available which incorporates one dive. Once a week the center arranges a full day trip which takes in the Island of Lobos – a marine reserve area where you are likely to see sharks, large rays and pelagic.

So if you fancy diving in warm clear waters with plenty of fascinating sea life to observe, then without a doubt the place to head is Lanzarote. Getting to Lanzarote is easy with several companies such as



There is lots of dramatic marine life in Lanzarote

FlyGlobespan and Thomson Flights flying direct from the Scottish airports. For more information about the Marina Rubicon Diving Center go to www.rubicondiving.com or email info@rubicondiving.com



CANARIES THE DIVERS DELIGHT



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