

HOLIDAY DIVER



Idyllic Irian Jaya

INDONESIAN IRIAN Jaya is one of the earth's last great unexplored regions. This stunning place boasts idyllic islands fringed with white sand beaches and gin clear waters teeming with marine life. Regaldiver has recently begun to operate liveboard itineraries in this fascinating region, so what better time than to get your summer holiday booked?

Irian Jaya comprises the western half of New Guinea, 20% of its land and marine parks are designated conservation areas and it boasts one of the highest fish and coral species counts on the planet; there are over 3000 recorded fish species, 300 reef building corals, and over a 100 sponge species.

At the macro end of the scale, divers regularly see pigmy seahorses, bobtail squid, blennies, gobies, basslets and dottybacks.

Higher up the food chain, species like napoleon wrasse and giant groupers, sharks, tuna and barracuda can all be encountered, as well as manta and eagle rays.

Above the water, the Irian

mountains, swamps and jungles are home to animal and plant species that remain unknown to western science. Regaldiver's itineraries include land visits to see the bird of paradise, the giant cassowary bird and other fascinating species.

There are various dive sites incorporated into an eleven night Raja Ampat itinerary aboard MV *Voyager*. Kri Island Lagoon is a great starting point for many cruises, in fact one of the dive sites off the island holds the record for the most fish and coral species recorded on a single dive site.

Waigeo Island has the beautiful Yellow Wall so called thanks to the large amount of yellow soft coral that covers its surface - night diving against this backdrop is simply unforgettable. Kawe Island is located directly over the equator and stoppage time here is normally five days - plenty of time to experience this world class dive location.

The Waiag dive site covers an area where many of the islands

are unnamed - you will hopefully experience the fantastic night diving with wobblygong sharks. Over on Batanta Island jungle treks will allow you to see the Red Bird of Paradise and hear the giant hornbill.

If you are a wreck diver, Wai Island might excite you as it houses the wreck of an American plane that crashed in 1940, it is still fairly intact and has some excellent coral cover.

So there you go - it is clear that a trip to Irian Jaya will certainly keep you busy and leave you with unforgettable memories of a pristine, beautiful location that is abundant in both marine life and uniqueness.

MY Voyager is a comfortable 46 metre liveboard, designed to accommodate up to 20 divers. The *Voyager* will operate three itineraries throughout the year, around Irian Jaya, the Banda Sea and Komodo National Park.

For further details, please call Regaldiver on 0870 2201 777.



Diving in Dahab

OONASDIVERS HAVE teamed up with two well respected yet completely different dive operators in Dahab to offer some of the best shore diving in South Sinai.

The first of these is Dive Urge, a boutique resort which offers an intimate and relaxed approach to your dive holiday. Dive times and sites are flexible and with one dive guide to every 4 divers you can really start to feel spoilt.

Accommodation is arranged in the style of a small village with private and tastefully decorated rooms and an attractive landscaped courtyard. Dive-Urge is positioned at the northern end of Dahab Village, only a 10 minute stroll from the restaurants and bars and directly opposite the dive site Eel Garden.

Secondly there is Poseidon Divers who are positioned in the heart of town, just set back from the promenade and offering daily diving programmes and more than 40 diving courses spanning four training agencies, from recreational to TEK, Discover Scuba to Instructor trainers,

Poseidon can cater for all your diving needs.

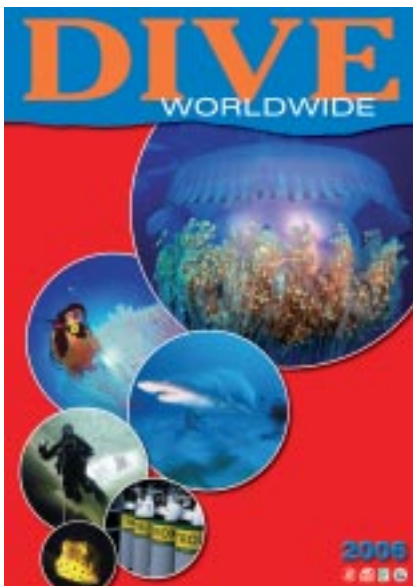
Poseidon Divers offer an upbeat and sociable approach to their diving holidays, maintaining high standards of service and safety, with several choices of accommodation to suit all budgets, all within a 10 minute stroll.

For full details call Oonasdivers on 01323 648924 or email info@oonasdivers.com or visit www.oonasdivers.com



Dive into Dive Worldwide's New Brochure

DIVE WORLDWIDE'S 2006 brochure is the cause of much misery at the moment - it is so crammed full of gorgeous, exciting and unique destinations and diving points around the globe that just flicking through it



has made me feel as sick as the proverbial parrot.

Continuously striving to bring you something a little more personal than the average dive brochure - they personally select destinations fit for inclusion by visiting each one themselves - in the past year alone they have visited more than 15 destinations in their quest to bring you the best!

Newly added this year are the Cape Verde Islands (as featured in March/April **SCOTTISH DIVER**), Canada, Mauritius, Solomon Islands, Cayman Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands with Iceland and Gabon set to join the rest in the coming year.

Liveaboards are as always a popular choice and in recognition of this they have added a further three to their list with *MV Kairos*, *Kimberley Explorer* and the *Aristos*.

This is certainly a brochure that no holiday diver should be without - the pictures, the places and the personal touch that Dive Worldwide offer really is second to none!

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Discover & Enjoy

