



# Discerning Divequest

HOLIDAY DIVER

WITH OVER a decade of experience, Divequest offers personalised planning for the more discerning diver; those who relish far flung trips to top quality locations won't go far wrong with a dip into their brochure. As we have come to expect from them, the new 2008/2009 brochure is brimming with ideas and suggestions to make sure you have that trip of a lifetime - here are a few suggestions to whet your appetite.

As with all the best things in life, quality dive boats in spectacular locations always seem to book up really far in advance (who you wonder, can be so organised?). In order to make sure you have as good a chance as finding a holiday aboard the liveboard of your dreams, Divequest have included as many 2009 trips as possible in this brochure. Not only will this mean that you can take your pick more freely - but it will give you time to save those pennies and become a super-organised person yourself.

The ever-popular group trips are also listed through to mid 2009, so why not join such renowned lecturers as Charles Hood and Martin Edge as they invite you to discover White Sharks in Guadelupe and Loloata in Papua New Guinea.

Special attention must be paid to inclusion of what is billed as the place to dive at the moment - Raja Ampat. You will have seen our pictorial feature elsewhere in **SCOTTISH DIVER** and will no doubt have marvelled at the amazing photographs taken by Jim Anderson.

Indeed, if ever a set of photos was going to encourage you to visit a diving location then they are surely it!

Raja Ampat, or the 'Four Kings', gets its name from the four large islands of Salawati, Batanta, Waigeo and Misool, which plug the gap between West Papua and Halmahera and divide the Pacific and Indian Oceans. There are thousands of small islands, most with thick undercut ledges and lush rainforests ashore. Signs of mankind are rare - this is true virgin territory. Divequest have new dive boats with new itineraries in the archipelago including *Cheng ho* and the aptly named *Paradise Dancer*.

For those of you who like the sound of this why not take a look at the



Tasseled Wobbegong (Melanie Dunk)

Ultimate Indonesia: Raja Ampat & Lembah Strait trip that Divequest are offering in 2009? Departing in February 2009, the aim of the trip is to combine the best tropical critter diving with the world's most spectacular reef diving and to create a truly extraordinary dive adventure. Lembah Strait in Sulawesi is the critter capital of the world - the benchmark destination that all muck diving spots are measured against. While Raja Ampat has the most beautiful, thriving and biodiverse coral reefs in the world. It is a destination that has blown the minds of even the most widely travelled underwater photographers.

To find out more about this trip and others visit [www.divequest.co.uk](http://www.divequest.co.uk) for a brochure.

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Picture: Seamount Ambrosia

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*The Ultimate in Diving*