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Diving and Snorkeling Adventures in the East End of Grand Cayman!

ABOUT US SCUBA DIVING ACCOMMODATIONS INSTRUCTION SNORKELING ISLAND ADVENTURES PHOTO GALLERY



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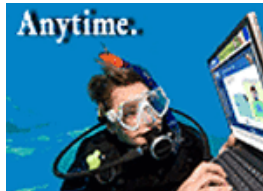
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A Decade of Diving

Ocean Frontiers is celebrating A Decade of Diving 1996-2006 when on the 14th February 2006 we will be blowing out the candles for our 10th Birthday.



Ocean Frontiers is still owned and operated by its original founders, Stephen Broadbelt, Mo Fitzgerald and Troy Burke. Over the last 10 years they have made many accomplishments including the Worlds Best Dive Shop & Staff by Rodale's Scuba Diving Magazine, Project Aware's Environmental Achievement Award and The National Geographic Dive Center Award.



Ocean Frontiers has evolved from a rustic Scuba Shack to a Dream Dive Shop. Although we loved the good ole days, our staff and customers love the state of the art facilities at our headquarters. Gone are the days when we had to take the skiff out to the dive boat and teach classes under the Sea Grape Tree. The heart of Ocean Frontiers will always be the same, great diving and great people - we have just got a little soft over the years with our own private dock, air conditioned classroom and deep water training pool - and of course, luxury onsite accommodations so you can roll out of bed and on to the dive boat.

All divers who log a total of 10 dives or more with Ocean Frontiers during 2006 will receive a limited edition '10 Year Anniversary' T-Shirt.

To book your next 10 dives and get an OF collectors item, contact: info@oceanfrontiers.com

If you have any 'classic' photos of Ocean Frontiers over the years, we would appreciate it if you would email them to: steve@oceanfrontiers.com

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Digital Madness: September 16-23, 2006

The #1 Digital Underwater Photography Event.

Ocean Frontiers will be hosting one of the best ever digital underwater photography events yet! Be sure to book now and start planning to get the best photos of your life under the expert guidance of Dr. Alex Mustard and with a guest appearance of Stephen Frink.

If you are looking for a week jammed with specialized diving just for photographers, seminars and workshops focused on getting you results, photo competitions, big prizes and lots of social





evenings to share your photo stories with- then book now, space is limited.

The Ocean Frontiers Digital Madness:

- Sunday** : Two-Tank Dive: Warm Up / Orientation, Welcome BBQ & Slide Show
- Monday** : AM Double Wall Dives / PM Double Reef Dives / Eve:Workshop & Review
- Tuesday** : A full day of Cayman Islands Wreck Diving / Eve: Workshop & Review
- Wednesday** : Stingray Dawn Dive / PM Shark Alley One-Tank / Eve: Surf Party
- Thursday** : AM Two-Tank Dive / PM Pool Workshop/ Eve: Two-Tank Dusk & Night Dive
- Friday** : Photo Editing & final submissions for judging / Eve: Awards Dinner

Special Package / Limited Availability:

- 7 Nights at the luxury Compass Point Dive Resort
- 5 days of action packed diving with Ocean Frontiers (14 dives)
- Seminars, Workshops and Tips & Tricks from the Pros
- 3 Socials: BBQ, Surf Party, Awards Dinner
- Free High Speed Wi-Fi Internet Access for your entire stay
- Rental Car for entire stay
- Includes all room taxes.

Package Price: US\$1599 p.p.d.o.

For Reservations:

Email: Lesley@oceanfrontiers.com
Toll Free: 1.800.348.6096

Photo Competition: Only photos taken during this event week from participating dive shops vessels or facilities may be submitted.

Categories: Wide Angle, Macro, Creative, Dive Lifestyle, Peoples Choice Live Award and Team Award for the best collective portfolio from a dive operator. All photos must be taken with a digital camera. There will be separate categories for fixed lens and interchangeable lens cameras.

Sponsors include: Scuba Diving Magazine, Cayman Islands Tourism Association, Cayman Islands Dept of Tourism, Cayman Airways.



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The Rinse Tank: Cayman Sea Sense



The Cayman Sea Sense project is a sustainable seafood education program dedicated to helping restaurants and their customers make informed and environmentally positive seafood choices. The project will assist local chefs and restaurant owners reduce the number of non-sustainable seafood items on their menus. The use of a Cayman Sea Sense icon on a menu will allow consumers to choose sustainable seafood options as certified by the Cayman Sea Sense Team.



The Cayman Sea Sense Team is created from the following organizations to implement the goals of this project:

- National Trust for the Cayman Islands
- Boatswain's Beach
- Department of Environment
- Cayman Islands Tourism Association
- Cayman Islands Culinary Society
- Partnering Restaurants and Chefs
- Distributors

The primary goals are:



- to educate the general public about fisheries and aquaculture issues facing our oceans
- to raise awareness about the impact that the choices we make have on sustainable fisheries management practices when we purchase seafood products
- to lessen the impact of the Cayman Islands restaurant industry on the worlds fragile ocean resources.

For more information on 'what is sustainable seafood' and to down load the Seafood Watch Card, visit:

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.ky/seasense/seafood.html>

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Dr Mustard Column: A Personal Retrospective



It is OF's 10 year anniversary this month and it seemed appropriate to recall some of my personal highlights from down the years. My first dives with Mo and Steve actually came in 1998, with a two tank trip to The Maze and Snapper Hole. I still remember so much of that dive at Snapper Hole - the caverns were packed full of silversides and tarpon, jacks and snapper ploughed through the schools relentlessly searching for stragglers. I also remember being captivated by a juvenile trunkfish; a seemingly featureless black cube covered in yellow dots, about the same size as a dice from tables of Las Vegas. Needless to say I was hooked.



Since then my time with OF has been full of adventure. OF is widely respected in the diving world and as a result many dive professionals come to OF for help with their projects. This means you (and I) always have a good chance of meeting interesting people on their boats. Scientists, photographers, filmmakers, tech-divers and well-known celebrities from the underwater world are all regular visitors to the East End (EE).

My highlights include exploring the shipwrecks of the EE with Dr Peggy Leshikar-Denton and photographing them for the Cayman Islands Nation Museum, the results of which have recently been published in the beautiful book "Beneath The Seven Seas". The excitement of joining research dives for the shark awareness program with Mark Kay and Dr Guy Harvey and his team. At the other end of the spiritual scale was experiencing Mind, Body and Soul scuba and underwater yoga with Steve Schultz. And diving on the barge wreck on 12 Mile Bank was a really unique experience, although I also recall it was quite a journey from the EE on Nauticat!

Underwater photography is my big passion and I have always felt very indulged at OF. My favourite treat is definitely a dawn trip to Stingray City, something we always squeeze into any of my digital photo courses. Photographically it is stunning because this is when you get the stingrays schooling and flying in formation. But I am also in heaven every time I drop into the dramatic Swiss-cheese topography of the EE reefs. Diving is a three dimensional sport, and the EE reefs seem custom made to exploit this.



But perhaps my fondest memories are in the realm of biology. Having the chance to study and photograph so many rarely seen behaviours and events has been a privilege. I have photographed the courtship and spawning behaviour of many fish species, but closest to my heart is the discovery of mass annual coral spawning in the Cayman Islands. The trials and tribulations that it took to get Steve and I underwater at exactly the right time, in exactly the right place made it all the more special. I remember smiling so much underwater that my mask kept leaking and we are now into double figures of successful coral spawning dives.

So, thanks to OF for the memories and best wishes and happy diving for the next ten years. And I can't wait for my next EE dives, whether they are some special adventure or the classic East End 1-2 of The Maze and Grouper Grotto.



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Dive Profile: Kaz Vickery

Kaz Vickery has been with OF for almost a year and is already skipping The Nauti-Cat and will soon be given his official boat Captain wings from Mo. Kaz is also a PADI Instructor and when he is not driving the boats or teaching a class, he is working as crew on any one of our 3 boats.

The 28 year old Kaz is originally from Perth in Western Australia. His travels have spanned the globe, including other parts of Oz, Cyprus, England and now the Cayman Islands. In a former life, Kaz was a postman in England, but decided to hang up the mail bag and live the dive dream like the rest of us here at Ocean Frontiers.

If you want to get on Kaz's good side, bring him a Pint of Emu Bitter and a full plate of Paella! Then he is sure to take you to one of his secret dive sites.

Feel free to drop him an email: <kaz@oceanfrontiers.com>

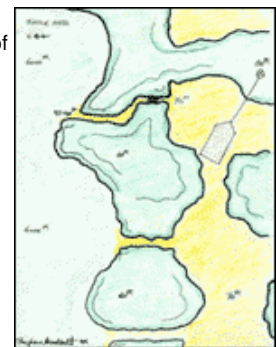


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Dive Site of the Month: Turtle Pass



This dramatic wall dive is located directly off shore from one of the known nesting sites for Turtles. All of the sites in this area are excellent locations for spotting turtles. The mooring pin is approximately 60ft deep and is surrounded by a very healthy reef with lots of sea fans and feather plumes. The vertical wall face is reached by swimming through a dog-legged pass from the main sand patch and out on to the drop off. This tunnel is full of natural sunlight, but you still have to watch your depth as when it opens out on to the wall you are floating over the abyss. The face of the wall is decorated with black corals, barrel sponges and plate corals. Schools of small fish congregate on the top of the wall feeding on the nutrient rich waters. This dive is



best done as a guided dive if it is your first wall dive, but also a very easy dive to go and explore with your dive buddy.

For more information on your other favorite East End dive sites, visit: http://www.oceanfrontiers.com/files/CIDdi/PGNdi-sites_reef

Feel free to email and tell us which dive site is your favorite: steve@oceanfrontiers.com

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Our Email Directory

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- Lesley Agostinelli, Reservations
- Owner Steve Broadbelt
- Owner Mo Fitzgerald
- Kaz Vickery, Photo Pro
- Fraser Purdon, Operations Manager

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