

KERNHEM Group (NZ)



Путешествия на край земли

Наша цель — сделать Ваш отдых приятным и незабываемым

Приглашаем Вас погрузиться в подводный мир чудес Океании! СОЛОМОНОВЫ ОСТРОВА

The Solomon Islands are comprised of more than 990 islands just south of the Equator. Virtually untouched by commercial development, the island group remains a natural paradise.

The Solomon's are a diver's paradise and an eco-tourism destination that's unspoiled, unhurried and totally unforgettable. As beautiful below as it is above...the warm sparkling clear waters hold a visual feast to delight the most fastidious diving or snorkelling enthusiast.

The Solomon Islands is one of the top diving destinations in the world. Noted in particular as a great all round dive destination with wrecks, big fish, colourful corals, mantas, a huge number of fish species and the list goes on. The attraction to divers is the vast diversity offered on each dive experience.

Solomon Island Diving Locations

We have selected these Solomon Island Dive Locations as being the best destinations for divers.

Наша оценка: Solomons	
Крупная рыба/Big Fish Action	5
Красочная рыбка/Small Colorful Fish	4
Drift dives	5
Состояние рифов	5
Мягкие кораллы	4
Скаты	4
Подводная фотография	5
Дроп-фф/Drop off	5
Киты (июнь-октябрь)	5
Макро/Macro Life	5
Акулы	4
Кораблекрушения	5
Средняя прозрачность	24-27m
Температура воды	28-30°C
Плохо 1 Отлично 5	



- MV Bilikiki and Spirit of Solomons
The ultimate way to explore and dive the Solomon Islands
The Solomons offer a fantastic array of diving and the ultimate way to



see it all is on-board the liveboard dive vessels "M.V Bilikiki" and "Spirit of Solomons", operating 1 week and 10-14 days cruises from Honiara. Bilikiki Cruises is the Solomons most prestigious dive operation and her vessels are the most comfortable and luxurious way to do your diving.

The Diving with Bilikiki Cruises on a Liveboard

The Russell Islands offer virtually unlimited diving possibilities with a wide variety of sites. A typical one week charter offering five dives a day only begins to touch on this. The walls, reefs, pinnacles and coral gardens of Solomon Islands support an amazing variety and quantity of sea creatures. The varieties of fish are staggering. Within a few meters of each other, individually or in schools can be seen anemone fish, angel fish, butterfly fish, humphead parrot fish and other reef dwellers while just a short distance away schools of barracuda, big-eye trevally and other pelagics cruise in the blue waters. Popular with underwater photographers and those with a keen eye for the small and unusual critters are "muck dives". The amount and variety of sea-life is astounding. Manta shrimp, ghost pipefish, and pygmy seahorses are only a few examples of what you may find.

The following, although by no means comprehensive, is a list of several of favourite dive spots which demonstrates the diversity and types of diving.

Fonagho Island: Drop down to 30 metres on the point at the end of the island and watch the underwater world go by. Sharks, jacks, barracuda, dog-tooth tuna and a host of other pelagics make this point their home. Follow the point back up to the shallows where nestled in the untouched coral are two giant clams.

Koemurun Island: A wall dive offering spectacular giant multicoloured Gorgonia sea fans. A relaxing drift dive, this wall starts right on the surface and ends in unimaginable depths, allowing each diver to enjoy the wall at their own comfort level.

Lever Dump/White Reach/Yandina: These three sites were formed when at the end of WWII masses of American equipment was driven into the sea. Jeeps, trucks, bulldozers, barges, tonnes of ammunition of all sizes and other military paraphernalia make these dive sites unique.

Leru Cut: A cut into the side of Leru Island extends back over 100 metres into the island. The white sand bottom reflects light beautifully making it ideal for photographers. At the end of the cut, surface and behold the steep cliffs which extend high above the water on both sides with the encroaching jungle overhanging.

Custom Cave: This unique formation is another ideal challenge for photographers. Shafts of sunlight penetrate through the jungle and enter through a hole into the magical cavern. In days past, Solomon Islands' tribes worshipped here.

Mane Island: A wall dive typical of Solomon Islands diversity in both invertebrate and pelagic forms. At the end of the dive do your safety stop in a coral garden, claimed by experienced divers as the best in the world.

The "Wreck of the Anne": A freighter sunk several years ago, it sits upright with its stern in 12 metres and her bow in 36 metres. This wreck is an ideal night dive spot and macro-fanatics will find themselves in macro heaven.

Sililoma Reef: A patch reef rising to within three metres of the surface, plummeting down on all sides. A pinnacle in the sea, it attracts masses of fish and marine life of all types.

Sukulufat Point: Recently discovered, this point extends out into Sunlight Channel and is home to many large pelagic varieties such as pompano, dog-tooth tuna, eagle rays and several species of shark. To end your dive come back up the wall and drift



along in the current while watching the incredible diversity of marine life.

- **Diving Tulagi**

The “wreck capital of the Solomon’s.” In these beautiful waters some of the worlds best diving is to be found, from pristine reefs to spectacular WWII wrecks.

The Floridas Islands are located in the middle of the Solomon’s, a one-hour boat ride from Honiara. They offer some of the best diving to be found anywhere in the country. Until recently they could only be reached by liveboard vessels, but now this fantastic new destination is available for all to enjoy.

The Diving

In these beautiful waters around Tulagi some of the worlds best diving is to be found, from pristine reefs to spectacular WWII wrecks. The Floridas can offer you just about anything you could ever want to see.

Want some wrecks? Tulagi is the place to go. Two Seaplanes, one Mine sweeper, one Oil Tanker and the Destroyer “Aaron Ward” are just waiting for you.

Want a cave? At Twin Tunnels you can descend through two vertical openings and emerge 35m below to watch gray reef sharks cruising through big schools of Fusiliers.

Also surrounding Tulagi is a large number of unspoilt reefs, soft corals, drop offs, huge fans, and giant sponges all packed with an abundance of tropical marine life.

The Dive Locations

WRECKS

US AARON WARD:

Only discovered in 1995, the only dive able Destroyer in the Solomon Islands. Mortally wounded by Japanese aircraft on April 7th 1943 she limped as far as Tinete point where she went down. This impressive wreck is sitting upright and intact on the sandy bottom. Possessing an extensive arsenal of big guns this is one awesome dive. For the very experienced diver. DEPTH RANGE: 53m - 74m.

KANAWHA:

A 478’ American Oil tanker that saw service in 2 World Wars. This ship was sunk in Tulagi harbor on the same day as the Aaron Ward, 7th April 1943. Sitting upright on a flat bottom the deck is at 46m and strewn with marine supplies. Penetrations lead into areas such as the engine room, kitchens, tool rooms and crew quarters. DEPTH RANGE: 40m - 60m.

THE MOA:

Also in Tulagi harbour rests the wreck of the only diveable New Zealand ship in the Solomons, the RNZNS Moa, a corvette as influential in the sinking of the Japanese Sub at Cape Esperance. She’s in good condition, upright at a slight list. DEPTH RANGE: 35m - 42m.

KAWANISHI H6K5 FLOAT PLANES:

Lying off Ghavutu + Tanabago Islands are several “Mavis Flying Boats”. These are 4 engined Reconnaissance /VIP transports. One lies upright intact in 27-31 metres of water. The others lie broken in large sections to add to the challenge of the dive.

ORCHID ROCK

Orchid Rock is a drift dive along a wall covered with huge Gorgonian Fans,



and is often visited by hump headed Wrasse.

PRESENTATION POINT

Presentation Point is another drift dive—this time through a labyrinth of tunnels, caves and swim throughs.

NORTHERN POINT

This dive site is along the North end of Double Island. At a depth of 4 metres soft corals hide many different types of Nudibranchs and you'll also find Blue Spotted Rays here. This outcrop drops off to a depth of 30 metres. Huge Gorgonians Fans provide sanctuary for Butterfly Cod and large Barrel Sponges line the gently sloping wall.

SOUTHERN GARDEN

Southern Garden is another 4 metre outcrop covered in a soft coral garden. The 30 metre drop off down a perpendicular wall brings you face to face with Moray Eels, and if you look hard enough there may be a few lobsters hiding among the cracks.

CHRISTMAS TREE ROCK

At no deeper than 10 metres you'll find a huge boulder of hard coral covered in Christmas Tree worms. Octopus and rays share this coral outcrop with Nudibranchs and hermit crabs.

DOUBLE ISLAND

This is a popular lunch spot for between dives. The area has a grassy sea floor at a maximum depth of 4 metres. There are Anemone Fish with unique black stripes. This site is also a great snorkeling spot.

TWIN TUNNELS:

The Twin Tunnels is a coral bommie which gets its name from the two vertical shafts near its western face. The top of the reef is in 2 metres of water and the tunnel entrance at 14-16 mtrs. The tunnels meet in a common cavern which exit onto a reef wall at 35-40 m. It is then a short swim into the current to watch the fish action. Large fish frequent this site: tuna, G.T's, sharks, barracuda, humphead wrasse and the odd turtle.

DEPTH RANGE; 12m - 50m

AARON'S REEF

Aaron's Reef is a kaleidoscope of colour bommie dive where you'll see Pipe Fish, Clams, Clown Fish, Anemones and a mixture of hard and soft corals.

DEPTH RANGE 6 - 22 m

MANTA GAP

This site speaks for itself. Giant Manta Rays are often seen here, feeding in the current. The dive has a gentle sloping sandy bottom strewn with long fingers of rock covered with fans, barrel sponges and anemones.

DEPTH RANGE 9 –27 m

- [Diving Maravagi Resort](#)
Situated in the Florida Islands in the central province of the Solomon Islands Maravagi Resort has some amazing diving experience.

The Solomon Islands are a dive traveller's dream. An undeveloped, uncrowded and very beautiful country spread across the Solomon Sea just below the Equator. There is an incredible marine bio-diversity found around the islands and you'll find any Indo Pacific species here you care to name, fish or invertebrate.

Maravagi Resort is situated in the Florida Islands in the central province of the Solomon Islands. The voyage takes approximately 3 hours from the port in Honiara across the world famous "Iron Bottom Sound". Between 1941 and 1945, this swath of ocean off the South Pacific island of Guadalcanal saw some of the fiercest fighting of World War II, with American and Japanese forces clashing almost daily at times. For some, the name still conjures up memories of pain, bravery, and brushes with death.

Today, however, Iron Bottom Sound is best known as a mecca for scuba divers, who can explore the dozens of war wrecks that litter its bottom. From



fighter planes and tanks, to cargo ships and destroyers, Iron Bottom Sound has become a kind of underwater museum. You'll also find caves, unspoilt reefs, soft corals, drop offs, huge fans and giant sponges.

The Diving

Some of the more popular dive sites in The Florida Islands

TWIN TUNNELS:

These are ancient lava tubes beginning on top of a patch reef and dropping vertically down to about 35m. The twin tunnels then join into one horizontal tunnel that exits on the reef wall at 40m. Here you'll find a mass of fish swarming around the reef and some major pelagic action including Sharks, Dogtooth Tuna, Giant Trevally and Barracuda



BABY CAKE (VELVIA):

An incredible diversity of fish and invertebrate are concentrated on this small reef only 2 minutes from Maravagi. Here you'll find unusual varieties such as crocodile fish, Scorpion leaf fish, Stonefish, and lionfish. A dream reef for naturalists or underwater photographers.

SANDFLY PASSAGE:

This dive brings you to a beautiful coral garden studded with big red and yellow fans, and a great diversity of World-class coral and marine life. The garden turns into a dramatic wall when reaching Tanavula Point. Big Bumphead parrots are common around this dive.

PASSAGE ROCK:

This is a dangerous reef for passing ships, but it is a great spot for pelagic fish. A long vertical drop off, from 3 to 40metres in depth, the reef is renowned for big Dog Tooth Tuna, Kingfish, and Sharks. The top of the reef is often washed by strong currents, patrolled by friendly Nurse Sharks and is covered by good soft corals.

KOVUHIKA ISLAND:

This drift dive will bring you along a small wall into the middle of a forest of giant red and yellow fans before ending on top of a colourful reef lying at a depth of 3m to 40m. Here Sharks, pelagic and large school of fusiliers are waiting for you.

SOGHONARA ISLAND:

There are two dive sites on this Island, ranging from 3m to 40m. The currents attract turtles, sharks and pelagic along a succession of small walls and slots.

- [Diving Guadalcanal](#)
Dive the WWII wrecks in "Iron Bottom Sound"
 - [Diving Gizo](#)
A tropical treasure-trove blessed with sun drenched lagoons and white sandy beaches. The diving lives up to the setting with spectacular reefs, wrecks and an abundance of fish life.
 - [Diving Uepi Island](#)
Remote and stunningly beautiful
 - [Diving Munda](#)
Reefs, caves, wrecks and culture
- And more...