



Give the Gift of Adventure

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Howdy everyone!

Having trouble finding the perfect gift for that friend or loved one? Putting off your holiday shopping because you have no good ideas? Give the gift of scuba! Whether it's an intro class for someone who has never tried it or a new set of gear for the avid diver in your life; International Scuba has everything you need. We can offer gift cards in any amount so no gift is too big or too small.

Exciting events for next year are already in motion! Join us at the Lone Star State Dive Expo on January 24th and 25th in Frisco. Need an excuse to get away for a weekend? Dates for Flower Gardens trips for 2015 are set and you can book at any time. Just call in to the store or drop by.

We only have 2 spots left for our Cozumel Carnaval trip in February. Make your deposit today! Spaces are also available for the Solmar V Cage Diving trip in Guadalupe. And this is your last chance to sign up for the amazing Bahamas Live Aboard in July. Deposits are due by December 31st. You can't go wrong with the gift of a vacation!

Cheers!

Your IS Family

Do you have what it takes?!

Polar Bear Dive January 1st, 2015

Clear Springs Scuba Park is once again holding their annual Polar Bear dive on January 1st. Brave the cold water and you could be the recipient of fabulous awards such as “beary bravest diver” (longest dive) or “beary wimpiest diver” (shortest dive). No matter what kind of dive you do, you will forever be heralded as one of the most adventurous divers to walk through Clear Spring’s gates. Hot breakfast with coffee and tea is provided. Admission is \$30 for divers and includes a Polar Bear Diver t-shirt, so you can show off your prowess to all your friends. Observers are \$5. Breakfast and registration start at 8am. Divers will start entering the water at 10am and the diving will conclude with awards at noon.

- ⇒ January 2015: Aggressor II, Turks and Caicos
- ⇒ February 7-8, 2015 Flower Gardens (Hammerheads)
- ⇒ February 13th-18th, 2015: Carnaval in Cozumel
- ⇒ April 4-5, 2015 Flower Gardens (Hammerheads)
- ⇒ June 13-14, 2015 Flower Gardens (Whale Sharks)
- ⇒ July 25-Aug 1, 2015: Carib Dancer, Bahamas
- ⇒ Aug 16-20, 2015: Guadalupe Shark Diving, Solmar V
- ⇒ August 29-30, 2015 Flower gardens (Coral Spawning/ Manta Rays)
- ⇒ January 2016: Solmar V, Socorro Islands

When are we diving

- December 13-14 Comal River
- January 1st—Polar Bear Dive at CSSP
- January 17-18 Comal River
- January 31- February 1 Comal River
- More to come!



Diving Milestones and New Divers

Discover Scuba

Dina Edwards
Christina Gonzales
Gina May

Open Water

Darlene Burley
Keith Burley
Christina Green
Wade Green
Aimee Vafaie

Boat

Robert Mitchell

Digital Underwater

Photographer

Matthew Dickson

Dry Suit

Matthew Dickson
Allen King
Steven Rodak

EFR

Rebecca Billings
Randy Preston
Floyd Henk, Jr

Enriched Air

Ryan Clingman
Johnnie Graves
Mary Jones
Teresa Simpson

Peak Performance

Buoyancy

Ivan Garcia

Search & Recovery

Michael Hughes

Sidemount

Mike Kinsey
Steven Rodak
Ernest White

Have you seen how many names have graced this wonderful page of our newsletter this year?

Why isn't your name on it?

Add International Scuba to your list of New Year's resolutions and get back out there and go diving! With over 22 specialty courses being offered, you are sure to find something you have always wanted to try. Shoot for your Master Scuba Diver certification with our MSD package or take that final step and become a PADI professional. It's never too late to get back in the water!



We have been in your neighborhood for over 15 years serving your diving, education, travel, sales, and service needs. Who better to take care of you but a neighbor.

International Scuba is a 5 Star Instructor Development Center. The store boasts a Platinum Course Director (instructor trainer) and over 70 years of experience amongst the group.

Looking for a change of lifestyle—come see us, we can help!



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Fiji—The Perfect Vacation

When it comes to exotic vacations, many people will tell you that Fiji is the place to go; and they are right! Known as “the soft coral capital of the world”, this 330 island archipelago is a can’t miss dive spot. About 110 islands of the country are inhabited, with the largest of those being Vita Levu and Vanua Levu which house 85% of the population. As divers, this means that we have countless islands, reefs, and untouched places to explore.

Fiji offers something for everyone from budget friendly options to extravagant luxury on your own private island. Hotels offer all the standard mainland amenities you



would expect and many go above and beyond with things like world class spas, 18 hole golf courses, and gorgeous beach weddings. And don’t forget about the Fijian culture you will experience with sacred fire walking ceremonies and traditional kava rituals. Fijian hospitality is un-paralleled.

For the non-divers in the family, activities are numerous: white water rafting, horseback riding, shopping, jet ski safari’s, game fishing, kayaking, snorkeling, hiking, and more! Fiji is the perfect place to be as ener-

getic or as relaxed as you want.

With over 4,000 square miles of coral reef, divers will fall in love with the sea-



scape. Experience shallow water reefs with unbelievable biodiversity or go to the edges of the channel for a close encounter with grey reef, black tip, white tip, and hammerhead sharks. Want something more relaxed? Travel over to Manta Ray island and swim with the gentle giants that migrate there every May through October.

Getting there is a breeze. Flights leave daily from Los Angeles or Hawaii. A passport valid through 6 months after your departure is required, but upon arrival, every visitor is automatically granted a four month visa. And who wouldn’t want to stay there that long?!

Fijians joke that they have two seasons: warm (May to November) and warmer (December to April). English is the official spoken language and the Fijian Dollar is the national currency. Water temperatures average in the 80s, occasionally dropping to the mid 70s. Visibility remains over 100 feet or more year round.

With so much to do and see, Fiji is truly the all-inclusive vacation spot you have been looking for. Don’t wait another minute. Pack that suitcase and head to the airport for a world-class trip (and don’t forget to

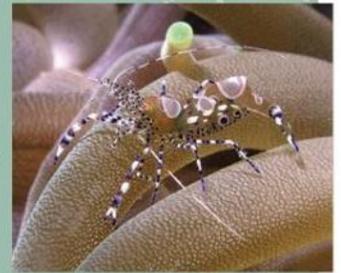


drop by and pick up some International Scuba staff members to go with you!



Carib Dancer - Bahamas

Dive the Out Islands and Exuma Cay Blue Holes
Could Include Tiger Beach
July 25 - Aug 1, 2015



Dancer Fleet strikes Gold

The life aboard lifestyle is coming to the Bahamas and the Out Islands! Divers can now explore the lush, sheer walls, captivating wrecks and mystical blue holes of the Exuma Cays.

The islands of the Bahamas are sprinkled over 100,000 square miles of ocean starting just 50 miles off the coast of Florida. The archipelago is an ecological oasis featuring 2,000 breathtaking islands and cays that boasts the clearest water on the planet. Incredible marine diversity is found right beside breathtaking white and pink sand beaches.



Luxury 14 passenger Carib Dancer Yacht

Quad Accommodations \$2095

Deluxe Accommodations \$2295

Air is currently running non-stop on AA for \$654



\$500 non-refundable deposit due now
and final payment due Apr 1st., 2015



**Awesome way to end the day
of diving!**



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Meet Your IS Team Member—Patti Stewart

Q: How did you get started diving?

A: Working in Hawaii. I snorkeled on Maui and fell in love. Then I came home and found IS and have been here ever since.

Q: Number of years diving? Number of years as professional? How many dives?

A: 15 years + diving
14 years Pro
Close to 2500

Q: What brought you to International Scuba?

A: Brian found it while trying to find shops close to our house. This was the only one that didn't pressure him into signing me up over the phone. Mike Rowe (manager at the time) invited us to come in and meet folks as this is a family place and he wanted me to be comfortable.

Q: Tell us something about yourself that your diving friends would be surprised to learn.

A: I wanted to play in symphony after my band days in high school and college. I didn't get to play at A&M because of work. I was also really bummed to find out how unionized it was. All I wanted to do was continue playing and get to be part of musicals.

Q: If you could leave tomorrow to live in the islands, where would it be?

A: St. Croix calls my name early and often.

Q: What is your oddest diving experience?

A: I don't have an odd one, but have new cool ones. I got to dive with candidates during a St. Croix IDC and took them on their first pre-dawn dive. They are so cool because the night time critters are looking to crash for the day and as the sun rises the schools of fish come out for feeding little bits at a time so fun to watch the sun rise from underwater



Q: What is the one tip you would like share with a new diver?

A: Take PPB immediately following your Open Water course so when you do your first trip you have one less thing to worry about while being totally stoked about the fish and other animals and visibility

Q: If you were to come back as a fish in your next life what kind of fish would you be?

A: Red Lipped Blenny. They hang on coral heads and sit regally like on guard. For exactly what I don't know but they are cool looking.



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