

The Soft Scuba Adventurer

Your Dive Adventure Begins Here



Soft Scuba

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“You Deserve To Dive Curaçao!... Don't Wait Another Moment!”

Photo by: *Fred Althrieth*–3/2000



Curaçao is situated about halfway between Aruba and Bonaire and about 35 miles north of northwestern Venezuela. It is less than a 3-hour jet ride away from Miami.

Curaçao is **outside** the hurricane belt, but can feel the effects of large hurricanes.

Why is Curaçao a world-class dive destination?

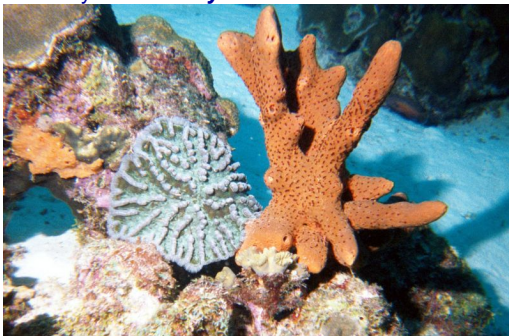
- **Over 100 dive sites** with wrecks, reefs, walls (some near-vertical), shore dives and a protected underwater park (since 1983).
- Many of the best dive sites are marked by **mooring buoys**.
- **The visibility** often reaches 150 feet and averages 60–100 feet.
- **Abundance of sea life** of every size and color imaginable!
- **Coral Spawning** every September and October! This miracle of coral reef reproduction only happens in September and October, one week after the full moon. Witness several types of coral, urchins and brittle stars release their eggs to be fertilized in the open waters around the reef.

Clear, warm water, and the abundance of a great variety of sea life surrounding Curaçao, much of which can be experienced by shore diving, makes for a spectacular, dynamic, marine drama constantly changing shape, motion, color and texture.

Photo by: *Dennis DeYoung*–2/2001



Photo by: *David Playfair*–2/2001



Diving!—From the newly-certified to the experienced olde-pro underwater photographers, Curaçao offers a very safe, pristine underwater environment. There is usually a gentle current and the easy drift diving makes for very relaxing explorations.

Most dive sites are about a 15- to 20-minute boat ride away, or easily reachable as a shore dive. Most of the dive operators use the large social boats, making for more comfort all around—shade, drinking water, room to spread out, relax, play "one-up-man-ship" about the biggest fish you ever saw and other spectacular dive adventures you ever had, while you assemble your gear.

Weather & Water—Year round air temperature averages—86–93 deg.F. Water temperature ranges between 75 deg.F. to 85 deg.F. Visibility runs between 60 to 130+ feet, and is usually around 100 feet.

Price Validity—All Package Prices are subject to change without notice, unless Paid-In-Full. Changes may be required in the event of increases or decreases in the cost of services imposed by hotels, dive operators, air carriers (if included in package), or other contractors. Government taxes can change at any time.

Air Fare—We provide the lowest available air fare from your City of Departure.

Your Dive Sites

NOTE: The following are only a few of the many incredible sites visited on a regular basis by Curaçao dive operators, varying in depth from 10–15fsw to 130fsw.

Photo by: **Dennis DeYoung**–2/2001

You are going to see a lot! There are over 400 species of fish, crab, anemones, colorful sponges and coral—Flamingo Tongue Snail, Purple Yellow Royal Gramma, Yellow Black Rock Beauties, Angel Fish, marlin, sailfish, tuna, dolphin and wahoo.



- **Boka di Sorsaka**—deeply undercut ledge formed by surf over 5,000 years ago.
- **Piedra di Sombre**—spectacular steep wall covered with sponges and black coral trees.
- **Hell's Corner**—steeply shelving reef covered with large gorgon and pillar corals. Seen there are barracudas, morays and spiny lobsters.
- **Wata Mula**—for the more experienced diver. Rugged submarine terrain, underwater cave, huge moray eels.
- **Sponge Forest**—enormous Breaker Sponges, 4–ft cross-sections and heights ranging 15–16 feet.
- **Mushroom Forest**—the most beautiful of Banda Abao Underwater Park, this gently sloping reef is covered with giant mushroom-shaped coral formations.
- **Mike's Place**—giant sponge in the shape of a double bed.
- **Car Pile**—artificial reef consisting of, what else?, autos no longer required by land lubbers.
- **Klein Curaçao**—uninhabited island about a one-hour boat ride away. Large collection of anemones, shrimp, crab, wall, scorpion fish, red-legged hermit crabs, stingrays, eels, orange elephant ear sponges, purple tube and rope sponges, huge gorgonias, black coral trees, yellow frogfish, eagle rays, turtles.....
- **The Wrecks**—Tow Boat (17fsw), Superior Producer (100fsw), a crashed seaplane, SS Oranje Nassau (80 years under the water and covered with sea life).

Your Dive Adventures with

- **Breezes Curaçao**
- **Habitat Curaçao**
- **Lion's Dive Curaçao
Hotel & Marina**

High Season and Low Season—High season generally begins mid-December and ends mid-April. Higher rates are found during High Season and some holidays.

Breezes Curaçao and Oceans Encounters

Breezes Curaçao is the first Super-Inclusive resort in the Southern Caribbean. This beautiful resort, with 341 rooms and suites, is adjacent to the pristine **Undersea National Park** and the **Sea Aquarium**. Breezes Curaçao welcomes couples, singles and families. Your kids will have a lot of great experiences at Camp Breezes. The largest casino in Curaçao is right on the premises.



Breezes Curaçao Resort offers you it's own 1500 feet of private white sandy beach and crystal clear waters. Here you'll enjoy wonderful accommodations, all imaginable water sports, premium brand drinks and a variety of dining options ranging from Japanese cuisine at Munahana to the never-ending Jimmy's Buffet. Of course, like all Breezes resorts, everything is included in the price and tipping is not allowed.

Scuba Diving is right in front of Breezes Curaçao Resort & Casino, at about 85 feet, is the famous dive site, Car Pile. Cars, trucks, and earth moving equipment were placed to create an artificial reef where you will find special hiding places for sea life. This is a perfect site for a night dive. A first visit during the day is advised so you know what to expect.

Habitat Curaçao and Habitat Divers

Habitat Curaçao—(Low season rates around \$1010 diver, \$727 non-diver)—Adventure per person, double occupancy includes: 7 Nights Accommodations (deluxe garden view room) - **r/t air from Miami** - airport transfers - free town shuttle during day - daily buffet breakfast - government taxes, service charges, gratuities - 12 boat dives, unlimited 24-hour shore dives, tank, weights, belt, air refills - refresher course - buoyancy control workshop.



Habitat Curaçao, the new world class dive resort, now offers deluxe oceanfront rooms, deluxe garden view rooms, with kitchenettes and patios as well as cottages. Their dive operation is a PADI 5-star training and instructor development center offering boat and 24-hour shore diving and snorkeling. Amenities include pool, beach, hiking trails, restaurant, bar and entertainment. **Habitat Curaçao is on the southwest coast of Curaçao—where the most spectacular diving exists!**

Lion's Dive Curaçao Hotel & Marina and Oceans Encounters

Lion's Dive Hotel & Marina—(Low season rates around \$805 diver, \$525 non-diver)—Adventure per person, double occupancy includes: 7 Nights Accommodations (oceanview room with balcony or terrace) - 12 boat dives with Underwater Curaçao - unlimited shore diving - weights/tanks/air/belt - American breakfast buffet - taxes and gratuities - entrance to Seaquarium on premises - scheduled shuttle bus to Willemstad - healthclub & fitness center.



Located 5 miles away from Willemstad, next to the Curaçao Seaquarium, Lion's Dive Hotel & Marina is situated on Curaçao's largest white sand beach, a private beach connected with Seaquarium beach—palm trees, beach huts, lounge chairs aplenty. Conveniently close to the National Underwater Park! Fresh water pool.

Other Dive Adventure Options

The above standard dive adventures can be custom-tailored re: your length of stay, your number of dives, your type of room, and divers vs. non-divers in your party. Do you want a Resort Course? Become certified? Earn advanced certifications and specialties? Use the OW Referral and complete your basic certification? If you don't see what you are looking for here, contact us and ask. We can custom-tailor your dive adventure using other accommodations and dive operators.

[Yes!...I Must Dive Curaçao Now!](#) [Here Are My Dive Adventure Preferences](#)

Want to know more about Curaçao?...
Fin immediately over to—[Your Curaçao Dive Adventures](#).



“Are Your Ready For Dive In To Earth Day?”

Dive In To Earth Day is coming soon. Put your best fin forward this **Earth Day** and organize an event that makes a splash! **Dive In To Earth Day**, 15–22 April, is an international celebration with an entire week of underwater conservation activities like...

- cleanups,
- mooring buoy installations projects,
- aquatic surveys,
- ecology dives,
- ...and much more.

Unite divers and water lovers in your community and **Dive In** to protect aquatic resources.

[Yes! I Want To Be Involved! I Want Additional Details...And Post My Event](#)

Register on-line for
Dive and Travel Assistance
Insurance with
[DiveAssure™](#)

“Why Dive? How Do I Begin? [Part 5 of 7]”

by
Robert Keeney
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Thought-provoking question...with many answers...

Part 5 of this 7-part series helps you gain a deeper feeling about your underwater Universe. You explore the Soul of diving...as you embrace more deeply your familiar underwater neighborhood.

You earned your basic OpenWater C-card. You have logged quite a few dives since that time. You pursue higher-level certifications. You seek greater depth of understanding in this strange environment.

You become less a stranger in a strange land as you develop your underwater awareness.

When you pursue your AdvancedOpenWater certification, you experience the required Deep Diving module. You focus more intensely planning your dive and diving your plan. You venture to greater depths. In your new, yet to be explored, deeper experience, you "sense" the source and interrelationship between all species...from smallest to largest. You wander the deeper reefs, ridges and walls. You feel the energy source you might not have encountered before.

Your pleasure has only just begun. No more classes...no more Confined Water Dives where you learned and practiced your basic skills. Just you and maybe a few others and your instructor. You did the Knowledge Review at home. You discussed your concepts with your instructor. You performed the dive under your instructor's supervision. You may pursue this further. Do a few more dives with your instructor. You will earn your Specialty Certification as a Deep Diver.

You and your buddy slowly explore the deeper reefs, ridges and walls. You find larger creatures. Did you happen to ascend or descend through a school of barracuda? Did you see that scurrying away shark in the distance...just out of the corner of your eye? How about that huge turtle sleeping on the reef? The myriads of fish all different sizes feeding at various depths? That school of eagle rays cruising in pattern just off the wall? How about that large octopus hiding in his hole...with all the broken shells in his front yard? When you surface, your viewpoint is altered. You feel more respect for your planet. You touched ever so lightly the Soul of your planet. You recognize we all share the same source...the fountainhead of life.

Seek more training. Purchase more equipment. Safely and comfortably venture below for extended periods. Become more relaxed. Receive greater enlightenment. Look forward to PADI's Deep Dive as part of your next certification level.

In this article, Part 5 of this 7-part series, you have considered the Soul of your planet. Surface noise often hides this from our senses. Deep under the quiet ocean, you become aware the source of being. Your self is irrevocably intertwined with all. This is a very comfortable, re-assuring feeling.

Part 6 of this 7-part series takes you to a higher level of awareness. You become more conscious of a Universal Mind which keeps all in harmonious balance. You become more in tune with your planet as you acknowledge this unifying, intelligent force shared by all life forms.

Dive S.A.F.E.

Dive S.A.F.E.,
Robert Keeney—
PADI OpenWaterScubaInstructor

“How To Catch The Wind To The Western Caribbean And...Dive In!”



The completely refurbished **Norwegian Wind** is virtually brand new. An elegant, spacious vessel—it offers a relaxed, yet sophisticated cruising experience and panoramic views.

Your Onboard Experience—From the moment you step aboard this charming, elegant vessel into the circular marble lobby— expect a relaxed yet refined cruising experience. Walls of glass and spacious open decks bring the world around you to your fingertips. There is plenty of space in which to roam, jog or just sit and enjoy the sun. A

multi-level sun deck area around the new pool is wonderfully sheltered from the wind when at sea. And the open deck space!

Intimate nooks in the Rendezvous lounge entice you to indulge in a romantic interlude. Try your luck in the casino, enjoy a fabulous show in the comfortable Stardust Lounge, dance the night away in the Dazzles disco. The Norwegian Wind has some idiosyncrasies since being stretched—that include walking through public rooms and up and down stairs to get from one end to the other. But it makes it more fun to find your way around. Shop, workout in the fitness centre, indulge in a massage, zap some golf balls or toss some baskets. It's all here for your pleasure. And your kids will like it too. Especially the video arcade and special programs available for both youngsters and teens. Don't forget the midnight buffets and the formal Captain's cocktail party—a perfect opportunity to dress up.

Cruise Saturday to Saturday. Your Dive and Shore Excursions are extra. **Itinerary**—

- **Miami**
- **at sea**
- **Grand Cayman**
- **Roatan**
- **Belize**
- **Cozumel**
- **at sea**
- **Miami**

Dive In Scuba—Captain's Choice—Grand Cayman—Certified scuba divers will love these exciting two-tank dives, one to the world-famous Cayman Wall. As you descend along this amazing underwater drop-off, you'll see vibrant corals and sponges surrounded by beautiful tropical fish. The second dive is to a local reef or shipwreck in shallower water, to a depth of about 50 feet. Professional local instructors lead the dives. This dive trip is not to be missed!

Note: *You must show your C-card and have dived in the past two years to participate. Divers under 18 must be accompanied by parent or guardian. Dive sites may be changed because of weather or sea conditions.*

Dive In Scuba—Roatan—The term "world class diving" is no exaggeration when it comes to Roatan. The waters around the island are filled with a wide assortment of colorful marine life. The coral reefs are known for their spectacular drop-offs—places where the reef plunges vertically into the depths of the sea. A professional local dive operator will take you on a two-tank scuba adventure to these beautiful reefs.

Note: *You must be a certified diver to participate. Equipment may be rented from the dive operator at a nominal charge.*

Dive In Discover Scuba—Cozumel—For anyone who has wanted to learn scuba diving but never took the

time. Designed for the non-diver as an introduction to scuba, Discover Scuba is simple, fun and easy. Your classroom will be the crystal clear waters of the Caribbean, where you are surrounded by colorful corals, sponges, fish and other marine life. You receive a one-hour lesson on scuba basics from a qualified, competent instructor before you enter the water, then spend about 45 minutes exploring a world you've only dreamed about before.

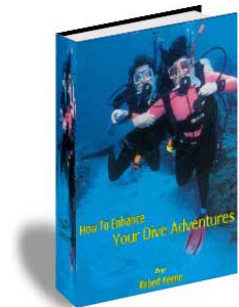
Dive In Scuba—Captain's Choice—Cozumel—Certified scuba divers will love the incredible reefs of Cozumel, part of the second largest barrier reef system in the world. A professional local operator takes you by boat for a two-tank dive on these famous reefs, made up of beautiful coral and sponge formations. You may see hundreds of fish, from colorful small varieties to huge grouper and parrotfish. It is not unusual to see stingrays and turtles. You will return from the dive with plenty of time to shop or explore the rest of Cozumel.

Note: *You must be a certified scuba diver and have dived in the past two years. Tanks and weights are included. Other equipment may be rented from dive operator.*

[Yes! I Want To Catch The Wind To The Western Caribbean And...Dive In!](#)

Your Dive Adventure is quoted
in ***falling***
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Convert
into Your Local Currency

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