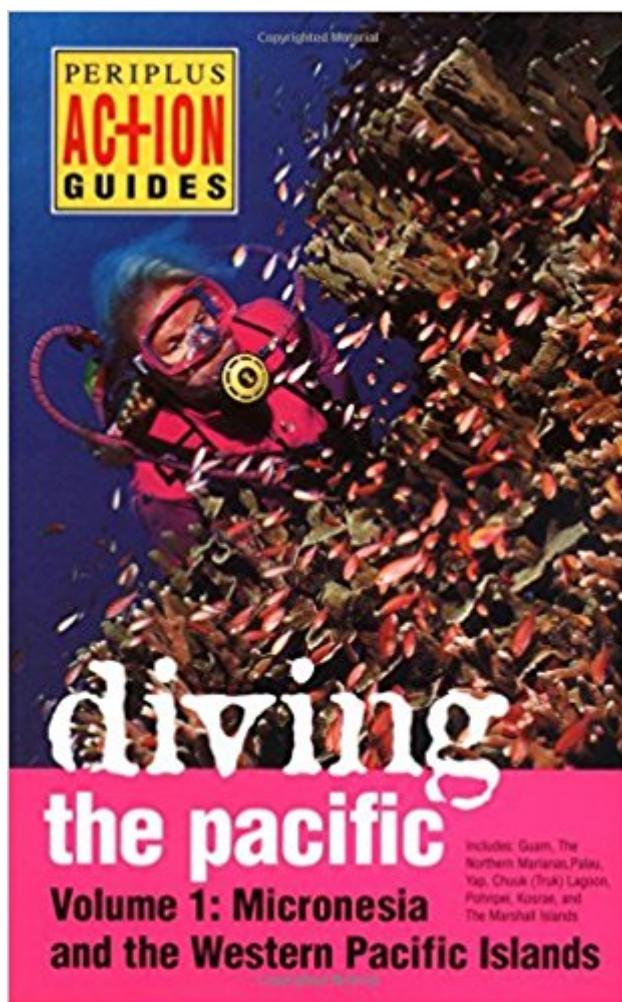


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Diving The Pacific: Volume 1: Micronesia And The Western Pacific Islands



Synopsis

The islands that surround Micronesia's landscape are a scuba divers paradise. These islands are scattered across five thousand kilometers of the deepest, purest blue hues of the Pacific Ocean. Micronesia is a world of its own with warm breezes, excitingly rich culture, under a beautiful sun surrounded by ocean front. These islands range from steep volcanic peaks covered with dripping green forests, to tiny desert islands. This is an ultimate diving guide for the Pacific Ocean. Many scuba diving enthusiasts consider Micronesia, with its crystal clear water, rich marine life, and a steady parade of big pelagic fish, to be the single best all-around diving area in the world. Some of the reefs in this great island group are already legendary: Palau's Blue corner, the manta-filled channels of Yap, and Chuuk, with 38 WWII wrecks charted in its lagoon. Our seasoned author covers these and more, taking you beyond the classics to the newest sites in each area. This guide includes: Accurately rendered marine charts for every important area Data on seasons, tide and current conditions Background sections on marine life and reef ecology An extensive practicalities section details prices and contacts for dive operators Accommodations and transportation on the islands Underwater photography is beautifully displayed throughout the guide to help give you a sense of what you might look at or experience when diving in Asia or Diving the Pacific.

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Customer Reviews

David Leonard is a New York City-based writer whose dive and travel journalism has appeared in Scuba network, Asian Diver, Dive Log new Zealand, In-Depth, Undercurrent, and Australia's Scuba Diving, as well as The New York Times, Pacifica, and The Village Voice. He has logged hundreds of dives in Micronesia, as well as in the Caribbean, Cocos Island, the Gulf of Mexico, the Red Sea, and the Great barrier Reef. Underwater photography: Bill Beckner, Gui Garcia, David Leonard, Tammy Peluso, Bob Ricke, Maria Hults, and Mike Severns.

The descriptions of dive sites are good but you could be deceived into thinking places are not worth visiting - Chuuk is 'dirty' and Palau 'over-touristed' on the basis of this author's writing. The book is now quite old so things change and have probably improved. In places it is poorly arranged so that an article on Palau is cut by a smaller inserted article. I would leave out the whole section at the back. That is the most out-of-date part. I have seen better reads on the area.

Wasn't sure what to expect when ordering, but am very happy with the purchase. The maps are great! I have lived in Guam & find that the info in the book is very helpful. I'm still learning my way around the dive world here & now know where some of these places are that people are talking about. It has also helped plan our next dive trip to other islands. Great info on Palau, Chuuk, & Yap. So much to see & so little time!!!

I like the first person narrative, which is unusual in a guide book. I would emphasize that it is a very brief overview. The author has managed to condense diving the entire Western Pacific into 254 pages.

I went back and bought 2 more for my travel companions! We just came back from Truk & Yap and I never saw my book, it was traveling around our group so much! We are planning to return to Palau, so I bought extra copies as self defense! The best dive guide I have found to the islands.

I don't know that I've ever read a better dive book or travel guide. The author covers every minute detail, and somehow, it still reads well--a fascinating and well-treated subject. David Leonard shows great wit and a solid knowledge of his subject. The photographs are amazing, too.

While Mr. Leonard may have a good handle on the diving in and around Guam, he hasn't taken the time to research all of his findings. In his book he stated that the local military "rarely contributes to

the local economy". Absurd. As a member of that military i know for a FACT that we are a vital part of the economy on Guam. We shop in off base, we LIVE off base, we eat off base, we PLAY off base. IF you can make a statement that blatantly incorrect, then what else in the book was "inaccurate"?

One of the most informative books about diving in the Pacific , next to Tim Rocks lonely planet guides for diving and snorkelling in Micronesia this is the best , only this one accomodates all the islands in one book meanwhile lonely planet is done over three books .I definately recommend it !

A very well written book with lots of good details. Every dive is thouroughfully described - culture, places to eat, sleep and live is well documentet - a fantastic guide - my best recommendations

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