

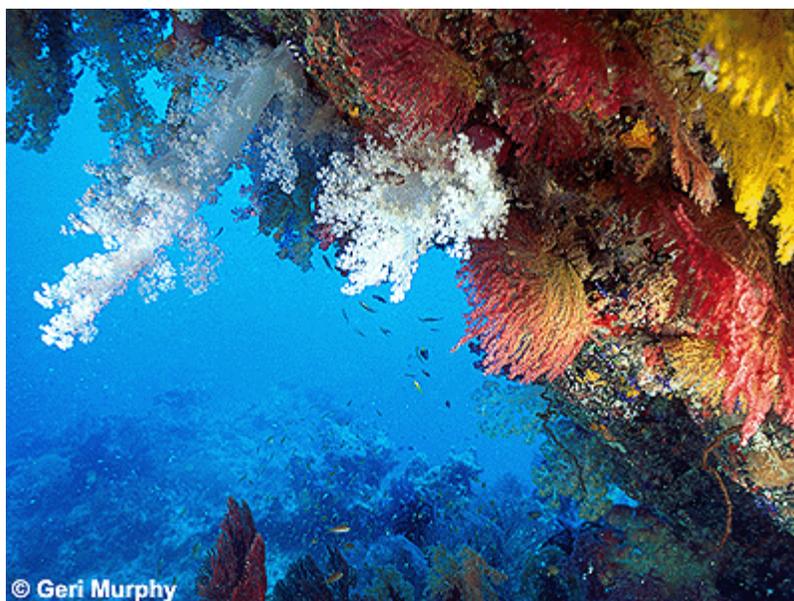
SPORT DIVER INTERACTIVE The Official Publication of the **PADI Diving Society** Site Index

NEWS EVENTS TRAVEL EQUIPMENT INSTRUCTION DOWNLOADS SOCIETY CONTACT US

[Email To A Friend](#) | [Print This Page](#) | [Back](#)

Fiji: Something for Everyone

Jack and Sue Drafahl



Fiji's undersea beauty is legendary among traveling divers

Though known to many as just another one of those tiny countries on the other side of the globe, Fiji is actually an island paradise where fragrant flowers abound and azure waters grace some of the world's most beautiful palm-fringed beaches.

Fiji also is a unique dive destination that features a wide array of topside and underwater adventures. The Fijian people are so friendly that visitors are welcomed as honored guests and a new name is never forgotten. Plus you can find accommodations designed to fit most any pocketbook, featuring everything from comfortable thatched-roof cottages called bures to five-star luxury hotels.

But alas, there have been some problems in paradise. During the last year, Fiji's civil unrest sent the nation's tourism industry plunging to new lows. Just when things started to settle down, a second uprising occurred last fall.

Slowly Fiji is starting to recover. The Fiji Visitors Bureau and the Tourism Action Group have waged an aggressive campaign to encourage tourism. According to local residents, most of the incidents that occurred last year were very isolated and travel advisories have been lifted. Life is returning to normal, and many dive resorts are offering reduced rates on vacation packages,

[GO](#)

CURRENT ISSUE



[JOIN](#)

[RENEW](#)
[MANAGE YOUR ACCOUNT](#)
[ORDER BACK ISSUES](#)

[e brochures](#)



which makes Fiji a great travel buy.

So why would you want to venture so far from home in search of new diving adventure? Because these islands offer an unparalleled range of quality dive sites with an overwhelming diversity of marine life that ranges from lionfish, leaf fish and flat worms to nudibranchs and schools of tropicals that comprise every color on an artist's palette.

The beautiful Fijian waters boast diving conditions to satisfy everyone from novice to advanced scuba divers. The diving opportunities range from virtually motionless seas to current dives guaranteed to challenge the heartiest of divers. You can find shallows where coral formations rise from the sea floor, as well as deep walls where soft corals and sea fans sway in the underwater breeze.

Lay Of The Land

Fiji is divided into three regions based on their weather and diving conditions.

The *northern section* includes the waters around Fiji's second-largest island, Vanua Levu, and the islands of Taveuni, Laucala, Matagi and Qamea. This is the wettest area of Fiji, so it offers some of the most lush rain forests, streams and waterfalls. Offshore is where you will find many of the colorful soft corals feeding during the tidal exchange. You can also find calm bay diving, spectacular walls with deep crevices and shallows that are home to more animals than you can count.

The *central region* has drier weather and incorporates the islands of Kadavu, Vatulele and Bega Lagoon. You will find soft corals that rival those in the north, prolific hard corals, huge sea fans, sloping walls and shallow reefs.

The *western portion* of Fiji is made up of Mamanucas and Yasawas islands. Here you will find water-sport activities and accommodations to please everyone. This is the driest and warmest area in Fiji, so you can just about count on sun year round.

A Taste Of Island Culture

In addition to great diving, Fiji offers a fabulous blend of ancient culture and customs.

One of our favorite traditional Fijian events is called a meke. This is where members of all ages from a local village join together for an evening of native song and dance. Usually it is accompanied by the sharing of the kava bowl. (Kava is a mixture of dry yaqona root mixed with water to form the non-alcoholic universal drink of Fiji.)

Fiji has something for everyone. You'll enjoy memorable underwater experiences soaring above the rainbow gardens of soft coral. And between dives, you can marvel at the tropical rain forests and magnificent waterfalls.

Fiji is easy to get to, but hard to leave behind.

For general information about visiting and touring the Fiji Islands, click on the home page below.

Fiji Visitors Bureau

[Home Page](#) • [News](#) • [Articles](#) • [E-mail to a Friend](#) •

http://www.bulafijiislands.com/fijiweb2001/divespecials_sportdiver.htm

Aggressor Fleet

[Home Page](#) • [News](#) • [Links](#) • [Packages](#) • [Amenities](#) •
[Activities](#) • [Articles](#) • [E-mail to a Friend](#) •

<http://www.aggressor.com>

Fiji Visitors Bureau

[Home Page](#) • [News](#) • [Articles](#) • [E-mail to a Friend](#) •

http://www.bulafijiislands.com/fijiweb2001/divespecials_sportdiver.htm

Island Dreams

[Home Page](#) • [News](#) • [Links](#) • [Articles](#) • [Packages](#) • [E-mail to a Friend](#) •

<http://www.divetrip.com>

Caribbean Adventures / World Dive Adventures

[Home Page](#) • [News](#) • [Jobs](#) • [Links](#) • [Articles](#) • [Packages](#) • [E-mail to a Friend](#) •

<http://www.worlddive.com>

Trip-N-Tour

[Home Page](#) • [News](#) • [Links](#) • [Articles](#) • [E-mail to a Friend](#) •

<http://www.trip-n-tour.com>

Related articles

[DISCOVER FIJI](#)

[Captain's Log: Fiji Aggressor](#)

[Funky In Fiji](#)

[Fiji Dive Site Map](#)

[You're Not In Kansas](#)

[Fiji Wholesalers Guide](#)

[New Book About Fiji](#)

[Removing Barriers for Disabled Divers](#)

[Namale Resort, Fiji](#)

[Destination: Fiji Islands](#)

[Fiji Dive Travel Planner](#)

[Impressions of Fiji](#)

Visit these other
fine sites

WORLD
PUBLICATIONS

CARIBBEAN
MAGAZINE

SPORT
FISHING

Marlin

WaterSki

Kite

[Join PADI](#) | [Renew](#) | [Back Issues](#) | [Terms & Conditions](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Advertising Rates](#) | [Advertiser Log-In](#) | [Employment](#)