



Hi everyone,

The weather is starting to warm up and its time to get out diving, why not check our schedule and sign-up for a trip. If you would like to make it a weekend, you can get the Sunfish hotel deal for \$60.00 per night at the Casa Via Mar Inn & Tennis Club, what a deal! Check our website for more information and a link to the hotel at www.socaldive.com.

For more deals on the Sunfish, sign up for 1 of our specially priced “trip of the month” trips and don’t forget to use your Frequent Dive Card for more deals. Come dive the Sunfish and see it is a whole new way to dive the Channel Islands.

Remember; our motto,

“Striving for Different Diving”

Pictures courtesy of Karen Duran:

Open Boat calendar

April

5th-Island or Coast Exploration

11th-Anacapa/Santa Cruz

18th-Santa Cruz, Coache/Potatoe Rk.

19th-Anacapa, Drift Class

26th-Anacapa, Outer Reefs &Pinnacles

May

2nd-Coastal, Deep Hole

10th-Anacapa/Santa Cruz

16th-Anacapa, Drift Only

(check our calendar for more trips)

<http://www.socaldive.com/diveschedule.htm>



April-“Trip of the Month”, specially priced at \$120.00

Santa Cruz, Coache/Potatoe Rock

This area is located on the north side of east Santa Cruz and is between Scorpion’s and Chinese Harbor. Most of the diving in this area is up against the island or on pinnacles and large rocks such as Potato Rk. These area’s are not dove often and can be good for hunting fish and scallops and photography. The depths can vary from 20’-80’ and visibility ranges from 15’-40’. This trip is longer then our normal run. We will be back about 5:00-5:30pm and there will be a fuel surcharge. This trip is good for intermediate divers and above. Possible currents, surface signal device recommended, tech divers with doubles, rebreathers and scooters welcome, 3 dives, 16 divers max., food & air included, free beer at the end of your day, we fill tanks on the way in, frequent dive card, boarding 6:00-6:30am, depart at 7:00am.



Grace Oil Rig Update

Sometime last year there was an incident on the Grace oil rig. I do not know what it was, but I was told that recreational diving was suspended until further notice and to check back later. I did check back several times and the last time (early March) I was told that there will be no recreational diving allowed on the rig now.

I will continue to check back with Venaco (owners and operators of Grace) later in the year with hopes that at some point diving will be allowed again on the Grace Oil Rig. It was a privilege to dive the rig and it would be sad to lose the chance of diving it again, not only for the Sunfish, but for the other boats that dove on it as well.

Learn to Drift Dive on board the Sunfish-“diving the fun and lazy way”

On Sunday, April 19th there will be a drift diving class on board the Sunfish. Drift diving in and around the Channel Islands and Coastal areas is not something that is routinely done on dive boats except for the Sunfish. The Ventura College NAUI advanced dive class has been doing drift dives in our area for the last 20 years and the Sunfish is their boat of choice for this. The Sunfish is perfect for drift diving as it is smaller and closer to the water (24 inch drop) than most boats and Captain Andy is great at it.

Drift diving is done all over the world, why not here? Actually in our area the currents that we drift dive in are for the most part very weak to almost non-existence unless it is a drift dive setup for very advanced divers. It is the idea of diving where you want to, not having to look for the anchor, better coverage for hunters and sightseers and having the boat come and pick you up that is the best part. Of course this type of diving does require some extra knowledge and taking a class is the best, even better if it is held on the boat and you learn as you go.

It only seemed natural when setting up the class to have the person who does the most drift diving in our area and who already teaches it to the Ventura College class to teach the class on the Sunfish.

So here is the scoop; The cost is \$165.00 (\$135.00 for boat and \$30.00 for class) and includes the boat trip with food and air (limited to 16), instruction by qualified NAUI instructor (Mickey DeFazio), drift dive handout with test, surface signal tube (Trident Big Stick), Sunfish drift diving card (NAUI card available for added cost) and a spot marked on your Sunfish frequent dive card. The prerequisite is; Open water diver and over 12 years old. **Please call Bob at (805) 204-0977 to make your reservation.**

* The Sunfish has drift dive only trips on our schedule and by showing your drift dive card you will be eligible to go on these trips and enjoy the benefits of drift diving too*

****To see the fun of drift diving check out this posting on You Tube**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hg3d7YUiGIO>

California Ships to Reefs

The California Ships to Reefs has had some recent changes and is now in full swing. They plan on starting with smaller donated ships/boats and then work up to larger ones. There is some new **important information and they need volunteers.** Please check out there website www.cs2r.org .

Club Sponsorship Program

The Sunfish now has a program for dive clubs to help get you out diving more. We have special discounts on open boats, ½ charters (only for clubs) and free 2 for 1 buddy passes for your clubs raffle. Don't lose out, please contact us for more information.

Contact Us:

Information and reservations:
Call (805) 204-0977

Reservations:
reservations@socaldive.com

Newsletter suggestions:
info@socaldive.com

Website:
www.socaldive.com