

NAUI SOURCES

Dive Safety Through Education

August 19th 2021 Edition

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Cover Photo Provided by: Lica Notomi

Please Note:

All Photos Used in this Newsletter are From NAUI Members!

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Credit: Hal Wells

Members Photo Library

Thank you to all of the members for the photos that they have been sending. It is great to see what NAUI is doing worldwide.

Photos from the NAUI Members Library are featured in NAUI Sources, social media posts, marketing pieces and other NAUI promotions.

The NEXT Contest is to send in your best photo showing a photo of a NAUI First Aid Course. Go to <https://photolibrary.naui.org/> and upload a photo. Be sure to give us a brief description of the photo, what is happening in it and the names of those in the photo. We will announce the winner in the next NAUI Sources. The prize will be an Advanced Diver NES Kit.



Winner of the Sources Photo Contest!

Congratulations to Eric Alo for their submission of this photo for the theme of a NAUI run Charter Boat.

You will be receiving a NES Code of Advanced Diver NES Kit.



Aesthetics and the Experience of a Liveaboard in Raja Ampat: Teak and Romance



I recall clearly my first weeklong liveaboard in Egypt in 1993. The diving was amazing! We spent the better part of one day on the Thistlegorm. In those days there were few computers and we rarely saw another dive boat in the area.

The boat was an old fibreglass fishing vessel, not pretty, but functional. There were no showers and blankets and I really can't describe the food in detail here other than a Spartan aesthetic.

Fast forward to 2018 when Ralf Deutsch, NAUI Instructor and ship lover, decided to work with partners to refit and launch the GAYA BARU INDAH, a wooden Indonesian sailing ship. I met Ralf first on Jeju Island, Korea where he owned and operated a dive shop for many years and even built his own boat while there.

The task to refit a wooden ship in Indonesia is no small matter. Much wood needed replacement, carving, varnishing and painting. Engines were changed, generators, pumps, navigation electronics and compressors installed, bathrooms and cabins built. It was a year-long labor of sweat and love, a marine canvas, and Ralf is a stickler for planning. His almost manic attention to detail shows in the quality of everything on the ship from the brass fittings, to the fabric sails to delicate bedroom linens and the particulars of the diving gear on board. The boat now mirrors the Indonesian penchant for simplicity, tropical hardwoods, and stepping aboard feels like an entry into a bygone era. In essence, such a ship mirrors the context and becomes a satisfying and seamless part of the overall experience. It is nice to be romanced as a diver at sea. With all the romance and tradition onboard, GAYA BARU INDAH has all the modern equipment I would expect on a liveaboard. From watermaker and air conditioning, to Nitrox and delicious local and international food, it's all there. With no more than 8 guests on board the experience is personal and diving happens in small groups of 4, three times a day.



I never thought I would see any dive sites that would rival those I experienced in the Red Sea (including the rarely visited Farasan islands) but I was wrong. Visiting the ship last year and diving from her in Raja Ampat, we could see the veritable highway of marine life that is the ocean in this region. No other region in the world has a greater biodiversity. Sharks, rays, turtles and dugongs are protected and we were losing count of the animals seen on a single dive. The visibility is just staggering; Agoraphobia under water! Surface intervals can be just as spectacular as the dives with groups of uninhabited islands rising sharply from the sea.



GAYA BARU INDAH is moored and based in Raja Ampat, and will be put to sea again once the Covid crisis is resolved. Check out www.bigblueindonesia.com for updates regarding dive trips and scheduling. Cruises are affordable, last from 7 to 12 days and go to different routes in Raja Ampat and other destinations in Eastern Indonesia. Ralf gives a 5% discount to NAUI divers if you book directly with him. Groups and individual divers are equally welcome.

Yours in safe and fun diving,
Dr. Mark Lee (NAUI #58698)

The Adventure Park Cristalina: A Dip in the Energy of Crystals!

Written By/Photos Provided By: Lica Notomi

The Adventure Park Cristalina is an incredible place, literally a dip in the Energy of Crystals. Covering a total area of 6.9 million square meters, it is located approximately 120 km from Brasilia airport in the capital of Brazil. Recognized as the first NAUI Ecological Resort in Brazil, it is close to one of the best-known tourist attractions in the Midwest which is Pedra Chapéu do Sol (the largest Quartz monolith in Latin America supported by a base of less than one meter), known as Sun Hat Stone when translated to English.

Diving in the lagoon of crystals has become a reference in the region and attracts everyone due to its diversity of showing huge walls composed of beautiful crystals underwater. In addition to the natural attractions, ecological cement statues and attractions from the mining era are included in the area, all submerged and authorized by environmental authorities.

The Adventure Park is a private and exclusive development of the PRO Platinum NAUI Affiliate, FLUID and has the largest crystal lagoon in the region. The water sits at an average temperature of 22 to 30 degrees Celsius and has visibility exceeding 20 meters in a wonderful turquoise blue tone at the high season, which is from July to October, making the diving something unique. The blue color is primarily caused by the incidence of the light and the consequent reflection effect caused by rocky sedimentation of crystals on its bottom. The concept of Fluid facilities covers everything from safety to comfort, providing all infrastructure needed for divers and non-divers who want to engage in an expedition at the surface or underwater.





The diving takes the adventurer through the history of crystal mining in the region that began in the '50s. Walls and small crevices filled with crystals that shine underwater by lights. There are also small caves with ceilings filled with crystals.

Adventure Park is a 4 stages project and nowadays is in stage 2 since the 3rd stage starts in August. Currently, the park already has several adventure activities available, including food facilities and full support for the adventurous diver and his family.

By walking in Pedra Chapéu do Sol, and crossing over suspended bridges and lush rock formations, as well as the funny tour done by SUP, kayak, and motor quads, it all will fill up the day after incredible dives and baths in the crystal lagoon (improved by the energy of the crystals), making your day unforgettable. Feeling the energy of this place is something quite unique.

The complete project foresees hotel structures on site, as well as the largest diving training pool in the region, being approximately 20 meters deep. Areas for training, shipwrecks and caves, as well as a boat simulator, are planned.



About Fluid:

Fluid is a Platinum PRO Center NAUI managed by Instructor Trainer IT 56303 Frank Bastos and Instructor I 60926 Edmilson Rocha. It is a visionary company, always linked to Marketing innovations, training and business opportunities focused on diving and adventure tourism. Headquartered in Brasília, it has been training countless divers of different levels always following the NAUI standards and their strict training characteristics to the letter.
 Site: www.e-fluid.com.br
 Instagram: @adventurepark.cristalina ou @fluidmergulho
 Email: contato@e-fluid.com.br

Why Lebanon?

Most of you will probably have heard of the country Lebanon, but in what way, in what regard? Do you actually know where it is located and did anyone ever tell you there is scuba diving in Lebanon? Did you know that Lebanon has a very high concentration of NAUI members per inhabitants?

Enough questions, let me give you some answers!

If you want to learn about a country, the first step is location! Lebanon is located at the eastern side of the Mediterranean sea, next to Turkey and Israel. It has both a Christian and Muslim community and influences from both Europe and the Arabic world, a very unique concept! Lebanon's landscape is super diverse, from high ranging mountains and valleys which are filled with VERY ancient monuments, fields, cities and more! The very famous city of Heliopolis is located within the borders of Lebanon as well!

And next, there are of course beaches facing the clear blue waters of the Mediterranean Sea. Now getting down to business, that is where you want to be!

Or rather, beneath the surface, in the sea is where you want to be and so the local community of scuba divers in Lebanon realize this!



Under the guidance of Mr Sassine Alain, the NAUI Representative for Lebanon, one of the largest (if not the largest community) of NAUI professionals (per inhabitants) has been established here.

And this is quite remarkable, so let me explain you why!

Lebanon is not the easiest country to live in! Facing political problems for years now, the country has put a seize on bank accounts, so the local people have a hard time even accessing there own savings.

Next on the list, a large amount of problems just getting petrol/fuel, so imagine how difficult it may be trying to run your dive boats.

I could go on, but at the end of the day, it is not the problems we want to talk about!

It is the exemplary position of the NAUI community in Lebanon!



NAUI in Lebanon is outstanding and world class. Although there is very limited tourism in Lebanon, the NAUI professionals train local people for diving and all ranges of diving/courses are offered. A large technical diving NAUI community exists as well! Comparing it by numbers, NAUI has about 70-85% of the diving market in Lebanon!

During COVID, in the year 2020, NAUI members achieved the highest numbers of professional training within the whole area of Europe! Just imagine what an incredible amount of training that is! NAUI and scuba diving has become so important in Lebanon that locals prefer spending the little money they can get from their bank accounts on scuba diving rather than on other sports.

The way that Mr Sassine promotes NAUI in Lebanon is amazing! He is personally responsible for the set up of a complete NAUI office, free of charges for NAUI, where the high ranking NAUI courses can be taught, and guests can be invited to have meetings and see NAUI grow!

A leading example to us all!

When we (Karen Erens and me, Jean-Marc Claes) had the chance to visit Lebanon in 2019, by invitation of Mr Sassine Alain, we were blown away by its beauty, above and beyond the surface.

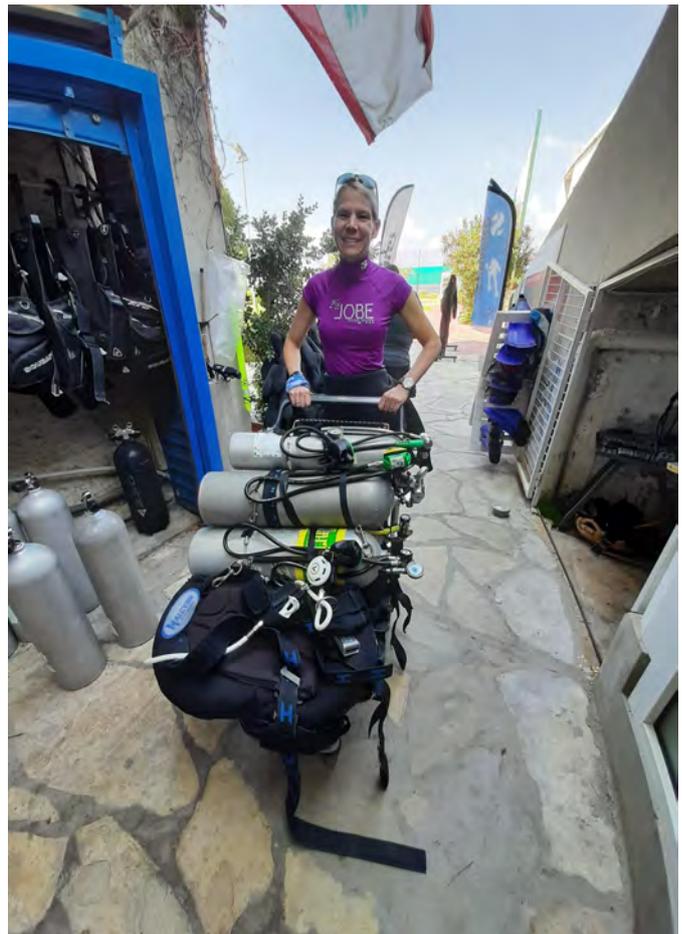
Alain took us to all the areas of the country, even visiting Heliopolis, but also to visit the most remote dive centres for some excellent scuba diving! Wrecks and reefs are obvious, but diving an active underwater volcano with thermal vents or seeing lion fish hunters in action?

We got to see it all and some more! Honestly, I could write a book about the "five days in Lebanon we have spent" and this 'short' article does not do it right.

What I will always remember is the 'atmosphere' within the diving community. How closely technical dives are mixed with recreational divers, how female divers are on the same level as male divers (and abundant). Like Alain said to me: If you do not show it all to each and everyone, how will they ever start doing it??

I think that phrase is about the way to understand Lebanon! We do it and we show it!

Many thanks go to Alain and the dozens of Naui members we met on our trip there. I have dived in 100+ countries, but Lebanon tops the list in hospitality!



Join Us for the Next NAUI Talk

Every two weeks the NAUI Marketing department runs the NAUI Talk webinar series with guest presenters, speakers, and discussions. Each topic is an opportunity for NAUI members around the world to build and succeed in their businesses. Sessions range from 30-60 minutes, time well spent!

The next session will be on Tuesday August 24th at 2 pm EST where we will feature “Increasing your bottom line means profits!” We will look at ideas and strategies to help increase your profits by increasing your bottom line. This is a valuable strategy for NAUI members. The invitations will go out, but why wait?

Use the link below and sign up now! Feel free to pass this link on to your fellow divers!

Topic: NAUI Talk - Increasing Your Bottom Line Means Profits

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pMT1D3nWQIuwfW0TtxO7mg



Upcoming Talks:

August 24th: Increasing your bottom line means profits!

September 7th: Plan your next season for success!

Check out Previous sessions of NAUI Talk by going to NAUI TV -

Click here: <https://www.youtube.com/c/NAUITV>



Divers Build a Better Dive Site For Others

For many divers we are lucky enough to have a local dive site that we can call “old reliable”. It is the one that you have been to many times. It is the one that was there for you. For some of us, we go the extra step to make it even better for all divers.

Instead of wishing for a new site, why not re-invent the one that you have been enjoying for so long by making it better for all divers, new and experienced alike?

Thanks to Todd Shannon and his crew at Mississauga Diving in southern Ontario, Canada this is now a reality at the Humber Bay Scuba Park. The Humber Bay dive site is a very popular place for local divers and caters to many different levels of divers. People have been there for the open water testing dives, while for others it is a place to work on courses and skills that range from beginner through to Intro to Tech. It is also a place for people to enjoy a local dive with friends. This dive site boasts several items have been there for years as well as some more recent additions. Todd and his crew took the time to see how they could improve the site to make it even better for others.



Their group has recently installed a line system at the Humber Bay dive site so that there is a path for newer divers to safely follow and well as providing navigational points for more advanced people. This will greatly increase the use of the site as a training tool, for skill development as well as for enjoyment. Many stores, clubs, and independent instructors from across various agencies will be able to profit from this wonderful expansion. Todd has provided photos which include a map for others, which you can see here in the article.

In addition, they added specially designed arrows that both point the direction to go as well as promote NAUI.

Divers building dive sites for others – what a fantastic idea!

The next time you are at your local dive site – think about how you could change it for the good for everyone!

Humber Bay Scuba Park



Announcements / News

Check out what NAUI Members are doing and let us list your events on the NAUI Sources Site. These can be courses, Environmental Clean Ups, or more. Simply email your event information to marketing@nauai.org and help us keep NAUI divers informed.

<https://sources.nauai.org/category/news/>



Credit: Gary Sun Shao Wu



Credit: Carolyn Wagner

Promote your events!

Take a look at upcoming courses, environmental clean ups, special events and more. Don't forget to tell us about your events so that we can list them too. Simply email your event information to marketing@nauai.org and help us keep NAUI divers informed.

<https://www.nauai.org/events/>



SCUBA Industry Careers – Check the NAUI jobs!

Looking for a career change? Are you looking for a NAUI Dive Professional? This is the place to go. Posting career opportunities is simple. All you need to do is to email the job title, description, location and who interested members should contact to marketing@nauai.org and we will get the message out to NAUI members.

<https://www.nauai.org/careers/>



Credit: Alvanir S. Oliveira



An aerial photograph of a river with clear, turquoise water. On the right bank, there is a small building with a brown roof and a parking lot with several cars. The river is bordered by rocky, vegetated banks. In the lower left, two people are kayaking on the water.

**That's All for
this Week,
But...**

**For NAUI Sources to
Continue to Provide an
Amazing Newsletter, We
Need Help from You!**

**Send in your Articles, Photos, Events, and
Anything Else that you want to share with
the rest of the NAUI Community, we look
forward to receiving your content, which
you can send to marketing@nau.org.**