Aruba diving a great leveler by Anne Mary

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The tiny Caribbean island of Aruba is possibly as close as it gets to a paradise isle, with perfect all year-round weather, miles of beautiful white sandy beaches, wonderfully welcoming locals and lots of opportunities for land and water based activities to pass the time. Annually, over three quarters of a million international visitors enjoy the delights of this special place, located about 12 degrees north of the equator, around 18 miles from Venezuela. A high proportion of these tourists are drawn by the marvelous underwater experiences to be sampled, as Aruba diving is renowned throughout the world. Indeed the abundance of marine life and dozens of shipwrecks close to shore, make the scuba diving here a must for all enthusiasts.

With over 40 sites to choose from, and a program of preservation taking place amongst its numerous reefs, Aruba diving continues to thrive. Amongst the sea life that can be spotted are Moray eels, octopuses, barracudas, turtles, sea-horses, sting-rays, scorpion fish, and nurse sharks. There are many more that are incredible in color, but probably need to be researched upon returning to the surface, as the numbers of different creatures are astonishing, and in most cases will never have been seen before. The memories to be taken away from the dives will stay a lifetime, and the lure will very often prove too great, hence the huge amount of people who come back time after time.

There is a whole term of history lessons sitting just beneath the waves, with some amazing stories to be heard surrounding some of the more famous shipwrecks, especially those dating back to the second World War. Most of the dive sites are situated just off the western and southern coasts of the island, not too far from all the leading hotels on Palm Beach, meaning that all the tourists are very well cared for, with top quality facilities to make their stay as near perfect as could be.

Aruba diving plays a big part in the island's economy, therefore safety is a major issue. Professional training is given before anybody is permitted to partake. For those who wish to take the activity a little more serious, the training is more thorough. Very often when being taken out on a boat by one of the dive operators, it is likely that there will be a complete contrast in the levels people are at, but the operators reputations are at stake, so you can be certain that you will be looked after and given maximum attention, when necessary, without lessening the enjoyment of the dive.

Basically, it does not matter whether you are an expert diver, or on your first trip, either way you will have a fabulous experience. It is quite possible that a visitor really fancies having a go, but are a little anxious, but it is incredible just what a short period of tuition can do to the confidence, and before you know it, you are swimming in and around wondrous sights, and exploring a world that is both breathtaking and beyond previous comprehension.

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There is a whole host of dive operators offering their services, many to be found at a www.arubaprivatediving.com for a great scuba experience in Aruba. There are so many sites to choose from, which guarantees that your a Aruba diving adventure will be totally fulfilling.

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