

WHAT IS SCUBA DIVING?

Scuba /'sk(y)-ba/ n [Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus]: An apparatus used for breathing while swimming underwater.

DIVER /'di-var/ n I: One that dives' 2a: A person who stays underwater for long periods by having air supplied from the surface or by carrying a supply of compressed air.

While these definitions may suffice for use in Webster's Dictionary, they do not even begin to approach what diving means to a diver.

Imagine slowly cruising over a coral reef while jewel-like fish dart in and about brightly colored sea fans. Perhaps you'd rather visit the tomb of a ship that the sea claimed as her own and which now lies quietly beneath the surface; or how about feasting on the "big one" that you stalked and hunted only hours before?

To a diver, diving is all of these. . . and more. It is the serenity of crystalline waters over a tropic reef, it is the intrigue of personally observing the beauty that nature has kept hidden from all but a relatively few humans. Diving is also the excitement and challenge of exploring the Earth's "Final Frontier" - a frontier that has remained a mystery that to this day, remains unconquered.

This is the world that we want to introduce you to, the "other" three-fourths of our planet.

WHO DIVES?

Doctors, students, housewives, engineers, secretaries can dive. Our sport is one that knows no sex or age. Men and women of all ages and backgrounds enjoy SCUBA Diving with equal enthusiasm. All it takes is a love of the water combined with the basic skills learned in a Diving Certification Program and almost

anyone can become a proud member of the diving community.

WHY DIVE?

Excitement? Adventure? There are almost as many reasons as there are divers, but the fact is that each participant achieves his or her own level of satisfaction from diving.

Diving provides a variety of interests for a variety of people - photography, collecting artifacts, marine biology, spear fishing, or just plain sight seeing, to name a few.

So, no matter whom you are or what your interests are: there is an aspect of diving that will interest and thrill you beyond your wildest expectations!

THE SCUBA HUT

Centrally located at Balto. - Annapolis Blvd. & Ritchie Hwy. in Glen Bumie, "Hut" was founded to meet the need for friendly, reliable service to divers throughout the Baltimore metropolitan area.

We're easy to find; just minutes from the Baltimore Beltway, in Anne Arundel County. Stop in and see us anytime - we're open from 10a.m. - 8 p.m. everyday except Tuesday and Saturdays (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) We're closed on Sundays.

If you think you may be interested in SCUBA Diving as a hobby; want to update your present diving system; or just want to chat with our staff of professionals – come on into 139 Delaware Ave.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Like any sport - practice, combined with a thorough knowledge of its techniques, makes active participation not only safer, but also considerably more enjoyable.

At the SCUBA HUT, this philosophy is expounded in our various certification programs. Our highly qualified instructors have logged a combined total of more than 60 years of diving and instructional experience.

Instruction isn't only responsibility - we won't certify you and forget you. Our instructors are always available to help you with your selection of diving systems and to answer any questions that you might have. In addition, our continuing education programs such as OWD (Open Water Diver) are designed not only to keep you abreast of the latest diving techniques, but also to further insure that our students are capable of handling all diving situations.

The diving industry has prided itself over the years on the success of its self-imposed rules and regulations. Equipment manufacturers and dive shops alike are all dedicated to making your diving as safe and pleasurable an experience as possible.

Each one of our instructors has successfully completed a grueling 120-hour program approved by all of the major certifying organizations in the country: An achievement afforded to a relatively small percentage of the diving experiences, assures all our students of the best instruction available.

INSTRUCTION

A team of professionals acknowledged as instructors only after they have demonstrated their competence as divers and then successfully completed the rigorous Instructors Clinic staffs our Maryland School of Diving.

Quality instruction, plus our full complement of training programs, assures that each one of our students is adequately prepared to safely meet the challenges presented by SCUBA Diving.

Our Basic - Open Water program (ages 15 and above) consists of 22 hours of intense study and pool training. Tests are given to monitor the progress of the student and to assure that he or she thoroughly understands the material presented. The entire program is culminated by an openwater "check out" dive, during which students demonstrate their proficiency in the "water skills" that were developed throughout the course. Successful completion of this program entitles participants to all privileges afforded to certified divers.

A Junior Program, similar to the basic course, is designed for those individuals under age 12 who wish to enjoy the sport of diving. However, divers with a "Junior" certification must dive under the supervision of a fully qualified diver.

For those who wish to upgrade their Basic Certificate following the initial OWD program, participants may then be "certified" in any of a number of additional **facts**, such as NITROX, wreck diving, night diving, etc.

In addition, the SCUBA HUT offers a number of specialty courses in underwater photography, spearfishing, lobstering, and others too numerous to mention.

Complete schedules of all our course dates are available at the SCUBA HUT. Feel free to stop in anytime - we'll be more than glad to discuss, in greater detail, any facts concerning our certification programs; or stop in to see what diving is all about.

WE'D REALLY LIKE TO MEET YOU!

Dive Sites and Tours

One of the most frequently asked questions by prospective divers is "Where do you dive around here?"

The answer is simple: "What do you prefer - take your pick." Over the years, we at the SCUBA HUT have developed a repertoire of dive locations that is unparalleled anywhere. We dive in quarries, rivers, the Chesapeake Bay, and the mighty Atlantic - within a few hours drive from Baltimore.

We can also take you to a remote tropical island like San Salvadore, Andros, or Cozumel; or to a plush resort in Antigua or Bermuda.

In short, diving opportunities through the "Hut" are almost limitless. Throughout an entire year, hardly a week goes by that we can't put you in the water - somewhere.

Stop in and check our dive calendar - you'll be surprised at "Where we dive around here!"



