



SIREN FLEET

Palau, Full/New Moon Spawning with Unique Expeditions

Unique Expeditions

Siren Fleet are excited to announce that they have teamed up with Paul Collins and Richard Barnden of Sam's Tours Unique Dive Expeditions to offer our guests something truly exceptional in Palau. Divers joining the Palau Siren on these cruises will have a chance to witness one of the most spectacular natural events on earth, the spawning aggregations of the Bumphead Parrotfish and the Red Snapper.

These aggregations of Bumphead Parrotfish (*Bolbomeoton Muricatum*) and Red Snapper (*Lutjanus Bohar*) occur during the new and full moon lunar cycles. Imagine seeing thousands of Bumphead Parrotfish or tens of thousands of Red Snappers in one area, at one particular time each month. Imagine seeing Bull Sharks and Oceanic Blacktips actively hunting within the large school of Red Snapper. It is something only a select few people ever get to witness and you can now be one of them!

In addition to these special aggregation dives, Paul and Richard have pioneered 'Blackwater' diving in Palau. Imagine rolling off the boat in the pitch black of night, sometimes many miles away from the shallow water of the reefs, to watch one of the largest migrations on earth as all manner of weird and wonderful creatures from the depths head closer to the surface to feed. From post larval fish to Cephalopods, many smaller than your finger nail, these amazing dives present some of weirdest creatures you are ever likely to see without a submarine.

During these special Palau Siren trips, Paul and Richard will also deliver a number of presentations about these unique dives. These talks will cover everything from the ecology of these events to the best way to photograph them.

We will split the group into two teams of 8 with Richard and Paul taking only 8 people to these spectacular events each day, thereby maximizing the experience and ensuring that we only observe, not interfere with, this spectacular behavior.

Even better, for Siren Fleet guests there is no additional charge for this extraordinary adventure! Please note, however, that these dives are only for the experienced diver as there can often be very strong currents at the sites where the action is happening.

About Paul & Richard

Paul Collins, who holds a Master's Degree in Marine Science, has spent the last 4 years studying the full and new moon cycles and their effect on the marine life, establishing where and when they occur on the reefs in Palau.



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Together with his photo-pro partner, Richard Barnden, they have worked with Sam's Tours Palau to set up Unique Dive Expeditions, which focuses on bringing divers to the right place, at the right moment, so they can also witness these spectacular events.

Richard has published many articles on the marine life in Palau and Paul, an award winning cameraman himself, having worked for the BBC, CNN and many other world class production companies. Most certainly, you can learn a lot from the knowledge of these two experts; not only of the marine life but also how to get that once in a lifetime shot!!

Unique Expeditions Cruises are available on the following limited dates:

- 11- 18 November 2016
- 10- 17 December 2016
- 5- 15 February 2017
- 7- 17 May 2017
- 15- 25 July 2017
- 12- 22 November 2017
- 11- 18 January 2018
- 9- 16 February 2018
- 11- 18 May 2018
- 30 October - 9 November 2018
- 26 November - 6 December 2018