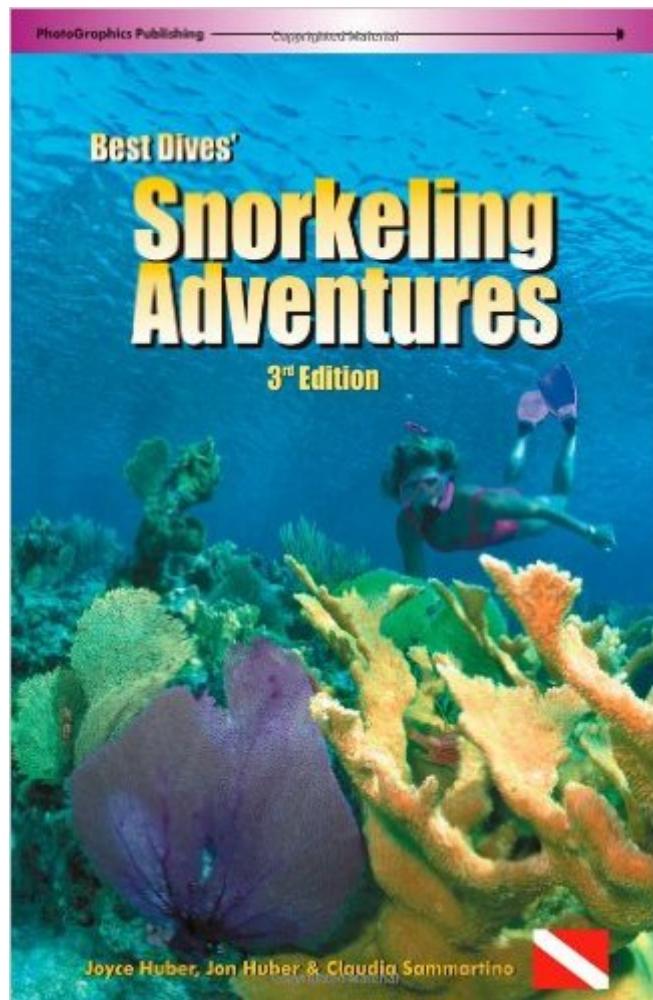


The book was found

Best Dives' Snorkeling Adventures (3rd Edition)



Synopsis

The best places to snorkel in Aruba, along Australia's Great Barrier Reef, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Cozumel and the Yucatan, Curacao, Dominica, Florida Keys, Florida Springs, Galapagos Islands, Guadeloupe, Hawaii, Honduras' Bay Islands, Puerto Rico, Saba, St. Eustatius, St. Lucia, Turks & Caicos, and the United States Virgin Island. This includes starfish-rated beach and boat entry sites, manatee tours, shallow shipwrecks, the best coral gardens, underwater photo tips, snorkeling cruises and what you need to know about sharks.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

While most travel guides give vague descriptions about snorkeling or send me to places with nothing to see, Best Dives Snorkeling Adventures gives complete vacation planning details with maps and directions to terrific places in each destination to snorkel off the beach, sign up for a boat trip. IT COVERS all the best Caribbean, Bahamas and Bermuda snorkeling sites, the dive shops that will take you on boat tours and resorts that are especially dive-friendly. Great for families, novice and experienced divers.

I've recently embraced snorkeling, and one of my biggest frustrations is the number of books that combine snorkeling and diving... and then focus almost wholly on the diving. Since many of us cannot get PADI certified (for example, if we've ever had asthma), we're left with only snippets and

leftovers of information. But that's NOT the case with "Best Dives' Snorkeling Adventures." This book does an excellent job of listing and rating snorkeling sites around the world (though mostly near the USA, Caribbean, and northern South America). It lists recommended dive shops in those areas, and even offers suggestions of where to stay. And best of all? It's for those of us who SNORKEL. I hope that when they put out a 4th edition, Huber, Huber, & Sammartino include a page or so on Florida's Golden Coast (Fort Lauderdale, etc.) or, really, *any* other East Coast US snorkeling sites, assuming any exist (their main focus on the US itself includes the Florida Keys, Florida Springs, and Hawaii). Still, I'm now far better prepared to choose my next snorkeling vacation destination, so I'm rating this 5 stars.

I've been snorkeling and free diving for 20 years, and I've been to many of these places. This book would be helpful to first time visitors to many places and a guide to help choose some destinations. Having said that, it is not complete coverage in any area. In the Caribbean, Cuba (which has many good areas) and Dominican Republic (which was mostly disappointing) are both missing completely. The comments on currents and water visibility are subjective, of course, but helpful for new people to any area none the less. In Belize, Ambergris Key, I would certainly also warn about the constant boat traffic near shore making any shore snorkeling hazardous. The reef hemms the boats in, so you need to boat out to it or take your life in your hands! A very brief mention of a couple areas in Australia, but missing others equally accessible and good. The South Pacific and Coral Sea are still top snorkeling destinations - just a really long ways off.

I love this guide. My dive vacations are strickly to take underwater photos and being able to plan ahead makes my life so much easier. It gives me the airlines, the resorts with prices, when I can expect good weather. It's like having a personal travel planner. I would not plan a Caribbean dive trip without consulting this trustworthy book.

This is a disappointing book. After reading the other reviews, I expected good tips on locations and precise directions on how to get to them. In general, the book has neither. The recommendations for snorkeling locations seem conventional and uninspired, with the authors missing some of the best spots on islands I am familiar with. Dominica without Soufriere crater? Hawaii's Big Island without Kapoho? Please. And to actually find the spots that are listed, you'll have to get directions elsewhere, because this book will often have nothing more specific than "on the island's western coast." Lodging recommendations are likewise uninspired--no hidden gems here, just the basic

resort hotels you might find in a 10-second Google search. In fairness, the book is better with some locations than others. For example, the authors seem pretty familiar with Bonaire, and this book may be a reasonably good source for that island--although there are probably better ones.

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