



D I V I N G
Dive into a dazzling
underwater dreamworld...



EGYPT
Nothing compares!

In and Around Sinai

- P.6 From Dahab through Nuweiba to Taba
- P.7 Sharm El-Sheikh
- P.8 The Ras Mohammed National Park
- P.9 Things to See and Do

In and Around Hurghada and Safaga

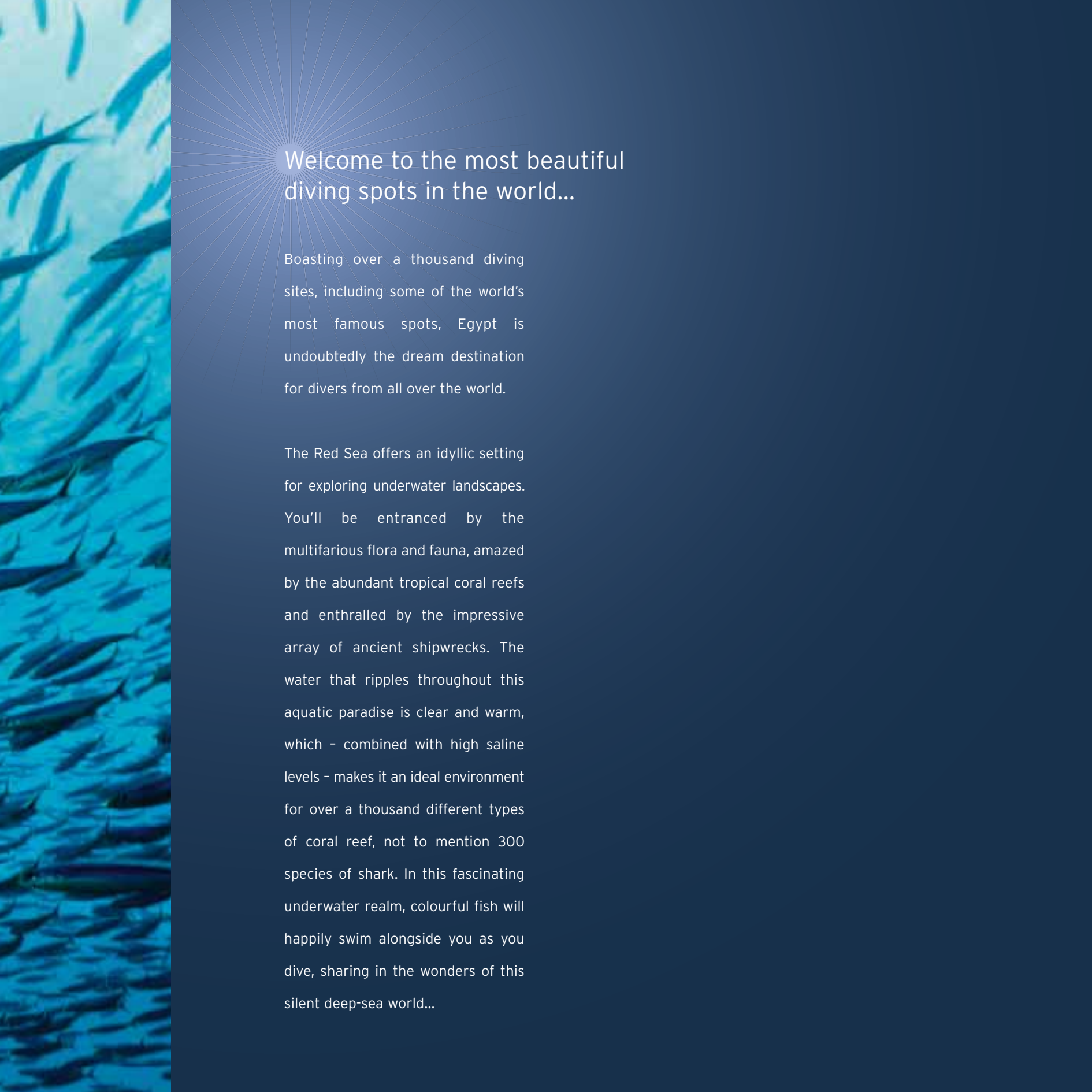
- P.12 El Gouna
- P.13 Hurghada
- P.14 Safaga
- P.15 Things to See and Do

South Coast

- P.18 Al Quseir
- P.19 Marsa Alam
- P.20-21 The Great South

P.22-23 Practical Information





Welcome to the most beautiful diving spots in the world...

Boasting over a thousand diving sites, including some of the world's most famous spots, Egypt is undoubtedly the dream destination for divers from all over the world.

The Red Sea offers an idyllic setting for exploring underwater landscapes. You'll be entranced by the multifarious flora and fauna, amazed by the abundant tropical coral reefs and enthralled by the impressive array of ancient shipwrecks. The water that ripples throughout this aquatic paradise is clear and warm, which - combined with high saline levels - makes it an ideal environment for over a thousand different types of coral reef, not to mention 300 species of shark. In this fascinating underwater realm, colourful fish will happily swim alongside you as you dive, sharing in the wonders of this silent deep-sea world...

The small seaside resort of Dahab lies on the west coast of Sinai and hosts a tempting selection of impressive caves. The steep drops and unusual underwater terrains of these very varied sites are certain to seduce any diver. Only those who are extremely experienced can descend to the thrilling depths of the famous 'Blue Hole' with its 80m deep cavern. Others can ponder the profusion of alcyonarian coral that thrives on the underwater rock face known as The Canyon.



IN AND AROUND SINAI

From DAHAB through NUWEIBA to TABA

DIVING ABILITY

> ALL LEVELS

MARINE LIFE

Napoleon fish, turtles, sharks, barracudas, coral reefs and fauna, stingray, sea lions, red snappers.

UNMISSABLE DIVES

Dahab :

The Canyon

The Blue Hole (depth 120 m)

Taba :

Ras Amira

Nuweiba :

Abu Lou Lou



With over 40 diving sites stretching from Straits of Tiran to Ras Mohammed, plus a rich marine life and numerous shipwrecks, not to mention stunning coral reefs that are renowned for being the most beautiful in the world, all in all it's no wonder that Sharm El-Sheikh is the world's number one diving destination. A myriad of species will dance before your eyes, and the walls will be thronging with colourful alcyonarians (soft corals) and acroporas, some of them up to a metre high. You are certain to be overwhelmed by the majesty of what awaits you under the waves.

IN AND AROUND SINAI

SHARM EL-SHEIKH

DIVING ABILITY

> ALL LEVELS

MARINE LIFE

Groupers fish, angel fish, clown fish, trumpet fish, butterfly fish.

UNMISSABLE DIVES

Thomas Reef - a 50m canyon
Jackson Reef for shark diving

WRECKS

Carina
Dunraven
Kingston
Thistlegorm



Some of the best dives in the Red Sea are to be found at Ras Mohammed, famous for the Thistlegorm wreck which Jacques Cousteau discovered in the 1950s. The sheer walls plunge down to depths of over 800m, and here you can mingle with the multicoloured alcyonarians and rich, pelagic fauna which live in harmony amongst the giant red gorgonians.

IN AND AROUND SINAI

THE RAS MOHAMMED NATIONAL PARK :

DIVING ABILITY

> LEVEL 1

MARINE LIFE

Possibility of seeing eagle and manta rays, whitetip sharks, hammerhead sharks, leopard sharks, whale sharks, large shoals of batfish, surgeonfish, blue runners and red snappers.


UNMISSABLE DIVES

Yolanda Reef
Anemone City
Shark Reef

From the
waters of the
Red Sea
to the **sands**
of **Sinai**

Visit Saint Catherine's Monastery, witness a sunset over Mount Sinai and be enchanted by the soft desert lights.



An underwater scene with a dark blue background. Sunlight rays stream down from the top right corner, illuminating a large, shimmering area of water. A curved, glowing blue line, likely the back of a manta ray, arches across the middle of the frame. The overall atmosphere is serene and mysterious.

"I was following the manta ray as if it had something to show me. Only then did I realise that we were both being pulled towards the rays of the sun..."



Also known as “The Little Venice of the Red Sea”, the El Gouna resort rejoices in having 33 diving sites, some of which are still virgin, and others which are renowned for their mysterious wrecks. Whilst exploring the impressive reefs of Abu Nuhas, discover the colourful coral reefs and dense aquatic fauna which populate the underwater world of The Carnatic, The Chrisoula K, The Giannis D and the Rosalie Moller wrecks.



IN AND AROUND HURGHADA
AND SAFAGA

EL GOUNA

DIVING ABILITY

> ALL LEVELS

MARINE LIFE

Napoleon fish, turtles, rays, giant moray eels and various species of shark.

UNMISSABLE DIVES

Sha'ab El Erg for the Poseidon Garden's coral gardens
Sha'ab Abu Nuhas for its wrecks

WRECKS

Carnatic
Chrisoula K
Giannis D
Kimon M
Rosalie Moller
Ulysses

Hurghada is one of Egypt's most unusual diving sites, a life-size aquarium which is a must for dedicated divers. After threading your way through the swaying branches of giant red gorgonians at Police Station and admiring the fabulous alcyonarian coral at Erg Somaya, you'll find yourself in the magical underwater garden which surrounds the coral reef islands of Shadwan, Giftun and Gubal.



IN AND AROUND HURGHADA
AND SAFAGA

HURGHADA

DIVING ABILITY

> ALL LEVELS

MARINE LIFE




Butterfly fish, rainbow wrasse, rocklings and moray eels, Napoleon fish, turtles, grouper fish, dolphins, blacktip sharks, schools of surgeonfish.

UNMISSABLE DIVES

Police Station for its giant gorgonians
Small Giftun Islands (depth 100m)
Erg Somaya for its alcyonarians

WRECKS

El Mina
Colona IV
Excalibur



Safaga has numerous diving sites which are accessible to everyone, thanks to the excellent visibility and generally weak currents which characterise the local waters. Rich and colourful fauna abound in the sumptuous coral gardens, especially at Ras Abu Soma and Sha'ab Tobia. From Tobia Arbaa to the mythical spot at Panorama Reef, passing through the Middle Reef coral gardens and taking in the Salem Express wreck, any diving trip in this peaceful fishing port is sure to leave you with unforgettable memories.

IN AND AROUND HURGHADA
AND SAFAGA

SAFAGA :

DIVING ABILITY

> ALL LEVELS

MARINE LIFE

Napoleon fish, parrot fish, barracudas, grouper fish, clown fish, rockfish, stingrays, red mullet, multicoloured fish, sharks and turtles.

UNMISSABLE DIVES

Ras Abu Soma and Sha'ab Tobia for their pelagic fauna
Panorama Reef for drops to depths of over 100 m
Middle reef for night diving

WRECKS

Salem Express
Al Kahfain
M.V. Hatour



From El Gouna to Safaga

Visit the 'aquarium' and be astounded by the magnificent collection of fish, before relaxing happily on one of the beaches near these superb sites.







"This was my third ever dive. I think that even if I had been able to speak, I would never have been able to express the emotions I felt on that day..."



This area offers a wealth of interest for divers, including a variety of reefs featuring diverse underwater rock faces and an abundance of fauna, not to mention coral which is almost polychromal in appearance. In addition to the famous Elphinstone reef, the Borbo reef, the coral gardens of Anee So Reef, the caves and canyons of Abu Dabab and the El Gotaab site, Erg Monica and Sok Bahar boast a fantastic array of reef fauna and are also well worth a visit.

SOUTH COAST

AL QUSEIR

DIVING ABILITY

> LEVEL 1

MARINE LIFE

Red anthias, damselflys, rocklings, grouper fish, hammerhead sharks, bigeye thresher sharks, whitetip sharks, nurse sharks, dolphins.

UNMISSABLE DIVES

The Brothers Islands: Big Brother for wrecks and Little Brother for the pelagic fauna

WRECKS

Numidia
Aida

In the Marsa Alam areas, enjoy a dive at Ras Samadai, the 'dolphin reef of the south'. This section of the Red Sea coastline is dedicated to diving, and is peppered with well-preserved sites in the midst of a fabulous nature reserve. At Elphinstone, you can marvel at the amazing pelagic fauna and explore the hoards of coral reefs which are home to countless species.



SOUTH COAST

MARSA ALAM

DIVING ABILITY

> LEVEL 1

MARINE LIFE

Anthias, Napoleon fish, large rays, dolphins.

UNMISSABLE DIVES

Daedalus Reef
Elphinstone Reef for shark diving
Ras Samadai "Dolphin House"

Whilst strong currents, choppy seas and the fact that night diving is prohibited conspire to make diving sites in the south less popular, these sites do offer a host of new challenges for more adventurous divers. Located in southern territorial waters in the centre of the Red Sea, the most desirable diving spots are clustered around Zabargad Island, Rocky Island and Saint John's Reef. However, when atmospheric conditions are favourable, you will be treated to the sight of spectacular coral reefs, some of them still virgin, plus the most extraordinary marine fauna - though this rare experience is only for the most able divers.



SOUTH COAST

THE GREAT SOUTH

DIVING ABILITY

- > EXPERIENCED DIVERS - MUST HAVE COMPLETED A MINIMUM OF 50 DIVES.

MARINE LIFE

Many species of shark: bigeye thresher sharks, whitetip sharks, hammerhead sharks, grey reef sharks and pelagic fish.

UNMISSABLE DIVES

St John's Reef for the black coral
Zabargad Island
Rocky Island





PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Diving centres:

Professionals manage most of the centres, and the necessary equipment is available for use. You will find diving centres in nearly all of the seaside resorts. Please note that these centres are privately owned.

General advice and some but not all safety recommendations:

- Always make your choice on the basis of safety rather than price
- Visit several different centres before deciding
- Choose a diving instructor who speaks your language
- If your last dive was over three months ago, do a few adaptation dives to reacclimatize yourself
- Check that the equipment is clean, and that it has been maintained and stored correctly (not in the sun, for example)
- Check that the tubes, mouthpieces and valves have no leaks
- Check that the diving suits are in good condition
- Make sure that there is oxygen on the boat (in case of an accident)

Diving lessons:

Certificates and diplomas from the following bodies are offered by the diving centres: PADI, NAUI, SSI and CMAS. The clubs offer initiation dives and lessons for beginners, during which learner divers can get to grips with the correct reflexes and automatisms.

Many clubs also offer courses for experienced divers.

Gear:

The clubs rent out equipment and wetsuits at competitive prices, but it is of course possible to use your own equipment.

Wetsuits are required in summer and in winter.

Protection of the coral reefs:

In order to preserve the natural beauty of the coral reefs, you will be asked not to wear gloves and not to touch the flora and fauna. Anyone caught disregarding these rules or damaging the natural environment runs the risk of being fined.

Temperatures

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Air Temperature °C	20	22	23	26	30	31	33	33	31	29	25	22
Water Temperature °C	22	21	22	23	25	26	27	28	27	27	25	24

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.egypt.travel

Egyptian Tourist
Authority Offices Worldwide

Head Office Cairo
(+202) 685 8105

Austria & Hungary
(+43) 158 766 33

Belgium, Luxembourg & Netherlands
(+32) 264 738 07

Canada
(+1) 514 861 4420

China
(+86) 108 447 5181

France
(+33) 1 45 62 94 42

Germany
(+49) 692 523 19

India
(+91) 22 2218 95 43

Italy
(+39) 064 874 219

Japan
(+81) 335 89 06 53

Poland, Czech Republic & Slovakia
(+48) 223 227 002

Russia & Ukraine
(+7) 4951 344 083

Spain & Portugal
(+34) 915 592 121

Sweden, Denmark, Finland & Norway
(+46) 810 2548

Switzerland
(+41) 313 112 210

Turkey & Greece
(+90) 212 231 67 21

United Kingdom & Ireland
(+44) 207 493 5283

USA
(+1) 212 332 2570

