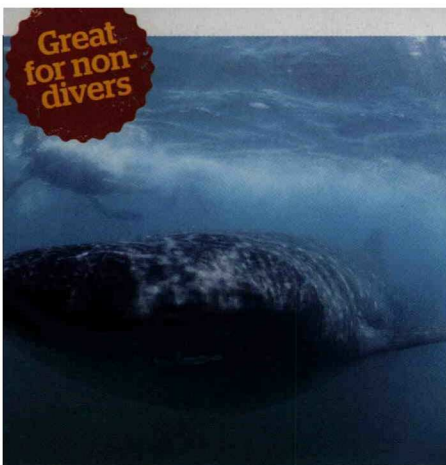




Trips to take.... diving & snorkelling

**Swim with big fish, sunken wrecks
and geological wonders on these
superior sub-aqua adventures**





Philippines Meet a big friendly giant

Get closer to the world's biggest fish on a *Whale Sharks & Volcano* tour with **Imaginative Traveller**. You'll have the chance to swim with these gentle giants – which can grow up to 18m in length, but only feed on plankton – as well as exploring the marvellous Mayon Volcano. Extend your stay with the 13-day *Phenomenal Philippines* trip (£1,450) to experience a few of the archipelago's other 7,000 beautiful islands.

Who: Imaginative Traveller (0845 867 6894, www.imaginative-traveller.com)

When: fortnightly departures, Dec-May

How long: 4 days

How much: from £720 (excl flights)

South Africa Escape beneath the waves

Combine world-class diving with turtle research on a tailor-made trip to the iSimangaliso wetlands of eastern South Africa with **Bridge & Wickers**. Search for whale sharks, dolphins, turtles and whales before surfacing to join a turtle research drive. Best of all? Stay at Rocktail Beach, which is within a marine reserve and has restricted access, and you'll have everything to yourself.

Who: Bridge & Wickers (020 7483 6555, www.bridgeandwickers.co.uk)

When: Nov-Feb

How long: 7 nights

How much: from £2,240 (incl flights)



Iceland See two sub-aqua worlds (almost) collide

Experience a truly unique underwater world: at Silfra, in Iceland's Thingvellir National Park, the American and Eurasian continents meet – and you can dive between them. **Discover the World** offers a half-day *Dive Tour at Silfra* excursion, which delves to this fine fissure, located in a Unesco World Heritage site. It's the world's only dive site located between two tectonic plates and it's a magical place: the water filters from a melted glacier through lava fields and is pure enough to drink, meaning you'll dive with a sensational visibility of up to 100m.

The trip is an easy add-on to any Iceland itinerary – Silfra is only a 45-minute drive from capital Reykjavík, while Thingvellir is part of the country's Golden Circle, a wet-and-wonderful trio of natural super-sights that also includes the thundering curtain of Gullfoss waterfall and the great, gusting geysers of Haukadalur.

Who: Discover the World (01737 214250, www.discover-the-world.co.uk)

When: tailor-made

How long: 1 day

How much: from £166 (excl flights)

Picky traveller?
To browse through thousands of trips, try the **Trip Finder** on our website, wanderlust.co.uk/tripfinder/search



Malta Get wrecked

Advanced divers can explore the underwater wrecks and caves surrounding Malta, Gozo and Comino on **Dive Worldwide's Classic Wrecks of Malta**. See sub-aqua treasures such as the *HMS Maori* and a Blenheim Bomber, with experienced wreck diver and underwater photography expert Peter Collings on hand to provide guidance.

Who: Dive Worldwide (0845 130 6980, www.diveworldwide.com)

When: 8 Oct

How long: 7 nights

How much: from £695 (excl flights)

South Australia Swim with fast fish

You only need to pull on a facemask to discover the thrill of feeding and swimming alongside speeding tuna off the South Australian coast with **Bridge & Wickers**. The tailor-made trip includes wine-tasting in the Barossa Valley, too.

Who: Bridge & Wickers (020 7483 6555, www.bridgeandwickers.co.uk)

When: tailor-made

How long: 5 days

How much: from £799 (excl flights)



Colombia Discover the unknown

The islands of Providencia and San Andrés, 200km from the coast of Nicaragua, are part of the Unesco Seaflower Biosphere Reserve and make for a truly relaxing diving adventure with **Travel The Unknown**. The underwater offerings here include huge crabs and lobsters, turtles, stingrays and reef sharks – but few other people.

Who: Travel The Unknown (020 8823 0705, www.traveltheunknown.com)

When: 21 Dec

How long: 6 days (extended on request)

How much: from £1,650 (incl flights)





Tanzania Get your PADI in paradise

Mafia Island features sheltered dive sites that are perfect for beginners, plus there's a chance of seeing turtles and manta rays. On a tailor-made trip with **Expert Africa** you can get PADI qualified over 4 or 5 intensive days, then relax with a day on the beach and a night in Dar Es Salaam.

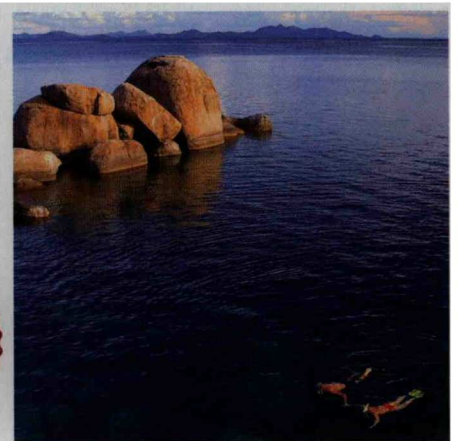
Who: Expert Africa (020 8232 9777, www.expertafrica.com)

When: 1 Sep-19 Dec

How long: 7 days

How much: from £1,172 (excl flights)

Learn
to dive



The Azores Dive closer to home

The archipelago of the Azores is only a short flight away. Join **Regal Dive** to swim with whales and dolphins, and explore underwater caves. After a hard day in the water, enjoy local grub cooked by the vapours of the Furnas hot springs.

Who: Regal Dive (01353 659999, www.regaldive.co.uk)

When: Price based on travel 1-21 Oct

How long: 7 nights

How much: from £645 (incl flights)



Malawi Find creatures wet and wild

Mix snorkelling in Lake Malawi – home to the richest variety of tropical fish of any freshwater lake in the world – with a safari in Liwonde NP before flying to remote Likoma Island – the ‘Galapagos of Africa’ – with **Wilderness Journeys**.

Who: Wilderness Journeys (0131 625 6635, www.wildernessjourneys.com/malawi)

When: tailor-made

How long: 11 days

How much: from £3,275 (excl flights)