



Wining and Diving 2003

The date for the 2003 Wine Dive and Treasure Hunt has been set! On February 22, 2003 we are launching our biggest Treasure Hunt ever at the Abyss Dive Center. The event has been growing over the years and we have included some new activities to make it 36 hours of fun, three times as much as last year!

For those who have missed this fun dive exclusive to the Playa Del Carmen area, it is a treasure hunt in the ocean and an awards dinner for all participants in the evening. None of this is serious diving, it is an opportunity for divers to have fun (like we don't already), meet other divers and win some great prizes. Last year attendees won dive equipment, wetsuits, BCD's, free dinners and technical diving courses

The 2003 event will include our treasure hunt and awards dinner with the addition of a cocktail reception and dive seminar on February 21 and a morning navigation contest that tests the diving skills of competitors. Prizes will be bigger and better with the addition of new dive sponsors.

Event information is located on our website at www.abysssdiveshop.com under FUN THINGS and you can register via email at info@abysssdiveshop.com. The price of the event will remain at \$40.00 USD so you can have twice the fun for the same price. So book your winter getaway and come join us for the event of the year.



Tortuga Reef, Playa's Best Diving

There are not many places in the world where you can drift dive within inches of turtles unless you come across Tortuga Reef in Playa Del Carmen. Tortuga,



meaning turtle in Spanish, is one of the most popular reef dives in the area due to the amount of turtles that live in this area and its gradual slope starting at 15m (.50 ft) and reaching a maximum of 40 m (130 ft) Also typically found in this reef garden are schools of tarpon, 3m silver scaled fish with a distinctive brightly hued stripe along the dorsal area, large barrel sponges, king crabs and angel fish.

This reef is situated by the spawning area of the green and hawksbill turtles hence the amount turtles spotted on each dive. Most divers have never seen turtles so large and in such quantities, which is why we have so many requests for this spectacular dive. It is a must see when diving here in Playa!



Capitan Cool



Fernando Gio Cool (that really is his family name), a native Yucatan Mexican, is one of the longest serving Abyss employees on staff. He originally met David Tomlinson, the owner, in Paamul south of Playa Del Carmen where he was the boat captain and has continued a working and personal relationship with us for over 6 years. He is a certified dive master and boat captain with over 9 years experience in the industry. His wife and three children, aged 7, 5 and 3 live and go to school in Playa. He is the COOLEST of the Cool....



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