

Trip #22 - 2013 | Monday 30th September to Wednesday 9th October 2013 Special Underwater Photography trip featuring Christopher Bartlett **Signature Itinerary** | Diving Kimbe Bay Reefs, Witu Islands, Fathers Reefs Walindi | Walindi 9 nights | 7.5 dive days

Ensuite Twin/Double Cabin - \$3,945 per person Ensuite Single Cabin - \$4,325 per person

Inclusions

9 nights ensuite accommodation on board MV FeBrina as reserved, all meals and snacks, unlimited tea and coffee, complimentary wine with dinner, final night dinner at Walindi Plantation Resort, 7.5 days diving, 4 or 5 dives per day, filled tanks, weight belt and weights, return airport transfers to and from Hoskins airport/Walindi, light laundry service daily.

** Theoretical presentations and personalized underwater photographic instruction presented by Christopher Bartlett **

Note that Environmental and Safety Fees are not included in the trip cost, however will be added to the invoice to be paid in advance as noted.

Not included

Flights, bar expenses, soft drink and bottled water (other than complimentary wine with dinner), nitrox, equipment hire, any meals taken at Walindi prior to boarding MV FeBrina or after disembarkation from the boat, souvenirs or items of a personal nature, gratuities. Please note that 10% GST applies to all purchases made within Papua New Guinea.

Additional Costs Environmental and Safety Fees - \$54 per person, to be paid with trip cost in advance of arrival. Note that E&S Fees are subject to change and payable at current rate at time of final payment.

Nitrox – available as a package for all dives during the trip = \$200 per person (ex GST) or \$10 per casual fill. Please advise if you would prefer to pay in advance. **Equipment Hire** – Limited dive equipment and sizes are kept on board for hire. Please check on availability prior to arrival. If needed, gear hire can be arranged from Walindi Resort with advance notice.

Alcohol/Bar - Local beers are available on board for a cost of \$4 (SP) and \$5 (SP Export). Softdrinks are available at a cost of \$3 each (please advise in advance if you have any preferences). Bottled water is available at a cost of \$3 each, however please note that the desalinated water on board FeBrina is perfectly okay for drinking. Wine is available by the bottle or glass at cost for any time other than with dinner, however we do recommend that once you start drinking for the day, you cease diving that day.

These additional costs are current as at 2012 and are subject to increase for 2013.

Please note that 10% GST applies to all purchases made on board MV FeBrina and at Walindi Resort once you are in Papua New Guinea.

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Underwater Photography Workshop

An experienced professional photojournalist, Christopher Bartlett started taking underwater photos with a second-hand 2 megapixel Canon in 2005. Since then his work has been published across the globe in publications such as X-Ray, Scuba Diving, Diver (British and North American editions), Divestyle, African Diver, Duik, Dyk, Ultimate Adventure Magazine, Beyond Blue, Diving Australasia, Niugini Blue, Our Way, FHM, Scuba Diver Girls. In 2011, Christopher had three dive magazine cover shots published. He has shot images for brochures and promotional material for clients in the Red Sea, the Caribbean, Eastern and Southern Africa, Papua New Guinea and the Galapagos. You can see some of Christopher's work at www.bartlettimages.com. He is also the water correspondent for the Ecology Global Network http://www.ecology.com/author/christopher-bartlett

The FeBrina's signature itinerary provides an ideal range of subjects from wide-angles of colour-filled fans, whips, soft corals and sponges, large schools of pelagic fish, sharks and dolphins, to reefscapes of fish-covered hard corals, and super-macro close-ups of pygmy sea horses, squat lobsters, depressed spider crabs, nudibranchs and many other weird and wonderful molluscs and crustaceans. In the heart of the Coral Triangle, the world's most bio-diverse marine region, this itinerary combines a perfect mix of sea mounts, reefs, walls and muck dives, with a beautifully intact World War II Japanese Zero fighter plane as a bonus.

Add in great viz, easy diving conditions, up to 34 dives and a Captain with 29 years experience diving in Papua New Guinea and this trip is a total winner.

Topics covered in theoretical presentations and applied underwater will be:-

- Equipment preparation and set-up
- Use of aperture and shutter speed
- Composition and backgrounds
- Custom white balance, no-flash photography, silhouettes
- Using strobes for macro and wide angle
- Creative techniques; rear-curtain sync, panning and backlighting
- Sun balls, Snell's window, wide angle macro
- "In-Out" or split image shots
- Underwater guidance and subject finding
- Buoyancy control and breathing
- Digital image photo processing

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Dive Itinerary

Signature Itinerary includes Kimbe Bay reefs, Witu Islands and Fathers Reefs.

Kimbe Bay is home to stunning reefs with those brilliant coral formations you see in all the classic Walindi pics. Beautiful and dramatic sea mounts, coral laden walls and lush coral gardens are all a feature of Kimbe Bay diving, along with myriad fish and invertebrate life the reefs sustain.

Witu Islands are a group of islands, volcanic in origin, situated to the north west of Kimbe Bay. The diving is a mixture of sea mounts rising from deep waters to within metres of the surface (such as Lama shoals), beautiful coral arches and great night dives in the black sand bays of the islands. Lots of interaction with the locals trading fresh fruit and veg out of their canoes too.

Fathers Reefs are a series of off shore reefs, also volcanic in origin. The underwater topography is startlingly different with dramatic reefscapes, arches and swim throughs. Being offshore, these reefs also attract pelagic activity such as sharks, rays, turtles, schools of barracuda, jacks etc.

Our dive guides have been with us for many years and they know the dive sites very well. They have amazing eyes and can point out many creatures that might not normally be seen.

Departure Details

MV FeBrina will depart from Walindi Wharf at approximately 6:00pm on Monday 30th September 2012. The closest airport to the departure point is Hoskins airport and there are daily flights with Air Niugini and Airlines of PNG from Port Moresby to Hoskins.

For guests arriving into Hoskins airport on 30th September, flights will be met by the Walindi Resort shuttle bus and guests transferred to FeBrina at the Walindi Wharf. The drive from Hoskins airport to Walindi is approximately 50 minutes and a chance to take a look at the surrounding countryside ... especially fascinating if you are a first time visitor to Papua New Guinea.

For guests transferring from Walindi Resort, boarding is from 4:00pm. Luggage will be collected from the resort by FeBrina crew during the day. Guests are welcome to use the Walindi Main House facilities after check out from the resort and while waiting for boarding time.

Diving begins first thing Tuesday 1st October 2012.

Disembarkation Details

Diving finishes before lunch time on Tuesday 8th October 2012 and the boat comes into Walindi Wharf in the afternoon. While the crew wash and dry all dive gear, guests have the option of taking a look around the resort and gardens, or alternatively arranging for a sight seeing tour out of Walindi Resort if they wish (at their own expense). FeBrina will tie up at Walindi Wharf overnight, guests remain accommodated on board. Dinner will be a farewell BBQ at Walindi Resort with the crew (included in the trip cost).

Disembarkation is prior to 9:00am on the morning of Wednesday 9th October at Walindi. Airport transfers will be arranged to meet outgoing flights from Hoskins airport on 9th October. For those with early morning flight, early continental breakfast is provided prior to early transfer. For those with later departures, guests are welcome to use the Walindi Resort Main House facilities until their airport transfer.

For guests staying on at Walindi Resort, transfer of your luggage to your resort accommodation will be arranged during the morning.