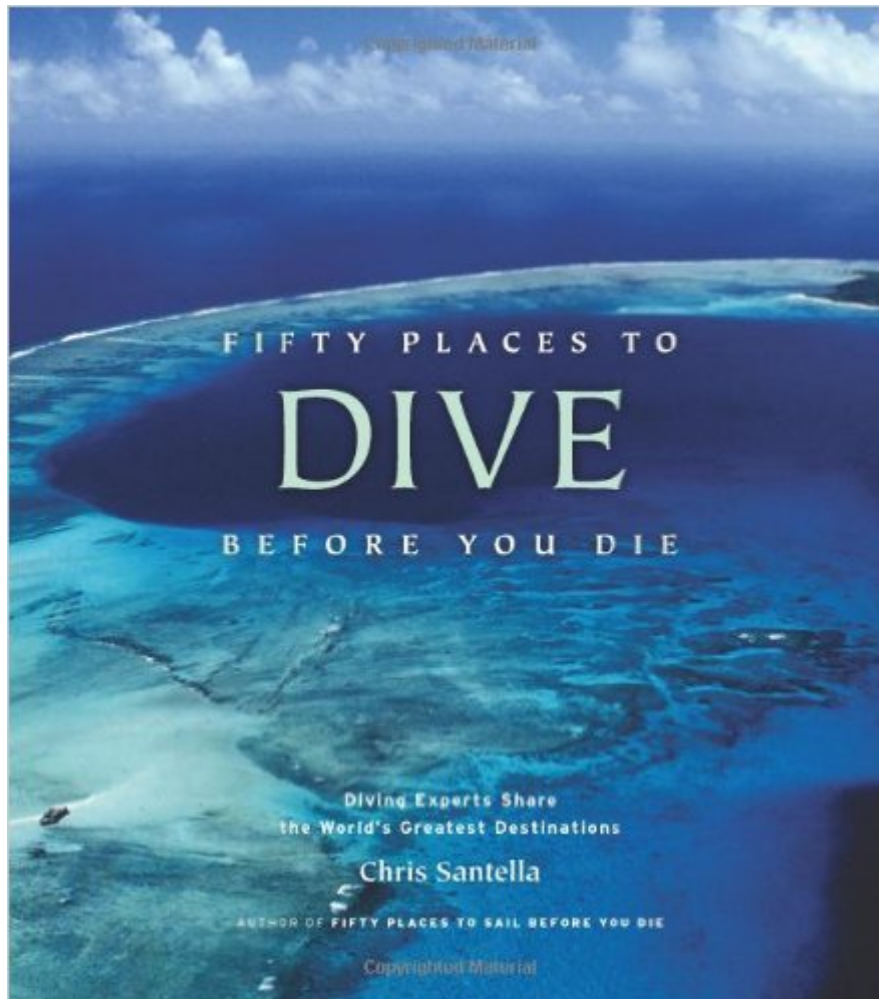


The book was found

Fifty Places To Dive Before You Die: Diving Experts Share The World's Greatest Destinations



Synopsis

The earth's oceans hold many wondrous surprises; be they the small, colorful critters off the coast of Papua New Guinea, opportunistic red demon squids in the Sea of Cortes, or naval wrecks in the lagoon of Bikini Atoll. In *Fifty Places to Dive Before You Die* Chris Santella has invited diving experts from around the world to share some of their favorite destinations, so ardent divers can experience these underwater wonders for themselves; either on location in their SCUBA gear, or at home in their armchair. The fifth in Santella's bestselling *Fifty Places* series, the book takes divers from hot-spot destinations like Raja Ampat (off the coast of West Guinea) to old Caribbean favorites like Grand Cayman Isles. Readers will swim among whale sharks off Myanmar, befriend wolf eels off the coast of Maine, and marvel at the giant mola mola of Lembongan, Indonesia. These wonderful creatures; plus the brilliant coral reefs that often provide their backdrop; are captured in 40 gorgeous color photos from the world's greatest underwater photographers. And for readers who want to travel to these breathtaking locales, Santella provides complete *If You Go* suggestions to help you plan your trip.

Book Information

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[Recreation > Scuba](#) #87 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports](#)

Customer Reviews

I bought this for my husband for Christmas. We're avid divers, and I thought it would be a book that would inspire us to travel to different places to dive. I found nothing of substance here- not a lot of detail about either the places or pictures that would inspire someone to travel to these places. Save

your money...

I thoroughly enjoyed this book and read it cover to cover within 2 days. It's a fast read. Each dive site gets about a 2 and 1/2 page description (some destinations get slightly more) with a dive expert giving a brief vignette on some of the highlights they have encountered at the site. The sites range from novice-friendly to much more complicated (for example, the first site listed is in Antarctica... not exactly luxury warm weather diving!!), but there is enough here to entertain divers of all levels. If you are looking for an in depth analysis of a dive site, this probably isn't the right book for you. The descriptions are just too brief to use the book for that purpose. But if you're just looking for ideas... or if you have a particular large sea creature you are dying to see (i.e. mola molas, humpbacks, various shark species), the book does a good job of pointing out places where you are more-likely to encounter them. It also hits on dive spots where the macro life is the highlight. In response to one other's reviewer's comments about not having a Red Sea or a Cuba destination, that comment is inaccurate. The Red Sea destination mentioned is Sha'ab Rumi, a location off the coast of Sudan. The author recommends a live aboard boat for this trip. For Cuba, the author recommends Jardines de la Reina, though he cautions US citizens who travel there that they do so at their own risk. All in all, a fun book to read on a chilly winter day with a cup of coffee and a tired dog asleep at your feet (at least that's how I did it!).

This book consists of 50 "experts" writing 2-3 short pages on their favorite dive spots... there's no single expert or guiding hand in terms of picking the places, it's random. There's one photo per section and they seem to be stock images for the most part, mostly set above the water line... girl lying on beach, girl seen from above snorkelling, whale's tail as it dives etc. Some of the experts really ARE experts, like Stan Waterman, but many others are simply people who own dive shops and... surprise!... recommend their top spot as the place their dive shop services. There are even a few who are clearly simply flogging their dive safari/specialized trips. You're paying an awful lot for a book with no original images which basically consists of advertising.

I always read reviews on about items I want to buy - I usually actually will not buy anything that has a lot of neg. input on the product - The Title of this book SOLD me. In truth, this is like a very mini size table book or bathroom book that as a diver, would not keep your attention to actually read the whole thing. Save your money and don't buy this one !!!! The pics are not even good in the book.

I bought this book for inspiration for future dive trips, and as a coffee table book. The second it arrived I experienced buyers remorse. The main issue is the lack of photos. Of the maximum of 1 photo per site (a significant % of sites have NO images at all) you get mostly stock images of sea creatures, and no land photos promoting the location (a huge part of the holiday). The few wreck shots are uninspiring (think Truk Lagoon with a single image of a unidentified ship's telecasts rather than holds full of aircraft, torpedos, bottles or ammunition; or Scapa Flow with not a single image!). What a travesty, for what pretends to be 'the list' of iconic locations. Save your money...wish I had.

I ordered \$200 worth of coffee table books from , and this one was my least favorite. I regret buying this book. I thought that it was going to be a large coffee table book, but ended up being very, very small. Not sure what to do with it. I feel like I wasted \$16 or however much money I spent on it. Not happy, thinking about returning it.

Nothing of substance here really. I thought it could make a nice coffee table book but there's almost no pictures and the texts are pretty dry with nothing really to inspire awe or excitement. The cover I feel is the nicest thing about it.

My reviews are usually written with more eloquence. However this book is so bad, I do not see any reason to be articulate or lengthy. Bottom line, this book sucks! 50 separate people (some novices), writing 50 separate paragraphs about 50 separate locations. Example; the section on Bonaire doesn't really focus on Bonaire, the diving, the reefs, the fish at all. But instead goes into detail (mind you one paragraph) about the authors experience when she surfaced and saw a local in a boat. "Hey. Would you mind moving your boat? I'm trying to dive here....Oh. Sorry. I didn't realize it was your reef."....Thus ends the fine chapter on Bonaire. This cowboy is all hat, and no cattle. It's a title that sparks interest and that's about it. By the way, the few pics found in this book are also equally as inept. I have 10 dive books which I regularly share with friends (this one is actually the 11th. But it's so bad, I don't include it as part of my collection). My GF is an avid reader and diver. She also has many dive books. She never complains or writes negative reviews and when she picks up a book, she never puts it down. Well, one day she picked up this book, read one page and yelled out, "This book is terrible!" Note to whomever reads this: This review has gone into way more detail than any chapter found within this book.

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