

# LORD HOWE ISLAND

**Be a volunteer marine conservationist**

**Diving a World Heritage site**

Photo: Michael Legge-Wilkinson, courtesy NSW Marine Parks Authority

**5-11 May, 2012  
7 days/6 nights  
ex-Sydney**

**from A\$3185 including GST per person**

**Price per person includes:**

- ◆ Return flight Sydney to Lord Howe Island, with airport/airline taxes\*.
- ◆ Airport transfers on Lord Howe Island.
- ◆ 6 nights double/twin share accommodation at self-catering units at Leanda Lei.
- ◆ 5 days dive/snorkel, all boat transport, tanks, weights and survey equipment.
- ◆ Welcome and farewell BBQ.

\* Air baggage allowance 14 kg with extra 5-6 kg per person included in price. Airport and airline taxes subject to change.

Prices do not include dive gear rental, travel insurance, meals other than stated, alcohol, laundry, WIFI, personal expenses and excess baggage allowance. All prices are quoted in Australian dollars and are subject to change without notice. Booking conditions apply.

**Real marine monitoring program...**

Photo: Justin Gilligan, courtesy NSW MPA

**...with marine park rangers.**

- ◆ Dive pristine clear waters, home of world famous Ball's Pyramid, Ned's Beach famous for kingfish handfeeding.
- ◆ Crossroads of 5 major ocean currents, unparalleled diversity of coral fish and ocean pelagics.
- ◆ Monitor native and threatened species as part of the marine park management.

**Leanda Lei Apartments:** ideally situated at Middle Beach Road, close to all attractions and amenities set amid tranquil gardens. Units come with fully equipped kitchen, TV, DVD, linen/towels and hairdryer. BBQ, recreation area and library available, WIFI and laundry facilities.

**DiVo is an Australian non-profit organisation, working with marine conservation and research groups to introduce recreational divers to hands-on participation in marine conservation. Learn underwater research protocols, marine life ID, be part of genuine conservation and research, help give back to the oceans.**

**DIVE**  
**VO**luntourism

*Dive with a Difference to Make a Difference*

DiVo Dive Voluntourism Incorporated  
ABN 73 271654 772  
T: +61 2 9818 2993 M: +61 422 563739

Email: [info@divodive.com](mailto:info@divodive.com)  
Website: [www.divodive.com](http://www.divodive.com)

*For bookings and inquiries contact  
Dive Adventures*

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**ADVENTURES**

**YOUR DIVING HOLIDAY SPECIALIST** Lic. no. 2TA 003537

Toll Free: 1800 222 234  
Sydney ph: (02) 9299 4633

E-mail: [info@diveadventures.com.au](mailto:info@diveadventures.com.au)  
Melbourne ph: (03) 9646 5945

# Activities

## Saturday

On your afternoon arrival, you will be given a welcome orientation and BBQ .

## Sunday

**AM** The marine park rangers will conduct a briefing and protocol training for the McColloughs anemonefish-rare endemics monitoring program. The rest of the morning will be spent on one dive and one snorkel transect in the lagoon.

**PM** Digest all this new learning and compare notes in a friendly debrief, where you will also be introduced to data entry protocols.



Justin Gilligan, courtesy NSW MPA

McColloughs anemonefish

## Monday

**AM** We will follow up with a further two dive transects on McColloughs anemonefish-rare endemics. This time we will dive in the outer reefs.

**PM** A shore-based snorkel transect in the lagoon, or an intertidal quadrat survey where you can experience the amazing rockpool biodiversity that Lord Howe has to offer.

## Tuesday

**AM** The marine park rangers will introduce the volunteers to the endangered black cod and Lord Howe turtle species monitoring program. This will be followed by two timed-swim dive surveys.

**PM** Enjoy an afternoon free to explore the heritage community settlement of Lord Howe Island.



Black cod. Dave Harasti, courtesy NSW MPA

## Wednesday

**AM** We will continue with the endangered black cod and Lord Howe turtle species with two timed-swim dive surveys

**PM** Snorkel transect or intertidal quadrat, depending on weather.



LOWRES, courtesy NSW MPA

Winding in a transect tape

## Thursday

**AM** We will conduct a McColloughs anemonefish/rare endemics survey with a goodbye snorkel in the lagoon.

**PM** A final debrief with the marine park rangers on the outcomes of the volunteer monitoring program data. Followed with a well earned rest the rest of the afternoon! Or take an optional naturalist tour to investigate the terrestrial wonders of Lord Howe Island. We will end with a farewell BBQ.

## Friday

**AM** Free and easy.

**PM** Departure.

# WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

**LOCATION AND CLIMATE** Lord Howe Island is about two hours flight to the east of the Australian mainland. Mean temperatures in early May vary between 18-22 °C and water temperatures around 20-22°C. 5-7 mm wet-suit recommended.

**INCLUDED** Self-catering accommodation (shared twin or double), welcome food hamper, airport transfers, land/boat transport on Lord Howe, dive tanks and weights, survey slates and quadrats, welcome and farewell BBQ. We will endeavour to place single travellers in twin shared accommodation with other travellers of the same sex. Single travellers may request a single room subject to availability and payment of single supplement.

**NOT INCLUDED** Dive gear other than tanks and weights, self-catering food and drink, optional land tours, insurance, visas, excess baggage charges; personal items such as phone calls, laundry, drinks etc; airport taxes.

**WHAT THE VOLUNTOURIST SHOULD HAVE** Personal computer (required for data entry), dive computer, torch, reef shoes and dive certification cards (minimum PADI advanced diver). Non-production of certification cards to dive operator will entitle the dive operator to refuse participation for which no refunds will be given. Dive gear subject to 14 kg baggage allowance on Sydney-Lord Howe flights but with extra 5-6 kg per person included in price. Gear available for rental on Lord Howe. Travel and dive insurance highly recommended.

## BOOKING TERMS

*Applicable between you and each of DiVo and Dive Adventures*

**DEPOSIT AND BALANCE** A non refundable deposit of \$300 per person is required to secure a booking. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure. Failure to comply may result in tour cancellation and forfeit of deposit.

**CREDIT CARDS** For any deposit or final balances payable if you elect to pay for your holiday with a credit card, an additional charge of 1% for Visa and Master Card and 3% for Diners and American Express Cards will be added to the invoice value of the booking.

**CANCELLATION** Bookings cancelled by you at any time after confirmation are subject to the forfeit of deposit or payments made, including any additional deposits required by suppliers.

In addition, we may charge any costs charged by the hotel or other contractor which cannot be avoided. This can amount to up to 100% of total land arrangement costs, particularly when cancelling tours and other arrangements within 60 days of departure. You should check what additional cancellation fees apply before paying deposit.

Airfares may attract a cancellation charge up to 100% depending on the conditions of the airfare. Please take out travel insurance, as this may prevent you having to pay these fees, if cancellation is due to circumstances beyond your control. Any refunds due will be available to you after we receive the monies from the airline/operator involved.

**FORCE MAJEURE** Due to weather, transport delays, strikes and other causes beyond our control and that of our contractors and airlines, we reserve the right to cancel the trip or contracted services. We will endeavour to secure refunds, but will not be held responsible for refunds not forthcoming or other travel arrangements affected. All diving and ocean activities are subject to weather conditions. While we will endeavour to organise appropriate replacement activity or secure refunds where possible, refunds for certain fixed costs may not be obtained.

**GROUP DEPARTURE** DiVo charges the trips at cost on a non-profit basis and per person cost is based on a minimum number of 8 participants, therefore we reserve the right to cancel trips (subject to refund of the \$300 deposit) or adjust prices if numbers are not reached.

**CHANGES IN PRICES AND ITINERARIES** We reserve the right to adjust our prices as may be necessary to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates or increases in the cost of fuel, accommodation,

and services in general at any time, up to and including the day of departure of tour. Although no changes to itineraries, hotels or dive locations are anticipated, we reserve the right to make such changes if necessary without notice. If accommodation is not available due to overbooking or other situations through no fault of ours similar standard accommodation will be provided where possible. Amendment of individual itineraries at customer's request will be subject to the terms and conditions of the airline and land service provider.

**UNDERWATER ACTIVITIES** We and our servants, agents and employees do not assume any responsibility or liability for the safety of any participating individual in any activity offered by way of our itinerary including but not by way of limitation, activities of scuba diving and snorkelling. Clients on all diving tours must be aware that the on-site dive operator has sole responsibility for diving activities and has the right to refuse diving to any individual without recompense for reasons of health including instability or suspect or real intoxication or the results thereof, or for any suspect or real inability or incompetence.

**AIRLINE SCHEDULES** If flight schedules changes occur for whatever reason it may be necessary to alter the itineraries. The services of the stipulated airline must be used on the route. Increase in airfares may apply if other carriers are used.

**RESPONSIBILITIES** We accept liability for, but only to the extent of, any loss or damage sustained by you as the result of negligence of that of our employees. We will endeavour that our service providers are of reputable standard, but we do not accept any liability of whatever nature for the acts, omissions, or default, whether negligent or otherwise, of service providers (including airlines, coach or dive operators, boat operators, shipping companies, hoteliers or other persons providing services) over whose conduct we have no direct and exclusive control. We do not accept liability in contract or in tort (actionable wrong) for any injury, damage, loss, delay, additional expenses or inconvenience caused directly or indirectly by force majeure or other events which are beyond our control, or which are not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part including but not limited to war, civil disturbance, fire, floods, unusually severe weather, acts of God, acts of Government or of any other authorities, accidents to or failure of machinery or equipment or industrial action.