

Nassau grouper in spawning colors





Beach bungalows at the Southern Cross Club

GROUPER MOON EXPEDITION Little Cayman Island

Led by Dr. Christy Pattengill-Semmens, REEF Director of Science &

Dr. Brice Semmens, Grouper Moon Scientist

Hosted by the Southern Cross Club, home of barefoot elegance January 20-27, 2008 8 Days/ 7 Nights - 22 maximum participants

This special expedition to the Cayman Islands will coincide with REEF's annual conservation research program, the Grouper Moon Project. The week will feature presentations about spawning aggregations and the research that REEF is conducting in collaboration with the Cayman Islands government and scientists from Oregon State University to better understand and protect the local annual mass spawning aggregation of Nassau grouper. Opportunities to collect information on Nassau grouper migrations and cleaning station behaviors will be available. We will also tour the new marine research station on Little Cayman.

In addition to Grouper Moon activities, fish identification seminars and survey training will be offered throughout the week. These daily slide shows and discussions will include both introductory and advanced identification topics, covering the extraordinary fish biodiversity found on the reefs of Little Cayman Island. REEF fish surveys will be conducted during the daily dives.

This unique trip is a great way to take a dive vacation that counts!

To find out more about the REEF Grouper Moon Project, visit <u>www.reef.org/groupermoon</u>.

Per Person: \$2,595 USD per diver based on double occupancy \$2,070 USD per non-diver based on double occupancy \$3,630 USD per diver based on single occupancy*

*If you are a single and would like a roommate, we will do our best to accommodate your request based on the number and gender of other single participants. However, you will need to pay the single occupancy rate if we cannot match you with a roommate.

Package Includes: 7 nights of accommodations in an air conditioned oceanfront beach bungalow at the all-inclusive Southern Cross Club with daily maid service, diving as stated below, all meals in the club house dining room, all taxes and club service fees, airport transfers on Little Cayman, as well as complimentary use of bicycles, beach towels, and sea kayaks. (http://southerncrossclub.com/main/index.html.)

Diving Details: Diving provided on-property by Southern Cross Club, including six days of two tank morning boat dives and one afternoon single tank boat dive, tanks, weights and belts

Additional Fees:

- \$300.00 REEF Program Fee per person to cover the costs of the trip leader, seminars, and survey materials throughout the week.
- ♦ Airfare to Grand Cayman and from Grand Cayman to Little Cayman
- ♦ Dive staff gratuities

Optional Additional Fees:

- Upgrade to Premium Bungalow, \$90/per person
- ♦ Nitrox Upgrade: \$15 per tank
- Additional afternoon, dusk or night dives
- ♦ Alcoholic beverages

General Information: Located on Little Cayman Island, about 400 miles south of Miami, the Southern Cross Club was founded in 1959 when Little Cayman boasted a population of just 12. Now with a bustling population of about 100, Little Cayman continues to be one of the least developed tropical islands in the western hemisphere. If you dream of escaping to a place with world class diving, few places in the world possess the charm, comfort and hospitality of the Southern Cross Club. The Southern Cross Club provides personalized service and attends to any special request, whether it be individual dietary concerns, a lesson on how to open a coconut, or a tip on the best beach for finding shells. The atmosphere is relaxed, casual, and comfortable. Its 10 air-conditioned beachfront Bungalows are located on the windward side of the island, where an open window allows you to enjoy a fresh tropical breeze and the sound of waves breaking on the barrier reef.

Meals at the Club are casual, healthy and delicious and feature Caribbean and international cuisine.

Dive days at Southern Cross begin with an 8:30 boat departure to the islands world famous walls. Commonly seen underwater are graceful eagle rays, large tarpon, giant sea turtles, swarming silver sides, sharks, friendly grouper, many reef fish and macros, seahorses, rare vermilion sponges and giant basket and barrel sponges. The dive center has counted 293 species of fish in past surveys and is looking forward to receiving your numbers for the 2008 count! Property owner, Peter Hillenbrand, is also an enthusiastic REEF surveyor and will serve as our host.

Airfare: Please contact us for quotes on airfare from your departure city. You will need to fly into Grand Cayman Owen Roberts International Airport (GCM) or Cayman Brac (CYB). Inter-island service between Grand Cayman and Little Cayman (LYB) is provided by Cayman Airways. Inter-island flights are limited so book early.

Deposit Policy: \$700.00 per person at the time of booking

Final Payment Due: November 20, 2007

Cancellation Policy: Please keep in mind the cancellation and revision policies of Southern Cross Club. Within 60 days of arrival (November 21), packages are non-refundable and have no club credits unless you are able to find a replacement for the booking. If guests must cancel up to 61 days prior to arrival, only half of the security deposit will be refunded. There are no refunds for unused or partially used dive packages.

Minimums: Most REEF trips require a minimum number of participants. Trips are subject to cancellation if the minimum requirement is not met. In the event of a trip cancellation, REEF and Southern Cross Club are not responsible for airline tickets purchased for travel to a REEF Field Survey.

We hope you will join us! Please Call the Southern Cross Club Reservation Office to book your space today: 800-899-2582 or email: info@SouthernCrossClub.com