

## Quote of the Month....

"The sea always filled her with longing, though for what she was never sure." — Cornelia Funke

### 'Top Gun Guides' of Indonesia

Indonesia and its vast expanse of 17,000 islands is a 'must-see' world cruising destination and a top guide can ensure a spectacular cruise. Captains are encouraged to make their stay the best it can be while making their life easier by enlisting the services of an experienced 'Top Gun Guide' while in Indonesia, reports Captain Jimmy Blee of APS Indonesia:

"Superyacht cruising in Indonesia is a relatively new experience for local authorities and villagers alike, so the boats themselves tend to make quite an impression when they turn up in some of the more outlying locations. The skills of the on board guide again come forward here, to deal with this attention on the Captain's behalf and in an empathetic and culturally effective manner." Three outstanding 'Top Gun Guides' from APS Indonesia include:



'Top Gun' Ricardo Buxo for APS Tahiti

Ricardo Buxo is a Spanish skipper and diving instructor that left his native Barcelona in 1993 to sail and dive the world. After five years of diving and cruising the Red Sea he moved to Indonesia in 2000 to personally supervise the construction of a 100-foot traditional wooden schooner to be dedicated to diving charters.

Ricardo combines the management of the boat with publishing stories for yacht and diving magazines, and private guiding for yachts visiting Indonesia. Richardo's recently published book, Underwater Paradise, A Diving Guide to Raja Ampat, has proved to be a great publishing success.



'Top Gun' Paul "Bob" Brunskill

Bob left the United Kingdom in 2003 in search of a better life. He was certified to dive in Thailand and began working on 'live aboard' dive boats in Australia. Adventure attracted Bob to Indonesia, with the sheer scale of the diveable ocean and the amount of high quality diving to discover.

For the last 10 years and 4,000 dives later Bob has marked himself as one of the real personalities in the local dive community and is a perfectionist when it comes to quality of dive activity presentation. Additionally Bob has intimate knowledge of all land based and cultural programs APS Indonesia offers.



'Top Gun' Didier Romero

Born in Guadeloupe in the West Indies, Didier grew up in Paris and fell in love with diving, becoming a certified Dive Master Mexico, and working as a dive guide in Playa del Carmen in the Dominican Republic and in Barbados. Traveling through the Caribbean and the Philippines as a dive instructor, he landed in Indonesia in 1999, to become a master instructor for recreational diving as well as a technical diving instructor.

Didier extended his experience (7000+ dives) and knowledge of this wonderful archipelago as a cruise director on 'live aboard' diving boats operating in the Komodo region, Nth Sulawesi, Raja Ampat, Alor and most Eastern locations.

## AYSS PacificNet-Tahiti on June 26<sup>th</sup> Event for Captains/Crews to benefit Red Cross



AYSS and Asia Pacific Superyachts Tahiti are delighted to invite Captains and Crews to join them at PacificNet – Tahiti on June 26, 2014. APS Tahiti and AYSS are proud to join forces with the Red Cross for the first PacificNet to be held in Tahiti at Marina Taina, Papeete, the home of Asia Pacific Superyachts Tahiti Ocean office. Captains and Crews will have a chance to gain Pacific cruising knowledge and meet visiting Regional AYSS Yacht Agents from 17h00 to 19h00.

The same day and place, the Red Cross will have a food and clothing donation bank for all visiting yachts willing to help the organisation assist families in need. Donations will be accepted all day and Mai Tai cocktails and snacks will be served from 17h00 on during the festive event and Red Cross benefit at the Marina Taina. A 'dream world', Tahiti is often synonymous with paradise and French Polynesia is truly one of the best cruising areas in the Pacific.

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## Amazing Asia Pacific Marinas & Anchorages – BORNEO



Information /remarks from [www.southeastasiapilot.com](http://www.southeastasiapilot.com)  
 Asia Pacific Boating and Asia Pacific Superyachts Borneo

Lying to the east of Peninsular Malaysia is the island of Borneo. On the northwest side of this huge island are the two East Malaysian states of Sarawak and Sabah. Sutera Harbour is one of only two marinas in a land with a coastline that's inhospitable when the weather is unpredictable. But Sutera Harbour Marina and Country Club is famous among cruisers on the SE Asian route as one of the top best marinas in the world. Apart from its incredible facilities, (4 pools; gym; bowling alley; squash and tennis courts; cinema; library; hourly a/c bus to town etc.), the resort is filled with gardens, golf course, entertainment and great service

The marina offers 13 spaces of stern-to mooring for Superyachts and according to an article in Asia Pacific Boating: "The marina itself has pontoon berths for yachts from 20 feet up to 70 feet, and many of these are occupied by cruising yachts that are transiting the area between the shift in monsoon seasons (the Northeast Monsoon runs from November through till March, while the Southwest Monsoon runs from May to Sept.). The Northeast Monsoon generally brings drier weather and slightly cooler temperatures. As the "land below the winds" Kota Kinabalu is never threatened by the typhoons that typically run from east-northeast of the Philippines and into the northern reaches of the South China Sea. Though the basin itself is relatively full Superyachts can easily make the turnaround just ahead of the marina entrance and back into their berth. Entering the marina basin is also made easy by the fact that the Sutera Harbour stretch of coastline is well protected by a series of islands just offshore. Indeed, a string of islands creates a natural anchorage area just off from the marina.

The best cruising is to be found in the state of Sabah, enthuses Alvin Teh of APS Borneo: "Sabah's cruising waters from Labuan to Sipadan offer spectacular and beautiful waters, islands and mainland attractions – all accessible as a day or overnight excursion from your yacht." A stopover in Kota Kinabalu at the Sutera Harbor Marina allows for land excursions to the wild interiors of Borneo, diving at Layang and the jewel of Sabah – Sipadan. And for true adventure take a river journey up famed Kinabatangan River to see rare and endangered species including orangutans, proboscis monkeys and pigmy elephants.

## Marina developers racing to solve berthing pains for Asia's rich



Roslan Rahman | AFP | Getty Images

Luxury boats and yachts on display during the Singapore Yacht show at ONE\*15 Marina Club at Sentosa Cove.

As reported in the following article from CNBC Reuters new marinas are on the horizon:

April 27, 2014-The dearth of berths is providing an opportunity for developers such as Malaysia's largest listed property developer UEM Sunrise, which is building facilities in Malaysia's Iskandar region. The area neighbors Singapore and is already home to the Puteri Harbor development.

Further north, the city of Melaka, a world heritage site, is planning to build Southeast Asia's biggest private marina, with some 1,000 berths, Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak said last month. And in the popular Malaysian tourist resort of Langkawi, property firm Tradewinds is developing Perdana Quay, a marina project slated for completion within the next decade.

Thailand, home to the 300-berth Ocean Marina Yacht Club, is also investing in new marinas in resorts including Krabi, hoping to lure more super rich, big-spending tourists to its shores. Yacht brokers estimated that the number of yachts visiting Thailand will increase 31 percent from this year to hit approximately 2,100 by 2016, according to the tourism authority.

Of that total the number of Superyachts, or those more than 24 meters long, is set to grow from 110 currently to more than 190 in the next two years, generating significant income. There are also expansion plans for existing marinas in Indonesia, said Alan Pickering, managing director of yacht broker ProMarine. "Indonesia has such a wonderful cruising ground that the potential for them is enormous," said Pickering. "But they need the marina facilities to support the growth of that industry."

### Yacht Boom

It costs around \$15 billion (8 billion pounds) to build a marina, industry experts say, though estimates vary widely depending on factors including shore side conditions and seabed material. The growth prospects for yacht sales in Southeast Asia, currently among the highest in the world, are encouraging developers to make the investment.

For article in Reuters go to:

<http://www.cnbc.com/id/101617776>

- Andaman Islands
- Maldives
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APS team leaders of agent network in Asia

## Have News?

Shared comments of sea journeys, destinations and news from Owners & Captains & Crew are welcomed!

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