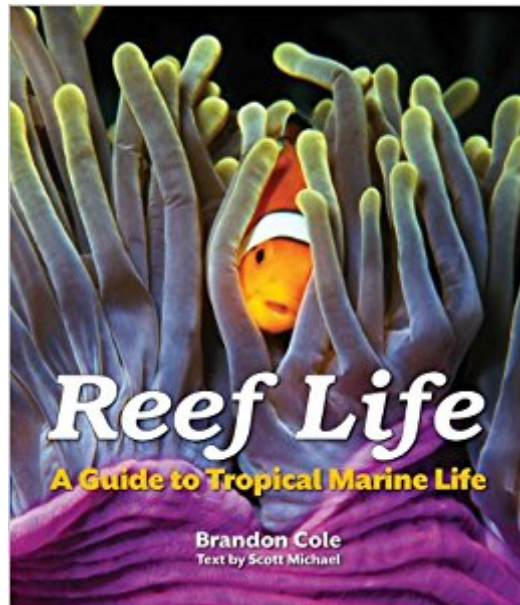




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Reef Life: A Guide To Tropical Marine Life



Synopsis

A practical, up-to-date, comprehensive guidebook for divers, naturalists and students, featuring more than 1000 color photographs of 800 species of ocean life. From tide pools to coral reefs and the open ocean beyond lies a world abounding with an assortment of colorful fish and fascinating creatures. The lure of the life that inhabits the ocean's reefs and open water is no secret to scuba enthusiasts and snorkelers who enjoy the opportunity to gaze upon this wonderful world through their dive masks. Reef Life identifies the most-likely encountered underwater life in the tropical marine environment, featuring more than 800 beautiful color photographs that provide the keys to this magnificent world. A gallery of more than 400 species offers readers an extensive identification guide to the most-likely encountered fishes and features each in detail: name, species, habitat, range and a description particular to the animal covered. With sections on invertebrates and algae, this guide reveals much about the range of animals and plants in the undersea ecosystem. Included is behavioral information on feeding, mimicry, and symbiosis, providing insights into natural survival strategies taking place among animals beneath the ocean surface. The clear, concise descriptions of the myriad of animals in the tropical oceans are collected in this handy, portable and comprehensive reference for use in the field or at the desk. The surveys of the tropical ocean regions and sea life around the world include: The Caribbean The Hawaiian Islands French Polynesia The Fijian Islands The Philippines and South China Sea Micronesia The Indonesian Archipelago Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands The Great Barrier Reef Western Thailand and Andaman Sea The Maldives and Western Indian Ocean The Red Sea Tropical Eastern Pacific.

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Customer Reviews

Anyone fascinated by the underwater world will be riveted by the photos in this richly illustrated guide... Readers can lose themselves in the magnificent environment beneath the sea, observing a parrot fish sleeping in its mucus cocoon and a manta ray being cleaned by two remoras as a diver swims nearby. The text, written by Michael, who has worked as a scientific consultant for National Geographic and the Discovery Channel, is aimed at the novice, but it is a comprehensive resource on the many different aquatic species that make their homes in and around the world's reefs. Each listing gives the creature's dimensions, location and specific details about its behavior. For snorkelers or divers who enjoy identifying the underwater life they have seen, this well researched and impeccably documented book will be an invaluable resource. (Publishers Weekly 2013-04-05)

Identifies hundreds of the most commonly encountered species in tropical marine environments all over the world... Reef Life features more than 1,000 color photographs of 800 species. The ID guide includes the most likely encountered fishes and features name, species, habitat, range and a description particular to the animal covered. Readers will find information on feeding, mimicry and symbiosis. There is also a chapter on conservation. (Sport Diver Magazine 2013-06-01)

Brandon Cole is one of the world's most accomplished underwater photographers and certainly one of the most prolific.... He has put a collection of his pictures together to form a useful guide to tropical marine life. The text is by Scott Michael, a sometime scientific consultant to National Geographic Explorer and Discovery Channel. Six hundred pages make up a weighty volume measuring 16 x 18cm, and half of that is reproduced in the conventional form of a fish-identification book, with a photograph and details of an example of each species. However, much of this book contains chapters on such issues as parental care in reef fish, schooling and shoaling, venom and poison, and cleaner-fish ecology. It even has an appropriately small section on algae. A major section details the different coral reef communities found around the world... There are chapters on elasmobranchs, invertebrates, marine reptiles and marine mammals and all are illustrated, almost without exception, with beautiful pictures by Brandon Cole, although Scott Michael and a few others have filled in the inevitable holes. The text is informative and well sourced without being too wordy. (John Bantin Divernet (Diver Magazine online) 2013-06-01)

This colorful, eye-catching title provides the reader with in-depth text on tropical marine ecosystems accompanied by brilliant photography.... The book centers around the coral belt.... Along with information on the

marine life in these areas the authors provide users with what they are likely to see while diving in these areas... Useful as an identification guide as well as for those who want to browse the incredible photographs. (Mark A. Wilson American Reference Books Annual 2014 2014-08-15)

Brandon Cole is a biologist, wildlife photographer and photojournalist specializing in the marine environment worldwide. His photography has appeared in hundreds of magazines including GEO, National Geographic, Newsweek, Outside, Scientific American and Smithsonian. He lives in Spokane Valley, Washington. Scott W. Michael is an internationally recognized writer, underwater photographer, and researcher who specializes in elasmobranchs (i.e., sharks, skates and rays) and coral reef fishes. He is the author of Reef Sharks and Rays of the World (1994). A scientific consultant for National Geographic Explorer and the Discovery Channel, he lives in Lincoln, Nebraska.

I was recently diving in Roatan Honduras and was overwhelmed by the sheer variety of life on the reefs there. I was looking for a book where it was easy to look up a fish, coral or sponge and put a name to it. This book certainly has all the data, but it's organized in a seemingly random manner. Flipping through looking for a blue fish that I saw can only be done by luck. I don't want to be one of those reviews where I had unrealistic expectations, but I'm not really sure how this book was intended to be used. It's not a cover to cover read and it's not organized by a clear visual taxonomy. Lots of info and nice pix though!

Much larger than i thought, loads of fun facts and great colorful pictures, bought for my best friends son who loves ocean life.

I bought this guide because it not only has fishes, but also a lot of other life forms that you can see at a reef. It is very nice if you want to know the name of whatever you saw while diving and have a short informative text about it. Definitely recommendable.

One of the most comprehensive publications on identifying and learning about reef fish I've seen. Excellent work!

It had every thing I was looking for following a live aboard live trip to the Great Barrier Reef and good information about the sea life's lives. Now I can label the pictures correctly.

This is a beautiful book. The photographs are exceptional and the text is interesting as well. It is a good introduction to the marine life that exists around reefs.

This book covers the marine life of the entire circumtropic zone describing both the critters that inhabit the zone but also describing the marine ecology of the zone. For divers and others who travel throughout the zone, this is the one single book that brings it all together. The book is easy to use, has incredible photos, and very concise and informative descriptions. This is the only guide that one should need to carry.

As an exhibit guide at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, I have found "Reef Life" an excellent source for fascinating stories to share with visitors. The photographs are superb, and the text material is highly informative. I recommend this well-organized, beautifully illustrated, encyclopedic book for anyone interested in marine life in the tropics.

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