

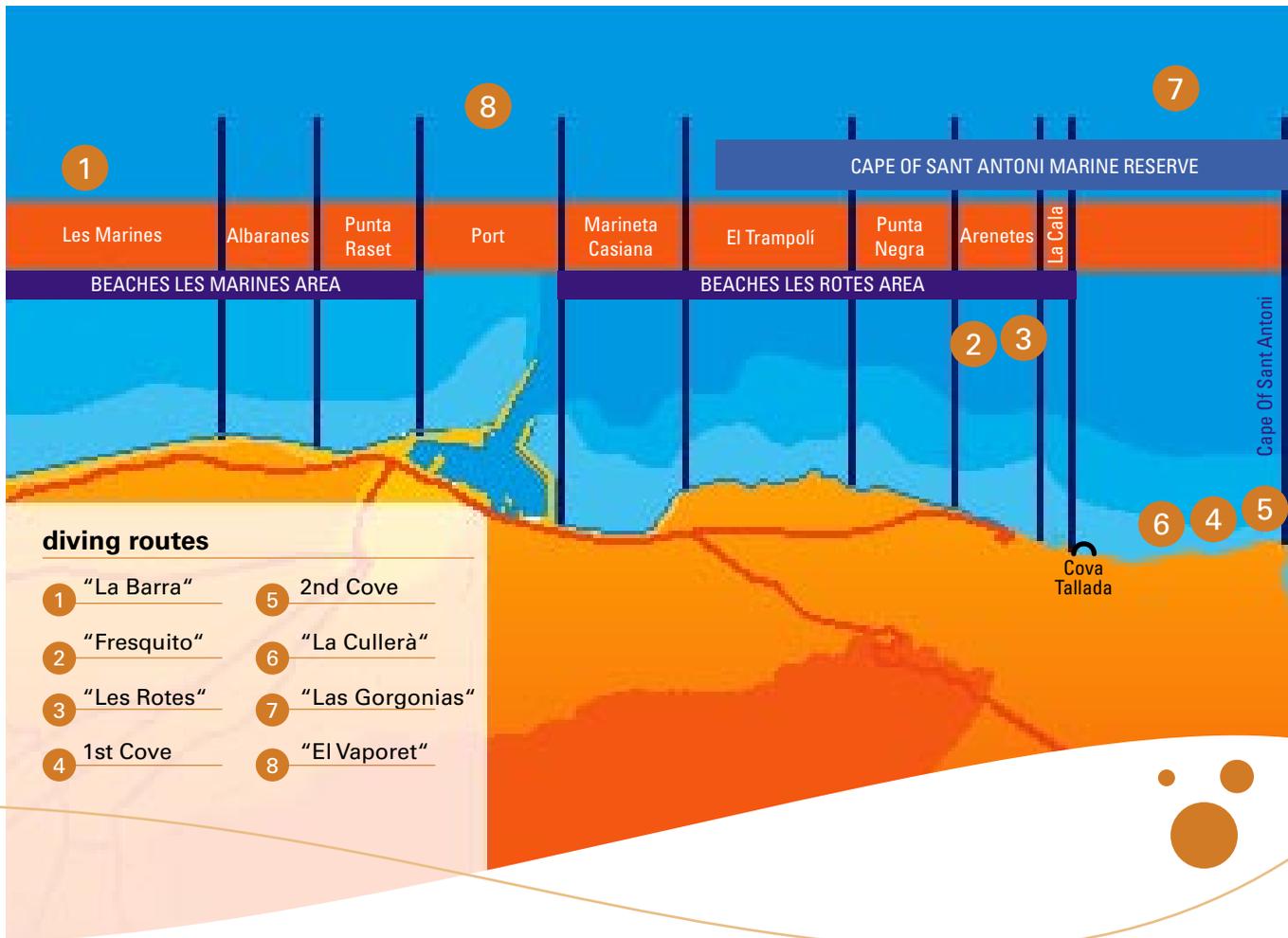


Under-Water Diving in
Dénia



*To pierce the surface. To go into the blue.
To be surprised by the depth. To feel like a
fish. To live in a world lacking gravity.*



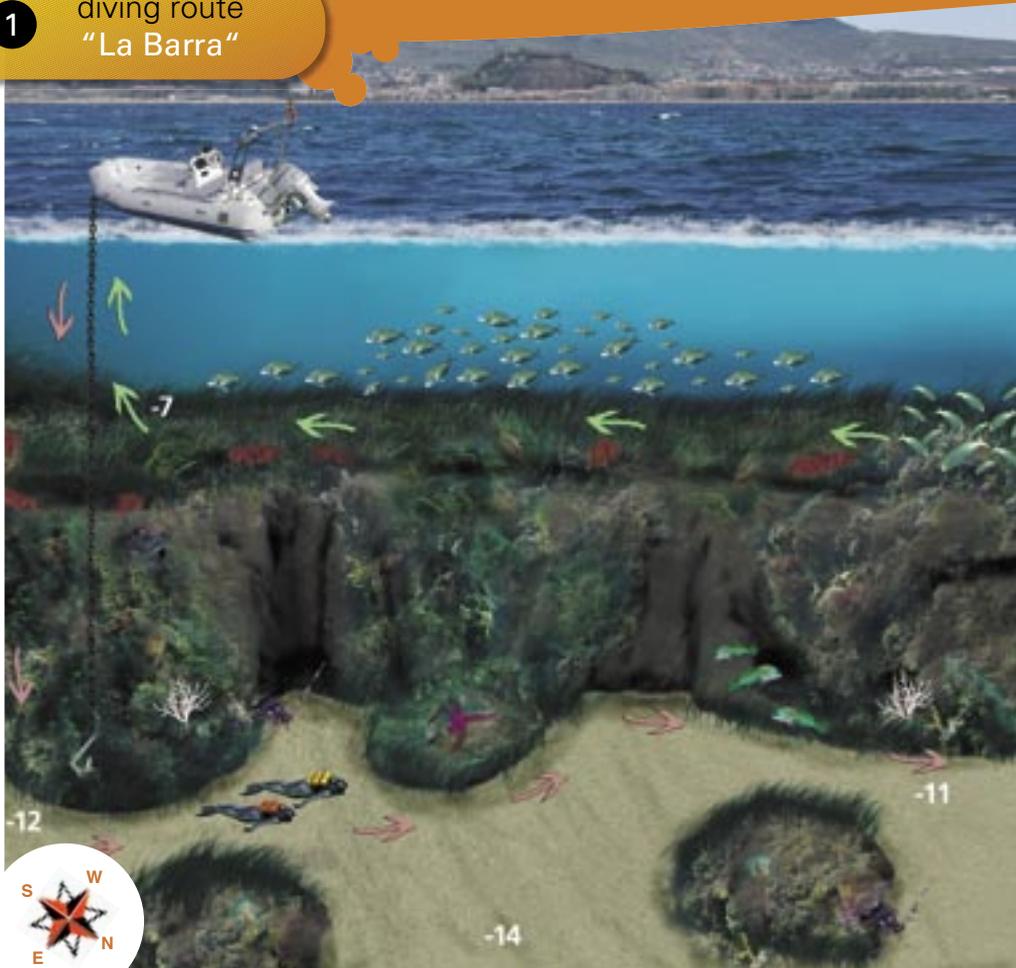


diving routes

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1 "La Barra" | 5 2nd Cove |
| 2 "Fresquito" | 6 "La Cullerà" |
| 3 "Les Rotes" | 7 "Las Gorgonias" |
| 4 1st Cove | 8 "El Vaporet" |

1

diving route "La Barra"



characteristics

 Maximum
Depth: **15 m.**

 Access:
Boat

 Approximate
duration: **50'**

 Bottle:
12 l.

 Lantern:
Yes

 Level:
Low *

description

Leaving the port of Dénia by boat we'll sail towards "Les Marines", approximately 1,5 miles from the port, to point GPS 38°51' 712N/ 000°6' 718E, where we'll anchor at a depth of -7m, on a rocky bottom, which in the shape of

a tongue, or curb of great length, extends in a N-NW direction. The diving consists in following the rocks' fall, where cornices and cavities are formed, to come back in the contrary direction, or to carry out "Caribbean" diving; that is, to advance diving so that the boat will come back to us at the end of the run.

In the many cavities and crevices we'll be able to find lobsters, corvine, octopus... neither will it be unusual to find scorpas and, already in the sand bank, a few rays. In the upper part of the rocks, carpeted with a plentiful meadow of posidonia and red algae, salpas and sargos are frequently sighted.



Lobster



"Serrano" fish



2

Cape of Sant Antoni Reserve "Fresquito"



description



Leaving the port we shall take *Les Rotes* road till it ends (approx. 4 km), where you'll find a parking site. There, we shall equip ourselves and walk to the sea, which forms a small natural rock pool of transparent waters. We shall

characteristics



Maximum
Depth: **11m.**



Access:
Coast



Approximate
duration: **50'**



Bottle:
12 l.



Lantern:
Yes



Level:
Low *



Authorisation:
**Special permit
required**

get into the water and, tube in mouth, we'll advance some 30m. until we'll observe a bottom that falls some 3m., which will be the diving's starting point.

In the sandy bottom we shall find tongues of rocks, which advance towards the sea. We shall always follow the wall that will remain on our right, with a 60° course. It's interesting to stop at the cornices that the wall forms, where we'll be able to observe octopus, sphyrographs, bonelias and some morays. With some luck, we might even find an odd ray in the sandy bottom, which remains on our left.

Following the wall there is a time when it stretches with another that arises from the left. We'll continue the same way we were following and, after a few minutes, in a bottom of approximately 10m. the rock will begin to disappear, and it will now appear in the shape of isolated stones. It will be time for us to go back remaking the way we did before, although when we reach the stretched area we'll pass for a short time to that wall (which will now be on our right) and we shall find a small chimney in the rock that creates a beautiful back lighting through which we can pass (it's about 3 or 4 m. long). After this, we'll return to the left wall until we reach the departure point once again.



Salpas



Octopus



3

Cape of Sant Antoni Reserve "Les Rotes"



characteristics



Maximum
Depth: **11 m.**



Access:
Coast



Approximate
duration: **45'**



Bottle:
12 l.



Lantern:
Yes



Level:
Low *

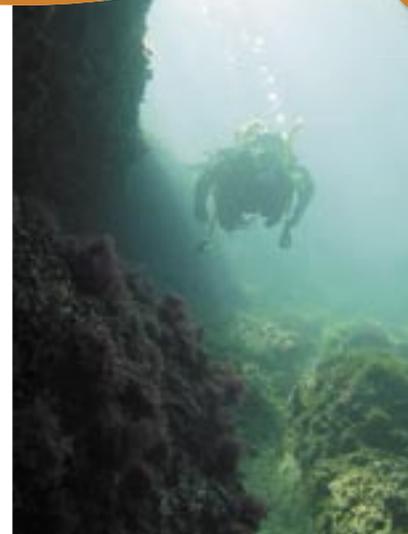
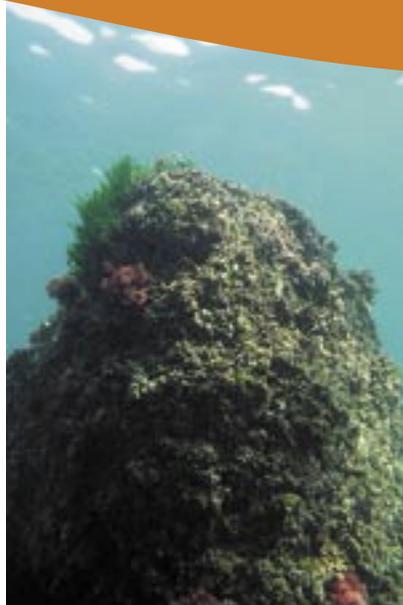


Authorisation:
**Special permit
required**

description

At the end of *Les Rotes* road, in the natural pool formed by the sea, we shall start this simple immersion that can be considered a variation of the "El Fresquito" route, the only difference being that we shall start from the beginning here and once we see a tongue of

rock in the middle; the way which remains on our left, approximately a 60° course to go, always amongst the corridors formed by the wall that will always be on our left, with more or less continuous and irregular rocky formations on our right. It is quite a shallow bottom but very pretty indeed and with lots of light. Many species are to be found such as sargos, salpas, marbré striped sea bream, red mullets and "serrano" fish, although it is not strange at all to find octopus or dorados. We'll see a small arch in a rock through which we can cross and, coming out, we'll reach a sand bank at approximately 8,5m. at this moment we'll move to the right a 140° course to, after a sandy break, reach another rocky wall that advances out to sea although in a small valley, which is formed with loose stones, we shall take a new sand corridor between two walls and, in a 90° course, we shall advance until reaching a bottom of approximately 10 m. and being the stone more scattered and bigger the sand bank, we shall reverse our course leaving the rocks on the left. Shortly after that, a rock tongue will appear on our right, we'll take the corridor between them and we shall follow the wall, which will now be on our left forming a picturesque slope of colourful red algae, a wall that will lose height so that, when we are at 4 or 5m., jump transversally over the rock tongue, with a 150° course and return to the sandy bank departure point.



Red mullets



Spirograph. Sea star

4

Cape of Sant Antoni Reserve 1st Cove



description



Leaving the port of Dénia towards the Cape of Sant Antoni, before reaching the lighthouse, we'll find a cove and a moorings buoy. We shall moor the boat and descend to a bottom of some -16 m, formed

characteristics



Maximum
Depth: **20 m.**



Access:
Boat



Approximate
duration: **50'**



Bottle:
15 l.



Lantern:
Yes



Level:
Low / Medium */**

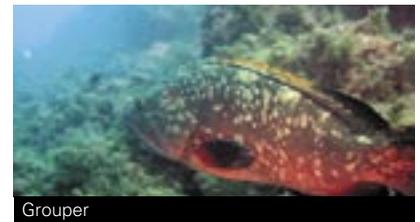


Authorisation:
**Special permit
required**

by great-scattered rocks around the sand. This area is highly protected and requires a special permit for diving. It is an area of exceptional beauty where species difficult to find elsewhere abound such as big sea lobsters, dorados, conger eels, groupers and pretty white gorgonian formations. The irregular rock scattering and moderate depth allow you to improvise any route. Nevertheless, we suggest to go from the anchoring in a course opposite to the coast, going deeper, and several metres away we shall find a great long rocky formation, to the right, that we shall surround and then follow approximately a 270° course in which we'll find many large rocks that form beautiful back lightings. In their cavities it will not be difficult to find corvine, brotolas and groupers. We'll continue closing the circle at the same time as we approach the coast where rocks become more compressed already forming stone platforms, and finally we'll return to the anchoring of the buoy.



Moray



Grouper

5

Cape of Sant Antoni Reserve 2nd Cove



characteristics

 Maximum Depth: **20 m.**

 Access: **Boat**

 Approximate duration: **50'**

 Bottle: **15 l.**

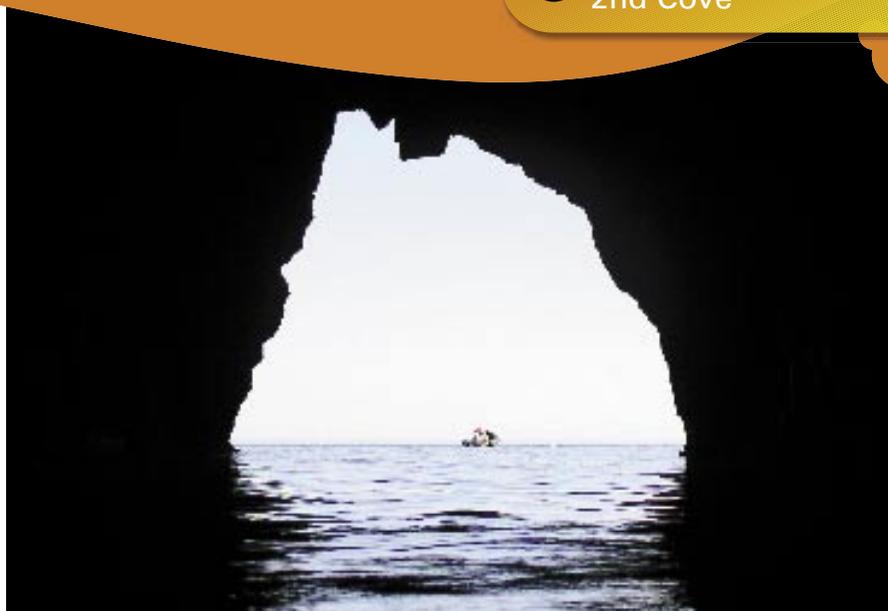
 Lantern: **Yes**

 Level: **Medium ****

 Authorisation: **Special permit required**

description

From the boat we'll go towards the Cape of Sant Antoni and there, in the buoy located in the second cove, we shall anchor. We'll find the typical bottom in this area in which great rocks alternate with bank clears. The fancy arrangement of these rocky formations allow several routes although we suggest you take course some 330° from the anchoring, recognising stones we shall discover where it will be easy to see octopus, corvine, serrano fish, sea lobsters... and countless back lightings and corridors amongst the rocks. We'll reach a great stone with the shape of a mushroom, we'll surround it and we shall continue course 240° , progressively losing depth as we get nearer the coast. We'll see the remains of a boat and a great anchor with incrustations, and then we'll advance towards the coast, course 220° until we reach the entrance of a cave where, at the end (some 30 m.) we'll be able to reach the surface and we'll have a view of the exterior and our boat, towards which we'll return. It is important to point out that a permit is absolutely necessary since it is a Marine Reserve. Don't forget to request it at the Dénia Tourist Office.

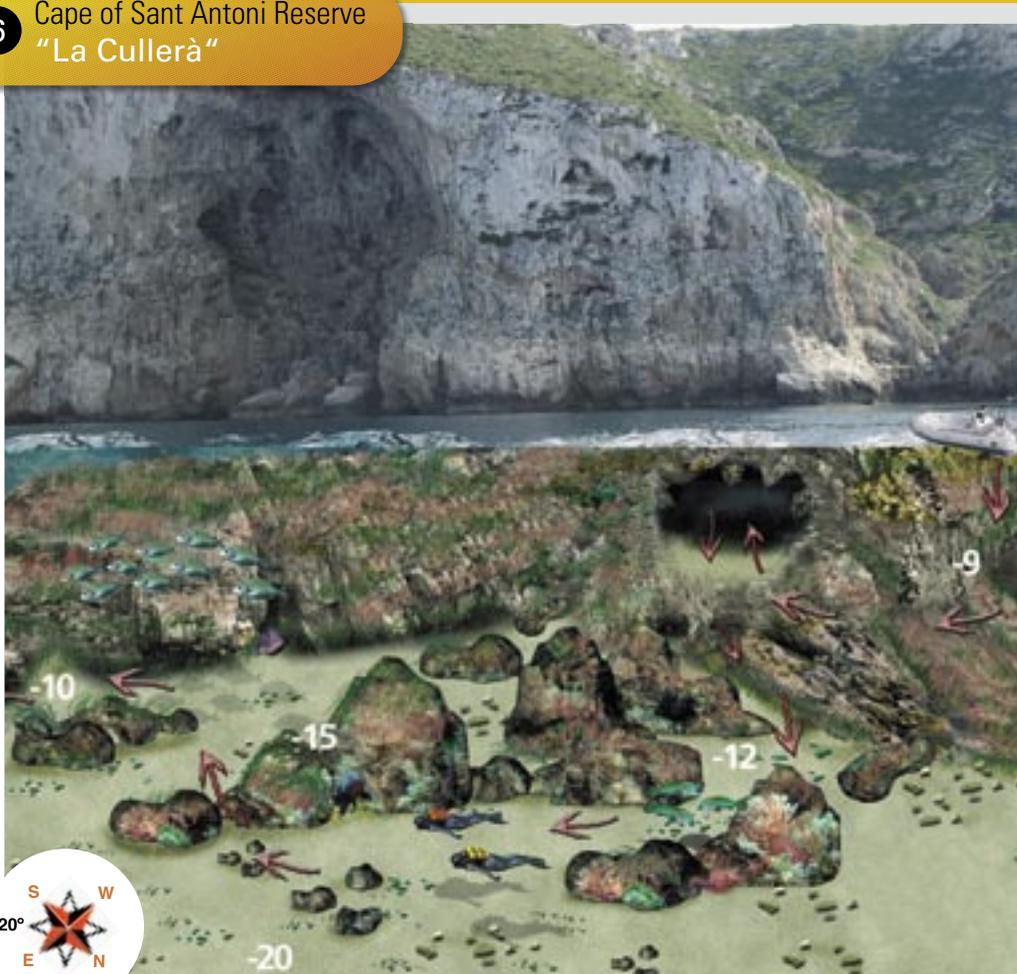


Sea lobster



6

Cape of Sant Antoni Reserve "La Cullerà"



characteristics



Maximum
Depth: **20 m.**



Access:
Boat



Approximate
duration: **50'**



Bottle:
15 l.



Lantern:
Yes



Level:
Medium **



Authorisation:
**Special permit
required**

description

In the breathtaking area of the Cape of Sant Antoni Marine Reserve and once you have obtained your permit, we propose this interesting immersion that we can start in a small valley at the foot of the reserve's cliff

known as "Cullerà" (spoonful) since the wall appears bitten in such a shape. We'll descend to a bottom of approximately -9 m. And straight away after leaving the valley towards the cape, we'll find the entrance to a big cave with an easy access where there usually are sea lobsters, corvines and some congers. The cave continues for about 50m. to the inside of the mountain and a bubble is formed where, if we aren't many, we can put our head out and immediately search the exit, which is always visible because the open sea light is not lost.

Once out we can follow parallels to the coast and take course towards the cape of Sant Antoni, getting away from the wall as much as we wish to in terms of the maximum depth we wish to achieve, although the most interesting area is between -10 and -15 m. It is the typical sea bottom, formed by great rocks that, covered with red algae and posidonia, scatter a sandy bottom where we can see octopus, dorados, elusive groupers and a multitude of corvines offered by the countless cavities on that fancy arrangement.

The air will tell you when you must go up to the surface, which we can do hoisting the decompression buoy to mark our position so that the boatman may come for us.



Groupers



Spirograph



7 diving route "Las Gorgonias"



characteristics

-  Maximum Depth: **36 m.**
-  Access: **Boat**
-  Approximate duration: **25'**
-  Bottle: **15 l.**
-  Lantern: **Yes**
-  Level: **Experienced *****
-  Possibility: **DEC**

description

Leaving the port of Dénia towards the cape of *Sant Antoni*, at the height of the "Cullerà" and approximately 1 mile into the sea, soundings will mark a -30 m to -35m fall informing on the presence of a bar of rocks. We shall anchor

and going down the anchor's end we'll find the beginning of the bar that, with certain interruptions and progressively losing depth, carries on for kilometres.

In this stretch, in which we are interested, the great depth and the existence of frequent submarine currents has allowed a plentiful colony of gorgonias that is to be found, not in the fall but at the height of the bar. The immersion will consist in following it trying not to stand on the half muddy bottom in order to keep the already scarce vision, and to come back, several minutes later in the opposite sense to the anchor's end by which we'll go up to the surface.

We recommend you to not go in decompression meaning that, given the depth, the immersion's length will be limited to 25' in the bottom for experienced divers of the highest level.



Sea slug (nudibranchio)



Gorgonias



8

diving route "El Vaporet"



description



Some 2,6 miles from the port of Dénia, taking course towards the NE, in a bottom of -33m, lay the remains of a cargo boat, the "Felguera", a

characteristics



Maximum
Depth: **33 m.**



Access:
Boat



Approximate
duration: **30'**



Bottle:
15 / 18 l.



Lantern:
Yes



Level:
Experienced ***



Possibility:
DEC

ship of approximately 45 m. overall length sunk in the late 19th century and known as "El Vaporet". Due to the great depth, the usual presence of currents and, eventually, reduced visibility, we recommend to carry out this visit in optimum conditions and by top level experienced divers.

After fishing the boat with the anchor we shall descend by the anchor's end to a sandy bottom where we shall find the remains of this centennial wreckage placed in a N. direction. Several species have found a good refuge within it since there are no nearby rocky formations. Some big conger, lobsters and even big lobsters are usually found here, as well as royal sargos, dorados and groupers.

The ship is quite damaged and there is hardly any superstructure left, although it preserves frames and some deck planks. The most damaged area is the prow section where most of the skeleton is missing. Hooked nets make this immersion even more dangerous and we'll be careful we check available air and restriction of possible decompression. It will be very convenient to leave a bottle hung with regulators at -4 m.



Thrush fish



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