

SNORKEL SAFARIS: Top 20 Places to See Ocean Critters

ISLANDS

DECEMBER 2007

100

ISLANDS
BLUE
LIST

WAYS TO GO AUTHENTIC

OFFBEAT, ECO-CONSCIOUS TRAVEL ADVENTURES

CENTRAL
AMERICA'S
SECRET
\$80 HIDEAWAY
IN PANAMA

DRINK UP
A CARIBBEAN
RUM TRAIL

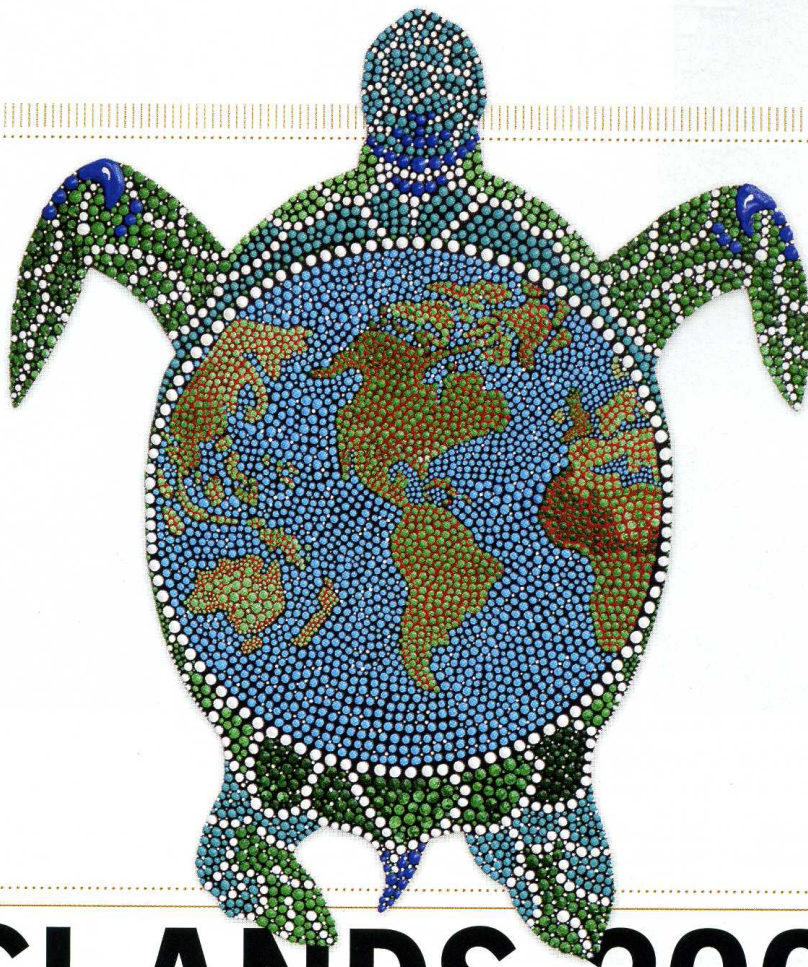
Cool Ocean Trips
KAYAK BY HAWAII'S VOLCANOES
PADDLE BVI'S ISLETS

THE WINNERS!
OUR FIRST ANNUAL
GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE
TOURISM AWARDS

ISLANDS.com
\$4.99/CANADA \$6.99



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ISLANDS 2007

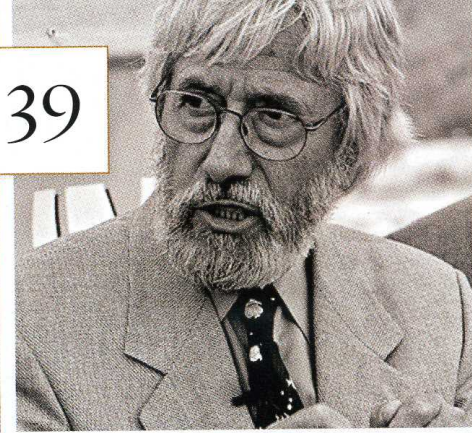
Blue List

We listened to you and then added our own favorites, compiling a list of 100 leaders in responsible tourism who ensure that islands remain environmentally and culturally sound for future generations.

COMPILED BY BLUE LIST EDITOR JENNICA PETERSON



20



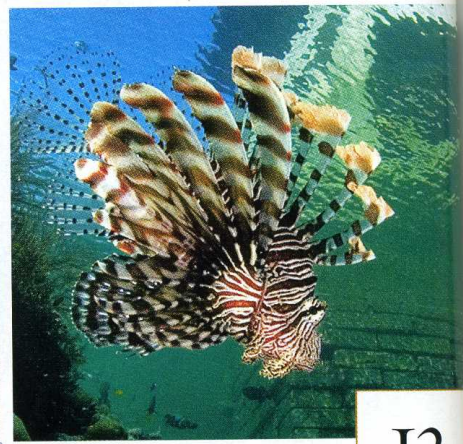
39



97



65



13

the blue list

- 01 | Hawaii Tourism Authority
- 02 | Chumbe Island Coral Park
- 03 | Code Green
- 04 | Green Places to Stay
- 05 | Ethical Travel Guide
- 06 | Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
- 07 | St. Croix Landmarks Society
- 08 | Guana Island
- 09 | Oamaru Blue Penguin Colony
- 10 | Banyan Tree Maldives Marine Laboratory
- 11 | Alter Eco Fair Trade
- 12 | The International Ecotourism Society
- 13 | **WAKATOBI DIVE RESORT***
- 14 | Small Hope Bay Lodge
- 15 | Villas on Bluefields Bay
- 16 | Goodleaf Tree Climbing
- 17 | Rivers Fiji
- 18 | Responsible Ecological Social Tours Project
- 19 | Threads of Life
- 20 | **SEACOLOGY***
- 21 | Flying Kiwi
- 22 | Ecoventura
- 23 | Nuyumbalees Cultural Centre
- 24 | Mothership Adventures
- 25 | Tla-ook Cultural Adventures
- 26 | Bucuti Beach Resort
- 27 | Ladera
- 28 | Ethical Traveler
- 29 | Limahuli Garden and Preserve
- 30 | Soneva Gili and Six Senses Spa
- 31 | Targeta Verda
- 32 | Puntacana Resort & Club
- 33 | Tiemo Resorts
- 34 | Patagonia
- 35 | Orion Expedition Cruises
- 36 | Coffees of Hawaii
- 37 | Asa Wright Nature Centre and Lodge
- 38 | Mentawi Adventure
- 39 | **JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU FIJI ISLANDS RESORT***
- 40 | Hawaii Forest & Trail
- 41 | Grenada Chocolate Company
- 42 | Lundy Island
- 43 | North Island
- 44 | Cousine Island
- 45 | Bird Island
- 46 | Curtain Bluff Resort
- 47 | Global Volunteers
- 48 | Kapahu Living Farm
- 49 | Countrystyle Community Tourism
- 50 | Responsible Travel
- 51 | Vatthe Conservation Area
- 52 | Borneo Adventure
- 53 | Commonwealth of Dominica
- 54 | Paradise Bay Villa Resort and Spa
- 55 | The Climate Trust
- 56 | NativeEnergy
- 57 | Sustainable Travel International
- 58 | Pacific Whale Foundation
- 59 | Maui Ocean Center
- 60 | Stanley Selengut
- 61 | Skyline Eco-Adventures
- 62 | Monroe County Tourism Development Council
- 63 | The Sunshine Express
- 64 | Kauai Made
- 65 | **KOSRAE VILLAGE***
- 66 | Eco First Adventures
- 67 | 3 Rivers Eco Lodge
- 68 | Elderhostel
- 69 | Bonaire Sustainable Energy Project
- 70 | Bonaire National Marine Park
- 71 | Washington Slagbaai National Park
- 72 | Tourism Concern
- 73 | i-to-i Meaningful Travel
- 74 | Wilderness Lodges of New Zealand
- 75 | Big Blue Unlimited
- 76 | Androsia
- 77 | Wilderness Travel
- 78 | Ulpotha
- 79 | Global Vision International
- 80 | La Romana-Bayhibe Hotel Association
- 81 | Crete's Culinary Sanctuaries
- 82 | Kona Brewers Festival
- 83 | Barbados Sea Turtle Project
- 84 | Kangaroo Island with Earthwatch Institute
- 85 | Aride Island Nature Reserve
- 86 | Utila Whale Shark Research
- 87 | Aruba's Donkey Sanctuary
- 88 | Mnemba Island Lodge
- 89 | Virgin Islands Sustainable Farm Institute
- 90 | Green Globe
- 91 | Hotel Mocking Bird Hill
- 92 | Ecotourism Melanesia
- 93 | Hawaii AgVentures
- 94 | El Nido Resorts
- 95 | Bouma National Heritage Park
- 96 | Gamewatchers Safaris
- 97 | **NIHIWATU***
- 98 | Bike Riders
- 99 | Tetepare
- 100 | The Travel Foundation

Editors note: The numbers corresponding to the Blue List honorees are intended as an index key, not as a ranking.

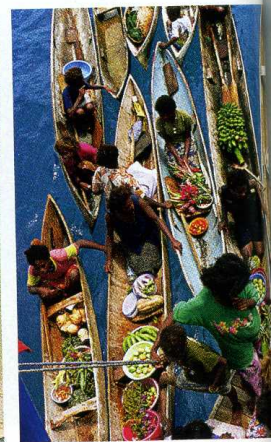


*** RECIPIENT OF AN ISLANDS' GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE TOURISM "BLUE" AWARD**



Save an Island

Seacology partners with island populations to save their environment.



→ THINK A VOLUNTEER VACATION MEANS NOTHING but work? A **Seacology** trip to Fiji will change your opinion. Seacology's island projects range from establishing a marine reserve to providing running water, and you may be thanked for your efforts with a traditional feast of roast pig and other local dishes while islanders perform elaborately costumed spear dances in which everyone is encouraged to participate.

As a nonprofit, nongovernmental conservation organization, Seacology works to preserve fragile island environments and cultures around the globe, sponsoring more than 160 projects on 90 different islands. Individuals who contribute at least \$1,000 are invited to witness firsthand (at an additional expense) Seacology's projects in all corners of the globe, from Chumbe Island, Pemba Island and the Maldives in the Indian Ocean to Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu in the South Pacific.

"Seacology is about mutual trust. We offer to build schools or hospitals and provide solar energy, medical equipment or a water supply for island villages," explained Dr. Paul Alan Cox, the founder of Seacology, who is also an ethnobotanist and a former mountaineering instructor. "In return, the villages promise to protect their rainforest or coral reef. This can be a big

sacrifice for them, since they may have little local support." According to Dr. Cox, villagers show a keen interest in Seacology projects and volunteers. "They like to see our people at work, look into our souls and determine if we are worthy partners in such an endeavor. We usually have a meal with the villagers, listen to their stories and often dance or sing with them.

"One of the hallmarks of a Seacology trip is that donors have a good time doing good for other people," Cox said, "and we do our utmost to show our respect for the indigenous culture." However, this does not mean you have to rough it or tote bricks to help build a new footpath or bridge. "If we can have a luxury dive boat or a four-star hotel as our base, so much the better," Cox added with a smile.

Upcoming Seacology scuba-diving trips include the Red Sea. You'll travel with an experienced crew on the *Royal Explorer*, sleep in one of 12 private cabins with en-suite bathrooms, and photograph rare marine life in Seacology-funded marine sanctuaries.

Donor Trips for 2008: Madagascar and South Africa, May 10-24, from \$4,250; Red Sea Diving Expedition, November 6-20, price TBD; Jean-Michel Cousteau Fiji Islands Resort, August 11-18, from \$2,360. All rates per person, based on double occupancy. seacology.com — LANIE GOODMAN

"One of the hallmarks of a Seacology trip is that donors have a good time doing good for other people, and we do our utmost to show our respect for the indigenous culture."



The coral reefs surrounding Fiji are fragile environments. Opposite, from left: Viani school kids in Fiji; EcoReef installation at Manado Tua in Indonesia; Fiji beach; floating market in the Solomon Islands.