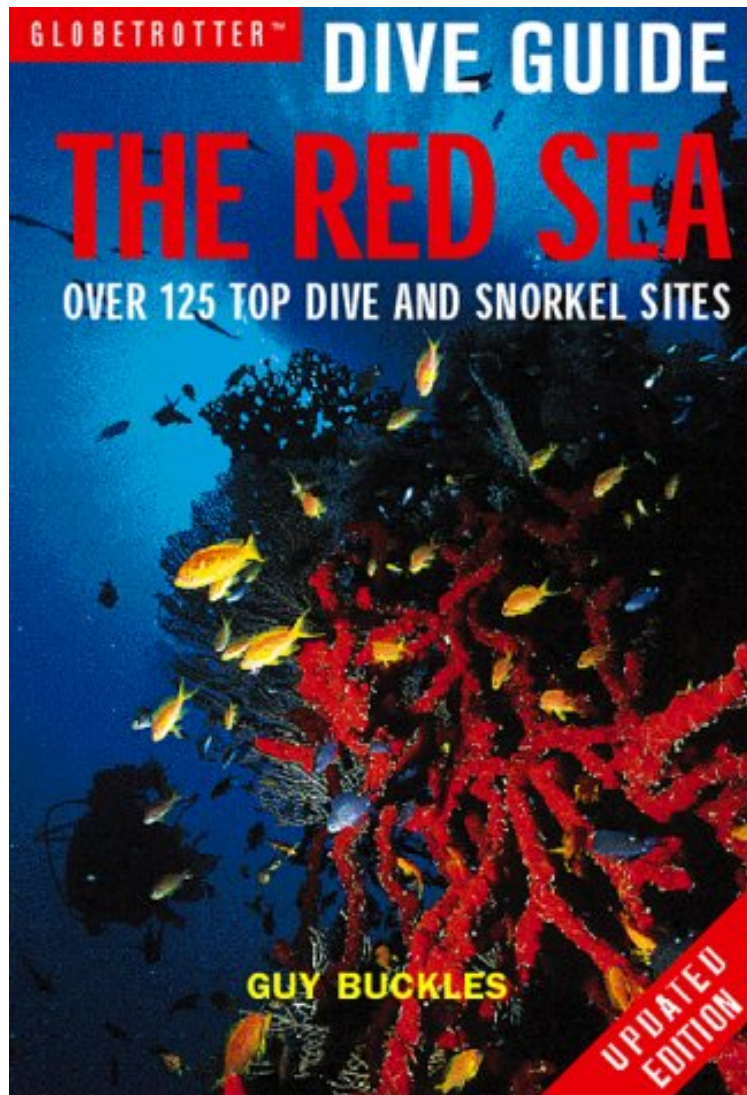


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The Red Sea (Globetrotter Dive Guide)

Guy Buckles

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#16983455 in Books 2002-02-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 #File Name: 1843300788173 pages | File size: 38.Mb

Guy Buckles : The Red Sea (Globetrotter Dive Guide) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Red Sea (Globetrotter Dive Guide):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Very Disappointing. By Ned Middleton If I was judging this book purely on the underwater photographs, I would have no hesitation in awarding a 5 Star rating. Without that standard of photography, the book would have received nothing at all. I ordered this book because I needed to know more about certain areas of the Egyptian Red Sea I was due to visit. Since then, I have conducted professional assignments to three different regions and each time I found the book to be of limited value. This is purely a reference book and, with 52

pages devoted to the principle sites of Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Eritrea combined and a full 64 pages devoted to Egypt, I began to wonder about how much original information I would find in this book... The answer was "Not a lot." The layout is generally very good but, for those photographs that are captioned, descriptions such as "A wave breaking on a healthy reef of stony corals" (stony corals. What are they?) or "Divers exploring the wreck of a cruising yacht in the Deep South" (a yacht, incidentally, that is not mentioned anywhere else in the entire book.), left me somewhat bemused. The book is packed with the sort of information one needs to know. Unfortunately, I soon found myself mistrusting almost everything written. All writers and publishers have a duty of care towards the reader and it is vitally important that the "general information" on such topics as Culture, Religion, Climate, Visas etc are correct. It is also important that the Diving information is accurate and well-researched. Because this latter element of the book (and after all, it is a "Diving Guide.") is lacking in so many areas, it brings into question the accuracy of all the information given. Take for example the Sudanese shipwreck described as the "Labanzo." For the record the correct name is "Levanzo" - a vessel built in 1901 and lost in 1940. The book also contains that perennial favourite the "Sarah H" in Egypt. When this shipwreck was first discovered her true identity was unknown and the finders promptly named her after their own diving guide Sarah Hillel. The ship's real name is, of course, the "Kingston" - something that has been known to Divers with a knowledge of the area for something like 10 years before this book was published... On the "Up" side, I did find the vast majority of the underwater images to be quite outstanding - almost all of which are by Alex Misiewicz - whose work I have long admired. Sadly, many of the surface shots appear to be very old and out-of-date and the only photograph attributed to the author is one of a camel... This book has the potential to be an excellent guide but somebody needs to go back to the proof reading stage, remove the glaring errors, double check all the facts and update the surface photography before we can put our faith into this product. As I said "Very Disappointing." NM

This guide features detailed coverage of more than 125 dive and snorkel sites along the length of the Red Sea. Region by region, it looks at the premier sites - describing access, conditions, marine life and special points of interest. The book is also packed with practical travel information, tips on diving techniques and safety, and advice on the best local restaurants and accommodation.

About the Author Guy Buckles is an accomplished writer who ran a successful dive operation in South-east Asia for many years. He is also the author of *Globetrotter Dive Guide: Indonesia (New Holland)*. Alex Misiewicz is an experienced photographer who has travelled and dived extensively in some of the most exotic locations in the world.