

ULSAC Trip Report Form

Please include on this form any details you think will help organise another trip to this area. Please include details of any problems encountered, or any particularly good things/places in the area, such as good or awful restaurants and pubs.

Date	23 rd – 24 th June 2007	Springs <u>Neaps</u>
Venue	Salcombe, Devon UK	
Marshal	Jim Heard	
Overseer	Michelle Kim	
Number of People	16 Divers + 1 Dedicated Boatie	
Accommodation	<p>Camping</p> <p>Address Alston Campsite & Caravan Site Near Salcombe Kingsbridge South Devon Tq7 3BJ</p> <p>Telephone Number Cost per night/per tent/per person or as appropriate Notes</p> <p>A fairly basic campsite very well hidden in the lush green hills of Devon and tight single track country lanes! Had to pay 20 pence for a hot shower. Not as good as some of the campsites we have stayed in before with ULSAC. Also there is a pub nearby but it's a long yomp up and down the rolling hills, so if you want food in the evening then stay in Salcombe. Plus point is its only about a 10 min drive from the Salcombe boat park slipway Tel: 07808 030921</p> <p>£125 No real price scale we were charged per 2 man tent, we didn't mention Vicky's 6 man Tent and they didn't seem to care!</p>	
Launch Site (incl cost & nearest coastguard)	<p>Salcombe Boat Park Slip</p> <p>Typical laid back Devonshire attitude here, we paid in total £156.30 for Launching 2 RIBS and Marcus' Boat and the Car parking for all of our vehicles (MPV, VAN, 2x Cars, 3x Trailers) for Sat & Sun.</p> <p>The slipway is nice and on a shallow incline so therefore easy to launch and recover fully loaded ribs. Parking for the cars and trailers was very close to the slipway as well.</p>	
Air Shop	<p>Phoenix Charters</p> <p>Diveventure is no longer operating so don't be fooled by a Goggle Search! Phoenix Charters is in the same building and can only supply Air and Nitrox no shiny dive kit to buy. It is also possible to Moor behind the Air shop to drop off Cylinders for filling, which is really good! But It is only a few minutes drive from the slipway by car as well.</p>	
Van Hire (incl notes, did you breakdown,	<p>H&H Van hire in Kentish Town (107 Bartholomew Road). (020) 7916 6616.</p> <p>£157 for H&H van for week-end including Friday pick-up at 15:30Hrs.</p>	

aa cover, tow bar, etc)

Average van an average price. No extra cost for additional driver(s). We should consider looking for other company's i.e. National or Alamo for a better van. The LWB Vans are getting a bit beaten up now and are significantly underpowered for carrying all the kit and/or towing a RIB. Luckily I had Paul and his SWB Defender 90 on the trip which meant the van didn't have to tow. Be careful if you book a van from H&H ask for the LWB Van without the glass sliding door otherwise it invalidates our kit insurance!

Dive 1	
Site:	The Maine
Max depth:	37m Max
GPS Marks:	50.12N.812 03.50W.981 or 50.12N.835 03.51W.008
Brief description:	An Awesome wreck which is intact, very good for SD depth progression as it very light and not dark like other 30m wrecks of similar size which can help build confidence for newbie divers. The viz was amazing considering the torrential rain the week before in that area. Lots of lovely little swim though's and the biggest conger I have ever seen hiding under the deck plating near the bow! Loads of life on the wreck and the Bow is very impressive standing proud, as well as the massive boilers very similar to the James Egan Lane in whitsand bay but this wreck in my book is 100 times better. The Swell over the dive site when we were there was a bit of an issue but its character building. The wreck must be dived on Slacks as the tide movement picks up quickly but there is a couple of hour's window before high water and after high water.

Dive 2	
Site:	The Maine
Max depth:	34m (lower tide)
GPS Marks:	As above
Brief description:	We couldn't pull the shot up from the first dive due to the high swell so we dived it again, upon our return the swell had gotten better. And it was just brilliant. So much to see down there that it didn't get boring at all!

Dive 3	
Site:	The Soudan
Max depth:	25m max
GPS Marks:	50.12.542N 03.46W.598
Brief description:	Another really awesome wreck nice and shallow to round of the weekend, the wreck is located at the mouth of the Salcombe estuary. Fairly broken up but the boilers are still intact and are full of Conger Eels and Tompot Bleneys which always look like they are confused. The Wreck has been swept to 18m and is fairly flattened but still makes a good old rummage dive with loads of Lobsters, crabs and the odd little cuttlefish bimbaling about. One for the Iron props is still there but is now buried under the sand with only the tips of it showing on the seabed. Apparently (according to Andy May) this is the home of the "Big Daddy" of Lobsters but alas no one spotted him! Again after heavy rain that night and in the morning we were expecting terrible viz but the diving gods blessed us again with crystal clear viz!

Dive 4	
Site:	NO Dive Due to Slacks
Max depth:	
GPS Marks:	
Brief description:	

General Details

A really nice place to dive with 2 awesome wrecks well worth the long drive and tiredness at work on the Monday morning. Hitting slacks is essential so I would not recommend this for anyone who hasn't experienced and ULSAC trip before. Unfortunately we didn't get the chance to dive the "Persier" which is another awesome wreck about 4NM Northwest of the Maine, but is easily accessible from Fort Bovisand.... I can only hope that the Sporties of the Club get the chance to dive it on Easter Training 2008!

Please return completed forms to the Diving Officer asap