

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	8 July 2007
Venue	Newhaven
Marshal	Ernst Buyl
Overseer	Nathan Long
Number of People	10
Accommodation	Camping (which was initial plan)
Address	Buckle Caravan Park MARINE PARADE, SEAFORD, EAST SUSSEX, BN25 2QR
Telephone Number	Tel: 01323 897801 - Fax: 01323 873767 holiday@buckle-park.freeserve.co.uk
Cost per night/per tent/per person or as appropriate	£3.5 per tent per night
Notes	Lady from Buckle Caravan Park seemed friendly on the phone. Several dozens of camping sites in East Sussex and near Brighton. But in spite of dozens of phone calls, I was not able to rent a caravan for our (relatively small) group. All hostels in the region were already fully booked or could not accommodate a group of 10 people.
Launch Site	Hardboat diving from Newhaven Marina with the 'Mistress' http://www.the-mistress.co.uk/ Skipper: Ray Leriche Tel: 01444 451093 Mob: 07973 498078 E-mail: RATMO@aol.com
	Ray accepts 11 divers on his boat, which is based in Newhaven and can reach most wrecks on the Sussex Coast when requested. Getting on the boat via side ladder (no lift). No compressor on board. Coffee and tea offered on board. The boat was not very big, but by coordinating between us, there was easily enough space to kit up. Toilet facility on board, and place to stow dry gear but NO wet gear allowed in wheel house. Ray has a crew member who dives and who can put the shot on the shallower part of the wreck if required. The skipper gave a safety briefing

<p>(incl cost & nearest coastguard)</p>	<p>before the dive. Our O2 kits were stored in storage space under the deck. In hindsight this is not ideal as retrieving them will cost valuable time in case of an incident. Safer to tie them with bungee rope to a pole on the deck!</p> <p>£37 per day per diver to dive with 'The Mistress;</p> <p>RIB launching sites are in Brighton and further East (nr Hastings). There is also a RIB launching site in Newhaven. One dive RIB was operating from Newhaven. I assume that the other RIBs on the City of Waterford (see below) were launched from Brighton. Many wrecks on the Sussex coast should be within reach of our RIBs but launching facilities and costs need to be further explored.</p>
<p>Air Shop</p>	<p>Newhaven Scuba Centre</p> <p>Not cheap. £4 for 15l, £3.50 for 12L and single 7, £2.50 for a 3L pony. People agreed to stay open until we arrived. Location is close to Newhaven Marina thus very convenient.</p> <p>Mini supermarket next door for food buying etc There was a pub very close across from the air shop where food was (normally) available. There are also public toilets in ok condition opposite the air shop.</p>
<p>Van Hire</p> <p>(incl notes, did you breakdown, aa cover, tow bar, etc)</p>	<p>H&H Van hire in Kentish Town (107 Bartholomew Road). (020) 7916 6616.</p> <p>£ 111.63 for H&H van (short wheel base Transit) for week-end including Friday pick-up. No extra cost for additional driver(s)</p>

Dive 1	
Site:	City of Waterford
Max depth:	26m-33m
GPS Marks:	Position: 50 40 30N; 00 06 38W (source: skipper)
Brief description:	<p>Nice and large, very well-preserved wreck. Visibility could have been a bit better (It had been a force 8-9 the day before so this undoubtedly affected the viz; also other divers as 4 RIBs on the wreck at the same time)</p> <p>Very busy wreck but large enough that you do not come across countless divers. There are lots of large fishing nets on it, with fishing line in places too so CAUTION is needed.</p> <p>There is also lots of silt on her, and on the sea bed. The scour is deep and very steep, so you can stir up the visibility without realising it in seconds. Under the stern the visibility is better as more stones than sand.</p> <p>This wreck is probably diveable with our RIBs if launched from Brighton (closest launch site for this wreck). Launching from Newhaven is probably borderline in terms of fuel.</p>

Dive 2	
Site:	Gullies near Seaford
Max depth:	10-12m
GPS Marks:	? Just South of Seaford Beach
Brief description:	<p>Drift dive. Visibility was very bad. Opinion was rather divided: some people liked it very much but others thought it was pointless and surfaced after 10 minutes.</p> <p>Potentially too early for a decent drift as it was maybe 0.5 to 1knt. Essential to keep hold of buddy though, to avoid chance of separation -force 8-9 the day before so this undoubtedly affected the visibility.</p>
	Note: we opted for a scenic drift dive rather than a second wreck dive as we needed to get back in the Marina on time to have our tanks filled. The slack windows were very late that day so doing two wreck dives and having time for air fills was not possible.

General Details

Please return completed forms to the Diving Officer asap