

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.

Logistics

Date	03/08/2013 – 04/08/2013	Springs <input type="checkbox"/>
Venue	Brighton Marina	
Marshal	Alison Bradley	
Overseer	Mark Bell	
Number of People	12	
List of attendees with Diver Grade in brackets (e.g SD, DL etc)	Mark Bell (AD)	Ruben (OD)
	Mike Shepherd (DL)	Karen Ho (OD)
	Alison Bradley (DL)	Katrina Jackson (OD)
	Natalie Reeder (SD)	
	Grace Washbourne (SD)	
	Vicki Bradley (SD)	
	Clare Mcnamee (SD)	
	Katie Rance (SD)	
	Bhavya (SD)	
Total trip cost (for someone hiring club tank, BCD, reg.)		
Accommodation	Campsite	
Address	Tottington Drive, Small Dole Henfield, West Sussex BN5 9XZ	
Telephone No.	01273 493157	
Cost per night/per tent/per person or as appropriate	£10 per tent, plus £2 per person. We had 3 tents (£30) and 10 people (£20) so £50 in total.	
Notes	5 minute hot shower costs 75p. No vans are allowed to park on the site but it is possible to park on the road outside. The campsite has cockrels, a goat and other animals. The cockrels did not bother us. The campsite is 17 miles away from Brighton Marina but it was Brighton Pride weekend so we could not get accommodation closer, even though I began booking in February!	
Launch Site (inc. cost)	Brighton Marina, commercial hardboat £1080 for charter hire for weekend, deposit £150. Fits 12 divers. We were blown out on Saturday so paid £540 for the Sunday. http://www.brightondiver.com	
Coastguard	HM Coastguard (02392) 559001	
Nearest chamber		
Air Shop	Brighton Dive centre Brighton Marina Brighton BN10 8UY Telephone: 01273 6060 Brighton dive centre, but it is so busy with tourists we drove to 101 Fort Rd Newhaven, East Sussex BN9 9DL, 01273 612012, which was much quieter, 20 tanks and a twin set £80.	
Van Hire (inc. notes, did you breakdown, AA cover, tow bar etc.)	United car and van rental, South Wimbledon, SW19 3DB. Cost for Friday night to Monday morning 7am £165. Excess £600 so driver paid £23.97 to reduce excess to £100, total cost £188.97. Can't return after 2pm on Sunday.	

Dives

Dive 1	Blown out so Wrasbury with 3 divers, AB, VB and KH
Site:	Wrasbury
Max depth:	10m
GPS Marks:	
Brief description:	The 3 of us had a little swim around, visibility was pretty poor but very warm Karen got some experience dives ☺
Dive 2	Wrasbury
Site:	Wrasbury
Max depth:	10m
GPS Marks:	
Brief description:	AB dived with VB, found the bus and lots of little fishes, YAY! AB dived with KO, found a lot of crayfish and a platform with a van cab attached
Dive 3	The City of Brisbane
Site:	Brighton
Max depth:	25m
GPS Marks:	
Brief description:	Beautiful wreck but not very intact, the skipper said there was a deck at 18m, there is not, more like 22m ! Lots of Tom pot blennys and other fish, crabs, lobsters, starfish and eels aswell, although I didn't see them. Not really suitable for ODs.
Dive 4	Brighton Pier
Site:	Brighton Pier
Max depth:	10m
GPS Marks:	
Brief description:	Dark, you definitely want your torch for this one! Lots of debris on the bottom, and if your lucky and have Mark Bell with you, you might get a few treasures, we picked up a watch and an oyster card!

General Details

The Prudential cycle race was on which made set off on Saturday morning from ULU impossible so we gathered in south London instead. We were blown out on Saturday so those that wanted to went to Wrasbury instead for a few dives, everyone else set off from South London at 2pm. We met at campsite at 4.30pm put up tents and relocated to the Fox pub, 5 mins walk from campsite. In the morning ropes off was at 9am and we loaded the boat. Previously the hardboat was in the harbour but has now been moved to the west quay. This means walking up and down ramps with gear for 5 minutes so loading is traumatic. There are no loading bays and only parking is in taxi rank or RNLI car park spaces so not ideal. The marina parking is max height 1.95m, both MPV and van were 1.96m. I am pretty sure you could get them in but as max stay is 4 hours you are chancing a parking ticket. I had organised a few days before to park MPV in coach park for free and we also put van there but I don't think they like that!

The city of Brisbane was an amazing treasure trove of marine life and I would recommend to any sport divers, but it is not really shallow enough for ocean divers. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it, and one person even remarked there was more marine life on this wreck than the Gozo wreck. Two of our sporties got to dive together for the first time and everyone got a chance of putting up dSMBs. Mike and Ruben even rescued a lobster and crab from net, so practiced net cutting!

The pier was a relatively fun dive but the swell was quite big on surface and if you ended up on wrong side of pier to pick up, then you had a long and unpleasant surface swim, so I would recommend a drift dive if you get the option.

All in all a fun trip, the sun shined on us but the wind was as ever, a cruel mistress. We got a new sports diver, Ruben and lots of people did their first wreck dive. I personal would not recommend Brighton, the city of Brisbane can be accessed faster in ribs from New Haven, but it's always fun to try somewhere new.