

Deep-Sea Decor By Katrina Adams

Blue and Pink Magnificent *Anemone heteractis*

The entire Utwe Coast, on the south side of Kosrae, offers spectacular diving, ranging from colourful delicate corals eight to 15 metres deep, to huge sponges and fans in the 70 to 80-metre technical diving depth range. In addition to the usual reef sharks, barracuda and eagle rays, this coast may be visited by a host of pelagics. In the last few years hammerhead sharks, whale sharks and mantas have been sighted. Permanent residents include the spectacular anemones (and their symbiotic fish), other invertebrates and billions of small tropical fishes.

This was a deeper (about 20 metres) drift dive along the reef front. Frequently, the anemones here have very spectacular colours and this one was no exception. I often joke that there must be a decorating magazine that they subscribe to, because not only are the colours spectacular, but some anemones will also change them during the year. During this dive, we also saw a number of white tip and grey reef sharks as well as a huge school of barracuda. During the safety stop we were entertained by a number of juvenile squid at the surface.

TYPE: Drift Dive; **NUMBER OF DIVES TO DATE:** 2,000+

DIVE SITE

Utwe Coast

South side of Kosrae, Micronesia

GETTING THERE: Continental Micronesia is the airline that serves Kosrae. Flight 956 from Guam departs for Kosrae on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Be sure to ask for the discount Visit Micronesia fare offered by Continental. When you arrive on Kosrae we will meet you at the airport.

RESORT: Kosrae Village Ecologie & Dive Resort
RATES: USD69.50 - 79.50 per person double occupancy
Diving: USD109 for a two-tank boat dive.
INFO: www.kosraevillage.com



PHOTOGRAPHIC OPPORTUNITY

★★★★

CAMERA EQUIPMENT

Olympus C2050 Zoom,
 Olympus housing, Onboard Flash,
 Tokina 10-17mm lens, 8" dome port

CAMERA SETTINGS

1/30, f/4.0, ISO 64