

MICRONESIA

ere, became an instruc-
ose to live here because
more variety, great
water, easy diving for any
ely short boat rides to
ht my Sea and Sea film
e divemaster had his
e was extremely accom-
photos of me above
and shared his shots of
s, octopi, tropical fish,
of 200+ indigenous

Resort, June 2009,
Hubbard (hub-
), Glenmont, NY.
1000 dives. Vis: 40 to
84 to 86 F. This was
to Kosrae Nautilus. The
nd Sally Beitz, ex-pat
ho have perfected the
ests comfortable and
greeting at the air-
urs late). Hot dinner
om by Sally shortly
n at 10 P.M.), through
ves and good meals,
at the airport, we felt
is from a 6-8 pax boat
ver and plenty of room
or camera tank, but a
y for cameras and gear
need for it. Most dives
g reef which, Kosrae
d south, never gets the
the corals have been
enturies -- many of
ies are 25 feet wide
sibility is excellent.
y to avoid night dives.
"Right. We'll leave at
r before, and I'll call
we're back at the dock
ready to bring to
what night dives. For
e in 1500 dives, we saw
otoblepharon). Not
swimming among the

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coral for anyone with night-adapted vi-
sion (turn off your flashlight) to see. We
also saw many big (8'-12") apparently
Cubomedusae jellyfish out spawning one
night. The Kosraean staff are friendly
and cooperative, though not all profi-
cient in English (though much better
than we are in Kosraean). Salik and
Alik, seemingly everywhere on land or
sea, helped with dive gear, guided dives,
found stuff for us ... and Salik works the
restaurant, too! After only a few days,
we felt like visiting family. The rooms
are spacious and well designed. Well
air-conditioned (wusses that we are, we
find this essential in Micronesia) and
quiet. The pool is large and inviting. The
diving is what most of Micronesia used
to be like, though Kosraean coral shows
the benefits of its favored geographic
location. Nautilus is a lovely resort,, with
hospitality and diving that will bring you
(like us) back soon.

**Sleeping Lady Divers, Kosrae Village
Ecolodge and Dive Resort, May 2009,**
Gil Zeimer (gil@zeimer.com), San Ra-
fael, CA. Experience: 51-100 dives. Vis:
60 to 80 Feet. Water: 90 to 92 F, calm.
Kosrae Village Ecolodge and Dive Resort
offers guests an ecotourism experience
in traditional Kosraean thatched cot-
tages. Katrina Adams told me, "I think
Kosrae's coral is a bazillion times better
than other Micronesian islands." To
prove her point, we motored in a covered
8.5-meter catamaran boat a few minutes
out of Utwe-Walung Marine Park on the
island's southern side to Hiroshi Point at
Buoy #15, then to Buoy #16, Boundaries.
Hiroshi Point is another easy, shallow
drift dive for any skill level. Close enough
for shore dives during high tide and low
surf, divers can view large coral heads
estimated to be more than 2,000 years
old. Again, the air and water temps were
balmy at 29°C, with visibility ranging
today from 20-25 meters. A handful of
stinging jellyfish floated nearby, but was

Central and Western Pacific

no danger to the divemaster and me. I
focused my attention on macro critters
like the colorful Christmas tree worms,
anemonefish eggs, a single barracuda
checking me out, and watching par-
rotfish voraciously attack the coral. I
brought my Sea and Sea film camera,
but it jammed on my first dive. Katrina
was kind enough to give me a CD with
hundreds of fantastic images on it of the
island's kaleidoscope of colorful corals,
tropical fish, turtles, sharks, rays and bar-
racuda, plus amazing images of Kosrae's
rainforests, mangrove forests, waterfalls
and friendly people.

Sleeping Lady Divers, Kosrae Village,
August 2009, Jeanne Sleeper (jsleeper@
jbsassociates.ws), Laguna Beach, CA.
Experience: Over 1000 dives. Vis: 60 to
150 Feet. Water: 81 to 84 F, calm. Kosrae
Village is an eco resort on a small, out-
of-the-way island. If you dream of sleep-
ing in a woven-mat-walled, thatched-
roof hut next to the beach -- this is it!
Live simply and sustainably with Katrina
and Bruce, the owner-operators. In a
world where "resort" usually means
luxury, at Kosrae it means purposeful
simplicity. Fly to Hawaii, then take an
island-hopping Air Micronesia flight
and get off at the third stop. The staff
picks you up in their personal car, and
you take a 30-minute drive on the one
road that follows the coast around most
of the island. The mountainous interior
is a rainforest that reaches to the shore.
The resort is in the forest, at the beach.
The resort has a dining hut, and serves
three meals a day. Luckily, the food is
varied, good and fairly priced, as there
are few other places to eat on the entire
island. Lettuce and some vegetables are
island-grown, and fresh fish is locally
caught. Beginning to tech divers will
enjoy Kosrae. My visit began with a bit
of surge from a recent storm, and over
the 10 days, went to flat and still. The
best diving is on the resort's side of the