DIVE INTO NATURE AS IT SHOULD BE

St. Eustatius
Dutch Caribbean

THE GOLDEN ROCK

A small volcanic island in the Caribbean Sea, nestled perfectly between the Islands of St. Maarten and St. Kitts. This was the epicenter of the world in the 18th century. Hence the name "The Golden Rock". Hundreds of shipwrecks off the coast reminiscent of the glory days. St. Eustatius is one, big open air museum. Both above and below sea level.

AMAZING DIVING

A short flight from the international airport of Sint Maarten, just a twenty minute flight with Winair. The final step on the road to St. Eustatius, a destination where the maritime world remains untouched. Discover a rare biodiversity, with eight different ecosystems that are completely intact.

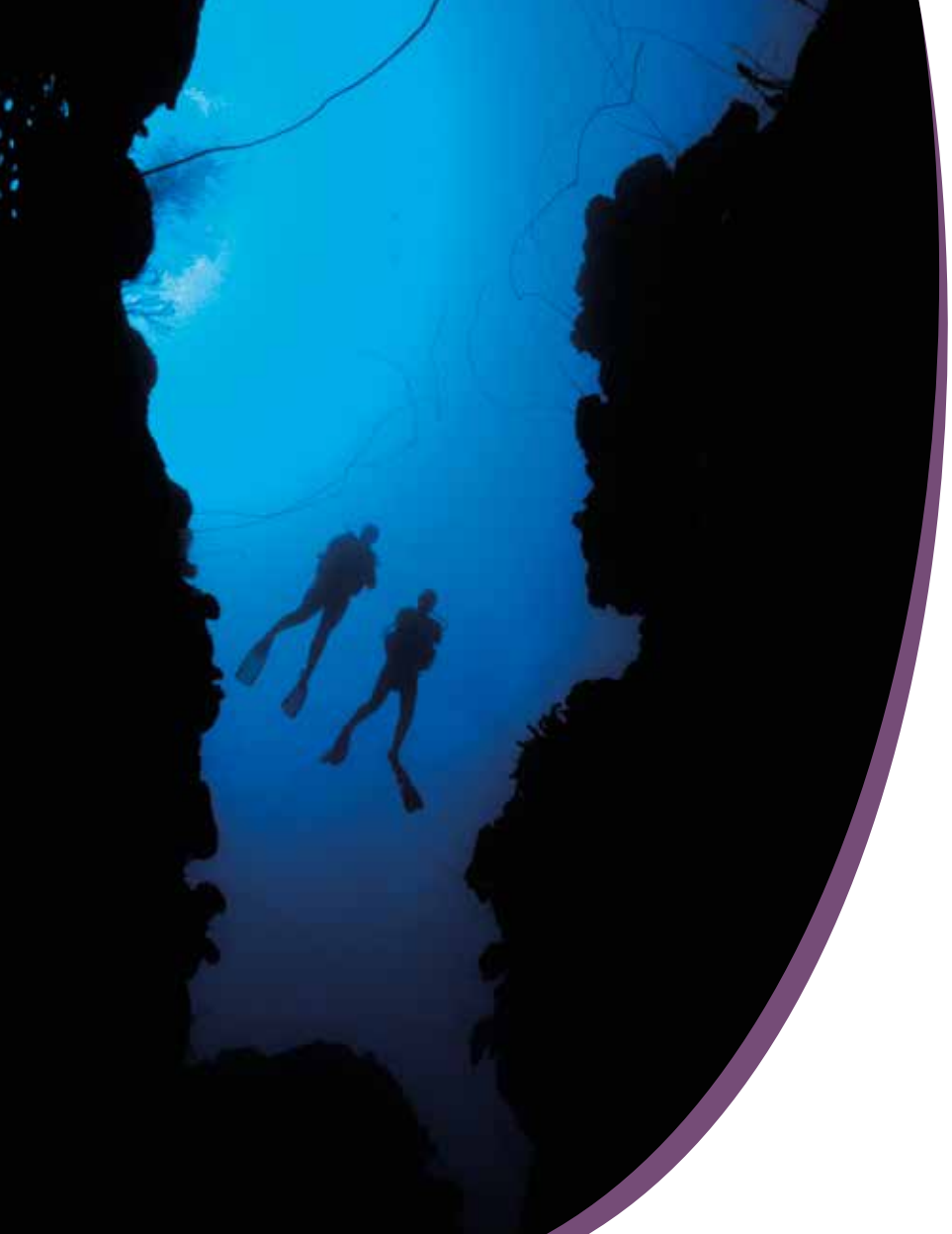
"Statia", as the island is popularly called, offers divers an unparalleled yet pocket-sized perception. Ancient shipwrecks, pristine coral reefs, and an amazing assortment of fish and turtles. All concentrated in a carefully protected area of thirty square kilometers. Three certified diving schools guide you through the 36 richly varied dive sites.

It's clear to see why Statia is high on the "bucket list" of passionate divers who are searching for authenticity.

Destination brochure

The dormant volcano "The Quill" sticks its head and shoulders out above the island. A hike to the 600-meter high volcano is a must.

Go to **www.statia-tourism.com** and order the free destination brochure of Statia. In it you can read about what else Statia offers, next to sensational diving.



WONDROUSLY DIVERSE

For divers, diversity is Statia's most important asset. Especially since the entire range of attractions lies between 12 and 40 meters below sea level. Even at this depth, visibility is typically 25 to 30 meters.

The distinction of the official dive spots around Statia is that each location is completely different. Each dive, a new world. Corals and sponges are tucked away under buoys. In addition, at each individual dive site, a truly remarkable variety of sea life can be found in this underwater mystery.

The constant sea temperature (averaging 28°C) and sunny climate help to make diving in every season especially pleasant. Wearing a thin wetsuit or shorty is generally enough.

SEA TURTLES

Between March and November, three types of protected sea turtles crawl from the surf to nest on the beach. Statia's "Sea Turtle Conservation Program" warns others when the turtles come ashore.

LEAVE NO TRACE - TAKE MEMORIES

St. Eustatius cherishes nature above and below the water. Unlike other tourist destinations, nature and culture count here as the island's real wealth. Ecological profit and sustainability go beyond economic gain. The island and its inhabitants warmly welcome visitors that leave no "trace" after their departure.

OASIS IN THE DESERT OF THE OCEAN

An oasis in the desert of oceans. It sounds far-fetched, but goes straight to the core. The quantity and diversity of plant and animal species found in and around Statia is rare. The explanation is quick. Biodiversity is being severely affected by overfishing and pollution almost everywhere in the world.

Each time adult fish disappear from the chain, the scales tip more out of balance. STENAPA cares for the environment. This organization oversees endangered animal and plant species, and protects fragile ecological zones above and below the water. The regulations for divers are clear. Anchoring is prohibited, and there is a maximum of one boat per dive spot.

The result of STENAPA's efforts is the miraculous recovery of multiple ecosystems. Fish that have been wiped out elsewhere can be seen here. They have found a habitat directly around Statia where enough food is available.

For more information go to www.statiapark.org.

MIX
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KEEPING BUSY UNDER THE SEA

The underwater landscape is made up of volcanic rock with a covering of soft and hard corals and plants. The combination provides an awe-inspiring color palette.

Hundreds of species of fish, sometimes a large concentration of turtles, and nurse sharks can be easily spotted. One location is visited by gray reef sharks, the other sees sensational eagle rays sorting out a resting place. Curious fish shoot out of every crevice and cave. Busy cleaning their shelter, totally unimpressed by the few divers. Meanwhile fan corals sway gently along to the rhythm of the current.

Ever had a great barracuda pose in front of your camera? Barracudas, moray eels, southern stingrays, seahorses, and huge lobsters. Even more sensational: Statia is one of the few places where it is possible to get a picture of a flying gurnard.

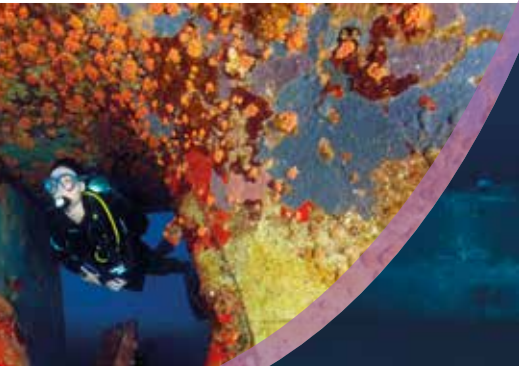
WHERE HISTORY COMES ALIVE

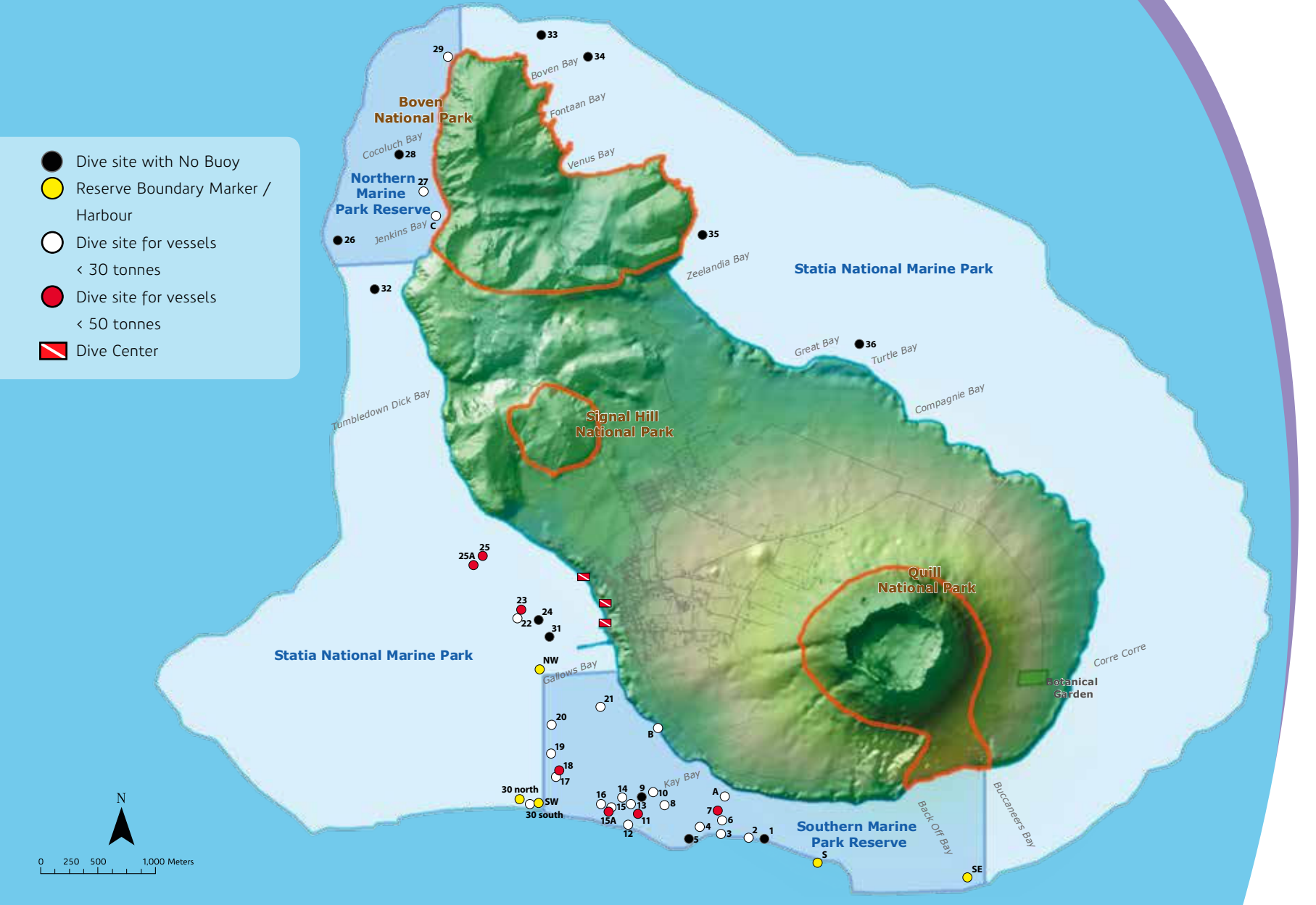
Just about every underwater lover can cherish rediscovering an 18th century canon in perfect condition. Statia is known for its history above and under water. At depths up to forty meters lie dozens of wrecks, scattered across the sea floor. A motley collection of glass, bottles, and porcelain is a treat for the avid diver, especially around the frames of ancient sailing ships.

The story goes that Statia was largely destroyed centuries ago by an earthquake. Of course, the most prosperous part of the island was swallowed up by the sea. Therefore, every dive is an amazing adventure. Just about every avid diver knows what the discovery of a flawless bottle of 18th century wine could bring.

Charles Brown

One of the most impressive wrecks in the Caribbean is the Charles Brown (100 meters). The former cable layer was sunk, intact, in 2003 off the coast of Statia. It now acts as a living reef. A visit to this wreck is a must.




Dive site with No Buoy
Reserve Boundary Marker / Harbour
Dive site for vessels < 30 tonnes
Dive site for vessels < 50 tonnes
Dive Center
Boven National Park
Northern Marine Park Reserve
Signal Hill National Park
Quill National Park
Statia National Marine Park
Statia National Marine Park
Southern Marine Park Reserve
Boven Bay
Fontaan Bay
Cocoluch Bay
Venus Bay
Jenkins Bay
Zeelandia Bay
Great Bay
Turtle Bay
Compagnie Bay
Tumbledown Dick Bay
Gallows Bay
Kay Bay
Back Off Bay
Buccaneers Bay
Corre Corre
Botanical Garden
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DIVE SITES (FT/M)

H Historical Dive
W Wreck Dive

1 Drop Off East (69/21)
2 Drop Off West (96/29)
3 Grand Canyon (86/26)
4 Cliffs / Down South (67/20)
5 Coral Gardens (99/30)
6 Mushroom Gardens (52/16)
7 The Humps (43/13)
8 Valley of Sponges (43/13)
9 Five Fingers North (47/14)
10 Five Fingers South (52/16)
11 The Ledges (61/19)
12 Anchor Reef (74/23) H
13 The Blocks (55/17)
14 Hangover (55/17)
15 Anchor Point South (62/18) H
15A Anchor Point West (62/18) H
16 Anchor Point North (62/19) H
17 Twin Peaks (71/22)
18 Barracuda Reef West (74/23)
19 Nursing Station (62/19)
20 Blair's Reef (62/19)
21 Crook's Castle (35/11)
22 Triple Wreck (55/17) W H
23 Double Wreck (67/20) W H
24 Stingray City (50/15) W H
25 STENAPA Reef (56/17) W
25A Chien Tong (56/17) W
26 Doobie's Crack (94/29)
27 Outer Jenkins Bay (40/12)
28 Twin Sisters (58/18)
29 Gibraltar / North Point (59/18)
30 **north** The Charles L. Brown (102/31) W
30 **south** The Charles L. Brown (102/31) W
31 Blue Bead Hole (55/17)
32 Aquarium (58/18)
33 North Man (99/30)
34 Five Canyons (86/26)
35 The Cave (67/20)
36 English Quarter (33/10)

Reserve Buoys:

NW (62/19)
SW (62/19)
S (98/30)
SE (100/28)

Snorkel sites:

A Blind Shoal (19/6)
B Twelve Guns (17/6) H
C Inner Jenkins Bay (17/6)

DIVE CENTERS

DIVE STATIA
Dive Center St. Eustatius

Dive Statia
Lowertown 1,
St. Eustatius, Dutch Caribbean
www.divestatia.com
info@divestatia.com
Tel. +599 318-5985

Golden Rock Dive Center
PO Box 61, Gallows Bay,
St. Eustatius, Dutch Caribbean
www.goldenrockdive.com
info@goldenrockdive.com
Tel. +599 318-2964

SCUBAQUA
Dive Center St. Eustatius

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PO Box 16, Lowertown
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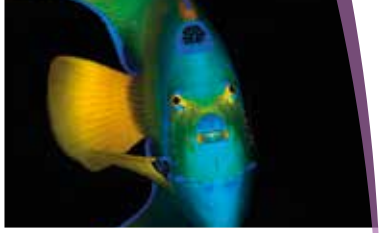
dive@scubaqua.com
Tel. +599 318-5450

In the "slipstream" of experienced divers, snorkelers also find Statia an incredible destination. Dive centers welcome all guests to enjoy the amazing beauty below the surfaces of Statia's waters.



St. Eustatius Tourism Development Foundation

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