## **Red Sea Trip February 2008**

In February 2008 Ken and I decided to try the Daedelus, Rocky, Zabargad and St Johns itinerary on the Grand Sea Serpent. This as the newer and bigger brother to Sea Serpent on which we had sailed a couple of years earlier. This itinerary was chosen as it offered the best chance of seeing hammerheads, something we had long wanted to achieve. Sadly, we saw very few sharks and none within range of even the most optimistic camera shot. However, it did widen our experience of the Red Sea diving sites and we had a thoroughly enjoyable week during which we did see some new creatures. One downside to this itinerary is that we only got one night dive as they are not allowed in the actual marine parks of Daedelus, Rocky, Zabargad. Our Dive guide was Mohammed who we had previously met on Sea Serpent. If you click on any pictures which have a black background, you can link to a video clip.

We did the following dive sites:

Abu Dhabab - 18M	Elphinstone - 23M	Daedelus Reef North - 36M
Daedelus Reef South - 25M	Daedelus Reef West - 22M	Zabargad South - 20M
Rocky - 32M	Umm Aruk - 22M	Small Habili - 17M
Abu Galani - 18M	El Shona - 21M	Wadi GimalNight - 11M
St Johns Caves - 16M	Shaab Claudia - 22M	Shaab Claudia Night - 21





The Coral Beach Hotel waterfront with Port Ghalib marina in the background. The video clip is the scenery leaving Port Ghalib

Anenome Colonies on Rocky



The reef edge at Abu Dhabab



Big Boxfisf at Daedelus



The sunken yatch at El Shona Reef

The lighthouse on Daedelus Reef



The reef wall at Daedelus



Dive briefing being given by Mohammed



Gobi hiding in the end of a pipe



Flatworm



Shoal of goatfish at Abu Galawi where we did our check dive

An anenome inside out, something I had rarely seen before but very common at UmmAsk reef



Small Ray seen at Rocky of a type unknown and not seen before



An unforunate jellyfish being munched on by bannerfish and butterfly fish



A couple of pyjama nudibranches found on a night dive at Wadi Gimal



Ken holding a small Octopus found on Zabargad



Mooring at Rocky Island



The mooring at Shaab Claudia



Large Snail found on night Dive at Wadi Gimal

An obliging turtle found at Umm Ask