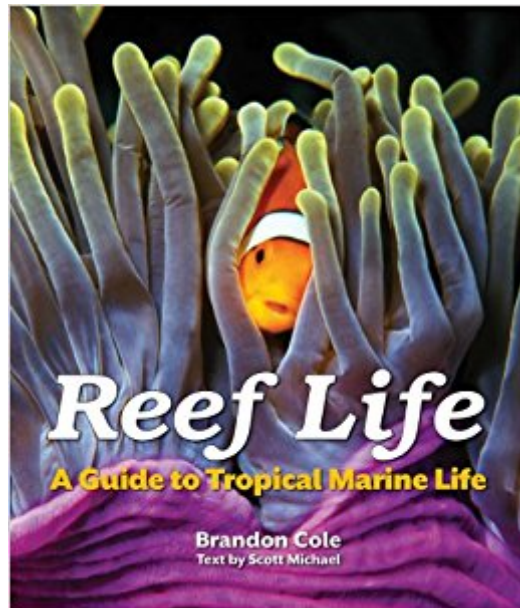




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# Reef Life: A Guide To Tropical Marine Life



## Synopsis

A practical, up-to-date, comprehensive guidebook for divers, naturalists and students, featuring more than 1000 color photographs of 800 species of ocean life. From tide pools to coral reefs and the open ocean beyond lies a world abounding with an assortment of colorful fish and fascinating creatures. The lure of the life that inhabits the ocean's reefs and open water is no secret to scuba enthusiasts and snorkelers who enjoy the opportunity to gaze upon this wonderful world through their dive masks. Reef Life identifies the most-likely encountered underwater life in the tropical marine environment, featuring more than 800 beautiful color photographs that provide the keys to this magnificent world. A gallery of more than 400 species offers readers an extensive identification guide to the most-likely encountered fishes and features each in detail: name, species, habitat, range and a description particular to the animal covered. With sections on invertebrates and algae, this guide reveals much about the range of animals and plants in the undersea ecosystem. Included is behavioral information on feeding, mimicry, and symbiosis, providing insights into natural survival strategies taking place among animals beneath the ocean surface. The clear, concise descriptions of the myriad of animals in the tropical oceans are collected in this handy, portable and comprehensive reference for use in the field or at the desk. The surveys of the tropical ocean regions and sea life around the world include: The Caribbean The Hawaiian Islands French Polynesia The Fijian Islands The Philippines and South China Sea Micronesia The Indonesian Archipelago Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands The Great Barrier Reef Western Thailand and Andaman Sea The Maldives and Western Indian Ocean The Red Sea Tropical Eastern Pacific.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was recently diving in Roatan Honduras and was overwhelmed by the sheer variety of life on the reefs there. I was looking for a book where it was easy to look up a fish, coral or sponge and put a name to it. This book certainly has all the data, but it's organized in a seemingly random manner. Flipping through looking for a blue fish that I saw can only be done by luck. I don't want to be one of those reviews where I had unrealistic expectations, but I'm not really sure how this book was intended to be used. It's not a cover to cover read and it's not organized by a clear visual taxonomy. Lots of info and nice pix though!

A guide to Tropical Marine Life features excellent photos and some interesting side notes on behavior and location. The fish section is much better represented than the invertebrates. Altogether a good overview of the worldwide Tropical Marine life.

Brandon Cole and Scott Michael's REEF LIFE, A GUIDE TO TROPICAL MARINE LIFE is a treasure trove of information and full-color pix of ocean life around the world. Illustrated with over 1,000 color photographs, the book is eye candy for nature lovers and divers alike. Published by Firefly Books in 2013, REEF LIFE is a hefty little book, topping off at 616 pages. After an introductory chapter on 'Tropical Marine Ecosystems,' Michael and Cole describe and illustrate 'Coral Reef Communities,' 'Ray-Finned Fishes,' 'Invertebrates,' 'Marine Reptiles,' etc. While Michael's text is certainly interesting and informative, it is Cole's photography of dartfish, razorfish, sharks, rays, angelfish, corals, hawkfish, dolphins, grunts, porkfish, seahorses, eels, butterflyfish and many others that captivate. Some 800 species of ocean life are covered in all. Being a former diver, I loved REEF LIFE. It's a wonderful, compelling and entertaining guide to the undersea world, the next best thing to strapping on your gear and swimming down to have a look yourself. Highly recommended.

This book is beautiful from the front cover to the back. The photographs are captivating and the information regarding the photos is concise and well written. This is a wonderful coffee table book and makes a terrific gift for anyone who loves underwater life or has ever gone diving. It is the ultimate guide to tropical marine life!

As an exhibit guide at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, I have found "Reef Life" an excellent source for fascinating stories to share with visitors. The photographs are superb, and the text material is highly informative. I recommend this well-organized, beautifully illustrated, encyclopedic book for anyone interested in marine life in the tropics.

I bought this guide because it not only has fishes, but also a lot of other life forms that you can see at a reef. It is very nice if you want to know the name of whatever you saw while diving and have a short informative text about it. Definitely recommendable.

This is an amazing book with great photos and wonderful, useful details about fish. It is obvious that a tremendous amount of diving, research and care went into developing it. We are active divers and SCUBA Instructors. Reef Life has already become a primary reference book in our library.

This book covers the marine life of the entire circumtropic zone describing both the citters that inhabit the zone but also describing the marine ecology of the zone. For divers and others who travel throughout the zone, this is the one single book that brings it all together. The book is easy to use, has incredible photos, and very concise and informative descriptions. This is the only guide that one should need to carry.

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