

# DIVE the Best of the Solomons with the Solomon Islands Best!



Peava Village  
SOLOMON ISLANDS

Lose yourself in the adventure

Find yourself in the richness

Situated in the southeast corner of Marovo Lagoon, our richness and variety of scenery and marine life is unparalleled. From stunning, golden soft coral encrusted walls teeming with multi-hued fans and fish, to endless fragile hard coral beds sheltering masses of marine life, to “muck dive” treasure hunts for mandarin fish, signal gobies, sea moths....we have it all!

Solomon Dive Adventures  
Charter offer:

Boat and Beach Dives  
Night Dives  
Full Rental Gear  
Camera Rental

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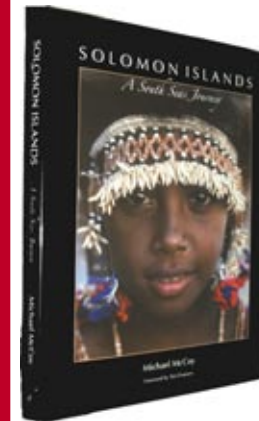
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## BOOK REVIEW

### Solomon Islands A South Seas Journey

by Patrick Pikacha



*This makes McCoy's book and its pictures an invaluable treasure not only as a photographic masterpiece of the Solomons but more importantly a respected photographic record of our history.*

McCoy's new book "Solomon Islands: A South Seas Journey" is a beautifully written book of his experience while living in Solomons for twenty six years. The book begins with a personal commentary of the author's association and interaction with the people and cultures of the Solomons. As well as of the diverse landscapes and creatures that occupy this amazing archipelago.

There are many islands and experiences mentioned in McCoy's book that still captivate ones imagination of the South Pacific, like visiting remote and isolated places seemingly lost in time, and engaging with peoples and getting immersed in customs and rituals as old as time immemorial. Like for instance his visit to Anuta Island – far-flung in eastern Solomon Islands. Anuta is hardly visited by outsiders, and little is known of the island (even by Solomon Islanders), let alone photographed. Few photographs of that island have been seen not only by outsiders overseas, but even by Honiara residents. This makes McCoy's book and its pictures an invaluable treasure not only as a photographic masterpiece of the Solomons but more importantly a respected photographic record of our history.

The photographs are separated into three categories, Reefs,



Rainforests, and Islanders. The first section in this book covers the beautiful and pristine underwater world which the Solomon Islands is well known for.

The second section of the book deals with the rainforests and its amazing biodiversity. There are photographs of rare giant rats, endemic frogs and skinks, as well as the emerald green forests that clad these high oceanic islands. At a time when the Solomons are rapidly losing these rainforests to industrial logging and deforestation to make way for the planting of large tracts of palm oil, such awareness of its unique biodiversity is especially helpful.

The last section of the book captures the people of the Solomons. There are many ethnic groups and cultures, and more than 90 languages spoken in the Solomon Islands. These photographs capture the many shades of Solomon Islanders, from Polynesians, Micronesians and Melanesians who call this vast archipelago home.

As a resident naturalist in the Solomons I've not seen a photographic book as in – depth and which highlights the truly exceptional beauty of this island country. With its 175 pages of beautifully illustrated photographs (some of which are historically significant) and large book format it is a hardback, worth every cent.

Solomon Islands: A South Seas Journey is available online at [www.goldendolphin.com/McCoyBk/McCoy01.htm](http://www.goldendolphin.com/McCoyBk/McCoy01.htm). Or may be purchased from the publisher in Solomon Islands by contacting Zipolo Habu.

