

Coolidge Capers.



Allan Power Dive Tours.

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Diving The Coolidge today.

The condition of the Coolidge has remained stable with little deterioration since The Lady fell from her original position 5 years ago. The forward of the ship is still easily accessible, with awesome dives like the Cargo Holds 1 and 2, Medical Supplies and ABC Deck ready to amaze all level of divers. Our local guides like Garry and Alfred, who have been diving the wreck for over 10 years can even take you on one of their special tours. A night dive into the Cargo Holds to see the flash light fish is still one of the best and most popular dives on the wreck.

Allan Power Dive Tours have been exploring the deeper half of the wreck for over 20 years now. There's no where really we haven't been. Some small areas have now become more accessible with new artifacts to see. These areas we can now take the more experienced and qualified divers.

Following on from our previous restoration projects we have done in the past we are now inviting divers to come and forage in the silt and uncover hidden treasures which have been buried for over 60 years. Recently with some divers we uncovered the remains of a storage cupboard containing crystal glassware including jugs, bottles and decanters which now adds even more artefacts to see as you swim through the galley. Contact us for more information.

The Legendary Boris.

It is well known now that Boris has not returned. He was last sighted over 2 years ago. We believe this was due to a duck egg size cancerous tumor which developed in his right nostril, moved across to his left nostril then receded to form a lump between his eyes.

Boris (*Epinephelus lanceolatus*) was on the wreck when Allan first dived it in 1969 along with 2 other Grouper one much larger and the other about 70kg. Allan started feeding Boris in the mid 1970's and got himself a daily \$4 fish bill. In 1976 one of the Fijian salvage workers speared him in the side and he was still bearing the scar up to when he left. Measuring 2.5 meters in length and weighing approximately 200kg he was an awesome sight cruising amongst divers at 3-5 meters. Boris used to leave every 3rd week in September to breed and return mid January the following year. See our website for the full Boris Story.

Of course Boris is sadly missed, but with a grouper of his size and no natural predators he was very territorial. Allan says it was not uncommon to see him chasing reef sharks and devouring turtles whole. Therefore with his absence The Coolidge is now teeming with even more marine life than ever before. White tip reef sharks have moved from the stern back up towards the bow, 20-30 chevron barracuda circle above the wreck and schools of batfish have made the Cargo Holds and the Promenade deck their permanent home.

Giant trevally and dog tooth tuna buzz you as you cruise around the outside of the wreck. Huge schools of yellow tailed and scissor tailed fusiliers busily feed off the side of the wreck. In fact one of the best dives on the Coolidge is to circumnavigate the outside of the wreck and get in amongst these fish. It's hard to find a dive site so easily accessible with such an abundance and variety of marine life from your large pelagics to the smallest critters. The Coolidge is a photographers dream, with exclusive guides available to get that perfect shot.

[The Coral Garden.](#)

The coral garden has been built and maintained by Allan Power and his staff for over 20 years for the benefit of our customers and has never looked better. What a great way to finish a dive. You can see anemones and their fish too numerous to count, Ghost pipe fish, cockatoo wasp fish, flatworms and a variety of shrimp are some of the more unusual species you are likely to see and gives photographers a great chance to position themselves to get that perfect shot. You certainly won't get bored doing your deco stop after your dives on the Coolidge.



[The Lady comes to Aore.](#)

Allan Power Dive Tours is pleased to announce that their dive boat **The Lady** is now operating out of Aore Island Resort on a permanent basis with only a minimum number of 2 divers. **NOTE.** The boat is still available to all other Resorts and Accommodation in Santo. **The Lady** is a covered 9.7 metre mono hull with 230hp inboard motor which enables us to get you to all the dive sites in and around Santo quickly and in comfort. She carries 14 pax comfortably giving groups easy access to the pristine reefs and the wreck of the **Henry Bonneaud** now on a more regular basis.