

Dive for Sharks

*Diving centers across the Med are joining the battle to protect sharks.
Organise a "Dive for Sharks" at your dive center - even without a real one!*

the basics

<p>What it is <i>Dive for Sharks is a shark-themed dive organized by diving centers across the Mediterranean on one or more days in August 2009.</i></p>	<p>Our objective <i>We aim to involve a high number of divers and collect signatures for the Shark Alliance petition for a stronger European finning ban.</i></p>	<p>What's the plan <i>Turn any dive into a shark dive with a "shark-hunt"! To make it informative and fun, show a presentation then organise a treasure hunt. Don't worry: we provide you with all materials!</i></p>	<p>Where and when <i>All diving centers across the Med are invited to organize a Shark Dive in one or more days in August. Please let us know when and how many divers join in!</i></p>	<p>Be a champion! <i>Dive for Sharks will give your divers another reason to come dive with you. And it will make your diving center look good too: your divers will see how you care about the marine environment.</i></p>	<p>Everything online! <i>Go to our website to read more, preview and download all materials, advertise your events, share your pictures and more. http://sharkdive.wordpress.com</i></p>
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Have you ever seen a shark in the Med?

The answer is, most likely, no. This is because sharks have declined dramatically here: 42% of the shark and ray species in the Mediterranean is now at risk of extinction.

What is the problem?

Europe still fishes for large quantities of endangered sharks. Some nations, especially Spain, even hold special permits that allow them to engage in finning - that wasteful practice of slicing off the fins and toss the shark's body overboard.

We are trying to change that.

The Shark Alliance, a coalition of more than 70 NGOs, is fighting to change European regulations that, through



loopholes, still allow finning to take place.

Divers have a chance to join the battle!

We, the divers, have a chance to join the battle. The Shark Alliance has launched a petition for a stronger European finning ban - and we should all sign it! To raise divers' awareness about sharks, we ask you to organise a *Dive for Sharks*, a quick and fun event easily organised during one of your dives.

It's easy: little work, lots of fun!

We know that in August you will have little time for extra activities. Don't worry: this event will not take much time or organisation - and we provide you with all materials.

So join us! Use your influence to involve your divers and show them how much you care about the sea.

Would you like to do more?

Turn **Dive for Sharks** into a bigger event for your dive center: throw a shark-themed evening party, show documentaries, photos, books or tell your divers your own experiences with sharks in tropical seas.

Remember: you can organize a **Dive for Sharks** event for snorkellers too, with beach hunts, slide shows, talks for kids... any activity you can imagine is welcome if it to convinces people their help and signature is needed to protect sharks and their environment.

Come on then: Dive for Sharks!
to find out more go to: <http://sharkdive.wordpress.com>