

Weekend trip to Lysekil.

In order to try some different diving and meet other divers, I had signed up for a dive weekend to Lysekil in Sweden that the dive center Kingfish arranged. It was a trip from Friday morning to Sunday evening (25 - 27 October 2013), with the possibility of up to 8 dives.

We were scheduled to meet at KingFish diving center in Copenhagen at 0700 Friday morning. This morn, departure from Svendborg at 0430, in order to avoid the worst traffic and could be at the dive center at 0630. After being welcomed by the dive center, introduced ourselves (6 divers and 1 guide/instructor) and packed all the dive equipment in to Kingfish's van, we set off towards Elsinore, where I had to park my car and drive with the other to Lysekil. On the drive to Lysekil the talk of course went in the direction of what job each other had in order to finance our hobbies. It turned out that we were a motley crowd; we even had the Danish musician "Klemens" in the crowd. He turned out to be quite capable diver and nice guy.

We drove directly to the first dive site called "Skaar", and were ready for the first dive at 13 o'clock (takes 5-6 hours to drive to Lysekil)

At the entry point, there was a slipway right next to the parking lot, so it was easy to get in the water. When we come in the water, it was then just a question whether we would follow the coast line to the left or right. On the first dive we dived to the right and on the second dive we swam to the left. In this way we had seen some of it all 😊



As I didn't really know what there was to look at where we were going to dive, I chose to let the camera be in the car on the first dive.

It turned out that it was a rock/mud/sand slope that disappeared into the darkness down below, some places vertically and elsewhere as a steep slope. There were allot of macro things, taking pictures of and the visibility was on respectable 6-8 meters. On the dive trip, we had 2 that should do the PADI AOW certification. The guide / Instructor took them under his "wing" and should dive all the dives together with them. On the first dive everything had been ok. But on their second dive it went a bit wrong for the one of the trainees who got an involuntary ascent as the use of dry suit went haywire for him.

He told later that he felt that he had too much air in the legs, so he made a somersault for getting the air from the legs. As he made a somersault for the 2nd time his feet came out of the dry suite's boots, the fins remained on the dry suit boots. Then he lost control and flew to



the surface. This of course would be enough to spook anyone who was exposed to it. Although I (and tour guide/instructor) offered him a dive on 4-5 m water, in order for him to get over, he chose to bail out and return to Copenhagen the next day.



After the second dive we went off in express speed on the narrow and bended Swedish roads, in order to find our accommodation and diner. We were accommodated by the Danish / Swedish couple, who runs "Team Poulsen". Here, was a dinner in diver-friendly quantities, a large room with bunk beds available for free disposal, rinsing/drying



room and filling station for Air, Nitrox and Trimix.

At 21 o'clock the other went off to do a quick night dive. Since I had been awake since 04 o'clock, I chose to stay at Team Poulsen to assembly my camera and get in the bunk, in order to be fresh for since 04 o'clock, I chose to stay at Team Poulsen to assembly my camera and get in the bunk, in order to be fresh for the next day's dives.

Saturday; the diving was scheduled to take place at "Ormestad". It is a small natural harbor, where there is created a platform with a stage on (it is commonly used by the locals at their spring festivals), It was also ideal as a dive platform though.

Again, it was just to wade in the water, and then just swim to the right or left.

If you swam right one came first into a mud / sand slope if we continued along the coast we came to a rock that went almost straight down into the depths.

On the mud/sand slope there was a lot of life in macro size to take pictures of. Such as; Sea



feathers, hermit crab, Butterfish, mussels, various sea anemones,

regular Beach crabs, masking crabs, different seaweed species with lots of different marine life in it.



On the second dive my dive buddy, Martin, and I

stayed in the area off the sail boat in the small harbor. Here again was a lot to take macro shots of, so all types of camera had good conditions here. After the dive we went back to Team Poulsen to get the cylinders filled and dinner before it was departure for a night dive.



Night dive was at "Jordfall". It is also a port where we followed a rock wall on the left side, just outside the port. The first stretch until one reach the rock is mud/sand bottom, with the usual seaweed and resident animals. When we reached the rock it all changed, as there were a lot of boulders at the foot of the cliff wall. There are also a lot of small caves, where the fish are hiding. At 10-12 m depth, there is also a horizontal crevice in the rock. The crack extends right far outward, and is from approx. 20 cm to approx. 80 cm wide and up to 1, 5 m deep. In the crevice we could find a lot of different life ea. Different fish, crabs, Troll lobster and Lobster.



As we came to rock wall, the first we saw was an eel that was about to eat a dead fish. It looked most of all like a wrestling match, such as the eel coiled, twisted and turned itself. It was a great place to dive, and just like all the other dives, this one also ended at approx. 50 min. dive time.

Sunday and last day with 2 dives before it was time to drive toward old Denmark again: we chose to dive at

"Ormestad" again. This time, my boddy Martin and I, choose to try the rock wall to the left. We swam on the surface to the outside of the rock before we descended. Here the rock fell almost vertically down to 10 meters, where there was a small flat ledge, whereupon the rock disappeared vertically towards 90-100m depth. All of a sudden the magic code word was "buoyancy" ☺.



At 20 m the rock wall began to slanting inwards so that we had the wall out over us as we looked up from 25-27 m depth. Down here there was not so much light left, I had to turn the focus light on one flash to make the camera's autofocus figure it out Most life we saw out here was algae and various anemones.



We swam along the rock wall, back toward the small port. After we came round the outer corner and came a little farther towards the Harbor, the seabed came up



to 15-20 m depth, here there was a lot of rocks along with rock wall, where many fish and various crabs had found their homes. We finished the dive by launching our SMB (surface marker buoy), so that boats on the surface had a chance to see us as we lay there at 3 m. After all it was a small port. We came surfaced at sailing boat and swam the last 100m on the surface.

On the last dive it was the intention that I should have had a solo dive and stayed at 5-8m and taken pictures. But since I had lost the spring strap on one of my fins, my last dive was cancelled.

The trip was pretty good and there was a lot to look at and photograph underwater, although most were for macro photo. It is always great to get out and meet others and see how they dive and their approach and thoughts about how to dive.

I can only recommend participating in such small dive trips. This trip was organized by the dive center KingFish, with everything included from Copenhagen (transport, Ferry Helsingør-Helsingborg, food, accommodation, air) and back to Copenhagen and only cost 2000,-Dk kr.



Olsen

