USS Lagarto

THAILAND

The final resting place of the American World War Two submarine USS Lagarto was discovered in May 2005, but it was only formally verified as the sub in June 2006. It is believed the vessel was sunk by a depth charge from the Japanese destroyer Hatsuakari in May 1945.

This 100-metre Balao-class submarine is shrouded in nets but is fully intact, and divers can see the guns, twin propellers, anchor, dive planes, conning tower – complete with target sight, telegraph and target data transmitter – and sealed escape hatch.

The Lagarto, a respected war grave, lies in 73m in the Gulf of Thailand, making it out of bounds to all but experienced technical divers.

Suddhadib

THAILAND

The wreck of the Suddhadib, also known as the Hardeep – an Anglicisation of Suddhadib – lies in a depth of 26m on its starboard side and is one of the most-popular dives out of Pattaya. It sank on 1 June 1945 when the Royal Thai Navy at anchor off Koa Chuang was attacked by a squadron of B24 Liberators.

This 68-metre passenger/cargo vessel, named after the favourite daughter of King Rama V, is now encrusted in coral and sponge growth, and plays host to a range of marine life, including turtles, rays, groupers, pufferfish and other reef dwellers. Penetration is possible into the forward and aft holds, and divers can actually swim its length without leaving the wreck.
The warm waters of South East Asia are home to some of the world’s most-famous wartime wrecks, not to mention countless maritime casualties, making it a Mecca for wreck-diving enthusiasts.

**HMS REPULSE**
South China Sea

**USS LAGARTO**
Thailand

**SUDDHADIB**
Thailand

**KING CRUISER**
Thailand

**LIBERTY**
Bali

**OLYMPIA MARU**
Philippines

**BLACKJACK BOMBER**
Papua New Guinea

**SHINWA MARU**
Indonesia

**HMS HERMES**
Sri Lanka

**MABINI PADRE**
Malaysia

...100 ESSENTIAL WRECK DIVES