



## Charlestown Diving Academy

# CDAA Penetration Diver Course

Defined as an enclosed body of water containing overhangs, silt, darkness zones, and passages that are at all times large enough for two divers to swim adjacent to each other and turn around together. Cave sites allow a maximum penetration of 1/3 of a twin cylinder gas supply.

### STUDENT PRE-REQUISITES

- Hold an entry level SCUBA award for a minimum of 12 months.
- Hold a CDAA Deep Cavern or Sinkhole Diver award.
- Have logged a minimum of 30 cavern dives totalling a minimum of 15 hours, or 15 sinkhole dives totalling a minimum of 7.5 hours.
- Minimum age 18 years.
- Successfully complete a diving medical statement.

### WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

To include equipment, anti-silting techniques, dive planning, decompression related to cave diving, line techniques, underwater communications, emergency / problem solving, cave conservation, air consumption, physiological considerations, access protocols, accident analysis

### EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Suitable exposure suit.
- Two masks. Taped straps or neoprene/Velcro strap.
- Fins. Straps taped or use springheels. Preferably no split fins
- Two small sharp line cutting devices.
- Watch or bottom timer or computer.
- Compass.
- Depth Gauge or computer.
- Buoyancy Control Device (must be in addition to the exposure suit)
- Appropriate weighting. v weights or weight belt if required.
- Twin cylinders (minimum combined capacity of 2200 litres) of equal capacity, securely held in an acceptable configuration with DIN valves.
- Two DIN regulators with
  - A single second stage on each (no unused hoses to be left attached)
  - A low pressure inflator hose (if a drysuit is worn its inflator should come from the other cylinder)
  - A submersible pressure gauge for each regulator, unless using an isolating manifold. .
- One primary and two back up lights, each capable of lasting the duration of the dive.
- Submersible decompression tables
- Pencil and slate (or wet notes).
- Approved reel and guideline
- 2 spools/jump reels each with minimum of 15m of line
- Minimum of 2 directional markers ie line arrows
- Minimum of 4 non-directional personal markers, eg cookies or pegs
- Helmet and harness for climbing
- Stage tank minimum capacity of 1200 litres with suitable attachment clips (eg bolt snaps) and a stage regulator with single regulator on a suggested hose length of 60cm, SPG on a short hose eg 12cm

### FINAL COURSE SKILLS

- To include equipment critique, S drills, jump reel use, lost line search, black out drill, gear removal / restriction exercise, mask and regulator change over, valve shutdowns, entanglement removal / line cutting, stress management exercise, air sharing through restrictions, stage tank use/remove/replace.
- Six dives in CDAA rated Cavern, Cave and Penetration sites.



**"So much ocean, So little time"**

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