

FABULOUS FIJI

Tons of fish, fire-walking humans, and soft corals in every color make Fiji fantastic **BY TERRY WARD**



5 Namena Reef



8 Beqa Lagoon

1 GET AIR Say “Bula!” from a wicker basket high above Fiji’s rugged, river-ravaged hinterlands during a hot-air-balloon trip. (adrenalinfiji.com)

2 GO CHASING WATER-FALLS Lose track of how many gush down the cliffs into the Upper Navua River during a raft ride through Viti Levu’s most remote terrain. (riversfiji.com)

3 FIRE WALKERS Marvel as members of the Sawau tribe — Fiji’s legendary fire walkers, who hail from Beqa but perform nationwide — tread white-hot rocks.

4 JOIN A KAVA CIRCLE Learn the clapping code (three times before sipping) when you’re welcomed into a ritualistic kava ceremony.

5 WIDE-ANGLE WONDER Ready your lens for a kaleidoscope of soft corals and anthias at the incomparable Namena Reef, off Namenalala.

6 MANTA DANCE North of Kadavu on the Astrolabe Reef, mantas bound for cleaning stations sweep in over candy-colored corals.

7 DIVE THE BLIGH Dive into a diverse gathering of pelagics, hanging soft-coral

gardens and hard-coral plateaus that make the Bligh Waters, off Viti Levu’s north coast, legendary. (wananavu.com)

8 FINNED FRENZY Tigers, lemons, bulls: Sharks of all kinds make close passes during dives in Beqa Lagoon. (aquatrek.com)

9 DEEP THRILLS Pinnacles E6 and Hi8 rise to the surface from thousands of feet, luring hammerheads and eagle rays en masse.

10 DRIFT RUSH Currents propel you over Rainbow Reef’s spectrum of soft corals in the Somosomo Strait.

FOR MORE INFO, visit sportdiver.com/fiji, or fiji.com.tv.



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