

INTERNATIONAL

Water People - a couple's journey to live from the sea

„Is it still possible for us humans to live off our local environment? Two years ago, we set out to live on the sea and learned to let ourselves drift with the wind and get our energy from the sun. Yet somehow we are still eating fish out of a can!“



by Tim Burgess and Mitchelle Nieuwenhuizen

We have to confess that in the almost 3 years we have lived on the water together, we have never caught a fish!

They swim right under the boat and there are probably wild food plants on the shore. So why do we go straight to a supermarket when we arrive on a new island? It's especially crazy when we know that most of the things we buy, whether meat or vegetables, have been imported from hundreds or thousands of kilometres away and are usually wrapped in plastic. Our carbon footprint and plastic waste mean that this is a totally unsustainable way of living with the natural world on which we depend. Why are we doing this? Is it

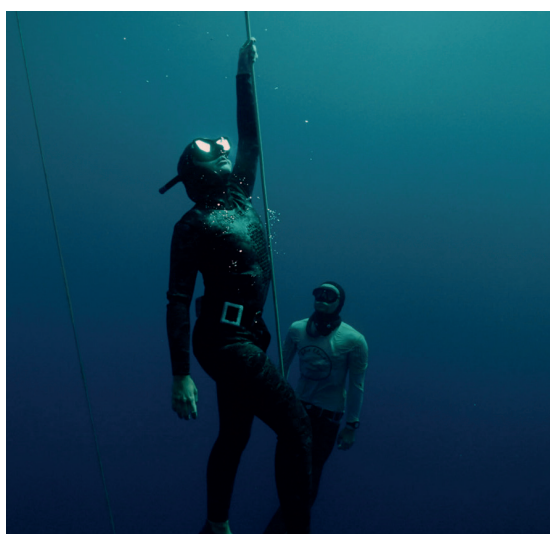
out of convenience? Yes, we can quickly buy everything we need in the supermarket. But it's also because we don't have the skills or knowledge of how to do it differently. What food is available locally at this time of year? And then where and how do we get it?

For us, everywhere we go there is water, so it makes a lot of sense for us to look at our options here, and that's what our upcoming film is about! Can we learn to live off the sea, and can we do it in a sustainable way? We are heading to the Bahamas in search of lost skills, to learn how to hunt and feed ourselves, and to find out if there is a sustainable way to do it.

We have documented the journey so far - moving onto the boat and crossing our first ocean - in our YouTube vlog *Sailing Beyond Borders*.

Water People: A Couple's Journey to Live from the Sea is a standalone film complemented by engaging social media content throughout the adventure and production. Experts in the fields of free diving, foraging and sustainability will share their knowledge with us and the audience.

This is first and foremost a wild and uplifting adventure. It's about inspiring people to get out into nature and think about how they live with their environment. We are all on our own journey



Deep, calm and clear... this place offers some of the best free-diving conditions in the world and that's why we came here! Before we can become underwater explorers, we need to improve our skills in the water.

and this is not a film telling people what they should or shouldn't do.

A first look behind the scenes: We had our toughest crossing yet and arrive in Dominica with some issues to resolve before we can start learning to freedive. We hope that by developing these skills we will have a better chance of diving down and catching our own dinner.

Schedule

Oct - Nov 2021

Film production & ongoing socials: Learning to freedive from the pros, sailing from Grenada to the Bahamas.

Jan - Feb 2022

Film production & ongoing social activities

Filming in the Bahamas - learning to hunt and forage, interviews with leading sustainability scientists.

Mar - Apr 2022

Post-production & ongoing social Editing, sound design and mixing, colour correction, pre-production, script development, logistics, boat preparation, website development, social media campaign launch.

May 2022

Film distribution & ongoing social contacts Official release - Netflix/Amazon/YouTube, film festival tour and Q&A.

Links

www.youtube.com/sailingbeyondborders

www.instagram.com/sailingbeyondborders

www.timburgess.tv

Grant Period:

2021 - 2022

Grant 2021:

4.500 EUR

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