

Offshore Adventures



Resorts are always looking for fun activities to attract guests and earn ancillary revenue. Here are some ideas for a fun-filled season on the waterfront.

Power Propulsion

Snorkel tours are getting up to speed with new underwater propulsion devices. The scooters are in use by snorkelers on Hula Kai excursions on Hawaii's Big Island, which calls them Sea Rockets.

Todd Richards of Sports Dimensions in Torrance, Calif., says underwater propulsion devices such as the new SeaDoo Explorer ZS07 can reach speeds of up to 3.3 miles per hour and have a run time of up to 2 hours. Because they have a neutral buoyancy, they don't float up or pull users deeper into the water. Tour operators can usually do a short session in shallow water or a pool to train guests, and then it's off to enjoy the underwater scenery.

"As is the case with anything you do in the water, there are always safety issues," he says, "but they're really very simple to use."

Bounce!

Trampolines are always popular with kids, but a new system from SeaDoo called Splash Island adds splash to bounce. The floating trampolines come with a six- to nine-foot jumping area surrounded by a



Snorkel tours like the one above can cover more ground with underwater propulsion devices.

(Left) What's more fun than a trampoline? A trampoline on the water!

soft floatation ring. Platforms on each side allow non-jumpers to watch while they await their own turns for fun.

Snuba

Snuba, a new form of diving that's growing in popularity, combines the ease of snorkeling with the freedom of scuba. The equipment consists of a flotation raft equipped with a standard scuba compressed-air tank and two 20-foot long air hoses with regulators attached. Two divers pull the raft along the surface while participants are fitted with a hose harness, mask, fins, and weight belt. The hose harness prevents the regulator mouthpiece from being pulled out of the mouth while the 20-foot hose delivers the air and pulls the raft. Divers receive instructions on the safety aspects of the system, practice in shallow water, and then participate in a guided underwater tour. Maximum depth is 20 feet, with depths averaging 10-15 feet. There are no decompression concerns with Snuba even though it is compressed-air breathing, as the depth is shallow and the average time underwater is 30-40 minutes. The pre-dive orientation and practice of water skills checks divers for proper weighting, addresses continuous breathing, ascending techniques, (hand-over-hand up the air hose) and ear equalization. The 2.5 million Snuba dives conducted to date have all been without injury in this fully supervised, licensed, and guided program.

Snuba International was founded in 1988 by the three principals of Sub Sea Systems, which has been producing tourist (semi-



After a brief training session, Snuba divers are ready to explore shallow waters--and greet the creatures they meet.

subs) submarines since 1985. All Snuba use is conducted by licensed operators who adhere to specific safety standards and operational guidelines developed by Snuba International and dive-industry personnel. For more information, visit www.snuba.com. **R+R**

An advertisement for SCS Interactive, featuring the company logo and several circular images of waterpark structures and children playing. The background is a light blue water splash.

SCS
interactive
the source of great waterparks

- Truly interactive water play structures
- Theme park quality theming
- Options and flexibility for parks of all sizes and budgets
- Indoor and outdoor water play structures
- New and innovative products

888.214.9698 | scsinteractive.com