

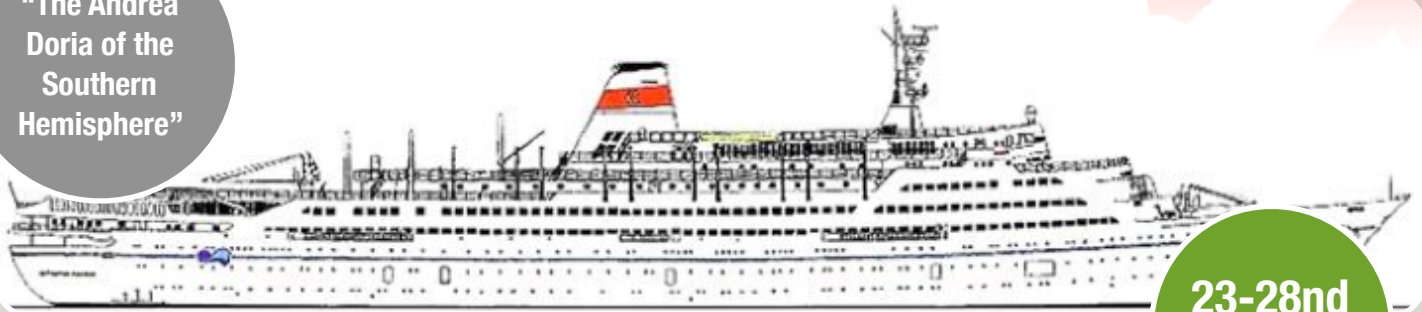
Pete Mesley's

# Lust4Rust & SHOCKAWAY

BIG Animal Diving

## MIKHAIL LERMONTOV

"The Andrea Doria of the Southern Hemisphere"



23-28nd  
OCT 2019

### COME AND DIVE THE MIKHAIL LERMONTOV

Full CCR and Technical diver support. compressor, Surface Supplied O2, Nitrox on tap. Unlimited Diving

Come and dive one of the Southern Hemisphere's best wrecks. She lies on her starboard side in 36m/120ft of water at the deepest point, rising to 12m/40ft at the shallowest point!

The Mikhail Lermontov is a perfect wreck for all levels of wreck diver, from beginner to Advanced Wreck Penetration diver. There is something for



Clock on Starboard deck

everyone! She is located in the waters of Port Gore at the top of the South Island, NZ hence on these trips we leave from Wellington, making it easy for people to travel to. The trip is 5 days which will give you a good opportunity to get some great diving in.

For added safety, all dives are choreographed to ensure that no-one will overlap other teams penetrating the ship.

The Flightless will moor up on the Lermontov from 8am each morning and stay there for the entire day.

If more advanced divers wish to do a 3 hour runtime, or single tank recreational

divers would like to do multiple shorter dives, these can easily be achieved.

We have two efficient compressors running on the top decks minimising filling time, thus ensuring that you can get back into the water without delay. We also have surface supplied oxygen for efficient off gassing.

Your time on New Zealand's "Andrea Doria" of wreck dives will be a memorable one.



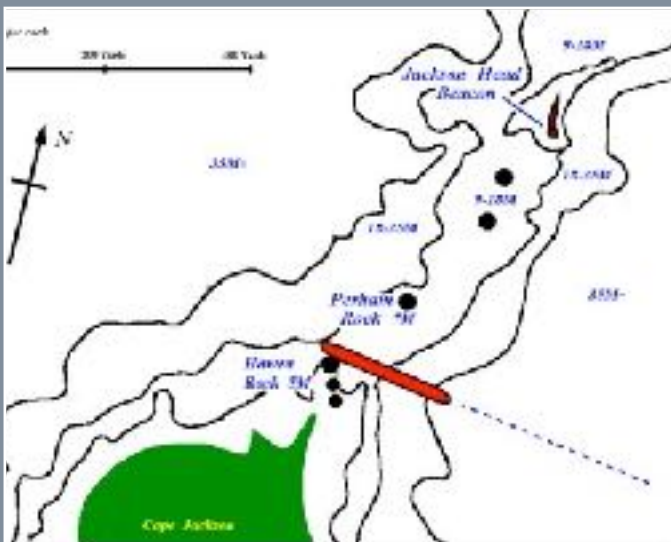
Books in Library

#### WHAT IS THE PRICE OF THE TRIP?

5 DAYS DIVING

Trip cost:  
\$2299.00nz twin share room

# HISTORY



## That fatal passage!

This is where the ship squeezed through the gap at Capt Jackson. Note how close to the Mainland the ship went (in green) The distance from the mainland to the lighthouse was less than 150m/450ft!

## Suspicious circumstances sees the Lermontov passing dangerously close to the shore!

On the morning of Saturday, the 15th of February 1986 at midnight she departed Wellington to cross the treacherous Cook Strait for Picton at the head of the Queen Charlotte Sound on the Northern coast of the South Island.

The following morning she departed Picton at 3 pm for Milford Sound. Captain Don Jamison, a Marlborough Sounds harbour pilot was to remain aboard the vessel instead of leaving her at Long Island, so that he could be available to pilot the vessel into Milford Sound.

743 people were on board. 372 passengers, and 348 crew. About 5:37 pm there was a thud and the ship started to list as the sea flooded through a 40ft long gash in the hull, penetrating three water-tight bulkheads. The water short-circuited the

electrical system, thereby stopping the engines.

It is reputed that at 6:03 pm a Mayday call was broadcast, but this is disputed by local VHF operators. Presumably, because of language problems, no announcements were made to passengers to advise them of the position and tell them what to do, although many passengers were alerted to the problem by the fact that the crew were wearing life-jackets. The band continued to play, but the wine tasting stopped when the list sent glasses sliding off the tables.

The crippled liner took on a 12° list and drifted into Port Gore where Captain Vorobyev tried to beach his ship. At 10.15 pm she was listing 40° to starboard and at 10.27 pm she foundered sinking, sinking by the bow and laying over on her starboard side in Gore Bay.



Astoria Bar

**FULL  
NITROX  
FACILITIES  
ONBOARD!**

## Proposed Itinerary:

What you will need to do is be in Picton on the 23rd October 2019 NO later than 6pm. There are a number of ways to come.

If you are coming via Wellington then you need to Board the Inter-islander Ferry to Picton on the 2:45pm Sailing (You will NEED to purchase your own tickets online for this. [www.interislander.co.nz/](http://www.interislander.co.nz/)) We will probably take the earlier ferry to get into Picton at 12pm. Please bear in mind that these ferry times may change to make sure you are aware of this. There are earlier times that day which is also fine.

It is really important that you do this as soon as you can as space is limited and if you don't get onto this ferry sailing you miss out on the trip. Or have to get an earlier sailing. (Ferry bookings normally open 6 months ahead of time)

23 Oct – Wellington Inter-islander Ferry crossing 2:45pm sailing (latest) But recommended to get the earlier ferry leaving at 9:30am. Load boat and sail 3/4 of the way towards the Lermi.

24–28 Oct – DIVE THE LERMII!

28 Oct – Late afternoon/early evening get into Picton. Stay the night onboard boat in Picton.

29 Oct – 10:45am Inter-islander Ferry crossing back to Wellington.

We will be back in Wellington approx. 1:55pm on the 29th Oct. IF you are flying out of Wellington then its important to leave a good few hours to accommodate for bad weather. Also a flexible return flight ticket may be an option for you too.

The vessel has NZ plugs, all 240v sockets for charging batteries. We will have camera fresh water rinse bins.

## Whats included?

- Accommodation onboard vessel
- All diving
- All bedding/towels
- All food and soft drinks

## Extras? (all in NZ\$)

- AIR fills – \$10 single, \$15 twins
- NITROX fills – \$15 single, \$30 set of twins
- Twin tank hire/day – \$15
- CCR tank hire \$15/day for pair
- Sorb: \$15/kg
- Oxygen – \$0.04c/litre

## Cabin Options? (all in NZ\$)

- \$2299.00 all are twin share cabins with shared Toilets and Showers

## What to bring?

- Water temp in Oct is normally round the 14–16°C/ mark, so drysuits are the norm.
- Any alcohol you want
- All personal dive gear (there is no spare)

**BOOK NOW!!!**

**Contact Pete Mesley**

[pete@Lust4Rust.co](mailto:pete@Lust4Rust.co)



# AFFINITY



Back Deck for gear



O2 Booster, compressor



Gearing up area



Entry area



Spacious saloon and accom