

# INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE Bengi



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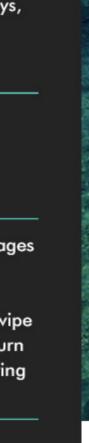
Welcome to Issue 71 of the World's Number One Kitesurfing Magazine! This issue we follow the F-One team as they head back to Madagascar and find it is still firing ten years one! We look at what it takes to be a Pro on the Cabrinha Riders Academy, plus Aaron Hadlow and Laci Kobulsky are here with the final

instalment of their TWENTY feature length movie piece. Reed Brady gets the ten questions and Jalou Langeree is our Female Focus! Plus there is lots of technique, loads of tests and you'll find plenty more inside too! The magazine is packed, as always, with the best photos, stories and videos!

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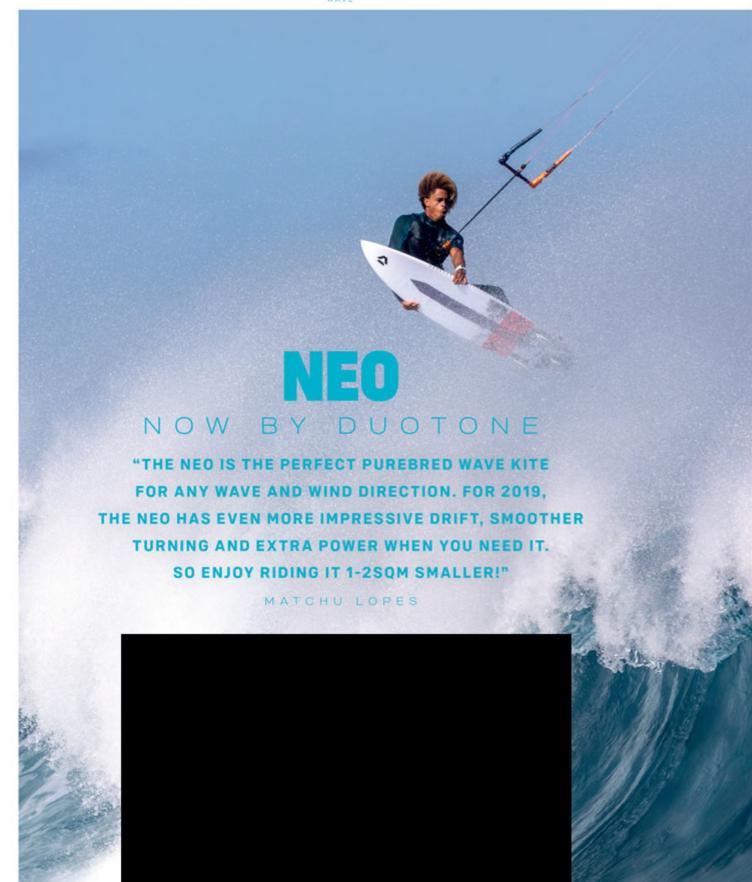




# - MADAGASCAR ON FIRE -

SO YOU WANT TO BE A PRO / AARON HADLOW - TWENTY PART THREE REED BRADY / JALOU LANGEREE / TESTS. TECHNIQUE & MORE INSIDE

THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE KITESURF MAGAZINE



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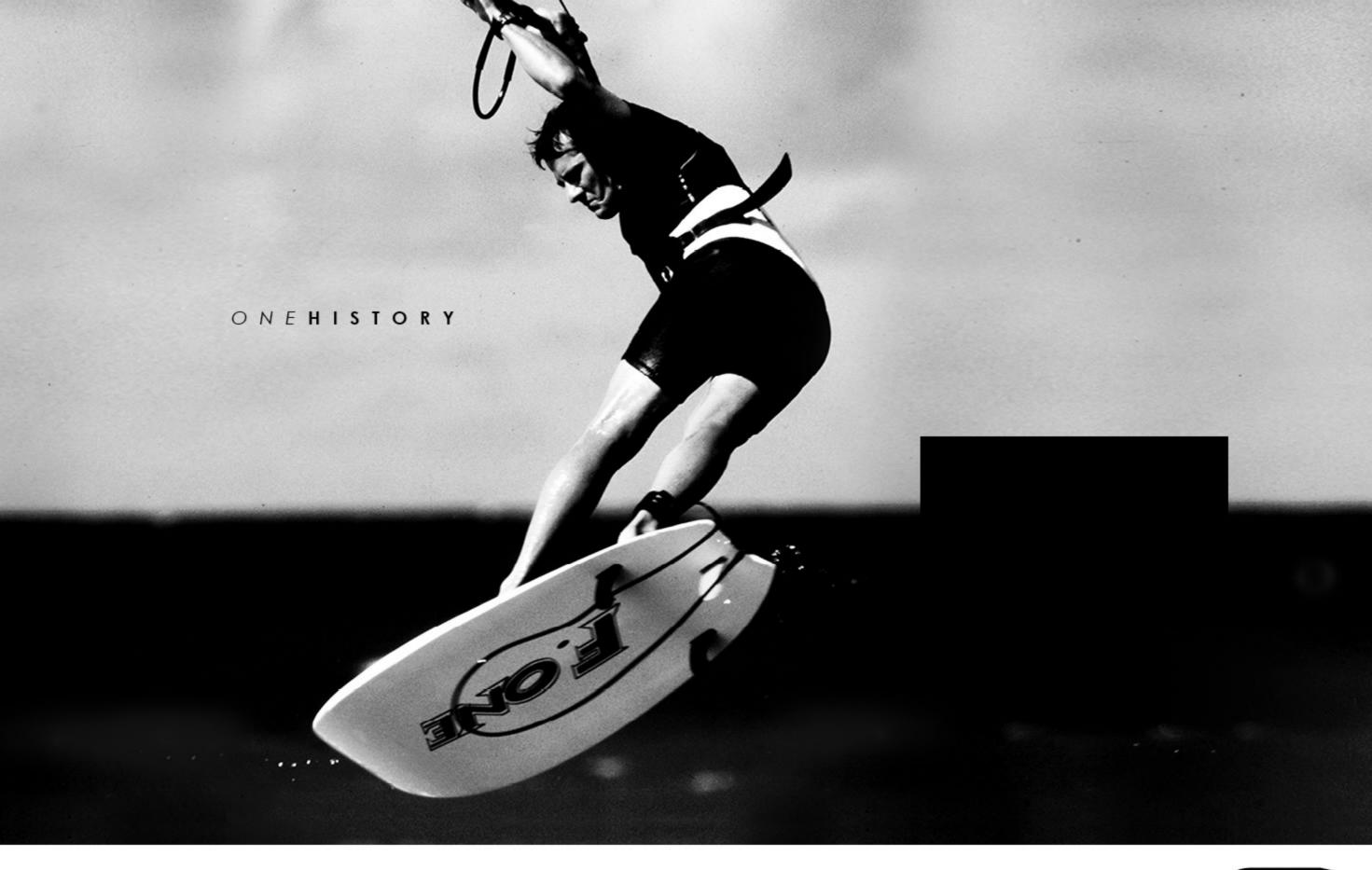


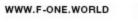
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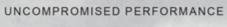
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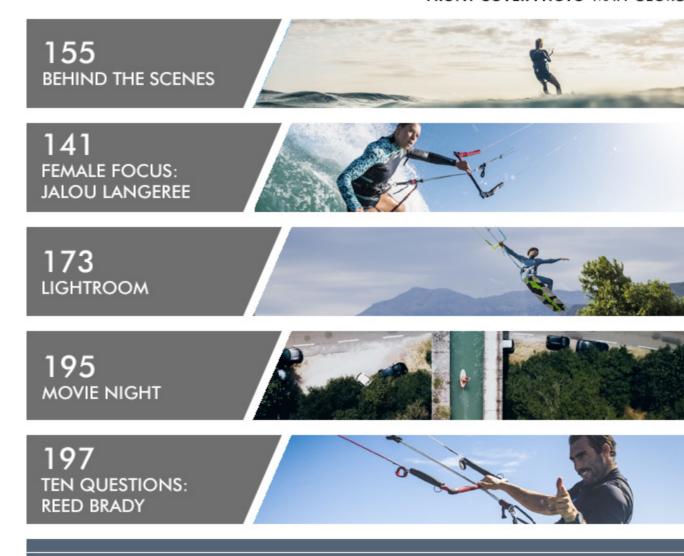












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COMPETITION

# ...A 2019 MERCURY 6/4 FREEZIP AND VEX HARNESS FROM PROLIMIT!

This issue we have teamed up with Prolimit to bring you this incredible prize package that will be perfect for keeping you warm this winter! The Mercury 6/4 Freezip is a top of the range suit packed with features to create a wetsuit that feels as good as it looks. Constructed our of NeoLight Neoprene this new material is lighter and warmer thanks to the higher concentration of air bubbles at a molecular level. Triple glued and blindstitched with FTM seams ensure a durable watertight and flexible wetsuit while the Freezip construction makes it a breeze to get on and off. Lastly, the Neo Quick Dry lining and Zodiac lining will keep you warm on the coldest of days and help your suit dry quickly for those back to back sessions!

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A huge thanks to Prolimit for such a fantastic prize, good luck in the competition!

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By subscribing to IKSURFMAG you'll be entered into all future prize draws and be first to read the magazine. We will never spam you and only email about new issues or important IKSURFMAG news.



Last time I sat down to write this editorial we were deep into one of the most windless periods in the UK that I can remember. Thankfully, the wind is back, but I've missed it all! As luck would have it, I crashed my mountain bike in the Alps in August; it was one of those hits you don't bounce back from. To cut a long story short, I snapped everything that connects my foot to my leg, spent three days in the hospital, had a lot of metalwork put in during a lengthy operation and have spent the last 2 months playing the worlds longest game of "The Floor Is Lava 50% Edition".

As luck would have it, the day we got back from France the wind picked up and blew for a solid two weeks. WOO scores crumbled, stoke was felt, and there were smiles all round at the local beach. It was all I could do to balance on one leg and launch Mary's 7m kite without falling over. What a difference a few split seconds can make to your life!

I'm on the mend now, I started learning to walk again this week, which sounds silly, but believe me, it's quite hard! The prognosis is that I should make a decent enough recovery, perhaps not 100% but I'll be happy with anything above 80. To be honest, I'm just looking forward to putting a pair of shoes on sometime in November and walking without crutches!

One thing this minor set back has given me though is the priceless gift of time. While I can't head to the beach, or go to the woods to play on my toys, I do have the use of both my hands, which I am genuinely thankful for. The last two months have been the most productive I've had in years. I've even managed to get my new podcast show off the ground, among other things. If you've not listened yet, then be sure to click HERE to check it out. It's available on all the various apps and players. Intriguing Beings, as it is called, sets out to have interesting and inspiring conversations with all sorts of people. So far I've chatted to Nick Jacobsen, Dave Hastilow and Steph Bridge, and I have plenty more lined up for the future.

Enjoy the windy season, and my podcast on the way to the beach!

Rou Chater
Publishing Editor















dling, even when depowered, sheeted out and drifting downwind. Where any other kite would barely steer at all, or fall out of the sky, the SST drifts like a feather remaining quick and reactive at the bar, almost as if it knows what you're going to do before you do it. means surf, foiling, freeride freedom. Carve upwind for miles to find the best sw The SST means surf, foiling, freeride freedom. Carve upwind for miles to slash harder than riders half your age, then dash downwind, swap your

FREEDOM AT LASST / SIZES: 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 12



WORDS CHLOE SCAMPS PHOTO YDWER VAN DER HEIDE

Madagascar has to be up there as one of the most intriguing kitesurfing destinations on the planet. The island is famed not only for the movie of the same name and the lemurs, but also for the incredible poverty. Amongst this abstract backdrop live a people who are as welcoming as their smiles are wide. The beaches are beautiful, the waves are world class and the wind blows most days...

# MADAGASCAR





# " MEMORABLE SESSIONS AND UNFORGETTABLE ACCIDENTS WOULD BE A GOOD WAY TO SUM UP THAT FIRST ADVENTURE! "

Exactly ten years ago, F-ONE planned the trip of a lifetime to Madagascar; they were keen to discover a new kite spot for the annual photo shoot. Raphael Salles and some of their riders have been back a few times to the island off the coast of Africa and every trip has been memorable.

Having not been for a while, the decision was made that it was time to return.

Raphael and Micka Fernandez were telling the rest of the team some of the stories from

their first trip there. Memorable sessions and unforgettable accidents would be a good way to sum up that first adventure!

Micka ended up with a huge hole in his jaw after a bad crash, he needed stitches and medical attention yet they were hours away from the nearest hospital! Raph decided to take him to the hospital on a jet ski, a journey of a few hours, which thankfully worked out fine. Leaving Micka at the hospital, Raph headed back to the lodge, however when he arrived at the lagoon in front of the lodge it was dead low tide and the ski ran aground.

Raph had to sleep on his jet ski in the middle

lagoon overnight until the next high tide. It wasn't fun at the time, Raph recalls being extremely cold in the desert night. In the end he made it back to the lodge and Micka got stitched up and headed home.

It wasn't long after that they hired a helicopter for a photoshoot to get some aerial images - ten years ago drones weren't around of course. After shooting for a while the pilot decided to park the helicopter on a stretch of sand and go for lunch at a beach shack.

The pilot hadn't realised the tide was changing and when they returned to the heli it was almost underwater. With the rear blades just out of the water the pilot ran and attempted to start it up and get it out of the sea. Thankfully he managed it, the heli was saved and the mission could continue!

71 MADAGASCAR ON FIRE

# WORLD CLASS WAVES AS WELL AS THE INCREDIBLE EMERALD SEA: IT'S THE IDEAL SPOT FOR ANY KITEBOARDER."

That first trip to Madagascar left them with some amazing memories not to be forgotten. Now it was time to create some new ones.

Ten years later, Raph wanted to go on an anniversary trip back to those two original spots, Anakao and Babaomby. This time he wanted to take a fresh-blooded team. Only Raph, Micka and Mitu had been there a decade ago. Mitu and Micka were excited to return to the island, which offers world class waves as well as the incredible Emerald Sea: it's the ideal spot for any kiteboarder.

# **ANAKAO**

Riders: Raphael SALLES, Micka FERNANDEZ, Mitu MONTEIRO, Camille DELANNOY, Filippe FERREIRA

The trip starts in Anakao, in the south east of Madagascar, the spot is fantastic for waves but also for strapless freestyle. To get there, you have to take an internal flight from the main airport of Antananarivo, then a long ride in a zebu carriage (bus) followed by a lengthy boat trip.

On arrival the locals welcomed us with all the gear they had left ten years ago: Bandit Dos kites are still going strong, as are the t-shirts and clothes they left behind! It's very thoughtful of them, and the crew feels back at home right away.

Walter, the hotel owner, has been there for twenty years, he trains and hires a hundred people at his resort, the Anakao Ocean Lodge and has also opened a local school. He pays for two teachers to take care of around twenty kids; it's great to see the local community doing so well after all these years!



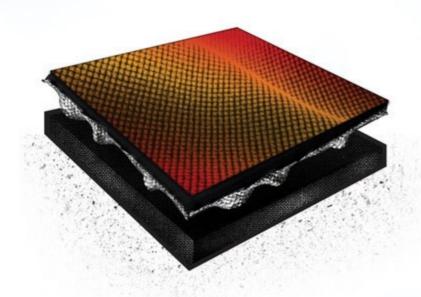
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# **HEAT • PROTECT • REFLECT**

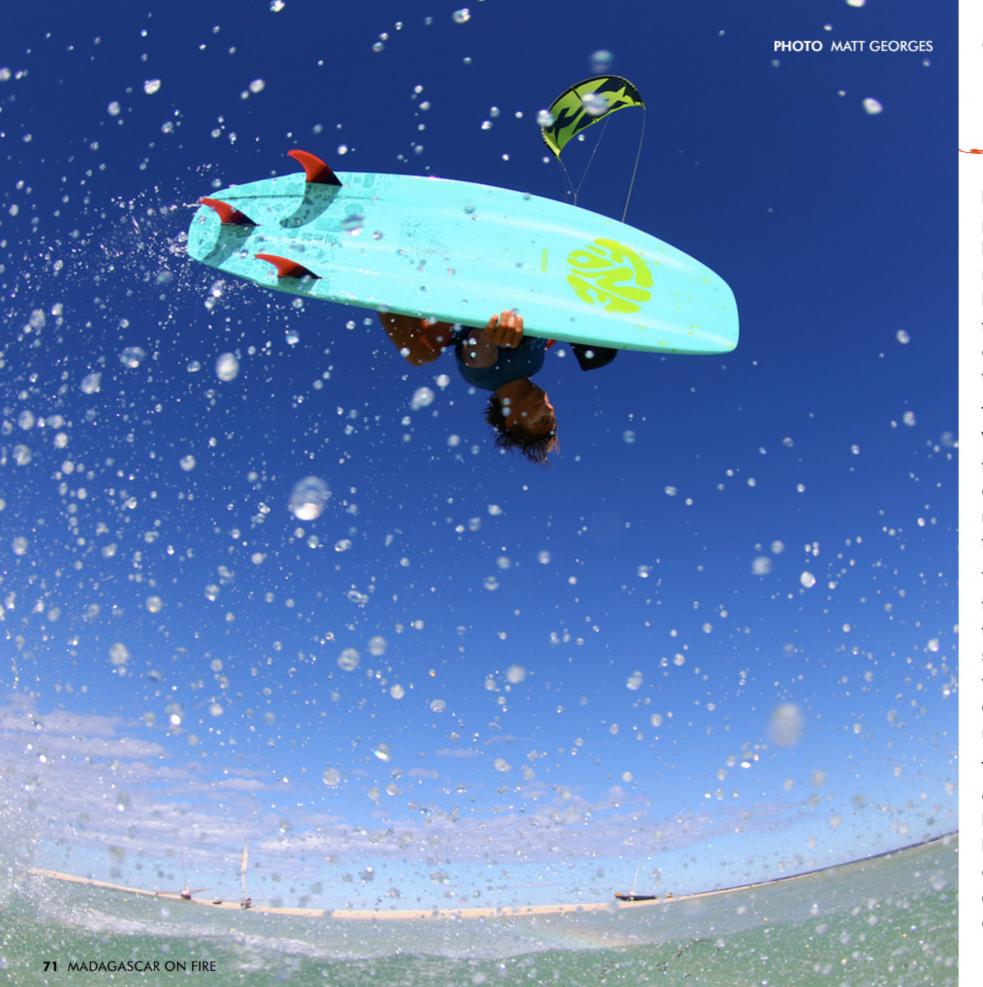
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# 'YOU'VE GOT TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT KITE AS THERE IS NO TURNING BACK, IF YOU BREAK ANYTHING YOU'RE IN TROUBLE TOO, AND IF THE WIND DIES THEN IT CAN BE A VERY LONG SLOG BACK UPWIND "

It was 10am when we arrived, the forecast was promising and we pumped up to get in the water. We had come to Anakao for one reason: Flameballs. This mythical left hand point break is the most amazing kite wave Raphael has discovered to this day, but it is fickle and doesn't work all the time. The group couldn't miss a moment to score the wave whenever there was a chance it could be on.

To get there, a boat takes you to a desert island Nose Ve, where you can set up and launch your kite, then there's a 5km downwinder to reach the spot on the edge of a lagoon. Of course from the lodge you have no idea if it is working or not, and the trip to the wave takes a couple of hours from start to finish.

You've got to choose the right kite as there is no turning back, if you break anything you're in trouble too, and if the wind dies then it can be a very long slog back upwind, or even worse a swim in sharky waters! The first session was a memorable one, after all the travelling it was great to get some waves and relax into the vibe of Madagascar at last.

The following days light wind and smaller swell offered great surf and foiling opportunities. While Flameballs is a fast barrelling left, just north of Nose Ve is another more accessible wave on the reef called Jelly Babies, this offers both rights and lefts and its the perfect wave to warm up to the challenge of Flameballs.





The crew had one unforgettable day at Flameballs, where everything came together and the conditions were perfect. The wind direction offered the ideal angle, it was strong enough to make getting back to the take-off easy, and the waves were huge and glassy. This was what we had travelled thousands of miles for! Micka summed up the session up by saying he felt like Kelly Slater all day.

Everything in Anakao is based is around the ocean. Women, helped by their children,

spend hours in the water chasing squids. Fishermen have a lot of work, even if they express their despair as they notice that the ocean is now cruelly starting to lack fish. One day Raph saw two fishermen, a father and son, struggling to paddle back on their canoe. He hopped on to the boat with his kite and took them back to the shore. Making yet more friends made in this magical place!

The climate is so dry here that it is virtually impossible to grow anything. The ocean provides everything for these people and it is a stark reminder that we need to protect this fragile ecosystem.

On windless days we go to the village nearby. It's an emotional experience; whilst we are having the best time in a plush resort the locals are living with nothing. It was fun playing with the kids, but very humbling given the poverty everywhere. Filippe had a hard time dealing with the contrast of it all and in an effort to give something back gave away all of his clothes.

The kids were thrilled with such a gift, and instantly looked like cool Brazilian surfer dudes! They were also amazed with all the tech toys, they loved seeing their image on screens and the riders had the best time dancing with them all to the sound of Mitu's wireless speakers.

71 MADAGASCAR ON FIRE



The crew is always on the go, not wanting to waste any minute of the trip. We start with a 7am meeting every morning to decide where to go and what to ride depending on the conditions. Luckily we brought everything, so between kites, SUP's, surfboards and foils we were on the water as much as possible!

One afternoon after surfing, Mitu decided to kite Flameballs as the swell was huge. We couldn't keep the kites at 12 o'clock on the beach, but he put on quite a show with his  $10\text{m}^2$ , creating his own wind with the currents. He surfed like he had no kite and got barrelled like never before with his lines completely slack. Anyone else would have drowned there, yet Mitu returned after sunset with a huge smile on his face.

" BETWEEN KITES, SUP'S, SURFBOARDS AND FOILS WE WERE ON THE WATER AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE!"





"IT BECOMES A REAL MISSION TO GET FROM ANAKAO TO BABAOMBY, WITH DELAYED FLIGHTS, AND MISSED CONNECTIONS MAKING THE JOURNEY EVEN LONGER."

As the Anakao trip comes to an end it's time to head north to Babaomby for the freestyle sessions. Filippe, Camille and Mitu head to the airport to travel to the GKA in Fuerteventura, while Raphael and Micka start the long journey across the "Eighth Continent".

It becomes a real mission to get from Anakao to Babaomby, with delayed flights, and missed connections making the journey even longer. It takes two days for Micka Fernandez and the camera crew to get to their final destination, while the freestyle team is left waiting for them at the resort after a fifty hour trip from Cabarete to Madagascar.

Once in Diego Suarez, and finally with all the luggage, we had to get to the lodge by boat, a good 30 knots is blowing and a choppy crossing is expected. Nicolas, Babaomby's lodge owner, had everything under control and gave the team heavy raincoats and a waterproof tarpaulin for the bags. It's an adventure before the real adventure even starts!

### **BABAOMBY**

Riders: Micka Fernandez, Pauline Valesa, Paul Serin, Set Teixeira, Maxime Chabloz

The first shock is the lack of any WiFi, although it turns out to be a great thing as it is the only way to get youngsters to spend some proper time together! They sleep in tents on stilts and don't see anyone else all week except the lodge's staff, other guests, a few snakes, lots of lemurs and some scorpions.







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# **BIG AIR**

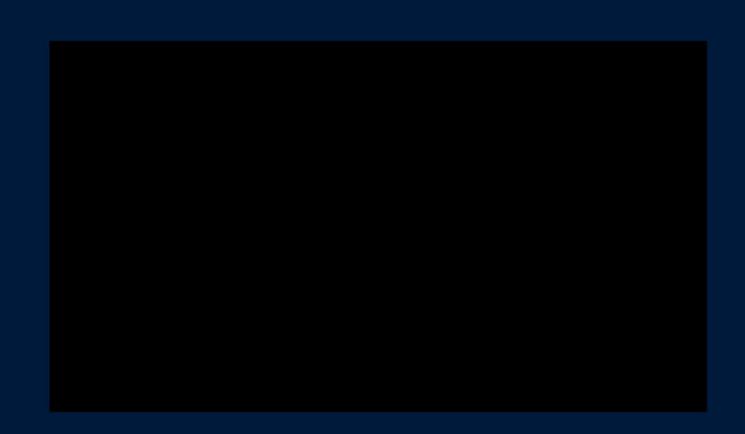
HIGH PERFORMANCE FREERIDE

# BOOSTING

FROM ZERO TO HERO

# **HIGH ASPECT** NO RESPECT

HIGH ASPECT RATIO KITE





THE SPOT IS LIKE A GIANT PHOTO STUDIO, LOTS OF DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS FROM SHARP ROCKS, HEAVENLY BEACHES TO MANGROVE SWAMPS. HOWEVER, IT'S NOT WITHOUT ITS RISKS."

Speaking of which, closed shoes are mandatory as some of them are as big as the palm of your hand. Getting stung by one of these odd looking invertebrates would not be fun. It's certainly a wildlife adventure with lemurs often coming to drink from the basins ,which are outside each tent. When walking back to the tents one evening someone asked about the sparkles they could see in the forest. The answer? Spider's eyes...I'll leave that there!

Babaomby is a wind tunnel, with 30 knots blowing every day, pretty much all day! In order to enjoy a proper freestyle session we had to get up at 5:45 am before the wind got too strong. The sunrises are so breath-taking that it was totally worth the early start though!

The spot is like a giant photo studio, lots of different backgrounds from sharp rocks, heavenly beaches to mangrove swamps. However, it's not without its risks. After jumping near the rocks to get a cool shot, Paul gets picked up by a gust just before his pop. He lands on the rocks and gets injured. The rest of the team see a kite go down in the rocks and we all race over to check on him. His forearm is bleeding but fortunately the rest of him is ok. By lucky coincidence a dentist in the hotel had brought a stich kit with him, and got Paul fixed up with no anaesthesia. Forty-eight hours later he was back on the water.



# " WE RIDE JUST TWO AT A TIME AS THE SPOT IS NOT BIG ENOUGH FOR ANY MORE."

Micka, having been on the trip ten years before, showed the crew some hidden spots, one being an 8km downwind mission to get to the mangrove swamp. The path is narrow (about 10m wide) between a cliff and a white sandy beach, which looks like a movie backdrop. The spot gradually widens up as we ride and we are surrounded by mangroves.

There is barely any water there and the wind is gusting up to 40 knots. The sand

relentlessly whips around our legs. We ride just two at a time as the spot is not big enough for any more. A sandbank allows Micka to ride the sand barefoot and put his board back on again to hit the water: it's a great way to get a foot scrub pedicure! The session ends and it's a lots of tacks back upwind to the lodge through the chop, but that's all part of the adventure.

During our stay we become friends with Abdou, ten years ago he was the carpenter and the guardian of the lodge, which was still in construction back then. He saw the F-ONE team kiting for the first time, they were flying and for him it was incredibly beautiful. He decided there and then to start kiting. Ten years later he is now an instructor! Kitesurfing has changed his life, and for the better.

After long days riding, evenings are spent playing cards and board games, chilling out and spending some good times together. Mobile phones and the Internet are soon forgotten - this is the way it should be!

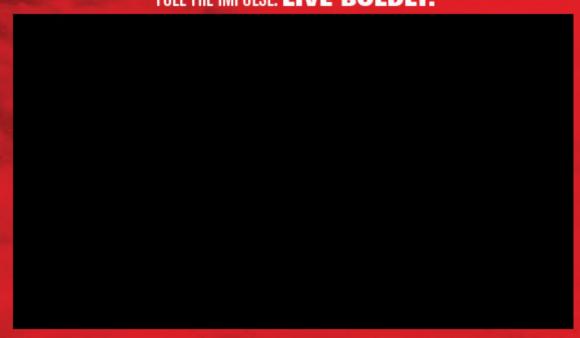
Ten years ago Raphael and the crew created some amazing memories here. Ten years later, so much has changed, but the conditions, the people we meet and the stunning scenery and wildlife, once again make this an unforgettable experience.

We'll be back for more soon!

71 MADAGASCAR ON FIRE

# NAISH HULE KITES

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**DEFINING THE SHAPE** OF PERFORMANCE.



The life of a pro rider certainly looks glamorous from the outside; travelling the world, kiting in amazing places, and getting paid while you're at it. For us mere mortals looking in, it can often seem like the dream job, is it all it is cracked up to be though?

' MEDIA IS CHANGING, CAMERAS ARE CHANGING, SOCIAL MEDIA IS RUNNING RAMPANT AND THERE IS AN EVER-HUNGRY NEED FOR CONTENT."

The world has changed a lot in recent years; technology has pushed us into new realms. Media is changing, cameras are changing, social media is running rampant and there is an ever-hungry need for content. Back in the day if you wanted to make a kite video, you needed to rent expensive gear, pay camera operators, maybe a helicopter pilot if you were feeling flash, then someone had to literally cut it all together and you had to get your movie onto video tape and distribute it globally by sending copies out to shops for them to sell.

These days all you need is a mobile phone and an Internet connection. I remember as a kid waiting for the latest and greatest windsurfing movie to come out. I'd head to the windsurfing shop, part with a chunk of money and race home to check it out. I'd then watch it over and over and over, as there was nothing else. My brothers and I can still quote phrases verbatim from the World Windsurfing Retuned PWA video from 1996... "One Malibu if you want to relax, two if you want to conversate, the other night I had three, animal man" for anyone wondering!

It's crazy when you think about it, these days we just consume a 3 minute clip while eating breakfast and in 30 seconds we have skipped onto the next one.





Being a pro kiter back in the early days meant being the best rider on the planet.

These days it seems to be more about how many Instagram likes you have. There must be more to it than that though!

When Cabrinha invited us on their Rider
Academy we jumped at the chance. James
Boulding the Marketing Manager set up the
programme as a way to gather some of the
team in Sicily. The plan was for younger riders to
learn from the older more experienced ones. To
shoot a load of content and create some stories
and to set out what Cabrinha were looking for
from their riders too.

"THE PLAN WAS FOR YOUNGER RIDERS TO LEARN FROM THE OLDER MORE EXPERIENCED ONES."

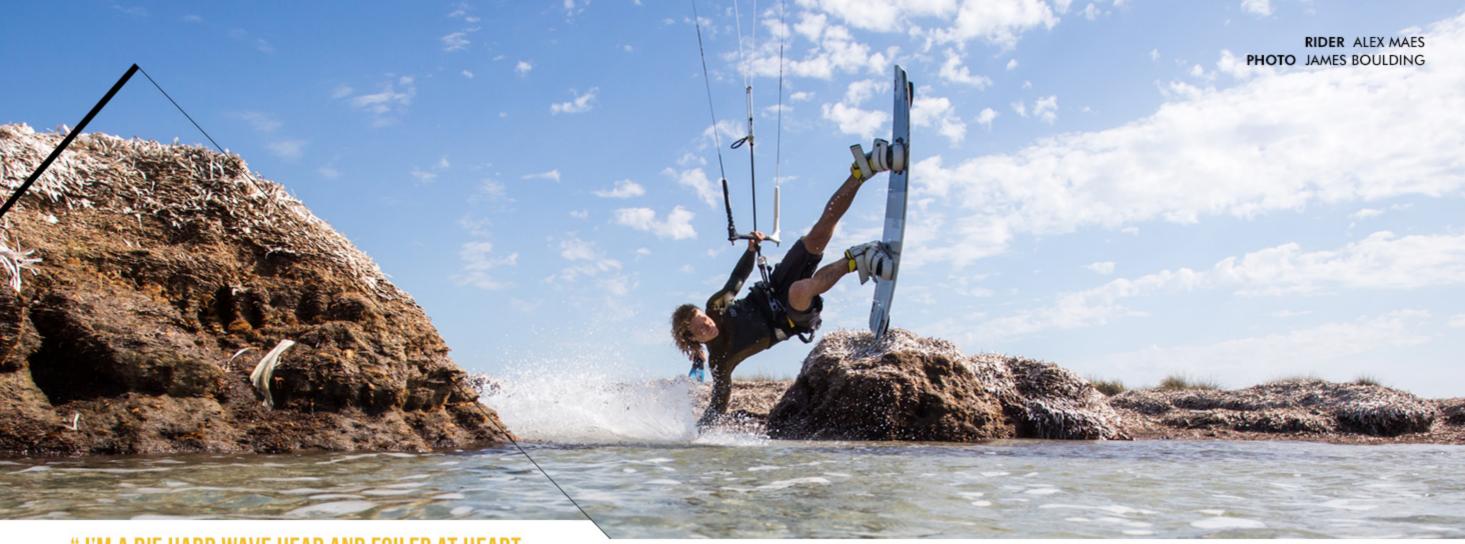


# YOUR NEXT KITE HOLIDAYS - DAKHLA



# THINK LESS - KITE MORE





" I'M A DIE HARD WAVE HEAD AND FOILER AT HEART, PACKING A BAG WITH TWO KITES AND A TWIN TIP FELT WEIRD, BUT OH MY WORD DID THAT PLACE DELIVER! "

Prokite Alby Rondina would be our base for the week in the stunning area of Lo Stagnone on the island. If you've not been there get it on your wish list. I'm a die hard wave head and foiler at heart, packing a bag with two kites and a twin tip felt weird, but oh my word did that place deliver! It's so much fun, there is more flat water than I have ever seen and you only need to check out the Aaron Hadlow movie Reflection to be further convinced.

The plan for the week was to have meetings and talks in the morning, followed by sessions on the water as soon as the wind picked up. With a pretty dire forecast things weren't looking too good as we headed into the week, but Sicily delivered with local thermals allowing us to ride everyday but one.

Riders came from all over the world, with short hauls from Europe and longer hauls from the Canada and Mauritius! Alby Rondina, basically a poster boy for any aspiring pro rider has also shown how to transition from rider into brand disitrbutor and ambassador. Alby has ridden Cabrinha since the first Nitro was produced and has never deviated from a lifetime relationship with the brand. Alby played an important role working with the riders and really embodied what the week was all about. Annelous Lammerts, Alex Maes, Nick Jacobsen, Simon Lamusse, Arthur Guillebert, Lucas Arsenault, Lauren Holman, Therese Taabbel, Jonathan Isselstein, Rens Van der Shoot and Andrea Ammann made up the roster, the line up was certainly impressive!

While some riders were seasoned pro's, some were fairly new to being sponsored and the week was seen as an opportunity for them to learn as much as possible about what it actually means to be a pro.

71 SO YOU WANT TO GO PRO?



I was asked to give a presentation about working with media and how to maximise opportunities to get in magazines. I was also helping James shoot images during the week so all the riders would go home with a plethora of content for the upcoming year.

In the background, James was keeping an eye on the riders, playing the role of Dad in a way, but also making notes on who was living up to his standards. An experienced pro rider himself, James has been in the industry long enough to know what it takes to stand out.

THE SHIFT FROM JUST BEING A GOOD RIDER TO BECOMING A GOOD CONTENT PRODUCER IS WELL AND TRULY ESTABLISHED."

Arguably, he was one of the first riders to pioneer the role of self-facilitating media node when he broke his ankle in Australia and was left filming and creating content for his friends. These days the shift from just being a good rider to becoming a good content producer is well and truly established.

What does it take then? What do you need to be to be a pro? The one thing all the riders had in common was incredible talent, Simon and Arthur two of the younger riders were incredibly impressive on the water. Their riding was technical and the level was high. Riders like Lukas oozed style and had the ability to work with the photographers to get the shot.

Andrea was a dab hand with the camera and was shooting constantly; Rens had the blue steel looks along with the skills to back it up, while Jonny was a gentle giant with a fearless attitude. Lauren showed a willingness to learn and try new things while Therese has a dogged determination to her riding, hitting tricks over and over until they were perfect.



Being good on the water though is just a small part of the package, it's essential of course, but there is a lot more to take on in order to become a seasoned pro. It's also about how you carry yourself when you are off the water too. Can you be approachable? You can be the best rider on the planet, but if you don't have the time to speak to people on the beach then you won't be much use to any brands.

IF YOU CAN RIDE TO A HIGH STANDARD AND CARRY YOURSELF WELL ON THE BEACH THEN YOU ARE HALF WAY THERE, BUT THERE IS EVEN MORE TO LEARN BEFORE YOU BECOME THE FULL PACKAGE."

A pro rider is a representative of that brand, and in order to sell kites they need you to be responsive and engaging. You don't have to be the best sales person on the planet, but if someone asks you about the gear you are riding, or for a launch then you had better be ready to step up. A pro rider is just as much the face of the brand as anyone else working for the company.

If you can ride to a high standard and carry yourself well on the beach then you are half way there, but there is even more to learn before you become the full package. Part of my presentation was about how you can communicate with the kitesurfing media effectively, a huge skill for any pro. After all if you aren't being featured in the magazines or websites, then you won't be getting much coverage for your brand.

The ability to send a succinct email; put together some good images and maybe even write an article or two is important if you want to get ahead. Next up you need to think about generating content yourself. In this modern age this is perhaps one of the most effective skills to have as a pro rider.







' HOWEVER IT MAY LOOK FROM THE OUTSIDE, BEING A PRO IS A JOB, AND THOSE WHO TREAT IT AS SUCH AND WORK HARD WILL GO FAR. "

Much of the week was spent generating content and it was interesting to see how different riders approached it. Insta stories abound, sometimes it was difficult to get anywhere with all the selfies! However, a large part of being a pro these days is generating a social media following and feeding it to keep it happy. Equally though longer format videos and higher quality images are just as important.

These days decent cameras are incredibly accessible, and if you don't know how to use

one, it is easy to learn. If you really struggle here then team up with someone who enjoys filming and taking images. If you want to be a pro you need to be generating content, it's as simple as that these days.

The last aspect, and perhaps the most important one was how you actually handled being a pro. It was interesting to see as we lived up close and personal who was treating the trip like a job and an opportunity, and who was taking a more relaxed approach. When there was a photographer in the water, who were the first riders out, who rode the longest and who worked the hardest to get the shot.

When it came to taking down the park at the end of the day who was helping out, who just rocked up, rode and left. A lot of the riders maybe didn't realise, but James was watching everything, and the riders who stood out in this regard are arguably the ones who will go the furthest. However it may look from the outside, being a pro is a job, and those who treat it as such and work hard will go far. You have to work hard in all aspects too, not just on your tricks.

What does it take to be a pro? You're going to need some talent first and foremost, be sure to make yourself approachable and help out other riders on the beach too, a willingness to help other kiters will be a great asset to any brand.

71 SO YOU WANT TO GO PRO?



Become a self-facilitating media node, generate content as much as you can and get it out there. Learn who the editors of the magazines are, reach out to them about getting involved with getting stories and images published.

Lastly, remember it is a job just like any other; those that work hard go far. The most impressive aspect of the trip for me was seeing the difference between the experienced pros and how they approached the week. Their work ethic was tireless and it's easy to see why they have come so far.

If you want to get ahead, get busy as they say!



# Here is a little insight to what some of the riders learned on the trip...

"We got information about how to present our equipment at its best. Every year we need to create great photo & video content. I learnt that it's not always about the craziest tricks. Sometimes to get a good shot it's more important to perform a controlled trick with emphasis on style and to combine with nice background landscapes." - Jonathon Isselstein

"The riders academy was a great time to catch up with other riders and learn from each other. We also had Rou Chater from IKSURFMAG with us. He was very helpful in providing some useful advice to improve our content and make things easier both for ourselves and kite magazines." - Lukas Arsenault - Canadian Freestyle Champion

"For me, it was a huge learning experience. Going out to shoot is totally different than just going out for a free ride session, and it was great practice getting

more comfortable in front of a photographer."

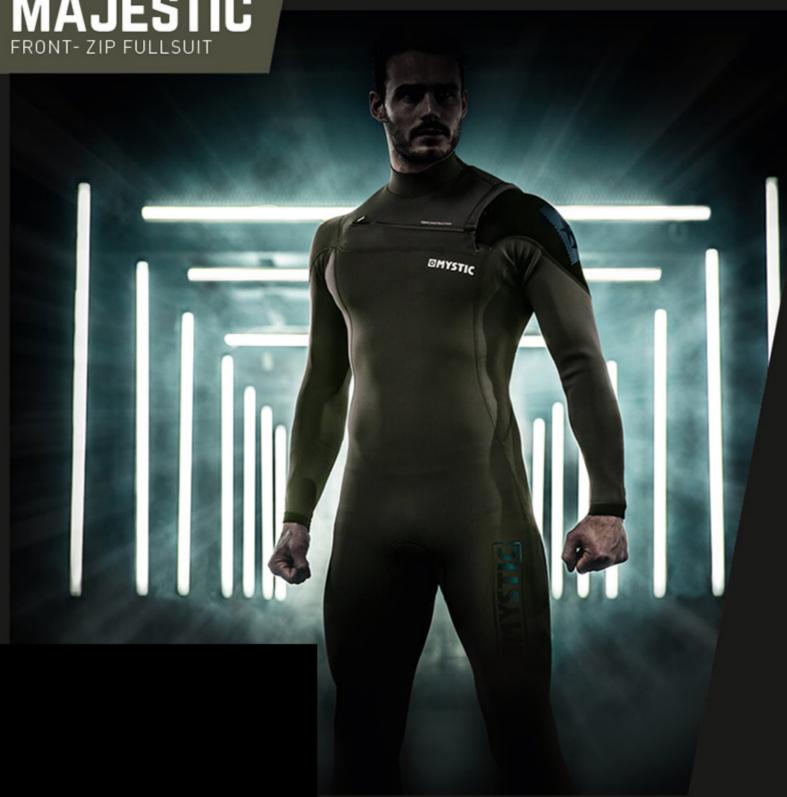
### - Lauren Holman

"Riding for photos is very different and takes more practice than you think at first. It involves a lot repetition. But when the trick, the light, the backdrop and the photographer comes together - it is like magic." - Therese Taabbel

"I learned so much during the first Cabrinha Riders
Academy! I learned to work with magazines and see
what they were looking for as well as helping
wherever I was needed during the shoot. It's not
always about the biggest trick but also making
yourself useful to the whole team. This trip I have also
learned to work with different people and focus more
on photos" - Alex Maes



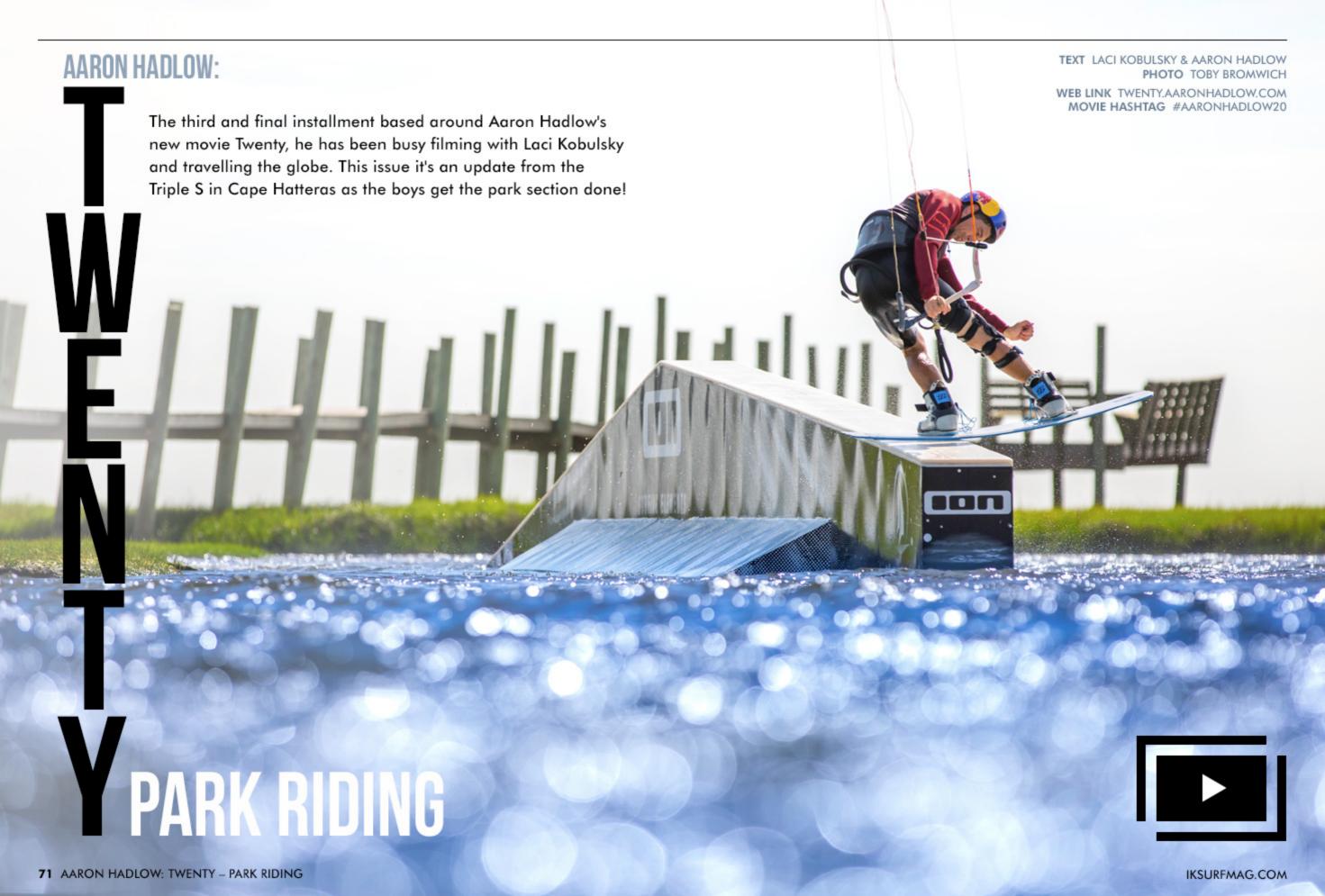






WATERPROOF STRETCH TAPING (ï) M-FLEX 2.0 × GLUED BLIND STITCHED **(** POLAR LINING

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR THE COMFIEST WETSUIT WITH THE SOFTEST TOUCH AND THE MOST BADASS STYLE, LOOK NO FURTHER. THE MAJESTIC FRONT-ZIP WETSUIT COMES LOADED WITH FEATURES, INCLUDING 100% M-FLEX 2.0 AND GBS. THE SUIT HAS BEEN RENEWED TO MAXIMIZE STRETCH AND COMFORT. EQUIPPED WITH POLAR LINING; A SOFT FEEL INTERIOR LINING THAT REFLECTS BODY HEAT, WILL ENSURE YOU STAY WARM.



" I HAD PREVIOUSLY SEEN MANY VIDEOS AND IMAGES FROM THE AREA, AND THEY ALL LOOKED INCREDIBLE — PERFECT FLAT WATER, FLAWLESS RAILS, AND ASTOUNDING BACKDROPS."

#### LACI KOBULSKY

#### Third stop – USA

Filming in Cape Hatteras was always part of the plan for TWENTY. It was the obvious choice when it came to shooting big air and park riding at Real Watersports for the Triple-S event, anyone who means business in park riding will attend.

I have to say, I was extremely excited for that part of the shoot, I had previously seen many videos and images from the area, and they all looked incredible – perfect flat water, flawless rails, and astounding backdrops.

The shoots ran smoothly, and we had plenty of time to ride during the day, but the only downside was that the sliders had to be hauled out of the water and taken back to Real Watersports before 7:00 pm due to the local regulations. That worked to our disadvantage as the wind usually picked up around sunset and unfortunately meant that we missed those golden hour shots.

#### The three main highlights of the shoot

1. New tricks - Fake Blind

Aaron Hadlow's latest innovative trick!

It was just after his wakeboarding trip to Thailand, where he caught on to the latest wakeboarding trend – fake blinds (landing blind but with your other hand)





Let me explain; if you go for raley to blind, you would keep your backhand on the bar and end up in an awkward position, right? Well, it is even harder when you have to steer the kite at the same time.

The first Fake Blind landings, Aaron Hadlow and Craig Cunningham both mastered on the rails, where it is a little bit easier to get the slack on the landing, but the real deal was Aaron's backside 540 from the kicker. Usually, you would do this move with a

double handle pass, which is hard enough, but instead of passing bar twice, Aaron kept his backhand on the bar and landed it!

#### 2. A Downwinder Through The Slicks

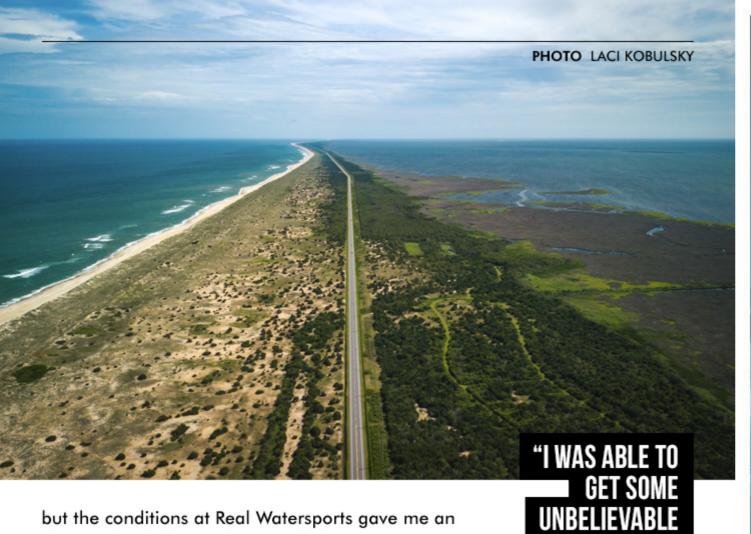
We were adamant to film a downwinder while we were there, but we always got a little sidetracked and ended up spending the day on the rails.

Before the Triple-S event, the open contest for the last places in the main event meant we couldn't ride the park and had to go on a downwinder! We drove upwind first and ended up shooting some phenomenal drone shots of Aaron cruising through the slicks. Then of course we enjoyed a legendary run through the reeds and channels that Hatteras is known for!

#### 3. Gimbal Shots

Something that is not commonly seen are steady and close-up shots from the sliders. Most of the videos were filmed either on a GoPro or from the tripod,

71 AARON HADLOW: TWENTY – PARK RIDING IKSURFMAG.COM



STEADY SHOTS

but the conditions at Real Watersports gave me an idea - I decided to pack my gimbal in a waterproof bag and kite across the water to the grassy island. We then placed the slider right next to the land, and I was able to get some unbelievable steady shots with my gimbal; up close and personal! As the action on the sliders happens very fast, it was great to get those stable and undisrupted images.

#### Five things to do around Cape Hatteras

1. Freestyle In The Slicks – There are some small islands on the flat side of the peninsula in Cape Hatteras, and they create numerous flat-water spots, which are perfect for freestyle. The water is shallow, the wind blows side-onshore, and there is hardly anyone around.

THE **EXTEND YOUR SEASON** 



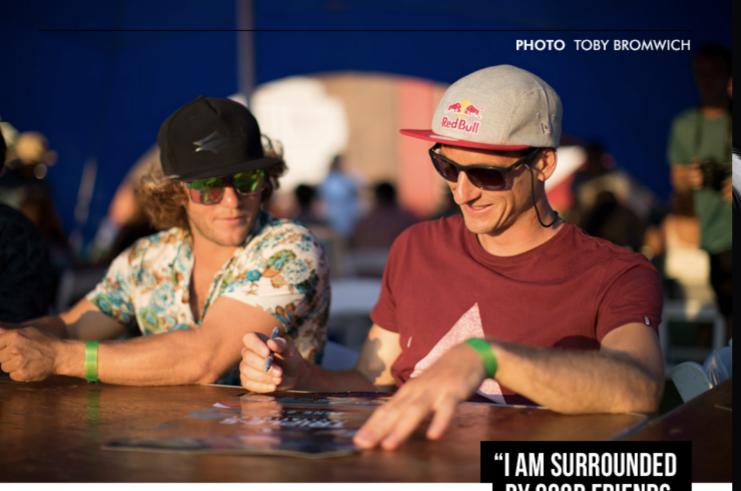
- YOU WILL FIND A VAST BEACH WITH SEVERAL IMPRESSIVE WAVE SPOTS, AND ON NO WIND DAY, EVERYONE GOES TO THE BEACH!"
  - 2. Sliders Riders from all around the world visit Cape Hatteras for that one main reason – The Kite Park. Real Watersports owns five perfect features (two kickers and three sliders) that go in the water whenever there are riders around.
  - 3. Surfing On the ocean side, you will find a vast beach with several impressive wave spots, and on no wind day, everyone goes to the beach!
  - 4. Downwinder A must do in Cape Hatteras is a downwinder. The flat side of the peninsula is full of grassy islands called 'slicks' and small rivers that are just a pleasure to cruise and jump around.
  - 5. Party It wouldn't be US & A if there weren't proper parties! Right beside Real Watersports is the Waterfront restaurant & bar and they organize amazing parties.

During the Triple-S event, there was a party every night, ending with a massive concert by The Roots!

#### What's Next For Twenty?

While the main parts of the movie are finished – big air in Cape Town, freestyle in Caribbean and park in the USA, we are far from finished. The next stop is Aaron's hometown in the UK, where we will film not only kiteboarding but also lifestyle, interviews and other sections important to his story. After that, we will finish our shooting in Brazil, to get the perfect freestyle conditions.





#### AARON HADLOW

## Why did you choose Cape Hatteras for filming your park section?

It was perfect timing to line up the park session with the Triple-S event. Lots of my friends arrive around this time of the year, and this made it great for filming. Real Watersports have some of the best and most iconic rails; the spot is just ideal for this discipline.

#### How vital is park riding for your kiteboarding?

It is essential for me because it is a very creative and innovative discipline. It keeps me energized and motivated, and when I do this, I am surrounded by good friends, so I always feel like I am learning as well as having a good time! LIGHTEST HARDSHELL ON THE MARKET **CURV SERIES DURABILITY AND LIGHTNESS** SURFING ELEMENTS



#### How did you start riding rails with a kite? Tell us about the early days.

I rode at the cable park quite often just for fun and then got invited to the Triple-S for the first time in 2008. It was something I was interested in, and at the time I was looking to add different techniques to my freestyle, so it was a great opportunity. There were also some early events like Kite Punks that started to bring some exposure to the discipline in Europe.

#### What has changed since then?

The rails have changed. In the early days, they were a lot sketchier, especially the homemade ones. Now, they usually have welded plastic and cable parks and companies like Unit, are pushing their designs.

In the past, the events were more of a jam format. Once the events gained some more momentum and the introduction of good prize money, they naturally had to run a more competitive event.

What style of park riding is suited for you? Technical or going big? What do you enjoy the most?

I am a very technical rider; I have always brought this from my freestyle. I push myself to do the hardest tricks, and I love the technical challenge on the rails. I try to bring something new to my riding whenever I can.

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The good thing about this discipline and the people involved is that style and execution are heavily scored and respected. This means we have to focus on the quality of our tricks to get rewarded.

## How do you like park competitions like KPL and where do you see its future?

I think the format will evolve. It is a hard discipline to execute in a competition, shifting wind and features and limited tries make it tough.

When the conditions are right, it is incredible because you push yourself. You can see the level rising year by year; I think it will become a big part of the sport. " WHEN THE CONDITIONS ARE RIGHT, IT IS INCREDIBLE BECAUSE YOU PUSH YOURSELF."



MORE COMFORT

MORE DURABILITY

MORE SESSION

Ride Engine is the hard shell harness. We invented it, we stand by it and this year w revisited it and then we reinvented it. Allow us to introduce Shell Skin Technology.

Years of development and testing various new shell technologies led us to this innovative construction. This process yields adds UV Resistance, Impact Strength, Abrasion Resistance, and Water and Tear Resistance. Along with the added durability Shell Skin also improves the overall fit and function of your harness. Enhanced ergonomics ensure that you get the maximum support where you need it from the most comfortable Ride Engine harness ever.



PRIME SHELL



\*PACIFIC MIST\*



PRIME SHELL



PRIME SHELL



PRIME SHELL "COAST"





# " IT IS A BIT MORE LIKE FREESTYLE WHERE IF SOMEBODY DOES SOMETHING NEW YOU ARE SURE TO KNOW ABOUT IT."

#### Any new tricks landed and on the horizon?

It is hard to say what has and hasn't been done on the rails since it is very technical with so many variations and tricks. It is more about combinations rather than something distinct and new.

On the kicker, it is a bit more like freestyle where if somebody does something new you are sure to know about it. I like it because there is the opportunity to flip on a different axis to raley based tricks, it is all about body position and momentum. It is hard to get so much quality time to learn tricks on the kicker, but I have a few things in mind for next time.

### What else should people look forward to seeing in this part of the movie?

Although there are fewer people interested in this part of the sport I enjoy it, it is about the feeling and technical progression.

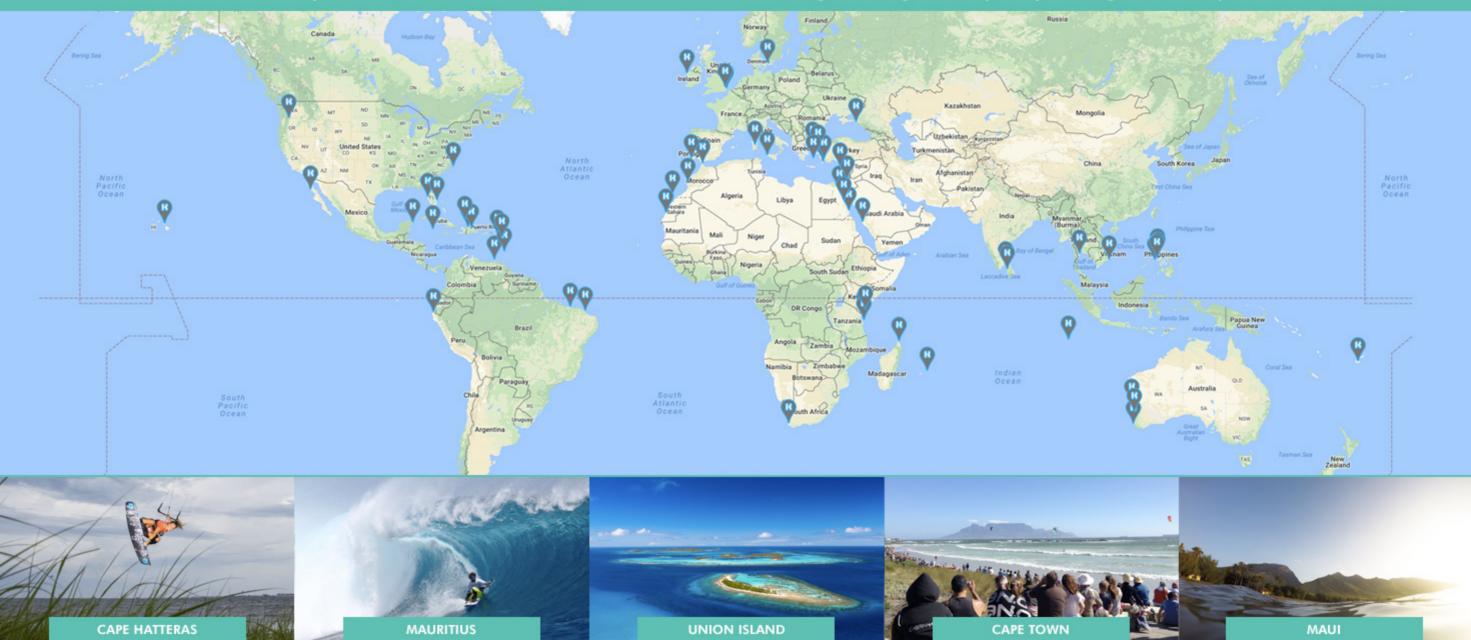
People into more free sports should love the 'skate style' section with lots of different rails and locations.

Thanks to Laci and Aaron for this update on Twenty, the new feature length movie from the pair coming to a big screen near you soon!



# GOING ON A KITE HOLIDAY?

Don't go anywhere without checking our travel guides first! We have over 80 in-depth guides to some of the best places in the world! Get all the information you need, check the weather, book accommodation, organise flights and pack your bags for the trip of a lifetime!



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WORDS & PHOTOS CHRISTIAN & KARINE

#### **FEATURING HELIARDE** CABRINHA DA SILVA

**CKPERFORMANCE** 

Happily sponsored by Cabrinha, NP Waterwear & ambassadors for SurfEars.

We have a veritable mix for you this issue. We start with the kiters version of the classic children's game, Cat's Cradle. It's something that those in the know take for granted and a technique that we are regularly asked about on clinics. So warm your digits up and let's look at one way of untangling your lines without undoing them. Then it's onto some carving, which although demonstrated strapless will be helpful on a twin tip too. We're following on from last issue's downwind extravaganza with our own version of Mythical Wave Riding. The ultimate practice tool, which should guarantee some hefty improvement when you then take it into the waves. Wrapping things up, Heliarde returns to dazzle us with some Freestyle. This time it's the Double S-bend 3, or Double Heart Attack, so strap yourselves in and enjoy an absolute banger of a popped pass:) C&K and Heliarde.

For upcoming 2019 CKPerformance clinic dates please visit - http://www.ckperformanceclinics.co.uk

CAT'S CRADLE -



CLICK OR TAP TO READ MORE

#### MYTHICAL WAVE RIDING



CLICK OR TAP TO READ MORE

#### DOUBLE HEART ATTACK



CLICK OR TAP TO READ MORE

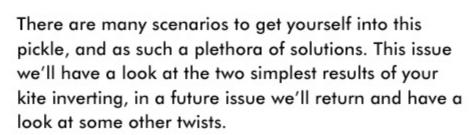
#### CAT'S CRADLE - UNTANGLING LINES >

Kite: FX 7m

Untangling your lines while they're still attached to your kite is one of those useful skills that can save hours of faffing on the beach. Once you know how to do it, you're almost obliged to become a good Samaritan of the kiting world. No longer able to observe a fellow enthusiast struggling when you know that with your intervention and a quick abracadabra they could be back on the water in the blink of an eye. It's not guaranteed to work 100% of the time, as with all things tangle-able like rope, string, electric cables and even garden hoses, kite lines can at times wrap themselves up in the most inexplicable and perplexing manner.

You may end up with your lines crossed and/or twisted for a number of reasons. Possibly after wrapping your lines up on the beach for a break, when you quickly unwrap them, they are magically no longer as you left them. You may have been more rightfully concerned about grabbing your board before worrying about the kite after you crashed. Your kite can overfly and Hindenburg out of the sky, casually rolling a few times before tension in the lines is restored. Or perhaps you landed from a jump with too much downwind speed and couldn't stop your kite from kissing down while you merrily race towards it. Maybe you've been practising your downloops from the last issue and occasionally mistimed one. You could have dropped your kite in the waves and been pushed towards it, allowing it to roll before you manage to relaunch.





Before we do though a couple of points to remember.

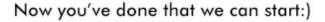
- First off if your kite relaunches and flies normally, even though the lines are crossed, twisted or confused, it is a sign that your kite works. This means that you should be able to ride, or at the very least, body drag back to the beach, where you can get your house back in order.
- Because you can get back to the beach, there is absolutely no need to try this in the water. We repeat



- there is no need to try this in the water!!!

Once you're on Terra Firma, you need to work out which way the lines are messed up so that you can apply the correct solution. Although we're not suggesting that every kiter should set their lines up with their bar downwind of the kite, we are advising that when you return to the beach to sort your lines, you do take the bar downwind of the kite. We've all been that person who runs up and down willy-nilly, changing lines, just for it all to still be in a mess. Taking your bar downwind will save you time. This could also be a good time to mention that you'll want to take your leash off the bar, so make sure that your kite is secured on the beach.

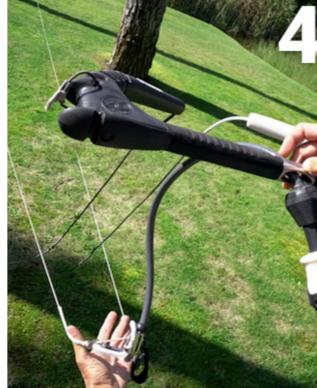




#### Deciphering the Code

Pic 1. First thing is to put a bit of tension on your lines, untwist your bar if necessary so that you can pick it up and look along the lines. Remember that the bar should correspond with the kite, right to right and left to left. Seeing as your kite is face down on the beach, your bar also needs to be face down. If you've never set up with your bar downwind, this means that you'll turn your bar over, so as you hold it your right hand will be holding the left side and vice versa...

Pic 2. Give your lines a shake to free them and if you see the lines are twisted try to shake the twist



down towards you. This way you'll be able to see which way the lines are tangled.

With the lines crossing nearer to you, you can see whether the kite has rolled within itself so that both lines are twisted the same way, or whether just one steering line passed over the kite. And you'll see which way it rolled, or rather more importantly which way you'll have to "pass" the bar back. To start simpler this issue, we'll look at both lines twisted.

Have a look at Pic 3. Assuming that your centre lines and steering lines are not touching anywhere else, you can clearly see that the back lines are coming up through the middle lines and over, back to the bar.













#### "two-piece masterpiece"

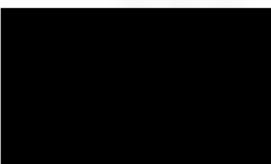
The re solve represents the most sophisticated carbon split kiteboard on the market, devoid of any compromise. We also wanted it to be ultra-compact and compatible with wake bindings.

















This means that to untangle them, the bar will have to go over the middle lines, as in **Pic 4**. and then down through the V. This bit should be simple enough, but the steps that follow are where it can go wrong.

Just to compare if we look at the opposite scenario in **Pic 5** where even though both lines are tangled the same way, this time the steering lines come over the centre lines from the outside towards the V, and then pass back under the centre lines back to the bar.

The solution this time therefore is to pass the bar under the centre lines before bringing it up through the V as in **Pic 6**.

Hopefully, you're still with us...

#### The Solution

Now we'll look at the movement to get the bar

through without getting your knickers in a twist.

We'll go back to the first example where the steering lines are coming through the middle lines and then over them to the bar.

**Pic 7**. Which hand you use is up to you, but if you're right-handed like Karine, you may find it easier holding the bar in your more coordinated hand. Steps are:

- With you bar held perpendicular to the centre lines and your leash unattached, push your chicken loop up to the bar so that it's not dangling in your way.
- Hold the bar and chicken loop in one hand and lift it, then take the centre line V in the other hand below the bar. Try to spread the centre lines to give yourself more room.

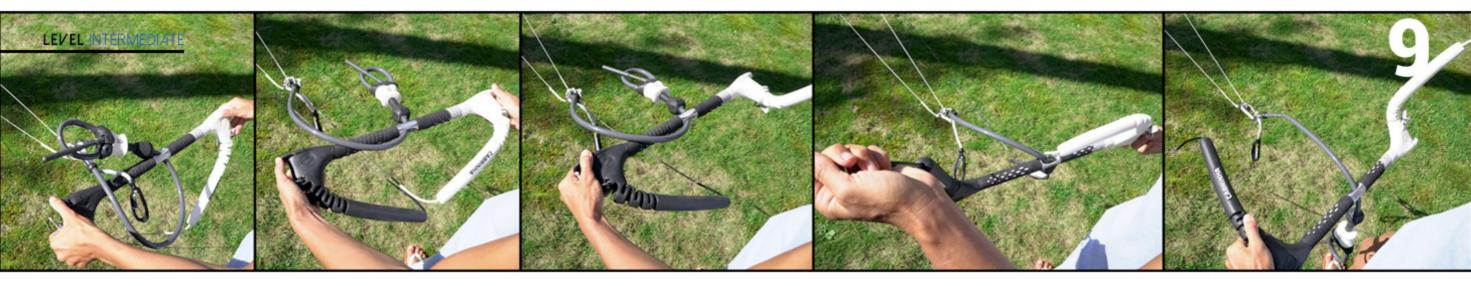
- While holding the V open, pass the bar over the V (towards the kite) and then put one bar end under the lines, followed by the other. There isn't room to do both simultaneously.
- You should finish up with the bar through the lines and the chicken loop underneath pointing at you.

**Pic 8**. If you let go of the chicken loop and hold the bar at each end, you'll see that the centre chicken loop line is now wound around the bar. It's very tempting just to pull it to one side and free it, but this will then tangle another line, and you'll be in even more of a jam.

Instead, you'll need to unroll the bar a full turn towards the kite, as in **Pic 9**. The steps are:

- -Hold the bar at each end. Remind yourself which way it needs to roll to loosen the centre line, not tighten it. In this case, you'll be rolling the bar ends down, under and then towards you.
- After half a turn the bar ends will be pointing at you, but the centre line is still wrapped. You have another half roll to go. You can see how the steering lines have fallen together.
- To make sure that you don't tangle the steering lines you can pull the bar ends out to each side, right and left.





- This way as you unroll the bar the rest of the way the steering lines are out of danger.

Now it's a good idea to check that you've been successful before you ask somebody for a launch. Seeing as your bar is downwind from the kite, it's pretty easy.

Pic 10. Pull the lines tight, then with your right hand hold the steering line out to one side, give it a little shake and you should see it running freely from the bar end and your hand all the way to the rear attachment point on your kite, while the centre lines hang unhindered.

**Pic 11**. Now do the same with your left hand for the other side.

Have a look at **Video 1** for the real-time walkthrough of this.

It is possible that your kite may have rolled twice, and as such, it'll require 2 pass throughs. The good news is you'll still be able to see it with the lines.

Now if your lines show that you need to pass the bar from underneath, as back in **Pic 5** where the steering lines come over the centre lines from the outside towards the V. Then pass back under the centre lines

back to the bar, the theory is the same, but you'll be passing and then rolling the opposite way.

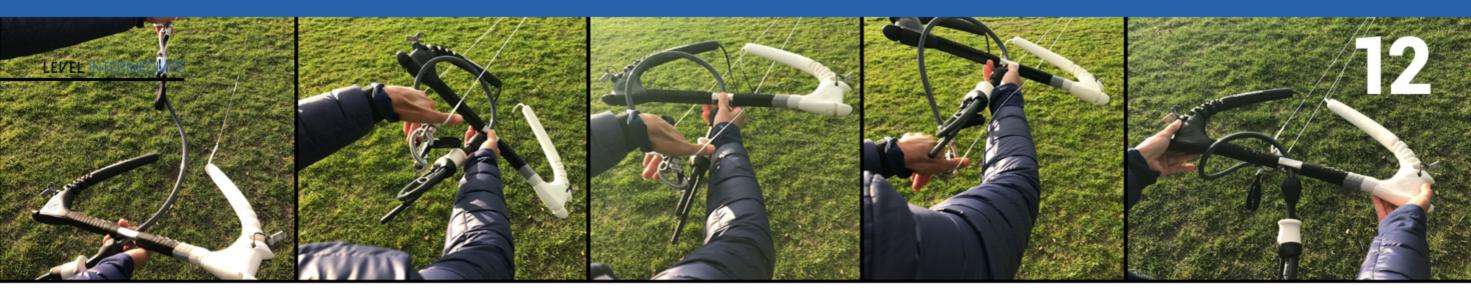
Looking at the first steps in Pic 12.

- With you bar held perpendicular to the centre lines and your leash unattached, push your chicken loop up to the bar so that it's not dangling in your way.
- With your free hand reach forward, take the centre line V and spread the lines, while lifting the V over the bar.
- While holding the V open pass the bar through the V from underneath, one side at a time.





VIDEO 1



- Once the bar is above the lines, lift the chicken loop over them.
- You should finish up with the bar through the lines and the chicken loop once again wrapped around the bar. As before don't be tempted to push the centre line around the side of the bar. Instead, it's time to roll again, but this time you will roll the bar towards you a full turn, as demonstrated in **Pic 13**.
- -Hold the bar at each end. Remind yourself which way it needs to roll to loosen the centre line, not tighten it. In this case, you'll be rolling the bar ends up and towards you.
- After half a turn the bar ends will be pointing at you, the centre line is still wrapped. You have another half roll to go. The steering lines are resting together on top of the bar.

- To make sure that you don't tangle the steering lines you can pull the bar ends out to each side, right and left and push them down, which will move them under the bar.
- This way as you unroll the bar the rest of the way until the chicken look is dangling where it should be.

Once again, it's a good idea to check that you've been successful.

Finally, have a look at **Video 2** for the true to life demo for unrolling your lines from underneath.

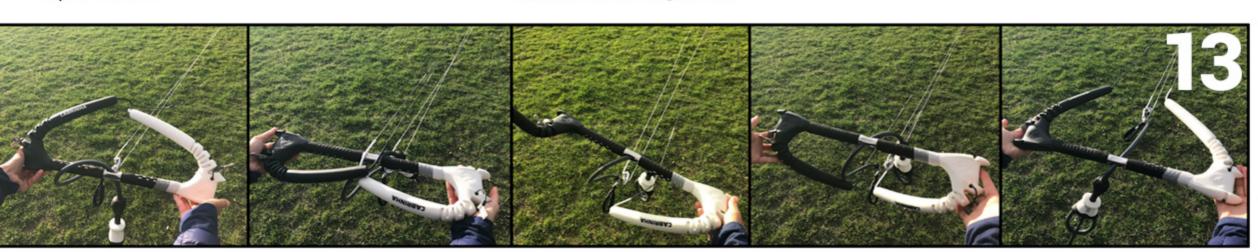
You can happily practice these methods, untangling and re-tangling your lines multiple times, even on a windless day. With your lines attached to your kite, you can easily see if you scored full marks or if it's back to the drawing board!

#### **Common Problems**

There are two mistakes that most of us make playing this game.

The first is that when we put the bar through we allow the steering lines to flop over one side or another, rather than keeping them left and right. Make sure that they stay on each side where they belong as you pass the bar through the V.

The second mistake is not unrolling but instead passing the chicken loop centre line around the bar. It'll look good close to the bar, but when you check the lines on the side will be tangled. Remember that the second part always involves unrolling, whether it's towards you or away from you.



VIDEO 2

#### MYTHICAL WAVE RIDING >

Kite: Drifter 7m with Fireball Board: Squid Launcher 5'2

Mythical wave-riding is a term that we have used for many years to describe a practice that sets you up for, you guessed it, non-mythical wave-riding. The theory being that if you can't wave-ride without the hindrance of waves, you will undoubtedly find the practice of smoothly carving and shredding with the added challenge of a moving ocean much more of a struggle than you perhaps gave it credit for. Practice makes perfect, and if you can make it easier to practice then hopefully you'll be better set up for the challenge ahead. As people in the business of "how to" one could argue that this article is perhaps more of a what to.

Mythical wave-riding has something for everybody, whether you're just getting into riding a surfboard, or have a good level but find linking a few turns together a tad more tricky than you'd hoped. For sure we will touch a few pointers and reminders so that your carves and timing are spot on, but really this is about what to practice to make yourself better on a wave, and what to think about when practising so that you can improve even more...

So what is it? Mythical wave-riding is all about carving turns, heel to toe and toe to heel. Linking them together on flat water so that you can improve all the elements necessary without worrying about timing your turns to fit on a wave, or whether you're riding front side or backside. It gives you the opportunity to



find your flow, becoming more comfortable, smooth and in control. Feeling out your boards and dialling in your kites. Testing out the limits of our what you and your kit are comfortable doing, building your confidence and then finally you can go bash a few real waves while giving it 100%.

Take a look at **Pic A**. Christian started at the top right of the image, you can see his trail as he S'es his way downwind towards the camera. He's riding with his preferred right foot forward (goofy), and without a care for changing his feet, is merely carving one way and then the other. Mythically there could be a wave either on the right-hand side of the image or the left and as such either turn/carve could be a potential top or bottom turn. The point is that it doesn't matter.

And this is why it's such a good exercise. Think about it for a moment, riding a wave with a kite in its most

basic form is carving downwind while using the wave as a bank to perform your top turn. Like a skater who only has a ramp on one side. This is why wind direction in relation to the wave and shore is so essential, and why it dictates what you can and can't do. However, that's for another time. Suffice to say that although being mythical is not exactly like wave riding, you could do a lot worse than hone and polish your skills this way.

Now you might well be thinking, "what are these two getting so excited about carving downwind for?" Well believe us, flat water will show up all your weaknesses just as much as the waves, but without the waves to blame you'll see that action needs to be taken to improve your game. And although the theory is great, to be genuinely confident, you need the feeling, which only comes from repetition.



While we're getting so excited about carving downwind have a look at the **Sequence 1** to see what you'll be up to:)

#### What to work on

While you fixate yourself with linking some carves together let's ponder what you should be working on:

- Surf stance, foot position and board trim while riding in a straight line
- Timing of kite movement and carve, and aggression of kite movement and carve

- Finishing your turns, getting back onto an edge so that you're ready for the next one
- Shortening the time and distance between your carves
- Mixing up how long or sharp you carve

All the above are relevant whether you're heel to toe carving, or toe to heel carving.

#### Thinking heel to toe

Stance - **Pic B**. Regardless if you're coming out of a turn, about to go into one or you're just setting up to

ride a wave you need to change from your usual easy upwind cruising stance into surf mode. We've been through this in the past, and as such, we'll borrow directly from a previous article. Foot and body position are critical for a solid carve. It's going to vary from board to board, but you'll always need to make sure that your front foot is both forwards and across the centre line of your board so that you can finish the turn on a decent upwind toeside edge. The back foot also needs to be back far enough so that it can straddle the centreline comfortably. This way you can still edge in against the kite on your approach,





but you'll also be able to keep the board pushed down once you're around to toeside. Yet again you don't want to have an awkwardly wide stance as this can lock your hips in place and make it very difficult to shift your weight during the turn. Your kite needs to be low enough to edge against, so no higher than 11 or 1 o'clock. And finally, you need to edge to have tension so that you can make the kite turn—bend your knees and sit down a little bit so that your bum drops upwind of the board and pushes your heels down into it.

Kite - **Pic C**. The way you send your kite is critical. If you move your kite too

slowly it will travel up and over you, meaning that you'll lose power and have nothing to keep moving with as you come around, and worse still, the kite will lift you as it goes over, pulling you up and out of your surfers squat and potentially lifting you off the board. As such you've got to get the kite to turn quickly so that it cuts off the top of the window. To get the kite to turn you'll need both hands, for a decent pull and push. With the board edging, you have tension, and so the kite should respond. How much of the window you cut will depend on how hard you carve and how powered you are,





how much you can depower the kite and where your trim is. All these variables need to be addressed, and here on the flats, you'll be able to play with them and find the balance.

Coming Across – **Pic D**. Here's a little reminder and another reason your kite needs to cut the window. If you have your kite parked at the edge of the window and turn it quickly, it will pull you from in front of the way that you are going, so forwards and over the board. Your carve starts with you still going forward, it's not a sudden change if direction. This helps get you into a solid and dynamic carving position, weight on the board while your knees and hips commit to the inside of the turn. If, however you're a tad gentle with the kite, it will go up, and you'll end up leaning back, sinking the tail and pivoting the board to a standstill. Basically, you can harness the power of the kite turning quickly to get yourself into a good carving

position. Yet again on the flat water here in a mythical land, you can play around with timing and severity of movement, testing yourself and your kit to find what works for you.

Good Carve - **Pic E**. If you send the kite hard it will pull, but it's just a short turbo boost. As long as you've set yourself up, you can release your backhand and dump the power. The beauty here is that as you've sent the kite on its way, it will still continue across the window even with slack in the steering lines. You're in control, and the kite is going to the right place, that's a win, win in anybody's book.

Finish The Turn - Pic F.

Finishing your turn means getting back onto your edge, effectively back into the position that you would be in to start your turn. On flat water you can spend 20 meters if needed, just to reacquaint yourself with your default toeside position with your feet in surf

stance mode. You'll need your hips to be more open and facing forwards, not twisted upwind, and you'll need plenty of weight forwards, while still maintaining pressure on the back foot. It's a lot to sort out, but once you find your sweet spot, you'll know where it is for next time. The sooner that you can be ready, the sooner you can move the kite, and the quicker you can go into your next turn. Once you get this nailed, you can really shorten the straight between your turns, and as a result, you'll be more dynamic and have choices once you head into the waves.

As mentioned earlier, finishing is setting up, so the last picture for the heel to toe is also the first for the toe to heel turn... the only addition is to get the kite turning and then you're ready to. On the toe to heel you may want to turn the kite with just one hand, so make sure that you use your wrist to steer the kite, rather than just pull the bar in and stall the kite!





Once the kite is turning, you need to be ready to turn. It's often likely that you'll be less aggressive with the kite when carving from your toes to your heels. Even so, you must be ready, and as such keep your knees and hips committed upwind of the board. Taking your front hand off the bar will help you keep your weight where you want it. It's tempting to stand up early, but then the board will flatten, and the kite will slow. However, you do need to drop your weight back over the tail of the board, but only your hips. Keep the shoulders forwards.

Start the Carve - Pic H.

Just like with a heel to toe, wait for the kite to move

before carving. With your weight upwind and forwards as above, as the kite pulls, you can roll onto your back heel and start the carve. However, no turning the shoulders or head just yet or else you may get pulled off the board. This is a crucial part of a toe to heel carve, and one with which you can play with. There's the option of going for a long, drawn out carve that may be a backside bottom turn with your weight more forwards, but there's also a quicker, more snappy turn that you'll be able to transform into a frontside top turn with your weight dropped further upwind and back.

Drive Through - Video I.

Once the board is on its way around and you know the kite is moving in the right direction it's time for some leg and rail work. There are not many things as satisfying as pushing against your back leg on a toe to heel, trying to force the ocean into rainbows as you spray buckets. Well surprise, surprise Ladies and Gents, again here is a wonderful place to practice. As you push you'll need to get your body forwards and over the board so that you don't just push the board out from underneath. Yet again, all boards are different, and you can really get an idea or purchase by going large without waves.

Finish The Turn - Pic J.

Deja-vu! If you've been driving against your back foot, it may well be possible that you also spent time admiring your spray. However, if you want to finish a turn while maintaining speed, you've got to concentrate on the ending. This means looking where you want to go, getting your back hand back on the bar and getting the nose down so that you don't drag to a stop. It's easy to throw some spray and pivot around, but to time it with getting the board ready and positioning the kite and bar to get some pull out of the turn takes a bit more practice.

Brilliant, there you go, two solid turns linked together.

Now once you've finished this one it's time for another heel to toe, and on it goes..... keep, and you'll soon find that it all becomes much more natural and comfortable. More importantly still, you'll really notice once you head back into the waves!



#### DOUBLE HEART ATTACK >>

Kite: Switchblade 9m Board: Ace 138

Here we go, something for those of you who like a challenge and don't mind kissing the water occasionally! The Double Heart Attack or in ye olde English, a double S-Bend 3. Either way, it's an absolute cracker and not exactly for the faint-hearted. As such it's a pleasure to welcome back Heliarde to the technique pages this issue, and to keep it inclusive there are no boots in site:)

As always with Freestyle moves, it's worth noting that each move is a progression of a previous move, so at the very least you'll be wanting to have the S-Bend pass down, and if you can already get a couple of spins in even better. Although this has a 3 at the end, we're sure that most of you would be happy getting an air pass in there somewhere, so read on and let's see what is possible.

#### All About Pop - Pic A.

It pretty much goes without saying that if you plan on getting a couple of rotations in and then plan on adding a pass with a full 3, you'll need some height and a fraction of time in which to complete the aforementioned combo. Two things will help immensely with this plan, oodles of pop and some help from the kite.

The Pop will come from your approach, your kite and your stamp. For a move that requires time and therefore drift in the air, that is to say, you'll be travelling some, you will need sufficient power.





If you trim your bar all the way to your chicken loop, you won't get this, as a bit of kite stall and the resultant pull is what you're after.

On top of that for the pop, you'll need good speed, decent off the wind before take-off to drop the kite back and a solid, hefty carve and stamp, using every ounce of resistance that you can muster. Heliarde reckons it's all in the breathing – don't hold your breath but use it. You can see how Heliarde is fully extending popping hard against his edge, while his kite is definitely not super low. A small tweak up as you pop will help.

Final point here is to concentrate on the pop. Don't start to rotate too quickly as then you'll sacrifice some pop.

First Bend - Pic B.

This one should be common knowledge if you've got this move in your sights. What makes an S-bend an S-Bend, and what also helps with the subsequent pass is that you lead the rotation with your head, hands and shoulders. It's no problem, in fact, it's advisable that the board gets left behind, trailing in your wake. This way you can easily lead into the 2nd rotation and then into the pass. If you try and rotate with your hips and pull your front knee up to lead, it'll all go horribly wrong. It's worth noting that at this stage the kite is probably at its highest point. It's not high but as Heliarde lifted it slightly on take off this is where it must stop. Any higher and the rotation will become a spin.





#### Second Bend - Pic C.

Here we see Heliarde finishing his first rotation, and he's initiating his second. If you didn't know this could easily be his first as the position is so similar, just lacking spray. The beauty of leading with the head is that you know you're coming to the end of your first which means you can initiate the second in just the same way. Here Heliarde has seen that he's completing number one, so he turns his head and throws his shoulders again. You can see that the bar is level, so the kite is staying put.

#### Pass Prep - Pic D.

Again, we see the need to lead with the head. It's the only way to know where you are and when to strike. As you rotate around number two, you will be losing the pull from the kite that you gained from your pop, and as such your legs will start to drop. This means that as you feel your feet dropping it's time to get the bar in close, otherwise you'll have to pull yourself up, which will make everything much harder. As Heliarde looks for his landing spot, he already starts to pull his hands down towards his chest.



# **SOUL**

FREERIDE, FREESTYLE, LIGHTWIND 6 / 8 / 10 / 12 / 15 / 18 / 21



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// EFFORTLESS BOOSTING
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The SOUL combines high comfort with a sporty character. The inspiring technical lightweight kite construction, the highest safety standards and precise control and bar feedback. The great water relaunch and improved drainage system bring it all together to make the SOUL truly user friendly. Experience a new way of kiting!









Throwing It - Pic E.

This bit should hopefully be familiar territory. Having spotted your landing, you need to throw your pass. This isn't just another rotation as you need to be in control and you have to make sure that both the bar and the kite are where you want them to be. Throwing it is the same 3 things as always. A hefty tug on the bar past your back hip with both hands while already twisting the bar. Turning the head aggressively so that the rest of the body follows. And kicking the back knee up and through, so that you lift yourself and the board up towards the bar and give yourself that extra rotation to complete the 3. It's obvious to the eyes that Heliarde has not waited to finish his second rotation before throwing it, he's halfway around number two and already giving it the full Fejao...

The Pass - Pic F.

The reason and therefore advantage of throwing and twisting early is that you'll be able to pass the bar earlier in your rotation and therefore have more time to finish as you want. It also means that you'll roll onto the bar, and as such it's more about technique and less about grunt. If you've ever watched the little young freestyle aces around the world, banging out huge passes with stick thin arms, you'll know this to be the truth:) Once you release your front hand the kite will steer down slightly. Here Heliarde has his board up from his throw, and he's rolled onto the bar making the pass easier and earlier. And finally, as he's passing, he is keeping his head up. This allows him to continue rotating his shoulders and gives him room to bring the trailing (his front) leg up towards his chest. All this makes the final rotation to claim the 3 possible.

Boom - Pic G.

If everything went according to plan, your last job is to stick the landing! It's essential to get around enough that you'll be chasing the kite downwind as just stomping and resisting the compression will be enough without having to hold onto a pulling kite. The kite will hopefully have dipped a touch from the pass, and as such, it won't be lifting and extending you, which will make the landing much harder. Heliarde brings his front foot all the way through, guaranteeing a solid downwind landing. Job done!

#### **Top Tips**

As with so many freestyle moves your takeoff is key. Getting good pop, but also having some controllable pull through the move is key. The base and therefore the foundation for this is really your double S- Bend. If you can happily rotate while controlling the kite,



adding the blind, the pass and eventually the 3 should be possible. So, make sure that you practice that as much as possible. If you don't have to think about the rotations, then adding the "ending" will be considerably simpler.

Now have a look at the Sequence and the Videos to see how Heliarde does it in real life...

#### **Common Problems**

To execute this move successfully, you need the height, pull and time. More often than not you'll see plenty of double s-bends, and then there's just room to skim in a quick blind. There just doesn't seem to be enough time. This is often a case of power and pop.

You need to hold a lot of power to get the flight and time. If you're used to trimming so that you're comfortably unhooking, you may need to trim less so that the kite is bullying you slightly more.

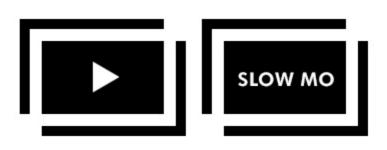
If you're missing the pass, chances are that you're lifting the kite too much on take-off. As you carve up, you can move the kite slowly for extra lift, but it doesn't want to move above 11 or 1 o'clock, as you'll lose forward drive and dangle, making the pass harder.

If you're getting the height but crashing on your heelside edge post pass. This is a classic of throwing the pass too late. Remember how early Heliarde passed. One and a half and then go.

#### **Keystones**

- 1. Powered and aggressive pop
- 2. Lead with head, hands and shoulders
- 3. Anticipate second rotation so that there is no lag
- 4. Pull and throw early during the second rotation
- 5. Keep head up and lift front leg through

Oh yes, and make sure you keep your cap on;)





BRAND CABRINHA MODEL MOTO SIZE 12M YEAR 2019



" ...EXTREMELY VERSATILE, EXCELLENT CROSSOVER KITE "





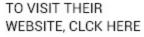


AT A GLANCE

Recently we have had our hands on some of the 2019 Cabrinha gear. For 2019 we see a few models disappear and some new additions throughout the lineup, one of the most exciting is the new Moto. The Cabrinha Moto is a 3 strut, versatile freeride crossover kite. With many kites in their range targeting certain disciplines, the Moto is aimed at the rider wanting to excel at everything.

The Moto features new Pure Arc Segments, Pure Profile Panels, increased canopy reinforcements and more. The new Pure Arc Segments increase the amount of sections across the span of the leading edge, this reduces drag on the leading edge by creating a smoother, more aerodynamic curve. Pure Profile panels are very similar however they are designed to reduce drag and create a smother curve across the canopy of the kite. The increase in aerodynamic performance from both these features will boast more efficiency, stability and a smoother flying experience. The increased reinforcements will keep the Moto providing a tight, stable flying feel no matter what you throw at it.

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71 TEST



"AN INCREDIBLY VERSATILE KITE WITH DYNAMIC AND RESPONSIVE HANDLING."







#### AT A GLANCE

The Bandit has been a mainstay of the F-one line up for now over a decade. A do it all kite, it has changed from a prominent delta style to now a more C style delta kite with square wing tips, three struts and a compact bridle system.

2018 saw quite a major overhaul of the kite, and for 2019 there have been some key refinements, which result in a kite, which is tighter, more dynamic and further reduced the lateral pull.

F-One have stuck with the SUP inspired Reactor Valve for fast inflate and deflate. If you've not used one before be sure to familiarise yourself with it, as it's easy to pump up with it in the open position and then lose air. The advantage of this valve though is it has been tested on hundreds of thousands of SUP boards around the world and is very strong and reliable with zero leakage even at super high pressures. Once you have the knowledge to set it up correctly is lightning quick and very effective. The instructions are on the valve so really there are no excuses!

The kite is made with the highest quality Teijin Technoforce double ripstop for

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"SUPERB
PERFORMANCE
FOR BOTH
PERFECT AND
REGULAR
CONDITIONS
MAKE THIS A
PACKAGE HARD
TO BEAT."





#### AT A GLANCE

Building on the success of the Reo V4, the Ozone Reo is back in version 5 (V5) to make its mark once again as one of the top performing wave riding specific kites.

The main structure of the kite has stayed the same with 3 struts, large inflate/deflate valve with 1 pump, a pulley-less bridle system and direct line attachments. The construction is Ozone's usual high quality with Teijin Technoforce D2 and Teijin Dacron creating a strong yet lightweight wing.

There has been a large overhaul of the strut design for the Reo V5, and the result is a thinner and lighter strut which builds on the strength of previous models. This creates an overall lighter kite which improves flight characteristics.

The wing tips have been refined to eliminate any snagging of lines or line wraps. The tip of the leading edge has been tapered down to a minimal diameter and with the additional anti snag line deflectors it is nigh on impossible to catch a line on launch or when getting munched in the waves.

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BRAND SLINGSHOT MODEL RALLY SIZE 9M YEAR 2019



"POWER,
PERFORMANCE
AND INCREDIBLE
UNIVERSAL
USABILITY."







The Clines

AT A GLANCE

The Slingshot Rally is an institution in kiteboarding. One of the longest standing all-round kites, it has die hard fans the world over who use it for all sorts of kiting endeavours. Suited to those who are just beginning in kitesurfing to those who have a decade of riding under their belts, the Rally will do it all with power and precision.

At its core, the Rally is a Delta C shaped kite with 3 struts, Slingshots bomb proof construction, 1 pump system, split strut technology, and a heritage of being a boosting, cruising and freeride machine.

A few minor tweaks to the 2019 Rally have occurred primarily in the construction of the kite. Slingshot have used high quality materials in both the canopy and struts, and there are a multitude of bumper pads and reinforcements the kite over which assures you of the kite's robustness, while maintaining the tried and tested performance of the Rally we all know and love.

Slingshot have visibly ramped up their colour selections for this year, and added them all in at once! The result is a fun and colourful kite which works well,

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71 TEST



"TONS OF POP, FAST, STABLE AND SMOOTH"





BRAND CABRINHA SIZE 141 X 43CM

MODEL ACE YEAR 2019

#### AT A GLANCE

With many brilliant boards in their range Cabrinha have always had some key contenders, one of those has always been the Ace. With two variants again this year, the Ace Wood and Ace Carbon you can pick the perfect Ace for you. We got our hands on the new 2019 Cabrinha Ace Carbon recently combined with the H20 multi-adjustment premium strap system.

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BRAND CORE MODEL RIPPER 3
SIZE 5'10" YEAR 2018

#### AT A GLANCE

The CORE Ripper 3 is an all out performance kite surfing short board. A classic design with classic surfboard construction. The Ripper 3 has been designed as a middle of the road board between strapless freestyle and big wave charging.

The Ripper 3 has an active foam core, this translates as being made from closed cell Polyurethane which not only has superior flex memory and dimensional accuracy,

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LICK OK IAI TO KLAD MOKE

71 TEST



"THE RE VOTE IS AN INCREDIBLY SMOOTH AND **FUN BOARD TO** RIDE"







MODEL REVOTE **YEAR 2018** 

#### AT A GLANCE

Kitelement have produced a solid line-up of boards for 2018 and last on our list to be tested is the re vote. Designed as a high performing freeride board, it sits in their line up alongside freestyle brother the re tort.

The deck of the board features an ultra dynamic rocker for a smooth and energetic pop, and the base of the board house Quattro channels with keel shaped sides to produce incredible grip in all conditions.

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"THE BERNHARD OFFERS SUPER EASY PLANING, WHILE ALSO BEING SURPRISINGLY **MANOEUVRABLE** 





**BRAND SHINN** SIZE 160X45

MODEL BERNHARD **YEAR 2019** 

#### AT A GLANCE

The Shinn Bernhard is a large light wind board designed to increase your days on the water in those super light winds. Measuring in at 160 x 45 cm it is a lot of board!

Designed, engineered and built to the highest quality in their own factory in Poland, the board is made with a full Paulownia wood core. This offers an optimum strength to weight ratio for longevity and performance.

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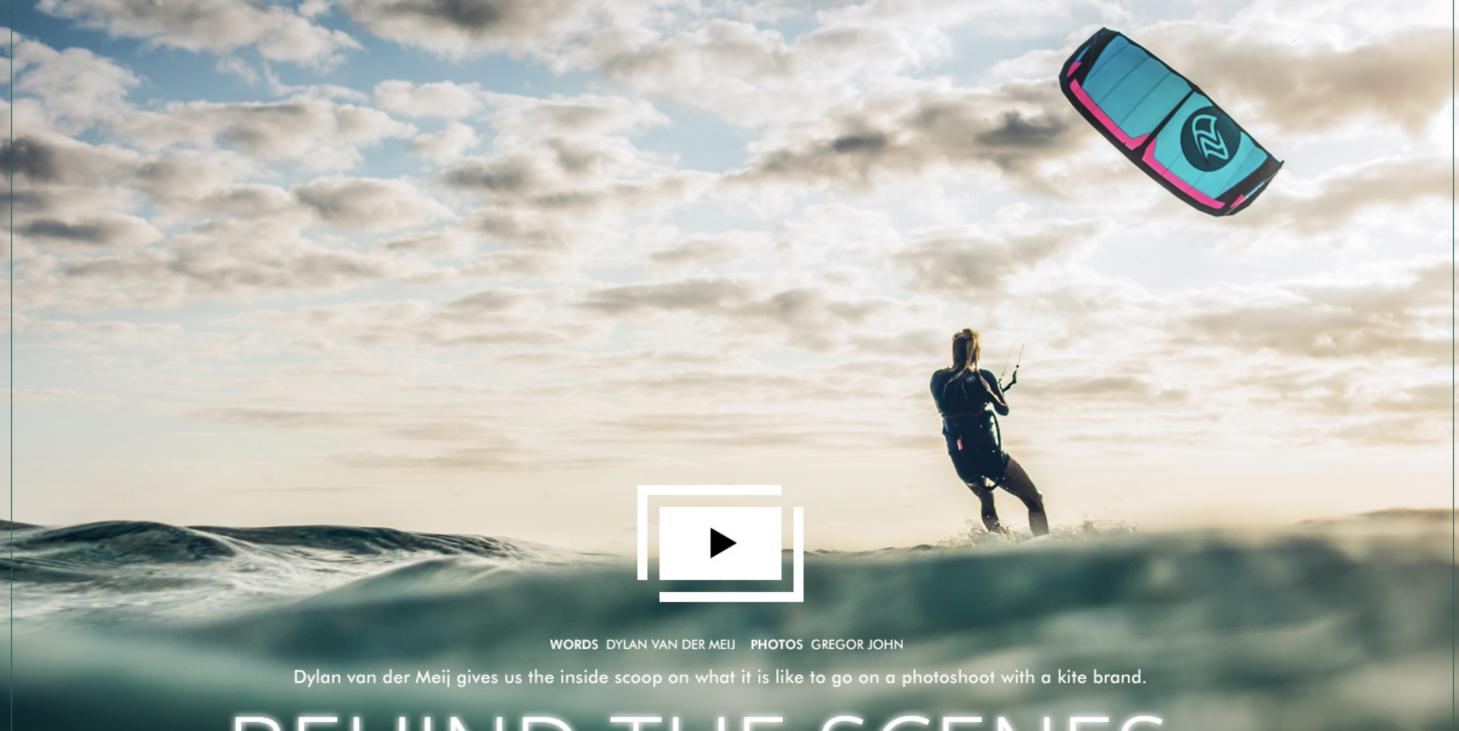
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# BEHIND THE SCENES ON THE PHOTO SHOOT

"IT DOESN'T ALWAYS HAVE TO BE TROPICAL BEACHES AND PALM TREES; A LARGE INDUSTRIAL AREA CAN LOOK COOL TOO!"

As an international team rider for Flysurfer Kiteboarding, I get to travel the world while doing the sport I love. Last September, I made my way to one of the most popular kitesurfing destinations; Mauritius. Located 800 kilometres east of Madagascar, I've always wanted to visit this tropical island, but somehow it just never happened.

Together with Jana Schader (team rider) and Gregor John (photographer) we were off to shoot new content for Flysurfer's latest kites and boards.

#### LOCATION

Picking a location for a kite trip can be challenging, and it's everyone's dream for it to be windy and sunny every day. Unfortunately, Mother Nature doesn't guaranty those conditions but looking at the wind-statistics will point you in the right direction, literally. Generally once you've found a windy spot you just need to book the flights and accommodation and do a wind dance, for a photo shoot though things are a little different.

When scouting a location for a photo and video shoot, there are a few things you need to keep in mind. The scenery is one of the essential aspects of a striking photo, an interesting back or foreground will make a picture much more appealing to the audience. It doesn't always have to be tropical beaches and palm trees; a large industrial area can look cool too!





"WE DECIDED TO DO A QUICK BIG AIR PHOTO SHOOT WITH THE NEW BOARDS BEFORE PACKING THEM UP FOR THE TRIP."

Another primary attribute while shooting is sunlight. Proper lighting will make the colours in a photo so much more vibrant. On a cloudy day, the photos will look dull, and the will need much more colour grading. Statisticaly, Mauritius is an excellent location for the shoot as well the fact that it offers a variety of riding conditions. There's a reef that surrounds the entire island, so you can go for a flat water freestyle session

or rip it up in the waves just outside the reef, making it a perfect combination to create exciting content.

#### THE DAY BEFORE

The day before flying to Mauritius, I still hadn't even picked up the new boards for the shoot. I was in a meeting with the international sales manager from Flysurfer, who is also an excellent photographer and did many of the shoots in the past. The wind was howling in Holland, so we decided to do a quick big air photo shoot with the new boards before packing them up for the trip.

We had our meeting at Wijk aan Zee; one of Holland's most popular kite spots. The conditions where ideal along the whole Dutch coast, but we chose this spot specifically for its scenery. There are a lot of big ships going in and out of the harbour, which makes for a pretty an impressive backdrop.

While I was riding, I got a little disoriented during one on my kiteloop-late-backrolls and took a pretty hard crash on my ribs. I felt fine coming off the water, but on my way home, my pain got rapidly stronger. I went to see a doctor late at night to make sure I wasn't going to face any complications as I was flying the next day. Luckily my organs were fine and I 'just' severely bruised a few ribs.

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# The UK's Number 1 Kiteboarding Forum

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The next morning I could barely get out of bed. I had to ask a friend to help me pack my boardbag since I couldn't lift anything. I was meeting the team in Paris, and from there we had all planned to take the same flight to Mauritius. Unfortunately, my plane to Paris got delayed by four hours, and I missed my connection flight. Twenty-something hours and many painkillers later, I finally made it to Mauritius, what a great start to the trip!

#### SHOOTING

When I tell people I am travelling for a photo or video-shoot, they always assume I am going on a lovely, relaxed holiday, do some tricks in front of the camera; well, sadly that isn't how it works!

"THEY ALWAYS ASSUME I AM GOING ON A LOVELY, RELAXED HOLIDAY"



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"BESIDES JUST SHOOTING KITEBOARDING ACTION, WE USUALLY HAVE OTHER PRODUCT RELATED STUFF TO SHOOT AS WELL."

When shooting, we are usually on an extremely tight schedule. We have set goals before the trip, and we try our best to come back with rewarding footage but unfortunately, it almost never works out the way you planned, as we are dependent on the Mother Nature for that one!

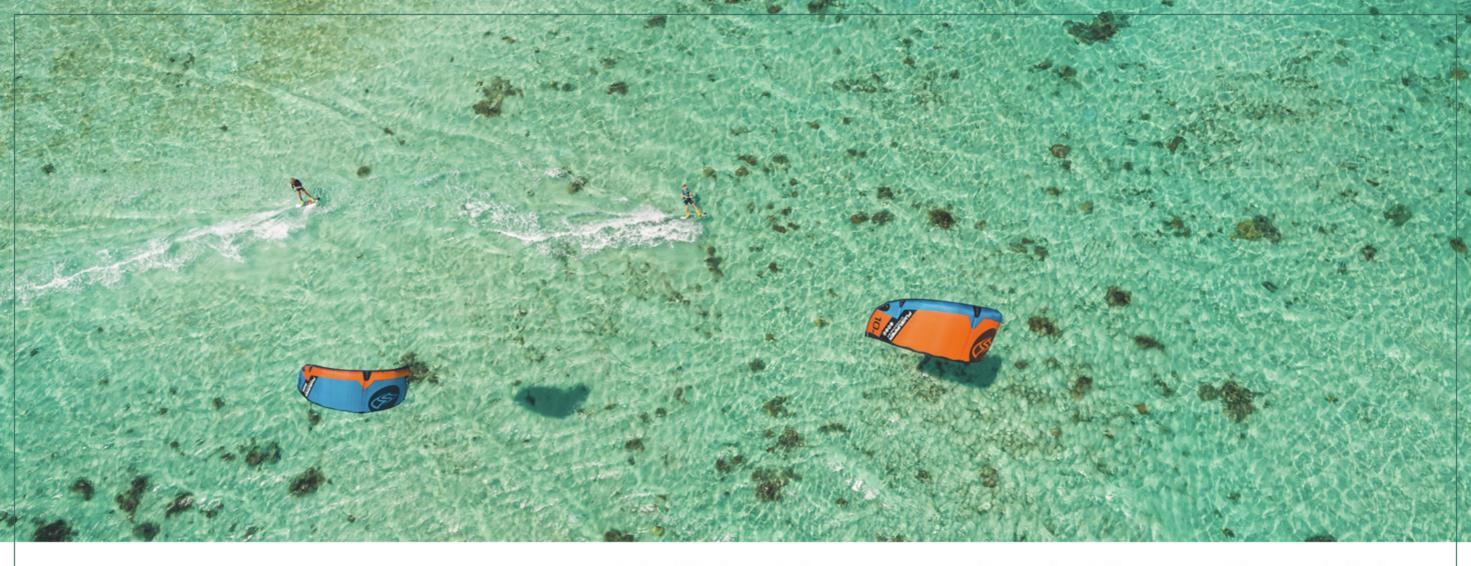
When the wind is not cooperating, we try to be as productive as possible by shooting scenery and 'lifestyle' shots. A good kiteboarding video is never just kitesurfing action; you need a proper intro and all other kinds of shots to keep the video engaging.

Besides just shooting kiteboarding action, we usually have other product related stuff to shoot as well. On this trip, we took all the photos for the new Flysurfer clothing line, and on others, we have shot all the images for the user manuals or detailed shots of the latest features in the products.

#### A TYPICAL DAY

If I had to describe a typical day of shooting, it would almost always start with waking up early, usually before sunrise, as the light is best for shooting. A beautiful sunrise or sunset will create either a nice background or it shines a redder, softer light on the riders and the products. A photographer calls this time of the day the golden hour.

When the sun is near the horizon, sunlight travels through a greater depth of the atmosphere, and this reduces the intensity of the direct light, and more of the blue light scatters so the sunlight will appear more reddish. Waking up early also means beating the crowds to the beach, while shooting,



"EVERYTHING JUST FLOWED PERFECTLY; THE SUN WAS SHINING, AND WE HAD THE SPOT ALL TO OURSELVES."

it's nice to have the spot all to yourself.
When there is no one in your way, you can
take off whenever you want, and you won't
have other kites in the background.

Before every session I briefly speak to the person behind the camera, discussing the best place to shoot and deciding what kind of shots we are going to take. At times, we want a specific area of the subject in the background, which means I have to take off

precisely within the particular spot.

During the shooting, we have to be creative, and sometimes a full spot will limit your possibilities. We look for different locations to shoot at and this often means launching your kite in sketchy places. Launching a kite near power lines or partly on a busy road with unstable wind can sometimes be worth it to get the shot.

In Mauritius, we found a spot that looked very promising, but when launching my kite in between rocks and trees, I instantly noticed that the wind was super gusty and offshore. A few hundred meters out into the

lagoon the wind was more stable, so we decided to shoot there.

To get the cameraman so far out was challenging and we thought about renting a boat. But in the end, I took him out on my back while kiting and dropped him in the middle of the lagoon, it took quite a bit of effort, but we did get the shots we wanted!

On one of the days, we had an early morning session, and it was one of those sessions that everything just flowed perfectly; the sun was shining, and we had the spot all to ourselves. While we were riding, something in the water stung Jana. She was in a lot of pain and could feel her lymph nodes in her armpit swelling up. We had no idea what stung her,

71 BEHIND THE SCENES ON THE PHOTO SHOOT IKSURFMAG.COM

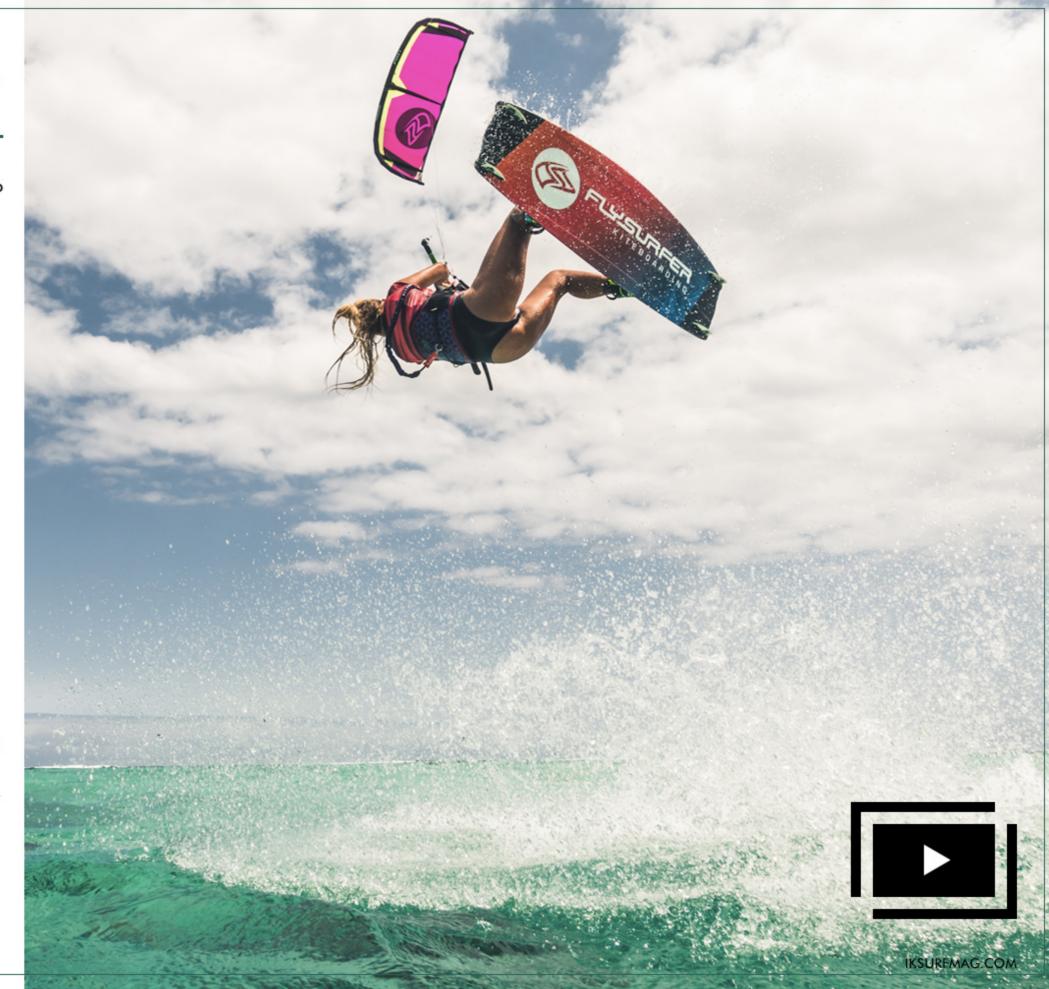
"PHOTO AND VIDEO SHOOTING CAN BE VERY TIRING AND A LOT OF WORK, BUT IN THE END, IT IS ALWAYS WORTH IT."

which naturally made us worry. I drove her to the nearest doctor as fast as I could.

The doctor couldn't do much and told us to go to the nearest hospital to get an anti-venom injection and possibly more treatment. Driving like I was in a Formula1 race, we rushed to the hospital, which was about forty minutes away. Luckily, the pain got less when we got there, and the doctors gave her some medicine.

All symptoms pointed towards a relatively unknown marine animal, the Portuguese man-of-war. Officially it is not a jellyfish, but it does look like one. Their tentacles can be meters long, and the animal has a gas-filled balloon sticking above the surface, which they use to sail with the wind. Jana's body was sore for the rest of the day, but luckily it was nothing too serious.

Even though the Mauritius weather statistics looked perfect, we still got some days without wind and lots of rain; it's tough to be productive on those days. Photo and video shooting can be very tiring and a lot of work, but in the end, it is always worth it. Seeing the final video and photographs after so many hours of hard work makes you forget about the challenging moments and stoked about being able to make trips like this!





Jalou, you're an inspiration to not only women in the kiteboarding industry, but to all riders! We know you grew up on the coast and being in the sea runs through your veins but can you tell us a little about your childhood and how you go into watersports?

I didn't enjoy going to school growing up, and I had a hard time finding the right sport for me. At the age of ten, I started getting in contact with watersports, and I picked up surfing, bodyboarding and wakeboarding. Two years later, Kevin got me hooked to kiteboarding, and that's when the beach became my second home. Whenever it was windy, I was there. I found so much joy and finally found a way to express myself fully.

Growing up, did you always want to be a professional kiteboarder or did you have other interests besides sports?

I never had the intention to become a professional kiteboarder, it all started with pure passion, and that's what it is even today. The Netherlands is usually windy, so I had plenty of hours on the water. I started improving rapidly and won my first national title at the age of fourteen. I had to compete against the guys, as there weren't enough girls entering competitions back then.

I did have some other interests throughout my kiteboarding career, and I even thought about starting up a health café, as I love cooking. However, that would mean having to work on windy days, so I scratched that idea quite quickly! Now, I'm just fortunate that I get to inspire people with what I do and have my dream job.





PHOTO YDWER

# Winters in Holland must be harsh, how did you mentally and physically encourage yourself for those colder sessions?

I don't have to encourage myself at all; I laugh when I think about the past and how little we cared about riding in cold weather! I would put on my wetsuit, cycle to the beach, go kiteboarding for an hour and cycle back and head back for a shower. We were motivated and fearless! Our mother was always worried about our safety, but she never stopped us as she knew we wouldn't be irresponsible or reckless.

"I LAUGH WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE PAST AND HOW LITTLE WE CARED ABOUT RIDING IN COLD WEATHER!"

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You've always been a sports addict, are there any extreme sports you've ever been fascinated by but still haven't ticked it off the list?

Definitely! I would still like to skydive, I've done a couple of tandem jumps, but that doesn't excite me any more, I'd preferably do it on my own. That sort of adrenaline is a feeling that every human needs to experience in life; it makes you alive, yeeewww!

You've been riding for Naish Kiteboarding for a long time now, what is your set up of choice and why?

I've been fortunate to be riding for Naish pretty much my whole career. My weapon of choice is the Slash and a 5'8 Global. The Slash is a great wave kite that gives me what I need. It responds fast, its smooth on turns and it's forgiving, which is great for down the line wave riding. My board choice depends on the location. At home, I love riding the Skater; it's excellent for onshore conditions, comfortable for strapless freestyle, and perfect for middle to small waves. In locations like Mauritius and Indonesia, I always ride the Global. The Global catches more swells and maintains good speed and control on

snappy top turns.

It must be fun and motivating having Kevin as a brother and sharing so many common interests, have you ever been competitive towards each other?

I've often been competitive towards Kevin, but Kevin did not feel the same towards me! I've always been very hard on myself while training and continuously pushing myself. Kevin is a very talented athlete, but I often felt very frustrated to see all his accomplishment, as I was in the same boat, but did not receive the same appreciation.

It is a lot harder for women to make a name for themselves in the 'extreme' sports world, but I'm happy that I have created my own identity in the industry, and for several years now, women are getting a lot more involved.

A great example is the World Surfing League (WSL) is now offering equal compensation for men and women, which is fantastic and a milestone in the sport. The Cape Hatteras Wave Classic was the first one that set the prize money equal; way to go!

You just got back from Indonesia, and it looks like you managed to score some incredible sessions!

What other waves spots would you recommend around the world?

Mauritius, because it's guaranteed to deliver!

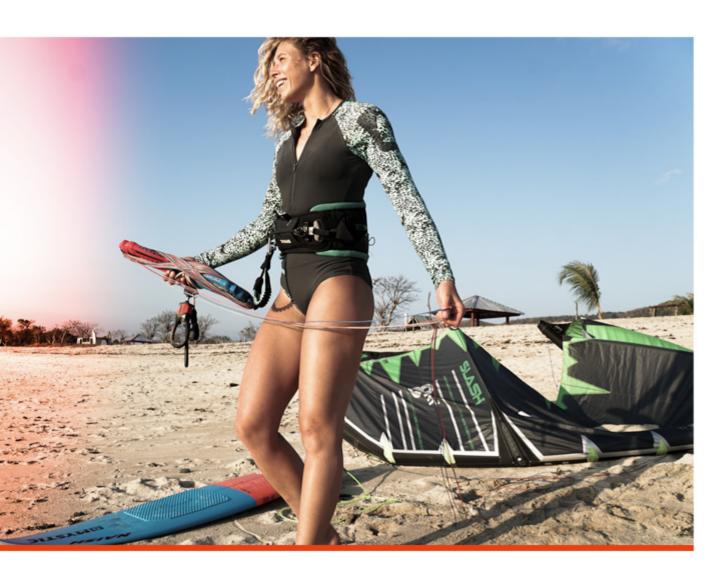
However, that sometimes makes it too predictable;
there must be so many hidden gems all over the
world, and my goal is to explore and ride at a new
location every year.

You've won numerous championships and are a queen on the waves! What made you switch over from freestyle to wave riding?

I could not find the motivation to ride a twin-tip anymore. I was bored, tired of the endless crashes and it did not give me that rush that wave riding gives me.

I also tend to overdo stuff! Back then, I would put so many hours into freestyle that it started to aggravate me. I had reached a plateau and just stopped improving, and that's when I felt like I was losing my passion for the sport and almost considered quitting.





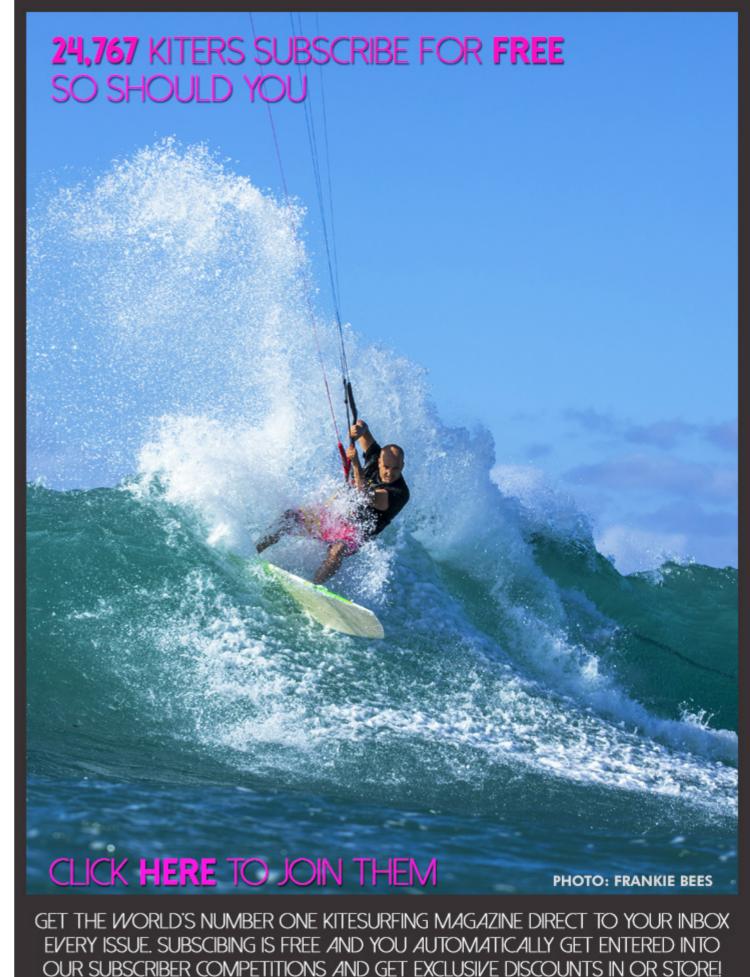
When I look back, I should have travelled more often to freestyle spots like Brazil instead of always ending up in Cape Town, where the conditions are hardcore, making learning new tricks almost impossible! (Unless you are a big air rider, which I'm not haha!)

You are a firm believer that 'Standing still is going backwards', what advice can you give us on that?

I'm continuously travelling and meeting new people, which is exciting and inspirational. It is essential for me not to get stuck in the ordinary day-to-day life routines. I'm a person that gets bored quickly and enjoys a challenge. I picked up CrossFit last year, and it's incredible!

PHOTO RODERICK PULS

"I'M A PERSON THAT GETS **BORED QUICKLY** AND ENJOYS A CHALLENGE. "





I often tell people to follow their passion and don't be afraid to follow your dreams. Life-changing decisions can be so refreshing; regardless of how scary they may seem. Life is too short, so you had better appreciate it because the next day promises nothing.

# If you had to spend the whole day indoors, how would you spend your day?

That would be torture; I hate being indoors! I do everything in my powers to avoid spending winters in the Netherlands because of that. However, if I had to, I would probably edit a movie, do yoga,

draw something weird on my surfboard, bake banana bread, and listen to uplifting music!

# You've been involved in a few clinics in recent years, are you going to start running your own trips anytime soon?

I haven't run any myself, yet; I usually get hired to coach on other peoples trips. Last summer, I did one with Moona Whyte for Uncharted Kite Sessions, which was a blast, and we plan on doing another one next summer. Doing it this way saves a lot of the work and it's great fun to pass on some knowledge too.

I'm planning on starting up some camps soon. I don't feel quite ready for it right now, but I might try one in Cape Town this winter.

## During your travels, what is one of the craziest incidents you've experienced off the water?

I was sitting in the middle seat on a plane, and having a normal conversation with an older lady beside me. She was reminiscing and telling me about her husband, who had passed away a few years ago, and the trips they took to Maui. While we were talking, she took a pill. I wasn't sure what it was; I figured it was a sleeping pill for the flight.

A few minutes later, I looked towards her as the airhostess was serving our meal and I could see she was drifting in and out of sleep. At one point, she was pouring herself a coke, while falling asleep, and she knocked over her drink, I was already a little concerned at this point!

Halfway during the flight, I was reading a book; she woke up and started touching my face and calling me her husband's name. It took her a little while to realize that I wasn't her husband, and shortly after she fell back into a deep sleep. I kept an eye on her until we landed!

## Have you ever been in a situation that scared you on the water? What happened?

Of course, those are necessary experiences! I've seen all kinds of wildlife show up out of the blue, most recently, a sunfish, which I thought, was a shark! I've also seen a massive whale passing by, which was unbelievable!

I've seen people wrapped in their lines, not having a clue what they have to do. I think most of the time, its other people that scare me on the water; no control, launching next to trees, terrible crashes on the beach.

I felt scared several times when I started wave riding, especially at spots like One Eye. It was all so overwhelming, the wave is far out, and it's fast, powerful, and can be dangerous if you don't know what you are doing. You get your poundings, you get scared, but you need to get back on your feet as not to get caught up in unwanted situations.





It's a learning process, and you go through many different stages to get where you want to be, and you know what to expect for the next time you get caught in a wave.

# What advice can you give other riders to remain focused and motivated during their training?

Try different things, don't get stuck in your comfort zone, you will get bored! Ride with exciting people, try different boards, set a goal each session and try to reach it. Go to a kite camp, you will learn a lot, you'll improve, and that's the incredibly rewarding, as you are getting better at something you love.

Do you have a favourite video of your riding you can share with us, what do you like about it and why do you feel it stands out from the rest?

My latest video from Indonesia, where I try to get barreled! I like it because I'm trying something completely different, I've never caught a proper barrel before, and in this edit, I push to get it right!

Check it out!

Thank you for taking the time to talk to us, Jalou, and sharing your incredible adventures with us!





















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# # | FOIL SURFING ON A BRIDGE | LOOKING FOR THE SOURCE

Kai Lenny has nothing on this guy!
How's this for a bit of inspiration,
riding along a narrow bridge
hundreds of feet up in the air! Foil
surfing seems to be coming on leaps
and bounds at the moment; the
future is here, we've tasted it!



CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO

#### # 2 AIRTON COZZOLINO GOT AIRTIME!

We're not surprised to see Airton's 19+ seconds jump during the GKA Big Air contest in Fuerteventura be such a hit this month. If you didn't get a chance to watch this edit, we strong recommend you do! Airton Cozzolino an absolute legend, wouldn't you agree?



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# #3 KITESURFING - 1958

This video needed resurrection!
Attaching yourself to a kite, performing tricks like the dead man, handle passes, and board offs all originated from somewhere! These pioneers did all we do today, including attaching a camera (comparable to a GoPro) to their kites! Worth a watch!



CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO

#### #4 KEVVLOG #220 -CRAZY SESSION

Once again, Kevin Langeree vlogs never fail to amuse us and make in the top videos on our Movie Night list! In KEVVLOG #220, he teams up with Lasse Walker and Nick Jacobsen for one day... and this is what happens, in 30 knots of wind!



CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO

71 MOVIE NIGHT

# 10 OUESTIONS WORDS JEN TYLER

## Reed Brady

Reed Brady is a jack-of-all-trades, master of all!

Reed grew up in southern Oregon and has been kiteboarding and surfing since the age of eleven. He is involved in Slingshot Sports

Research and Development, and an absolute shredder on the water whether it's on a twintip, surfboard or a foil. We had the pleasure to get to know Reed a little better this issue by asking him 10 questions!







Reed, tell us a little bit about yourself. Where did you grow up, what activities did you enjoy as a kid and how did you get into kiteboarding?

I learned to kiteboard at the ripe age of 12 on a windblown lake in Southern Oregon. The lake borders the Pacific Ocean and our family owns a kiting school, as well as a B&B there. I was a feral little child growing up, and my brother and I would get involved in any activity involving the water. Most of our childhood consisted of "shore poundings" in the ocean, hunting for golf balls, and making homemade weapons to hurt each other with!

You're currently in Michigan for the 'King of the Great Lakes', could you tell us a little about the event?

King of the Great Lakes, or KOGL, is an expo/demo hosted by Mac Kiteboarding every year, at a beautiful spot on Lake Michigan. It's a fantastic event that brings many top riders and companies to the area.

How long have you been a Slingshot Team rider and what is your favourite set up? What changes in the 2019 gear have you mainly noticed?

I have been with Slingshot since day one, minus a three-year hiatus with a different company. My go-to gear is the SST for waves and foiling, and the RPM for freestyle. The main difference I feel in the 2019 gear, is the lighter construction in the boards and durability of the components. The new RPM is coming out soon with some exciting changes.





You are involved in Research and Development at Slingshot, how did you get into that and what are your plans for the future?

Slingshot is like family to me, and in recent years they have been giving me gear to try out and provide feedback. In the future, I'd like to implement some of my ideas into their equipment.

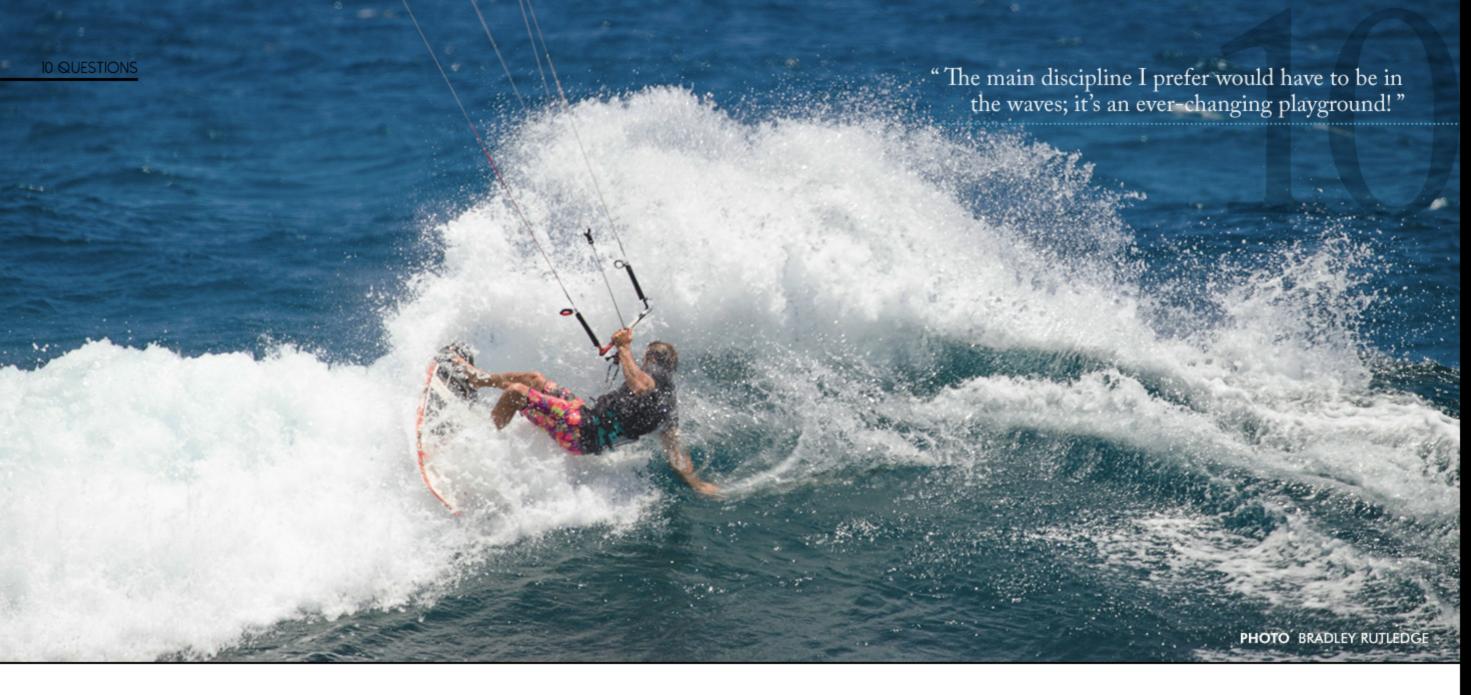
PHOTO STEFFEN VOLLERT

"they have been giving me gear to try out and provide feedback."





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If you weren't involved in kiteboarding at all and let's hypothetically say, you could turn back time and start over, what would you be doing instead?

Surfing...100%! I grew up doing surfing all the time, but if I could go back and make it my sole passion, I undoubtedly would. I would love to be a John John Florence!

We've seen you ride in a variety of different

## disciplines, which do you prefer most, why and where?

I aspire to be a well-rounded waterman, and any aspect of the sport that allows for more water time is fine by me! I grew up riding twin tip boards, then moved on to strapless surfing, and eventually hopped on the foil train. Lately, I've been finding myself foiling a lot more often, primarily because it's a new and exciting challenge for me. The main discipline I

prefer would have to be in the waves; it's an ever-changing playground!

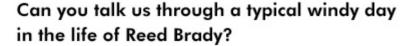
# Who is your ultimate inspiration in the kiteboarding industry and why?

Richard Branson, just because he's Richard Branson! A lot of my inspiration comes from the innovators of the sport like Tony Lagoz, Cory Roeseler, Lou Wainman, and more. Anyone that can keep the fire stoked with new innovative ideas!

70 10 QUESTIONS







A typical windy day for me consists of eating an unhealthy amount of food and panicking about the wind. Once the wind picks up, there is even more panicking as I try to decide what to ride for the session; the struggle is real! One and a half to two and a half hours on the water, and then preferably a large burrito waiting for me for a post-shred treat!

PHOTO ADAM LAPIERRE

" there is even more panicking as I try to decide what to ride for the session"



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We've all experienced sessions on the water where everything goes wrong!
Can you tell us about your most memorable worst day?

My most memorable worst day would have to be when I blew out my ACL, MCL, and meniscus in one shot while riding boots; it's not fun being out of the water for eight months. However, my most recent incident was when I began a five or six-mile downwinder, and at the very beginning of the run, my harness rope slider snapped, which isn't unusual, but I managed to remedy the situation by wearing my harness backwards and hooking straight into the leash rope. My back wasn't feeling too good after the session!

Last question! We all know Hood River is one of the top kiteboarding destinations; where else would you recommend in the USA for kiteboarding?

Floras Lake in Oregon and the beautiful Sherman Island in California have to be my favourite kiteboarding destinations!

Thank you Reed, it's been a pleasure!

