

MSNBC Selects Palau As Top Ecotourism Destination

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(By David Miho in Koror, Pacific Magazine)

Major media is recognizing Palau for not only its' natural beauty but significantly, the strong leadership in governmental policy to protect the environment and ecology of its nation.

MSNBC has joined the New York Times and Honolulu Advertiser in recent articles by naming the Republic of Palau in its list of top ecotourism destinations.

"To make our list, it wasn't enough to be blessed with extraordinary natural resources; it was equally important that those resources are being cared for... local commitment to maintaining the beauty and integrity of these places through sustainable tourism. And remember, tourist must do their part as well... as often places with the greatest ecological diversity are often the most threatened," said the MSNBC article today.



Palau's Rock Islands.

PHOTO: David Miho

MSNBC continued, "Long before featured in the Survivor series, the nation of Palau was recognized as one of the world's foremost diving destinations. In the crystal-clear sea just off the coast is a colorful underwater wonderland, featuring more than 500 species of coral teeming with some 1,400 kinds of fish. On land, travelers can wander along unspoiled beaches or go trekking through dense jungles. The Palau Conservation Society manages nearly two dozen conservation areas and encourages sustainable development to protect the islands' fragile ecosystem."

The other destinations selected by the MSNBC criteria of natural blessings and local commitment to protect those gifts were Costa Rica, Norwegian Fjords, Kerala-India and Kenya.