

TOMMY FRIEDL
the board sport destination
Red Sea - Hurghada



5th till 12th of September 2013

Splash Cup 2013

Pro Center Tommy Friedl celebrates its 25th anniversary on 5th of September with a big party and the start of the 20th Splash Cup (5th till 12th of September 2013) taking place at the Pro Center in Jasmine Village.

The Splash Cup is a week of Fun-Regatta for windsurfers and Fun-Race for kite surfers, combined of course with beach life, barbecue, cocktail parties, adventure trips into the desert, sundowners, and more... You don't have to be an expert to take part, it is all about fun, and basic surfing skills are all you need.

1. Who can apply for the race?
For the windsurfing course race you should be able to do the water start!
To participate in the kite race a license with minimum Level 5 (VDWS) is required; you should be able to go upwind safely! The kite race will be held with normal Twin-Tip boards.

2. How much is the race fee?
Local's Special - pay the race fee only! Other participants pay the full event fee!
Early bookings till 1st of August: 30 € race fee
Bookings from 2nd of August till 1st of September: 40 € race fee

3. What is included in the race fee?
Start permission for the windsurf regatta or kite race
Bib number Event Lycra
Free entrance to the Splash Party
Discounted prices for BBQ & Dinner events

4. How to apply?
Send an email by the 1st of September including your name,
telephone number and address to office@tommy-friedl.de

In addition to surfing, kiting, and a huge party, Pro Center Tommy Friedl will offer seminars introducing the latest products from JP, Neil Pryde, Cabrinha and Core. Their 2014 lines will be here for you to test.

Several windsurf and kite surf PROs announced their coming and will show some of their amazing tricks.

Register now and win great prizes! office@tommy-friedl.de



Anniversary of 25 years beach life in Hurghada

Red Sea Bulletin
visited Tommy Friedl

mid June in his Pro Center at
Jasmine Village in Hurghada to
chat with him about "the old times"



We can't believe it Tommy! It is already 25 years since you opened your Pro Center here in Hurghada. I also feel it was just yesterday that I came to this beautiful part of the Red Sea. Time passes quickly when you are enjoying what you do. It was 1987 when I was hired by Sub Aqua and came to Hurghada for the first time. I fell in love with the Red Sea, decided to stay here and opened my own windsurf center in Jasmine Village in 1988, in the same place where we are now. One year later it was named "Pro Center Tommy Friedl". The Pro Center Group was established as an association for the best windsurfing centers at the best locations in the world.

What is so special about Hurghada that you stayed here for 25 years?
I have chosen this place because you always have good winds here, and the beach of Jasmine Village has the finest sand you can find in Hurghada. For me it was a surfers' paradise right from the start, a beach ideal for beginners and advanced surfers. But to stay that long requires much more than that. In fact, the longest time period I was away from here was 3 months; the other absences were only short holidays and business trips. Hurghada has become my home.

When you look back, surely Hurghada was very different.
Hurghada was a small village. There was not much to find apart from the impressive and unique nature. Back then Jasmine Village was "a" hotel south of Hurghada. We visited the "town" about once a week to buy basic food products in a small grocery, and to chat with Egyptian friends living there. We discussed opportunities to cooperate, exchanged our experiences, and philosophized about the weather and the sea. The locals were as interested in information about Europe as I was interested in their knowledge about Egypt. People have always been very kind and honest. The exchange of interest, experience and culture generated a very special and valuable lifestyle. It is nice that the old connections are still there. People from that time stayed as they were and many of them have remained good friends until now.

How do you see Egypt as a surf destination in comparison with other places such as Barbados, Hawaii, South Africa and the Canary Islands?

Egypt and the Red Sea have good winds, warm water and constant sunshine, a perfect combination for windsurfers and kite surfers. A further advantage is that it is not far from Europe, it can be reached within 4-5 hours, and there is no jet lag. Low cost travel packages are available. This combination is hard to beat by the other destinations.

During the last years kite surfing has become very popular. Will this be the future of surfing?

Yes, so it seems. Kite surfing became very popular during the 90's, in my center I have about the same number of windsurfers as kite surfers. Wind surfing is cheaper and easier to learn at the beginning, but the advanced surfer needs strong winds. Kite surfing is more difficult to start with, but soon you progress fast, and it is lots of fun. Many surfers enjoy both sports, dependent on the wind situation.



You provide the latest equipment for your guests. I am always wondering how this is possible.

The modern surfer needs the best and latest equipment on the market. If you want to be competitive as a center you have to meet his demands. We offer rental equipment of the world leaders JP, NeilPryde, Cabrinha and Core, and replace it every 6 to 12 months. New and used equipment in good condition is sold in our shop located directly on the beach. There you will also find a great assortment of beach fashion, accessories, equipment as well as all different kinds of spare parts.

Lately you have started offering Yoga courses. How does Yoga fit together with surfing?
I have been practicing Yoga since 2009 and have found that Anusara Yoga, a style of Hatha Yoga, is best suited for



me as well as for surfers; it is a great way to balance body and mind. I successfully joined the 3 immersion weeks and the Anusara teacher training. Our new Yoga house, right next to the beach, enables us to host workshops and retreats for various yoga schools.

Being here on your beach and talking to you I can feel the special atmosphere of your place here.

Over the last 25 years my team and I have not only created one of the top surf centers worldwide, it is much more than that, a place with a very relaxing atmosphere, a chill out place under a pergola, a bar, cool music, weekly BBQ, good service and lots of activities from sports to desert trips. Our motto: People have to feel good.

Many will have asked you this question before. How long do you plan to stay in Egypt?

Hurghada has become my home and I have no intention of going anywhere else. What would you like to exchange a life in paradise for?



The Red Sea Bulletin wishes Tommy Friedl a happy 25th anniversary, and a successful Splash Cup 2013. See you there!

