

Lundy nudibranch ID course

9th – 13th June 2026

For all nudibranch lovers: a chance to improve your ID skills; update your taxonomy of this group; be taught by a leading professional in the field and spend a few days discovering a wonderful island – above and below the waves.



Gargamella rosi (David Kipling)

[Recorded at Lundy for the first time in 2022]

A four day-long field course, staying on Lundy Island

If you've never been to Lundy, then this will be an ideal way of ticking it off your bucket list, as well as learning a whole lot more about nudibranchs, a group of fascinating and beautiful marine molluscs.

If you haven't been to Lundy before, the island lies 11 miles off the coast of North Devon in the Outer Bristol Channel (see www.lundympa.org.uk for further details about its MPA). We have made a booking of **The Barn** which can accommodate up to 14 people split between two dormitories. We have arranged for some walk-in tents to be available as well.

The course will be led by **Bernard Picton**, the leading nudibranch field expert and species portrait photographer. Bernard has long been at the forefront of marine invertebrate taxonomy, with nudibranchs being one of his specialities. He last dived at Lundy in the mid-1970s, when the initial list of all nudibranchs occurring at the island was being compiled*. A second edition of his book, written with co-author Christine Morrow, *Nudibranchs of Britain, Ireland and Northwest Europe* was published in 2023.



There will be 12 places available on the course which is designed primarily for divers and u/w photographers diving within the island's MPA, though there will also be two places reserved for non-divers. The dives will be accompanied by a series of lectures and lab. time for identifying specimens. There will also be some 'chill out' time to enjoy the island.

Logistics

You'll need to make your own way to Ilfracombe quay by 08:15 on Tuesday 9th June (and your return journey home after the course has ended on the evening of Saturday 13th June at 18:30). The full cost of the course will include: 4 nights accommodation and all meals; up to 8 dives over 3½ days (weather dependent); ferry trips aboard the MS *Oldenburg* to/from Lundy; all diving air and all tuition fees. You will be expected to bring all your own dive gear, which must be in-date/serviced. If you have them, an underwater camera and a field microscope too will be useful. Note that the course can only take experienced divers only (i.e. more than 50 sea dives in UK waters / >Sports diver / >Advanced Open Water).

Cost

The cost of the course is **£400** all in. To ensure your place, **a deposit of £175 (44%) will need to be paid a.s.a.p.** The balance (£225) – or the amount in full - must be paid **by 30 March 2026**. Places will be reserved on a first-come-first-served basis, dependent on diving experience & suitability. The cost for the two **non-diver places is £350/person** all in.

Contact:

Please contact **Robert Irving**, Course Co-ordinator, if you're interested in joining the group and wish to pay your deposit, the full amount or if you have further questions about the course (robert@sea-scope.co.uk; tel. 07713 114006).

Nudibranch Course advert_v12Mar26

* Brown G.H. & Hunnam P.J. 1976. The marine fauna of Lundy: Opisthobranchia. *Annual Report of the Lundy Field Society* 27: 37-47 (available to download at: www.lundympa.org.uk/resources/bibliography)