

ReeFiesta 2025 Brings Over 200 People Together to Restore Bonaire's Reefs

Kralendijk, Bonaire – Reef Renewal Foundation Bonaire (RRFB) proudly hosted its **7th annual ReeFiesta** on Sunday, June 1st, bringing together more than **200 people** — including divers, snorkelers, dive shop instructors, RRFB staff, and sponsors — to celebrate World Reef Awareness Day on Bonaire.

The event kicked off in the morning with a coordinated series of guided coral restoration dives and snorkel tours at **13 nursery sites** around Bonaire and Klein Bonaire. Over **120 divers and snorkelers** took to the water after an informative presentation about RRFB's work and the value of healthy coral reefs, led by trained instructors from RRFB's **16 partner dive shops**: *AB-Dive, Beyond the Corals, Buddy Dive, Carib Inn, Dive Friends Bonaire, Divi Dive, Harbour Village, Scuba Elite, Technical Diving Services, Toucan Diving, Tropical Divers, VIP Diving, WannaDive, Xpro Divers, and 4Wheel Diving*.

In the evening, the community gathered for a celebratory reception at **Van der Valk Plaza Resort**. Attendees heard from a lineup of speakers who have each played a vital role in advancing coral restoration on Bonaire:

- **Ernst Noyons**, Chief Operating Officer of RRFB
- **David Fishman**, President of RRFB's Board of Directors
- **Ciaretta Profas**, Project Leader for Nature Restoration at Openbaar Lichaam Bonaire
- **Roxanne Francisca**, Manager of Washington Slagbaai National Park, STINAPA Bonaire

Guests also enjoyed an interactive coral quiz, a festive atmosphere, and a highly anticipated raffle featuring a range of incredible prizes donated by RRFB's supporters — including dive gear, branded merchandise, a private yacht charter from Bonaire Yacht Charters, a catamaran tour from Woodwind, and a two-night stay at Villa Carina.

ReeFiesta 2025 was made possible through the generous support of its official sponsors: **Orco Bank, Cargill, MCB, and WEB**. Their support made the event free and accessible to all participants, helping RRFB continue its mission to build a hands-on, informed community of reef stewards.

"It was so energizing to see the support, enthusiasm, and shared purpose from everyone involved in Reefiesta this year," said Perri Rappaport, Reef Restoration Technician at RRFB. **"We're especially thankful to our dive shop partners, sponsors, and everyone who joined us in the water — they're the reason this year's event was such a success!"**

To learn more about RRFB's ongoing coral restoration work, visit www.reefrenewalbonaire.org or follow @reefrenewalbonaire on social media.

PHOTOS

[Download the high resolution photos here.](#) Please note photographer credits in captions for each photo below.



[Left] Divers, snorkelers, and staff at Buddy Dive Resort. Credit: Julian Beccari

[Right]: Reefiesta divers from Toucan Diving at RRFB's South Klein nursery. Credit: Max Rouwenhorst



[Left] RRFB's Science Officer Sanne Tuijten leading the coral quiz at the evening reception. Credit: Julian Beccari

[Right]: Reefiesta diver enjoys the reception. Credit: Julian Beccari



[Left] RRFB's Lola Salvador shows a Reefiesta diver how to properly clean a coral nursery tree at their South Klein coral nursery, with Toucan Diving. Credit: Max Rouwenhorst
[Right]: RRFB's team poses for a group photo. Credit: Max Rouwenhorst



[Left] 4Wheel Diving team posing with Reefiesta divers before their morning dive on June 1st.
[Right] Credit: Julian Beccari