



Interreg



UNION EUROPEENNE
UNIONE EUROPEA



MARITTIMO-IT FR-MARITIME

Fonds européen de développement régional
Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale

NEPTUNE blue trails

THE RUBIS



**Warning
FRAGILE**



Diving



**Cultural and
natural**



**Average
frequentation**

Geographic location

France, Région Sud, Ramatuelle

Name of the conservation area (or protected area)

Marine area adjacent to Port-Cros National Park

Level of environmental protection

Natura 2000 Var coast

Name of the dive site

The Rubis

Geographic coordinates (reference system)

LAT	N 43°11'301"
LONG	E 06°42'038"
Reference system	EPSG-4326 - WGS 84 system



LOCATION



Access to the dive site by boat, equipped site (buoy)

Site characteristics

Maximum depth **34 - 40 metres**
Difficulty **very frequent current, occasionally violent**



Cultural and natural

Information about the managing body

Port-Cros National Park manages the adjacent marine area. The marine observatory of the Golfe de St-Tropez District Community Council manages the Var coast of the Natura 2000 zone. Together, they conduct concertation between professional divers and fishermen, municipalities, government bodies, etc., to define the actions and protective measures to carry out.



INFORMATION



Diving



Permit not required

WARNING

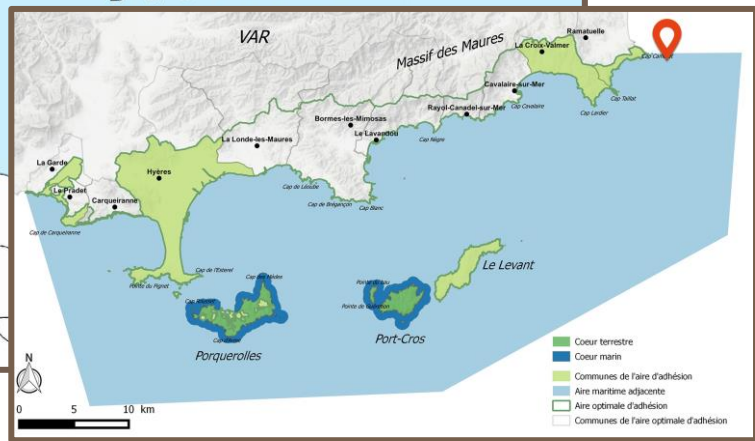
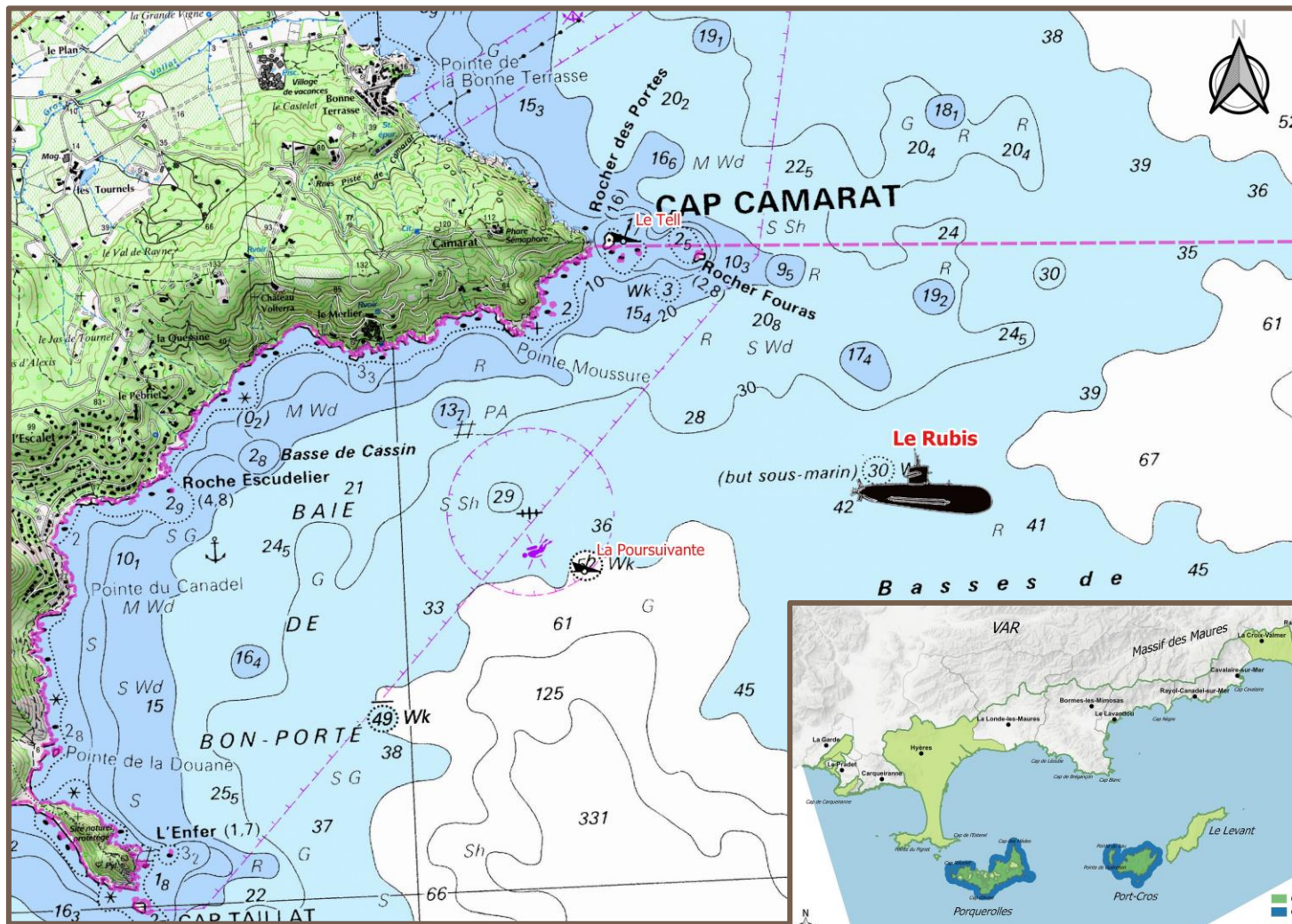
Due to the presence of fishing lines, nets, sharp metal parts and fragile structures that can break without warning, wrecks can be dangerous for divers. Entering a wreck requires skill and specific training and equipment as well as the respect of safety rules.



MAP

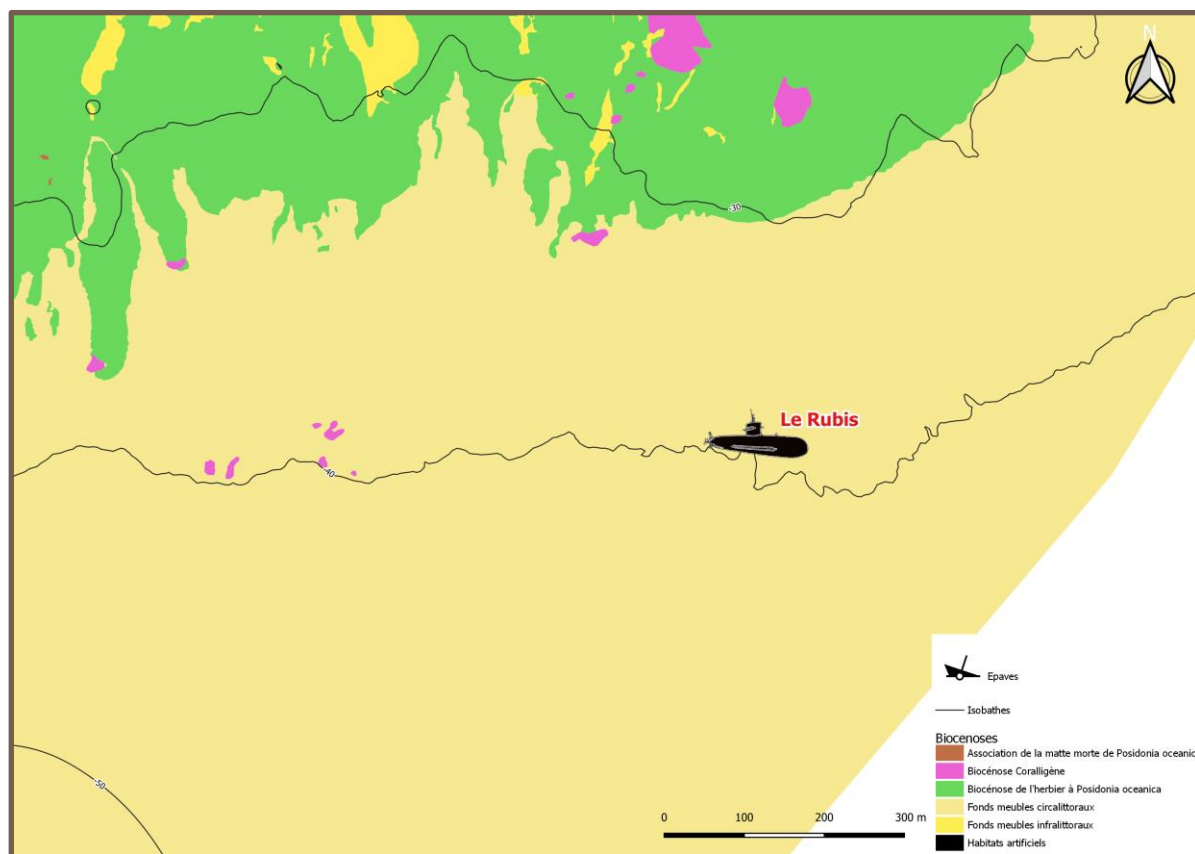


Warning FRAGILE



Description of the site of natural interest

The wreck is positioned vertically on a sandy seabed, with some red sea fans (*Paramuricea clavata*) attached to the starboard bow and extremely rich fauna: grouper (*Epinephelus marginatus*), moray eels (*Muraena helena*), common two-banded sea bream (*Diplodus vulgaris*), school of swallowtail sea perch (*Anthias anthias*), etc.



NATURAL

Area of the main habitats (within a radius of 100 m around the site):

- **Unconsolidated bottom in the circalittoral zone**

To protect biodiversity

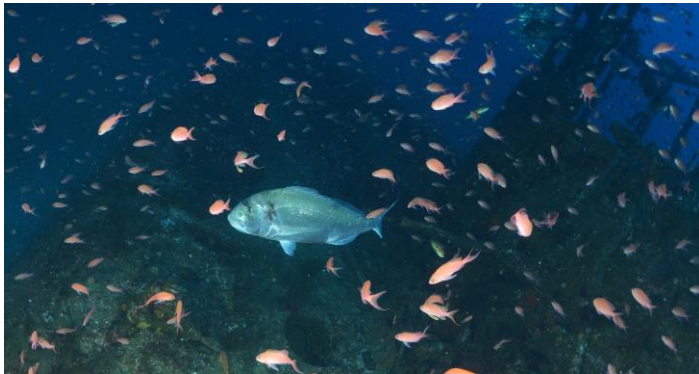
- Avoid touching underwater flora and fauna
- Do not chase fish
- Do not feed them
- Do not bring anything to the surface
- Beware of uncontrolled flipper movements, check your floatation gear
- Check that your emergency regulator is properly attached to your BCD jacket and in no case allow your equipment to trail behind you as it risks getting caught on flora and fauna.



Grouper, *Epinephelus marginatus*
Parc national de Port-Cros © Claude Lefebvre



The Rubis, conning tower fauna
Parc national de Port-Cros © Nicolas BARRAQUE



The Rubis - Black seabream, *Spondyliosoma cantharus*
Parc national de Port-Cros © Nicolas BARRAQUE



Red sea fan, *Paramuricea clavata*
Parc national de Port-Cros © Sandrine RUITTON

List of main species

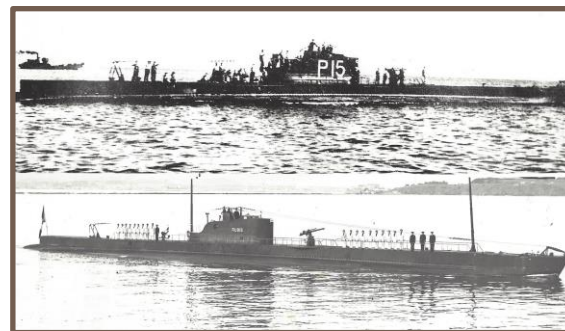
- Swallowtail sea perch (*Anthias anthias*)
- Black seabream (*Spondyliosoma cantharus*)
- Red sea fan (*Paramuricea clavata*)
- Grouper (*Epinephelus marginatus*)
- Moray eel (*Muraena helena*)
- Common two-banded sea bream (*Diplodus vulgaris*)

Description of the site of cultural interest

The Rubis was a mine-laying submarine. It carried 32 mines that could be distributed as needed. 66 metres in length, it had diesel engines for surface propulsion and electric engines for use when diving. The armament of the Rubis was formidable: it carried a 75.2 canon, machine guns and torpedoes. Launched in 1931, the Rubis was in Bizerte when the war broke out. In April 1940, it was in Dundee, Scotland. It laid mines in Norway during 4 successive campaigns. It was seized by the British during the armistice in July 1940. Almost the entire crew chose to continue the war within the Free French Naval Forces under the British flag. It received new mines at the end of 1940 and accomplished 20 difficult operations, all of which were successful. At the end of the war, the Rubis held the Free French Fleet's absolute record for mine laying and vessels sunk. The Rubis was decorated with the Cross of Liberation. After the war, it returned to Toulon in March 1946. In July 1948, it was disarmed but continued to serve as a submarine base for young seamen.

The wreck:

On 31 January 1958, the Rubis was towed offshore of Cap Camarat. A charge of 9 kg of explosives sent the vessel to the bottom. Today, the submarine is well preserved but stripped of its navigation instruments and propellers.



Illustrations of the Rubis
© Jean-Pierre JONCHERAY



CULTURAL

Photos of underwater cultural heritage

WARNING

Wrecks and all traces of underwater cultural heritage are protected by law. It is prohibited to bring anything to the surface.

The Rubis - Top view
Parc national de Port-Cros © Nicolas BARRAQUE



The Rubis - View of the bow, cable cutter
Parc national de Port-Cros © Nicolas BARRAQUE



The Rubis - View of the hatches
Parc national de Port-Cros © Dominique BARRAQUE



The Rubis - View of the conning tower - Parc national de Port-Cros © Nicolas BARRAQUE