



Dive Talkin'

Try an undersea spree with the Scubacraft SC3

Picture the scene—you're zipping across the surface of the ocean on your marine machine, the surf spraying up behind you, scenery flashing past in a blur. Fellow seaman turn and stare as you race past, a bright streak of yellow that cuts through the waves like the proverbial hot knife through butter. However, this is no ordinary craft. Within minutes it can transform into a free-flooding, self-contained hydrodynamic underwater vessel capable of taking you down to explore the vast world underneath the surface. In its submerged state, the ocean depths await you.

For all those budding James Bonds out there who fantasised what it would be like to operate such a contraption, the Scubacraft SC3—the first self-contained submersible that combines the function of a surface vessel—is a dream

come true. Designed to hold up to three oceanic adventurers, the vessel's internal combustion engine generates 160hp, enough to send the craft whizzing along at up to 50mph above the surface, while electric thrusters enable an impressive three knots below it. It can go as deep as 30 metres, with its descent controlled by an automatic depth control measure as a precaution against the bends.

It's not an enclosed vessel so you'll still need a wetsuit and oxygen tanks, but once you're properly clad you're good to go. If grabbing two budding underwater adventurers to tag along isn't enough, the bigger SC6 model can accommodate up to six people for its journey beneath the waves. For those sated with standard seagoing, it could be worth taking the plunge. ■