

BLACK PEARL

Steiner's Black Pearl began her life not as a working vessel, but as a star. Built as a 97-foot, steel-hulled pirate ship, she was kept in Alabama as the backup set piece for *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest*. When her moment in Hollywood passed, it seemed her story might quietly end in the shipyard. Instead, her greatest role was still ahead. Renamed Black Pearl and prepared as an artificial reef, she was given a second act beneath the surface off Panama City Beach.

Today, the Black Pearl rests in 75 feet of water, 6.01 nautical miles southwest of St. Andrews Pass, where she's quickly become a favorite destination for divers. Her movie-set design translates beautifully underwater: long, wide swim-throughs safe for most experience levels, a classic pirate steering wheel, a treasure chest, a plank, and cannons that make the wreck feel like a real-life film set. Her nooks and crannies attract algae, invertebrates, and reef fish, while her masts draw in big jacks that circle above. Part Hollywood legend, part thriving reef, the Black Pearl offers divers a rare blend of story, scenery, and growing marine life.

