

OCEAN EXPLORERS EXPEDITIONS



WHAT ARE EXPEDITIONS?

Expeditions are customized travel programs that allow groups to have meaningful connections and real-world learning at international and domestic destinations. Expedition trips provide an overview of ocean-focused citizen science programs while engaging in hands-on field activities.

WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

Each Expedition includes lessons on [Program Topics](#) selected by participants or leaders. Participants will become citizen scientists themselves, contributing to one or more of REEF's marine conservation programs, such as the Volunteer Fish Survey Project. Participants will be shown what they can do to make a difference in marine conservation.



EXPEDITION LEADERS

Ocean Explorers Expeditions are led by REEF education staff who are experts in marine conservation and citizen science. These individuals are passionate about diving and teaching others about the ocean. [Click here](#) to read more about each leader.



WHAT'S INCLUDED?

Package inclusions vary depending on each program. Visit our [Expedition Rates](#) to view what is generally included in the price of your program. You may also visit our [Sample Itineraries](#) page to see examples of group programs and the estimated average price per person.

With our ability to customize your experience, we can include lodging and meals for you, or you can arrange and book on your own. This is also dependent on the location you choose for the Expedition.

DIVING & SNORKELING

SCUBA diving is not required to participate. We welcome all levels of experience on Expeditions. Many of our locations are appropriate for mixed groups of divers and snorkelers. Some destinations may be more suitable than others, so please contact us to discuss which locations are the best fit for snorkelers.



OTHER EXCURSIONS

Any field activities selected will be based on group size and ability, location, and outside vendor availability. If you have any specific field activities in mind, let us know so we can help pick an excursion that best meets your interests. Possible excursions include diving, snorkeling, kayaking, and tropical ecology tours.

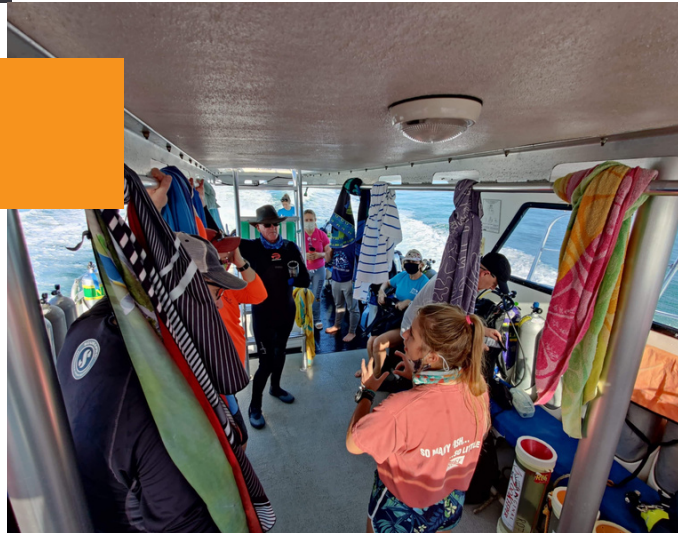


BOOKING STEPS

1. Email/Call with Inquiry or fill out [Interest Form](#)
2. Preview [program options](#), determine destination and programming needs
3. Zoom Meeting with REEF staff
4. Confirm dates and program package
5. Sign & return contract. Start payment plan process
6. Distribute paperwork to each participant
 - a. REEF Liability waiver
 - b. Vendor waiver(s)
 - c. Schedule & program information

TRAVEL & DIVE INSURANCE

It depends on the destination what type of insurance is required. Some locations require all participants carry dive insurance such as DAN or similar. However, REEF strongly recommends that all participants be covered by both diving insurance and travel insurance. Visit our [Policies page](#) for more information and links.



NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you have any questions regarding Ocean Explorers Expeditions, please contact us at explorers@REEF.org or 305-852-0030. We are happy to answer any of your questions!

SAMPLE EXPEDITIONS

We currently have structured Expedition programs in The Florida Keys, Bonaire, Costa Rica, and Mexico. To view past program schedules from other groups, visit our [website](http://www.reef.org).

Ocean Explorers Expedition: Florida Keys

| ARRIVAL | DAY 1 | DAY 2 | DAY 3 | DAY 4 | DEPARTURE |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|  www.REEF.org ARRIVAL  | CITIZEN SCIENCE Class: Florida Keys Fish & Adaptations  | INVASIVE SPEICES Invasive Lionfish class & dissection  | TROPICAL ECOLOGY  State Park Tropical Ecology Tour  | ENDANGERED SPEICES Grouper Moon class  Activity: Be Careful What You Fish For  | Check Out of Lodging DEPARTURE  |
| Check in to Lodging, Free Time | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch at State Park | Lunch | |
| Optional: Visit REEF Introductions & preview schedule |  Boat trip to coral reef – snorkel & fish surveys | Crime Fish Investigation  Lionfish Jewelry Making | Class: Florida Keys Ecology  Wetland in a Pan | Activity: From Sea to Table – Sustainable Fisheries | |
| Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free time | Group Dinner & goodbyes | |

Focus: Marine Conservation in the Florida Keys





Four days of educational programming for 15 students, and 1 free of charge chaperone. REEF materials include Volunteer Fish Survey Starter Kit (fish identification card, survey slate, survey paper, wrist band), use of lionfish research supplies/lionfish dissection tools, lionfish jewelry, and Caribbean ecology activity materials.

Travel, meals, accommodations, and gratuity are not included in the package price.

Estimated price per person: \$430

SAMPLE EXPEDITIONS

Ocean Explorers Expedition: *Bonaire*

| DAY 1 | DAY 2 | DAY 3 | DAY 4 | DAY 5 | DAY 6 | DAY 7 |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
|  www.REEF.org | DIVE | DIVE | DIVE | DIVE | DIVE | DIVE |
| ARRIVAL  | BUDDY DIVE RESORT AM dive/snorkel boat trip and Fish Surveys | | | | | |
| Check in to Lodging & dive shop |  | | | | | |
| Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch |
| Intro to REEF, Citizen Science, & Surveying | Class: Fish ID of Bonaire  | Optional shore dive/snorkel | Optional shore dive/snorkel | Optional shore dive/snorkel | Optional shore dive/snorkel | Free time |
| Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free time | Class: Fish ID, Importance of the Data | Class: Fish ID, Behavior & adaptations | Class: Fish ID, marine ecology | Level 2 Surveyor Test | Group Dinner & picture slideshow |
| | | Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free Time | Dinner and Free Time | Dinner and Free Time | DEPARTURE Next day - check out then |

Focus: Becoming Citizen Scientists













Seven days of educational programming for 15 students, and 1 free of charge chaperone. Includes six dive trips by boat to the coral reef, as well as unlimited shore diving and snorkeling. REEF materials include Volunteer Fish Survey Starter Kit (fish identification card, survey slate, survey paper, wrist band).

Accommodations, meals, rental vehicles, and airport transfers ARE included in this package price. Gratuities and airline travel are not included.

Estimated price per person: \$2,400

SAMPLE EXPEDITIONS

Ocean Explorers Expedition: Costa Rica

| DAY 1 | DAY 2 | DAY 3 | DAY 4 | DAY 5 | DAY 6 | DAY 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  www.REEF.org | SNORKEL PLAYAS HERMOSA Dive/snorkel trip and Fish Surveys | SNORKEL PLAYAS HERMOSA Dive/snorkel trip and Fish Surveys | ECO-TOUR Palo Verde National Park | SNORKEL PLAYAS HERMOSA Dive/snorkel trip and Fish Surveys | ADVENTURE TOUR | ECO-TOUR La Leona Waterfall Hike |
| ARRIVAL  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Check in to lodging | Lunch | Lunch | Boat tour, pottery & tortilla making lessons | Lunch | Ziplining, tubing, hot springs, and horseback riding | Lunch |
| Preview schedule | Class: Common Fish of Costa Rica  | Class: Fish ID & importance of REEF data  | Class: Tropical Ecology – How Ecosystems are Connected  | ECO-TOUR <i>Optional</i>  Birdwatching & Citizen Science | Lunch | Level 2 Fish Surveyor Test & Free time |
| Intro to REEF, Citizen Science, & Surveying | | | | Class: Eco-Tourism & Marine Conservation | | Group Dinner and Celebration |
| Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free time | Dinner and Free time | DEPARTURE Next day – check out then |

Focus: Tropical Ecology & Biodiversity

Seven days of educational programming for 15 students, and 1 free of charge chaperone. Includes three snorkel or dive trips by boat, as well as three days to eco-adventure tours. REEF materials include Volunteer Fish Survey Starter Kit (fish identification card, survey slate, survey paper, wrist band).

Accommodations, meals, eco-tours, and airport transfers ARE included in this package price. Gratuities and airline travel are not included.

Estimated price per person: \$1,700