Explore the Bay Islands of Honduras

APRIL 8–15, 2018

Join Seacology in the Caribbean paradise of Roatán and Guanaja for a week of diving or snorkeling, and an in-depth look at Seacology’s work to preserve this incredible island habitat.
The Islas de la Bahía (Bay Islands) sit just off the north coast of Honduras, along the edge of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System, the world’s second-largest coral reef. The three Bay Islands—Roatán, Guanaja, and Utila—are home to a fascinating array of cultures and incredible biodiversity, both on and offshore.

Seacology invites you to accompany us for a week of adventure on Roatán and, optionally, Guanaja. Whether you choose to dive or snorkel, you’ll see the Mesoamerican Reef up close. We’ll visit current and potential Seacology project sites and meet with several of our Honduran conservation partners. These include BICA, the organization co-founded by our 2016 Seacology Prize Winner, Irma Brady, and the SOL Foundation, which helped fund a daycare center for Roatán’s youth.

Guests will enjoy top-notch, sustainability-minded lodging and dining at Tranquilseas Eco Lodge and Dive Center and Graham’s Place (see last page for more details and full itinerary).

We hope you’ll join us for this unique expedition.
About 50 miles long, Roatán is the largest of the Bay Islands. Over recent decades, Roatán has experienced a boom in population and commerce as its tourism industry has expanded. A destination for cruise ships and divers from around the world, the island has struggled to cope with the environmental pressures of this development.

Fortunately, Roatán is also home to dedicated and effective environmental stewards, and Seacology has been working with these conservation leaders since 2014. We’ve helped train local youth so they can find jobs in the ecotourism industry and built a center to host after-school environmental education programs. Most recently we invested in a water-treatment system that will help keep wastewater from polluting the island’s fragile reefs.

Guests will enjoy some of the island’s top diving and snorkeling locations and meet some of the inspiring leaders of the organizations working to preserve them for future generations.
The optional second half of the trip will take us to the easternmost and second-largest of the Bay Islands, Guanaja, and the neighboring community of Bonacca. On the sparsely populated main island of Guanaja, we’ll explore dense mangrove forests, a potential site for future Seacology projects.
On the first night of the trip, we’ll attend a presentation by **Mickey Charteris**, an internationally renowned underwater photographer and author of *Caribbean Reef Life*, a comprehensive guide to the Bay Islands’ marine species.

We’ll wind down Tuesday night at **Sundowners**, West End’s quintessential coastal watering hole. Arguably the best place to watch the sun set on Roatán, Sundowners enjoys rave reviews, called “Best beach bar on Roatán (and possibly in the world).”

We’ll spend an evening on Bonacca Cay, a tiny island off Guanaja, which is home to most of Guanaja’s population. Known as “the Venice of Honduras,” Bonacca is crisscrossed by a system of canals.

Environmental leaders throughout the Caribbean are beginning to tackle the problem of coastal runoff, one of the biggest threats to the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef. Seacology’s field representative for Central America, Ian Drysdale, will brief guests on our work to combat this problem in Honduras.
**Sunday, April 8**  
Arrive on Roatán, check in to Tranquilseas. Optional diving or snorkeling. Mickey Charteris reef life presentation. **LD**

**Monday, April 9**  
Morning diving or snorkeling. Visit Seacology partners SOL Foundation and BICA. Presentation on water-quality issues. **BLD**

**Tuesday, April 10**  
Morning diving or snorkeling. Visit Polo’s Water Association and Roatán Marine Park. Explore West End. Sunset drinks at Sundowner’s. **BLD**

**Wednesday, April 11**  
Morning diving or snorkeling. Free afternoon. **BLD**

**Thursday, April 12**  
Check out of Tranquilseas. Travel from French Cay to Guanaja by boat. Check into Graham’s Place. Afternoon diving or snorkeling. Visit with Guanaja mayor. **BLD**

**Friday, April 13**  
Morning diving or snorkeling. Visit potential mangrove replanting site. Meet with BICA Guanaja and Green Guanaja representatives, and local fishermen. **BLD**

**Saturday, April 14**  
Boat trip around Guanaja. Snorkeling, paddleboarding, and fly-fishing. Bonacca Cay visit. **BLD**

**Sunday, April 15**  
Check out of Graham’s Place. Fly back to Roatán. Departure. **BL**

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<th>Breakfast included (B)</th>
<th>Lunch included (L)</th>
<th>Dinner included (D)</th>
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**Tranquilseas Eco Lodge and Dive Center**  
The picturesque, award-winning beachfront resort will be our home on Roatán. Standard amenities include large air-conditioned rooms, fantastic dining options, deck and beach access, hammocks, free use of kayaks, and much more. The resort is also home to a PADI dive shop for all of your scuba and snorkeling needs.

**Graham’s Place**  
Our base of operations at Guanaja offers stunning views, comprehensive service, and easy access to Guanaja’s best dive and snorkel sites. On a private seven-acre plot of Josh’s Cay, just over a kilometer from the main island of Guanaja, Graham’s offers one of the most serene settings in all of Honduras.
You can reserve a spot with a deposit of 50% of the total cost of your tour. A $300 cancellation fee applies. No refunds after December 8, 2017. Final nonrefundable payments are due January 7, 2018.

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<tr>
<th>Price per guest</th>
<th>Double occupancy</th>
<th>Single occupancy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roatán only</td>
<td>$1,250</td>
<td>$1,450</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roatán and Guanaja</td>
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Price includes all lodging and meals, land transportation, boat transfer to Guanaja, air charter from Guanaja to Roatán, Seacology site visit, sightseeing, Seacology guides throughout the trip, and a $100 per-person carbon-offset donation.

Cost does not include international airfare, travel insurance, visa, entry tax, personal expenses, drinks, or tips. Trip-cancellation insurance is recommended for all participants.

To reserve your spot or for more information, please contact Seacology Program Assistant Christina Oraftik:

Christina@seacology.org
510.559.3505
Seacology protects ecosystems and helps communities on islands around the world by providing funds to villages for a needed civic project — such as a new school or health clinic — in exchange for the conservation of a nearby forest or coral reef.

Since 1991, Seacology has launched 288 projects on islands in 59 countries, protecting nearly 1.4 million acres of marine and forest habitat.