

EXPLORE

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ECOXPEDITION OVERVIEW

We have designed the EcoXpeditions as part of our global climate and ocean conservation outreach. The main focus is to provide a hands-on and immersive experience to initiatives around the world that are making a positive impact on climate resilience and ocean conservation. This has the power to change the perspectives of participants and evoke an appreciation for environmental stewardship.





2023 TRIPS

April - June

- Sardinia Dolphins
- Crete, Greece Sea Turtles

Apr.24 - Apr.30
May.18 - May.24





2023 TRIPS

July - September

- Big Island, Hawaii
- Puerto Rico
- Colombia
- Oslo, Norway
- Crete, Greece
- Maui

- Jul.6 - Jul.12
- Jul.24 - Jul.27
- Aug.8 - Aug.14
- Aug.18 - Aug.24
- Sept.1 - Sept.7
- Sept.26 - Oct.1





2023 TRIPS

October - December

- Sardinia
- Puerto Rico
- Catalina Island
- Baja, Mexico *Whale Sharks*
- Puerto Rico
- Galapagos *Exec. Leadership*
- Galapagos *Penguins*

Oct.4 - Oct.10

Oct.17 - Oct.21

Oct.27 - Oct.31

Nov.25 - Nov.30

Dec.10 - Dec.16

Dec.12 - Dec.16

Dec.12 - Dec.18



Sardinia

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Climate change presentation with cocktails. Brief overview of nation's commitment to conservation and sustainability of second largest Island In europe, with a Mareterra representative, dedicated to nature and sustainable development. Welcome dinner and evening at leisure to follow.

DAY 2

Breakfast and presentation with The Conservatoria delle Coste, a local coastal conservation agency. Walking tour of historic city of Alghero, visiting fortresses and churches. Explore coffee shops at La Piazza Civica. Lunch In old town and boat ride to Neptune's caves at Cape Caccia. Dinner and evening free to explore.

DAY 3

Breakfast the off to Nuraghic Palmavera village and the Anghelu Ruju necropolis, dating bback to 1100 BC. Lunch and venture to the Marine Protected Area of Capocaccia Isola Piana by boat. Optional swimming and snorkeling in the crystal blue waters. Return to hotel for dinner.

DAY 4

Breakfast then depart for Capo Testa, renowned for Its clear crystalline waters. See turtles, eels, lobsters, red stony coral and more. Explore shipwrecks and ancient roman columns. Return In the afternoon and check Into hotel, with dinner and evening free to explore.

DAY 5

Breakfast followed by boating. Snorkeling and sunbath on beaches of La Maddalena. Enjoy crystal clear water full with marine life. Boat lunch then return to resort. Dinner with ocean and land conservation presentation and evening at leisure.

DAY 6

Checkout of hotel and head to Tavolara Island. Experience the beauty of Gulf of Olbia then on to Padrongianus and the Isola della Bocca lighthouse. Venture to Island of Figarolo frequented by large groups of dolphins. Snorkel and swim crystal clear waters of Capo Figari and Cala Moresca. Check in to Olbia. Dinner and final evening at leisure.

DAY 7

Farewell breakfast and checkout with airport transfer to Olbia Costa Smeralda Airport for air departures. Until next time!



Crete, Greece

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive at Heraklion International Airport, then to hotel in Gouves or the Hersonissos. Known for its long sandy beaches and traditional villages, enjoy exploring classical Greek era port. Dinner followed by ocean conservation presentation and evening of leisure.

DAY 2

After a leisurely breakfast, immerse yourself in Greek culture by exploring Ano Hersonissos, Koutouloufari, and Piskopiano villages. History buffs should pay a visit to the Minoan Palace of Malia and Kokkini Hani, Eileithya Cave. Visit CretAquarium, one of the largest, most modern aquariums in Europe.

DAY 3

Sightseeing tour of small island of Spinalonga. Later, sail back to Elounda, enjoy Cretan lunch before enjoying some free time walking around, shopping, and swimming. Dinner presentation on climate change and resilience.

DAY 4

Guided tour of Heraklion town and Palace of Knossos. Your guide will explain the myths surrounding the palace such as the minotaur that lurked in its labyrinth. explore Heraklion and discover historical buildings and landmarks. Enjoy a guided tour of the Archaeological Museum and get a closer understanding of Cretan History.

DAY 5

Discover Chania (also known as Little Venice), and Rethymnon, with its fascinating mix of Italian and Turkish influences your day will be full of discovery, beautiful scenery, and rich history of Crete.

DAY 6

See Potamies reservoir water dam. Continue journey through paths and olive trees, to reach ruins of the Roman aqueduct of Lyttos. See quaint village of Kastamonitsa, enjoy coffee break in the traditional kafenion. Climb high into the mountains to the cave of Zeus.

DAY 7

After a leisurely breakfast, enjoy the rest of the morning at leisure. Check out and transfer to the Heraklion airport for your flight back home.

It is believed that olive oil production on the island of Crete started in the Bronze Age. Crete enjoys a pleasant Mediterranean climate with hot and dry summers.



Big Island, Hawaii

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrivals to Big Island via Kona international airport, airport pickup and transfer to Hawaii island resort. Kohala legends, lore cultural experience, and traditional blessings cultural experience at resort. Welcome reception and climate change presentation followed by dinner.

DAY 2

Welcome breakfast at resort, depart for whale watching cruise in Kailua-Kona area. Lunch at local restaurant, afternoon leisure to explore town of Hawi and return to resort. Hula performance and dinner at resort. Scuba divers blackwater dive after dinner.

DAY 3

Breakfast, depart for snorkel/swim cruise adventure to Kealahou Bay and Captain Cook. Swim with spinner dolphins in protected cove. Lunch, stop in Kailua-Kona town for leisurely stroll and shopping. Return to resort, afternoon and evening leisure, group dinner.

DAY 4

Breakfast, depart for snorkel/swim at Kahalu'u Beach in Kailua Kona, and then to beaches to see green turtles. Lunch at local spot, head to town of Waimea, return to resort. Depart for dinner in Kailua Kona, followed by manta ray (optional) scuba and snorkel in the evening.

DAY 5

Breakfast, depart for Hawaii Volcanoes National Park and Imiloa Astronomy Center OR. Scuba at Honaunau Bay next to Pu'uuhonua O Honaunau National Park (Place of refuge). Lunch, then enjoy Hapuna Beach followed by dinner with ocean and land conservation presentation.

DAY 6

Breakfast, depart for Pololu's black sand beach, A-Bay for swimming, and snorkeling, lunch at Lava Lava Café. Afternoon leisure at Queen's marketplace for a shop and stroll near Lava Lava Café, back to resort for afternoon leisure and farewell dinner.

DAY 7

Farewell breakfast, check out of resort and departures to airport. A Hui Hou! (Until we meet again!)

Conceived by founding director George Jacob in 2001, the Imiloa Astronomy Center is home to an astronomy and cultural education center located in Hilo, Hawaii.



Colombia

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive in Bogota, transportation to hotel for check-in. Afternoon leisure to explore Bogota. Drink Colombian coffee at a charming street café, followed by welcome dinner and climate change presentation.

DAY 2

Welcome breakfast and presentation. Check out of hotel and head back to airport and fly to Leticia for lunch and presentation. Check-in at hotel, then head off to ziplining in the forest, return to hotel for dinner, followed by a guided night walk in the jungle.

DAY 3

Breakfast and local presentation, then head to the Tacana for traditional lunch/canoeing with the villagers, then a visit to local Chagra community gardens. Dinner, followed by fishing with the locals or leisure.

DAY 4

Breakfast and presentation followed by walk through the village to meet with the local villagers. Visit Yahuaracaca lakes to kayak through lush vegetation with wildlife. Lunch, then a visit to the Victoria Regia's natural reserve.

DAY 5

Breakfast with ocean and land conservation presentation, then visit Puerto Narino. See the Natutama Interpretive Center to learn about the conservation and ecological efforts developed in the Amazon. Spot pink dolphins and swim in the Tarapoto lake.

DAY 6

Breakfast, and check out of hotel and return to Leticia to fly back to Bogota. Afternoon leisure to shop, stroll and enjoy the city of Bogota.

DAY 7

Farewell breakfast, trip wrap-up, followed by checking out of the hotel and returning to airport for departures. Until next time!

Enjoy countless ways to immerse yourself in some of the most lush jungle environments in Central America by taking a slow boat cruise or a speedy zipline ride.



Oslo, Norway

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive in Oslo where you'll discover all of its charm and eccentricity. Stop by the National Gallery of Art to see Edvard Munch's The Scream. Meet your tour leader and fellow travellers over dinner before retiring to Hotel Anker.

DAY 2

Welcome breakfast before departing by train to Bergen. Enjoy stunning trip through Fjell region countryside on train line that connects Norway's two main cities. Arrive late in the day, just enough time to grab a bite to eat.

DAY 3

After breakfast, take a guided tour around Bryggen area of city. Discover medieval homes and warehouses and see Bergenhus Fortress up close. Ride on Floy Mountain Funicular, 1050 feet above the city to see amazing views of the Floyen Mountain and city below.

DAY 4

Enjoy breakfast before departing for fjord region where you will travel through remote regions and discover huts common in Norway. Surrounded by natural beauty, see the crystal clear Kjelsfossen waterfall. After exploring, find your cabin accommodations in Gudvangen.

DAY 5

Start your day with a boat trip on the glassy waters of Naeroyfjord, a World Heritage site. Discover fjord that was formed by glacial erosion that surrounded by mountain peaks and sheer cliff faces. Freely explore area before returning to cabin for the night.

DAY 6

Early rise for long day of travel by bus and train back to Oslo. Upon arrival have some time to relax and explore a little before hopping on an Oslo dinner cruise.

DAY 7

Enjoy breakfast and prepare to depart after checking-out of hotel. Until next time, ha det.



Maui, Hawaii

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive Kahului Airport Maui, transfer to Kaanapali Beach Resort with lei greeting upon arrival and check into resort. Afternoon leisure followed by dinner and climate change presentation.

DAY 2

Welcome breakfast and presentation, snorkel or optional scuba at Black Rock, day of cultural activities at resort. Swim, snorkel and sunbathe on the lovely white sands of Kaanapali. Dinner and presentation.

DAY 3

Early breakfast and depart for Molokini Island and Turtletown for snorkeling or optional scuba diving tour 5.5 hours. Return to resort, afternoon leisure on beachfront resort, or other optional activities.

DAY 4

Visit to Maui butterfly farm at Olowalu and local farm tour. Visit historic town of Lahaina for lunch, stroll and shopping. Afternoon leisure for swimming, snorkeling or optional scuba diving and sunbathing. Cultural activities at resort.

DAY 5

Depart for island of Lanai for snorkeling and seeing dolphins. On-board breakfast, snacks and lunch for 5.5 hours in total. Return to resort, afternoon leisure, enjoy cultural activities at resort.

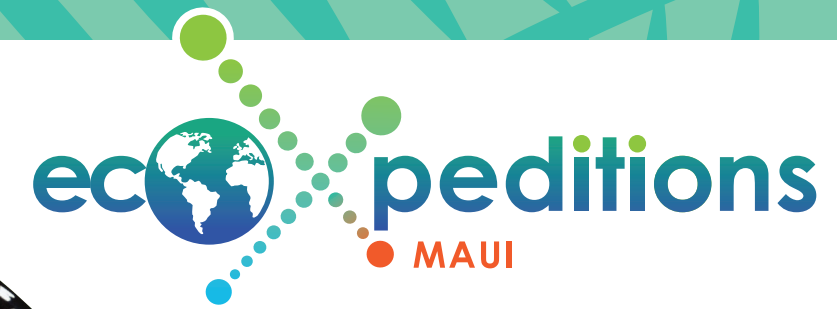
DAY 6

Depart for reef boat tour, or select optional all-day tours to Hana, Haleakala or helicopter tours. Return to resort, afternoon leisure day of shopping, snorkeling, sunbathing at oceanfront resort. Farewell evening dinner followed by ocean and land conservation presentation.

DAY 7

Farewell breakfast, morning leisure, check out of hotel and depart for airport.

Take a helicopter tour, soar above beaches, jungle terrain, waterfalls, a rain forest, and even the dormant volcano Haleakala.



Baja, Mexico

Whale Sharks ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive at La Paz or Cabo Airport, transportation (on own) to La Ventana, check in to the beachfront Palapas Ventana resort. Afternoon leisure with resort amenities, followed by dinner and climate change presentation.

DAY 2

Welcome breakfast, presentation on Sea of Cortez and Cerralvo Island, scuba/snorkeling at Cerralvo Island. Lunch on private beach, beach cleanup, scuba/snorkeling afternoon. Depart to La Ventana, afternoon leisure, dinner with folkloric dancers.

DAY 3

Complimentary breakfast, depart to Cerralvo Island for scuba/snorkeling in the morning, see sea lions and rays and reef marine animals in the afternoon. Return to La Ventana and afternoon leisure at Resort. UABS marine science speaker at dinner.

DAY 4

Complimentary breakfast, followed by SUP and shore snorkel and lunch at resort. Tree planting with local community, cooking class for ceviche and tortillas with local chef. Dinner and presentation on whale sharks.

DAY 5

Complimentary breakfast, depart to La Paz for whale shark snorkeling at protected bay. Lunch on beaches of La Paz, stroll and shopping on boardwalks of La Paz. Return to La Ventana, afternoon leisure at resort w/ amenities, dinner and discussion on whale sharks.

DAY 6

Breakfast before whale shark snorkeling. Leisure afternoon in La Paz. Return to La Ventana, farewell dinner with ocean and land conservation presentation and gratitude circle in the evening at Palapas Ventana.

DAY 7

Farewell complimentary breakfast. Check out of Palapas Ventana Resort. Depart for airport (Resort can assist with setting up your airport transportations at your cost).

La Paz is able to surprise even the most experienced shoppers. A unique attraction is its street market Mercado de las Brujas.



Lesvos, Greece

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrivals at Mytilene International Airport, airport transfers to resort with cocktails followed by welcome dinner and ocean conservation presentation.

DAY 2

Travel to amphitheatre and castle with historical cultural tour and Lunch. Activity at archeological museum of Mytilene. Presentation with University of the Aegean and Lesbos Marine Biology department. Dinner presentation for upcoming activities followed by evening of leisure.

DAY 3

Site-see at Bay of Gera for snorkeling and optional scuba. Afternoon visit to olive oil farm. Evening of leisure with dinner and presentation on marine overview.

DAY 4

After breakfast, head to Petra Beach Aegean Sea for snorkeling and optional scuba with onboard lunch. Afternoon cultural site visit and tour. Optional Ouzo tasting. Afternoon marine overview presentation. Dinner and evening at leisure.

DAY 5

After breakfast enjoy A.M. snorkel and swim at Blue Hope spot at Aviaki with onboard lunch. Afternoon visit to Melostagma honey farm. Dinner with presentation.

DAY 6

Start your day with hiking and birdwatching in natural wetlands of Kalloni. View the habitat of 100 migratory bird species. Lunch and visit to non-profit conservation organization. Group wrap up and farewell dinner.

DAY 7

Farewell Breakfast, morning at leisure before checking out of hotel to depart for airport.

The Melostagma honey apiary produces some of the worlds greatest honey, pollen, royal jelly, propolis and meliceridia.



Catalina Island

Scuba Diving ITINERARY

DAY 1

Morning arrival to Catalina Island by ferry with welcome presentation on Catalina Island conservation efforts. Two afternoon dives. Evening meeting with underwater photography, diving mission and UW naturalist course.

DAY 2

Morning presentation on climate resilience and dives: Two morning dives at Farnsworth Banks and two afternoon dives at Two Harbors area. Dinner presentation with dive history exhibit.

DAY 3

Presentation on ocean conservation and the day's four dives: two morning dives at Eagle Rock. Two afternoon dives at Italian Gardens. Special citizen science opportunity in helping scientists at UC Santa Barbara monitor California's population of endangered giant sea bass. Evening dive if weather permits.

Enjoy the rocky island and its quaint waterfront city, Avalon. Discover Catalina Casino and Avalon Theatre.

DAY 4

Optional Catalina Island excursion/community outreach through nature conservancy. Dinner and presentation of EcoXpeditions photography; congratulations to underwater naturalist certified divers, final overview presentation on threats to the local area both marine and terrestrial.

DAY 5

Departure day with presentation by EcoXpeditions team on climate resilience and ocean conservation mission.



Costa Rica

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive in San Jose Airport and be greeted by our representative after clearing customs and airport transfer to your hotel. Day at leisure to relax and explore San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica.

DAY 2

Breakfast and presentation on Costa Rica, then depart for the famous Arenal area through breathtaking landscapes of plantations. Reach the town of La Fortuna, home of the magical Arenal volcano. Day at leisure or book exciting optional tours.

DAY 3

Breakfast with full leisure day at Arenal relaxing or booking optional tours included hiking, relaxing in natural hot springs, horseback riding and more.

DAY 4

Breakfast and journey to Monteverde by boat crossing Lake Arenal. Leisure time to explore with optional activities including hiking the breathtaking Cloud forest, ziplining, coffee and chocolate plantations tour, night walk of Kinkajou and more.

DAY 5

Breakfast then drive to Manuel Antonio with beautiful beaches and rich wildlife. Leisurely explore the National Park and beaches. Giveback opportunity to help clean beaches of waste. Optional activities include mangrove tour, visiting plantations, horseback riding, ziplining and more.

DAY 6

Breakfast and transfer back to capital city of San Jose, with day at leisure to relax and explore, or take an optional tour including: San Jose City Tour. Evening Dinner and Gratitude Circle.

DAY 7

Farewell Breakfast and transfer back to the airport for flights back home.



Puerto Rico

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive at San Juan Airport. Start your adventure at your charming beach front hotel and enjoy an afternoon at leisure, followed by welcome dinner and ocean conservation presentation.

DAY 2

Breakfast presentation on sailing with Puerto Rico's Olympian Sail With a Purpose, and on coral reef coastal protection. Travel to Balneario de Carolino for a morning of sailing lessons, followed by BBQ lunch. Relax in the afternoon at Vivo Beach Club for beer tasting.

DAY 3

Enjoy breakfast at your leisure followed by beach clean up after snorkeling and swimming. Have lunch at Luquillo beaches for a cultural experience, end your afternoon with Bomba and Plena classes.

DAY 4

Farewell breakfast and check out of hotel with departures to San Juan airport (option to stay longer for added cost, contact your EcoXpeditions tour leader prior to arrival at Puerto Rico).

Explore endless food options at Puerto Ricos Pinones kiosks and celebrate good times.



Puerto Rico

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrive at San Juan Airport. Start your adventure in Puerto Rico in charming beach front hotel and enjoy an afternoon at leisure followed by a welcome dinner and ocean conservation presentation.

DAY 2

Breakfast presentation on sailing with Puerto Rico's olympian Sail with a Purpose, and on coral reef coastal protection. Morning travel to Balneario de Carolina for sailing instructions and lessons, followed by BBQ lunch. Relax in the afternoon at Vivo Beach Club for beer tasting.

DAY 3

Breakfast at leisure followed by snorkeling and swimming. Lunch at Pinones kiosks for a cultural experience, followed by an afternoon with bomba and plena classes.

DAY 4

Breakfast at leisure followed by snorkeling and swimming in beautiful clear water or take the day at leisure enjoying the resort beach and amenities.

DAY 5

Breakfast followed by cultural lunch at Luquillo kiosks. Afternoon with rainforest hike at El Yunque National forest with environmental talk on rivers runoff impact on the reefs. Evening at Cabezas de San Juan Reserve and environmental bioluminescent bay tour.

DAY 6

Day of leisure to enjoy the resort and town, with optional (pay on own) activities including: discover old San Juan tour, coffee tasting, Barrilito rum factory Tour and more.

DAY 7

Farewell breakfast and check out of hotel with departures to San Juan airport.

Explore endless food options at Puerto Ricos Pinones kiosks and celebrate good times.



Galapagos

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrival on Baltra, transport to the Itabaca Channel. Visit Los Gemelos, travel to Puerto Ayora, private speed boat to Floreana. Afternoon hike and walking tour, snorkel/swim. Return to lodge for orientation and dinner with discussion on ocean and land conservation.

DAY 2

Breakfast, depart to explore Floreana highlands, open-air bus to Asilo de la Paz, explore pirate caves. Return, drive to the coast, BBQ lunch. Return to lodge in the afternoon for snorkeling, and more. Dinner and overnight stay at Lava Lodge.

DAY 3

Breakfast, transfer to Isabela Island, and check into hotel. Tour of the Tintoreras, snorkel in the bay, mingle with the wildlife. Return to hotel, afternoon walk. Afternoon leisure, dinner at hotel.

DAY 4

Explore Isabela Island, hiking starting with a hike up the crater of the Sierra Negra volcano, then to the rim of the Volcan Chico. Picnic lunch, return to hotel for afternoon relaxation at Puerto Villamil beaches.

DAY 5

Wall of Tears and kayaking to Island Bay. Afternoon bike ride through Wetlands to see marine iguana colonies and mangrove trees. Visit local swimming hole for swimming and snorkeling, then back to hotel for dinner followed by climate change presentation.

DAY 6

Land of Tortoises: Speedboat to Santa Cruz Island, breakfast, sport activities in the highlands. Drive to the mountains, mountain bike ride down to the beach. Sea kayaks in the bay, lunch, travel to Puerto Ayora for the day. Mellow night at Puerto Ayora.

DAY 7

Farewell breakfast, followed by a morning visit to the Charles Darwin Research Center, then transfer to Baltra for our return flight back to mainland Ecuador. Until we meet again!

The Galapagos supports 25 native species of reptile and early on Charles Darwin labeled the islands a "paradise for reptiles."



Galapagos

Executive Leadership ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrival on Baltra, transport to the Itabaca Channel. Visit Los Gemelos crater and see the impressive highland Galapagos tortoises. Enjoy an early dinner followed by first Leadership presentation, as well as a presentation on underwater photography.

DAY 2

After breakfast, depart to Puerto Ayora where a private speed boat takes you on a two hour cruise to the island of Floreana. Enjoy hiking and learn about history of local people while discovering wildlife. Explore secluded bay while walking to La Loberia. End your day with leadership presentation and underwater photography workshop.

DAY 3

Start your day with speed boat ride to Isabela island. Tour Tintoreras's small group of islands. See wildlife up close including the blue footed boobies. Try your hand at underwater photography. Leadership presentation and underwater workshop after dinner.

DAY 4

Explore Santa Cruz island. Head off to the highlands for multi sport activities including mountain bikes down newly paved roads to Garrapatero beach. Option of shopping in port of Puerto Ayora. Enjoy bars, shops, and restaurants. Final leadership presentation after dinner.

DAY 5

Farewell breakfast in Santa Cruz before departing to Charles Darwin research center. There you will learn about local conservation efforts. Transfer to Baltra for return flight to Ecuador.

Blue-footed boobies are one of three booby species found on Galapagos. They are large, distinctive birds, found along the Eastern Pacific coastline.



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OPTIONS

We offer special curated trips that are catered towards groups of 10-14 persons. We can modify any of our existing trips for your group depending on specific needs.

We offer diving certification and or Scuba Refreshers as well as snorkeling training prior to any expedition (or in some cases, on-site).

www.aquariumofthebay.org/xpeditions

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