



PHOTOS BY STEFFI HOEHN



## BELIZE Kids Eco Club March 26-April 3, 2012



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Among Belize's many treasures are the hemisphere's longest coral reef, hundreds of sandy offshore islands, 250 varieties of wild orchids, and 500 species of birds found within unspoiled tropical forests. Mindi Summers, a marine biologist from Scripps Institution of Oceanography, will accompany participants on this 9-day program to investigate Maya ruins and discover the rich biodiversity and conservation measures that are underway. This program offers a unique opportunity to compare and contrast tropical rainforest environments with diverse marine ecosystems.

### EDUCATIONAL CONNECTIONS

- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Marine Science
- Biology
- Archaeology

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the rainforest of Lamanai Outpost.
- Snorkel the Belize Barrier Reef to discover the marine ecosystem and abundant wildlife.
- Compare and contrast rainforest environments and marine ecosystems.
- Discover the fascinating world of tropical birds.
- Sunrise canoe ride on Dawson's Creek.
- Visit the 3,000 year old Lamanai Ruins.
- Enjoy the beautiful island and crystal waters of Ambergris Caye.

## ITINERARY

### MARCH 26 - LAMANAI

Upon arrival in Belize you will be met by your driver at the airport in Belize City and transferred to Lamanai Outpost Lodge, situated on the Crabcatcher Lagoon. *Overnight at Lamanai Outpost Lodge. (D)*

### MARCH 27-30 - LAMANAI

Spend the next 4 days exploring the Lamanai's river, lagoons, and forest trails. Activities include canoeing, jungle hikes, sunset nature cruises, nocturnal walks, medicinal trail walk and visiting the 3,000 year old Lamanai ruins. Order of activities to be determined. *Overnight at Lamanai Outpost Lodge. (BLD)*

### MARCH 31 - AMBERGRIS CAYE

After breakfast you will depart for Belize City, stopping at the world-renowned Belize Zoo to view native animals in their natural habitats. All of the animals living at the zoo were rescued as orphans, from poaching situations, the illegal pet trade, injury, or exposure due to habitat loss. After lunch at the zoo you will take a boat to Ambergris Caye. You will be met and transferred to the dormitory where you will check in. Settle in and then receive an orientation to the program and briefing on tomorrow's snorkeling sites. Please note guide services during tours only. This evening you will receive a lecture entitled "Marine Ecosystems." Students will meet scientists and may participate in data collection for ongoing research projects. Parents have the option to stay at Sunbreeze Hotel (about a mile from TREC) for an additional cost. NOTE: Snorkeling gear is not available for rent at TREC. Participants will need to bring their own mask/snorkel/fins. *Overnight at Marine TREC Dormitory. (BLD)*

### APRIL 1 - AMBERGRIS CAYE

This morning after breakfast begin a full day marine exploration. After an on-board briefing, enter the water for practice snorkeling in shallow waters. Snorkeling sites include Pillar coral and Tres Cocos, where you can explore the dramatic differences in community structure. Return to the hotel for pool time and dinner. Evening lecture on fish behavior. *Overnight at Marine TREC Dormitory. (BLD)*

### APRIL 2 - AMBERGRIS CAYE

This morning after breakfast begin another full day of marine exploration. Compare and contrast mangrove and coral reef systems during an exploration of the

Coral Gardens site. This evening participate in a seine activity in which you will capture shallow water fish and invertebrates by casting a net along the shoreline. After capturing, identify and discuss the ecology of each specimen. *Overnight at Marine TREC Dormitory. (BLD)*

### APRIL 3 - FAREWELL!

Take a boat back to Belize City and then transfer to the airport for your return flight home. *(B)*



## PROGRAM PRICING

~~\$3342~~ per adult

~~\$2942~~ per child under age of 14

*Cost includes \$745 airfare from San Diego.*

*Cost does not include gratuities.*

*Additional cost for parents to stay at Sunbreeze is \$320 per person for double occupancy and \$547 for single occupancy.*

## THE FINE PRINT

*Cost is based on triple and quadruple occupancy. Program may incur unforeseen fuel surcharges. A non-refundable \$600 deposit and enrollment form is required to hold your spot on the trip. Final payments are due no later than February 17, 2012. Cancellations received less than 95 days prior to departure are not refundable. Travel/trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. For more information call 800-243-3174. Holbrook Travel's agency number is 15849.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact Kids Eco Club at 4660 La Jolla Village Drive, Suite 500, San Diego, CA 92122, email [sguinn@kidsecoclub.org](mailto:sguinn@kidsecoclub.org) or visit [www.kidsecoclub.org](http://www.kidsecoclub.org). Contact Debbie Sturdivant at 866-748-6146 or email [debbie@holbrooktravel.com](mailto:debbie@holbrooktravel.com).