

changeyourworld



## Marine Expedition

Roving Marine Expedition in Mexico and Central America

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Travel and dive in four Caribbean countries with GVI marine staff; performing research dives, visiting ruins and soaking up the Central American culture

The Mesoamerican Barrier Reef - the world's second longest reef - passes through the waters of four Caribbean countries. Yet increasingly the reef, which forms a vital part of the coastal ecosystem of each country, is diminishing. This marine conservation expedition takes volunteers to gain science training, master monitoring techniques and perform some research dives in a remote beachside research base in the magnificent Mexican Caribbean; before moving through Guatemala, Honduras and Belize, collecting research on the reef to contribute to its future sustainability. All countries are blessed with amazing sites, ruins and culture, which you can experience on the many side-trips included. All participants should have a minimum diving level of PADI Advanced or equivalent

### Prices:

GBP£3,250.00 +

EUR€4,550.00 +

AUS\$7,475.0 +

us\$6,500.00 +

### Duration:

8 Weeks

### Group Size:

The group is limited to a maximum of eight, plus two staff members.

### What Difference Does This Expedition Make?

All the countries you will visit and dive in on this expedition have coral reefs that form a vital part of their coastal ecosystem. The reefs provide food and an income source to many diverse peoples and indigenous groups, but due to increasing populations and a rapid growth of the tourism industry, these coastal areas and habitats are in danger of being degraded beyond a point they can recover from. The research dives you do and the data you obtain will be used to raise awareness of the plight of the reefs and influence use and policy decisions.

### Highlights

Doing science and dive training in a magnificent white sand beach location; visiting amazing Mayan ruins in four countries; experiencing the different cultures of the region; being part of a team of like-minded people; diving on pristine reefs; and having the chance to see sharks, turtles, manatees and more across Mexico and Central America!

### Skills And Qualifications Received

PADI Coral Reef Research Diver Distinctive Specialty, First Aid & CPR training, Coral reef ecology lectures, Theoretical and in-water fish, coral and invertebrate identification skills, Turtle ecology and monitoring protocol (seasonal), Use of O2 equipment workshop, Diving compressor training workshop with practical experience, Environmental Education, Interpersonal skills

### Location

Your training and the first part of your trip will take place 30kms north of Mahahual in a remote marine beachside base in Mexico. From there you will travel and dive in the Belizean Cays, off the Guatemalan coastal town of Livingstone, and finish in either Roatan or Cayos Cochinos in Honduras.

### Field Conditions

Accommodation will be shared and basic but comfortable, and always in a magnificent location. Running water and electricity (sometimes via small generator for only a few hours) will normally be available. Food will be nutritional and a high-carb diet, to cope with the strenuous nature of the days, and fresh fruit will always be available.

**“An truly unique opportunity to carry out marine research and dive within four great destinations”**

JOHN REEVES

continued . . .

Over 150 volunteer projects worldwide rely on GVI. **So can you**



## Booking Information

### What's Included

Your accommodation and meals for the duration of the programme; all diving equipment, including the tanks and weights; transport between countries; all science training; PADI Coral Reef Speciality certification; one guided cenote dive in Mexico; entry to all ruins visited and included; a volcano trip in Guatemala; 24-hour in-country support; and airport pick ups and drop offs, 24 hour emergency phone.

### What's Not Included

International flights, visas, medical and travel insurance, spending money, and alcoholic beverages.

### The Booking Process

Once GVI receives your application form, one of our experienced regional coordinators will give you a call to find out if you have any further questions, or simply want to find out more about volunteering. All GVI staff regularly visit the project sites, and have volunteered and travelled themselves, so have an in-depth knowledge and boundless enthusiasm that ensures your application process runs smoothly and efficiently.



### GVI Discounts

If you have volunteered on this GVI project before or a GVI expedition you will be eligible for a £250/\$490/€375 discount or equivalent. If you have volunteered with GVI on any another programme, you may be eligible for £125/\$245/€185 discount or equivalent.

### Arrival And Departure Information

You will be met either at Cancun Airport on the Thursday of the 18th June or the Hotel Colorado in Playa del Carmen at 7am on the morning of the 19th June. Bus transport will be provided to take you south to Mahahual and onto the GVI base to arrive mid-afternoon.

Please contact the GVI office for more information.



## Next Steps . . .

All GVI staff visit the project sites regularly, and have all volunteered and travelled themselves. Therefore they have an in-depth knowledge and boundless enthusiasm, which helps to ensure that your booking process runs smoothly and efficiently. Please either give us a call to ask more about this trip and / or refer back to our website for full details on dates, costs, booking information, latest news from the field and booking online.

[click here to return to the Expedition Overview on our website](#)

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