

*EXPLORE THE  
CORAL REEFS OF BONAIRE*



*8 - DAY DIVE TRIP  
DEPARTS JUNE 23, 2018  
LED BY BIOLOGIST & PADI INSTRUCTOR  
JAMES VOGEL  
\$1500 PER PERSON*

# EXPLORE THE CORAL REEFS OF BONAIRE



DESTINATION:	Bonaire
TRIP TO BE OPERATED:	June 23 – June 30, 2018
NUMBER OF DAYS:	7
MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PASSENGERS:	16
DEPARTURE CITY:	Cincinnati, OH
COST WITH AIRFARE (estimated)	\$2500 pp, double occupancy
COST WITHOUT AIRFARE	\$1500 pp, double occupancy
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:	\$500
DEPOSIT DUE BY:	February 1, 2018
FULL PAYMENT DUE BY:	April 1, 2018
REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:	Valid Passport, Driver's License or ID, Scuba Certification Card

**Price includes:** airport transfers, 7 nights of lodging at Capt. Don's Habitat, (double occupancy) in comfortable quad-occupancy bungalows (w/ two bedroom & two bathrooms), breakfast daily, 12 boat dives and unlimited shore diving, free nitrox (\$60.00 value), Trip Insurance and a shared truck rental (to go into town at your convenience for groceries, dinner or best of all, to go see all the other places in Bonaire, such as Washington-Slagbaai National Park, Lac Bay or the south side of the island with all the kite surfers; a must see!)

\*NOTE: As an added incentive, you will receive hands on training of fish and coral identification prior to the trip to be able to better recognize and understand the amazing ecosystems you are visiting. Additionally, while underwater, I will work with you to correctly identify these animals and then gain the ability to recognize a healthy coral reef ecosystem, as well as those with coral disease or invasive species affecting them.

## EXPLORE THE CORAL REEFS OF BONAIRE

**About this excursion:** This trip is specifically designed to take full advantage of the amazing fauna and flora found on the island of Bonaire. This tropical island has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to preserving and protecting the environment both above and below the water. It was the first Netherlands Antilles island to establish a national park, Washington-Slagbaai National Park, in 1969. Ten years later, the Bonaire Marine Park was established and in 2000 became Bonaire's second National Park. While in Bonaire, we will be staying at Captain Don's Habitat in oceanfront air-conditioned villas overlooking calm, clear, turquoise colored water. Fuel your dive day with the bountiful breakfast buffet. Enjoy daily boat dives and unlimited shore diving 24 hours a day! Colorful corals, a menagerie of fish, dazzling invertebrates, and endearing sea turtles await you on every dive. Bonaire is easy, breezy, beautiful diving. If you are not a diver, the snorkeling is amazing. If you have interest in learning to dive, we can help you attain the certification while there.

**Attire:** The average air temperature is 82 degrees Fahrenheit year around. The same is true for the water temperature, 82 degrees. Therefore, you will want to bring clothing appropriate for this climate. You must bring Scuba and snorkeling equipment is not provided in the price. You can rent gear on the island if you prefer and there are plenty of dive shops and clothing stores nearby.



**Your Bonaire Naturalist - Guides:** Each boat dive is accompanied by a certified boat captain, as well as a certified divemaster and guide who will give you all the information you need to provide you with the best possible dive. The divemaster will accompany us in the dive to help us spot some of the rare life, such as frog-fish, eagle rays, sea horses and octopus.

**Accommodations:** To provide you with the best possible accommodations, we have selected Captain Don's Habitat. This beautiful resort sits right on the west coast of the island, overlooking the beautiful turquoise water. You will be staying in a spacious cottage just a minute's walk from the sparkling water. Service at the resort is spectacular. <http://www.habitatbonaire.com>



**Environmental Sensitivity and Conservation Commitment:** Bonaire's most valuable resource is its lush fringing coral reef that surrounds the entire island. Therefore, the people of Bonaire have been protecting it for over twenty years. The Bonaire Marine Park protects the marine environment from the surface to a depth of 200 feet. With every diver having to submit to specific no-touch rules and contributing a small mandatory Marine Park fee, the park has enabled the reef to thrive as other islands' reefs diminish. There is no spear fishing allowed on the island, therefore the fish have no fear of you and will come much closer. Bonaire hosts more than 371 species of colorful fish, according to Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF). Please see the attached link to read more about the plethora of aquatic life you will be seeing. <http://www.sportdiver.com/article/Magazine/Bonaire-Fish-Capital-of-the-Caribbean>

**Arrival:** You will be arriving on the island on Saturday afternoon. We will be picked up by large vans and taken to our resort. We will immediately have an orientation and C-Card check for divers. Anyone who wishes to scuba dive or snorkel must purchase a Bonaire Marine Park pass, which costs \$25.00. This fee goes to conservation of their coral reefs. The next morning, we will be able to start diving.

**Excursions:** Undoubtedly, most visitors to Bonaire will either be diving, snorkeling or swimming for most of the time. But there is so much more that we can offer you on this amazing little island.

- **Take a two-hour boat tour by kayak or solar powered boat through the mangrove swamps.** Your trip will be unforgettable. The mangrove forest located near Lac Bay is one of the best-preserved mangrove forests in all the Caribbean. The BBC shot one of the episodes of "Secrets of the Caribbean" about Lac Bay. The film crew was most enthusiastic about the quality of Bonaire's mangrove forest. In the Lac Bay area one can find four different species of mangrove trees in crystal clear waters. While kayaking or sitting in one of their solar boats you can see why we call this area the nursery. [http://www.mangrovecenter.com/english/lac\\_bay\\_bonaire.htm](http://www.mangrovecenter.com/english/lac_bay_bonaire.htm)



- **Visit the salt flats of Pekelmeer.** These huge salt flats spread out in great squares of bright vivid colors, which range in color from the brilliant turquoise of newly flooded areas to bright pink pools caused by huge populations of brine shrimp to sparkling white of the dried salt. Huge piles of salt lie ready for transport. Tremendous flocks of flamingoes gather to eat the brine shrimp. The area is also home to many birds, such as frigate birds, osprey, cormorants and heron, making the area an ideal place for bird-watching.
- **Go to the white sandy beaches of Lac Bay!** Though most of the island lacks large sandy beaches, Lac Bay makes up for the rest. This beach is perfect for any beach activity. Sit back with your tropical drink and enjoy the sun!
- **Learn to Windsurf!** Lac Bay is also known as the windsurfer's paradise. Steady winds combine with warm clear shallow water to provide the perfect conditions for windsurfing. It is ideal for both beginners as well as experts.
- **Visit Washington-Slagbaai National Park:** This 13,500 acre park occupies a substantial portion of the island's northern tip and is filled with the fascinating flora and fauna of semi-arid Bonaire. In its own way Washington-Slagbaai is as much a gem as Bonaire's more celebrated Marine Park, with more than a hundred species of birds, a startling variety and diversity of terrain and wildlife.
- **Become a certified Diver:** We can take you from being a snorkeler to being a PADI certified Open Water Diver. The calm, warm waters of Bonaire make an excellent training area for new divers to learn.







**- Continue your scuba education:** Additional PADI certifications are available upon request, such as Underwater Naturalist, Advance Open Water Diver, Night Diver and Underwater Photographer.



**Should you have any questions, feel free to call Jamey Vogel at 513-580-9346. I will be happy to answer your questions!**