

**FREE AIR**  
ON 9-DAY BELIZE TO TIKAL EXPEDITION  
BOOK BY AUG. 31, 2021



# WILD BELIZE ESCAPE

**ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION**

JANUARY 15-20, 2022

Travel with Rice Professor Dr. Scott Solomon



PLUS EXPLORE THE WONDERS OF THE MAYA WORLD  
ON A 3-DAY EXTENSION TO TIKAL

That's the  
exhilaration  
of discovery.



**Travel with confidence.**

We encourage you to view the Health & Safety protocols currently in effect. Scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/3atsiNM](https://bit.ly/3atsiNM).



DEAR RICE ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS,

Discover the tropical wonders of Belize on a voyage exploring the full length of the Belizean Barrier Reef—once endangered but now a UNESCO World Heritage site. Since the days of the ancient Maya, who flourished along this coast some 1,500 years ago, civilization has had relatively little impact. Much of the region remains genuine wilderness, with large expanses of dense tropical forest, miles of wild rivers, abundant bird life—and the largest coral reef in North America.

Few cruise lines venture here and *National Geographic Sea Lion* is the perfect platform for exploring. Using a fleet of Zodiacs, kayaks, and paddleboards, you'll explore crystalline waters and land on isolated cayes. The snorkeling is immensely satisfying, and your ship is equipped with all the gear you need. And for those who want to and are certified to scuba dive, excursions can be arranged to fit seamlessly with our itinerary.

Cruise coastal rivers in Zodiacs, and explore the lush jungle on foot, tackling trails with an expert naturalist who will point out colorful birds, tree frogs, monkeys, and other wildlife. At Mayflower-Bocawina National Park, learn about ongoing research into the behaviors of Belize's jaguars from scientists and researchers.

Make the most of your trip with a land extension venturing into the rainforest to the ancient ruins of Tikal, once the hub of Maya civilization. Walk among incredibly well-preserved stone temples, palaces, and ceremonial structures, delving deep into its culture and mystery. And discover seldom-visited Yaxhá, the third largest ruins of the Maya world.

Choose between two exciting itineraries: a 6-day voyage to Belize or a 9-day sea and land expedition combining Belize with Tikal. I hope you will opt to join us. **To reserve your space, please return the reservation form or call our group representative at Lindblad Expeditions toll free at 888-773-9007.**

Sincerely,

*Shannon Burnett*

Shannon Burnett  
Assistant Director of Alumni Programs

**SPECIAL OFFER:**

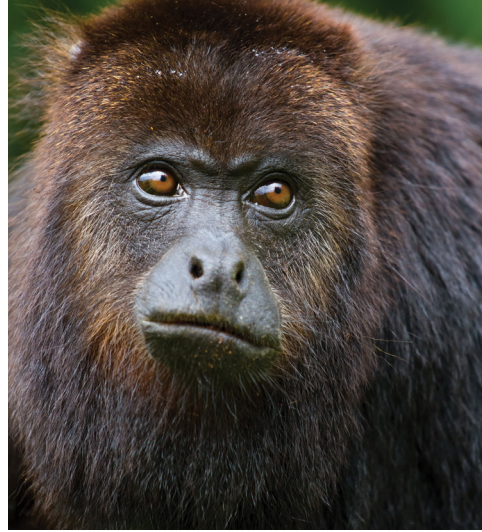
Book the 9-day Belize to Tikal expedition by Aug. 31, 2021 and receive **FREE ROUND-TRIP** economy group airfare between Miami/BelizeCity. Or receive an air credit. See page 12 or call for details.

**GUEST LECTURER: SCOTT SOLOMON**



Scott Solomon teaches ecology, evolutionary biology, and scientific communication in the Department of Biosciences and the Glasscock School of Continuing Studies at Rice University. He received a Ph.D. in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior from the University of Texas at Austin where his research examined the evolutionary origins of biodiversity among leafcutter ants in the Amazon Basin. He has also worked as a visiting researcher with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. and São Paulo State University in Rio Claro, Brazil. He is the author of *Future Humans: Inside the Science of Our Continuing Evolution*, published by Yale University Press in 2016, and a digital course called *What Darwin Didn't Know: The Modern Science of Evolution* available through Great Courses

*Cover: Aerial photo of cayes atop the Belize Barrier Reef in Belize. Opposite: Scuba diver explores coral reef with a torch. Ship's registry: United States*



# BELIZE: DIVE INTO A WEALTH OF BIODIVERSITY



*Tiger Fern Falls in the Cockscomb Basin.*

The Belize Barrier Reef, the largest reef system in the Northern Hemisphere, reveals hundreds of species of fish, marvelous sea turtles, graceful rays, gentle manatees, and over 90 varieties of coral. As only a small percentage of the reef has been

studied, researchers believe hundreds, even thousands, more species could be discovered in this protected zone. Much of Belize remains genuine wilderness, with large expanses of dense tropical forest, miles of wild rivers, and abundant bird life. Protecting 7,000 acres with three waterfalls, miles of hiking trails along creeks cutting through the tropical forest, Mayflower-Bocawina National Park is a gem in Belize's corridor of protected areas. Hike a nature trail with naturalists, photograph colorful tropical plants, search for exotic birds, and look out for the tracks of deer, tapirs, and wild cats. And learn of the extensive research on Central America's apex predator, the jaguar.



## A NATURAL SUCCESS STORY



*Barrier reef coral.*

In 1996, the Belize Barrier Reef was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. In 2009, it was added to the List of World Heritage Sites in Danger due to the detection of coral bleaching, mangrove cutting, and excessive development. But in 2019, the Belize Barrier Reef was removed from this list as UNESCO determined it no longer faced threats from development. In recent years, the Belize government placed a moratorium on oil exploration around the reef and added protections for coastal mangrove forests. Our expeditions put you at the heart of it—to experience the reef in all its natural splendor.



*Opposite page (clockwise from top): Green iguana; howler monkey; diver encounters hawksbill turtle; keel-billed toucan; guest scans the treetops for bird life.*



# THE PERFECT PLATFORM FOR EXPLORING

*National Geographic Sea Lion* is one of the only expedition ships exploring the Mesoamerican Reef, giving you rare access to turquoise lagoons and white-sand beaches. She is equipped with a fleet of onboard tools—snorkel gear for every guest, Zodiacs, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards—so you can experience this vibrant habitat up close and with all your senses. A supremely comfortable ship, *National Geographic Sea Lion* features open decks, spacious cabins, generous windows, and an accommodating bow area. Life aboard ship is warm and welcoming. The lounge graciously accommodates the expedition community during evening Recaps, and the casual dining room serves meals in single seatings with unassigned tables for easy mingling.



# SHARE THE ADVENTURE WITH AN EXPERT TEAM

The A+ expedition team that accompanies you is your key to unlocking the wonders that lie within the diverse ecosystems and spectacular archaeological sites you explore. You travel with an expedition leader and several naturalists—many of whom are knowledgeable locals—plus an undersea specialist and an expedition diver, a wellness specialist, and a video chronicler. A certified photo instructor is also aboard to assist you. Whether you are a novice or more advanced, you will take your best photos ever.

### EXCLUSIVE MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Enjoy a private concert by the internationally renowned Garifuna Collective, the premier representative of Garifuna music from Belize on the international stage.



*Opposite page (clockwise from top): Get up and explore on a stand-up paddleboard; discover diverse habitats up close on Zodiac forays; National Geographic Sea Lion is ideal for exploring the tropical waterways of Central America; kayaking allows for personal discovery; naturalists help you spot birds and other wildlife.*



# EXTEND YOUR STAY AND VISIT THE RUINS OF THE MAYA WORLD



*Lush rain forest surrounds temple pyramid, Tikal.*

Make the most of your time and explore the impressive ruins of the region, once the hub of classic Maya civilization. Spend a full day at Tikal, among extensive, well-preserved stone temples, palaces, ceremonial platforms, terraces, and roads cloaked in lush, wildlife-harboring vegetation.

Then discover seldom-visited Yaxhá, the third largest ruins of the Maya world, beautifully sited overlooking Yaxhá Lake.

Hike into the Maya Biosphere Reserve amid giant ceiba trees—the sacred tree of the Maya—and with the help of experienced naturalists, search for 400+ species of birds, howler and spider monkeys, tree frogs, and more.

Spend three nights at the beautiful Hotel Camino Real Tikal, your home base while you explore the Maya culture and ruins. The hotel is nestled in the rainforest, where you enjoy the many different species of birds while on an optional bird walk with your naturalist or relax on a sunset boat ride on Lake Petén Itzá.



*Aerial view of the Hotel Camino Real Tikal.*

*Opposite page (clockwise from top): Gartered trogon; sunrise and morning mist at Tikal; Temple 1 in Tikal; explore the little-visited Maya ruins at Yaxhá; white-nosed coati in Tikal National Park.*



Snorkeling with a sea turtle.

## WILD BELIZE ESCAPE: WILDLIFE, REEFS & RIVERS

6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS—*NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION*

### DAY 1: DEPART U.S./BELIZE CITY/EMBARK

Arrive in Belize City where we embark *National Geographic Sea Lion*. (D)

### DAY 2: BELIZE BARRIER REEF

Awake anchored in the northern cayes of the Mesoamerican Reef System, second only to Australia's Great Barrier Reef in terms of biodiversity. Enjoy a full day to further explore this dynamic ecosystem. Take to the water by kayak or stand-up paddleboard, or don a mask and fins and dive into turquoise waters to encounter sea turtles, swirling schools of tropical fish, and harmless nurse sharks. For scuba divers, incredible dive opportunities abound (additional cost). (B,L,D)

### DAY 3: MAYFLOWER-BOCAWINA NATIONAL PARK

Spend the morning discovering Mayflower-Bocawina National Park. Join the naturalists for a hike along one of the trails to photograph tropical plants, scan the treetops for winged wonders, and spot the tracks of tapirs and jungle cats. The national park is dotted with remote and strategically placed "camera traps," which frequently capture images of the legendary and mystical jaguar, so revered in Maya culture. At Bocawina, we learn about ongoing research into the behaviors of Belize's jaguars from scientists and researchers. Tonight, an internationally acclaimed drumming group, The Garifuna Collective, joins us on board for a festive music performance. (B,L,D)

### DAY 4: MONKEY RIVER/BELIZE BARRIER REEF

At morning light we are at the mouth of Monkey River where we board Zodiacs to cruise inland through the Belizean jungle, in search of toucans, green iguanas, and myriad bird species. Few experiences rival

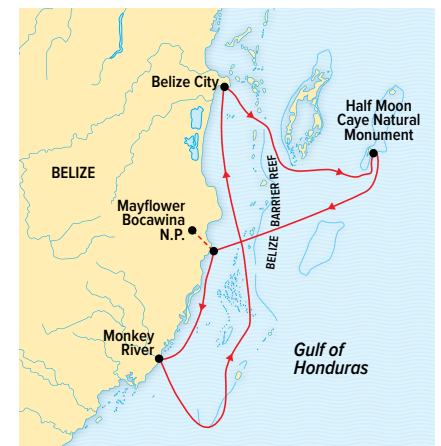
hearing the first throaty roar of a mantled howler monkey echoing across the canopy. This afternoon, the Belize Barrier Reef calls us, home to idyllic sandy isles and vibrant corals, where we enjoy more opportunities to explore by snorkel, kayak, and stand-up paddleboard. For scuba divers, there are incredible dive opportunities (additional cost). (B,L,D)

### DAY 5: BELIZE BARRIER REEF

Our second straight day on the reef brings us into the central cayes where we anchor close and go snorkeling, paddleboarding, diving, or kayaking inside the fringing reef. Coral patches dot the shallow lagoon, harboring parrotfish, butterflyfish, octopus, and other marine species. (B,L,D)

### DAY 6: BELIZE CITY/DISEMBARK

Return to Belize City overnight and disembark after breakfast to transfer to the international airport for your flight home. Or continue on our land excursion to Tikal. (B)



## BELIZE TO TIKAL: REEFS, RIVERS & RUINS OF THE MAYA WORLD

9 DAYS/8 NIGHTS—*NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION* + LAND EXCURSION

**DAYS 1-5:** See above itinerary.

### DAY 6: BELIZE CITY/EL REMATE, GUATEMALA

Disembark in Belize City and drive to El Remate, Guatemala, gateway to Tikal, one of the largest cities in the Classic Maya world. Enjoy lunch on the way before reaching the shores of picturesque Lake Petén Itzá and transferring to the Hotel Camino Real Tikal. Later, set out on a birding walk with our naturalists, or take a sunset boat cruise on the lake. (B,L,D)

### DAY 7: TIKAL

Spend a full day exploring Tikal, where ancient pyramids tower more than 200 feet, and thousands of temples, shrines, and plazas are scattered beneath the rainforest canopy. Discover the site's archaeological treasures, including the Temple of the Great Jaguar and the North and South Acropolis. Encounter ancient Maya art and hieroglyphs, and examine carved stone inscriptions that illuminate the history and spiritual significance of Tikal. (B,L,D)

### DAY 8: YAXHÁ

Explore Yaxhá, a former Maya ceremonial center situated on a ridge overlooking Yaxhá Lake. The world's third largest known Maya site, Yaxhá spreads across nine plazas and contains multiple pyramids, ball courts, and stelae. Examine its features with your local guides and, if you wish, climb a temple for panoramic views. Later, enjoy lunch at a traditional Guatemalan restaurant, followed by an evening at leisure. (B,L,D)

### DAY 9: EL REMATE/BELIZE CITY/HOME

Drive this morning from El Remate to Belize City to connect with flights home. (B)



From left: A comfortable Category 2 cabin; twin beds can be pushed together to form a double bed in Category 3 cabins on the Upper Deck; the lounge is the hub of the expedition community.

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION

**CAPACITY:** 31 outside cabins accommodating 62 guests.

**OVERALL LENGTH:** 152 feet.

**REGISTRY:** United States.

**PUBLIC AREAS:** The ship features a library; global market; lounge with full-service bar and facilities for films, slide shows, and presentations; observation deck; partially covered sun deck with chairs and tables; and LEXspa. An open Bridge provides guests an opportunity to meet the officers and captain and learn about navigation.

**MEALS:** Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Breakfasts are wide-selection buffets, and lunches are often served family style. Dinners are primarily served plated. Menu emphasizes local fare.

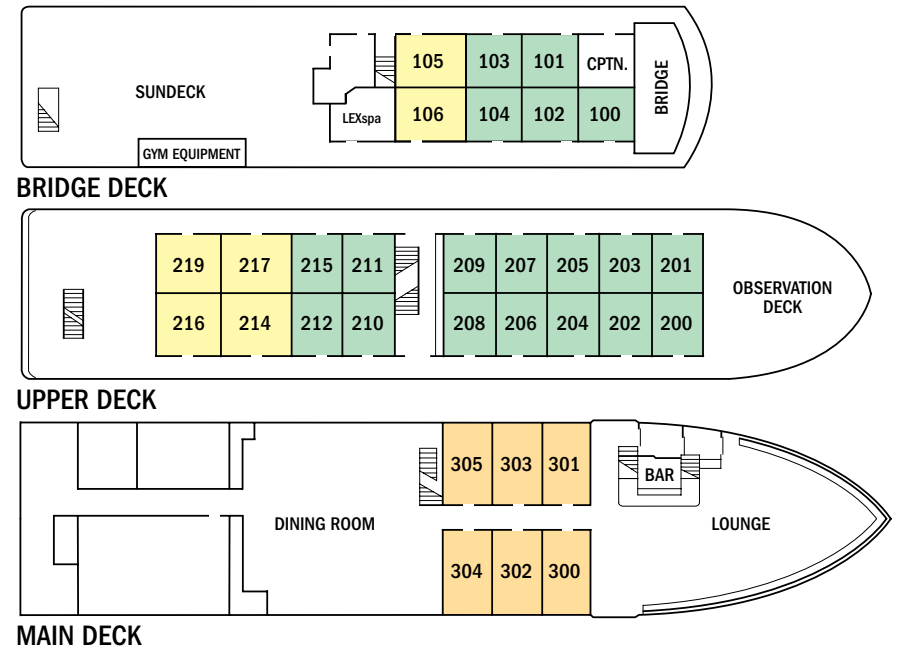
**CABINS:** All face outside with windows, private facilities, and climate controls.

**EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT:** Zodiacs, kayaks, paddleboards, snorkeling equipment, bow camera, hydrophone, splash-cam, underwater video camera, and video microscope.

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Guest Wi-Fi access. A certified photo instructor, undersea specialist, and ship's doctor are on board.

**WELLNESS:** The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features exercise equipment, LEXspa, and outdoor stretching area.

**SELF-DISINFECTING SHIPS:** Lindblad Expeditions became the first self-disinfecting fleet with the rollout of the ACT CleanCoat™ system in 2019. This photocatalytic cleaning process activates when illuminated, continuously breaking down unwanted microbes such as bacteria, viruses, mold, and airborne allergens. The positive environmental impacts of this non-toxic, chemical-free system are many: less plastic in the supply chain and waste stream, and more than one million gallons of water saved annually. The system lowers our carbon footprint and creates a cleaner, healthier shipboard environment for guests and crew alike.



**CATEGORY 1:** Main Deck #300-305 —

Conveniently positioned between the dining room and lounge, these cabins feature two lower single beds and a large view window.

**CATEGORY 2:** Bridge Deck #100-104; Upper Deck #200-212, 215 — These well-located cabins include two lower single beds and a window.

**CATEGORY 3:** Bridge Deck #105, 106; Upper Deck #214, 216, 217, 219 — These cabins feature a seating unit with table and two large view windows. Upper Deck cabins include

two lower single beds which can convert to a double bed and a pull-out single bed for a third person; Bridge Deck cabins include two lower single beds only.

**NOTE:** Solo occupancy cabins are available in Categories 1 and 2 only. Third person rates are available in certain categories at one half the double occupancy rate.

**SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS:** Shares can be arranged at the double occupancy rate in Categories 1 and 2 only.

Prices are per person, double occupancy unless indicated as solo.

ITINERARY	CAT. 1	CAT. 2	CAT. 3	CAT. 1 SOLO	CAT. 2 SOLO	ADVANCE PAYMENT	AIRFARES
Wild Belize Escape: Wildlife, Reefs & Rivers	\$3,990	\$4,550	\$5,110	\$5,990	\$6,830	\$750	Miami/Belize City/Miami – Economy from \$550; Business from \$850. Subject to change.
Belize to Tikal: Reefs, Rivers & Ruins of the Maya World	\$5,880	\$6,440	\$7,000	\$8,480	\$9,320	\$750	Miami/Belize City/Miami – Economy from \$550; Business from \$850. Subject to change.

## INCLUSIVE PRICING

### ABOARD SHIP

- ✓ All meals served in the dining room
- ✓ All nonalcoholic beverages including unlimited cappuccinos, lattes, coffee, tea, and soda
- ✓ Hors d'oeuvres and snacks during evening Recap
- ✓ Environmentally friendly refillable water bottle
- ✓ Fully stocked library
- ✓ Mac computers for downloading your camera's memory card and Wi-Fi access
- ✓ Fitness center
- ✓ The services of a ship physician and expedition staff
- ✓ Access to the Bridge to learn about navigation

### ASHORE

- ✓ Three hotel nights in Tikal on 9-day expedition
- ✓ Meals as indicated
- ✓ Special access permits, park fees, port taxes
- ✓ Transfers to and from group flights
- ✓ The expertise of the expedition staff and local guides

### ACTIVITIES

- ✓ All shore activities
- ✓ Zodiac and kayak explorations
- ✓ Snorkeling and paddleboarding (scuba diving extra cost)
- ✓ Lectures and presentations in the lounge
- ✓ Special musical performance
- ✓ Photo instruction
- ✓ Morning stretch class with wellness specialist

## SPECIAL OFFERS

**FREE AIR:** Book the 9-day Belize to Tikal expedition by Aug. 31, 2021 and receive FREE ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE between Miami/Belize City, subject to availability. Complimentary air is based on economy group flights and must be ticketed by Lindblad Expeditions. In the case that Lindblad's group flight is not available at time of booking, you will receive an air credit. Baggage fees may be additional. New bookings only and not combinable with other offers. Call for details.

**GROUP SAVINGS:** Book by Jul. 31, 2021 to save 10% when booking as a group of 6 or more on this voyage date. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, not applicable on extensions, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

**BRING THE KIDS:** Sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. Take \$500 off the double occupancy price for each person under 18.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**WILD BELIZE ESCAPE COSTS INCLUDE:** Five nights' accommodations aboard ship; all meals and nonalcoholic beverages aboard ship; meals on land as indicated; shore excursions, sightseeing, entrance fees, and special access permits; use of kayaks, paddleboards, and snorkeling gear; transfers to and from group flights; tips (except to ship's crew), taxes, and service charges; services of a ship physician, the expedition staff, and local guides. Unused services or items included in this program are non-refundable.

**BELIZE TO TIKAL COSTS INCLUDE:** All inclusions for Belize portion as noted above; three hotel nights in Tikal; meals on land as indicated with non-alcoholic beverages; gratuities to local guides in Tikal; transportation Belize City/EI Remate, Guatemala/Belize City.

**NOT INCLUDED:** International air transportation (unless otherwise indicated); meals not indicated; extensions; scuba diving; passport, visa, immigration fees; travel protection plan; items of a personal nature such as alcoholic beverages, Wi-Fi access, voyage chronicle, and laundry. Gratuities to ship's crew at your discretion.

**AIRFARE:** Airfare is an additional cost (unless otherwise indicated). Lindblad Expeditions will assist in making your air arrangements for a \$50 per person service fee.

**RESERVATIONS:** To confirm your place, an advance payment of US\$750 per person is required at the time of reservation and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or check. Receipt of advance payment indicates your acceptance of the terms and conditions.

**FINAL PAYMENT:** Payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Lindblad Expeditions reserves the right to cancel your reservation if payment has not been received by final payment due date.

**TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN:** Travel and medical insurance are available at an additional cost. Information will be sent to you upon registration.

**SMOKING AND VAPING POLICY:** Allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

**ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS:** All guests are advised to verify travel documents (REAL ID/passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country through which they are transiting and/or entering. Reliable and most current information regarding international travel can be found by contacting the consulate/embassy of the country(s) you are visiting or transiting through. We will not be responsible if you are denied entry or transit into a country, if you are unable to provide valid documents as per the country's requirement.

**RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions', the National Geographic Expeditions' (a division of National Geographic Partners, LLC), The Laura & Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program's, Engaging Journeys, Inc.'s, and Case Western Reserve University's liability for loss of property, injury, illness, or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

**Note:** Itineraries and prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date and are subject to change. Under normal conditions the total expedition price is guaranteed at the time of booking. However, our expedition pricing is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event of increases in those costs, including but not limited to increases in the price of fuel, currency fluctuations, increases in government taxes or levies, or increased security costs, we reserve the right to adjust the price of your expedition or add a surcharge to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide an explanation of the reason for increase in costs.

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CANCELLATION POLICY	
Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start	Per Person Cancellation Fee
120 or more days	\$350
119-90 days	Advance payment cost
89-60 days	25% of trip cost
59-45 days	50% of trip cost
44-0 days	No refund

*This policy applies to the voyage only. We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.*



Please send reservation to:  
Lindblad Expeditions  
96 Morton Street  
New York, NY 10014  
Ph: (888) 773-9007  
Fax: (646) 390-2050  
Email: groups@expeditions.com

## RESERVATION FORM: BELIZE

### ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on the 6-day Wild Belize Escape, January 15-20, 2022

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on the 9-day Belize to Tikal, January 15-23, 2022

Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As it appears on I.D.)

Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Preferred name for name badge)

Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As it appears on I.D.)

Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Preferred name for name badge)

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations:  Double  Single  Twin share w/friend

Share with roommate assigned by tour operator

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:

1st choice: \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice: \_\_\_\_\_

**Advance Payment Information:** US\$750 per person.

If paying by check, please make payable to: **Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.**

Enclosed is my advance payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If paying by credit card, we will contact you to finalize your booking and collect payment information.



# WILD BELIZE ESCAPE

## EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- » Travel with Dr. Scott Solomon, Rice professor, biologists, and sciences communicator.
- » Sail aboard *National Geographic Sea Lion*, one of the only ships exploring the Mesoamerican Reef.
- » Kayak and paddleboard turquoise lagoons, and cruise in Zodiacs to wildlife-rich coastal rivers.
- » Snorkel or dive the coral gardens of the Belize Barrier Reef.
- » Join a naturalist for a hike in Mayflower Bocawina National Park and learn about the latest research on jaguars from local scientists.
- » Extend your stay to explore the Maya ruins in Tikal and little-visited Yaxhá.

### 100% CARBON NEUTRAL SINGLE-USE PLASTIC FREE

We have chosen Lindblad Expeditions because they care deeply about the planet, and see travel as a powerful force for good.

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