Yale Educational Travel

this could be you!

Gaboury Benoit
Professor of Environmental Chemistry
School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

Lisa Suatoni
Senior Scientist, Oceans Program
National Resources Defense Council

Roatan
A Submarine Expedition

March 19 – 26, 2016
Dear Yale Traveler

Go deeper with Yale. We’re so excited to be offering this exclusive Yale program, featuring the opportunity to dive on the western hemisphere’s deepest diving commercial submarine, the *Idabel*, based on the Honduran island of Roatan. The island is perched on the edge of the 25,000-foot-deep Cayman Trench and has earned a reputation as one of the world’s top dive destinations.

Stay at the Tranquilseas Eco-Lodge in private cabanas nestled amongst exotic flora and fauna, with access to a private beach and coral reef. Take a trip around the island by boat, with a lunch stop on a remote beach. Through Tranquilseas’ diving center, try a ‘Discover Scuba’ experience - included in the program. And if you’d prefer to stay closer to land, our Eco-Lodge offers zip-lining, mangrove kayaking, bird watching, nature preserve hiking, and daily yoga. Or just relax and enjoy the comfortable surroundings. All meals save for one lunch and dinner are included.

Climb aboard the submarine *Idabel* and explore the Cayman Trench down to 1,000 feet for the chance to view wonderful and strange fauna in their native habitat, or extend your trip to 2,000 feet for a look at rare deepsea corals. In doing so, you’ll join the very small ranks of submariners who have ventured below 300 feet. Previously, these depths have only been accessible to government researchers. On every dive, the submarine *Idabel* illuminates places that have never known any light at all – places no human eyes have ever seen.

Amidst all this natural beauty, add context with lectures from Gaboury Benoit, professor of Environmental Chemistry at Yale’s School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, as well as from his wife Lisa Suatoni, the Timothy B. Atkeson Environmental Lecturer at Yale Law School and a senior scientist at the National Resources Defense Council. You’ll also hear from submariner Karl Stanley about his 17 years exploring the Cayman Trench from his home in Roatan.

Deepsea Exploration. Only with Yale Educational Travel.

Kathy

Kathy Edersheim ’87
Senior Director, International Alumni Relations and Travel
GABOURY BENOIT

Professor Benoit received his bachelor’s degree from Yale’s Department of Geology and Geophysics (1978), where he studied environmental chemistry. After working for three years in an independent environmental consulting firm, he earned a master’s in Water Resources Engineering from MIT (1985) and a PhD in environmental chemistry from the M.I.T.-Woods Hole joint program (1988).

He started at Yale’s Environment School in 1991 where he is the Grinstein Professor of Environmental Chemistry and has served as the Associate Dean for Research and Director of Doctoral Studies.

Gabe is a nationally recognized expert on environmental chemistry and the impacts of land development. He has a special interest in the impact of land development of Caribbean islands on near coastal ecosystems, especially coral reefs. Among his many publications, he co-authored the book, “Land and Natural Development”, a guide to sustainable land alteration.

LISA SUATONI

Lisa Suatoni is a senior scientist in the oceans program at NRDC. She works on a variety of topics including ocean acidification, sustainable fisheries management, and marine ecosystem based management.

Lisa has a Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Yale University and a master’s degree in environmental policy from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Lisa is also the Timothy B. Atkeson Environmental Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School, where she co-directs the Yale Environmental Protection Clinic.

Highlights

Explore Roatan, an almost untouched Caribbean island, by land and by sea as you sail around the island and snorkel among the Caribbean’s best preserved reefs.

Wander through the 160 eco-friendly acres of the only botanical conservatory in the Caribbean, featuring one of the world’s most extensive hydroponic lettuce and herb farms.

Luxuriate amongst the tropical foliage as you stay in Roatan’s highest rated hotel, the Tranquilseas Eco-Lodge. Enjoy a private cabana, or the savings of shared accommodations.

Readers’ Corner

Want to learn more about the history and culture of Honduras?

Here’s a good start:

The Extreme Life of the Sea
by Stephen and Anthony Palumbi
This book by the Palumbi father-son team shows how marine life thrives against the odds. They probe the icy Arctic’s hydrothermal vents, the deepest undersea trenches and every ocean and sea in between.

The Mosquito Coast
by Paul Theroux
This taut psychological novel about a man who abandons civilization for the wilds of Honduras is both an adventure story and a dark utopian tale of colonial ambitions run amok.

Upcoming Trips

Chile and Argentina: An Ode to Cities, Landscape and Wine
03/12/2016 - 03/23/2016
Prof. Karen Seto

Dutch and Flemish Landscapes
04/10/2016 - 04/18/2016
Prof. Gene Moore

Japan by Sea on Caledonian Sky
04/20/2016 - 05/03/2016
Prof. Marian Chertow

Five ‘Stans: Along the Silk Road
05/03/2016 - 05/21/2016
Prof. Alan Mikhail

Japan: Kyoto and the Tale of Genji
05/13/2016 - 05/26/2016
Prof. Ed Kamens and Mary Miller
**Itinerary**

**IN TRANSIT**

**Saturday, March 19  D**
Fly to Roatan’s International Airport (RTB). The majority of flights to/from Roatan depart on Saturdays. Non-stop flights depart from Atlanta, Dallas, Houston and Miami. At the airport, Yale’s representative will whisk you away to the Tranquilseas Eco-Lodge. Welcome reception and dinner this evening with live music from local musicians.

**LEARNING ABOUT THE SUB**

**Sunday, March 20  B/L/D**
Today we begin our exploration of Roatan’s verdant shores. In the morning, Captain Karl Stanley will join us to speak about the submarine *Idabel* and the Cayman Trench we’ll be exploring. After lunch overlooking the warm azure waters, enjoy the day at leisure. **This afternoon, we’ll begin our scheduled sub dives.** The sub dives are scheduled for 4 people a day. Each day, some of the group will participate in the sub dives or in scheduled Scuba sessions. If you’re not on a dive today, enjoy one or more of the many excursion activities available at Tranquilseas or in the area: snorkeling, kayaking, fishing, windsurfing, boat trips, Indian cuisine classes, Tennis, dolphin encounters, the Roatan canopy tour, butterfly park, iguana farm and more. Daily yoga also available. After dinner this evening, we’ll enjoy a presentation from a Yale speaker.

**RELAX AT THE ECO-LODGE**

**Monday, March 21  B/L/D**
Enjoy the morning and afternoon at leisure. During this time, we’ll have scheduled sub dives and ‘Discover Scuba’ sessions. During dinner, we’ll hear a presentation from a local fish and reef expert. **After dinner, we’ll gather to hear from a Yale speaker.**

**RELAX AT THE ECO-LODGE**

**Tuesday, March 22  B/L/D**
Enjoy the morning and afternoon at leisure. During this time, we’ll have scheduled sub dives and ‘Discover Scuba’ sessions. For dinner, enjoy live music and home cooked tapas at the Eco-Lodge.

**BOTANICAL GARDENS**

**Wednesday, March 23  B/L/D**
Following breakfast and a morning session with our Yale speaker, depart from the Lodge for a guided tour of the Blue Harbor Tropical Arboretum, the Caribbean’s only botanical conservatory, set on 160 eco-friendly acres. We’ll also see Blue Harbor Plantation, the Caribbean’s only hydroponic lettuce and herb farm, which supplies almost 100% of the island’s salad greens and fresh herbs. Taste fresh exotic fruits from the small café onsite. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure, with lunch and dinner available at the lodge.

**ISLAND BUS TOUR**

**Thursday, March 24  B**
After breakfast, depart for a cultural tour of Roatan’s eastern end. We’ll visit the indigenous Garifuna’s living museum, eat jams and jellies tour at a fruit plantation, feed the iguanas at Arch’s Iguana and Marine Park; stop for lunch at mountain top restaurant with tremendous views, and more! Rest of the day at leisure, with the opportunity to venture out into town for dinner.

www.yaleedtravel.org/roatan16
AROUND-THE-ISLAND

Friday, March 25  B/L/D

Today we circumnavigate the island by boat! Following breakfast, make your way down the private dock. Our ship will take us around the island to a secluded private beach for a picnic lunch and exploration of the reef by snorkel. We’ll complete our circumnavigation in time for a rest at the lodge before dinner this evening. Not to be missed - a highlight of the trip. This evening, join your lecturers and Captain Stanley for a seminar type discussion of our exploration, followed by a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

IN TRANSIT

Saturday, March 26  B

This morning, transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city. Parting is such sweet sadness.

Note: Itinerary subject to change. Some excursions involve an element of walking and/or swimming. If you would prefer not to join a particular excursion, we can schedule your sub dive during that time.

Included meals indicated each day as B/L/D = Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner.

Ready to venture deeper than all but a handful of ocean explorers?

Your trip includes a 1000 ft submarine dive in the submarine  Idabel. The dive takes 1.5 hours and can carry two guests (430 lbs maximum weight). If you have any questions about the experience, please call!

Additionally, an extended dive is available for those who wish to ‘Go Deeper.’ For an additional $850 per person, you can experience the Lophelia Reef Excursion, a 2000ft dive that takes 4.5 hours, traveling several miles of deep water reef with incredible viewing opportunities.

Note: Dives may need to be rescheduled or canceled in rough weather. If traveling alone, we will match you with a ride partner! Extra fee applies to single passenger sub rides.

What is Included:

- Program of lectures and discussions with Gabe Benoit and Lisa Suatoni.
- 1000 ft submarine dive. A limited number of extended Lophelia Reef dives are available.
- A ‘Discover Scuba’ experience. Learn to use Scuba gear in a pool or shallow water before heading out onto the reef for a dive in 30-40 ft of water.
- Spend seven nights at the deluxe Tranquilseas Eco-Lodge, Roatan’s highest rated hotel.
- Seven breakfasts, five lunches and six dinners. Tea or coffee is included with all meals. Take advantage of leisure time to try local cuisine independently.
- Attend special Welcome and Farewell Receptions and Dinners.
- The following excursions: Tour of Blue Harbor Plantation; full-day boat ride around island; the sub dive and ‘Discover Scuba’ experience.
- Services of a friendly, professional Travel Director and expert English-speaking guides throughout your stay.
- Detailed travel and destination information to assist in your planning.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.
- All entrance fees as per the itinerary.
- Medical evacuation insurance through Frontier Medex

What is Not Included:

- Expenses of a personal nature like laundry, telephone/fax calls, alcoholic beverages, camera/video camera fee at monuments, medical expenses, airport departure tax etc.
- Any Insurance.
- Any meals or beverages that are not specified in the above inclusions.
- International airfares.
- Expenses caused by factors beyond our control like rail and air plane delays, roadblocks, vehicle malfunctions, political disturbances, taxes, lost luggage, etc.
The base cost of this adventure is **$3,895** (based on double occupancy). We have a limited number of options for single travelers, due to the boutique nature of the Tranquilseas Eco-Lodge and the passenger capacity of the submarine. The single supplement is $1,900.

All of the accommodations (“Cabanas”) at Tranquilseas Eco-Lodge have a private deck or porch facing the ocean or the garden. During your stay you’ll enjoy: hot/cold running water, remote a/c, spacious bathrooms, free wireless internet, ample closet space, free purified drinking water, beach towels, solar hot water system, maid service and, if requested, laundry pick up service (extra fee applies).

Tranquilseas offers six cabanas to choose from, three of which offer special pricing, all of which offer a private deck or porch:

**Included in Base Cost:** Hummingbird Cabana *(Ocean View, Queen Bed)*; Eagle Ray Cabana *(Garden View, King Bed)*; Tree Frog Cabana *(Ocean view, Queen Bed)*

**Special Pricing:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Octopus Lodge</th>
<th>Ocean View, Three rooms/two baths. Ocean view family-style lodge, three rooms share common area.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Room A</strong></td>
<td>One queen bed with ensuite bathroom (base price at double occupancy).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Room B</strong></td>
<td>Two queen beds and shared bathroom with Room C $3,695 per traveler (double occupancy). Max 4 travelers.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Room C</strong></td>
<td>Two bunk beds offer four spots. Perfect for a family or for budget single travelers. If fully booked with four travelers, $3,095 per guest! If three, $3,295. If two, $3,495. If room has one traveler, per traveler program price is $3,695.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Turtle Cabana</th>
<th>Garden View, Queen Bed</th>
<th>$3,695 per traveler (double occupancy)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>King Crab Suite</td>
<td>Ocean View, Four-post King Bed</td>
<td>$4,195 per traveler (double occupancy)</td>
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Tranquilseas Eco Lodge and Diving Center offers unique island accommodation set amongst beautifully landscaped tropical gardens, secluded from the hustle and bustle of daily life and yet easily accessible to some of the great adventures to be had on Roatan. It is Roatan’s highest-rated hotel. Situated on the North side of Roatan, their unique Cabanas are nestled amongst exotic flora and fauna providing a once-in-a-lifetime hotel experience. Tranquilseas offers a wide range of activities, offering a great Roatan diving experience, Island boat tours, snorkel trips, bird watching, kayaking, having an island-for-a-day or windsurfing.

You will experience the finest local cuisine in their restaurant - The Sunken Fish, and watch the sunset whilst having a drink in our beach lounge overlooking the tranquil waters of the Caribbean. Take a dip in the secluded pool surrounded by tropical plants or plunge into the azure warm waters off our private dock.

The Idabel is a one-of-a-kind deep diving submersible designed and custom-built for her exact location on Roatan, Honduras. The sub, which is the first in history constructed of three different sized spheres, is designed to safely transport three people to 3,000 feet (915 meters) below sea level. The submersible is named “Idabel” in honor of the town in Oklahoma where it was born, and whose townpeople helped build it.

**Idabel’s features include:**
- 30-inch diameter viewport
- 11 powerful lights
- Nine viewports for the pilot so he can see in every direction
- Comfortable bench seating
- Built-in sound system

**Safety features include:**
- Twin ballast compartments
- Twin high-pressure air systems
- 350-pound droppable lead weight
- Fully redundant propulsion systems
- Three days of emergency life support
To register, return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person. Final payment is due December 19, 2015.

1) NAME AS ON PASSPORT

DATE OF BIRTH

YALE CONNECTION

PASSPORT ORIGIN

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER GUEST

2) NAME AS ON PASSPORT

DATE OF BIRTH

YALE CONNECTION

PASSPORT ORIGIN

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER GUEST

CONTACT INFORMATION

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

PRIMARY PHONE

SECONDARY PHONE

E-MAIL

PAYMENT OPTIONS

☑ pay by check made out to “Yale University”

Please charge the deposit of $1,000 per person to:

☑ AMEX ☑ VISA ☑ MASTERCARD ☑ DISCOVER CARD

To book, return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to “Yale University” to Association of Yale Alumni, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587.

or Visit www.yaleedtravel.org/roatan16 to book online

Terms and Conditions

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CANCELLATION In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a $500 per person cancellation fee. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75 days to 30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to our office.

BAGGAGE Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner’s risk throughout the travel program.

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Roatan: A Submarine Expedition

Lisa Suatoni
Senior Scientist, NRDC

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Professor of Environmental Chemistry

March 19 – 26, 2016

Go Deeper than all but a handful of ocean explorers when you dive down to 1000ft in the submarine Idabel.

Revel in the warm azure waters of the Caribbean, whether it be with the included ‘Discover Scuba’ experience, off the private dock of the Tranquilseas Eco-Lodge, or just from the private porch of your very own cabana.