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Marine Biologists, Underwater Photographers Lead Trips Tailored for Snorkelers to Remote Destinations in New Collection from Wilderness Travel

BERKELEY, CALIF. – While many companies focus on travel to top diving destinations, there are few trips that target conditions ideal for snorkeling. A new collection of adventures from [Wilderness Travel](#), a company known for its one-of-a-kind detailed itineraries that take travelers deep into an area's culture, pairs marine biologists and underwater photographers as trip leaders with snorkelers to journey to fascinating off-the-grid locales.

Ranging from adventures to the remote Coral Triangle off Indonesia to a lake filled with non-stinging jellyfish to daily snorkel sessions with humpback whales in the Dominican Republic, these trips are ideal for snorkelers, offering sights closer to the water's surface instead for divers, who tend to go deep. "No one else has such a comprehensive snorkeling program, with such a range of experiences and destinations," says Barbara Banks, director of marketing and new trip development for Wilderness Travel.

The trips in the new snorkeling collection include:

[Snorkeling with the Humpbacks of the Silver Bank](#), Dominican Republic, starts at \$4495/person, departures in March 2014 & 2015 – This trip includes two snorkel sessions daily with the populations of Humpback Whales that winter in the Dominican Republic with accommodations aboard a 124-foot motor yacht. Witness fin slaps, breaches, spyhopping, courtside dances and a mother nurturing her calf. The trip leader provides informative evening talks about whales and their behaviors.

Raja Ampat, Indonesia, starts at \$6395/person, 12 days, departures in May, September & November 2014 – Wilderness Travel offers two trips to the very remote and biologically diverse Raja Ampat archipelago in Indonesia: [The Misol Islands](#) and [The Waigeo Islands](#). A marine biologist accompanies guests on this trip to explore an abundance of colorful reefs with hard-to-spot marine life while traveling aboard a 100-foot schooner.

[Palau Snorkeling and Sea Kayaking](#), starts at \$5795/person, 11 days, departures in March, April, September, October and November 2014 – Described as one of the world's last Edens by National Geographic, Palau, located in the Pacific Ocean features a lake full of non-stinging jellyfish, snorkeling over World War II planes, kayaking to a secluded lake and camping on pristine beaches.

Philippines, 12 & 13 days, starts at \$5395/person, departures March, April & May 2014 - Wilderness Travel offers two snorkeling trips to the Philippines: the [Coral Triangle](#) and [Palawan](#). Snorkel a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and some of the healthiest reefs in the world with a marine biologist, swim with whale sharks, paddle a sea kayak into secluded coves and enjoy

dolphin and whale watching. The trip leader provides informal talks on marine biology each evening. Stay overnights in local lodges and resorts.

[Solomon Islands Snorkeling Expedition](#), South Pacific, 11 days, starts at \$7295/person, 1 departure in July 2015 – Snorkel the Coral Triangle in the South Pacific two or three times daily with two marine biologists and participate in on board presentations about the reefs. Travel aboard a 125-foot yacht with 10 air-conditioned cabins and private bathrooms and enjoy an itinerary customized to the best snorkeling sites.

[Sea Kayaking and Snorkeling in Ha'apai](#), New Zealand, 12 days, starts at \$5595/person, departs in September and October 2014 – Swim with humpback whales for five days, sea kayak in an untouched South Pacific paradise, snorkel colorful reefs and experience Tongan hospitality and culture.

[Galapagos Cruises](#), 8-17 days, starts at \$5595/person, departs in March, April, May, June, July and December 2014 – Wilderness Travel offers a number of small ship cruises with just 16 passengers and an expert naturalist guide to both the Western and Eastern islands of the Galapagos. The adventures include snorkeling excursions to Devil's Crown and swimming among penguins, daily hikes and sea kayaking admist wildlife with no fear of humans.

[Belize: Reefs, Ruins and Rainforests](#), 9 days, starts at \$4795/person, departs in December 2014 – Snorkel Turneffe Island in the Caribbean Sea and its barrier reef over the amazing Blue Hole discovered by Jacques Cousteau, see ancient Mayan ruins, zip line, take nature hikes and more.

For more information about any of the snorkeling adventures, call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 or visit www.wildernesstravel.com.

About Wilderness Travel

Wilderness Travel, founded in 1978 and still run by founder Bill Abbott, a consummate traveler, offers some 200 trips every year to more than 75 destinations around the world. There are four ways to travel with Wilderness Travel: [Small Group Adventures](#); [Private Journeys](#); [WT Expeditions: Rare Journeys and Exploratories](#); and [Small Ship Cruises](#), for which the company doubled its offerings in 2014. Constantly on the look-out for new adventures and ways to improve existing journeys, the company focuses on quality, design and the uniqueness of its trips. Almost 70% of individuals who travel with Wilderness Travel are repeat guests or direct referrals from past travelers. For more information, visit www.wildernesstravel.com or call 800-368-2794.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Photos and detailed itineraries available upon request.