BLUE HOLE BELIZE 2018 EXPLORATION

A historic expedition led by passionate ocean advocates that combines high-tech exploration, educational awareness and conservation.

40 miles offshore from Belize city in Lighthouse Reef

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES Livestream engagement from the bottom of the Blue Hole, High-resolution Sonar scan of the Blue Hole, scientific data collection and the promotion of Ocean conservation and awareness.
The Blue Hole

Geological wonder
UNESCO World Heritage Site
Belize Natural Monument
Record of sea level and climate change
Largest sea sinkhole in the world
420 feet deep
This historic expedition is being planned and led by Aquatica Submarines. Led by Harvey Flemming, a successful entrepreneur and adventurer, Vancouver, BC based Aquatica Submarines is an emerging and innovative company in the manned submersible technology space. The company’s Stingray 500 submarine will be one of the two submersibles that will venture to the bottom of the Blue Hole to explore its depths.

aquaticasubmarines.com
OUR EXPEDITION TEAM

RICHARD BRANSON
Ocean Unite / Virgin

FABIEN COUSTEAU
The Fabien Cousteau
Ocean Learning Center

HARVEY FLEMMING
Aquatica Submarines

KARL STANLEY
Roatan Institute of
Deepsea Exploration

GAELIN ROSENWAKS
Expedition Biologist
Global Ocean Exploration, Inc

MARK ATHERTON
Sonar Expert
Kongsberg

ANDRE DROXLER PH.D.
Expedition Geologist
Rice University
This high-tech deliverable will help to better understand this geologic marvel and provide a window into sea-level and climate changes over the last 100,000 years. **Never-before attempted**, undertaking this activity will put Aquatica at the forefront of modern subsea exploration.

- Using multiple submarines
- Deploying advanced sonar technology
- Collection of scientific data
- Crew includes world-leading scientist and technicians
- Extensive HD picture and video-capture
THE FUTURE IS IN THE HANDS OF THOSE WHO EXPLORE... AND FROM ALL THE BEAUTY THEY DISCOVER WHILE CROSSING PERPETUALLY RECEDING FRONTIERS, THEY DEVELOP FOR NATURE AND FOR HUMANKIND AN INFINITE LOVE.

— Jacques Yves Cousteau, Oceanographer

WHY WE NEED TO MAP OUR OCEAN

"The future is in the hands of those who explore... and from all the beauty they discover while crossing perpetually receding frontiers, they develop for nature and for humankind an infinite love."

— Jacques Yves Cousteau, Oceanographer
Nestled on the bottom of the Blue Hole in Aquatica’s Stingray 500, Ocean advocates Sir Richard Branson and Fabien Cousteau will reach millions around the globe.

Their conversation in situ will provide actionable ways for the Global audience to take part in ocean conservation and contribute to a paradigm shift in humanity’s ocean moral responsibility.

This interactive event will be educational as well as entertaining. The use of Livestream technology will provide a vivid and inclusive experience to share the sense of wonder felt by ocean explorers.
Richard Branson is the founder of the Virgin Group, which has grown successful businesses in sectors including mobile telephony, travel and transportation, financial services, leisure and entertainment and health and wellness. Virgin is a leading international investment group and one of the world's most recognised and respected brands. Since starting youth culture magazine “Student” at aged 16, Richard has found entrepreneurial ways to drive positive change in the world. In 2004 Richard established Virgin Unite, the non-profit foundation of the Virgin Group, which unites people and entrepreneurial ideas to create opportunities for a better world. Most of his time is now spent building businesses that will make a positive difference in the world and working with Virgin Unite and organisations it has incubated, such as The Elders, The Carbon War Room, The B Team and Ocean Unite. He also serves on the Global Commission on Drug Policy and supports ocean conservation with the Ocean Elders.
Ocean Unite is a Global Leadership Initiative incubated by Virgin Unite, the Foundation of the Branson Family and Virgin. Its goal is to unite and amplify impactful voices to secure a healthy and vital ocean.

www.oceanunite.org

Ocean Unite is supporting the 30x30 call to action to protect 30% of the world's ocean by 2030 through a network of marine reserves – highly protected ‘marine protected areas’ or regeneration zones where no destructive or extractive activities such as fishing or mining can take place.
As the first grandson of Jacques-Yves Cousteau, Fabien spent his early years aboard his famous grandfather's ships, Calypso and Alcyone; Fabien was an Explorer-at-Large for National Geographic and collaborated on a TV special aimed at changing public conceptions about sharks called, “Attack of the Mystery Shark,”. Then in 2003-2006, he produced the documentary, “Mind of a Demon,” that aired on CBS. Early in 2016 he founded the Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Center (“OLC”) to fulfill his dream of creating a vehicle to make a positive change in the world.

Currently he is working on multiple projects and dedicates much of his time to the exciting programs and initiatives of the OLC.
MULTIPLE MEDIA PLATFORMS WILL BE USED TO GENERATE MAXIMUM EXPOSURE, REACHING MILLIONS OF VIEWERS AROUND THE GLOBE

Final media distribution to be confirmed closer to expedition, based on maximum outreach potential.
Our Livestream Broadcast partner will be hosting the segment from the Blue Hole across their distribution platforms including online and through social media.

A full production crew will be onsite for the entire expedition, capturing the realities of ocean exploration, and creating a meaningful narrative for a full documentary.
Aquatica Submarines and their key partner, the Roatan Institute of Deepsea Exploration (RIDE), will be deploying their industry leading submersibles for the Expedition - Aquatica’s STINGRAY 500 and RIDE’s IDABEL.

These vehicles provide large equipment platforms for required exploration technology and creates an opportunity for scientists and technicians to spend hours below the surface in the Blue Hole.
For any expedition of this scope, support at sea is required. Two vessels will be utilized for the duration of the two-week expedition. These ships will provide the logistical support and accommodations for all crew and guests.

**SUPPORT VESSELS**

- **M/Y BAIII**
  - A luxury charter yacht providing onsite accommodations and amenities

- **R/V Brooks McCall**
  - Offshore research vessel capable of full expedition support
Aquatica has partnered with The Confluence Group for press and media distribution.

Multiple press outlets will feature stories and segments on the history, science, and human journey of exploration which are the foundation for this expedition.

WWW.THECONFLUENCEGROUP.COM
YOU CAN HELP

We are seeking Corporate and In-kind Sponsorships to assist in bringing this expedition to the world. Sponsors of all levels will receive extensive exposure, as well as the opportunity to publicly support an amazing site on earth and its contribution to a global cause.

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