

Eco-Photo Explorers

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Available Programs

[New Programs for 2024](#)

- **George Washington Slept Here**
- **Gotham's Ghosts**
- **Malta: Magical Diving in the Mediterranean**

[Local Interest – The Historic Roadways of Long Island](#)

Montauk Highway: From Urban Streets to Atlantic Dunes

Historically, Montauk Highway extends from Jamaica, Queens to the Montauk Lighthouse. Along the way, it has assumed several names and identities (Merrick Road, Main Street, Montauk Highway, Route 80, etc.). Regardless of its name, the highway is a microcosm of life on Long Island. In this program, Eco-Photo Explorers examine the rich history of this route, from colonial times to present day pop culture. Audiences are bound to be entertained, enlightened and come away feeling a sense of nostalgia for how Long Islanders once lived.

Route 24: West Side, East Side

Route 24 is a unique Long Island roadway with two distinct sections, only one of three such roadways in New York State. The west section extends from Queens to Farmingdale and the East Section runs from Riverhead to Hampton Bays. All along these two separate sections of road are fascinating glimpses into significant Long Island's history. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they explore both the west and east sections of Route 24 to uncover its past as well as its present connection to our lives on Long Island. Stories and photographs will bring this important roadway to life in a fast-paced and entertaining program.

Route 27: Long Island's Southern Thoroughfare

Route 27 extends from western Brooklyn to the eastern tip of Long Island in Montauk. The longest thoroughfare on Long Island, Route 27 is known by several names, most commonly as Sunrise Highway. Transforming from urban streets to a multi-lane highway to a rural country road, Route 27 has a character and history all its own. In this program, Eco-Photo Explorers will explore the entire length of Route 27 to uncover its past as well as its present connection to our lives on Long Island. In this fast-paced program, stories and photographs will bring this important roadway to life in ways that will both entertain and educate.

Route 25A: Long Island's Country Road

Route 25A runs from the very western part of Long Island in Queens all the way to its terminus in Calverton. Along the way, this often scenic, sometimes bustling, thoroughfare has different names (Northern Boulevard, Main Street, and Fort Salonga Rd. to name a few) but regardless of the name or the geography, Route 25A is very much a part of the fabric of life on Long Island. In this fascinating program, Eco-Photo Explorers will explore the historic past of Route 25A, and examine its special place in the lives of all Long Islanders through photographs and stories. Join us for a fast-paced tour of Long Island's Country Road and learn how it has contributed to the history and culture of Long Island.

Route 25: Long Island's Route 66

Route 25 stretches from the very eastern part of Manhattan all the way to the Orient Point Ferry Terminal at the far eastern tip of Long Island's North Fork. Along the way, this iconic thoroughfare has different names (Jamaica Avenue, Hillside Avenue, Main Street, Queens Boulevard to name a few) but one common purpose: to stitch together the communities of Long Island and to provide a direct route for commerce and town identity. If you've lived on Long Island for any period of time, you are familiar with Route 25 in one way or another. In this fascinating program, Eco-Photo Explorers will explore the historic past of Route 25, and examine its special place in the lives of all Long Islanders through photographs and stories. Join us for a fast-paced tour of our own "Route 66" and see how many iconic places along the way you recognize.

Local Interest – Long Island History

George Washington Slept Here – NEW!!

After the Revolutionary War ended on September 3, 1783 with the signing of the Treaty of Paris with Great Britain, America found itself as a new country, with new freedoms, new challenges and a new President, President George Washington. One of George Washington's first acts as the new President was to come to Long Island to tour the island and to thank those that had helped in the defeat of the British. This "Grand Tour" was carefully documented in Washington's journal, but some of the places he visited have been lost in time. Join Eco-Photo Explorers for a fascinating historical adventure as we trace the route of Washington's tour. Along the way, we will share some stories about his visit, and about his connections to this area, and uncover the places he visited and learn about what is on those locations today. The history of Washington's tour of Long Island is part of the cultural and historical fabric of our island.

Aground! Shipwrecked on the Shores of Long Island

The treacherous shores of Long Island have resulted in numerous shipwrecks and maritime tragedies. In this program, Eco-Photo Explorers will examine some of Long Island's most important and compelling shipwrecks. The stories of these harrowing events are part of the fabric of Long Island's history. Tales of Revolutionary War era warships, slave ships, smugglers and shipwrecks that changed modern maritime practices will all be discussed.

The Story of the HMS Culloden: Sunken History on Long Island

Long Island has a very rich maritime history. From the early colonial days to modern times, the shores and offshore waters of Long Island have often been the stage for fascinating drama. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they examine the story of one of our most historic shipwrecks: the *HMS Culloden*. A British warship sent to Long Island during the Revolutionary War, the *HMS Culloden* came to rest in Fort Pond Bay, Montauk, after battling a ferocious winter storm while attempting to defend the territory from a French fleet coming to the aid of the American colonialists. In this fascinating program, the entire history of the *HMS Culloden* will be uncovered. Finally, Eco-Photo Explorers will take viewers to the final resting place of the shipwreck through rarely seen underwater images and video.

Long Island's Firsts: Making History in Our Own Backyard

Long Island has been home to a wide variety of ground-breaking events and accomplishments throughout all of its history. In fact, the list of "firsts" to have taken place in our own backyard is as extensive as it is fascinating. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they take a unique look at Long Island's rich history by examining those times where things happened here for the very first time. These stories will intrigue and inspire and will create a feeling of immense pride for the place we call home.

Interred on Long Island: People of Interest and Influence

Long Island is the final resting place for many people of consequence. Celebrities, politicians, sports figures, artists, authors, and crime kingpins are among the many important and influential people buried right here on Long Island. Join Eco-Photo Explorers in a fascinating program as they examine the lives of these personalities, their connection to Long Island and, finally, a visit to where they are spending eternity.

The War Years: Long Island's History in Armed Conflict

Long Island has been a prominent part of our nation's history, from the colonial times all the way up to modern day America. Over the span of more than two centuries, The United States has fought many wars, and many people would be surprised to know that Long Island has played an important part in most of those conflicts. Learn how Long Island was home to important aspects of the Revolutionary War, the Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they examine our nation's wartime history, from a Long Island perspective.

Pushing the Envelope: Long Island Diving Alternatives

Sure, we have some good shore diving. Certainly, we have some of the very best shipwreck diving in the world. But what else is there for Long Island Divers? For divers new to the sport as well as jaded veterans, there are plenty of interesting ways to keep active in the sport we love. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they examine some exciting and adventurous diving alternatives available to all of us. You may be surprised at what's possible right here in our own backyard!

Long Island Maritime History: Stories of Tragedy and Rescue

Long Island has a very rich maritime history. From the early colonial days to modern times, the shores and offshore waters of Long Island have often been the stage for fascinating drama. Tragic shipwrecks, heroic rescues, unbelievable courage and fascinating history are all part of the fabric of Long Island. The story of the *Pelican*, a fishing boat lost off Montauk in 1951, will be a featured story in this program, along with other spellbinding tales of marine rescues and shipwrecks. The program will conclude with an examination of the history of the Life Saving

Services here on Long Island. Join Eco-Photo Explorers for a fascinating look into the Maritime History that is Long Island.

Exploring Long Island's Shipwrecks

The waters off Long Island conceal hundreds of shipwrecks. Lying on the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean off our south shore and the Long Island Sound to the north are many different types of shipwrecks from all different time periods of American history. In this program, we discuss the fascinating history of shipwrecks from the Revolutionary War through modern times and show the viewer what some of these wrecks look like today underwater. A discussion that highlights some of the marine life that inhabits these artificial reefs is included.

Long Island Lighthouses

Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they weave their special blend of beautiful photography and informative lecture to explore the fascinating history of some of Long Island's most interesting lighthouses. During this program, the viewer will travel from Coney Island to Montauk, examining lighthouse architecture, their technology, and the stories that make these vital structures such an integral part of our local history. In addition, the story behind Long Island's Life Saving Services will also be discussed. The program concludes with a multi-media presentation in celebration of the dramatic beauty of these lighthouses both here on Long Island and around the country.

Halloween Goosebumps

Gotham's Ghosts – NEW!!

Take a journey through the haunted history of New York City with Eco-Photo Explorers as they visit notorious mansions, taverns, churches, parks and more to reveal the paranormal side of The Big Apple. This presentation is filled with spine-tingling fun as the speakers share stories of Civil War soldiers, screen actors, authors and famous political figures, along with many others, who continue to haunt the city and its boroughs. New York City is known as "the city that never sleeps", and you may not either after seeing this program!

Paranormal Long Island

Ghosts, poltergeists, secret government experiments, UFO crashes...Long Island certainly has an abundance of paranormal activity! Eco-Photo Explorers will be your "Ghost Hosts" as they journey into the world of the unknown, and unexplained, by examining some of Long Island's most mysterious history. This program is perfect for Halloween and is sure to raise a few hairs on the back of your neck!

Haunted Long Island

Do ghosts inhabit the supposed haunted houses of Long Island? Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they uncover the spine-tingling stories of our resident ghosts, ghouls and monsters. In this program, viewers will learn the real story behind "The Amityville Horror", and will hear about Oyster Bay's haunted Raynam Hall. In addition, we will explore numerous other "hauntings" across Long Island, while also examining the stories behind the Montauk Monster, and the rumors of strange animal experiments at Plum Island. This is a fun filled program sure to raise more than a few goose bumps!

Long Island's Ghosts and Hauntings

Long Island has a rich history of ghosts, paranormal activity and hauntings. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they continue their exploration of some of the most chilling stories from all across the island. In this program, viewers will learn about haunted cemeteries, ghosts that appear and disappear from some of the creepiest dwellings on Long Island and strange tales of unexplained paranormal activity. This program is an excellent follow-up to the "Haunted Long Island" program and is sure to be a hit around Halloween!

Long Island's Haunted Lighthouses

Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they examine the myths, legends and spooky stories of haunting, ghosts and paranormal activity in some of our historical lighthouses. This fun-filled program will journey to several lighthouses, including the infamous Execution Rocks Lighthouse, Race Rocks Lighthouse and Fire Island Lighthouse...along with a few surprises along the way. Viewers will learn both the normal, and paranormal, history of these fascinating structures. This program is an excellent choice for Halloween!

Hollywood Horror Films: Legends and Myths

Moviemakers have been producing horror movies since the invention of the medium. Whether it's a good old-fashioned monster movie, creepy ghost story, spine tingling tale of demonic possession or the blood-spattered mayhem of a modern-day slasher film, horror movies have thrilled audiences with some of the most memorable tales ever told. But beyond the images created for the movie, some of these films have their own "haunted" backstories. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they uncover some of the fascinating myths, scary legends and interesting stories associated with some of Hollywood's most frightening horror movies.

Exploring the World

Malta: Magical Diving in the Mediterranean – NEW!!

The three islands of the Republic of Malta (Malta, Gozo and Comino) lie in the heart of the Mediterranean Sea, between Sicily and Tunisia. Considered strategically important, Malta has been fought over since ancient times by numerous empires and warring nations. During World War II, the islands were ferociously attacked by the Axis powers, with relentless bombing causing tremendous deprivation and widespread destruction. Still, the Maltese held on and withstood the attacks, a testament to the pride and fortitude of the island nation. Today, Malta is emerging as a tourist mecca and one of Europe's capitals of culture. For SCUBA divers, the clear waters of Malta abound with diving opportunities waiting to be explored, from historic shipwrecks to spellbinding blue holes. In this presentation, Eco-Photo Explorers will journey to Malta and reveal its underwater treasures.

The Channel Islands: California's Underwater Jungle

There's a jungle off the California coast. It is lush, and green, and filled with a marvelous diversity of life. It is every bit a wilderness, with a complex eco-system that is both resilient and fragile. And if you were to look at the islands poking their heads above the water about an hour outside of Ventura, you'd be surprised to be using those words. The islands look barren and dry. Hardly the place for thick jungles of plants and trees. But beneath the waves off these coasts lie the magnificent kelp forests, dense groves of mesmerizing plants swaying with the movement of the water and harboring some of the most beguiling temperate marine life to be found anywhere. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they explore the kelp forests of California's Channel Islands.

North Carolina: Shipwrecks, Sanctuaries and Sharks...Oh My!

The waters off the fabled Outer Banks of North Carolina are often referred to as "The Graveyard of the Atlantic". Lying in these waters are pirate ships, sunken World War II military vessels, historic Civil War era battleships and modern-day ships of all types. Much of the history of the United States of America can be told by exploring the shipwrecks that lie near these dangerous shoals. Join Eco-Photo Explorers on an exciting adventure as they dive these shipwrecks and uncover the rich history that lies beneath these waves. Along the way, the audience will learn about the National Marine Sanctuary program which aims to preserve this maritime history for future generations, and they will encounter the large schools of Sand Tiger Sharks that have taken up residence here.

Tubbataha: Coral Kingdom of the Sulu Sea

The Tubbataha Reefs lie 93 miles from the nearest land in the Philippine's Sulu Sea and are at the epicenter of global marine biodiversity in the region known as the Coral Triangle. Journey to these hard to reach atolls with Eco-Photo Explorers and dive the spectacular reefs of this Marine Protected Area. Explore lush coral reefs teeming with life, and descend into the depths along sharp drop-offs to encounter schooling Barracuda and Trevally, massive Marbled Rays and the giants of the sea, the Whale Shark. Learn about the successful management program that has been established to keep these reefs healthy and protected. Tubbataha is, in many ways, a surviving example of what healthy coral reefs should look like in the world's oceans.

Diving in the Land of the Pharaohs: The Egyptian Red Sea

In the shadow of the Pyramids of Giza and under the eternal gaze of the Great Sphinx, the Egyptian Red Sea beckons divers to explore its underwater treasure. Journey to these fabled lands with Eco-Photo Explorers to experience an adventure for the ages. Using photography and video, Eco-Photo Explorers will first visit ancient Egyptian monuments before exploring the jaw-dropping marine eco-system of the Red Sea from a liveaboard dive operation.

Wild Alaska: Diving Prince William Sound

The Alaskan wilderness is known for rugged snow-capped mountains, dense forests, captivating waterfalls and myriad wildlife. In this beautiful but harsh frontier land, few people venture below the waves to experience the underwater beauty of this the 49th state. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they dive the cold waters of the Prince William Sound to uncover its secrets. Along the way, the viewer will join the search for Salmon Sharks, Giant Pacific Octopus, colorful marine invertebrates and schools of Salmon swimming in frigid rivers fed by melting glaciers.

Where the Water Meets the Sky: Exploring the Southern Atolls of the Maldives

There's a Maldivian legend that describes how God, after he made the world, was so overcome with emotion at the beauty of his creation that he shed a few tears which fell into the Indian ocean, giving origin to the Maldivian Islands. This island nation is the epitome of tropical perfection. Journey to the southern atolls of this remote part of the world with Eco-Photo Explorers and uncover the hidden beauty of the coral jungle below the waves. Exploring the more remote southern atolls will reveal why The Maldives remain on the bucket lists of divers the world over.

Greenland: The Vanishing Frontier

The rugged, glaciated coast of Greenland has long beckoned divers in search of new frontiers. This mysterious island north of the Arctic Circle is home to some of Earth's last true wilderness, with Musk Oxen and Polar Bears patrolling the interior and Whales, Seals and Narwhales swimming among the towering icebergs offshore. With the changes currently taking place with the world's climate, Greenland's massive glaciers are fast melting and retreating. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they travel across the Denmark Strait to explore this vanishing frontier both above and below the Arctic Ocean. This program will describe travel logistics and will also examine how climate change is affecting Greenland.

Completing the Circle: Circumnavigating the Philippines' Mindoro Island

The Philippines archipelago lies within the heart of the Coral Triangle as well as along the Pacific Ring of Fire. The islands are geologically active and biologically rich. For divers, the island of Mindoro offers a wealth of diverse dive opportunities. Circumnavigating this large island by liveaboard dive vessel gives divers the opportunity to explore it all! Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they explore lush tropical reefs, fascinating muck dives, dramatic walls and dropoffs, historic World War II era shipwrecks and mysterious blue holes. Sites such as Verde Island, the reefs off Sabang and Puerto Galera, Coron Bay, Tablas and Romblon and the fabled Apo Reef are all featured in this exciting program.

Shades of Blue: Diving the Central Atolls of the Maldives

The Maldivian Islands resemble a string of beautiful jewels strewn across a large section of the Indian Ocean. With azure blue seas, postcard-perfect beaches and incredible vibrant and colorful coral reefs, the Maldives are a dream destination for many people. For divers, the adventures only begin at the surface. Journey to this remote part of the world with Eco-Photo Explorers and uncover the hidden beauty of the coral jungle below the waves. Explore several atolls and gain an understanding of why this island nation is at the center of the climate change debate.

Norway: Diving in the Land of the Vikings

Journey north to the fabulous fjords of Norway, exploring pristine cold water environments, mysterious shipwrecks and remote river systems to unlock the underwater secrets of the land of the Vikings. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they search for the rarely seen Ghost Shark along dramatic walls, photograph breath-taking salmon in their quest for inland spawning grounds and explore the sunken maritime history of this northern paradise.

Philippines: The Wrecks of Coron Bay

In the Second World War, the Philippines archipelago was the site of several fierce battles between American and Japanese forces. In one of these battles the US Navy launched a strike force of fighters and bombers to attack a Japanese supply fleet of up to 24 ships that were at anchor in Coron Bay on September 24, 1944. In a devastating aerial assault, the US Navy sent these ships to the bottom of Coron Bay. Today, many of these shipwrecks are accessible to SCUBA divers who wish to explore history and witness the tragedy of war first-hand. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they explore the wrecks of Coron Bay, and penetrate deep inside these silent hulks to uncover the history of this battle and document their present condition.

Philippines: The Journey to Apo Reef

The Philippines is the world's second largest archipelago and is located in the heart of the coral triangle. Within this archipelago lie some of the most breathtaking reef systems in the world. Journey to the remote Apo Reef with Eco-Photo Explorers as they reveal the secrets of this pristine underwater wilderness and examine the urgent needs to understand and protect the famous coral triangle.

Rockin' Iceland: Diving in the Land of Fire and Ice

Iceland is sometimes referred to as just a rock in the North Atlantic. Because of its numerous natural wonders, amazing diving opportunities and spectacular geology, however, Iceland is becoming a very popular destination for adventure tourists from around the world. In this presentation, learn how divers can explore fissures in the Earth's crust and dive through the separation point between two continental plates. Flooded with decades old glacial melt water filtered through 50 miles of lava stone to produce the purest, clearest water on Earth, places like Silfra should be on every diver's radar screen. In addition, the audience will learn how to explore geothermal lakes, underwater geothermal vents and marine gardens teeming with life. On the surface, dramatic waterfalls, geysers and lava tubes make for fascinating surface intervals. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they unlock the wonders of this fascinating destination.

Touching Megalodon: Searching for Fossil Shark Teeth in Florida

The Megalodon Shark has been extinct for 20 million years and yet their fossilized teeth continue to emerge from the seabed along Florida's western shores. In this program you will join the exciting hunt for these fossilized teeth, and learn the best places and techniques for finding these marine treasures.

Puerto Galera and Verde Island: Jewels of the Philippines

The Philippines, and its 7000 islands, is the world's second largest archipelago and is located in the heart of the coral triangle, the epicenter of biodiversity in the world's oceans. Divers who explore the waters near Puerto Galera and Verde Island can witness the beauty of this part of the world firsthand. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they dive on vibrant reefs teeming with colorful marine life, explore picturesque shipwrecks and search for critters in the muck.

It Came from the Muck: Indonesia's Lembeh Strait

For some divers, travelling half-way around the world is only worth it if there are big animals, fabulous coral reefs or spectacular shipwrecks to explore. But Indonesia's Lembeh straight, between Lembeh Island and the mainland of North Sulawesi, is a world away from home and presents a completely different type of experience. Here, divers explore a sandy, silty, muck bottom to search for the tiniest of creatures. Garishly colored Nudibranchs, myriad species of shrimp, and other invertebrates unique to these waters beckon divers from all around the world to come and find what lies lurking in the muck! Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they search for Pygmy Sea Horses, Dwarf Frogfish, tiny Cuttlefish and numerous other surprises in these fascinating waters. Along the way, experience the mating of the gaudy but shy Mandarinfish and uncover the secrets of Lembeh at night. This program will also detail the travel logistics necessary to maximize your experience in Indonesia.

Maldives: Diving in the Rainbow Sea

The Maldives have long held a spot on many diver bucket lists. With picture-perfect beaches, remote island atolls and spectacular diving, the attraction is understandable. Many divers come to the Maldives looking for Liveboard adventures. This program explores an alternative approach: luxury diving from land based resorts. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they explore the magnificent world beneath the tropical seas of the Maldives, with just a small dash of decadence thrown in!

Beneath the White Sea: Ice Diving in Russia's High Arctic

The pristine wilderness of Russia's High Arctic presents unique and demanding challenges to SCUBA divers wishing to explore the frozen White Sea. In order to witness the silent beauty of the only inland sea to completely freeze in winter, divers must endure arduous travel logistics, harsh weather and bone-chilling cold. But beneath the ice lies a world of sublime beauty, filled with unearthly ice formations and unique wildlife. Journey with Eco-Photo Explorers as they dog sled across the fabled Lapland region of Finland and then venture out onto the ice in Russia for a unique and spellbinding experience.

Curacao, the Caribbean's Desert Island

Curacao, an arid Caribbean island located just off the northern coast of Venezuela, boasts some of the best diving in the Caribbean. Divers can explore healthy reefs teeming with marine life and iconic shipwrecks rich in history and character, and photographers will revel in the gin-clear water that washes over the drop-offs from deeper water. All this and you can still be back in time for lunch with the family! This presentation introduces you to one of the most colorful islands in the Caribbean.

Bonne Terre: Deep Earth Diving

Massive underground caverns and mammoth architecture. The sunken remains of a working mineral mine, complete with equipment, rail tracks, ore carts, elevator shafts and even intact buildings. A billion gallon underground lake with crystal clear water and constant temperatures year round. And miles of underwater trails to explore. Bonne Terre is an adventure for all divers and its right here in our own backyard. Located just 40 minutes south of St. Louis in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains, Bonne Terre is a unique diving experience that will capture your imagination and beckon you back for more. It is truly like a "Dive to the Center of the Earth." Join Eco-photo Explorers as they journey below ground to explore the underwater treasure that is Bonne Terre.

The Sharks of French Polynesia

The islands of French Polynesia are a tropical paradise. Spread over a section of the South Pacific Ocean larger than Europe, the many islands and atolls offer rich luxurious lagoons, beautiful coral reefs, exciting marine life encounters and heart-stopping SCUBA Diving adventures in the surrounding reefs. As beautiful as these islands are above the water, the underwater world is the hidden secret to the true beauty of these islands. And on many of these islands, sharks are the star attraction. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they dive with Grey Reef Sharks in Bora Bora, Lemon Sharks in Moorea, Blacktip Reef Sharks in Fakarava and Silvertip Sharks in Rangiroa. Learn about jaw-dropping Manta Ray encounters in Manihi and where the best place is to see Humpback Whales. Travel logistics, as well as a wealth of diving information, will be presented on this outstanding destination.

Galapagos: Darwin's Enchanted Islands

In 1835, Charles Darwin reached the Galapagos Archipelago, a cluster of islands straddling the equator 600 miles off the west coast of South America. His five weeks on these strange volcanic islands formed the basis for his theories on the evolution of species, concepts which shook the world in controversy that continues to this day. Today, the Galapagos Islands are a mixture of Ecuadorian National Parks, scientific research stations, bustling towns and a thriving tourist industry. Most visitors to these islands come to see the famous land tortoises, marine iguanas and equatorial penguins that are trademarks of the Galapagos. But the real treasures of these islands lie beneath the waves. Swirling in the colliding currents from the north and south are massive schools of Hammerhead Sharks, Galapagos Sharks, Manta Rays, Eagle Rays, Sea Lions, Dolphins and the breathtaking Whale Shark. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they dive the world-renowned Darwin and Wolf Islands and take you along on other awe-inspiring adventures both above and below the waters of these enchanted islands. Travel logistics and diving details are discussed along with descriptions of the magnificent wildlife that can be found in the Galapagos Islands.

Yucatan: In the Shadow of the Maya

The Yucatan Peninsula is home to some of the world's greatest diving. It is also an area steeped in fascinating history. Journey to this area and explore some of the best diving in the world, including the reefs of Mexico's Cancun, Cozumel and Playa Del Carmen. This program also takes the viewer to the offshore atolls of Belize, including Lighthouse Reef where we dive the fabled Great Blue Hole. Finally, the viewer is transported back in time to discover some of the fascinating history of the ancient Maya civilization as we tour some of the restored ruins, including Tulum, Chitzen-Iza and Altun-Ha.

Deception Island: Diving in a Restless Volcano

Deception Island is a volcanic island located in the South Shetland Islands off the northwest side of the Antarctic Peninsula and has been a focus of human activity since the early 1820s with the hunting of seal. With frequent eruptions, the most recent of which occurring in 1992, this volcano is now the home to Antarctic Fur Seals, Southern Elephant Seals and the world's largest colony of Chinstrap Penguins. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they examine the fascinating history of this foreboding place and discover the rich diversity of life here. Finally, join the team as they plunge beneath the icy waters into the caldera of this restless volcano on a unique Scuba dive to document life below the surface.

The Ghost Fleet of Truk Lagoon

In February 1944, Operation Hailstorm, a well-orchestrated attack on Japanese forces at Truk Lagoon by the American Navy, sent dozens of ships to a watery grave beneath the tranquil seas of Truk lagoon. In just a few days of fierce action, freighters, cargo vessels, submarine tenders, submarines and destroyers were all sunk, creating a watery grave of unprecedented proportions. Today, the tragedy of war has given way to the splendor of the underwater world as these ships have now been transformed into living reefs of riotous colors and teeming marine life. This presentation first examines the history of the island and the wartime activities that took place here, and then takes the viewer on a journey to some of these fascinating ships, including the Fujikaka Maru, San Francisco Maru, Heian Maru and others.

Crossing the Antarctic Circle: Extreme Diving at the End of the World

Antarctica is often referred to as the frozen continent. It has long held a fascination for explorers and adventurers the world over. The trip to Antarctica involves crossing the turbulent Drake Passage and along the pristine wilderness of the Antarctic Peninsula. Underwater encounters with playful Antarctic Fur Seals, bizarre sea-stars, colorful invertebrates and strange fish with anti-freeze in their blood follow as the expedition pushes further south into the ice-choked waters below the Antarctic Circle. This program describes what it is like to travel to, explore and dive in Antarctica, where heart-stopping dives beneath massive ice-bergs and expansive ice-flows epitomize Antarctic diving. Expedition logistics, as well as Antarctic wildlife, ocean and weather conditions are discussed, preparing you for your journey to the frozen continent.

Inside the Cage: Shark Cage Diving in North America

Sharks have long held a unique fascination for people the world over and for SCUBA divers, being in the water with these creatures has always been a high adrenaline activity. There are many shark dives the world over, but divers need not travel to exotic destinations to witness sharks in their natural element. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they venture inside the cage right here in North America to dive with Blue Sharks in California, Rhode Island and New York. This program will conclude with heart-stopping action from Mexico's Isla de Guadalupe, home to some of the largest Great White Sharks in the world.

Maritime History

Shackleton's Shipwreck

Antarctica represented the last great adventure in the golden age of exploration during the early parts of the 20th century. Three years after Robert Scott became the first to reach the South Pole, Ernest Shackleton launched a futile expedition to trek across the continent in 1914. In this program, Eco-Photo Explorers will examine the story of this legendary journey, which was famously halted when the expedition ship *Endurance* became trapped in ice forcing the crew to survive the harsh Antarctica winter and subsist on meager rations for months on end in the frozen wilderness. The inspiring effort of Shackleton himself to pilot a small boat through 800 miles of treacherous waters to find help and save his crew is the source of leadership lessons that persist to this day. And in an exciting new development, Eco-Photo Explorers will discuss the search for the recently discovered shipwreck, long lost below the ice of the Southern Ocean and, finally, will take you to Antarctica on their own expedition.

Queen Anne's Revenge: Exploring the Legend of Blackbeard

For a brief period of time in the early 1700s, Blackbeard the Pirate terrorized the seas around the Bahamas, the Caribbean and the Carolina coast. In 1718 Blackbeard ran two of his vessels aground at near Beaufort Inlet, North Carolina, including the *Queen Anne's Revenge*. For nearly 300 years, this shipwreck has eluded searchers who have come here to find the long lost flagship of Blackbeard's fleet. But recently, a wreck presumed to be that of the *Queen Anne's Revenge* has been found and is currently being recovered by teams of researchers and archaeologists. Join Eco-Photo Explorers on an adventure to examine the legend of Blackbeard and to dive on the wreck of his most famous ship.

Pirates, Ghost Ships and Seafaring Superstitions

The ocean can be a dangerous, frightening place. Through the years, mariners have encountered pirates who plundered their ships and terrorized their crew, and have seen ghost ships that seemed to be sailing the seas without a trace of their crew. Through it all, these brave seafarers sought explanation for the many mysteries of the sea and comfort from its dangers in legend and folklore. **Ahoy, Matey!** Join Eco-Photo Explorers for a fun-filled program as they tell the real stories of Pirates, Buccaneers and Privateers and examine the mysteries of some of the most famous Ghost Ships of all time. Along the way, many of the superstitions of the sea will also be discussed.

The RMS Titanic...Her Final Days

On a cold April night in 1912, the magnificent new luxury liner R.M.S. Titanic struck an iceberg as she was making her way towards New York on her maiden voyage from England. In a few short hours, she sank beneath the icy waters of the North Atlantic, taking with her the lives of more than 1,500 people. The tragedy shocked the world and, through the years, the legend of this story has continued to grow. Seventy-three years after the sinking, the wreck of the Titanic was discovered 2 ½ miles below the surface by an intrepid group of Oceanographers using state of the art technology. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they recall the tragic history of the R.M.S. Titanic and the exciting search for her remains. The show will also feature discussions on the technology used to find the wreck and will examine the current controversy over the recovery of artifacts from this site.

Photography

Introduction to Digital Photography

Whether you own a Digital SLR camera, a point and shoot camera or simply like to take pictures with your smartphone, understanding the art and science of photography can help you to create better images and make your photography experience more rewarding. In this program, Eco-Photo Explorers will use their many years of experience photographing above and below the water to illustrate some of the key concepts to better picture-taking. With hundreds of published articles and numerous presentations to audiences around the world, the speakers will share tips and techniques about camera settings, image composition, image post-processing and many other areas of interest for both the aspiring photographer and experienced photographers who are looking to take their photography to a new level.

Putting it all Together: The Nuts and Bolts of Expedition Photography and the End Result

Whether you are taking a relaxing trip to Florida or participating in an arduous expedition to the High Arctic, using photography to capture the experience is more than just taking snapshots and creating compelling images. To properly communicate your experience, skilled photographers must embrace the art of research, photographic techniques and storytelling. Join accomplished professional photographers, freelance writers and frequent speakers Christopher Weaver and Michael Salvarezza from Eco-Photo Explorers as they share some of their techniques for securing contracts for jobs, preparing for expedition photo shoots, storyboarding content for printed and online media, authoring written material, producing and delivering lectures and creating multi-media experiences for film festivals. Learn how to share your experiences with the world and to elevate your photography to a new level of exposure.

SCUBA Diving

Frozen Fins: The Art and Science of Ice Diving

When the weather turns cold and the local waters turn to ice, many divers pack up their dive gear and wait for the return of summer. But the arrival of winter does not need to mean the end of local diving. In this program, you will learn the techniques, equipment requirements and reasons for safely venturing below the ice in one of diving's most challenging, and rewarding, activities: Ice Diving. Join Eco-Photo Explorers as they explain the "hows" and "whys" of ice diving and introduce you to some of the best places to dive beneath the ice.

Program Fees & Information

In Person Events:

The standard price for all in-person programs is **\$295.00**, but these prices may be higher depending on the type of event and where it will be held. All programs are suitable for family audiences and run approximately 90 minutes in length.

Virtual Events:

The standard price for all virtual programs is **\$200.00**. All programs are suitable for family audiences and run approximately 90 minutes in length.

Prices subject to change without notice – 11/2022