

oceangybe

A GLOBAL RESEARCH & OUTREACH EXPEDITION

A GYBE IS A MOVEMENT THAT BRINGS ABOUT CHANGE — BOTH IN DIRECTION AND ENERGY. THIS EXPEDITION IS FOCUSED ON REDIRECTING HUMANKIND'S ENERGY TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR OCEANS. » OCEANGYBE.COM



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WWW.OCEANGYBE.COM

EXPEDITION OVERVIEW

"The oceans are in trouble, the coasts are in trouble; our marine resources are in trouble. These are not challenges we can sweep aside"

James Watkins, Head of US Commission on Ocean Policy

OceanGybe is a sailing and surfing expedition designed to promote ocean conservation and protection. During the three year journey the OceanGybe team will sail around the world in search of remote coastlines and surf breaks. Gathering data from these remote areas, OceanGybe aims to bring awareness to the vast tracts of undocumented ocean pollution that affects the coastlines and the people who depend on them for survival. The OceanGybe mission consists of Vancouver based activists Ryan Robertson, Bryson Robertson and Hugh Patterson. It is an expedition to promote change: Change in the direction of this great planet towards a more sustainable future, and also change in ourselves.

As sailors and surfers, the ocean is the source of our passion and lifestyle. Intimately aware of the fragility of the world's oceans, we were inspired to take action to raise awareness and aid conservation efforts. Our dream is now taking shape - the OceanGybe Global Research & Outreach Expedition.

Our goal is to generate awareness of the interconnectedness and importance of global oceans. By researching and educating others about the state of ocean habitat, we hope that people will become aware of the effects of their choices and actions on the ocean environment. We hope to inspire them to take care of their local waters, and encourage them to help conserve the global waters.

Our voyage will take us through every major ocean on earth, to some of the most pristine and untouched coasts but also to some of the most heavily polluted and destroyed ocean environments. Our goal is to create awareness in every country we visit and inspire action in every person we touch. Over the entire duration of the trip, we will:

- Document and record marine pollution and its effect on isolated, deserted islands and beaches.
- Classify the garbage based on manufacturing material, source, time afloat and use this information to trace the path it took to arrive on the specific beach.

- Regularly update all our findings on-line, and make them available through print and broadcast media, educational institutions and international research and environmental organizations.
- Pre-arrange meetings, school presentations, press interviews and public exposure events in order to bring environmental awareness to the communities we visit.
- To use the latest communication technology to post timely information and interact with participating partners.

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world;
indeed it is the only thing that ever has."
~ Margaret Mead ~*

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EXPEDITION FACTS

EXPEDITION GOALS:

- **Adventure:** In sailing around the world we hope to experience and learn from adventures in nature, in culture, in life. To return to the true beginnings of surf exploration. Away from packaged holidays and guaranteed surf in exchange of unknown wave quality and adventure
- **Environmental Outreach:** Through outreach activities and media publications we hope to raise awareness about the fragility of the world's oceans and the need for global conservation action.
- **Ocean Research:** We hope to gather much needed data regarding current pollution levels in our oceans, with focus on garbage washed up on remote beaches. Tracking the drift of these items will demonstrate the interconnectedness of our oceans and in conjunction with the Surfrider Foundation, we will use this research to advocate for ocean conservation.
- **Personal Accomplishment:** To complete a 30,000 mile+ circumnavigation of the globe, spreading marine environmental awareness at every opportunity. To do something out of the ordinary, to live a dream, and to inspire those that we meet into living a more sustainable lifestyle.

PARTICIPANTS:

Ryan Robertson

- Canadian Citizen
- Based in Vancouver, BC
- Mechanical Engineer and Renewable Energy Specialist
- Sailor and Surfer
- Born in 1978

Hugh Patterson

- Canadian Citizen
- Based in Vancouver, BC
- Mechanical Engineer and Environmental Design Specialist
- Sailor since birth
- Born in 1979

Bryson Robertson

- Canadian Citizen
- Based in Vancouver, BC
- Mechanical Engineer and Researcher
- Born in 1981

EXPEDITION BOAT:

Free Run - 40 ft Tradewinds Performance Cruiser

Location: La Paz, Mexico
Year Built: 1981 (Commissioned 1982)
Designed By: Shad Turner, NA
Material: Fiberglass - Hand laid up.
Length: Overall - 40.0 ft, Waterline - 32.0 ft
Beam: 12'0"
Draft: 6'5"
Displacement: 15 500 lbs
Keel: Fin with Bulb
Sail Area: 787 sq. ft.

EXPEDITION PREPARATION TIMELINE:

- 2002 - Made a pact to purchase a boat and sail around the world
- 2003 - Graduated from University and starting saving every penny
- 2005 - Started taking preparatory classes including navigation, weather, life raft training, etc
- 2006 - Incorporated OceanGybe Inc
- 2007 - Purchased boat, the "Free Run" in La Paz, Mexico
- 2007 - Planned departure from Mexico

PLANNED EXPEDITION TIMELINE:

- 2007 - Sail the "Coconut Island Route" between Mexico and New Zealand: Marquesas, Tuamotos', Fijian Islands, NZ.
- 2007 - July: Photograph the Great Pacific Gyre en route from Mexico to the Marquesas.
- 2007 - August - October: Arrange presentations at schools and resorts in the South Pacific island chain.
- 2007 - November: Arrive in New Zealand
- 2007/2008 - November to March. Compile data - arrange presentations, generate media coverage, search for more publication avenues, work to finance 2008.
- 2008 - 2009: Depart for the second leg of the three year voyage - Indonesia/Sri Lanka, East Coast of Africa, Madagascar, South Africa

PERSONAL EXPEDITION PREPARATION:

Ryan Robertson:

Sailing Experience:

- Charter Skipper for numerous trips on Canada's West coast
- Vic Maui 2006
- Southern Straights 2006
- Swiftsure 2006
- VARC spring series 2006
- Snowflake winter series 2005
- One design martin 242 Wed night race series (RVYC) 2004 and 2005
- Numerous casual cruising trips 2002-2007

Sailing Qualifications:

- Basic marine first aid
- Advanced Marine first aid
- Power squadron level 1 (Sailing and Navigation in Canada)
- Life raft training (BCIT MARINE CAMPUS)
- Survival at sea (BCIT MARINE CAMPUS)
- Navigation and meteorology of the north pacific (for the Vic Maui)
- Member of BCA
- Member of BCA "Fleet of 2007" for support through the South Pacific
- HAM and VHF Radio Operator

Hugh Patterson:

Sailing Experience:

- Captained 36' and 40' sailboats for numerous week-long trips on British Columbia's west coast.
- Crewed on racing sailing boats up to 50'
- Southern Straights 2006
- Swiftsure race 2006
- Mt. Gay Rum over-night race, Auckland New Zealand 2002.
- Raced and cruised in New Zealand, Turkey, and the Pacific North West.

Sailing Qualifications:

- Basic marine first aid
- HAM and VHF Radio Operator
- Wilderness First Aid
- Suture Training
- Member of BCA
- Member of BCA "Fleet of 2007" for support through the South Pacific
-

Bryson Robertson:

Sailing Experience:

- Numerous casual cruising trips 2002-2007

Sailing Qualifications:

- Member of BCA
- Member of BCA "Fleet of 2007" for support through the South Pacific
- Celestial Navigation (BCA Victoria)
- HAM and VHF Radio Operator

OCEAN SWELL PROJECT

OVERVIEW:

Ocean swells are created by winds blowing over the ocean surface. Ripples slowly form and start to move with the wind. They congregate and form little white caps, which join together to create ocean swells. These swells travel huge distances until they reach the coastlines of the world. As the ocean swells arrive at these coastlines, they shoal, refract, break and change their form.

In conjunction with The Center for Water and The Environment, and Queens University, Bryson Robertson will be conducting a high level research study into these transformations.

Conducted at numerous remote locations worldwide, Queens and Robertson hope to gain added insight into the factors that effect wave breaking shape, form and intensity.

This study aims to accurately map the sea floor/bathymetry at each of these locations, to study the breakers which peel along there reefs and development a method to predict their breaking characteristics. Documenting a variety of wave periods, amplitudes, velocities and directional data, combined with high resolution photographs of the wave at each significant bathymetrical feature, the study aims to discover a high level understanding of the interrelationships between these wave characteristics.

All this information will be used to discover an easily used quantitative relationship explaining the effect of all of these factors to create the final wave shape, intensity and breaking pattern.

With the increased occurrence of extreme weather events, tsunamis and coastal development it is paramount to be able to accurately model the effects of waves on beaches, reefs and coastal structures. Knowledge and understanding of coastal processes are the first step in being able to predict and preserve our oceans.

STUDY SPONSORS:

- Queens University (www.queensu.ca)
- Center for Water and the Environment (www.cwe.queensu.ca)

ROUTE PLAN

Depart	Arrive	Distance (M)	Best Time	Crossing Time	Leaving Timing	Arriving Timing
(100M/day)						
La Paz - Mexico	Hivu oa - Marquesas	2800	March - June	26	1-Jul-07	1-Aug-07
Hivu-oa - Marquesas	Rikitea - Gambier Islands	500	April - October	29	1-Jul-07	1-Aug-07
Rikitea - Gambier Islands	Papeete - Tahiti	~ 1000	May - September	10	21-Aug-07	1-Sep-07
Papeete - Tahiti	Bora Bora - Society Islands	~ 200	May - September	2	16-Sep-07	17-Sep-07
Bora Bora - Society Islands	Pago Pago - Samoa	1100	May - September	11	24-Sep-07	3-Oct-07
Pago Pago - Samoa	Levuka - Fiji	630	April - October	6	10-Oct-07	15-Oct-07
Levuka - Fiji	Neiafu - Tonga	500	April, October - November	5	3-Nov-07	8-Nov-07
Neiafu - Tonga	Opua - New Zealand	1070	October - November	10	10-Nov-07	22-Nov-07
Opua - New Zealand	Noumea - New Caledonia	880	April - June	9	15-Apr-08	24-Apr-08
Noumea - New Caledonia	Torres Strait	1500	May - October	15	1-May-08	20-May-08
Torres Strait	Bali - Indonesia	1600	May - September	16	20-May-08	10-Jun-08
Bali - Indonesia	Mentawi Islands	1000	May - September	10	15-Jun-08	30-Jun-08
Mentawi Islands	Andaman Islands				Along the way	
Mentawi Islands	Magelle - Sri Lanka	2400	September - Mid October	24	12-Aug-08	5-Sep-08
Magelle - Sri Lanka	Male - Maldives	400	January - March	4	16-Sep-08	20-Sep-08
Male - Maldives	Fouquet - Chagos	600	May - September	6	24-Sep-08	1-Oct-08
Fouquet - Chagos	Port Louis - Mauritius	1150	May - June, Sept - Oct	11	10-Oct-08	23-Oct-08
Port Louis - Mauritius	Pointe des Galets - Reunion	120	October - November	1	27-Oct-08	28-Sep-08
Pointe des Galets - Reunion	Madagascar				5-Oct-08	15-Oct-08
Madagascar	Durban - South Africa	1450	October - November	14	8-Nov-08	22-Nov-08
Durban - South Africa	Jeffrey's Bay - South Africa	400	January - March	4	27-Nov-08	1-Dec-08

Depart	Arrive	Distance (M)	Best Time	Crossing Time	Leaving Timing	Arriving Timing
Jeffery's Bay - South Africa	Cape Town - South Africa	300	January - March	3	1-Jan-09	4-Jan-09
Cape Town - South Africa	St Helena	1700	November - March	17	28-Jan-09	17-Feb-09
St Helena	Salvador - Brazil	1900	All Year	19	24-Feb-09	13-Mar-09
Salvador - Brazil	Scarborough - Lesser Antilles	2500	March - June	25	10-Apr-09	
Scarborough - Lesser Antilles	Cockburn Town - Bahamas	850	December - May	8		
Cockburn Town - Bahamas	Cristobal - Panama	780	April - May, Nov - Dec	7	7-May-09	15-May-09
Cristobal - Panama	Vancouver - British Columbia	4800	April - May, November	48	20-May-09	

ROUTE MAP



SPONSOR BENEFITS

OceanGybe sponsors will be gratefully acknowledged and may benefit in a myriad of ways:

- Logo/name placement in all materials including an opportunity for "Presenting Sponsor" role.
 - Materials may include website, media articles, communication materials, educational materials and slideshows, sail boat.
- Local and international profile through OceanGybe outreach and media campaign. Plans include:
 - Print: International publications such as Outside Magazine and Men's Health, etc
 - Online: State of the art online tracking of participants and community event coverage (GPS) for instant updates and website traffic generation
 - Radio/TV/Web-Casts: Appearances to support the momentum of the event during the expedition
 - Grassroots events: Broad-based awareness initiatives supported by Surfrider Foundation
- Increased awareness with OceanGybe partners and stakeholders
- Alignment with the Surfrider Foundation, a well-respected, organization that has positively affected the health of our oceans with a membership of 55,000 world-wide.
- Grassroots connections to families, youth and young adults through educational on-site and on-line events.

As the momentum of this undertaking increases, sponsors will enjoy ever increasing levels of exposure by being involved in a mission that seeks to address the very serious problem of ocean borne garbage. Environmental responsibility and awareness is currently very much in the public eye, and is destined to become even more so. Promoted by charismatic, high-energy, scientifically oriented, elite-level adventurers, this story will engage a wide audience through radio, television and on-line appearances.

BIOGRAPHIES



BRYSON ROBERTSON originates from South Africa. With the Indian Ocean out his front door, Bryson spent his formative years surfing the local break. After moving to Canada in 1996, Bryson traded his board shorts for a 5mm wetsuit as the newest member of the Sitka Surfboards Team in Victoria B.C.

Bryson completed a degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Victoria. He is committed to helping develop technological innovations to our current environmental complexities. He worked extensively on the first tidal power generating system on the west coast of North America, and spent time as an engineer in the fuel cell industry. He is currently investigating the application of biofuels as a researcher for a non-profit research institute in Vancouver, B.C.

Bryson's passion for nature and adventure has led him, (his bike, his climbing shoes, and his surfboard), all over the world, from Mozambique to Morocco, and El Salvador to New Zealand. He is an active member of the Surfrider Foundation, and has acted as a scientific delegate at marine conservation symposiums.



HUGH PATTERSON grew up in Vancouver, British Columbia exploring the BC coast on his family boat. He continues to explore the west coast by sailboat, spending weeks each summer sailing in the Strait of Georgia and beyond. While attending university, Hugh was actively involved in the development of the world renowned mountain biking trails of Vancouver's North Shore Mountains. His trail building work and riding appeared in numerous international magazines and videos.

For the past 4 years, Hugh acted as the director of Trips for Kids Vancouver, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to mountain biking trips for low-income and inner city youth. Hundreds of youths from all over the city have been able to experience the outdoors on a bicycle through the efforts of the organization. As a Mechanical Designer and Design for Environment specialist for Nokia, Hugh works with engineers and suppliers to implement more sustainable design and minimize life-cycle impact of mobile phones.



RYAN ROBERTSON grew up exploring the craggy coastline of South Africa's Eastern Cape. It was here that his passion for surfing and ocean conservation was born. After moving to Canada with his family, Ryan began surfing the frigid waters of BC while finishing a degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Victoria.

Combining his education with his commitment to sustainability, Ryan has pursued a career in renewable energy, including work in the fuel cell, wind, wave and tidal energy industries. Ryan has spent the latter part of his career in the electric power industry, with a focus on sustainable energy conservation technologies. Ryan was a participant in the 2006 Vic Maui Sailing Race and it was during this race that Ryan experienced first hand, the sheer magnitude of garbage afloat in the Pacific Ocean.

As a director of Black Ice Technologies Inc., Ryan has been involved in the design of marine electronics aimed to reduce the quantities of raw human effluent dumped into our oceans. Ryan holds an advanced scuba certification, is a member of the Surfrider foundation and the Canadian Institute of Marine Engineers.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) What is OceanGybe?

OceanGybe is a global sailing expedition to explore the remote coastlines of the world, in search of adventure and world class waves. To bring awareness to the vast tracts of undocumented ocean pollution that afflicts these coastlines and affects the people who depend on them for survival. It is an expedition to promote change. Change in both the direction of this great planet, towards a more sustainable and aware future, but also in the adventurers themselves.

2) How long has this expedition been in the planning?

Ryan, Bryson and Hugh have been dreaming about an expedition such as this since they were teenagers. Serious preparation has been an ongoing event for the past three years.

3) When and where will the expedition begin?

Free Run, our boat, is currently in La Paz, Mexico waiting for us to finish last minute preparations and earnings. We hope to be pushing off and heading to the South Pacific by the 1st of July.

4) What preparations were involved?

The list grows and grows each day. Over the past three years, we have completed a myriad of different courses: First Aid courses, Radio Certification courses, Lifeboat Training courses, Celestial Navigation courses, Navigation courses, Weather Mapping courses, Sail Making and Rigging courses etc. We have learnt as much as we can about boats, heavy weather sailing, repairs, ocean currents, methods of communication, regulations, and on and on ...

5) What does OceanGybe mean to us?

OceanGybe is something we have always dreamt of for ourselves. The release from our cubicle bound lifestyles, an epic adventure and the opportunity to do something positive about the state of the oceans. The ocean has always been central to our lifestyles, and we feel this is the perfect opportunity for us to raise awareness not only about its importance, but also its fragility.

6) How do we plan on getting the word out about OceanGybe and the ocean based pollution?

We have several avenues to generate awareness:

- 1) Presentations at Schools, Sailing Clubs, Surfrider Meetings, etc
- 2) Our website (www.oceangybe.com), which will continually be updated with new findings
- 3) Media Outreach, including print (currently SPC surf), radio, and TV media
- 4) Grassroots action and word of mouth,
- 5) Forming partnerships with other organizations with similar goals.

We are always open to new ways and ideas, so please contact us if you can help us get the message out.

7) How can I contact OceanGybe?

OceanGybe Inc. is based out of Squamish, BC, Canada:
P.O Box 2846 Garibaldi Highlands
Squamish, BC
V0N 1T0
Canada

This address will be monitored even during the circumnavigation.

For immediate response:

Email: conserve@oceangybe.com
Telephone: (778) 322-6796

8) Who are the supporters of OceanGybe?

We have a handful of like minded organizations that recognize the need for this type of movement, and stand firmly behind us. Many thanks for the support!

- Sitka Surfboards (www.sitkasurfboards.com)
- LiViTy Outernational (www.livity.org)
- Center for Water and the Environment (www.cwe.queensu.ca)
- Queens University (www.queensu.ca)
- Globe (www.globe.tv)
- Surfrider Foundation (www.surfrider.org)
- Nu Graphic (www.nugraphic.com)

9) How can the public be involved with the OceanGybe expedition?

Email conserve@oceangybe.com and find out how you can get involved.

Also, if you would like to donate to the cause, or actually get involved with the expedition, visit our website (www.oceangybe.com) to find out more about us.

We are very excited and feel very strongly about this mission, and truly believe that in order for it to succeed; the word needs to be spread as far and as wide as possible. This all comes down to the support of all of you out there - tell everyone you can!