

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE OF ISSUE: FRIDAY 12TH JUNE 2009

LIFE ON THE OCEAN WAVE FOR TOURISM STUDENTS

Eleven BTEC National Diploma Travel and Tourism students have just returned from a trip-of-a-lifetime cruise around the Caribbean, which they organised themselves for their major end-of-year project.

The group, along with two staff, spent seven nights on the Thomson Destiny, the largest of the operator's liners. Their tour took them to exotic locations including the Dominican Republic, St. Lucia, Barbados, Guadeloupe, St. Kitts and Tortola in the British Virgin Islands.



The students' ship docks in St Kitts.

The students also arranged and took part in various exciting activities, including a bike ride through the rainforests of St. Lucia, a boat trip to the coral reefs of Barbados and beach volleyball in Guadeloupe. Fun on board ship included a cocktail party, themed '80s night, shows, quizzes and deck entertainment.



The activities included a bike ride through the rainforests of St. Lucia.

As well as planning the adventure, the students also raised more than £1000 towards their trip. Their fundraising activities included bag packing at Yeovil's branches of Morrisons and Asda, cake sales and a quiz. The group also raffled a balloon ride, kindly donated by a students' parent.

Student Emily Newman (18) of Hardington said *"It was a fantastic cultural experience and a learning experience. Most of us had never been in a situation where we had to plan like that before. It's usually left to the parents!"*

Georgina Evans (18) of Yeovil said *"We did presentations on different places to choose our destination. We also thought about Tokyo, New Zealand, Canada and Kenya, but had to think carefully about things like budget when deciding. We worked together in teams to plan the cruise, which was great fun."*

Mickie Redman (19) of Wincanton was also one of the organisers. She said *"When planning we had to decide what to do based on the cultural experience of where we were going as well as what we wanted to do. It was definitely a really good experience. Not only did it help us to pass a module, I also learned things that I wouldn't have otherwise."*



The students try out beach volleyball Guadeloupe.

Travel and Tourism lecturer Kathy Potts accompanied the group on their cruise. She said *“This is an annual project for our Travel and Tourism students. Each year they choose a different destination and organise a group trip for their course, not only giving them practical experience, but also allowing them to investigate the culture and diversity of the selected location. The students were commendable ambassadors for Yeovil College during this trip and it was a pleasure to take them to such a fabulous area. Both staff and students enjoyed the fruits of their labours and returned with many photos to remind them of their achievements.”*

The BTEC National Diploma is just one of the full-time Travel and Tourism courses on offer at Yeovil College. For more information, please visit www.yeovil.ac.uk, call 01935 423921 or email info@yeovil.ac.uk.

... ENDS

Notes to Editors

All press enquiries to Eileen Furze, Marketing Officer t: (01935) 845428 e: eileen.furze@yeovil.ac.uk
www.yeovil.ac.uk