

CARIBBEAN SEA TURTLE SERVICE TRIP



ATENAS & THE CENTRAL VALLEY (1 night)

Arrive in the central valley of Costa Rica, home to 80% of the country's population and surrounded by mountains. This area boasts fantastic vistas and a perfect climate. You will spend your first night in a comfortable country setting and have a chance to get acquainted with your guides.

SEA TURTLE PROJECT (3 nights)

The turtle projects are located on the Caribbean coast. On the way, visit an elementary school.

At the turtle project, the real work begins at night. Patrol the beach at night in search of nesting sea turtles and hatchlings. It's tough work, but worth the effort. You may also conduct population studies, tag turtles, transplant eggs to a protected area or release hatchlings into the ocean. Be aware that sea turtles are an endangered species and their nesting is not "scheduled". Therefore, there's no guarantee that you will see a turtle during your stay.

During the day, explore the local canals for wildlife, hike in the surrounding rain forest or engage in an impromptu game of volleyball or soccer. Have a chance to participate in volunteer activities such as building a hatchery or cleaning the beach of debris to make it easier for sea turtles to nest or return to the ocean.



CAHUITA (1 night)

After four nights of work, it's time for rest and relaxation! Leave the turtle project and head south to Cahuita where you can relax on the beautiful white sand beach and swim in the warm waters of the Caribbean.

ATENAS & THE CENTRAL VALLEY (1 night)

Head back to the Central Valley, stopping at a butterfly farm on the way. This is the night to celebrate your accomplishments and reflect on your experiences.



CARIBBEAN SEA TURTLE SERVICE TRIP OUTLINE

The price includes:

- Naturalist guide(s)
- Private in-country transportation
- Accommodations (price is based on triple and quads)
- Meals as outlined
- Activities, Entrance fees, and related tips
- Purified water available on the bus
- Post-departure travel insurance

The price does NOT include:

- Tips for guide and driver
(recommended \$10/day for guide and driver to split)
- Optional cancellation insurance coverage
- Expenses of a personal nature

AREA	DAY	LODGING & MEALS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES
Atenas	Day 1	Francisco's Lodge Meals included: Dinner or snack	Arrive Costa Rica Transfer to hotel
Estacion Las Tortugas	Day 2	Station Dorms Meals included: BLD	Transfer to Turtle station Visit to a local school enroute Night turtle patrols
Estacion Las Tortugas	Day 3	Station Dorms Meals included: BLD	Volunteer work during the day Canal boat ride on afternoon Night turtle patrols every night
Estacion Las Tortugas	Day 4		
Cahuita	Day 5	Goddess Garden or Atlantida Meals included: BLD	Transfer to Cahuita Picnic lunch & beach time in park
Atenas	Day 6	Francisco's Lodge Meals included: BLD	Transfer to Atenas Butterfly farm visit enroute
Depart	Day 7	Meals included: B	Transfer to airport

CARIBBEAN TURTLE SERVICE: Trip Information

AVAILABLE DATES: This trip is available mid March through mid July (Nesting season is March through the end of June; hatching season is mid May through the end of August)

GROUP SIZE:

Minimum group size is 10 participants (including group leaders)
Maximum group size is 24 participants (including group leaders)

We may be able to accommodate larger or smaller groups— please contact us for more information.

PROGRAM FEE:

The price includes:

- Bilingual Naturalist Guide
- Accommodations (based on triples and quads)
- Private in-country transportation
- Meals as stated in the itinerary
- Purified water available on the bus
- Activity & entrance fees, and associated tips
- Post departure travel insurance
- Exit Taxes

The price does NOT include:

- Tips to your EcoTeach guides and driver
- Cancellation insurance
- Expenses of a personal nature both prior to departure as well as during the trip

TRIP LEADER COSTS:

One trip leader travels free (including air) with 10 full paying participants.

Trip leader cost (including air) will be pro-rated if the total number of full paying participants is not a multiple of 10.

FAMILY MEMBER DISCOUNT:

For groups with 10+ full paying participants, a trip leader may bring along a family member at a discount of \$500 off the trip price. For groups with 20+ full paying participants, trip leaders may bring along two family members each at a discount of \$500 off the trip price.

Discounted family members do not count as full paying participants in calculating trip leader costs.

FLIGHTS:

EcoTeach will automatically arrange flights for your group. However, you are welcome to work with your own travel agent or directly with the airline group desk. Just let us know if you would like to make your own group travel arrangements.

For groups booking flights through EcoTeach a \$25 per ticket service fee will be assessed. Occasionally, EcoTeach will purchase several blocks of tickets for a group at different prices and charge the averaged amount to the participants. Also, please be aware that taxes and fees (fuel surcharges, security costs, etc.) imposed by the airlines and/or the US Government are subject to change until the tickets are purchased approximately two months prior to your departure date. Such changes are