

CARIBBEAN ECOLOGY 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. Spend your first night in a comfortable country setting and have a chance to get acquainted with your guides.

SEA TURTLE PROJECT (2 nights)

Head to the Caribbean coast to the turtle project. Walk 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 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. 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)

Located on the southern Caribbean coast, Cahuita is home to beautiful beaches, rainforest, and a rich cultural heritage with Afro-Caribbean and indigenous influences. Relax on a picture perfect white sand beach and swim and snorkel in the warm Caribbean ocean.



VERAGUA RAINFOREST ADVENTURE & RESEARCH PARK (2 nights)

Veragua Park is a 4,000 acre private reserve showcasing many aspects of life in the rainforest. During your time here explore the park and work with Veragua researchers, visit the butterfly garden, take night insect and frog walks and help create artificial breeding sites for endangered frogs. Before departing, visit Las Brisas Elementary School just outside of the park.



FINCA SURA (1 night)

Head north from Veragu to the Sarapiquí area and spend a night on the small family farm of Finca Sura. Experience rural Costa Rica firsthand and tour all the farm has to offer. Before leaving the area the next morning, enjoy rafting or tubing on the Sarapiquí River.

ATENAS & THE CENTRAL VALLEY (1 night)

End the trip right back where you started--in the Central Valley. This is the night to celebrate your accomplishments and reflect on your experiences.

CARIBBEAN ECOLOGY TRIP INFORMATION

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

The price does NOT include:

International airfare
 Expenses of a personal nature
 Tips for guide and driver
 (recommended \$10/day for guide and driver to split)

AREA	DAY	LODGING & MEALS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES
Atenas	Day 1	Francisco's Lodge Meals included: snack	Arrive Costa Rica
Estacion las Tortugas	Day 2	Project Dorms Meals included: BLD	Transfer to Turtle Station Night turtle patrols
Estacion las Tortugas	Day 3	Project Dorms Meals included: BLD	Volunteer work at station Boat ride in canal to spot wildlife Night turtle patrols
Cahuita	Day 4	Goddess Garden Meals included: BLD	Drive to Cahuita Picnic and beach time in the park
Veragua Rainforest	Day 5	Project Dorms Meals included: BLD	Snorkel in morning Drive to Veragua Insect Night Walk
Veragua Rainforest	Day 6	Project Dorms Meals included: BLD	Tour of Veragua Park Explore the Butterfly Garden Frog Monitoring Frog Night Walk
Sarapiqui	Day 7	Finca Sura Meals included: BLD	Visit Las Brisas School Transfer to Finca Sura Tour of Farm
Atenas	Day 8	Francisco's Lodge Meals included: BLD	Rafting or Tubing on Sarapiqui River Drive back to Atenas Final dinner and trip reflections at lodge
Depart	Day 9	Meals included: B	Drive to airport and fly home

EcoTeach purchases a travel protection plan for every traveler in groups with a final group size of 10 or more total travelers . This helps provide coverage for things such as travel delay, emergency medical, emergency evacuation, delayed/damaged baggage. Cancellation and Trip Interruption coverage are NOT included but are available at an additional cost.

CARIBBEAN ECOLOGY TRIP INFORMATION

AVAILABLE DATES: This trip is available mid-March through mid-July.

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:

- Local Bilingual Guide
- Private in-country transportation
- Accommodations (based on triples, quads and dorms)
- Meals as stated in the itinerary
- Purified water available on the bus
- Activity & entrance fees, and associated tips

The price does NOT include:

- Tips to your EcoTeach guides and driver (recommended \$10/day for guide and driver to split)
- Expenses of a personal nature both prior to departure as well as during the trip
- International airfare

TRIP LEADER COSTS: One trip leader travels free (including air) with 7 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 7.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES: Ziplines can be added to your trip for an additional \$55 per paying participant. This covers the activity, tip, and chaperone costs.

Additional nights at the turtle project can also be added at a cost of \$75/night/per paying participant.

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 outside of EcoTeach's control.