SIGNATURE JOURNEY

Discover Corps

Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose

FAMILY TRAVEL ASSOCIATION MEMBER

COSTA RICA: THE SEA TURTLE INITIATIVE

Help Conserve Endangered Sea Turtle Populations on this Costa Rican Wildlife Adventure

MOMENTS THAT MATTER:

- Go on night patrol along the coast to help protect nesting sea turtles
- Get up close and personal with toucans, howler monkeys and reptiles at an animal rescue center
- Meet Jungle Mike, a local beekeeper, for a hike through the rainforest and visit his open-air butterfly farm
- Fly through the treetops on a zip-line adventure
- Explore Costa Rica's varied terrain with the chance to meet exotic wildlife en route
- Tube down a jungle river, surrounded by lush rainforest

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COSTA RICA: THE SEA TURTLE INITIATIVE

OUR PURPOSE

Spend several days in the heart of Costa Rica's sea turtle conservation program, learning about the threats to their survival and what we can do both in Costa Rica and at home to help with their protection. We'll witness sea turtles nesting in a natural environment and participate in an optional beach cleanup that reduces the amount of plastic in the ocean. Our presence at these unique locations ensures that living sea turtles are much more valuable to the local economy than turtle eggs sold into the Black Market.

Costa Rica is a world leader when it comes to conservation, but sadly its turtle population has declined by 90% since 1980. Your trip will see you volunteering with conservationists to help ensure their survival, and visiting inspirational places and people that rescue animals and protect the rainforest.

Exactly what you'll do to help depends on when you visit. During peak hatching season, we'll dig up hatched nests to determine the hatching success rate, clean up the beach, and release baby turtles back into the ocean. We'll also go on night patrol to look for nesting females. During nesting season, the nightly patrols will be the primary focus where we will look for nesting females and collect the eggs and move them safely into the hatchery. On all trips, we'll be patrolling with international marine biologists and enjoying sustainable community tourism experiences.

TRIP AT A GLANCE

LIBERIA

Day 1 - Arrive and enjoy a traditional Costa Rican welcome dinner

PLAYA SAN MIGUEL

Day 2 - Drive through the mountains to the coastal conservation centre. Partake in night patrols to scan for nesting areas

Day 3 - Help clean up the beach and work at the sea turtle hatchery

Day 4 - Meet the infamous "Jungle Mike" to learn about the importance of beekeeping to conservation in Costa Rica

Day 5 - Tour mangroves and participate in another night patrol

RINCON DE LA VIEJA NATIONAL PARK

Day 6 - Drive through the lush mountains to visit a rescue center for big cats and other animals

Day 7 - Swing through the jungle canopy on a zip-line and optional tubing on the Rio Vegro

Day 8 - Travel back to Liberia for your flight home.

HIGHLIGHTS

EXPERIENCE NESTING OR HATCHLING SEA TURTLES

Only a tiny proportion of hatchlings actually make it to adulthood (1:1,000), so patrolling for nesting turtles and safely guarding the eggs is more important than ever given the sharp decline in the worldwide sea turtle population. During hatchling season, you'll enjoy the magical experience of releasing hatchlings onto the sand and witnessing as they walk into the ocean, an important final step of their development.

VISIT A LOCAL BEEKEEPER

While near the turtle beach, we'll enjoy a couple of additional outings. We'll visit "Jungle Mike" an expert entomologist where we'll learn the importance of how the natural systems all work together and even get to sample a variety of jungle medicinal products.

VISIT AN ANIMAL RESCUE CENTER

Alongside its diversity of beautiful landscapes, Costa Rica's great claim to fame lies with its stunning wildlife. Animals should play a large part in any trip to Costa Rica, but it's not every day you get the chance to get up close and personal with some of Central America's most iconic big cats. On a visit to this rescue center outside Liberia, you'll meet pumas, ocelots, and even the elusive jaguar alongside other rescued creatures.

ADVENTURE DAY

Everyone loves adventure day! We spend the last full day having fun with some must-do Costa Rican activities. We'll start the day zip-lining through a series of 8 cables high above the Rio Colorado and the surrounding canyons. Then, we'll cool off on an adventurous trip down the river, spinning in our inflatable tubes, bouncing off rocks and launching off a 6-foot waterfall. Your adrenaline will be pumping!

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive and Enjoy a Traditional Dinner

Arriving at the airport in Costa Rica, a member of our staff will meet you and take you to a nearby hotel where we'll spend the first evening. After a warm welcome, your guide will discuss the schedule for the coming week. Enjoy an authentic local welcome dinner together and have a relaxing evening getting to know the group. *(D)*

DAY 2: Drive to the Coast and Meet the Conservationists

Enjoy a classic Costa Rican breakfast and freshly brewed local coffee before driving through the mountains to our new home on the coast. We'll receive a briefing about the work of sea turtle conservationists before embarking on a night patrol to scope the nesting area. Sample patrol times include 10pm-1am, and 1am-4am. *(B,L,D)*

DAY 3: Optional Beach Cleanup & Night Patrols

After an optional beach clean-up for those interested, we'll have a talk to learn more about the hatchery and why it's used. We will learn firsthand how to dig a sea turtle nest so we are ready for when we have eggs from our night patrol and need to put them in the hatchery for safety. *(B,L,D)*

DAY 4: Meet "Jungle Mike" and Learn about Beekeeping

Meet the infamous Jungle Mike and learn about the diverse insect kingdom of Costa Rica as you explore an open-air butterfly farm and jungle path. Afterwards, sample various organic honeys that are locally harvested. In the evening, head out for another sea turtle patrol along the beach. *(B,L,D)*

DAY 5: Mangrove Tour & Free Afternoon

We'll head out after breakfast for a peaceful boat journey through a tranquil mangrove forest. Learn more about the crucial role that mangroves play in coastal communities. You'll also have the opportunity to see the distinctive flora and fauna of these ecosystems. The afternoon is then free to rest up for patrol and we'll enjoy a nice dinner by the beach before the final night of patrol. (B,L,D)

Sea Turtle Calendar*

JULY - AUGUST

Beginning of the olive ridley nesting season. Patrol the beach to see nesting sea turtles and gather the eggs to put into the hatchery.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER:

Prime nesting and hatchling season. We'll patrol the beaches for nesting sea turtles and move the eggs to the hatchery. You have a good chance of seeing hatchlings!

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER:

End of nesting season. We will still encounter nesting sea turtles and have a very high chance to see hatchlings as well.

**As this is nature, we cannot guarantee every trip will see sea turtles*

DAY 6: Meet Big Cats at an Animal Rescue Center

Today we'll return to the region around Liberia. After driving a few hours, we will visit an animal rescue center that rehabilitates endangered wildlife such as pumas, ocelots, and even jaguars. After lunch, continue on to a mountainside hacienda and arrive to our accommodations before dark. *(B,L,D)*

DAY 7: Zip-Line Through the Trees and Tube Along the Rio Colorado

Feel the adrenaline as you fly through the treetops on a zip-line course of 8 different lines. Then we'll cool off by tubing down the Rio Colorado. Spin and bounce your way down river, getting drenched by the cool mountain waters. Hang on tight over the 6-foot waterfall and keep your eyes peeled for monkeys foraging for food in the treetops above the canyon. You'll definitely work up an appetite for lunch. After lunch, enjoy the warm spring pools or paint on some volcanic mud for a treat for your skin and wash it all away with an exhilarating jump in the river. At night we'll enjoy a farewell dinner together to reflect on the amazing memories we've collected over the past week. *(B,L,D)*

DAY 8: Return Home

Wake up with breakfast at the lodge. Travelers will be taken to the airport in time for their flights home. *(B)*

STANDARD LODGING

Spend the first evening together at a 3-star hotel just outside the northern city of Liberia before heading down to the tropical coastline for the next four nights. Your coastal home-away-from-home is locally-owned vacation home located right on the beach overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Complete with a private chef, this property will be exclusive to our group and the perfect place to relax. Continue into the mountains for the final two nights where you'll stay in a mountainside retreat that puts you at the doorstep of Rincon de la Vieja National Park where you'll raft, zipline & explore the rainforest canopy.

Please note that the exact properties are subject to change.

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COSTA RICA: THE SEA TURTLE INITIATIVE

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS

PRICING

ADULT: $4,995 **CHILD: $4,795**

The above prices reflect the price of double occupancy. Single Room Supplements (SRS) are $1,195 per person. Due to limited rooming configurations, the SRS is required for solo travelers to guarantee their own single-occupancy room for the duration of the trip. See full details on our website. Child prices apply to those 16 years younger sharing a room with an adult.

SEE WEBSITE FOR CURRENT LIST OF DEPARTURE DATES

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 7 nights lodging
- All meals throughout the trip
- Transportation in private vehicles
- An immersive itinerary including behind-the-scenes visits to local organizations
- Discover Corps Guide that is there to support, guide, and inform you throughout the trip
- All scheduled activities and excursions
- $50,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance
- Trip literature and pre-departure support from Discover Corps
- 24-hour Discover Corps emergency hotline

RECOMMENDED FOR

- Adults & children ages 8+
- Travelers who are comfortable with MODERATE physical activity

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Tips for the Discover Corps Guide and Driver
- International airfare
- Alcoholic beverages
- Laundry services, room-service, or phone calls

RESERVE YOUR TRIP TODAY

Trips are limited to 16 travelers and do fill. Reserving a trip with Discover Corps is easy. Simply visit our website and fill out the online registration form and pay a $365 deposit and $30 non-refundable booking fee per person. If you have any questions or would like to speak to a Travel Specialist, call/text us at (619) 758-3030 or e-mail us at info@discovercorps.com

CUSTOM / PRIVATE GROUPS

Have a group of 6 or more? We can operate a trip for your group. Whether it's a family reunion, corporate group, alumni association or a professional or student organization, we'll make it easy and turnkey for your group to have an incredible experience.

RETURNING ALUMNI?

We like to reward those who travel with us again and again. Enjoy a $250 discount off our trip if you are a returning Discover Corps traveler.

PAYMENT PLANS

Discover Corps offers monthly payment plan options for all of our trips. Contact us anytime, before or after booking, to sign up for a monthly payment plan or with any questions:

Although unlikely, prices, dates, and accommodations subject to change with a 60 day notice from Discover Corps.

Our Mission

Discover Corps' mission is to inspire travelers to become advocates for our planet's natural wonders, cultural treasures, and local communities through immersive and sustainable travel experiences.

Certified B Corporation

OUR DESTINATIONS

- ALASKA
- AUSTRALIA
- BALI
- BAJA
- BHUTAN
- CHILE
- COSTA RICA
- CUBA
- EGYPT
- GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS
- GREECE
- GUATEMALA
- JAMAICA
- JAPAN
- KENYA
- MOROCCO
- OAXACA
- PERU
- SOUTH AFRICA
- TANZANIA
- THAILAND
- UGANDA
- VIETNAM

FAMILY FRIENDLY ~ SMALL GROUPS ~ POSITIVE LOCAL IMPACT ~ DISTINCTIVE LODGING ~ HANDPICKED GUIDES

Discover Corps
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Visit discovercorps.com/register to place a $395 deposit to hold your space, or reach out to us at the contact information below with questions.

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