

SEA TURTLE FIELD COURSE 2024

Research, Conservation & Education



JOIN ME IN COSTA RICA AND DIVE DEEP INTO SEA TURTLE RESEARCH & CONSERVATION

This unique **field course** promises an unforgettable **journey deep into the heart of sea turtle research and conservation efforts.**

We will contribute to the ongoing **conservation efforts** and also have the chance to help with **scientific research and data collection.**

Under my guidance, you will **delve into the intricacies of sea turtle biology, ecology, and common conservation practices.** Through a combination of **online lectures, group discussions, and hands-on fieldwork,** you will gain a **comprehensive understanding of relevant field methods, data needs, the challenges sea turtles are facing,** and the numerous **actions and initiatives aimed at their protection.**

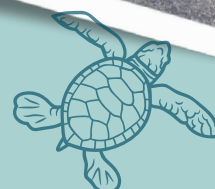
At one of the **most famous sea turtle nesting beaches, known for the synchronised mass-nesting events (aka arribadas)** of olive ridley turtles, we will immerse ourselves in the activities related to protecting nesting mothers and their eggs, monitoring nesting populations, and monitoring incubating nests. You will have a **front-row seat** while **mother turtles climb the beach** to lay their eggs and **baby sea turtles** dash to the sea.

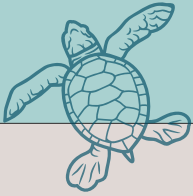
Each night, we will set out on **beach patrols** to keep an eye out for nesting sea turtles and hatched nests and collect crucial data. During the day, we might go on **early morning walks** to find hatched nests to excavate and inventory them; we might be involved in equipment and campsite **cleaning, beach clean-ups** to collect plastic waste and later sort it, and any other accruing work. So, prepare for **little sleep, hard work, and mesmerizing moments.** On **our day off,** we will have the chance to **observe our sea turtles in their wet habitat,** the ocean. On a boat tour, we will set out to find resting and feeding, and maybe even mating turtles.

Be prepared for a **transformative adventure** as you **build the foundation for a career in sea turtle research and conservation,** forge **lifelong connections with fellow sea turtle enthusiasts,** and **develop a deep appreciation for the importance of data-driven conservation** and sustainable practices.

Whether you are already a marine biologist, an aspiring one, or simply share a passion for sea turtles, this field course in Costa Rica will provide you with an **extraordinary opportunity** to gain invaluable **field experience,** while **contributing to the conservation** of these remarkable creatures and creating **memories that will last a lifetime.**

Tag along on this remarkable journey, where research, conservation, education, and adventure intertwine, in the stunning tropical paradise of Costa Rica!





What to Expect

TRIP OVERVIEW

LOCATION	Ostional, Costa Rica	TYPE OF TRIP	Field Course w/ Hands-On Work
DATES	July 27 - August 9, 2024	SEA TURTLE SPECIES	Olive Ridleys
ACCOMODATION	Basic dormitories in biological station, shared bathrooms	FOOD	Basic meals (vegetarian and vegan possible)
GROUP SIZE	6-12 Participants	MINIMUM AGE	18 years
VISUM	None (for most nationalities)	LANGUAGE(S)	English

Included

- English-Speaking Course Instructor and Guide, Dr. Christine Figgner
- 3 Nights in Central Valley
- 10 Nights in Sea Turtle Conservation Project
- Private Transportation to the Project Site
- 3 Meals* per Day (Vegetarian & Vegan Possible)
- Boats Tour on Day-Off
- Visit to Wildlife Rescue Center
- Detailed Handbook & Travel Manual
- Access to Online Courses on Sea Turtle Biology & Conservation (coming in May 2024, value US\$ 600)
- Donations for Sea Turtle Conservation

*Exception: day off, travelling days.

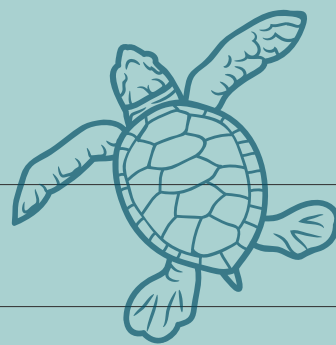


Not Included

- Flights to Costa Rica
- Travel Health Insurance
- Airport Transfer
- Necessary Vaccines
- Personal Expenses



Itinerary



DAY 1 (JUL 27) **ARRIVAL** in Alajuela (SJO Airport) & **Meet Up** at Accommodation

DAY 2 (JUL 28) **VISIT** to Wildlife Rescue Center

DAY 3 (JUL 29) **DRIVE** to Sea Turtle Conservation Project; **Training** On-Site

DAY 4 - DAY 12 (JUL 30 - AUG 7) **VOLUNTEER WORK, LECTURES, GROUP DISCUSSIONS** in Sea Turtle Conservation Project (including one day and night off**)

DAY OFF** **BOAT TOUR** to observe turtles in the water

DAY 13 (AUG 8) **DEPARTURE** from Sea Turtle Conservation Project, **Last Night** together as a group in the Central Valley

DAY 14 (AUG 9) **GOOD BYE - OFFICIAL END OF COURSE (DEPARTURE)**

Requirements

- 18+ Years
- future student, student, or recent graduate in the area of marine biology or conservation with a keen interest in sea turtles
- Travel Health Insurance
- Valid Passport
- Able to Meet Visa Requirements for Costa Rica (most nationalities do NOT need a visa)
- Ability to Walk Long Distances on Soft Sand
- Signing Indemnification/Waiver
- Proficiency in Written and Spoken English
- Non-Refundable 400 USD Deposit to Reserve your Spot



Witnessing a sea turtle nesting or babies hatching under the starlit sky are magical experiences that will stay with you forever!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT



~~1,890 USD***~~

**EARLY BIRD
DISCOUNT**

1,690 USD***

until April 30th, 2024

 www.seaturtlebiologist.com

***possible to pay in installments

