Costa Rica Green
Sea Turtle Research

In Partnership With
Portland Community College
Welcome to the SEE Turtles PCC Costa Rica Green Turtle Research Expedition! On this unique volunteer vacation, you will spend five days on the beautiful Osa Peninsula including two days working with researchers helping to catch and study green and hawksbill sea turtles in the Golfo Dulce, a calm gulf located between the Osa Peninsula and southern Pacific coast. You’ll also participate in a reforestation project, visit a chocolate farm, and much more.

By joining this trip, you will be directly supporting community-based conservation of these turtles by providing alternative income to poaching and generating funds to expand their efforts. We started SEE Turtles in 2008 to encourage travelers to visit turtle conservation projects where their visit will make a difference in efforts to protect these endangered creatures. With the help of travelers like you, we have generated more than $900,000 for turtle conservation and local communities and have helped to save more than 900,000 baby turtles at important nesting beaches.

Please join me on this action-packed volunteer trip. We will meet and interact with the dedicated people working to protect their natural resources and learn much about the biology and threats facing Costa Rica’s wildlife, all while enjoying one of the most beautiful parts of the country.

We hope to SEE you in Costa Rica!

Brad Nahill
President & Co-Founder
brad@seeturtles.org

Cover photo: Hal Brindley, at right: Neil Osborne
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Photos: Hal Brindley
Trip Information

Help researchers study green and hawksbill turtles in the Golfo Dulce. Spend 5 days on the incredible Osa Peninsula catching and releasing turtles, restoring mangroves, and more. This hands-on experience is great for individuals, families (8 years and up), and small groups. This trip will be led by SEE Turtles director Brad Nahill and is in partnership with Portland Community College (though is open to everyone).

Notes:
• Minimum recommended age is 8 years old, under 18 needs to be accompanied by an adult.
• Group size is limited to 15 people maximum.
• Discounts available: $100 for the first 8 to register, $90 for paying by check.
• Deadline to register: Oct 8, 2018

Is This Trip Right For Me?
Costa Rica is a safe and beautiful country that receives more than 1 million international tourists annually. This is a fairly active trip that requires some physical fitness and an ability to manage sometimes challenging conditions including weather and heat, bugs, and long bus rides. The accommodations are comfortable but plan to spend significant time on boats and on the beach while waiting for turtles to be caught.

Date: Dec 8 - 15, 2018
Price: $2,195 pp.
Discounts:
• $100 discount for the first 8 to register
• $50 discount for paying by check

To Register:
Send PCC registration form and $300 deposit to Portland Community College. Balance is paid directly to SEE Turtles.

Includes:
In-country transport, meals, lodging, activities, guides, and a donation to turtle conservation.

Excludes:
Airfare to Costa Rica, personal items, airport exit tax, and tips for the guide and driver.
DAY 1: ARRIVE TO SAN JOSE
Fly into San Jose International Airport (SJO) anytime on the first scheduled day. Our guides pick you up from the airport and take you to Rosa del Paseo, a comfortable hotel on the well-known Paseo Colon in downtown San Jose. Dinner the first night is not included (available at the hotel for $10 pp.) Get a good night’s sleep tonight, as the adventure starts early the next day.

DAY 2: DRIVE TO THE OSA PENINSULA
Wake up with a delicious Costa Rica breakfast buffet of eggs, gallo pinto (Costa Rica's famous breakfast rice and beans), fresh tropical fruit, and more. After breakfast, you’ll head to the South Pacific coast in a private vehicle (about a 5-6 hour drive depending on breaks and traffic). Along the way, you will stop for lunch and take in the beautiful views, including a bridge where you can spot giant crocodiles (from a safe distance).

After settling in to your cabins, researchers from our partner Latin American Sea Turtles (LAST) will give an orientation to the turtle research and train you in data collection techniques. This evening, relax and get a good night’s sleep. Overnight at Delfines de Golfo, a simple family lodge with electricity, air conditioning, private bath with hot water, and TVs.

DAY 3: SEA TURTLE RESEARCH
Today is all about sea turtles. Head out in a shaded boat with researchers to help set nets in key spots (timing dependent on the tide). You’ll be looking for green turtles and hawksbills, which are both endangered. The Golfo Dulce (Sweet Gulf) is generally a very calm body of water and great for swimming.

Once you arrive to the research spots, the staff will set out the nets and participants can hop in the water to help stretch out the nets. The boats will then take the group ashore, where you can spread out a towel on the beach or grass and enjoy the morning. The staff will stay with the nets and bring in the turtles when caught. Once the turtle is brought ashore, a variety of tasks will be split up among the staff and volunteers, including measuring the shell and tail, attaching a metal tag to the turtle’s front flipper, taking a tissue sample, and recording the data.

You will have free time to swim, take a walk up the beach, look for scarlet macaws or sloths, read a book, or chat with your fellow travelers. The research goes until mid-afternoon. Learn more about the sea turtles you will see on this trip and LAST, the local conservation organization, in the background section.
DAY 4: MANGROVES & CHOCOLATE
This morning, you will participate in LAST’s mangrove reforestation program by working in the nursery and planting young trees. Mangroves are critical for sea turtles and other ocean life and this area has lost much of its forests over the past few decades. We will also work in their small turtle rescue center if there are turtles present.

In the afternoon, you’ll learn about the origins of chocolate, which is native to this region. Visit an organic farm where cacao is grown and work through the process from seed to deliciousness. You’ll also taste many other delicious fruits and learn how organic farming can help wildlife.

DAY 5: SEA TURTLE RESEARCH
Head out on the water again to look for more sea turtles to study and release. Since these turtles don’t nest in the area (we’re not sure where they nest), catching them in the water is the only way to learn about these turtles and ensure their health.

DAY 6: BORUCA INDIGENOUS RESERVE
After breakfast, we’ll board our bus and head to visit the Boruca, an indigenous community in the Talamanca mountains. There we will spend an hour in a mask-making workshop, painting your own traditional mask with the help of local artisans. Enjoy lunch at a nearby home while your masks dry. In the afternoon, we head to Cedrela Ecolodge, a small lodge in the cloud forest.

DAY 7: FARM TOUR / RETURN TO SAN JOSE
After breakfast, take a tour of the gardens around the hotel to learn about growing coffee, avocados, and other crops. Participants will also learn about the ecology and natural history of tropical forests. After lunch at the hotel, you’ll board the private vehicle for the 2 hour drive to San Jose. We’ll have a celebratory dinner this evening. Overnight at Rosa del Paseo.

DAY 8: DEPART FOR HOME
Rosa del Paseo provides a delicious breakfast for your last morning. After, head out for the airport in time for your flight, taking along your memories, photos, souvenirs, and stories to tell friends!

Photos: Hal Brindley
In-Water Turtle Monitoring

Foraging sea turtles are mainly found in shallow (<100 feet), hard-bottom substrates or seagrass beds in coastal areas and in some cases around coral reefs. By sampling the Golfo Dulce, it is possible to gain information on the demographic structure of the population, such as the abundance of immature, adults, male and non-breeding females, and their behavior.

Once a sea turtle is caught, they are untangled from the net, taken into the boat, and brought ashore. We check every individual for wounds or anomalies. Then we take data of the biometry of the turtle (length and width of the carapace, weight, and other data) and tag them with metal and PIT tags in case the sea turtle doesn’t have any tag, and take tissue samples to examine the mitochondrial DNA to reconstruct the lineage of the females. All the data (size, tag-number, sample numbers) needs to be recorded in a clean and correct manner and research staff is there to help volunteers.
Green Sea Turtles

The green turtle is the second largest after the leatherback. They can weigh up to 500 lbs (225 kg) and reach four feet (1.2 m) in length. The adult is an herbivore, dining on sea grasses, seaweeds, algae and other forms of marine plant life. Their beak is sharp and finely serrated, perfectly adapted for grazing in seagrass beds and scraping algae off of hard surfaces. This species can be found in the sub-tropics and tropics worldwide, with major nesting beaches in Tortuguero (Costa Rica), Oman, Florida, and Raine Island (Australia) where thousands of turtles nest each night during peak nesting season.

The green turtles you find in the Pacific are also known as black turtles due to their darker shells. Most scientists believe that black turtles are a sub-species of green turtles but some believe they are a different species.

Learn more about green turtles on our website.

Hawksbill Sea Turtles

Considered by many to be the most beautiful of sea turtles for their colorful shells, the hawksbill is found in tropical waters around the world. They spend their time in coral reefs, rocky areas, lagoons, mangroves, oceanic islands, and shallow coastal areas.

Named for its narrow head and sharp, bird-like beak, hawksbills can reach into cracks and crevices of coral reefs looking for food. Their diet is very specialized, feeding almost exclusively on sponges. One of the smaller turtles, adults weigh between 100-200 pounds (45 - 90 kg) and reach 2-3 feet (roughly .5 to 1 meter) in length. Learn more about their diet.

This species inhabits tropical and some sub-tropical regions in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans. The largest populations occur in the Caribbean Sea, the Seychelles, Indonesia, Mexico, and Australia. Hawksbills are not found in the Mediterranean and few are found in US waters; only a handful nest in Florida each year.

Learn more about hawksbill turtles on our website.
Our Turtle Conservation Partner

Latin American Sea Turtles (LAST)
The mission of LAST is to improve the conservation status of the marine turtles in Costa Rica. Their projects include nesting beach conservation projects in the Osa Peninsula and elsewhere. To date, we have donated more than $5,000 to protect leatherback turtles along Costa Rica’s Caribbean coast and sent dozens of volunteers to participate in their projects. Learn more about LAST on their website.

Osa In-Water Research Project
The project Osa In-Water is located on Playa Blanca, close to Puerto Jiménez on the Osa Peninsula in the southern Pacific province of Puntarenas, Costa Rica. The surrounding landscape of Playa Blanca is a lot of flat farmland, however most of the Osa Peninsula is under some kind of protection. The reason why is because this area is one of 25 biodiversity hotspots worldwide, with a vast variety of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and insects.

The Golfo Dulce, the body of water between the mainland and the Osa Peninsula, is one of just four tropical fjords worldwide and hosts a fascinating variety of marine life, including sea turtles, two species of dolphins, and at some points during the year humpback whales and whale sharks.
Accommodations

Rosa del Paseo
Located in downtown San Jose on Paseo Colon, Rosa del Paseo is a charming small hotel that is close to many city landmarks. The hotel is part of Costa Rica’s Certification for Sustainable Tourism.

Delfines de Osa
A family-owned lodge in the small town of La Palma, located about a mile from Playa Blanca, where the research station is based. Delfines is on the edge of town in a secure spot. Each individual cabin comes with a private bathroom (with hot water), television, fan, and air conditioner. Meals are prepared on site and vegetarians are easily accommodated.

Cedrela Ecolodge
Cedrela is a small locally-owned mountain lodge located in the cloud forest. Their 15 hectare (37 acre) property includes 7 hectares of forest and 7 acres of organic farm (primarily coffee and avocados). Explore their walking trails and enjoy their beautiful views.

Photos: Hal Brindley
Frequently Asked Questions

Turtle Issues

Am I guaranteed to see a sea turtle?
As with most wild animals, there is never a guarantee to see a sea turtle (they are endangered of course). However, the research team does catch turtles most of the times they set the nets. Green turtles are more likely to be found than hawksbills. In this part of the country, the turtles forage in the Gulf and there aren’t distinguishable seasons when it is more or less likely to see a sea turtle.

Should I worry about poachers?
Nope. This trip does not involve walking a nesting beach so no poachers around here. We do send people to turtle nesting beaches in Costa Rica on other trips, but we are confident of the safety of every place we sent people.

How does this trip benefit turtle conservation?
SEE Turtles runs sea turtle trips as a way to help save these incredible animals. To participate in the work and stay at the research station, we pay a fee to the local partner which helps to cover the costs of the conservation and research efforts. Finally, every tour saves at least 100 hatchlings through a donation to the local conservation organization through our Billion Baby Turtles initiative.

Will I get to do every volunteer job on the trip?
As we can’t guarantee that you will see a sea turtle, we also can’t guarantee you’ll get to do every job in the volunteer program. We hope to give every participant the opportunity to do each job but it depends on the number of participants, the number of turtles encountered, and the individual circumstances with each turtle (sometimes more complicated situations require the researchers to do specific jobs).

Generally the tagging and tissue sampling are done only by research staff. If there is one specific job you really want to do, let your guide know and they will do his best to accommodate your request. Check out the Turtle Research section to learn more.
Logistical/Travel Issues

Can I call home or check my email while in Costa Rica?
Calling home from Costa Rica can be expensive. For email, you should not rely on or expect to be able to get online while on the trip. The cabins at this project have WiFi in the main kitchen but it can be very spotty and often does not work. Cell phones from the US or Canada often do not work or automatically switch you to a local service which activates international roaming fees. If you plan to bring a cell phone, please check with your provider about coverage and cost.

Are the electrical outlets the same as in the US?
The voltage in Costa Rica is the same as the states. However, most outlets are 2 prong instead of 3 prong, so if you are bringing something that needs 3 prongs you need to bring an adapter. And remember, depending on which turtle project you go to, there may only be solar power, and no outlets will be available during those days.

Can I go to an ATM in Costa Rica?
Although there are ATMs in Costa Rica, much of the time you will be in places where they are not available. And in places where they do have ATMs, they don’t always work. The bottom line – while you may be able to get cash from ATMs, don’t count on it.

How should I handle medications I need to bring?
If you plan to bring personal medicine to Costa Rica, please consider the following:
• Carry just the necessary quantity, which is the quantity normally used by a person having your health problem.
• Bring a prescription or a written statement from your doctor, specifying that the medicine is being used under his/her control and that you need it for your physical health.
• Have the medicines labeled or properly identified.

Do I need any vaccinations before going?
Since we are not doctors, we cannot give you advice on vaccinations. We recommend speaking with your doctor or visiting a travel clinic. You can also check the CDC website for Costa Rica for the most up-to-date information.

What is the weather like on Costa Rica’s Pacific coast?
There are two seasons in this part of Costa Rica. The dry season (aka summer) lasts from December to May. The rainy season (aka winter) is from July to November though its generally only October and November where the weather gets bad, otherwise it rains but usually not all day.

Photos: Hal Brindley
SEE Turtles strives to reduce the environmental impact of our trips wherever possible. Sometimes we need help from you, the traveler, so here are some ways that we (and you) can help.

**Tortoiseshell Jewelry**
Did you know that tortoiseshell is actually hawksbill sea turtle shell? This is a major threat to hawksbills, which are critically endangered. Souvenirs made from their shells include bracelets, earrings, guitar picks, and combs. Below is a photo to recognizing these items and we encourage our travelers not only to not purchase these items but also to refuse to purchase from stores that offer them and to alert your guide when you see these items for sale. Learn more at TooRareToWear.org.

**Reducing Plastic Use**
Another major threat to sea turtles is plastic in the ocean, which can be confused for jellyfish. SEE Turtles is a member of “Travelers Against Plastic,” an organization that reduces plastic waste created on vacation. We encourage travelers to bring reusable water bottles to refill; you can go through as many as 15-20 bottles on one trip per person. Another suggestion is to ask for no straws with your drinks. Souvenirs can be stored in day packs instead of disposable plastic bags.

**Reef-Friendly Sunscreen**
Did you know that sunscreen can damage coral reefs? The ingredient “oxybenzone” has been found to cause harm in even very small quantities and an estimated 4,000 - 6,000 tons per year. Look for sunscreen without this ingredient (zinc oxide or titanium oxide are both safe), or wear a shirt while swimming to reduce the need for sunscreen.

**Reducing Carbon Emissions**
Travel by its nature is very carbon-intensive. Some ways you can reduce your emissions include leaving electronic devices at home, using fans instead of AC, by turning off AC, fans, and lights when not at hotels or cabins, and by using public transportation when possible. For sites with limited electricity, you can purchase a solar powered charger to recharge small electronics. You can also purchase carbon offsets. One we recommend is “Seagrass Grow” a program with our former organization The Ocean Foundation. The offsets are used to restore important seagrass beds, which are important habitat for green sea turtles.

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**HOW TO IDENTIFY & AVOID HAWKSBILL TURTLESTHELL**
Endangered hawksbill turtles are hunted for their shells to make souvenirs. Help save this turtle by avoiding vendors selling tortulessell products.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMITATION PLASTIC</th>
<th>TURTLESTHELL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uniform pattern with markings</td>
<td>Color</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✨✨✨✨✨</td>
<td>Browns, oranges, amber, yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✨✨</td>
<td>Assymetric and irregular shapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✨✨</td>
<td>Surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✨</td>
<td>Color pattern visible throughout</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COCONUT</th>
<th>HORN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brown on top, beige underneath</td>
<td>Heavy with black/white coloring</td>
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</table>
SEE Turtles partners with World Nomads to offer world-class travel insurance for your next trip. World Nomads is a socially responsible travel insurance company that has a great record of customer service. When you use World Nomads insurance, they will donate 10% of the cost of the policy to help save baby sea turtles through our Billion Baby Turtles program. Through their Footprints Network, they have helped to save more than 20,000 baby turtles in Cuba, El Salvador, and elsewhere!

World Nomads covers a wide range of activities and helps with trip cancellation, lost baggage, medical bills, theft, and more. No matter whether you travel with us, another operator, or on your own, this insurance will have you covered and have a real impact on conservation efforts. Click here to get a fast free quote for a policy for your next trip.
Recommended Packing List

Pack in a duffel bag/suitcase/backpack that you can carry yourself and a day pack (If you have a suitcase with wheels, please realize there may be times when you will need to carry it short distances - wheels don’t work well in sand, gravel or mud). * Indicates required items.

**Clothing**
- Bathing suit and beach towel
- Water shoes or sandals
- 3-4 Pairs socks
- 3-4 Pairs shorts
- 5-6 T-shirts or short sleeve shirts
- Rain gear or poncho
- Sun hat for the beach
- Underwear
- Pajamas or sleepwear

**Toiletries**
- Comb/brush
- Biodegradable shampoo/soap
- Sunscreen 30+ (waterproof and reef-friendly)
- Insect repellent & after-bite stick
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste/toothbrush
- Washcloth
- Beach towel
- Hand Sanitizer (small bottle)

**Other Stuff**
- Prescription medications (in carry on baggage)
- Refillable bottle for water (clean water will be provided).*
- Passport and a photocopy of passport (kept separately)
- Money (for souvenirs and personal items)
- Camera & spare battery
- Binoculars (your guide may also have a pair)
- Games, cards, things to do at night and on the bus
- Small flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries
- Large ziplock bags for wet clothes & shoes
- Ziplock bags for electronics
- Sunglasses
SEE Turtles
SEE Turtles was launched in 2008 as the world’s first effort to protect these species through ecotourism. Since then, we have expanded to include educational programs and our Billion Baby Turtles project. To date, we have brought more than 1,200 people to visit turtle projects, generated more than $900,000 for turtle conservation and local communities, saved more than 900,000 turtle hatchlings at more than 10 projects around Latin America, and reached more than 10,000 students with our educational programs. SEE Turtles is an independent 501c3 organization based in Oregon.
Payment Policies:
Full payment of the total price of the expedition is due no later than 60 days (2 months) before departure. Travelers can choose to do monthly payments (the balance of the trip cost after deposit, divided evenly between the remaining months before the final payment is due) or pay 50% of the balance at 120 days before the trip with the remaining balance due 60 days before the trip. Monthly payment plans are unavailable within 4 months of trip departure. We reserve the right to cancel a reservation if payment is not made on time. In such cases, all payments are non-refundable.

Late Bookings: A late fee of $50 may apply to bookings received within 30 days of trip date.

Cancellation Policy:
If you cancel your space, it must be in writing and is effective the day we receive it in our office. Your cancellation will entitle you to a refund of any deposit or payment made to us, less a cancellation fee, according to the following schedule:

- 180 days or more prior to departure: $100.00
- 120 to 179 days prior to departure: $300.00
- 60 to 119 days prior to departure: 50% of expedition fee
- 59 days or less prior to departure: 100% of expedition fee

* Some costs are occasionally recoverable from the supplier

Transfers:
Depending on availability, you may transfer from one trip to another four months prior to departure at no charge. If you transfer less than four months prior to departure, you may be subject to the cancellation fees. Registration fees paid may be transferred to another traveler up until 2 months before departure with prior notice provided. In some cases, transfers may be made less than 2 months before departure.

Cancelled Trips:
We reserve the right to cancel any trip prior to scheduled departure due to not meeting our minimum number required or logistical problems (vessel breakdown, strikes, etc.). You may transfer to another expedition or we will refund all payments made to SEE Turtles in full. In no event, however, shall our liability exceed the obligation to refund the amount you paid to us. Trip cancellation due to too few registrations normally occurs at a minimum of two months prior to departure. Refunds will not be given for individual hotel rooms, meals, sightseeing trips, or expedition arrangements for any reason. Expedition costs are quoted as a package; credits are not given for services not used.

Trip Cost Includes:
Accommodations, airport transfers as specified in the trip itinerary, excursions, entrance fees, local guides, most permits, and meals, unless otherwise indicated in the itinerary. SEE Turtles reserves the right to make any changes in the itinerary or to substitute hotels, modes of transport, or guides, for those mentioned in the literature if circumstances require it.

Trip Cost Does Not Include:
The cost of international air to the tour starting point (unless otherwise indicated in the itinerary) airport taxes, passport and visa fees, immunizations, insurance of any kind, alcoholic beverages, soft drinks, laundry, gratuities, excess baggage, items of a personal nature, medical costs, costs of hospitalization, additional expenses arising from the delay or extension of a trip due to weather, political disputes, illness, failure of transportation, or other causes beyond our control.

Children on Trips:
Some SEE Turtles trips are suitable for children, depending on the child’s age and experience. Anyone under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please call before sending a trip deposit for anyone under 18 years of age.
Unexpected Trip Costs: We reserve the right to raise the trip fee if there are cost increases beyond our control. These cases are extremely rare and would only occur where unforeseen cost increases from suppliers would result in a financial loss for the organization. In these cases, registered clients are given the option to transfer or cancel with no penalties.

Transfers: Depending on availability, you may transfer from one trip to another four months prior to departure at no charge. If you transfer less than four months prior to departure, you may be subject to the cancellation fees. Registration fees paid may be transferred to another traveler up until 2 months before departure with prior notice provided. In some cases, transfers may be made less than 2 months before departure.

Travel Protection Policy: We require all participants to obtain individual travel insurance to protect yourself and your equipment. Travel insurance may reimburse you for non-refundable air and expedition costs should you need to cancel or interrupt your trip. The carrier can be any insurance provider but we can provide recommendations. Proof of insurance is required before participating on the trip.

Accommodations: Land accommodations are based on double occupancy unless otherwise indicated in the trip description. We can try to match single travelers of the same sex but some trips require a single supplement if single rooms are preferred to there is no match available.

Single Travelers: If you are a single traveler wishing to share accommodations, we will try to match you with a roommate. If no roommate becomes available, you may be required to pay the Single Supplement Fee listed in the trip description if applicable. If you request a single, private room you must pay the Single Supplement Fee listed in the trip description regardless of sign-up date. Please note that single accommodations are not always available.

Budget Airfare Caution: We recommend against buying non-refundable airline tickets until your trip departure has been confirmed (usually a minimum of 90 days before departure). Budget air tickets often carry restrictions and you risk penalties in the event of itinerary or date changes or trip cancellation. Please await confirmation of the trip before purchasing non-refundable airfare.

Withdrawal: SEE Turtles reserves the right to require any participant to withdraw from an expedition at any time if the expedition director deems his/her acts or conduct to be detrimental to or incompatible with the interest, harmony, comfort, or welfare of the expedition. In such cases, no refunds will be given.

Medical Issues: Although SEE Turtles trips are not generally very physically demanding, you must be in general good health to participate. It is the passengers' responsibility to judge the appropriateness of their physical capabilities to these travel activities. Anyone with medical problems or restrictions must make them known to us well in advance of the trip and should have a personal supply of any special medications they may need. The trip leader has the right to disqualify any member from the group at any time if considered medically necessary; no refund will be made under such circumstances. SEE Turtles and its affiliates take no responsibility for special arrangements required by passengers physically unable to complete a trip and assume no liability regarding provision of medical care or medical evacuation.

Release Forms: On some trips you may need to sign an additional tour operator release form by our local partners and/or tour operators.

Suppliers of Services: SEE Turtles is performing a non-profit service by informing potential participants of worthwhile expeditions. However, SEE Turtles is acting independently and has no business association as partner or joint venture with any boat owner, resort, hotel, carrier, SCUBA operation, or other services. Any claims for inadequate performance or non-performance of services may be made against the supplier of those services but shall not be made against SEE Turtles.

SCUBA Diving: SEE Turtles does not offer SCUBA diving as part of any of our trips. Participants may participate in diving while on a trip but acknowledges that SEE Turtles has no responsibility for the actions, performance, or equipment of any SCUBA services offered by hotels or dive shops. We recommend that any travelers planning to dive while on a SEE Turtles trip research the safety record of the operators and obtain additional divers insurance.