



EcoTeach Participant Registration Form



SEA TURTLE VOLUNTER VACATION

DATES YOU ARE REGISTERING FOR: _____

REQUIRED INFORMATION:

Participant Name: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Gender: M F Citizenship: _____

Name on Passport: (if available) _____
(Surname) (Given Names)

BILLING INFORMATION:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State, and Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: (____) _____

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

As a courtesy, EcoTeach, Inc. (“EcoTeach”) purchases a post-departure travel insurance policy for each participant. This policy does NOT include trip cancellation or trip interruption coverage. Details on the policies can be found on your group webpage or by request from EcoTeach. As EcoTeach is not providing the coverage, you must review the policy terms and conditions and determine if the policy meets your needs. Please read carefully the information on travel insurance in the Medical Treatment/Travel Insurance/Medical Proxy/Release section below. Additional coverage is available as outlined below.

These plans must be purchased at the same time as the initial trip deposit. Insurance premiums are nonrefundable.

- **Comprehensive Insurance (Cost: \$100)** provides trip interruption and cancellation coverage for specific reasons.
- **Comprehensive Insurance with the Cancel for Any Reason Option (Cost \$150)** provides for reimbursement of 75% of the trip cost for cancellations due to reasons not otherwise covered under the comprehensive plan, providing the cancellation is 2 or more days prior to scheduled departure and is **not available in WA**.

PLEASE SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

- ___ I have enclosed **\$150** (nonrefundable deposit)
- ___ I have enclosed **\$250** (nonrefundable deposit plus nonrefundable payment for the Comprehensive Insurance)
- ___ I have enclosed **\$300** (nonrefundable deposit, plus nonrefundable payment for the Comprehensive Insurance with the “Cancel for Any Reason” option). **Not available in Washington State.**

I have read and understand the Terms and Conditions outlined below and accept this Agreement. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, or EcoTeach’s performance under this Agreement, shall be settled by binding arbitration to be held in Seattle, Washington in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association then existing. All parties to any arbitration or litigation under or arising from this Agreement in any way shall bear their own costs, including legal fees. Participant, his or her family and heirs agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions below upon the earlier of payment of a deposit to EcoTeach or submission of this registration form.

Participant Name (Please Print Legibly): _____

Signature of Participant: _____ **Date:** _____

If Participant is under 18 years of age, a Parent or Guardian Signature is also required.

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Signature of Parent(s) if under 18: _____ **Date:** _____

Registration and Payments

Reservations are accepted and your space confirmed with the Group/School named above upon receipt of this form accompanied by a deposit of \$150 per participant. Although the full payment is requested at this time, the deposit plus three equal payments are acceptable. Unless otherwise stated, payments should be made to EcoTeach with a payment due 7 months prior to departure, second payment due 5 months prior to departure, and the full payment due no later than 2 months prior to departure. Please consult your trip leader or group webpage for the exact program fee.

Payment of your deposit constitutes agreement with and acceptance of the following Terms & Conditions:

Limits of Liability

EcoTeach contracts with service providers for transportation, hotels, meals, guides and tours. These services are not under our control. If flights are contracted through EcoTeach, we work with major airlines and book on regularly scheduled flights. EcoTeach acts only in the capacity of agent as to flights, and has no liability in that role. The airlines' liability is limited to the terms of the airline tickets. EcoTeach is not liable for any delays, inconveniences, accidents, expense or mishap of any kind whatsoever resulting entirely, or in part, from the negligence or actions of others or from causes beyond its control. EcoTeach does not accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or change in air services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other causes beyond its control. All such losses or expenses will be borne by the participant, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. EcoTeach reserves the right, in its sole discretion to substitute modes of transportation and to make any changes in the itinerary where deemed necessary or appropriate or caused by changes in air schedules.

More Legalese

EcoTeach, The Ocean Foundation, SEEtheWILD, SEE Turtles, their employees and its agents, its owners, and its associated agents act only as agents for the owners, contractors and suppliers providing means of transportation and/or all other related travel services and disclaim all liability for property loss or damage, and/or any damages or claims resulting from death, illness or personal injuries, including loss of services which may be sustained, or rising out of, by reason of, or while engaged on any trip, automobile, boat, vehicle, horseback, canopy riggings, inn, common carrier, aircraft, interaction with other participants, or otherwise caused by failure, delay, or by any transportation or travel service company due to any cause whatsoever occurring during a tour under its management, sponsorship, procurement or otherwise. Basically, there are some things that are just not under EcoTeach's control.

Important Information on Flight Costs

For groups booking flights through EcoTeach a service fee of up to \$25 per ticket 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 (fuels surcharges, security costs, etc) imposed by the airlines and/or the US Government are subject to change until the tickets are purchased approximately 3 months prior to your departure date. Such changes are outside of EcoTeach control. When tickets have been purchased, you will receive a statement detailing the cost for airfare and an invoice for, and agree to pay such, additional charges, if any. Thanks in advance for your understanding.

Cancellation, and Late Fees

- **180 days plus prior to departure:** \$150 cancellation fee + any nonrefundable deposits or payments made by EcoTeach on behalf of the participant.
- **179 to 120 days prior to departure:** \$295 cancellation fee + any nonrefundable deposits or payments made by EcoTeach on behalf of the participant
- **119 to 60 days prior to departure:** \$495 cancellation fee + any nonrefundable deposits or payments made by EcoTeach on behalf of the participant
- **Less than 60 days prior to departure:** no refund

To cancel from a trip you will need to complete and return a cancellation form. This form can be found on your group webpage. You will remain an active participant until the cancellation form is received in our office.

If a canceling participant finds another person to take their place, EcoTeach will provide a refund minus a \$150 cancellation fee and any nonrefundable payments made or costs incurred on behalf of the participant (such as plane tickets or travel insurance).

A \$25 late fee will be imposed on all late payments. If any payment is not made by the required date, EcoTeach may, in its sole discretion, cancel the trip for that participant and impose the cancellation fee set forth above. Returned and NSF checks will be charged a \$15 fee.

Services Provided

Our trips are an exceptional value because they include nearly everything. The price includes: ground transportation in Costa Rica, accommodations, hotels, naturalist/guides, meals and activities as specified in the itinerary, and departure taxes (unless otherwise specified). Costs not included are tips for guides and drivers, additional equipment rentals, specified optional activities and expenses of a personal nature. If a trip must be extended or an itinerary modified due to safety, weather, road conditions, lack of transportation, political or civil disputes, medical emergency or other causes beyond our control, all associated costs including any non-recoverable costs are not included in the trip rates or refunds.

Accommodations

Accommodations vary, and include mid-range hotels, basic dormitory-style accommodations at the Sea Turtle Project (which may lack electricity), and family stays (shared bath with family). Rates are generally based on triple and quad occupancy unless otherwise specified.

Medical Treatment/Travel Insurance/Medical Proxy/Release

As a courtesy, EcoTeach purchases a travel insurance policy with emergency medical treatment and emergency evacuation for each participant unless otherwise specified. The description of coverage can be obtained from your group webpage or by request from EcoTeach. As EcoTeach is not providing the coverage, it makes no warranty as to the terms of the coverage. Participants must review the policy terms and conditions and determine if the insurance meets their needs, as EcoTeach can not and does not make any representations that the policy it purchases meets a Participant's needs. Participants should always consider obtaining their own coverage for any trip to make sure their concerns and needs are met.

Participant gives EcoTeach and their contractors permission to arrange emergency medical treatment for participants if deemed necessary in EcoTeach's sole discretion, and Participant agrees to hold EcoTeach harmless for the provision or non-provision of such services, and waives any and all claims for injury, illness or death arising from or relate to this proxy other than those claims arising from EcoTeach's willful conduct or gross negligence.

Participants agree that neither they, nor any of their heirs, personal or legal representatives, or family members will bring suit or make a claim for illness, injury, loss or damage to property, or loss of life resulting from the negligence (but not the willful or fraudulent conduct) of EcoTeach, its employees, directors, owners, officers, agents, contractors or affiliated organizations as a result of my participation in this trip. Participants also agree that they knowingly waive any and all claims of any nature they may have against EcoTeach other than those arising solely from EcoTeach's willful or fraudulent conduct.

Photo and Media Release

Participants are often included in photos and other media we create during our trips or that are shared with us by other participants. Our purpose is to produce educational and outreach materials associated with the subject matter and logistics of our programs. We appreciate being able to use the images and recordings created during the course of our trips and by signing your Registration Form you are granting permission for discretionary use of your picture, recording, writing, or projects to be used in our educational resources, website, or other printed information related to our programs. If you have questions or concerns regarding this release, or would prefer not to grant permission for use of your image, please contact EcoTeach directly at 800-626-8992 or via email at info@ecoteach.com.

Responsibility / Documentation / Immunizations / Health/ Warnings

The responsibility for the participants' well-being and behavior will rest with the participants and with school staff on student trips, and not with the EcoTeach. EcoTeach expects participants to act maturely and assume personal responsibility at all times. The use of alcohol by minors and illegal drug consumption is not permitted. Participants will be returned to the U.S.A., at their expense, if their behavior is considered inappropriate or unsafe by EcoTeach in its sole discretion.

U.S. citizens traveling to Costa Rica are required to carry a passport valid for at least 30 days or more after arrival date. For groups traveling to Panama, passports must be valid for at least 90 days after arrival date. For groups traveling to Nicaragua, passports must be valid for the length of stay in the country. Participants carrying passports from other countries should check with the Costa Rica Embassy / Panama Embassy / Nicaragua Embassy on entry requirements. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure they carry proper and valid documentation.

The Center for Disease Control in the U.S.A. currently lists no vaccinations required for travel to Costa Rica although there are several vaccines recommended. We strongly recommend that you consult your doctor or a travel clinic about these vaccinations. Although we have not had a problem to date, we have been advised to inform you that venomous snakes are found in all parts of Costa Rica and may pose a health hazard.

Though we have taken participants from 8 to 80 years old, our trips are not for everyone. Many of our activities require hiking or walking on uneven trails and soft sand, crossing rivers, swimming and snorkeling and therefore require a high degree of physical fitness and stamina. If you are a hardy and flexible traveler, you will enjoy the trip. We suggest that you consult with your personal physician if you have any health-related problems, concerns or questions.

WARNING: Although EcoTeach stresses safety in all aspects of its programs, PLEASE BE AWARE that travel of any type, and participation in the real and exciting activities of eco-tourism and cross-cultural studies, can be inherently dangerous and always involves the risk of serious injury, illness or death.