

BAHIA DRAKE, COSTA RICA
VOLUNTEERING
INFORMATION



@RASCAREYCR



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RASCAREY

MISSION

We are a young Tico-Canadian couple, passionate about animals, Earth, and Art. In 2020 we developed Rascarey, a non-profit organization for the conservation of sea turtles and the environment. We are looking for local and international volunteers who are open-minded, mindful, hard-working, passionate about nature, respectful, peaceful, creative and of course wishing to make a lifestyle change that will benefit our Planet and yourselves. Our campsite is located on a beachfront farmhouse outside of Drake Bay on the Osa Peninsula. We are located just a 30 second walk from the Pacific Ocean and nestled in the lush jungle only minutes from Corcovado National Park. It is the ideal place if you like to relax, connect with nature and discover the culture of Costa Rica.

SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION



THE HISTORY

Esteban was raised in the Osa, always close to the jungle, and on the beach here with the turtles. For 15 years he has learned and helped with the protection of the different species of turtles in Playa Rincon - mostly under the guidance of an esteemed friend and notary Ethnobotanist, Jonathan Miller Weisberger, who originally started the sea turtle conservation program in 2005. Rascarey is unique from other conservation projects in that we have a genuine interest in connecting locals and foreigners to nature, to feel a sense of empowerment in making a difference in the conservation of our beautiful Earth and the animals that need our help!

ABOUT US

WHO ARE WE ?

We are a young Tico-Canadian couple, passionate about animals and the environment. In 2020 we developed Rascarey, a non-profit organization for the conservation of sea turtles and the Environment. We are so excited to open up our project to local and international volunteers to join us on our mission in connecting people to Nature. Brisa is an Artist, Art-Eco Therapist, and Passionate Educator. Esteban is an Artist as well, often drawing on his Indigenous roots to preserve the tradition of handmade arts and crafts. He has been living with the sea turtles all his life. Together they created this project with a mission in mind - to have a space where like minded individuals can help the sea turtles- but also learn, heal, and grow within the experience.



BRISA

Co-Founder, Director of communication and social media



ESTEBAN

Co-Founder, Leader of turtle conservation project



KASHU

Security Manager

THIS PROJECT IS FOR YOU IF...

- You want to make difference in ocean and environmental conservation.
- You genuinely want to participate in a new project: you are willing to help us grow.
- Basic accommodations and food are okay for you.
- You are open-minded about being immersed in nature and local culture.
- You are willing to be semi "off the grid" (ie: rarely but sometimes the electricity and internet go out due to weather conditions).
- You are respectful, calm, kind, and conscious. We are very mindful-oriented here.
- You are equipped and have motivation to work in outdoor conditions / labour on the land.
- You like dogs - we have a little mini pinscher that roams around the campsite.
- You are happy to live and work communally (sharing spaces during your time here). This means cooking, cleaning, and doing activities / working together with the group that is volunteering at the time - interchanging roles each day.
- You contribute and share your unique abilities and knoweldge. Lots of the work is computer related, creative undertakings, sometimes menial tasks, and also projects that require "good" physical condition.

POLICIES YOU AGREE TO UPON ACCEPTING A POSITION, PLEASE CONSIDER THESE SERIOUSLY BEFORE COMING:

- Contribution amount is paid upon your arrival (PayPal or cash only)
- No alcohol on site, intoxication is not permitted on premise
- Romantic, relationships with locals is prohibited
- Whenever leaving the camp, you report to team leaders where you will go and what time you will return
- You have your own insurance, and all activities you engage in are at your own risk (Rascarey is not liable for any lost items, injuries, deaths)
- Quiet time and lights out is at 10pm

Violation of these rules can result in the termination of your stay, with no refund.

VOLUNTEER TASKS

JUNE TO JANUARY >>

This is the turtle nesting season! It does requires a more in depth application and interview process. This period of the Project work mainly consists of:

- Prepare and maintain the turtle nursery
- Make nightly patrols in search of mother turtles to secure their eggs
- Keep baby turtles safe and conduct turtle liberations
- Give information and collect donations from tourists when the turtles are released
- Exhumation of the turtle nests, to collect data for our biologists
- Ensure the proper functioning of the center by helping with household chores, such as cooking, cleaning, gardening etc.
- Skills with social networking, marketing, awareness can also be an asset
- Beach cleanups, and more!





VOLUNTEER TASKS

JANUARY TO JUNE >>>

During this period we have the last few nests of the turtles to care for and release (end of January), but we still continue the environmental aspect of the Project for many months. We need volunteers for:

- Gardening, cultivating plants and helping with composting.
- Building new infrastructures and maintain old ones.
- Coming up with and taking part in Creative Projects, Painting walls/murals, and improving the visual aspect of the campsite. Lots of nice crafts can be made.
- Give relevant information / collect donations from tourists during turtles releases
- Find sustainable solutions and projects using the materials found on the beach (ie: making a greenhouse using washed up bottles).
- Help with the marketing and visibility of the center (distribution of flyers, awareness raising among young people, etc.)
- Ensure the proper functioning of the center by helping with household /communal chores (ie: cooking, cleaning, gardening etc.)
- Weekly Beach cleanups.
- Taking down and/or preparing the turtle nursery for the next year.





LOCATION

JOIN US IN PARADISE



RINCON DE SAN JOSECTIO, DRAKE BAY, COSTA RICA

Our camp is located right next to the Corcovado National Park, a park that covers more than 41,000 hectares protecting more than 140 species of mammals, 400 species of birds, 20 of which are endemic, 116 species of reptiles and amphibians, 40 species of fish. and at least 500 species of trees.

The camp is just 100 meters from the beach and the Pacific Ocean, where you can enjoy different adventures - swimming, snorkelling, surfing, and other tours that the locals offer. It is approximately 10km outside of the town of Drake Bay, and the nearest supermarket is a 20 minutes drive). There are no restaurants, shops, or "city-like" entertainment around here, only serene nature.

HOW TO GET HERE (we are happy to walk you through how to get here since we are tucked away in a place that requires following a specific set of directions that cannot be found on google maps)

SJO - Drake Bay: Domestic flights through SANSА are offered daily (\$100-\$150 USD)
If you want to rent a car and drive into Drake from the highway through the jungle, a 4x4 is required but is possible - this is the route we normally take!

TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULES

PALMAR NORTE - SIERPE (The bus schedule here is always changing, please consult the bus station when you arrive to the town. It is across from "Super Sur" market. Another option is to take a Taxi or Colectivo - which is around 15mil)

SIERPE - DRAKE BAY BY BOAT (8mil per person):

Sierpe - Drake Bay (1hr) : 7:30am / 4:30pm

Drake Bay - Sierpe (1hr): 11:30am / 2:30pm

TAXI FROM DRAKE BAY TO THE CAMP (12mil per person)

Drake Bay - Rincon de Sanjosecito by local quad taxi (crossing two rivers)





ACCOMODATION

WE HAVE **3** DIFFERENTS
TYPES OF HABITATIONS

- MIXED DORMITORY - PRIVATE ROOMS - PRIVATE CABIN -

PROVIDED
FOR ALL

- Electricity and hydro ■ Wifi connection ■ Filtered drinking water
- A communal kitchen with refrigerator/freezer and propane stove/oven
- Communal washing machine ■ Sheets and pillows
- Areas for yoga, hammocks, kayak, surfboards and boogieboards
- Unfortunately, we do not have air conditioning, hot water or mosquito nets



SHARED SPACE



MIXED DORMITORY

WE HAVE:

- 02** Private Room with a twin bed (bunkbed)
- 01** Mixed dormitory with 3 twin beds.

PRIVATE ROOM

WE HAVE:

- 01** Private room with double bed.

**Bathrooms: We have two bathrooms
on the main floor, one shower.**

To read what is provided for all: see page 10.

***Habitations are on second level floor
Layout & Photos Available Upon Request***

PRIVATE CABIN

WE HAVE:

01 Private equipped cabin with ocean view.

Only at 2 min walk from the campsite, we have a 2 level private cabin. The cabin has a kitchen (propane stove), bathroom, shower, 1 double bed on the second floor overlooking the Ocean, balcony area, w/ furniture .

There is electricity but sadly no wifi can reach this space (only at basecamp)



PRICE & WORK

HOW MANY HOURS ?

We ask about 4-5 hours of work per day for 5 days a week with two days off. We are flexible on the schedule depending on the groups needs, but often times a schedule will be in place. You will have lots of free time during the day.

PRICE

We ask for a contribution solely for the advancement of the project.

The price varies according to the season and the accommodation type. The amount is on a sliding scale and will be agreed upon before the workawayer(s) arrive.

We provide: cooking oil, spices, beans, rice, organic produce from the land (plantain, yucca, coconuts, herbs, etc.). We often catch fish which is happily shared. It is possible to arrange food deliveries to the camp from a local market - but take note that produce is quite expensive in this area and it's not included. .



WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

- Repellent (natural if possible), Sunscreen, hat
- Long sleeved top, Long pants
- Mosquito net if you are sensitive to bugs
- Headlamp (with red light during turtle nesting season)
- Yoga mat, snorkeling gear (we only have 1 set to share)
- Your own Towel / Toiletries (shampoo, toothpaste, soap, laundry soap)
- Enough produce/food for at least three days-one week (can be purchased in town or in Los Planes prior to arriving). Food deliveries from the market can be arranged, they charge about C2,000 fee and is weather dependent.

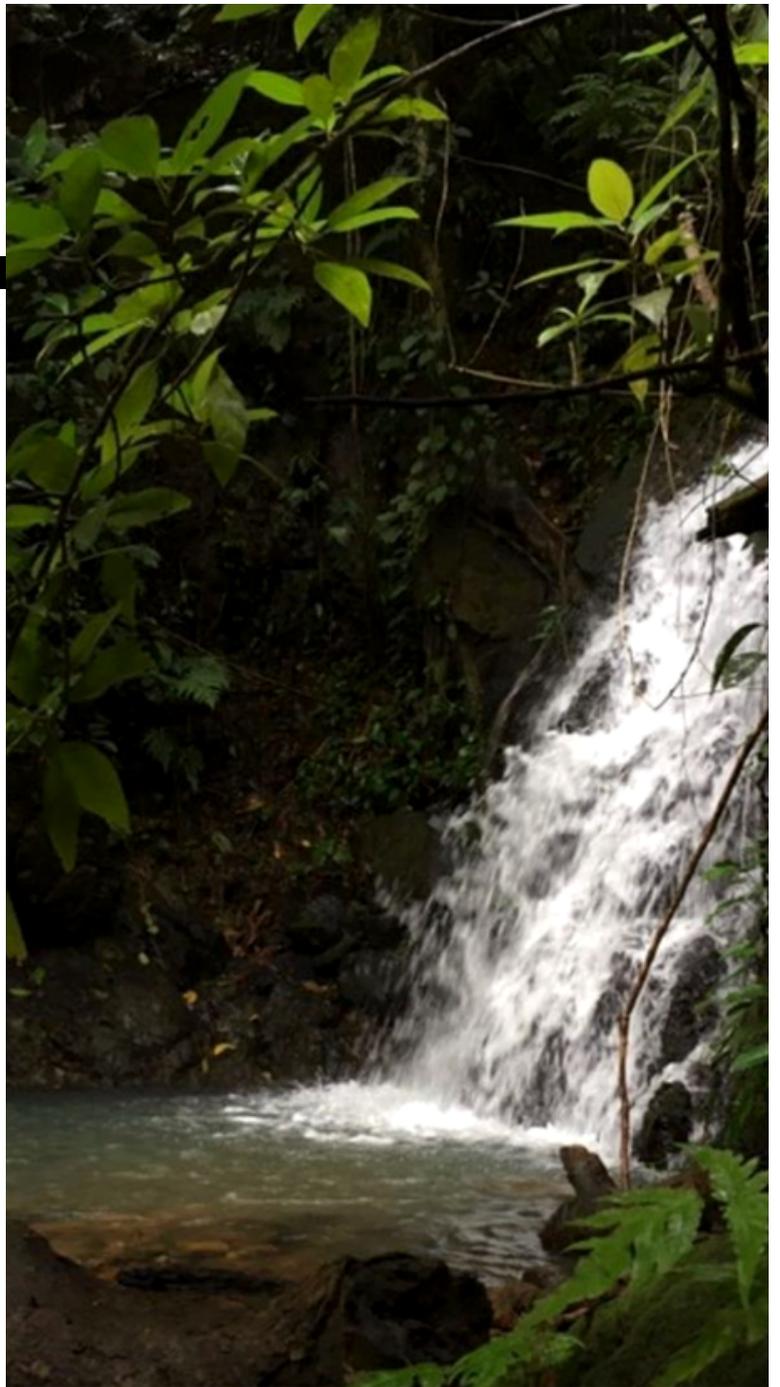
VERY IMPORTANT TO MAKE SURE YOU TAKE WITH YOU BEFORE ENTERING DRAKE BAY:

- Ankle high boots / rubber boots are required for working in the yard and walking after dark
- **Cash** - there are no ATM's in the entire Drake area (please familiarize yourself with the local currency and the exchange rate)
- Healthy snacks / vegetarian food is hard to come by here. Things like nuts, seeds and dried fruit are recommended
- Any items you might want to donate to the project (books, kitchen items, etc. are hugely appreciated)

DAYS OFF

During your days off you are free to go wherever you want, and often times we will go out as a group. We are experts in the area so we can take you on a guided hike through the jungle, or to nearby secret spots. You can arrange tours with local companies and often times they will pick you up by boat right outside the campsite.

The area offers a multitude of free activities just enjoying the tranquility of the area- discovering the nearby waterfalls, daytime hikes, swimming in the sea, snorkelling, surfing, yoga, observing wildlife, etc. There are lots of tours in the area: Caño Island, diving, snorkelling, night walking, bird watching, whale watching, Corcovado Park: San Pedrillo and Sirena Wildlife Stations, and more.



CULTURAL EXCHANGE

You will benefit by experiencing this region: one of the most biodiverse regions on the planet. You will be able to see and learn about all the different types of tropical fauna, flora and fauna that are found here. You will be immersed in nature, have the beach at your disposal for swimming, snorkelling, surfing. We have spaces to do yoga, meditation and just relax. Cultural aspects include learning how to utilize resources on the land (making coconut oil, coconut milk, fishing, herbalism, etc.), making handmade crafts using natural materials, Spanish and English language exchange, eating and cooking local food, as well as building with materials from the property (bamboo, etc.) We speak English and Spanish only.



ANY QUESTIONS ?

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