

Cuba Nature & Culture Adventure



Welcome Letter

Welcome to the SEE Turtles Cuba Nature & Culture Expedition! Join us to explore this unique destination to witness sea turtle nesting in Guanahacabibes National Park, exploring the Cuban countryside, and experiencing historic Havana. You will be supporting conservation and research of sea turtles and learning about this country's incredible culture, history, and people.

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 \$1 million for turtle conservation and local communities and have helped to save more than 9 million baby turtles at important nesting beaches around the world, including more than 400,000 in Cuba.

We hope you will join us on this action-packed trip. We will meet and interact with the dedicated people working to protect their natural resources and learn much about the nature, music, and culture of Cuba. Cuba is as safe as ever to visit and remains open to all US citizens (and people from other countries as well) through the Support for the Cuban to People (SCP) license from the US Treasury Department.

We hope to SEE you in Cuba!



Brad Nahill
President, SEE Turtles
brad@seeturtles.org



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Trip Information

Cuba is an extraordinary island with its unique culture, gorgeous beaches, and clear waters. The isolation of this country has resulted in well-protected natural areas and coral reefs and great opportunities to see wildlife. Guanahacabibes National Park, the island's westernmost point, is a great place to witness nesting of green sea turtles and to swim in crystal blue waters. We will spend several nights on the beach with one of the country's leading biologists, observing nesting and helping with data collection where possible.

In contrast with the remote park, the vibrant city of Havana offers a rich cultural experience including live music, fascinating architecture, and more. Profits from this trip will help to save at least 500 hatchlings at a turtle nesting beach. This trip is open to American citizens through a "People to People" license given by the US Treasury Department to our partners. There is no more travel warning (though travelers were never at risk) and the country remains safe for travelers. The trip is also open to citizens of other countries.

Is This Trip Right For Me?

Cuba is a unique destination, which has both positives and negatives. This trip accommodations includes guesthouses and cabins that are comfortable in a safe neighborhood of Havana as well as Viñales and Guanahacabibes. This trip includes much time spent time outside, which means some activities are dependent on weather and there can be significant bugs in this area. The trip also involves a lot of time on the private bus, including a several hours of driving between Havana, Viñales, and Guanahacabibes and about 30 minutes each way from the cabins to the nesting beach each evening, which results in late nights, arriving back to the cabins as late as 2 am.

Conservation Impact Pricing:

SEE Turtles is the first and only operator to provide transparent pricing that shows the economic impact of each trip on turtle and wildlife conservation and benefits to local communities.

- **Turtle Conservation:** \$750 of the trip price supports partners who work to protect sea turtles (27%)
- **Local Communities:** \$300 of the trip price stays in communities around sea turtle habitats (11%)
- **Travel Costs:** \$1,745 of the trip price covers, transportation, accommodations, insurance, and other costs (62%)

[Register Here](#)

2025 Date: August 2 - 10

Price: \$2,795 pp double occupancy.
Single supplement: \$1,000 pp.

Includes:

All in-country transportation, hotels, most meals (as indicated in the itinerary), activities as listed, round trip airport pickup, guides, tips, and a donation to turtle conservation.

Excludes:

Airfare, tips, personal items, and travel insurance.

Discounts & Notes:

- \$60 discount for paying by check.
- Maximum group size of 12, minimum of 8.
- Minimum recommended age is 10 years old, under 18 needs to be accompanied by an adult.

Worry-Free Cancellation Policy

Book with us and you'll have peace of mind about your booking. If we cancel a trip, we'll refund 100% of the money paid or put it towards a future trip, your choice. If you cancel, all cancellation fees are usable for future trips with no penalty, except for within 60 days of travel. Check out our terms and conditions at the end of this packet for full details.

Detailed Itinerary

DAY 1: ARRIVE TO HAVANA

Start your exploration of Cuba in Havana. You'll meet your guide at the airport and head to Hostal Buen Viaje in downtown Havana. That afternoon, meet for a welcome cocktail and orientation and then head with the group to have a welcome dinner at one of the city's great paladars (restaurants in private homes). Get a good night's sleep or head out for some live music in the city after dinner. Overnight at Buen Viaje (1 night). (D)

DAY 2: HAVANA & VINALES

The architecture of Havana is a fascinating mix of styles built over the centuries. You'll see the influence of not only the Spanish and British, who held the city at different points, but also French, Italian, and Middle Eastern styles as well as more modern styles. Old Havana is undergoing an impressive restoration, starting with its stunning European squares. This morning, we will take a walking tour of Old Havana. Lunch will be in the city. After lunch, board your private bus for a 2 hour drive to Viñales Valley, Cuba's renowned tobacco growing region. The area is famous for its "mogotes," enormous isolated rock formations that afford some of the most scenic views on the island. Have some down time before dinner at an organic farm with a great view of the valley and then have time to walk in the charming town. Overnight at a local guesthouse. (B, L, D)

DAY 3: TO GUANAHACABIBES

Join your guide this morning for a walk around the beautiful valley to learn about its unique geography. Lunch will be at the impressive Mural of Prehistory. Afterwards, board your bus for the 3 hour drive to Guanahacabibes National Park. We will be staying in community-owned cabins that are right on the beach. Arrive in time to take a dip in the ocean before dinner or relax on the beach. The national park extends into the ocean, protecting a large coral reef that is home to many species of fish and three species of sea turtles (hawksbills, loggerheads, and greens). After a buffet dinner, the group will receive a presentation from turtle biologist Dr. Julia Azanza, one of the country's leading sea turtle experts, who has managed this program for more than a decade.

You'll learn about the impressive effort that goes into protecting and studying these turtles and the success they have had in growing the number of nesting green and loggerhead turtles. That night, you'll drive to the nesting beach to look for nesting green sea turtles and hatchlings (about a 30 minute drive each way). Overnight at Cabinas La Bajada. (3 nights). (B, L, D)



View of Old Havana - Brad Nahill

DAYS 4 - 5: NATIONAL PARK EXPLORATION

Guanahacabibes is a mix of forest, beach, ocean, mangrove, and other habitats that are home to more than 170 species of birds and many other animals. This morning you'll join a park ranger to look for some of the unique bird life of the park, including the world's smallest bird, the bee hummingbird, and many other species of birds. In the afternoon, you'll have the opportunity to snorkel in one of the park's reefs, either by boat or right from the beach. Around 9 pm, we will head over to the beach again to look for turtles coming ashore and observe the nesting as the researchers collect data. Participants may be able to help researchers with the data collection. (B, L, D)

DAY 5: SNORKELING & TURTLE RESEARCH

Today, there will be an opportunity to snorkel the park's coral reefs, before and after lunch. Take a boat out to one of the deeper reefs to look for hawksbills. Tonight will be the final visit to the nesting beach. (B, L, D)

DAY 6: VIÑALES EXPLORATION

After breakfast, we will head back to the Viñales Valley to explore more of this region. We will visit the Cueva del Indio, a beautiful cave that was previously an important site for indigenous communities and includes cave paintings and pre-Columbian archaeological remains. We will also have an opportunity to take a horseback riding excursion to see more of the valley. Overnight at a local guesthouse (1 night). (B, L, D)

DAY 7: RETURN TO HAVANA

We will board the bus to return to Havana after breakfast, stopping for lunch along the way (3 hour drive). The group will have some free time explore the some of the city's great museums that afternoon. Dinner this evening will be on your own (cost not included) to choose from the many wonderful options and then head out to see live music (entrance fees not included). Overnight at Buen Viaje (2 nights). (B, L)

DAY 8: HAVANA EXPLORATION

After a buffet breakfast at the hotel, board the bus to visit the former home of Ernest Hemingway at a beautiful spot outside of the city. Dinner will be at a local paladar for a multi-course meal. Head out on the town for music after dinner or rest for the trip home. (B, L, D)

DAY 9: DEPARTURE

Head to the airport in time for your flight or extend your stay and explore the country.



Sea Turtle Research Information

At Guanahacabibes National Park, green turtles start nesting from June through October.

Turtle research here involves walking the 700 m. nesting beach with a group of researchers and other volunteers. When the group finds a turtle, local volunteers help collect data and mark its location. Researchers collect data such as length and width of the shell, where the turtle nested, its tag number, and its physical condition. If the turtle isn't already tagged, they will apply either a metal tag to the flippers. Our partners also do photo identification, excavation of nests to determine how many hatchlings survived, and other research.

Guanahacabibes National Park

Guanahacabibes National Park covers the westernmost point of Cuba's main island. It's one of the largest protected areas in the country with a size of more than 150 square miles (about 400 km sq). Home to a variety of habitats including coral reefs, beaches, mangroves, scrublands, and evergreen forest, Guanahacabibes has more than 170 species of birds and dozens of reptile and mammal species. The beaches here are home to the second largest breeding population of green turtles in the country with an average of more than 300 nests per season. Our [Billion Baby Turtles](#) initiative supports the turtle research and conservation efforts at Guanahacabibes. Our support helped to save an estimated 400,000 hatchlings since 2013.

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.

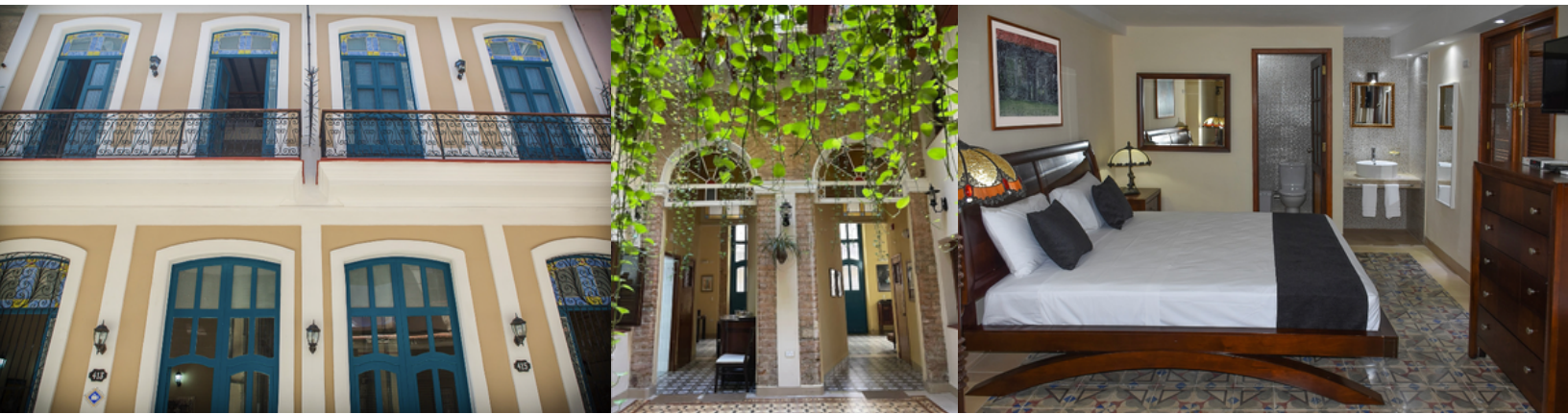
[Learn more about green turtles on our website.](#)



Sergio Romero Torras

Accommodations

Hostal Buen Viaje (Havana)



Cabinas La Bajada (Guanahacabibes)



Frequently Asked Questions

Turtle Issues

Am I guaranteed to see a sea turtle or hatchling?

As with most wild animals, there is never a guarantee to see a sea turtle (they are endangered of course). However, we will be there during a high point of the green turtle nesting season, so you have a very good chance of seeing multiple turtles. Hatchlings are difficult to predict but there is a good chance to see them as well.

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. In addition, the support provided by travelers helps to ensure that the beach is patrolled. Finally, every tour saves at least 500 hatchlings through our [Billion Baby Turtles initiative](#) providing funds for our work to reduce [plastic pollution](#) and end the [illegal tortoiseshell trade](#).

Will I get to do every volunteer job on the trip?

We will try to give everyone the opportunity to try out the jobs they are interested in, including measuring, counting eggs, recording data, and other tasks. But we will be limited by the number of turtles that nest while we are there and the size of the group. First priority will be to have everyone do at least one job and then we can rotate jobs once everyone has had a turn. Check out the Sea Turtle Research page for details about the tasks involved in turtle research.

Logistical/Travel Issues

How safe is Cuba?

Cuba is generally very safe for tourists, but petty crime is not uncommon. Use common sense and take precautions, especially at night. Along with the rise in tourism and the down-turn of the economy in the 90's, an increase in hustlers and prostitutes has occurred. Hustlers or "jinateros" may be very pleasant and want anything from a dinner to marriage or a trip to the USA. Most Cubans would never approach you on the street without reason, so be sensitive of those who do. They are usually harmless.

How much money should I bring?

We recommend bringing at least \$300 - 400 in cash for tips, optional activities, extra drinks (one drink per meal is included), souvenirs, going out on the town, and other expenses (some places charge for bathroom use for example). You will not be able to use a US credit or debit card while there, so please plan accordingly and bring small bills.

Where Can I Change Money?

The local currency is Cuban Convertible Pesos (CUC's) and the rate is 1 to 1, though the government takes a 13% fee, so the rate actually comes out to .87 cents to 1 CUC. The rate is the same throughout the country. You will be able to change money at the airport or at banks in Havana and Pinar del Rio and the hotel in Havana (but not the cabins near Guanahacabibes National Park.)

How much should I tip?

Tipping is always optional but if your guide and driver are providing good service, we recommend at least \$5 per day each, per person, which would be \$80 for the full trip per person. For the hotels and cabins, \$3 per night is recommended and \$3 per guided tour (4 tours). The total recommended tipping amount is around US \$115 (tips can be left in US dollars). We recommend bringing small bills for tips.

Can I call home or check my email while in Cuba?

The cheapest way to call home from Cuba is to purchase a phone card at your hotel, and use public phones. Wifi is available at the hotel in Havana but the connection can be weak. To get online, you can purchase internet cards at the hotel in Havana (2 CUC/hour) to get data minutes for your phone.

Are the electrical outlets the same as in the US?

The voltage in Cuba is the same as the states, no adapter is needed.

How should I handle medications I need to bring?

If you plan to bring personal medicine to Cuba, 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 their 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 Cuba](#) for the most up-to-date information. According to the CDC, there are no vaccinations required to travel to Cuba.

What is the weather like in Cuba in August?

Cuba has a subtropical climate, characterized by moderately high temperatures throughout the year. Be sure to check the weather forecast before you pack and depart, so that you may adequately prepare for the weather. In the summer the temperature can reach as high as 90 or over. Average humidity is 78%, the influence of the northeastern trade winds result in a gentle sea breeze that reaches most parts of the island all year round.

There are only two differentiated seasons: the dry season (November to April) and the rainy season (May to October). Hurricanes take place (rarely) between June and November. Weather conditions are usually similar to those in southern Florida, so the weather reports for that area can provide you with an idea of what to expect.

What can I bring back to the US?

Under current US regulations, you are not allowed to bring back tobacco or alcohol products. Bringing products from wildlife may be restricted, so we don't recommend purchasing anything made from wild animals. See our Conservation Travel page for a guide on how to recognize and avoid tortoiseshell products, which are sold in Havana (though it is illegal). There is no restriction for other types of souvenirs.

Testimonials

I had been researching trips to Cuba for a while when I found the SEE Turtles trip. Between staying with locals, experiencing Havana, seeing the sea turtles, and traveling the countryside, it was an amazing trip. Everything was well-planned and organized. All I had to do was enjoy!

-Jennifer P.

This trip was wonderful in every way. The opportunities to see the nesting green sea turtles and explore the fascinating city of Havana left memories that will last a lifetime. All the guides were knowledgeable and personable.

-George R.

For anyone interested in sea turtles, this is a great experience. And the bonus is Cuba, a fascinating and friendly island. Altogether, a super value.

-Judith S.

A worthwhile trip that makes you feel like you have contributed to sea turtle conservation. Very knowledgeable staff and guides.

-Anonymous



Conservation Travel

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 SEEturtles.org/TooRareToWear and [download our SEE Shell App to identify these products here](#).

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 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. [Check out this great resource from our friends at Oceanic Society to learn more.](#)

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 of 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.



HOW TO IDENTIFY & AVOID HAWKSBILL TURTLESHELL

Endangered hawksbill turtles are hunted for their shells to make souvenirs. Help save this turtle by avoiding vendors selling turtleshell products.

IMITATION		TURTLESHELL	
	PLASTIC		COLOR
	Uniform pattern with markings		Browns, oranges, amber, yellow
	COCONUT		PATTERN
	Brown on top, beige underneath		Assymetric and irregular shapes
	HORN		SURFACE
	Heavy with black/white coloring		Color pattern visible throughout

Download our SEE Shell App



Apple



Android

Conservation Impact Pricing

We believe in transparency and that travelers should know how much their trips are helping, so we now list the impact of every trip on our conservation partners and local communities. Your participation on these trips makes a big difference to the work on the ground and in the water. [Learn more about our pricing here.](#)

We break up the impact into three categories:

- **Conservation:** For this trip, an estimated \$750 of the trip cost supports conservation efforts. This includes funds that go to local partners to protect nesting beaches and conduct in-water research, as well as support for our Billion Baby Turtles, Too Rare To Wear, and Sea Turtles & Plastic programs and general operations. We also list the amount of volunteer opportunities in each trip. Since our launch, we have generated more than US \$1 million for turtle conservation and our 1,500+ travelers have completed nearly 5,000 volunteer shifts for an additional \$50,000 in-kind benefits.
- **Local Communities:** For this trip, an estimated \$300 of the trip cost is spent in local communities. We believe that money spent communities around turtle hotspots is as important as direct funding. When communities benefit from turtle watching, they are more likely to support protecting sea turtles and less likely to participate in activities like illegal egg harvesting. This category includes tour costs going towards staying in local accommodations, eating in local restaurants, and paying local staff (including local guides for tourist activities.) We have pumped more than US \$300,000 into coastal communities near sea turtle sites since our launch.
- **Travel Costs:** For this trip, an estimated \$1,745 goes towards travel costs. Every tour involves costs to get you to places to see the sea turtles, hiring a guide and driver to get you there safely, airport transfers, as well as profits and administrative costs of our local operators and partners.



10/09/2006 17:28

Julia Azanza Ricardo

Recommended Packing List

Pack in a duffel bag/suitcase/backpack that you can carry yourself and a day pack.

*** Indicates required items.**

Clothing

- Shorts & t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- **Polarized sunglasses***
- **Water-friendly sandals or shoes***
- Long-sleeve shirts and pants for patrols
- Socks, underwear
- Tennis or walking shoes
- Hat (with a tie for the wind)
- Footwear for beach walks (no open-toed sandals or flip flops)
- Shoes for walking tours and forest hike

Miscellaneous Gear

- Camera, batteries, battery charger, underwater camera
- Dry-bag for camera and gear
- Day pack
- Bath towel and wash cloth
- Small first aid kit with personal prescriptions
- Binoculars (some may be supplied)
- **Reusable water bottle***

Toiletries & Health

(Please try to bring biodegradable products)

- Toothbrush, toothpaste
- Soap, shampoo, brush, comb
- **Waterproof, reef-friendly sun screen (SPF 30 or higher)***
- Bug repellent
- Skin lotions/ lip balm/ aloe
- Antibiotic cream & band aids
- Snacks for between meals
- Medicine for upset stomachs/diarrhea
- Electrolyte packets (like vitamin C packets)
- Headache medicine
- Personal medicines



About Us

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 our Billion Baby Turtles, Too Rare To Wear, Sea Turtle Inclusivity Fund, Sea Turtles & Plastic, and Sea Turtle Week programs.

To date, we have brought more than 1,500 people to visit turtle projects around the world, generated more than US \$1 million for turtle conservation and local communities, saved more than 10 million turtle hatchlings at more than 60 nesting beaches, and cleaned up more than 250,000 lbs of plastic. SEE Turtles is an independent 501c3 organization based in Portland, Oregon.



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Photo: Juan Ma Gonzalez

Terms & Conditions

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 not available 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.

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:

- 120 or more days prior to departure: \$300
- 60 to 119 days prior to departure: 50% of expedition cost
- 59 days or less prior to departure: 100% of expedition cost

Cancellation fees can be used towards one future SEE Turtles trip with no penalties or expiration except in the case of cancellations within 60 days prior to departure, when payments to local providers has already been completed. Any fees paid can be deducted from a future trip, based on available dates for cancellations made before 60 days prior to departure. Trip credits can be transferred one time only, if a second trip is cancelled by the traveler, all fees will be forfeited with the exception of extreme circumstances, which is up to the discretion of SEE Turtles staff.

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, laundry, tips, 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.

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.

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 gender but some trips require a single supplement if single rooms are preferred or 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 their 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 release form by our local partners and/or tour operators.

Suppliers of Services: SEE Turtles is performing a nonprofit 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.