



Marine biology adventures!

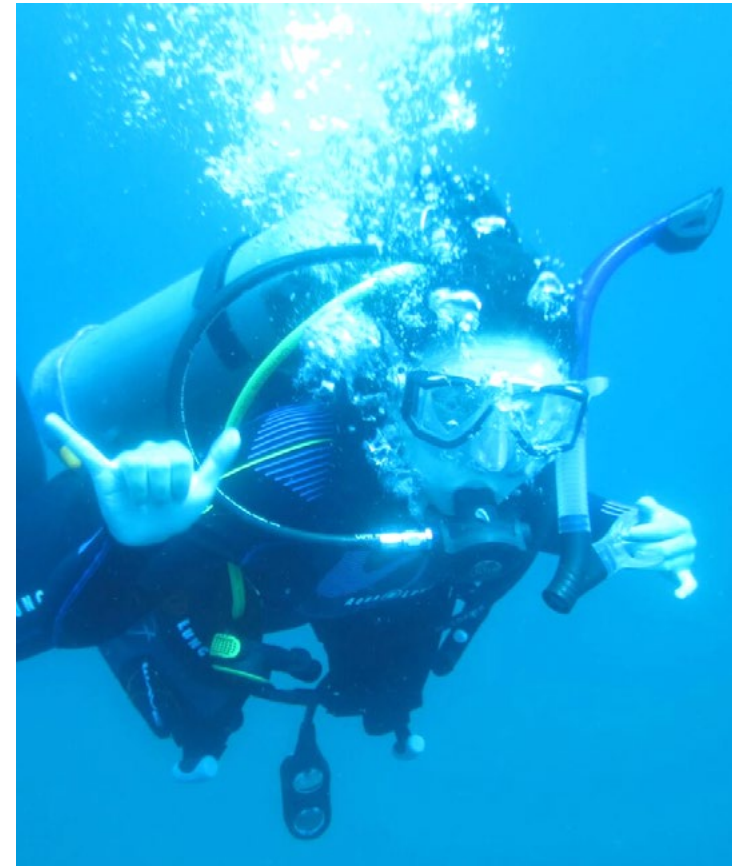
discovery + confidence + conservation + adventure

Join the adventure...



and discover

marine life like never before



a lifelong passion and respect for the environment



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amazing coastal ecosystems and marine habitats



"I had the time of my life. My favorite part was the nest excavation. It was a dream come true to see turtle hatchlings. From now on, I promise to make a stand and make the oceans a safer environment for all marine life. I want to thank everyone for the most incredible experience of my entire life. I have made memories that will last a life time."

- Missy
Gurnee, IL

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creatures great and small



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an experience you will never forget!



"I enjoyed everything about camp. I made new friends that had the same interests as me. It opened my eyes and showed me that some people are unaware of threatening a species to the brink of extinction. The future holds many things, let sea turtles be in it."

- Lia
Yardley, PA

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FOUNDER'S LETTER

Dear Future Marine Biologist,

When it comes to conservation, we all have to look at the total picture. If we can make people see that if everybody did even one thing to help the planet, to save our home, and as a result save the home for all the other living creatures as well, then it would make a huge impact!

Once people are aware, they will realize what a difference they can make. They will discover how good it feels to make a difference and it will only grow from there. It will change the world!

Sea Turtle Camp is a marine biology experience that opens the world of conservation to students. Come be a part of something special, make a difference, and experience the unique wonders of sea turtles.

I look forward to meeting you this summer!

Warmest Regards,

Jean

*Jean Beasley
Cofounder*



our founders

Jean Beasley founder



A chance encounter with a nesting sea turtle prompted Jean Beasley's daughter, Karen, to spearhead a project to protect the sea turtles, their nests, and the emerging hatchlings on Topsail Island. After Karen's untimely passing, Jean took up the reins of her work, and her spirit lives on through the hospital today. Although neither had envisioned a sea turtle hospital, when a seriously injured turtle washed up on Topsail Island, something had to be done! Before they knew it, a small group of volunteers united, and The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center was born. More than 20 fully recovered sea turtles, ranging in size from 4 to 400 pounds, are released back to the ocean each year thanks to the volunteers' efforts.



The center's volunteers have made significant contributions to the field of sea turtle medicine, but perhaps more importantly, they have listened to the message that the sea turtles have brought them. The degradation of their habitat and the reasons behind their illnesses and injuries were hard to ignore. Jean began to speak of conservation and its importance, not only for sea turtles, but for the very survival of the planet itself. Jean's efforts at the Sea Turtle Center led her to become nominated and subsequently win Animal Planet's 2007 "Hero of the Year" award. Jean is recognized around the world for her conservation work, and she continues to challenge all with her message that, "Every person can make a difference, and together we can change the world!"

Jen Civelli founder/director



Jen Civelli is a mother of two, an avid lover of sea turtles, a steward for our coastal environment, and served as a local college chemistry instructor for 14 years. Her passion for the ocean started while attending college at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo and continued through her graduate school studies at San Diego State University. During her college years, through the sport of surfing, Jen began to learn and respect the ocean and all of its inhabitants. Jen felt very fortunate to have the opportunity to move to Wilmington, North Carolina in 2000 because our coastal area has so much to offer with its white sandy beaches, warm clear water, and abundant marine life. The move to Wilmington also led Jen to discover The Karen Beasley Sea



Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center. Jen started volunteering at the center in 2001. To her, it felt like the sea turtles had the ability to see into her soul as she cared for them, and gave her the inspiration to fight for both their safety and for the safety of the entire coastal environment. "It was amazing to witness each turtle's own personality and see the look of thanks in their eyes!" Jen and her husband, Rick, also founded WB Surf Camp, which has supported the Sea Turtle Center since its inception in 2001. Because of their dedication to sea turtle conservation and admiration for the mission of The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, Sea Turtle Camp was born.



mission

Sea Turtle Camp was created to immerse teens in the field of marine biology through hands-on, feet-wet, experiential education. Our mission is to inspire and empower youth to become independent, proactive stewards of the environment through exposure to the world of marine biology. Sea turtles are some of the oldest living creatures in the world, and their numbers are being depleted faster than they can reproduce. While we can't solve all the world's problems, we know that one person can make a difference, and a camp full of eager, knowledge-hungry teens can have a significant impact.



One of our goals is to share our passion for life while teaching young adults how to organize themselves into a compassionate, hard working team of individuals that can recognize problems and work towards solving them. Through our grassroots approach, we strive to show our campers a wide variety of possibilities at a time in their lives when they have many potential roads to follow. In so doing, they will learn about the rewards of selfless giving in their community, truly leaving their philanthropic footprint in the sand.

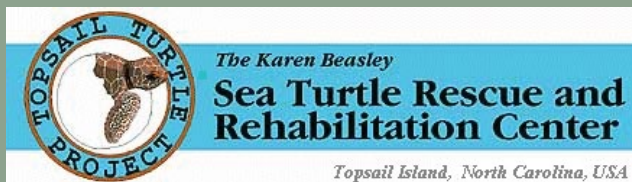




sea turtle center

We strive to raise compassionate awareness for what's being done in and for our life-sustaining oceans. The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center was created to provide injured sea turtles with the love and care necessary to rehabilitate and release them back to the ocean. The center seeks to "provide an experiential learning site for students of biology, wildlife conservation, and/or veterinary medicine from around the world."

As sea turtle numbers keep declining and the obstacles they face continue to grow, the importance of volunteers, such as those at the hospital, becomes even more vital. By aligning with this amazing non-profit organization and igniting the wonder and amazement of the next generation, we hope to not only support the center's efforts physically and financially, but change the world, and change lives, one rehabilitated sea turtle at a time.



After breaking ground in May 2010, the new Sea Turtle Center facility in Surf City, NC opened its doors on November 7th, 2013. After years of working in a crowded, cramped 900 square-foot space, caring for up to 40 turtles, the center moved into its new 13,000+ square-foot building. **You will work inside this amazing hospital/education center, complete with husbandry, surgical, and public education rooms.**

It takes many people each day to keep the facility running smoothly. It is often difficult and hot work. However, the rewards are priceless and can be found simply by looking into a turtle's eyes just before their release back to the ocean and witnessing their pure excitement as they return home.

Campers will engage in these daily activities alongside and under the supervision of dedicated sea turtle center volunteers and interns. Learn what it takes to care for, rehabilitate, and release one of these magnificent creatures back to the sea. Campers will also get to know the turtles by name, learn how they're named, and begin to recognize the many different personalities exhibited by each turtle.





educators



The Sea Turtle Camp team is composed of experienced marine educators and administrative staff who bring with them professional experience, in-depth knowledge, and a broad range of skill sets. Our educators are passionate about marine biology, the study of coastal ecosystems, and are excited to share this passion with fresh young minds that are motivated and energized to learn and make a positive impact on our planet.

Employment at Sea Turtle Camp is extremely competitive. We examine hundreds of applications before selecting the members of our elite team. All applicants must go through our intense multi-stage interview process and comprehensive background check. We take only the top candidates and are extremely proud to provide one of the greatest employment opportunities available among marine science summer camps.

- American Red Cross certified in CPR, First Aid and Lifeguarding
- Staff degrees specializing in the marine and environmental sciences
- Experience working in a camp environment
- Extensive pre-season training
- Dedicated and diverse staff from a variety of backgrounds
- Thorough background checks are performed on all employees
- All applicants are hired only after extensive, multi-stage interviews





Upon hiring, all instructors attend our mandatory training prior to the start of each season. Required qualifications for our staff include CPR, First Aid, and Lifeguarding. Our founder, Jen Civelli, plays a fundamental role in the hiring and training of each team member.

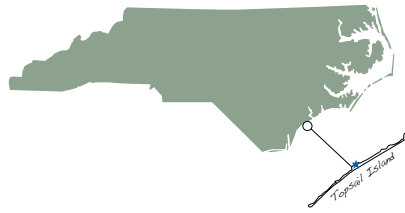
Our mission statement of environmental conservation and philanthropy is deeply shared by our team.

We are conscious of the fact that without the ocean, there is no life on earth. We have dedicated our lives to educating youth about environmental conservation, living a lifestyle that is harmonious with this purpose, and exploring new ways of sharing our mission.

"My counselors were great role models and teachers, and helped me realize what I wanted to do in college and post college. My instructors helped me develop my own opinions about the world and grow as an individual into a better human being. They continue to support me in my future endeavors and I appreciate all that they and Sea Turtle Camp have done for me."

- Allison
Pittsburgh, PA





Carolina Ocean Odyssey

Ages 10-12



Carolina Ocean Odyssey is a 6 day, residential summer camp program for 10-12 year olds. This exciting new program is a partnership with our friends at WB Surf Camp! The primary focus of this program is to introduce campers to a variety of ocean activities while sharing our local coastal environment. Our goal is for campers to gain independence and an appreciation for protecting and enjoying our earth's oceans.

Campers receive expert instruction and care from our highly trained team. Prior to camp, our staff participate in a week of training, which includes lifeguarding, marine science, surf coaching, ocean ecology, childhood development and behavior management. We are dedicated to being partners in parenting with all of our families.

Coastal North Carolina offers a unique setting for a hands-on, aquatic adventure program.

Summer water temps average in the low 80's, so you'll be ready to jump right into adventure! From the sandy shores of Topsail Island, build your confidence in the water as you spend each day participating in a different aquatic activity.

You'll go kayaking, snorkeling, boogie boarding, take a surfing lesson, enjoy a paddleboard tour and more! When you're not in the water, you'll explore our region by land. Keep an eye out for sea turtle nests during morning and evening beach walks. Observe sea turtle care at The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center,



Sea Turtle Camp was the best camp I have ever been to.

I made many friends and I learned so much. My favorite part is hard to choose because . . . I did so many great things!"

- Kelcey
Chagrin Falls, OH

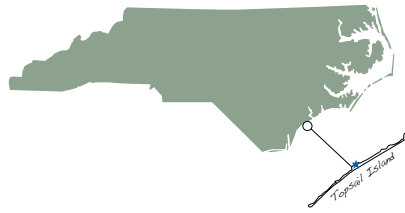


where you will learn about sea turtle conservation. Discover local habitats through hands-on activities at the salt marsh, dunes and tidal pools – led by our marine educators.

Camp tuition includes: lodging on Topsail Island, 24-hour same gender adult supervision, admission to all activities, all equipment, transportation including pickup and return to the Wilmington International Airport (ILM), community service certificate, camp t-shirt and memorable group photo. Campers are responsible for round trip airfare to ILM or transportation to Topsail Island and additional money for souvenirs.

- Lodging on historic Topsail Island
- Kayak trip through the salt marsh
- Paddleboard tour along the Intracoastal Waterway
- Surfing lesson with the pros at WB Surf Camp
- Tour of The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center
- Salt marsh exploration through coastal ecology activities
- Learn ocean safety practices and the importance of conservation
- Enjoy a Hawaiian Luau and traditional camp activities
- Enrollment is limited to 16 students





Marine Biology Adventure

Ages 13-17



Sea Turtle Camp is located in the coastal town of Topsail Beach, North Carolina. During this unique program, you will work with live sea turtles while building your knowledge of marine biology fundamentals and ocean conservation.

We have five species of sea turtles that migrate in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of North Carolina—loggerhead, green, Kemp's ridley, leatherback, and occasionally the hawksbill.

Spend two mornings working with the interns at The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, caring for the turtles. From preparing food to cleaning tanks, you will understand the enormous amount of time, effort, and love poured into every

turtle. You will get to share this newfound knowledge during a public outreach event. The goal is to one day return them to the sea after being nurtured back to health. While walking the beaches looking for nesting mothers, you'll learn about nocturnal adaptations. You'll also patrol the beach in the mornings looking for fresh tracks.

You will earn 15 community service hours through your work at The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, public outreach, and beach sweeps. Help make a difference by removing trash from our beaches. This trash, especially plastic, kills thousands of marine animals each year, forcing many of them towards extinction. Sea turtles are no exception and ingest or get caught in everything from fishing line to balloons. Sea turtles easily mistake plastic bags for sea jellies, their favorite food, which leads to malnutrition and potentially death.



"I'll never experience anything more interesting, fun, and intriguing. To see and care for such amazing animals is something that is a once in a lifetime experience and it brings me great joy to know that I was able to take part in such an amazing movement."

- Annabelle
Dallas, MN

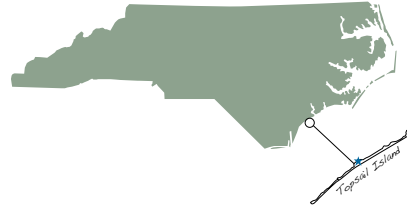


When you're not at the center you will be exploring the local beaches and salt marshes by foot, stand up paddleboard, or surfboard! You will learn about the interconnectedness of the ocean, our coastal barrier islands, the sounds and salt marshes, and the rivers and watersheds. As you learn about the field of marine biology, you will sample the diversity of organisms found in southeastern North Carolina, from the turbulent life in the coquina outcrop to the serene sound side communities. You'll also see the effort that goes into replicating these habitats with a naturalist guided tour of the North Carolina Aquarium.

Camp tuition includes: lodging on Topsail Island, all meals, 24-hour same-gender adult supervision, admission to all activities, all equipment, transportation including pickup and return to the Wilmington International Airport (ILM), community service certificate, Sea Turtle Camp T-shirt, and memorable group photo. Campers are responsible for round trip airfare to ILM or transportation to Topsail Island and additional money for souvenirs.

- Lodging on historic Topsail Island
- Two half-days of volunteer work at The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center
- Evening sea turtle nest walk
- Salt marsh exploration and study
- Tidepool at North Carolina's only natural rocky outcrop
- Guided tour of the NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher
- Stand Up Paddleboard eco-tour through barrier island sounds or a surfing lesson with the pros at WB Surf Camp
- 15 hours of community service
- Enrollment is limited to 24 students





Marine Biology Immersion

Ages 13-17

"I absolutely loved this camp! Every day had something new in store for us. My favorite part had to be when we got to see the hatchlings go out into the ocean on the last night! When we did the outreach project at the Sea Turtle Hospital, I was amazed at how much information I learned in such a short amount of time."

- Emily
Harvest, AL

This amazing and intensive 11 day program dives deeper into the world of marine biology. Four half-days will be spent working at the Sea Turtle Center. By feeding the turtles, administering medicine, and cleaning their tanks, you will broaden your knowledge of sea turtle rehabilitation.

Through hands-on, feet-wet activities you will gain an appreciation and respect for our oceans and marine biology that will remain with you for the rest of your life.

In addition to the activities described in the Adventure, you will also have the opportunity to visit the Oriole Lab to participate in a sea turtle necropsy. Climb aboard a research vessel and participate in a sample trawl with Cape Fear Community College where we'll collect and classify a wide variety of marine life from blue crabs and shrimp to weakfish and croaker.

Earn 25 community service hours by working at the Sea Turtle Center, performing beach sweeps and public outreach. One very special beach you will visit is Bald Head Island Conservancy, an uninhabited barrier island that we travel to by boat. Here you will experience an environment with little to no human impact. In contrast, you will also visit the New Hanover County Landfill and WASTEC to fully grasp the waste of consumer-driven cultures.

By taking up residence on Topsail Island, we will be in close contact with the Topsail Island Beach Patrol, who make daily rounds looking for nesting females and fresh crawls. With first-hand knowledge of the threats facing adult sea turtles and their hatchlings, you will learn one of the most important parts of research - communication. Your group will develop an afternoon marine science presentation and use it to educate and motivate the public at the Sea Turtle Center.



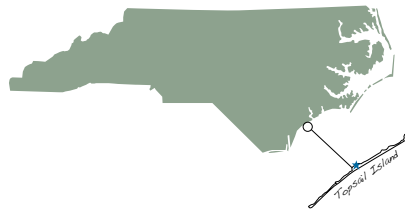


During our final days of camp, you'll experience panoramic views of the beautiful salt marsh. Explore Fort Fisher, learning about sandstone ecology and enjoying the beach at the southern tip of the Cape Fear. On our trip to the North Carolina Aquarium, you will take a full tour and then go behind the scenes. Here, you'll learn about animal husbandry and how care is provided for the different aquatic and marine species in residence.

Camp tuition includes: lodging on Topsail Island, all meals, 24-hour same-gender adult supervision, admission to all activities, all equipment, transportation including pickup and return to the Wilmington International Airport (ILM), community service certificate, Sea Turtle Camp T-shirt, and memorable group photo. Campers are responsible for round trip airfare to the Wilmington International Airport (ILM) or transportation to Topsail Island and additional money for souvenirs.

- Lodging on historic Topsail Island
- Four half-days of volunteer work at The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center
- Evening sea turtle nest walks
- Research vessel trawl and classification on the Cape Fear River
- Tidepool at North Carolina's only natural rocky shoreline
- Eutrophication lesson at Greenfield Lake
- Behind the scenes tour at the North Carolina Aquarium
- Seminar on the Sargasso Sea, Gyres, Pollution
- Sea Turtle Necropsy & Anatomy seminar
- Boat trip to Bald Head Island Conservancy
- Stand Up Paddleboard eco-tour through barrier island sounds or a surfing lesson with the pros at WB Surf Camp
- Tour of the New Hanover County Landfill and WASTEC plant
- 25 hours of community service
- Enrollment is limited to 24 students





Sea Turtle and SCUBA Camp

Open Water Course

Ages 13-17



Our Sea Turtle and Open Water SCUBA Camp allows you to be immersed in the undersea world of marine biology. During this program, you will work with live sea turtles, develop your knowledge of marine biology fundamentals and be part of ocean conservation, while becoming a certified Open Water SCUBA diver.

The waters off North Carolina provide an experience like no other with what is arguably the country's finest collection of wreck diving.

- SCUBA Diving Magazine

SCUBA diving is not only a lifelong passion for many people, but it also opens the doors to the world of marine science careers. It is a skill that you can take with you anywhere in the world, as you explore underwater ecosystems. This is a must for any teen interested in pursuing a career in marine biology.

SCUBA diving is an extremely safe sport, but one that must be taken seriously. Students begin with classroom courses led by professional scuba instructors to prepare them. The classroom lessons will cover all the skills and safety considerations, from buoyancy and breathing underwater to decompression and emergency procedures. You'll practice these crucial skills as we transition to the pool for a series of confined dives allowing you to become comfortable with your equipment and partner.

The next step is a series of open water dives, performed in a controlled lake environment. The program will be capped off with dives at local ship wrecks, where you'll get a close-up look at tropical fish, small sharks, coral, algae, and maybe even a sea turtle. With 50 feet of visibility, you will see and experience amazing underwater habitats, from the smallest marine creatures to some of the largest.



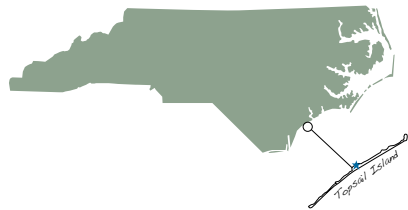


SCUBA diving will give you a fish-eye view of the marine world. When not developing your skills beneath the waves, you will discover other unlikely coastal habitats of important marine life. Topsail Island exhibits vast salt marshes, towering sand dunes, and networks of maritime forests just waiting to be explored.

Camp tuition includes: lodging on Topsail Island, all meals, 24-hour same gender adult supervision, SCUBA certification, admission to all activities, equipment, transportation including pick-up and drop-off from the Wilmington International Airport (ILM), community service certificate, Sea Turtle Camp T-shirt, and memorable group photo. Campers are responsible for round trip airfare to ILM or transportation to Topsail Island, any additional money for souvenirs, and mask, fins, and snorkel.

- Lodging on historic Topsail Island
- Volunteer work at The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center
- Evening sea turtle nest walks
- Salt marsh exploration and study
- Sandstone ecology at Fort Fisher
- Guided tour of the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher
- Stand Up Paddleboard eco-tour through barrier island sounds or a surfing lesson with the pros at WB Surf Camp
- Open Water SCUBA certification
- Open water dives at local shipwrecks
- 20 hours of community service
- Enrollment is limited to 18 students





Sea Turtle and SCUBA Camp

Advanced Open Water Course

Ages 13-17



Take a deeper dive into the world of marine biology in our Sea Turtle and Advanced Open Water SCUBA Camp. This program is designed for students who already have their Open Water certification and are looking for new, challenging opportunities. There are very few classroom lectures, as most of our time is spent practicing skills in the water during numerous open water dives, allowing you to gain even more confidence in your abilities.

The waters off North Carolina provide the perfect opportunity to further develop your skills.

Our coast was rated one of the top diving destinations in North America. During this program, you will discover the world of sea turtles! Expand your knowledge of marine biology fundamentals and ocean conservation, while

further developing your SCUBA skills. The Advanced Diver course is the perfect way to spend part of your summer!

After a quick refresher session, you'll head straight to the water to develop new skills. You'll start with a trip to master underwater navigation using both natural navigation and compass navigation. These skills will help you locate submerged objects, follow courses, estimate distance underwater, and plan efficient dive routes to maximize your dive experience.

Next you'll transition to the ocean for a series of dives over the course of two charter trips. Previously, you were limited to dives of 60 feet or less. As part of the Deeper Diver course, travel below this range to explore more of the marine environment.





"Most amazing thing I have ever done! I learned a ton, and had a blast while doing it. I cannot wait to go SCUBA diving again. I will use all that I have learned for the rest of my life. I would do it again in a heartbeat."

-Craig
Alplaus, NY

When you're not logging dives, you'll explore the Cape Fear region. Follow the river from its confluence in downtown Wilmington, through the rich salt marshes and estuaries, to the beach and oceanfront communities. Each dynamic habitat hosts a variety of invertebrate and vertebrate life.

Camp tuition includes: lodging on Topsail Island, all meals, 24-hour same gender adult supervision, Advanced Open Water SCUBA certification, admission to all activities, equipment, transportation including pick-up and drop-off from the Wilmington International Airport (ILM), community service certificate, Sea Turtle Camp T-shirt, and memorable group photo. Campers are responsible for round trip airfare to ILM or transportation to Topsail Island, any additional money for souvenirs, and mask, fins, and snorkel.

- Lodging in historic Topsail Island
- Tour of The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center
- Evening sea turtle nest walks
- Salt marsh exploration and study
- Snorkeling off of Wrightsville Beach
- Stand Up Paddleboard eco-tour through barrier island sounds or a surfing lesson with the pros at WB Surf Camp
- Advanced Open Water SCUBA certification
- Underwater Navigation Course
- Deeper Diver Course
- Open water dives at various offshore ship wrecks
- 20 hours of community service
- Enrollment is limited





Costa Rica Sea Turtle Adventure

Ages 14-17



Costa Rica is an eco-tourism treasure with over 27% of its land protected. It's very safe and has the highest standard of living in Central America. Few countries are more suitable to study sea turtles than Costa Rica. With nesting beaches on both coasts, this country is visited by 6 of the 7 species: loggerheads, greens, Kemp's ridleys, olive ridleys, hawksbills, and leatherbacks. During the summer months, the Caribbean side plays host to one of the most important green sea turtle nesting events in the Western Hemisphere.

Join like-minded students on a unique tropical sea turtle adventure. Costa Rica has more to offer than just beaches. You'll start our adventure program by travelling to the University of Georgia's environmental camps nestled in the mountains outside Monteverde. Due to its high elevation, the fog and clouds envelope the canopy allowing Monteverde to support a lush forest community. You will explore the natural and cultural beauty of this area by foot, canopy bridge, and zip line with our knowledgeable guides and even get to help some researchers out with their projects.

Next you'll follow the flow of water to the Caribbean coast where numerous nights of sea turtle observation and research await. During the summer months leatherbacks, greens, and hawksbills frequent this coastline. You will become part of a community-based, non-profit conservation organization that patrols the beaches and protects both nesting females and their eggs. You will identify turtle tracks, record tag numbers, perform egg counts, assist with nest relocations, and work at a sea turtle hatchery.

When not patrolling the beaches, you will immerse yourself in the "pura vida" lifestyle. This holistic approach to living allows you to truly reflect and rejoice in your surroundings. After several Spanish language lessons, you'll be ready to communicate more with the volunteers and citizens that make this project so special. You'll even get to sample some home-cooked Caribbean fare!





"I stepped off the plane in a new country and a new perspective on conservation and life began. The people I met shared my passion for saving those ancient animals and honestly cared about what happened to them. I most enjoyed seeing baby sea turtles scuttle down to the ocean to start their long journey in the Atlantic and the nesting leatherback. Everyone got really inspired."

- Kate
Harvard, MA

After a week along the coast, you'll travel in style aboard inflatable boats with a rafting expedition down the Pacuare River. This basin is one of the world's best rafting destinations and you'll be on the lookout for monkeys, sloths, iguanas, and tropical birds native to the area. Stay overnight at an eco-lodge right along the river. The songs of birds and light filtering through the canopy will be your alarm clock each morning as you explore the natural and cultural beauty of this area with our knowledgeable guides.

Camp tuition includes: lodging, all meals, 24-hour same gender adult supervision, shuttle to and from San Jose International Airport (SJO), equipment, daily transportation to and from activities, admission to all events/activities, Sea Turtle Camp t-shirt, community service certificate, and memorable group photo. Each person is responsible for roundtrip airfare to SJO, departure tax, and personal spending money. A valid travel passport is required for travel on this adventure. Enrollment is limited to 12 students.

- Sea turtle patrol training
- Sunrise and nocturnal turtle nest walks
- Data collection of nesting females
- Nest protection, excavation, and hatchling release
- Hands-on work in a sea turtle hatchery
- Whitewater rafting on the amazing Rio Pacuare
- Naturalist guided hikes through rain forest
- Zip-line tour through the forest canopy
- Spanish language courses
- 30 hours of community service
- Enrollment is limited to 12 students





Hawaii Sea Turtle Adventure

Ages 14-17



On our Hawaii Sea Turtle Adventure you'll spend 14 days traversing the tropical landscapes of Oahu. Dominated on the west by an extinct shield volcano, the island's countless waterfalls, golden sand beaches, and fringing coral reefs sit on a pristine backdrop of endless blue water. Oahu is known to the locals as "the gathering place", a fitting name as this oasis of marine diversity provides our campers with an experience like no other. Work hands on with green sea turtles who face many obstacles in their migration to the nesting beaches along the Hawaiian coastline.

As budding marine biologists, you will be immersed in a unique array of marine and tropical habitats from the second your feet hit the white sand. Explore the island's unique history, geology, and ecology from mauka to makai- Polynesian for "from the mountains to the ocean." You'll stay in suites on the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus, whose 320-acre university is centrally located to many of our activities and only one mile from the famous beaches at Waikiki.

The green sea turtle, known locally as honu, has called the beaches and waters of Hawaii home for thousands of years. You will have the unique opportunity to study these biologically and culturally important species both in the wild and in the lab. You'll work alongside veterinarians, aquarists, and researchers at Sea Life Park Hawaii as we perform turtle observations, prep food, provide care, meet hatchlings from the breeding program, and visit the medical care lab. You'll even participate in a long-term research study on the nutrition of the turtle's food.

With the waters of Hawaii providing habitat to many marine animals, there are opportunities to learn about the other species that call the islands home. You'll work with the water therapy team to rehabilitate sea birds, and you'll step behind the scenes to learn about marine mammal training. Sea Life Park Hawaii has programs with both dolphins and sea lions. The numerous fish and invertebrates will become familiar to us during a rotation as an aquarist apprentice. There will even be the opportunity to safely snorkel with stingrays.





A trip to Hawaii wouldn't be complete without immersing yourself in the cultural traditions Hawaii has to offer. You'll tour the Polynesian Cultural Center, snorkel the fringing and patch coral reefs, learn to surf on perfect beginner waves, stand up paddleboard along the coast, and dine at an authentic Hawaiian luau. You'll also participate in interactive tours at the Waikiki Aquarium, U.S.S. Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor, Hanauma Bay, and Diamond Head Crater.

Camp tuition includes: lodging, all meals, 24-hour same gender adult supervision, shuttle to and from Honolulu International Airport (HNL), equipment, daily transportation to and from activities, admission to all events/activities, Sea Turtle Camp t-shirt, Sea Turtle/Coastal Conservation Guide, community service certificate, and memorable group photo. Each person is responsible for roundtrip airfare to HNL and personal spending money. Enrollment is limited.

- Participate in green sea turtle (honu) research
- Work with turtles, mammals, and fish at Sea Life Park Hawaii
- Learn proper animal husbandry protocols
- Snorkel coral reefs that fringe the island
- Hike the 300,000 year old Diamond Head Crater
- Surf the famous North Shore breaks
- Explore the Polynesian Cultural Center and eat an authentic luau
- Stand Up Paddleboard tour of Oahu's coastline
- Tour the U.S.S. Arizona and Pearl Harbor
- Lodging in dorms at University of Hawaii Manoa
- 30 hours of community service
- Enrollment is limited to 16 students





School Groups

Customized to meet individual curriculum requirements

For educational institutions looking to provide their students with a hands-on, feet-wet field based marine science experience, we offer completely customizable programs throughout the year. We let you select from our numerous unique, exciting activities and experiments so that your trip reflects your preferred course of study. Make your next field trip one that no student will forget!

We have complete flexibility in the content and structure of your program. This gives you the ability to tailor your class' field trip to your needs. Each activity can be personalized to address the subjects that your students are covering in the classroom, providing meaningful connections that will solidify the material and pave the way for future extensions.

Cost is dependent upon the package of activities desired. To learn more about how to customize your school's program, please contact our Program Coordinator at 910.686.4611.



- Sea turtle life history and conservation seminars
- Volunteer work at The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center
- Morning and evening sea turtle nest patrols
- Coastal geology at the Coquina Outcrop
- Research vessel trawl and classification on the Cape Fear River
- Invertebrate diversity at the fouling docks
- Barrier island profiles of uninhabited Masonboro Island
- Surfing and/or boogie boarding with physical oceanography
- Stand Up Paddleboard eco-tour through barrier island sounds
- Salt marsh exploration with clamming, crabbing, and seine netting
- Invertebrate or vertebrate dissections
- Guided tour of the North Carolina Aquarium
- Ocean gyres and marine debris seminar
- Many, many more!





"I believe that we are defined by our actions; how we live our lives and how we treat other people. This camp teaches so many things, but most importantly it teaches compassion for all living things."

- Jen Civelli
Co-founder



Giving Back

Sea Turtle Camp is independent and privately owned, so we're funded solely by our own success. The better we perform, the more we can fulfill our mission of educating the next generation about coastal conservation and continue our support of The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center. No matter what kind of difference we want to make as a company – if our camps are not both educational and exciting, then we are not living up to our fullest potential.

Ultimately, our goal is to raise compassionate awareness and increase support for what's being done in and for our life sustaining oceans. The sea turtle center is a place where volunteers share their love and give their time to care for one aspect of our oceans that many people take for granted. Each person that works there does so on a purely voluntary basis and every dollar donated goes directly towards caring for the sea turtles.

To aid in the ongoing efforts to protect and rehabilitate sick and injured sea turtles, a percentage of each camper's tuition is donated directly to The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, in an amount that totals over \$107,850 to date. By aligning with this amazing non-profit organization and igniting the wonder and amazement of the next generation, we hope to not only support the efforts of the sea turtle center physically and financially, but change the world, one rehabilitated sea turtle at a time.

Last year we performed over 2000 hours of community service.

We feel blessed for the work we are able to do and giving back is a critical part of our mission. When you come to Sea Turtle Camp, you support the efforts of making the world a better place.



Do I get to see real live sea turtles?

YES!!! We work very closely with The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center which has an average occupancy of 20 sea turtles with varying degrees of injury or illness. Some are even permanent residents due to the severity of their injury. If you participate in Sea Turtle Camp, you may even see turtles in the wild during nest walks or on open water dives, during SCUBA camp.

On our travel programs, we will also be working closely with real sea turtles. Costa Rica participants spend time patrolling the beach for sea turtle nests, man a sea turtle hatchery, and collect nesting data. Hawaii program participants assist vets and aquarists who work with sea turtle and other marine animals.

What kind of community service will I be doing?

Community service is one of the most rewarding aspects of this camp. All of our programs include service learning, such as daily beach cleanups to keep our sands sparkling because we see first hand the damage that human trash causes to turtles.

What are the ages of your overnight campers? Am I too young/old to attend one of your programs?

Programs are age specific. Due to the dynamic nature of our curriculum, we group similar ages together. Programs on Topsail Island are designed for youth, 10-17 years old. For our Costa Rica and Hawaii programs, the age range is 14-17 years old.

Is there an application process for Sea Turtle Camp?

Yes. Upon applying for the session of your choice, you will be sent an e-mail containing information on how to complete your application, including the submission of two academic references. (References not required for Carolina Ocean Odyssey)

Do you offer scholarships and financial aid?

Partial scholarships may be available to a limited number of candidates. Please e-mail or contact our office for an application. The deadline to apply is February 1.

What kind of supervision do you provide?

We provide 24-hour, same gender adult supervision. All of our instructors live on site with our campers. All campers and staff must follow our camp guidelines, which are reviewed during orientation on the first day.

What airport is best to fly into for your program, and do you provide a shuttle service?

For our North Carolina programs, the best airport to fly into is the Wilmington International Airport (ILM). Our instructors meet all participants at baggage claim.

Costa Rica participants are required to fly into the San Jose Juan Santamaria International Airport (SJO). Our instructors meet all participants once they have cleared customs, unless you opt to meet in the U.S. and have one of our instructors accompany you to Costa Rica.

Hawaii participants are required to fly into the Honolulu International Airport (HNL). Our instructors will meet you at the airport.

Do I need a passport for the travel programs?

Costa Rica participants are required to have a valid passport from the government of their country of residence in order to board a plane and enter the country. North Carolina and Hawaii only require passports for international participants.

Should I bring a friend?

More than 90% of our participants come by themselves. Participants quickly form long lasting friendships during their stay and return home with many new friends.

I am a finicky eater. Can you cater to special diets?

We can accommodate many varieties of food preferences. If you require a special diet, we are happy to work with you to ensure your dietary needs are met. However, as Costa Rica is a field-based, international travel program, we will be unable to cater to severe food allergies.

What do I need to bring?

A complete packing list will be included with your camp forms, once you've completed the enrollment process.



During the SCUBA camps, where will we be diving?

During the certification process we will perform several dives. Initial dives will take place in a lake or the ocean, depending on conditions. We will perform our final dives at local shipwrecks a few miles offshore from Wrightsville Beach, weather permitting. These shipwrecks are teeming with amazing marine life - there's no telling what you will see beneath the surface!

How long does the certification last?

Your SCUBA certification will last a lifetime, but if you do not use your skills for a long period of time it is always recommended to take a refresher course or complete a SCUBA review with a certified dive master or instructor.

Do I need any previous diving experience?

For the Open Water SCUBA certification, no previous diving or snorkeling experience is needed; it is designed for beginners. Campers do need to know how to swim. For the Advanced Open Water SCUBA certification, all campers must already hold an Open Water SCUBA certification card. You cannot complete this course without it.

What sort of payment do you accept?

We accept VISA, MC and AMEX credit cards; checks; or money orders. All credit card payments are processed online using a secure server. A 3% processing fee will be applied to all credit card transactions, except for the camp deposit. There is a \$50 service charge for all returned checks.

Can I call home during camp?

We have all campers check in with their parents upon arrival, but we recommend limited parental contact for the duration of the camp. Sea Turtle Camp is a growing experience, and we find that young people do best and gain confidence through independence. Campers are NOT allowed to carry cell phones at any time during camp. Any cell phones brought to camp will be collected upon arrival and returned upon departure. We will provide an after-hours number to reach the office in the event of an emergency.

Do you have insurance?

We carry a comprehensive insurance package, including general liability.

Should I purchase camp insurance?

We highly recommend that camp insurance be purchased. We are not responsible for tuition refunds or expenses incurred for trip delays, cancellation, or illness. In the event that you must cancel at the last minute due to an unforeseen event, camp insurance can help protect your investment. We make available a competitively priced program created especially for the camp/summer study industry that we believe best meets the needs of our families.

Do you have references available?

We would be happy to offer you the opportunity to speak with past participants in order to give you a personal reflection of a previous camper's experience. Please contact our office for a list of references.

What is your cancellation policy?

Our cancellation policy can be viewed on our website. Our office staff would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding cancellation.

Where do we stay during camp?

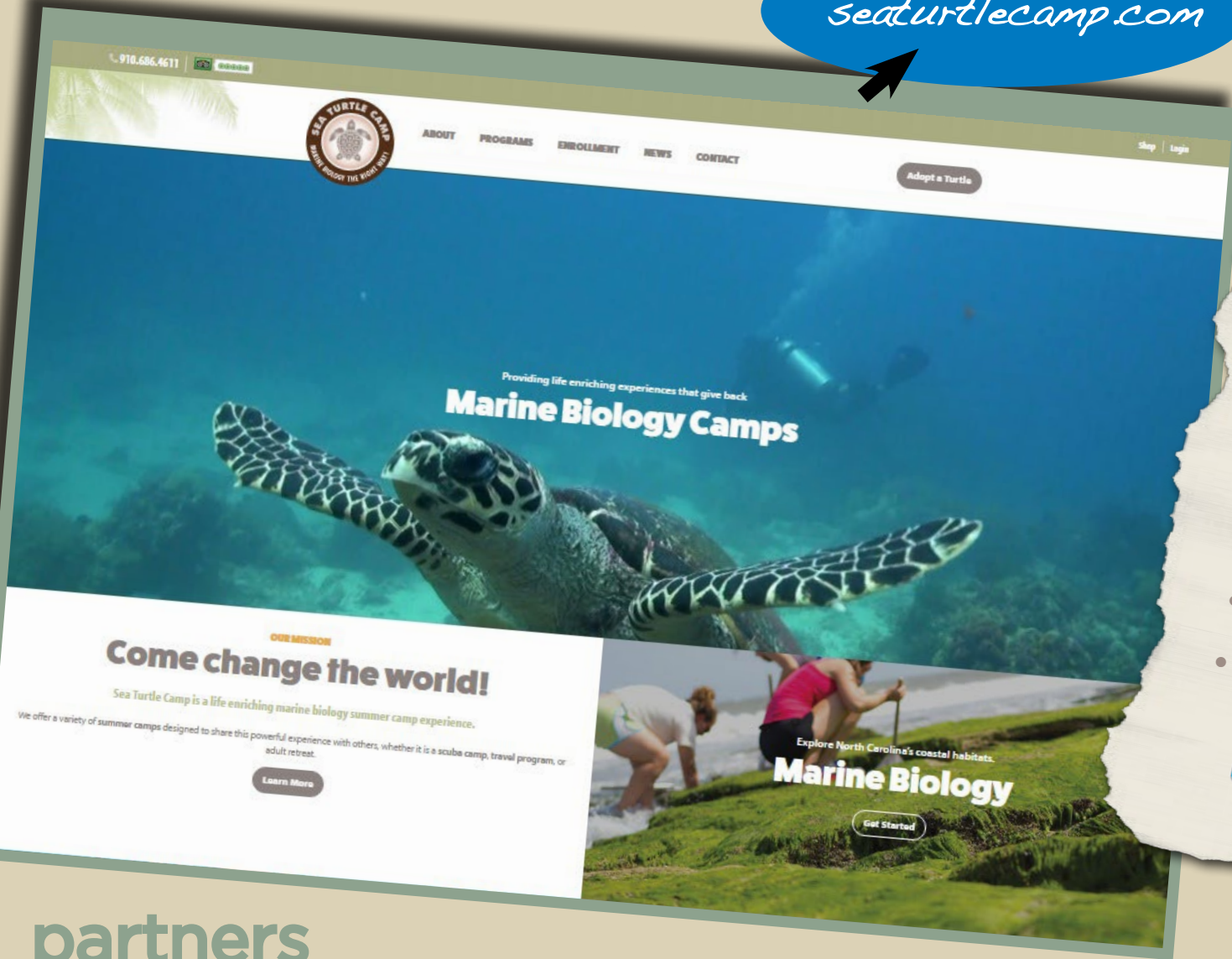
During your time at Sea Turtle Camp you will become part of the beautiful, beachfront Topsail Island community. Our campers and instructors stay in air conditioned, gender specific rooms just steps from the ocean.


Throughout our Costa Rica camp we stay at a variety of eco-lodges which devote themselves to conservation and preserving the natural area surrounding them.

In Hawaii, students will be housed in suites at the University of Hawaii Manoa. This beautiful campus is a mile from Waikiki and many of our field sites.



Visit us online at...
seaturtlecamp.com



- Keep up with current Sea Turtle Camp news
- Find additional resources on sea turtles and marine biology
- Donate to The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center
- Check out photos and videos and see why Sea Turtle Camp rocks!
- Like us on: 
- Follow us on: @SeaTurtleCamp



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