



Facilitated by National Geographic Explorer Dr. Vanessa Bézy

Vanessa fell in love with the "pura vida" pace of life and culture that centers on a respect and connectedness with nature in 2004 and eventually made Costa Rica her permanent home. She has since dedicated herself to marine conservation, working primarily with sea turtles and in particular the mass-nesting phenomenon at the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge. In addition to her research, she is actively involved in educational and outreach activities. Learn more about Vanessa, her work, and read her blog at vanessabezy.com.

Top image: ASA 50 Photography,
Andrea Díaz-Perezache and Víctor Jaramillo

THOUSANDS OF TURTLES TOURS

Experience the arribabda. Join us on an awe-inspiring educational experience to witness thousands of turtles nesting at the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge. Arribada is a Spanish word meaning "arrival by sea" and refers to the mass nesting behavior exhibited by sea turtles. Book now and we'll take care of the rest. Local guide, community fund donation, taxes and fees are included.

Duration: 2 hrs (tour times vary)

Start times: Typically 5-7 am or 3-8 pm

Best time to go: July-September & November

Meeting point: Bar Las Brisas, Ostional

Price: Starting from \$250 for up to 4 people, \$40 each additional person up to 8

What's include: Meet an expert, Local Tour Guide, Personal Headset, Informational Leaflet, Certificate, Reusable bag, Sticker, Donation to the Community Fund, Taxes and Fees

What to wear/bring: Arrive 15 minutes early. Wear comfortable, dark clothing. Wear closed toed shoes. Long sleeve shirts/pants recommended for those prone to mosquito bites. Bring rain gear (May–November).

TRANSPORTATION ADD-ON (\$100)

TURTLE TOUR DISCLAIMER: Touching, handling, or swimming with sea turtles is strictly forbidden.



Visit the Wildlife Conservation Association website: wcanosara.org

TOUR ITINERARY



MEET WITH AN EXPERT

Learn about this phenomenon from a NatGeo Explorer. Learn about sea turtles by watching aerial and underwater footage. Immerse yourself in a virtual reality experience. Learn about cutting-edge research for sea turtle conservation.



DRIVE TO OSTIONAL

Take a short drive to Ostional where you will meet your local guide and sea turtle expert. Educational materials (Spanish & English) are available. Comfortable 30-minute ride each way. No need to worry about road conditions.



TOUR ON THE BEACH

Walk with your guide to the beach. With no wait time, witness the arridadas, the unique natural phenomenon of mass sea turtle nestings on the Ostional beach. Headsets will be provided to allow you to hear your guide better.





DROP OFF AT NOSARA

At the end of your tour, receive a gift bag which includes: reusable bag, sticker and Certificate of Visitation. Additional merchandise for sale.





TOUR INFORMATION

WHAT MAKES OUR TOURS DIFFERENT?



WORRY FREE BOOKINGS



EVERYTHING IS INCLUDED



EXCLUSIVE RESEARCH INSIGHTS



SUPPORT A GOOD CAUSE

HOW IT WORKS

THE ARRIBADA IS A NATURAL PHENOMENON THAT CANNOT BE PREDICTED, but our booking process increases the likelihood that you will see the turtles.

BOOK A TOUR

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Pick your preferred tour date.



Enter a date range to join the waiting list.

WAITING LIST AND EMAIL CONFIRMATION



We'll notify you when your tour is confirmed.



Your tour is confirmed.

ARRIBADA CONFIRMED



Your tour is confirmed.





Cancel up to 24 hours in advance for full refund.

ARRIBADA DOESN'T OCCUR



Your tour is confirmed.





Solitary turtle tour or full refund.