



Serving the World's Imperiled Marine life (SWIM) Sea Turtles of the Caribbean



A juvenile green sea turtle, *Chelonia mydas*, is released after being measured, weighed and tagged during an in-water transect survey

The Destination

Located off the coast of Venezuela and an island nation of the Netherlands, Bonaire is a small, beautiful southern-Caribbean island known for its rich marine life and reef-lined coasts. Protected by Bonaire National Marine Park, the island of Bonaire still maintains its pristine waters and remains an off-the-beaten-path Caribbean gem with abundant marine life and white sand beaches.

The Project

The Serving the World's Imperiled Marine life (SWIM) program is designed to give individuals a unique, immersive experiences in a small-group setting, working intimately with local sea turtle conservation organizations around the world. On this service excursion, you will be assisting local biologists and sea turtle conservationists with nest monitoring, in-water transects and community education on the islands of Bonaire.



Destination Eco Tour: Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands

5-Day, 6-Night Sea Turtles of the Caribbean Adventure & Conservation Vacation



Highlights:

- Assist biologists in monitoring sea turtle nesting trends & conducting research
- Boat transfers and day trips to Klein Bonaire
- Shore-based snorkel transects
- Assist with hatchling data collection in local hatchery
- Assist with full-day sea turtle tagging survey
- Private, beach-side accommodations

Overview itinerary

Day 1	Arrive Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands Check into private villa for duration of SWIM Program
Day 2	Meet the team, project orientation & netting survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire (STCB) team of biologists • Introduction to Sea Turtles course and project overview • Netting survey training with STCB crew
Day 3	Full-day in water monitoring excursion & sea turtle tagging <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in the tagging, weighing and measuring of sea turtles to determine growth rates, estimate abundance and study their the health status and movement patterns
Day 4	Nesting beach monitoring & day excursion to Klein Bonaire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boat transfer to Klein Bonaire to monitor for sea turtle nesting activity • Assist biologists with the identification and verification of daily sea turtle nesting activity
Day 5	Shore-based in-water reef cleanup & coastal debris removal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine debris project orientation and removal gear practice • Debris sorting & TAngler bin assessment project
Day 6	Day trip to Washington-Slagbaai National Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AM summit hike to Mount Brandaris • Spot wild flamingos & free snorkel in Boka Slagbaai
Day 7	Depart Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands

Package Includes:

- 5-day/6-night Bonaire sea turtle conservation vacation
- All accommodations & meals included
- Applicable activity participation fees

Trip price does not include international flights, alcoholic beverages, souvenirs/gifts, personal snacks. Guests responsible for local currency exchange if applicable

Dates: June 30 – July 6, 2019

Activity level: ★★★★★

Accommodations: Comfort

For more information or to book your SWIM program, please visit www.marinelife.org/eco or contact:

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