



Marine biology adventures for teens!

discovery + confidence + conservation + adventure

Join the adventure...



and discover

marine life like never before



a lifelong passion and respect for the environment



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

www.seaturtlecamp.com | 910.686.4611



creatures great and small



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

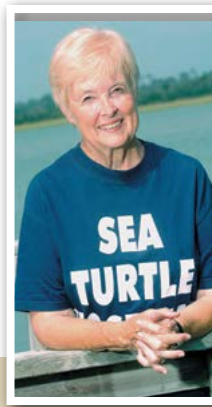
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FOUNDER'S LETTER

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 has served as a local college chemistry instructor for the past 13 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. By empowering young adults to be proactive and take ownership of their environment, we develop focused, responsible, independent individuals who know how to have fun while being stewards of the ocean. 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 teens 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 expert marine educators and an 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.

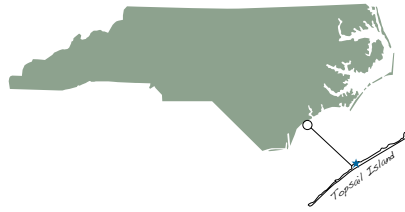
Our mission statement of environmental conservation and philanthropy is deeply shared by our team.

We are conscious of the fact that without the ocean, there is no life on earth. We have dedicated our lives to educating teenagers 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





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.

We'll spend two mornings working with the interns at The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, to care 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, we'll learn about nocturnal adaptations. We'll also patrol 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. 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.

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



“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

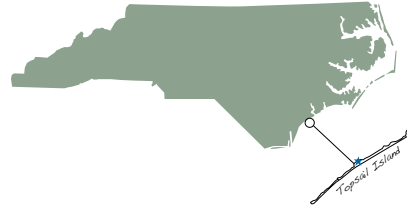


the inter-connectedness of the ocean, our coastal barrier islands, the sounds and salt marshes, and the rivers and watersheds. As marine biologists, we will sample the diversity of organisms found in southeastern North Carolina from the turbulent life in the coquina outcrop to the serene sound side communities. We’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
- Sandstone ecology at Fort Fisher
- 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 for our group. We will 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.

You will 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, we'll experience panoramic views of the beautiful salt marsh. We'll 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 in the Cape Fear River
- Salt marsh exploration and study
- Sandstone ecology at Fort Fisher
- Behind the scenes tour at the North Carolina Aquarium
- Seminar on the Sargasso Sea, Gyres, Pollution
- Sea Turtle Necropsy & Anatomy seminar
- Boat trip to an uninhabited barrier island
- 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 SCUBA Open Water Course 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 ocean conservation 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 is a career-opening experience to the world of marine science research. It is a skill that you can take with you anywhere in the world to explore underwater ecosystems in other countries. 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. We'll practice these crucial skills as we transition to the pool for a series of confined dives allowing us to become comfortable with our equipment and partners.

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 and additional money for souvenirs.

- 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 Course. 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, as our coast was rated one of the top diving destinations in North America. During this program, you will work with live sea turtles, develop your knowledge of marine biology fundamentals and ocean conservation further developing your SCUBA skills. The Advanced Diver course is a perfect way to spend 2 weeks of your summer at Sea Turtle Camp.

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

Next we'll transition to the ocean for a series of dives over the course of two charter trips. While in Open Water courses you are limited to 60 feet, we'll travel below this range as part of the Deeper Diver course, opening you to more of the marine environment. We'll cap off our certification with one of the coolest experiences for marine biologists – night diving. This will allow you to see animals that were previously dormant during day time hours.





“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 we're not logging dives, we'll be exploring the Cape Fear region from the river's 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 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 and additional money for souvenirs.

- Lodging in 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
- 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. And 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 in a unique tropical sea turtle adventure. Costa Rica has more to offer than just beaches. We'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, Monteverde supports a lush forest community on the moisture contained in the fog and clouds enveloping the canopy. We 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.

After several days in the mountains, we'll now 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 we'll be on the lookout for monkeys, sloths, iguanas, and tropical birds. We will overnight at an eco-lodge right along the river. The songs of birds and light filtering through the canopy will be our alarm clock each morning as we explore the natural and cultural beauty of this area with our knowledgeable guides.

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





"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

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

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 13-17



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. Students will 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. We'll explore the island's unique history, geology, and ecology from mauka to makai- Polynesian for "from the mountains to the ocean." We'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. We will have the unique opportunity to study these biologically and culturally important species both in the wild and in the lab. We'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. We'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. We'll work with the water therapy team to rehabilitate sea birds, and we'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 ourselves in the cultural traditions Hawaii has to offer. We'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. We also take 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.

- Participation in green sea turtle (honu) research
- Work with turtles, mammals, and fish at Sea Life Park Hawaii
- Learn proper animal husbandry protocols
- Snorkel through beautiful Hanauma Bay
- 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 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!

With the ability to tailor your class's field trip we have complete flexibility in the content and structure of the program. 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 the 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 Sea Turtle Center. We know that at its core, 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 many 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 \$88,580 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 Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation 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 and SCUBA Camp, you may even see turtles in the wild during our open water dives.

On our travel programs, we will also be working closely with real sea turtles. The Costa Rica program focuses on nesting ecology. We work with sea turtle researchers to collect nesting data. The Hawaii Sea Turtle program works alongside vets and aquarists who work with sea turtles 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. We like to think of it as service learning. In all of our programs we work directly with live sea turtles, which will serve as the majority of our service learning credits. We round that off with daily beach cleanups to keep our sands sparkling because we see first hand the damage that human trash cause 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 and Hawaii are designed for teenagers 13-17 years old. For our Costa Rica program, the age range is 14-17.

Is there as 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.

Do you offer scholarships and financial aid?

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

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 who 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.

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 must follow our camp guidelines, which are explicitly gone over during orientation. If any rules are broken or any disruptive behavior takes place, the camper will be sent home at parental expense with no refund, no exceptions.

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

For our flagship marine biology programs and SCUBA camps, the best airport to fly into is the Wilmington International Airport (ILM). Our educators meet all participants at baggage claim.

Costa Rica participants are required to fly into the San Jose Juan Santamaria International Airport (SJO). Our educators 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 educators 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 during your online informational 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 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 certification, all campers must already hold an Open Water certification card. You cannot complete this course without it.

What sort of payment do you accept?

We accept VISA, MC, AMEX credit cards; checks; or money orders. All credit card payments are processed online using a secure server. There will be a 3% processing fee for all credit card transactions except for the camp deposit. Also, 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.



Visit us online at...
seaturtlecamp.com

- Keep up with current Sea Turtle Camp News
- Find additional resources on sea turtle and marine biology
- Donate to The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center
- Become a member of The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center
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