



SEA TURTLE CONSERVANCY

T o r t u g u e r o , C o s t a R i c a



OPEN HOUSE

It is June 16 in the morning. The sun is hot since the early morning and the humidity feels sticky on the skin. At the Sea Turtle Conservancy Biological Station, in Tortuguero, we wake up early to the screeching sounds of green macaws.

It is an important day and we need to prepare. We want to celebrate it in style.

Yes, today is June 16th: it is the birth of the famous herpetologist Archie Carr, a man who knew Tortuguero very well and who dedicated his life to the study of wildlife. Today is...

S E A T U R T L E
w o r l d d a y

That day we were able to share our love for these incredible creatures with the community and visitors through knowledge, games, the shared experiences and everything that unites us. It was an incredible day full of exciting moments.

Thank you so much for visiting us!





Jocelyne Merlín, Mexico

It is interesting to contemplate the balance that exists in the trophic chain, in relation to the interaction between the jaguar and sea turtles, both endangered species



We work with sea turtles and, of course, it is sad to find one killed by a jaguar, but we understand that it is part of the balance that exists in the ecosystem. Not many people know that the jaguar feeds on these marine reptiles. One of the things that impressed me is that they get to flip them; According to my experience, I knew that they consumed them, but I had never seen one killed by a jaguar.

It was striking!

I was lucky enough to work with two leatherback turtles with STC in Tortuguero. I think my favorite moment was with my second meeting. It was after a long night. We had walked around 14 km. The beach felt magical, I had never seen so many stars in the sky. Around 1am, walking back to the station, we came across a turtle trail and found it cleaning the area. I had to work with her on that occasion; it was an experience I will never forget. Feeling the weight of her eggs fall into my hand, the sound of her labored breathing and the waves crashing behind me, the smell of seaweed and the irritating sand flies stinging me. I put a metal tag on its right rear flipper. I nicknamed her Stella Maris (Ocean Star).

I will never forget the privilege of sharing with this amazing and ancient creature

Anders Moore, Scotland



I would like to share the time I saw a jaguar for the first time. It was my first long track survey and I was still getting used to the heat. I was starting to get tired, even though we were halfway there. Then, we saw a flock of vultures and an orange shape moving among them. I saw the jaguar rip into the leatherback it had just killed and it completely ignored the vultures. We then saw the cub running among the birds and bothering its mother.

It was magical and a great introduction of how life would be in Tortuguero.

Jose Cerri, Brazil



The most amazing moment was my first encounter with a leatherback turtle in Tortuguero.

That night it was super dark and the sky was full of stars. We had already walked 10 km and we were starting to feel tired and to think that we would not find a turtle. Then we saw a really big and marked track. The turtle had just started digging the egg chamber. It was really amazing because we were able to enjoy the whole process. He was 157cm long and super healthy.

It was a magical and unique moment

LEATHERBACK Season 2023

SEA TURTLE

CONSERVANCY
S I N C E 1 9 5 9
31st March to 20th June 2023

In **29km** in total of beach, we've counted...

We worked a female that was tagged in 1998. Since then, we've seen her **6 times!**



111
nests

Leatherback
(Dermochelys coriacea)



745
nests

Green
(Chelonia mydas)



17
nests

Hawksbill
(Eretmochelys imbricata)

And what happened
in the **8** km of
Public Beach



39
nests

Leatherback Turtle
(26% total nesting)

133
nests

Green Turtle
(18% total nesting)

8
nests

Hawksbill Turtle
(18% total nesting)

Meet the new STAFF

Belkis

Rueda



Education Outreach
Coordinator

Brenes



Manager
STC Station

Jorge

Herrera



Visitor Center-
Coordinator

Guillermo

Calagua



Field
Coordinator

Carlos

Rankin



Field Assistant
Coordinator

Keithlyn



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