



Turtle Projects

Turtles are protected by law in Mexico due to declining numbers however only federal conservation camps - few in number - receive any government funding. All other projects must fund themselves and several camps have had to close in recent years due to lack of funding.

Experience Mexico was initially set up to enable two turtle camps on the Pacific coast of Mexico to continue operating by providing volunteers and funding. The two projects are run by experienced locals in beautiful settings. The two camps are situated just north of the Bay of Banderas; Higuera Blanca is a 3.5km beach located just north of the tip of the bay near Punta Mita and 'El Naranjo' is an 8km beach located near Rincon de Guayabitos.

Both camps offer:

- * Beautiful beaches
- * 20% of your money goes directly to the camps
- * The chance to suggest how and when your money is invested *
- * The opportunity for you to make a difference

The two camps operate in different ways, though both are aiming for the same result - to stabilise the turtle population and protect the nests from the dangers they face in the populated world.

Activities include:

- * Patrolling of the beach, usually at night
- * Collecting nests
- * Planting nests
- * Cleaning nests (once hatched)
- * Releasing the babies
- * Recording statistics and writing reports

Work is undertaken by the small groups of volunteers - from only a pair to larger groups of 6. Patrols of the beach are done on foot and by beach buggy, or, in Higuera Blanca, by horseback.

Accommodation is provided for all Experience Mexico volunteers. The Higuera Blanca volunteers will be accommodated in a house overlooking the beach and Naranjo volunteers will also be accommodated in a house or hotel, though often nights will be spent on the beach where tent accommodation is provided in the camp area.

Both camps operate from June to January each year, mainly working with the Olive Ridley turtle. If you are physically fit and can commit for at least three months to this project, you can be part of this miracle of nature and help the efforts of the specie to survive.

Cost:

£2500 for 3 months

(Extra months available, for prices please contact us)

- * Subject to certain restrictions