

WHY?

WE ARE OFFERING A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO MEET AND INTERACT WITH ENDANGERED LOGGERHEAD AND GREEN TURTLES DURING THEIR NESTING AND HATCHING SEASON.

THIS MAGICAL ANNUAL EVENT HAS BEEN OCCURRING SINCE THE AGE OF DINOSAURS! BY LEARNING ABOUT THE EXTRAORDINARY SEA TURTLES AND PARTICIPATING IN FUN ACTIVITIES STUDENTS WILL EXPERIENCE A MORE INTIMATE UNDERSTANDING OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF SPECIES AND ECOSYSTEMS TO THEIR OWN LIVES, COMMUNITIES, COUNTRY AND PLANET.



SAVE VILLAS DE ROSA QUINTANA ROO, MEXICO

LOCATED ON THE YUCATAN PENINSULA IN THE STATE OF QUINTANA ROO, MEXICO, AKUMAL IS SURROUNDED BY NATURAL RESOURCES, MOST IMPORTANTLY, WATER. THE CARIBBEAN SEA AND FRINGING REEF SYSTEMS ARE TO OUR EAST. THE LAND TO THE WEST CONTAINS THE LARGEST UNDERGROUND FRESHWATER RIVERS IN THE FORM OF CAVE SYSTEMS, UNIQUE IN THE WORLD, FLOWING DIRECTLY TO THE SEA. BOTH THE ENDANGERED LOGGERHEAD AND GREEN TURTLES HAVE SIGNIFICANT NESTING SITES ON THE BEACHES OF AKUMAL, THE BACK DOOR OF SAVE'S OFFICE. AKUMAL, IN MAYAN, MEANS 'HOME OF THE TURTLES' AND AVENTURAS AKUMAL IS THE SECOND MOST ACTIVE TURTLE NESTING BEACH IN THE YUCATAN. THE NEXT BEACH SOUTH OF US IS THE FAMOUS AND MOST ACTIVE TURTLE NESTING SANCTUARY OF XCACEL.



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SAVE



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TURTLE CAMP 2009



SUPPORTED BY:



WHAT?

EACH SESSION WILL CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING FOUR COMPONENTS ORGANIZED TO AGE APPROPRIATE PRESENTATIONS:

SEMINARS WILL INCLUDE TOPICS SUCH AS BASIC TURTLE IDENTIFICATION; TURTLE CONSERVATION; TURTLE HATCHERY MANAGEMENT; TAGGING PROGRAMS; THE MESO-AMERICAN REEF ECOSYSTEM; HISTORY OF THE CONSERVATION OF MARINE TURTLES IN MEXICO; BIOLOGY OF MARINE TURTLES; AS WELL AS EFFECTS OF HUMANS ON THESE CREATURES; AND TOOLS THEY WILL NEED TO HELP INFLUENCE POLICY.

A NUMBER OF FIELD TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES WILL HAPPEN. THESE INCLUDE SNORKELING WITH THE TURTLES IN AKUMAL BAY, A VISIT TO THE SIAN KA'AN BIOSPHERE RELATED TO MANGROVES AND MAYAN HERITAGE, AND ALSO TO THE TULUM RUINS AND CENOTES (POOLS OF FRESHWATER FORMED FROM LIMESTONE SINKHOLES LINKED BY A VAST UNDERGROUND RIVER SYSTEM FOUND IN THE YUCATÁN PENINSULA).



S A V E



Society of Akumal's Vital Ecology



TRAINING FOR MONITORING AND DOCUMENTING NIGHTLY TURTLE ACTIVITY WILL OCCUR WITH FLORA FAUNA Y CULTURA DE MEXICO BIOLOGISTS. EACH NIGHT, SMALL GROUPS OF STUDENTS WILL HELP IDENTIFY THE SPECIES OF MOTHER TURTLES COMING ONTO THE BEACH, MEASURE THE TURTLES AND COUNT EGGS.

HATCHLINGS ARE ALSO COUNTED AND CHECKED FOR HEALTH, AND RELEASED. MONITORING ACTIVITY WILL BE ON BOTH THE AVENTURAS AKUMAL BEACH AS WELL AS TURTLE SANCTUARY PLAYA XCACEL.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION INVOLVES AN ONGOING EFFORT TO MAKE GUESTS AND LOCALS AWARE OF OBSTACLES THAT HUMANS CREATE FOR THE MOTHER TURTLES TO ACCOMPLISH LAYING THEIR EGGS.

WHO?

S.A.V.E. (SOCIETY OF AKUMAL VITAL ECOLOGY), A GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION, IS LOCATED IN THE CARIBBEAN COASTLINE STATE OF QUINTANA ROO, MEXICO ON THE BEACH THAT IS KNOWN AS THE SECOND LARGEST TURTLE NESTING BEACH ON THE YUCATAN PENINSULA, AVENTURAS AKUMAL.

WE HAVE HAD LEGAL MEXICAN NON-PROFIT STATUS FOR 10 YEARS. SAVE WORKS TOWARDS IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS ON THE RIVIERA MAYA COASTLINE. FROM 2000 TO 2002 OUR EFFORTS SUCCESSFULLY ACCOMPLISHED THE HALTING OF AN ALL INCLUSIVE RESORT IN XCACEL BEACH WHICH CAN BOAST THE MOST TURTLE NESTS ON THE YUCATAN PENINSULA ANNUALLY.

CURRENTLY WE ARE PURSUING FEDERAL PROTECTION FOR XCACEL AND XCACELITO. IN 2007, TOGETHER WITH THE CITIZENS OF THE MAYAN VILLAGE OF CHEMUYIL A PLANNED TRASH SITE OVER THE RIVER SYSTEM WAS HALTED WHICH WOULD HAVE LEAKED CONTAMINATION THROUGH THE KARST AND INTO THE WATER FLOW.

WWW.SAVERIVIERAMAYA.ORG.

WHERE?

VILLAS DEROSA IS MORE THAN JUST THE PERFECT BEACH LOCATION. ALL CONDOS BOAST A SPECTACULAR VIEW OF THE CARIBBEAN SEA WITH QUICK BEACH ACCESS FOR SWIMMING, SNORKELING OR DIVING. THE MESOAMERICAN REEF LIES JUST OUT OUR DOOR STEP. VIBRANT AND SPECTACULAR CORAL REEFS, TEEMING WITH COLORFUL FISH, CORAL, LOBSTERS, CONCH, TURTLES AND OTHER MARINE LIFE AND THE MOST BIOLOGICALLY DIVERSE HABITATS ON EARTH. IT IS THE LARGEST REEF IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AND HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A UNIQUE AND GLOBALLY IMPORTANT CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM. ALSO AVAILABLE ARE GARDEN VIEW HOTEL ROOMS WHICH OVER LOOK THE JUNGLE SIDE SWIMMING POOL. WWW.CENOTES.COM

ALL SESSIONS ARE BILINGUAL, SPANISH AND ENGLISH.