



FAQ's

Answers to the questions most frequently asked by participants.

What are Adventures for Teachers Only?

Since 1995, Earth Explore has provided students and teachers with educational and rewarding travel opportunities. Our teachers only trips allow teachers from around the nation to join together to experience an educational, active, and accredited travel experience, geared specifically to their needs and interests as educators.

Can any teacher apply?

Yes, our teachers only programs are open to all public and private school educators, regardless of their teaching emphasis or grade level. All that is required is an interest in the destination, and a love of learning and travel.

Is there academic credit available?

Yes. All teachers can participate in our in service or professional development credit program, offered through the University of the Pacific.

What is the Earth Explore Foundation?

The Earth Explore Foundation oversees all of our educational programs. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3), federally recognized not for profit public benefit organization, dedicated to facilitating active education for teachers and youth, in the outdoor classroom.

Who will be our guides and resource experts?

Earth Explore and the Earth Explore Foundation are able to work with the world's finest on site educators. On our Hawaii program for teachers, our teaching staff is drawn exclusively from educators of the University of Hawaii at Hilo. On the Costa Rica program for teachers, we use experts from Costa Rica Expeditions, many of whom hold advanced degrees in tropical biology, earth science, and other fields.

Can other adults, besides teachers participate?

We are often asked if friends and spouses can participate in our teacher's programs. The answer is yes. If that person is accompanying a teacher, then he or she can participate fully, and even earn professional credit if desired.

What are the dates?

Our date choices are based upon the requirements of travel to the particular destination. For example, on our Costa Rica for teachers program, we schedule our groups when the sea turtle nesting season is at its peak, and when all of the other activities including the Monteverde cloud forest, are accessible.

What is included?

Earth Explore includes everything for teachers, except for items of a strictly personal nature. That means three meals a day, double share accommodations at all locations, all necessary supplies, ground transportation, transfers, local guides and educators, credentials, field journal and other pre-departure items.

What are the hotels like?

All of our groups stay in excellent 3 star or higher hotels,

with teachers sharing a room with one roommate. Single accommodations require a supplement. Most of our hotels have pools. In Costa Rica, we use the Tortuga Lodge (luxury level), and Monteverde Lodge. In Hawaii, we use the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, and Royal Kona Resort.

What are the activities like?

At all times, our focus is hands-on learning and adventure. That means we don't sit on the sidelines, but dive in. Depending on the adventure we may be exploring jungle canals, sighting whales, hiking mountain trails, discovering volcanoes, kayaking, exploring ocean tide pools or coral reefs, rafting or taking part in interactive programs.

Is there pre-travel preparation?

Yes. Earth Explore provides pre-departure materials to all participants, including program itineraries, photo credentials, a preparation guide, packing list, field journal, and other items.

Who is the Travel Manager?

This person is an additional staff member who is charged with handling all program logistics on-site during the Adventure. This includes hotel check-in and checkout, coordination with program locations and venues, and trouble shooting. This assures that all of our programs operate smoothly, and any issues are handled immediately.

What is a typical day like?

The day begins at around 7:30 or 8:00 AM when we rise and prepare for breakfast and the morning meeting. Following breakfast, we set off for a day of adventures, which typically involve an organized morning activity, lunch, and another afternoon activity.

The day ends at dinner and the evening group meeting, at which the day's activities are discussed, the next day is reviewed. Time may be allotted for team building, classroom lectures, or other group activities. Often there is a chance for swimming at the hotel, socializing with friends, and other free time activities.

How does my flight work?

Earth Explore will provide details on arrival and departure windows, and all participants can then book their flights. If there are others coming from your same city, then we will put you in touch with them, to coordinate flights. On the arrival and departure day, Earth Explore staff will be on hand at the airport to greet arriving participants, and to handle transfers.

Can I use what I learn in the classroom?

Absolutely. Our teachers only trips are designed to provide educators with a wealth of new knowledge, materials, and ideas that will pay off in the classroom. We provide a field journal so that participants can take notes, make observations, and share those with others. In addition, our trips offer a great variety of source materials that can be used in your curriculum. And, of course, the networking opportunities with other teachers mean that you will be able to share ideas, instructional methods, and curriculum ideas.