



## **Turtle watching and night-time Ecologic Tour (dinner is included)**

The tour starts at the end of the afternoon with the transfer service to the Cañas pier where you will board a powerboat which will take you to Isla Cañas [Cañas Island]. This island is the home to a great quantity of mangroves. It is the habitat of countless sea species, but, above all, it is the most important nesting site in Panama. From July to January, its fourteen kilometers [8.6992 miles] of seashore receive thousands of turtles, predominantly, olive ridley sea turtles that arrive to deposit their eggs. An interesting sustainable tourist project is being undertaken in the island. It arose after turtle's eggs production and commercialization for human consumption were forbidden; that represented, along with fishing, the sole income source of the local population. From one day to another, numerous families were left with their hands tied, so they got organized in local cooperatives in order to protect turtles and make of them an attraction for promoting tourism in the island. Thus, communities recovered their financial support while respecting turtles and their environment. Upon your arrival to the island, you will have dinner, prepared by the ladies who live there. Afterwards, aboard a cart pulled by horses, you will reach the beach where you will see in detail turtles depositing their eggs or turtles coming out of their shells. You should pay full attention to the guide's indications to disturb as little as possible turtles, since they are very sensitive animals and when they hear a noise, they go back to the sea. Generally, female turtles arrive to the seashore, they go over the beach until they find the appropriate place to nest, and they dig a hole which is filled again in order to be camouflaged and keep predators away from it once they deposit their eggs. Incubation varies according to the species, but when hatching finally occurs, the little turtles should run over one side of the beach to reach the sea and avoid other series of tough obstacles. At the end of this fabulous and emotional contact with nature, you will be taken back to Pedasí.

**DURATION:** approximately 4 hours.

**TIME:** 5:30 p.m. (nighttime tour), subject to confirmation.

**GUIDE:** Spanish/English speaker guide.

**IT INCLUDES:** shuttle service from/to the hotel, visits and dinner.

**NOTE:** it is offered from late July to October only. Probabilities to watch turtles are high; however, they are not for sure.

**RECOMMENDED OUTFIT:** comfortable clothes and shoes (for a walk on the beach), long pants, repellent and raincoat.