



Sea Turtle Ecology & Conservation Field Course Resources for Field Course Participants

Bienvenidos! Please plan to arrive in Mérida by the afternoon of July 7 and depart the morning of July 13.

Travel information:

U. S. citizens traveling to Mexico do not require a tourist visa if their stay is less than 180 days but they do require a VALID PASSPORT. Please check the travel requirements here: [Countries not needing visa to enter Mexico](#).

Travel expenses & Accommodations

The cost of the field course covers lodging, transportation to the field site and meals during the stay in El Cuyo, and some meals while in Mérida. The students are responsible for covering the air fare to and from Mérida. You will spend the night at the Fiesta Inn hotel (<https://goo.gl/maps/urUxb4DgDunbfcYj6>). The hotel is 25 to 30 minutes from Merida's international airport Manuel Crescencio Rejón. Taxis charge about 25 USD and it can accommodate 4 people. To reduce the cost, students will share rooms. In El Cuyo, students will stay at Hotel Valerio's; this is a small hotel with a limited number of rooms, so some students will have to share ([Valerio's Facebook page](#)). On the day off, students will have the option to participate in some tourism activities. Please check the costs and the minimum number of participants for each activity (*see below). The course fee does not cover these costs.

About the field site

El Cuyo is a small town at the northeast coast of Yucatán, 270 km from Mérida (https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/El_Cuyo). It is a small fishing community of about 1700 habitants, and is rapidly changing to a touristic spot for its natural beauty (<https://yucatan.travel/en/sun-and-beach/el-cuyo/>). The town is inside the Federal Natural Protected Area Reserva de la Biosfera Ría Lagartos. In the summer, average temperature is 28.5°C (83.3°F), but the range can be between 25 and 33°C (77- 91.4°F).

What to bring

Clothing

- Long sleeves & pants for bug and sun protection
- Dark-colored clothing for nighttime monitoring
- Sunhat
- Closed toe shoes
- Light coat/rain coat
- sandals/shorts

Gear

- Head lamp with a red light option
- Safety work gloves such as [these](#).
- Water bottle
- Notebook, pen or pencil
- Laptop or notepad to work on database and analyses

**Optional recreational activities (day off)*

Activity	Total cost	Cost per person	Cost in USD (\$20.00)	# of people required	Duration	Time
Yalahau lagoon	\$4,500*lancha	\$900.00	\$45.00	5*lancha	4 horas	7 am - 10 am
4*4 ride	\$3,000*vehículo	\$1,500.00	\$75.00	2*vehículo	2 horas	7 am - 4 pm
Bike ride	\$500*persona	\$500.00	\$25.00	3-6 máx	2 horas	7 am - 5 pm
Kayak	\$600*persona	\$600.00	\$30.00	3-8 máx	2 horas	7 am - 4 pm
Sendero Jaguar	\$3,000*vehículo	\$750.00	\$37.50	4*grupo	2 horas	7 am - 4 pm
Las Coloradas (boat ride)	\$9,000*lancha	\$1,800.00	\$90.00	5*lancha	4 horas	7 am - 2 pm
Boat ride	\$2,500*lancha	\$500.00	\$25.00	5*lancha	4 horas	7 am - 3 pm

* Dollars are not accepted, please make sure you have Mexican pesos to pay for these activities.