

**TURTLE FOUNDATION PATROL SITES
BOAVISTA ISLAND – CAPE VERDE
2010 SEASON**



In 2010 Turtle Foundation will run a conservation project on Boavista with different project sites:

- a) Curral Velho Camp
- b) Boa Esperança Camp
- c) Community Stay at Fundo das Figueiras

to protect and monitor the population of the Loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) in at least 5 nesting beaches:

1. Lacacão Beach
2. Curral Velho Beach
3. Boa Esperança Beach
4. Norte Beach
5. Canto Beach

a) CURRAL VELHO CAMP

Located on the Southeast coast of Boavista, the site consists of three beaches that have been monitored and protected by Turtle Foundation since 2009: Lacacão (7km, 3Km are monitored), Curralito (350m) and Curral Velho (4.5Km). All three beaches are monitored from the main campsite, located in Curral Velho beach, while a shelter tent is located in Lacacão beach.

The primary purpose of the work on these beaches is the protection of the nesting females, however a tagging program will be initiated in 2010, and biological information will be collected on the nesting females.



The campsite will be located near the ruins of Curral Velho, the oldest human settlement in Boavista island, thus of cultural importance, and next to an important wetland, unique in the island. It contrasts with Lacacão beach, another beautiful sandy beach, where the largest tourism development in the country is currently being developed, and the impact of artificial light is notorious on the nesting females and emerging hatchlings.

1. LACACÃO BEACH

Length: 7 Km (3Km monitored)
Average walking time: 45 minutes (each way)
Number of nests: up to 1100



2. CURRAL VELHO BEACH

Length: 4.1 Km
Average walking time: 1h 15 minutes (each way)
Number of nests: up to 1200



Participant Profile:

Interest in participating in basic research. Must be very comfortable living for at least 2 weeks in a very remote area in a self-catering camp setting with no sanitation and limited water supply. Must endure extreme hot weather. High level of fitness and independence required.

b) BOA ESPERANÇA CAMP



Located on the Northwest tip of the island, this is the camp closest to the island's capital, Sal Rei, and therefore under a huge amount of pressure from poachers. By far the beach that has been worst hit by poaching in the last year, it will be granted protection for the first time in 2010.

Very visited during the day by tourists who come to see the impressive wreck located at the beach, and swim in the beautiful water, it is also frequented by night by locals who bring tourists to see the nesting.

The Turtle Foundation work in this beach will not only focus on protection, but also in the development of environmental education, community participation, and ecotourism. A camp will be set up in the main entrance of this beach

to accommodate soldiers and volunteers. A hatchery might be set up for conservation and educational purposes.

3. BOA ESPERANÇA BEACH

Length: 2.9 Km

Average walking time: 45 minutes (each way)

Type and Location of camp: Beach Camp on west access to the beach

Number of nests: up to 500

Participant Profile:

Interest in participating in outreach and educational activities, lead night tours, and participate in some research. Must be comfortable living for at least 2 weeks in a very remote area in a self-catering camp setting with no sanitation and limited water supply. Medium level of fitness needed.

c) FUNDO DAS FIGUEIRAS COMMUNITY STAY

Fundo das Figueiras is a small village located on the northeast of Boavista at an ideal distance from two of our main protected beaches, Norte and Canto. These beaches were protected for the first time in 2009, with very positive results. Volunteers and soldiers will be based in this village during the day, and will be driven each night after dinner to the beaches, where they will spend the night. All meals are served in the village. Stays will be arranged either with local families, or in a communitarian building, but will give participants the unique opportunity to experience local living and lifestyle and interact more with the locals. The two beaches are very different from each other, contrasting between short sandy beach (Canto) and extremely dramatic landscape and difficult terrain in Norte.

**4. NORTE BEACH**

Length: 5.1Km

Average walking time: 1h25 minutes (each way)

Type and Location of the camp: Base in Fundo das Figueiras. Shelter tent for night stays at East access point.

Number of nests: up to 450

5. CANTO BEACH

Length: 2.1 Km

Average walking time: 35 minutes (each way)

Type and Location of camp: Base in Fundo das Figueiras. Shelter tent for night stays at the south access point near lagoon

Number of nests: up to 450

Participant Profile:

interest in living in a village setting, 5 Km away from the beach. Participants live in the village of Fundo das Figueiras and interact more with locals. Possibility of homestays (to be confirmed). Access to amenities such as bars, restaurants and small shops, as well as sanitation (toilets, showers). Likes to learn about local culture and interact with locals. Little interest in research. Adventurous, enjoys challenging hikes in dramatic landscaped. Must have a good level of fitness.



Protejamos as tartarugas – junte-se a nós!