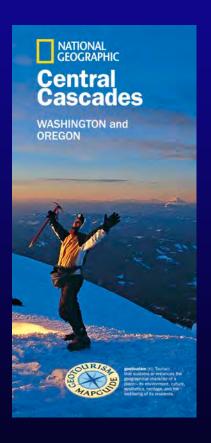


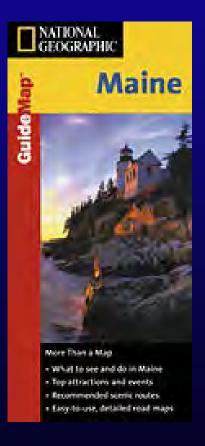
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

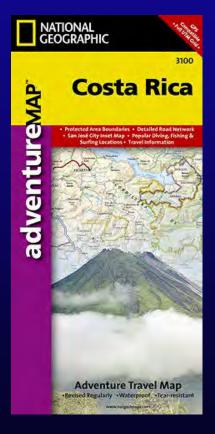
National Geographic Society – Maps Division – Sustainable Tourism Program

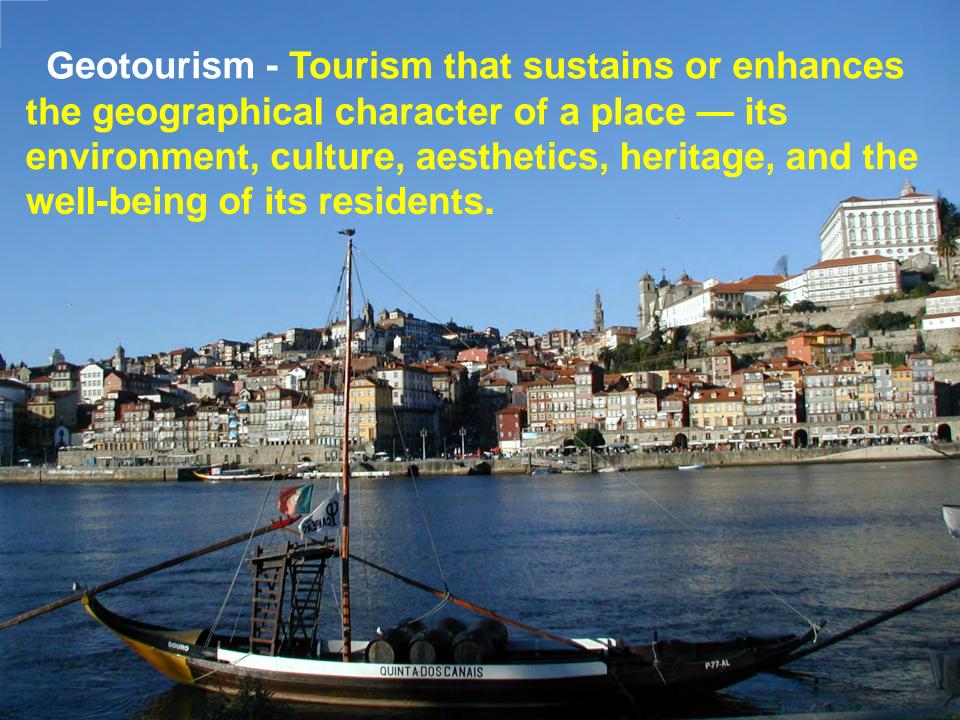
Interactive media platforms that promote well managed tourism and wise destination stewardship to preserve and conserve the world's most important places





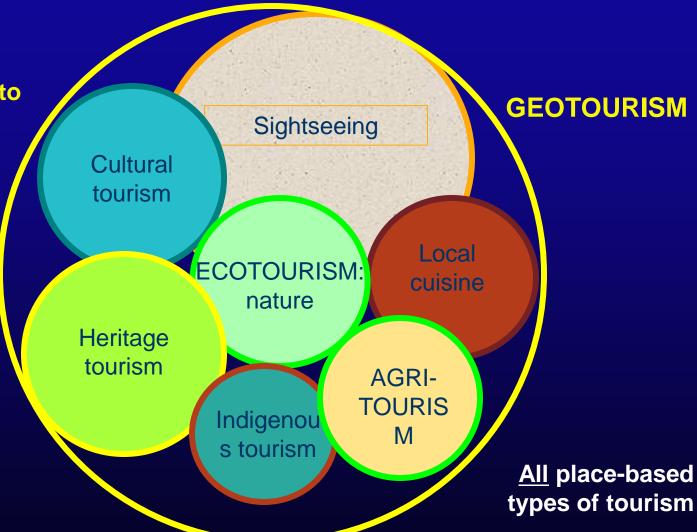






From eco- to geo-

Manage tourism so that it pays to protect the place, not destroy it.



Well managed tourism can bring many benefits. Poorly managed tourism can destroy a destinations sense of place.



- Over half the American traveling public thinks it's harder to find unspoiled places than it used to be.
- Three out of four don't want their visits to harm the environment at their destinations.

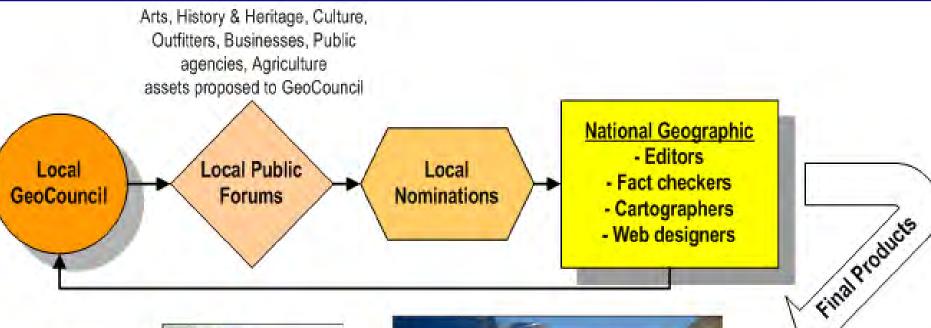
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TRAVELER

Prepared by
The Research Department of the
Travel Industry Association of America
Washington, D.C.



- 74% seek "authentic" and "distinctive" local experiences. 61% say their experience is better when their destination preserves its natural, historic and cultural sites.
- 55 65 million U.S. travelers can be classified as "geotourists".
- •"Geotourists" spend 75% of the money spent on tourism

Interactive websites - Community Participation







Identify, Develop, Market and Sustain Authenticity



- Flora and Fauna
- History
- Recreation
- Archaeology
- Geology
- Architecture
- Local Music
- Cuisine
- Local Crafts
- Arts

IDB-MIF

Inter-American Development Bank

Multilateral Investment **Fund**

South America & Caribbean



LOGOUT





MY PLACES





Crown of the Continent Artists and fly casters have superseded gandy dancers and cow punchers in the old railhead.



News from around the world

Artists and fly casters have superseded gandy dancers and cow ounchers in the old railhead read more

Another bit of information about the world heritage Artists and fly casters have superseded gandy dancers and cow punchers in the old railhead.



Quito, Ecuador Quito's origins date back to the first

millennium, when the Quitu tribe occupied the area and eventually formed a commercial center. According to Juan de Velasco's 1767 book Historia del Reino de Quito, the Quitu were conquered. reari more

HISTORY

Machu Picchu was built around 1450, at the height of the Inca Empire. It was abandoned just over 100 years later, in 1572, as a belated result of the Spanish Conquest.It is likely that most of its inhabitants were wiped out ... read more

Machu Picchu Peru

ENVIRONMENT



Monte Cristi, Dominican Republic Monte Cristi National Park is a national park on the Caribbean Island of Hispanola that extends from the borders of Haiti to Punta Rucia in the Dominican Republic and covers an area of 550 km2. Its contains coastal lagoons... read more

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Be more than a passive traveler. Opportunities to volunteer and make a difference.



Milderness Foundation Volunteer Opportunity



Camp Trails Community Involvement



Association Headquarters Organization

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Local people tell us what makes their place special, and what's being done to keep it that way.



Samantha McGossen-Lee oined Sept. 12, 2009 uatemala City, Guatemal



saak Mullan oined Sept. 16, 2009



Mohammed Broadmoore oined Sept. 22, 2009



Initial Destinations Geotourism Destination
Development: A MarketDriven Value Chain
Integration

Central America; including Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama



The Bahamas

- Compete Caribbean, a new initiative being jointly managed out of the IDB, is just starting its work and the Bahamas is the pilot country where primary activities will take place.
- The MIF has just finished a 4-year project that focused on the improvement of SMEs, Sustainable Tourism Entrepreneurial Management & Marketing (STEMM). The Government of the Bahamas is committed to leveraging the work started by STEMM and has committed counterpart resources to
- The tightly defined national location base will allow for the testing of market segmentation based on national brand and interconnectivity of local initiatives.

Central America / LAC Explorer Project Summary

Geographic Scope

The Central America / LAC Explorer website will *highlight* sustainable tourism destinations, businesses and points of interest in **six pilot sites**. These sites, along with their targeted local implementing partners and the type of on-the-ground support that will be provided to them by Solimar:

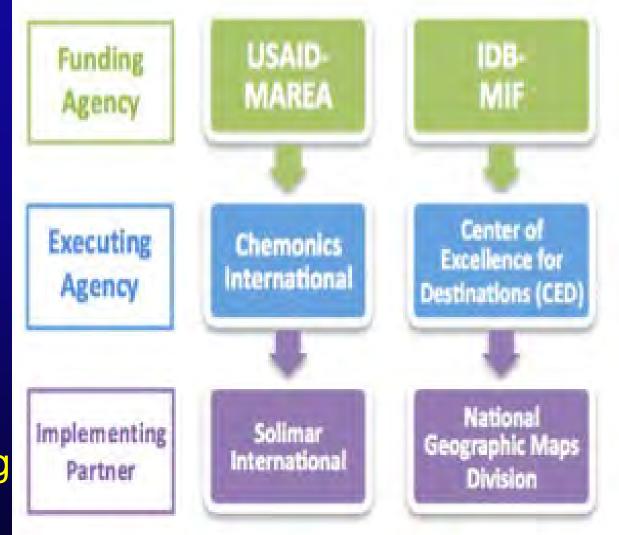
- Bay Islands, Honduras
- Bocas del Toro, Panama
- Toledo District, Belize
- Puerto Viejo, Costa Rica
- La Libertad, El Salvador
- Bahia de Amatique, Guate.



Access to Knowledge

Access to Markets

Sustaining the environment, culture, heritage and the well being of local people





USAID REGIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF AQUATIC RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES

"Go Blue Central America" Geotourism Website & Best Practices Program –

"Go Blue Central America" Best Practices Program:
Roatán, Honduras

I. Universal Best Practices
(All Tourism Service Providers)















March, 2012; Bocas del Toro, Pamama Project Planning

April 2012 Roatan, Honduras Project Planning;

"Swearing in" of the GSC





Go Blue Central America Geotourism MapGuide

Español | English

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Help tell the story of what is special about your place. Start Nominating Here! Nominations open now!

Most Recent Nominations



Sea Adventures Carenero, (Bocas) Nominated on 9/3/12



Food or Drink Entre Pisco Y Nazca, Sandy Bay, Linga Longa, West End, Roatan, Roatán, Honduras Nominated on 8/20/12



Food or Drink Honduras Nominated on 8/12/12

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Get beyond the beaten track. Discover new people, places, and experiences.

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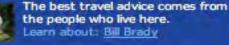
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LOCAL KNOWLEDGE



It's easy to nominate!

Tell us about it, share photos and videos, then map it and submit it for review.

Sign up to start nominating now.

Proyecto de Geoturismo Explorer Latino América y el Caribe

Un enfoque innovador para promover aspectos culturales y naturales de un destino mientras se apoya el crecimiento económico de las comunidades locales

Llamada a Participación



PROGRAMA DE GEOTURISMO

Eventos dinámicos para Foros involucrar a los residentes Públicos acerca de su papel en el Locales crecimiento del turismo sostenible Proceso participativo para descubrir los aspectos Nominaciones: Locales únicos y el carácter de un destino Aprovechar la experiencia de una de las marcas National más poderosas del Geographic mundo para elaborar el contenido Acceder a nuevos Distribución mercados y dar a conocer el Global destino

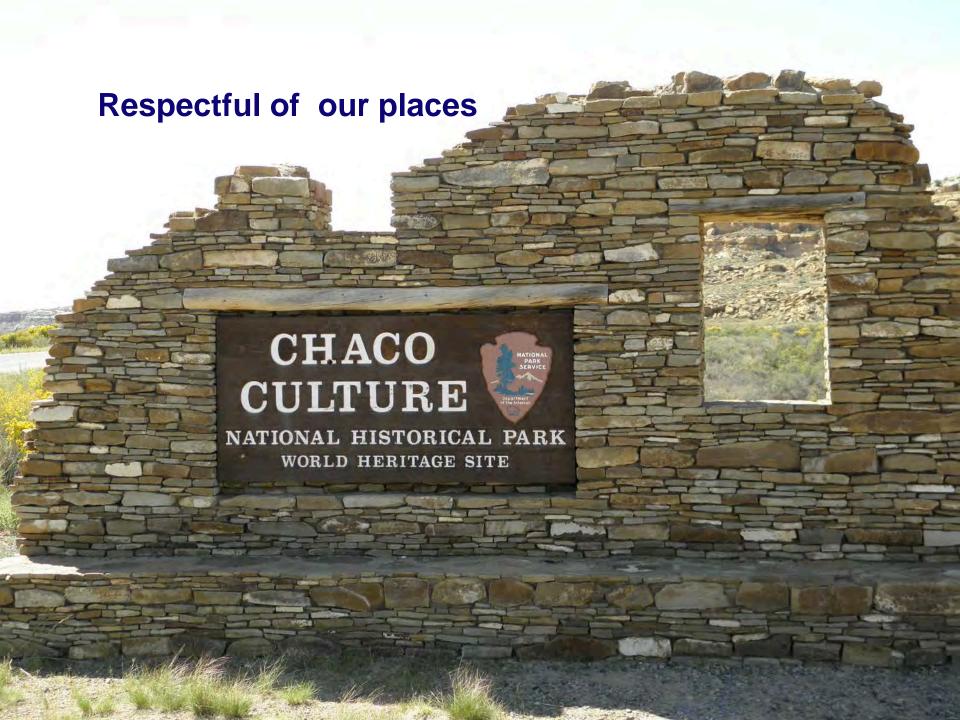




Sharing who we are







The product is the "place". Protect the place.











INDICATORS

- a) Not the number of visitors; it is the quality of the visits
- b) Length of stay and money spent
- c) Distribution of income from tourism; money spent locally
- d) How tourism is sustaining sense of place





In Production:

- Western Balkans
- Southern Ethiopia
- Eastern Newfoundland
- Douro Valley of Portugal

Starting Now:

- Bahamas
- Central America(MAREA)

Coming Soon:

- West Virginia
- Gulf States
- South Florida
- Namibia

Completed:

- •Crown of the Continent (2007)
- Greater Yellowstone (2006)
- Central Cascades (2008)
- •Redwood Coast (2009)
- Sierra Nevada (2010)
- •Lakes to Locks (2011)
- East Tennessee (2011)
- •Four Corners (2012)
- Yosemite MapGuide (2012)

Plus:

- Northeast Kingdom, Vt. (2006)
- Sonora Desert (2006)
- •Guatemala (2010)
- Peru Vilcanota Valley (2009)
- Baja California, Mexico (2007)
- Montreal (2008)











EXPLOSE

Euroy's new the region, here are secon themes that all

CENTRAL CASCADES

experiences that residents think are

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

special. Some of the special qualities that define the Central Cascades are explored



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www.sierranevadageotourism.org www.visitredwoodcoast.com www.yellowstonegeotourism.com www.crownofthecontinent.net www.westernbalkansgeotourism.travel www.fourcornersgeotourism.com www.lakestolocksgeotourism.com www.centralcascades.com www.easttennesseerivervalley.com www.guatemalageotourism.com www.discoverdourovalley.com www.gobluecentralamerica.com www.nlgeotourism.com

What's so special about your place?



The Pride of the Sonoran Desert Region Arizona/Sonora Geotourium MapGuide Nomination Form

City	Zin	Country	
Email:	7	Website:	
Linax.		Trepolic.	
Attraction Type (theck as many as apply):		
Natural Area (river, waterfall, garden, rainforest, etc.)		Museum	
Cultural/Traditional Site or Experience		Archeological Site	
Festival Unique Holiday Celebration		Historical Sire (fort, cathedral, rown center, erc)	
Arts and Craft		Ourdoor Recreation (Hiking, biking, etc.)	
Performing Arts (dance, music, thearer, etc.)		Accommodation (B&B, lodge)	
Cuitine		Visual Amraction (scenic overlook, waterfall, etc.)	
Farm A griculture		Other (describe)	
pplicable: ite Fees, if pplicable: lontact Person:			
pplicable:		0	
		6. Is the site privately owned? (circle one)	
fel Number:		TES NO	
ecessary. Content nvironment, culture			





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Food or Drink Honduras Nominated on 8/12/12

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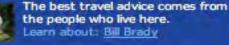
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LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

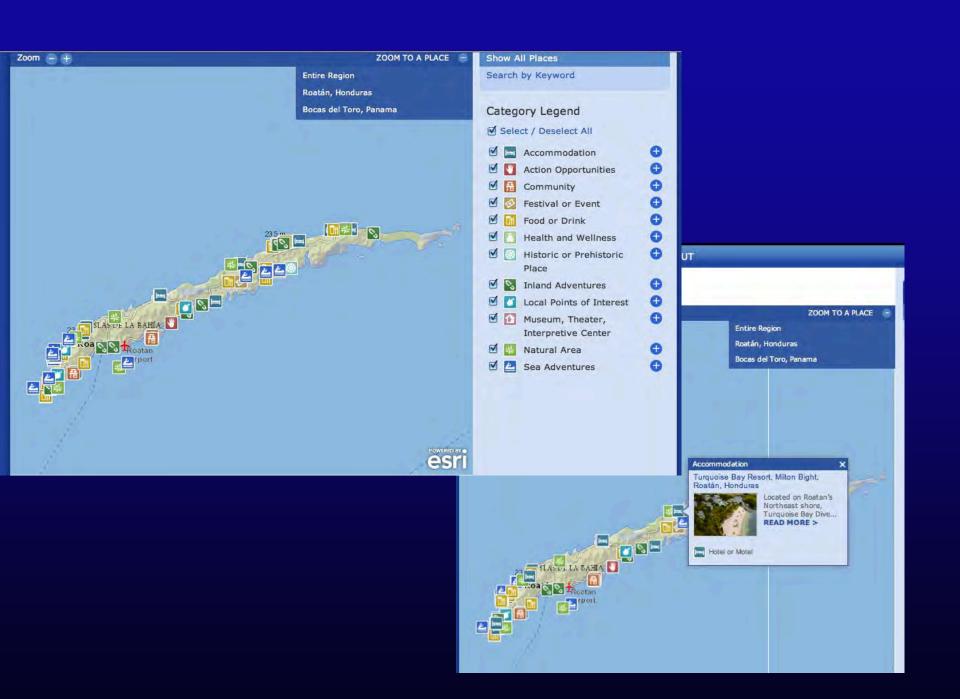


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Tell us about it, share photos and videos, then map it and submit it for review.

Sign up to start nominating now.





Hotel or Motel

Turquoise Bay Resort, Milton Bight, Roatán, Honduras





39 Thumbs Up! Click here to give your thumbs up.





Located on Roatan's Northeast shore, Turquoise Bay Dive & Beach Resort is the only resort in this lush and remote area of the Island providing you the opportunity to dive uncrowded, pristine dive sites or just unwind on our exclusive, private white-sand beach.

Specialities and Highlights

It is an undiscovered paradise where you will enjoy the very individual and personal service only a small boutique resort can offer.

Let our chef impress you with his creativity and daily specials as you experience the local flavours of Roatan at our restaurant where indoor and outdoor poolside seating is available.

Relax in one of our 26 spacious rooms with stylish Caribbean decor and views of Turquoise waters and our white-sand beach from your private terrace.

Hours Open

Reception and restaurant are open from 6 am - 10 pm every day.

Seasons Open

Year-round

Price Style for this Establishment

Bed & Breakfast rate / double occupancy: \$159 + 16% taxes

Actions taken to promote environmental or social sustainability

Eco friendly sewage systems

For More Information, Contact:

Jesus Reyes Info@turquoisebayresort.com



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LATITUDE: 16.395437000 LONGITUDE: -86.405705000



Meet the Author: Jesus Reyes

About Me Email Me

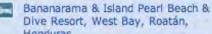
Add your own story, place or event.

Thumbs Up Place Nearby



Alvin Roberto Welcome Brooks, French Harbour-Roatán, Honduras (7.6 miles / 12.3 kilometers)

SIMILAR NEARBY



Roatan Diving at Bananarama Beach Front and Dive Resort on Roatan Island, Honduras. We are...

Birds Nest, Isla Colón, Bocas del



Guide or Operator

Instituto de Exploración de profundidades Marinas de Roatán -Submarinos Stanley, West End, Roatán, Honduras



2 Thumbs Up! Click here to give your thumbs up.









Less than 3 percent of the world's deep waters have been explored. Considering that nearly all deep sea research has been conducted by small group of developed nations in their own waters (U.S., Russia, New Zealand, Japan, U.K., and France), the deep waters of less developed regions, such as Central America, are truly unknown.

On every dive the R.I.D.E submarine Idabel illuminates places that have never known any light at all-places no human eyes have ever seen. Dives can last from an hour and half to sometimes 10 hours, depending on which dive you choose to do. Past dives with scientists, photographers, and filmmakers have led to the identification of new species and previously unknown creatures. Scientists have touted the area off of Roatan has some of the healthiest deep sea coral communities yet to be discovered. Both research and recreation have led to a greater

appreciation for the incredible marine habitat that lies below.

Recreational Opportunities Available 305 m (1,000 ft) - 1.5 hours

We explore down the second wall, which drops between 60-210 meters (200-700 feet), and around huge



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Meet the Author:

Annick McIntosh



About Me

Add your own story, place or event.



Thumbs Up Place Nearby



Roatan Rum Company Between West End and West Bay, Roatán, Honduras (1.4 miles / 2.2 kilometers)



Roatan Rum Company Between West End and West Bay, Roatán, Honduras

S BACK



3 Thumbs Up! Click here to give your thumbs up.









Our Artisan rum cake bakery and store is a must see while in Roatan. Free rum cake samples, rum candies, rum based sauces, raw sugar cane and more beautifully packaged and available to take home as gifts.

We are located high on top of Rum Point, with beautiful views of the Caribbean Sea, coral reef and West End, Roatan.

Enjoy a rum cocktail while chatting with our resident pirate, great photo opportunities abound... Join us!

What not to miss

The Incredible hand made Roatan Rum Cakes. available in four delicious flavors... 151 Proof Rum, Chocolate, Island Original and Crazy Coconut. Oh and of course, The Saucy Girls!!!

our rum based Hot Sauce Collection, Heatanistic Habanero, Passionate Papaya, Bodacious BBQ Sauce, the list goes on...

Best times to visit

Late afternoons as the sun sets over the Caribbean, big sky views that will astonish the senses.

Hours of Operation: Monday to Saturday 9am till 5pm

Actions taken to promote environmental or social sustainability

Building is constructed of environmentally friendly materials; wood and tin; reclaimed concrete used to make our patio stepping stones. We also employ several locals and have taught them new skills, contributing to the islands economy and growth. Supporting local business, all supplies and services required in the making of our products come only from locally owned businesses. All Roatan Rum



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LATITUDE: 16.288241000 LONGITUDE: -86.589684000

Meet the Author: George O'Mallie



About Me

Add your own story, place or event.



Thumbs Up Place Nearby



Lookout Point, East End, Roatán, Honduras (23.2 miles / 37.5 kilometers)

SIMILAR NEARBY





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About the Region



Surface and underwater view of an island in Bocas del Toro, Panama I Vista submarino y superficie cerca de una isla en Bocas del Toro, Panamá Photo © vilainecrevette / iStockPhoto

About Bocas del Toro, Panama

The Bocas del Toro Archipelago is a group of islands in the Caribbean Sea in northwest Panama. The archipelago remains relatively undeveloped; Isla Colón is the only island with any roads or vehicles. This leaves visitors to enjoy the clean air, the sound of the waves, and the exotic noises of the jungle-home to monkeys, sloths, toucans, and a spectacular variety of medicinal plants and exotic fruits.

The sea is also full of life. Elusive manatees, endangered sea turtles, playful dolphins and vivid reefs fill the waters of the region. The opportunities for diving and snorkeling are endless, and the waves crashing over these reefs draw surfers from across the globe. The Bastimentos National Park encompasses one part of Bastimentos island and the Zapatilla Cayes. This park includes rich mangroves and over 57 different coral species.

Bocas' remoteness means that unique species have emerged - such as the emblematic poison dart frogs, whose jewel-like skins have evolved into different colors on each island and the mainland. Likewise, the region's diverse cultures - from the indigenous Ngöbe and Naso, to the Afro-Caribbeans and Latinos - have retained their own languages, beliefs, and customs through the centuries, isolated as they are by water and impenetrable jungle.

The province of Bocas del Toro used to be home to a number of banana plantations operated by the United Fruit Company. Many buildings in Bocas del Toro reflect the rich history of Bocas del Toro, such as Hotel Bahia (the former headquarters of the United Fruit Company). There are many aspects of cultural life in Bocas del Toro that are of interest for tourists—such as local

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For more information about the Go Blue Central America Geotourism MapGuide, contact:

Go Blue Central America Geotourism Council

Project Manager and Portal Editor:

Honduras: Francisco Cabanas Regional Project Coordinator cabanasfco@gmail.com Tel: +504.3376.0036

Panama: Lucia Prinz Regional Project Coordinator I.prinz@solimarinternational.com Tel: +507.6002.9205

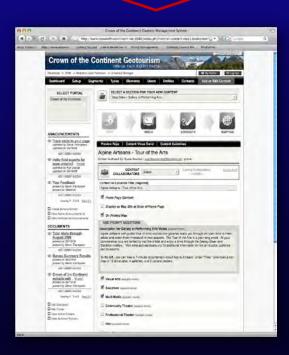
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Telling stories of places online

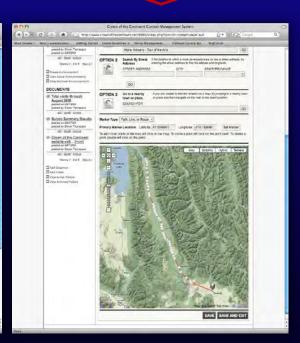
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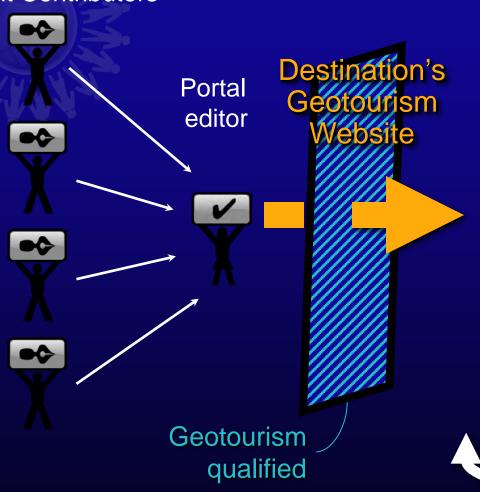






GeoConsensus System Overview

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A Powerful and Flexible CMS + CRM System

XML



Distributed
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Babahatchie Band-

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through easy-to-use
screens where they
can add text, media
(photos, video,
sound etc.)



Local editors have overall portal controls that help them manage the content for their local area



Local editors have approval for content before it is activated.

Local editors also have tools for communicating with local contributors.



LOCAL KNOWLEDGE



The best travel advice comes from the people who live here.



Lakes to Locks Passage: The Great Northeast Journey



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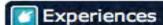
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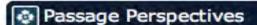
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MY PACK BASKET

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Midway between Manhattan and Montreal, this inter-connected waterway shaped the destiny of the United States and Canada. By bike, foot, boat, train or car, Lakes to Locks Passage provides access to charming cities, rural landscapes and Adirondack hamlets. Through all four seasons, you can travel through numerous historic, natural, cultural and recreational experiences along the scenic waterway that links upstate New York to southern Quebec.







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Heritage Areas and Sites Dunsbach-Vandenburgh Ferry Crossing



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Peebles Island State Park



Cultural Attractions New Skete Monastery

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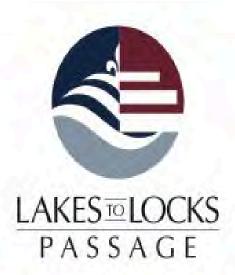
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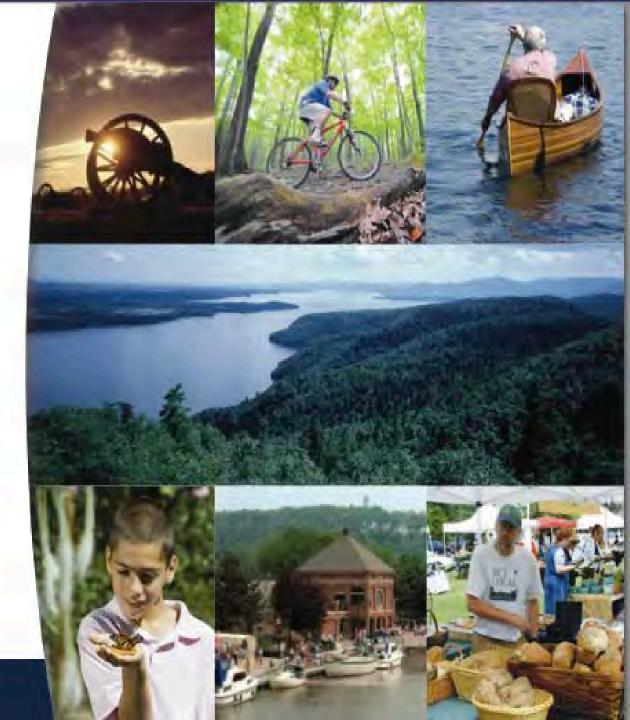
Over 500 DESTINATIONS GUIDED BY LOCALS

Enjoy scenic beauty and history along the waterways that shaped America.





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East Tennessee River Valley Geotourism MapGuide



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Blount Mansion



Smoky Mountain Fiber Arts Festival

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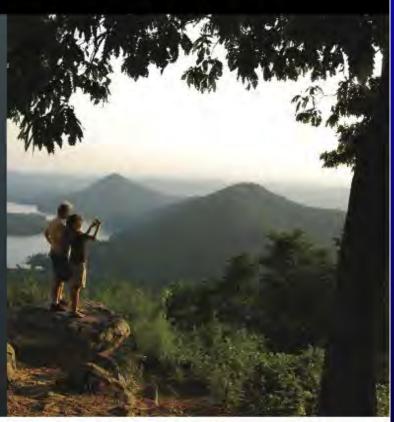


Where Rivers and Mountains Meet

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Use the East Tennessee River Valley
Geotourism MapGuide, a unique interactive
online guide to distinctive natural, historical
and cultural sites, to plan your trip to
a region Where Rivers and Mountains
Meet, from the Smoky Mountains through
Knoxville, Chattanooga and north Georgia.

For more information visit www.TennesseeRiverValleyGeotourism.org











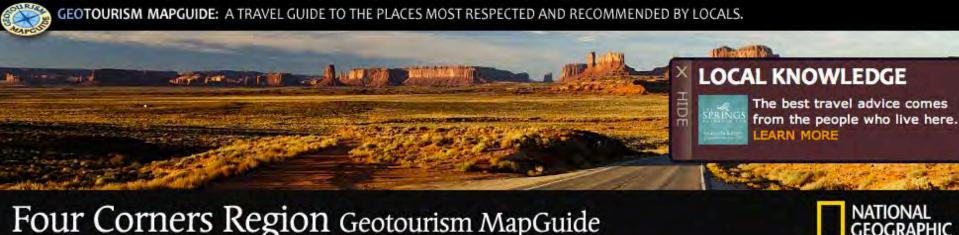












Four Corners Region Geotourism MapGuide

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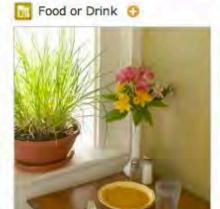
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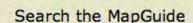




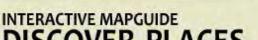




White Mesa Bike Trails



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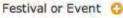
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What is Geotourism? Learn More >

Be more than a passive traveler. Opportunities to

Action Opportunities 0





Experience the real voices of this region through





Cultural Continuity



Photo © S. Greg Panosian / iStockphoto.com

symbolic to the Navajo people.

Francisco Vazquez de Coronado made contact with native people at Hawikku, near present-day Zuni Pueblo, in his futile 1540 search for the Seven Cities of Gold. Since then, the Four Corners region has continued to preserve some of the oldest, most diverse communities within the continental United States. Yet today's modernized society represents a greater threat to cultural community than centuries of population shifts, climatic change, and successive government and military reigns.

"To the Navajo, turquoise is symbolic of prosperity and good luck. When you have a belief system like the Navajo and you get up in the morning and are positive, it helps you lead a positive life. Everything I have in my store is

"If you believe strongly in a cultural tradition like the Navajo, that belief will help you in your daily life for years to come. It's a very common sense approach that all people can relate to. That doesn't mean that you must continue to make pottery and baskets and rugs, just like you no longer ride horseback to work every day. But when you have a strong belief system that will carry on forever."

-- Tom Wheeler, a fourth-generation trader and proprietor of the Hogback Trading Post, just east of Shiprock, New Mexico, on the Navajo Nation

"Aridity. It's dominated the Four Corners for centuries, and through time has forced mankind to compete for scarce water resources. First the Indians struggled to grow crops, then Hispanos. The soil rewarded them both only grudgingly. The old cultures managed to survive by developing uncommon powers of endurance.

"Incoming Anglo Americans adapted to the harsh existence in the Four Corners. Still, as the twentieth century advanced, the newcomers imposed a heavy-handed modernity that diluted traditional folkways without entirely displacing them.

"The interplay of natural and human forces has made the Four Corners region the distinctive place we see today. This country has always been a tough place to make a living."

-- Marc Simmons, Southwest historian and author of many books on the Southwest, including Coronado's Land: Essays on Daily Life in Colonial New Mexico

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Meet the Contributor: Arnold Vigil

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LATEST

- Acoma Sky City
 Did you know that Acoma is the oldest
 continuously inhabited city in North
 America dating back...
- VIsit with Respect
 The spectacular mountains, mesas, and canyons of Mesa Verde Country® have been home to...
- Zuni Pueblo
 The Zuni Pueblo is the largest of the nineteen New Mexican Pueblos, with more than 700 square...
- Taos Pueblo
 Taos Pueblo (or Pueblo de Taos) is an ancient pueblo belonging to a Taos (Northern Tiwa)...
- Hopi Cultural Center
 To experience true indian country, take a
 drive up Highway 87 from Winslow. If you
 haven't seen...

SHOW ON MAP

SHOW AS LIST



Vale do Douro de Portugal Geoturismo Guia Mapa

Português | English



PÁGINA INICIAL

MAPA DE NOMEAÇÕES

SOBRE

ADICIONAR NOMEAÇÕES



LOGIN



Locais Nomear o Guia Mapa

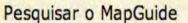
Ajudar a contar a história de que é especial sobre o seu lugar. Candidaturas abertas agora!

As Indicações Mais Recentes









Pesquisar o MapGuide





Ir para além do conhecido. Descubra novas pessoas, lugares e experiências.



Eastern Newfoundland Geotourism MapGuide

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

HOME

MAP OF NOMINATIONS

ABOUT

ADD NOMINATIONS



LOGIN



Nominate Places to the MapGuide

Help tell the story of what is special about your place. Start Nominating Here! Nominations open now!

Most Recent Nominations



Outdoor Adventures
Quidi Vidi Trailhead
Nominated on 9/19/12



Outdoor Adventures
Logy Bay Trallhead
Nominated on 9/19/12



Outdoor Adventures

Dorans Lane Trailhead, Cobbler

Path, East Coast Trail

Nominated on 9/19/12

Search the MapGuide

Search the MapGuide



DISCOVER PLACES



Get beyond the beaten track. Discover new people, places, and experiences.

What is Geotourism?

About the Region

Supporters



Western Balkans Geotourism MapGuide Land of Discovery



DISCOVER PLACES MY TRIP PLANNER HOME **EVENTS ABOUT**

Albania Bosnia and Herzegovina Kosovo Macedonia Montenegro



Prizren, Kosovo, Old Stone Bridge, 17th century Sinan Pasha mosque and historic town square. Photo @ Dave Long

Search the MapGuide

Search the MapGuide

INTERACTIVE MAPGUIDE



Get beyond the beaten track. Discover new people, places, and experiences.

What is Geotourism? Learn More >





Español | English



HOME

MAP

EXPLORE

EVENTS

MY TRIP

ADD PLACES TO THE MAP





Geotourism MapGuide of Guatemala

Explore a land where ancient traditions meet modern innovation, the clouds touch the forest, and the warmth of the people will live inside you forever.

EXPLORE GUATEMALA >



Help tell the story of authentic Guatemala. Nominate places here.







Search the MapGuide

Search the MapGuide





Boundaries and names shown do not necessarily



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Uncover the authentic character of a place called the Crown of the Continent.

SEARCH



MAP SEARCH



One of the world's great mountain landscapes.



Learn more about the Crown of the Continent. Get expert advice, keep up on local topics, and learn how you can explore more of this area.



THE LATEST FROM AROUND THE CROWN



SEE MORE



Nutcrackers, Bears &...

The 'Take a Walk on the Wild Side!" lecture series occurs every Wednesday evening in February at...



Flight of the Crows Loppet...

The Crowsnest Pass Cross Country Ski Association is hosting the second annual Flight of the...

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Watch the Video

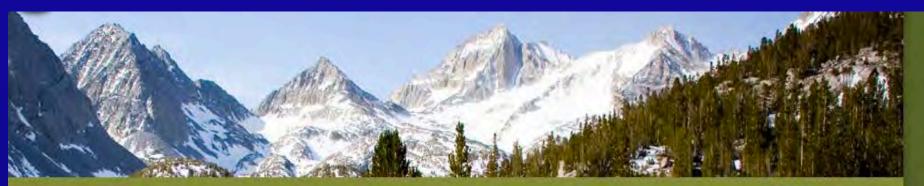




WEBCAMS

Apgar Lookout...





Sierra Nevada Geotourism MapGuide



HOME

MAIN MAP

EVENTS

PARTICIPATE

MY FAVORITES

EXPLORATION TRACK

ABOUT

Welcome to our home, the source of California and Nevada's indomitable spirit and unparalleled explorations. Use this Sierra Nevada travel planning map and our exploration tracks to guide you through breathtaking landscape that shapes our local culture and unforgettable vacations. Start a new tradition exploring the Sierra Nevada. And share your story here.

Featured Places Recommended by Locals







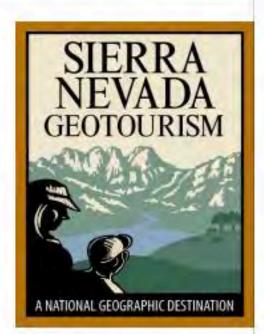


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facebook

Sign Up

Facebook helps you connect and share with the people in your life.













Events

About

The Sierra Nevada Centourism



Like

Non-Profit Organization









Wall

Sierra Nevada Geotourism · Everyone







Write something...



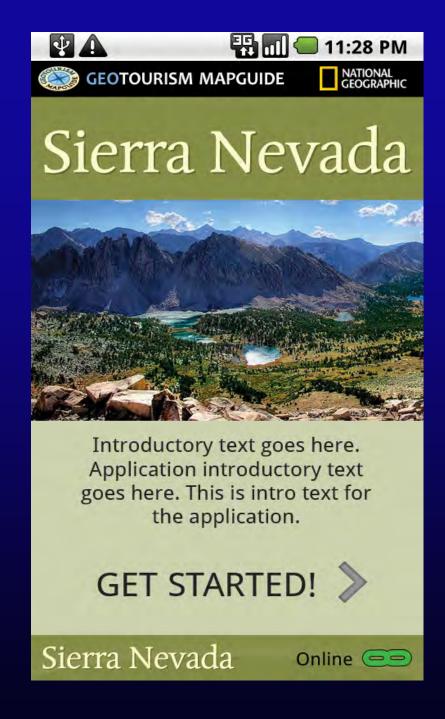
Eastern Sierra Outdoors

Evening lights the Inyo/Whites, our eastern neighbor.

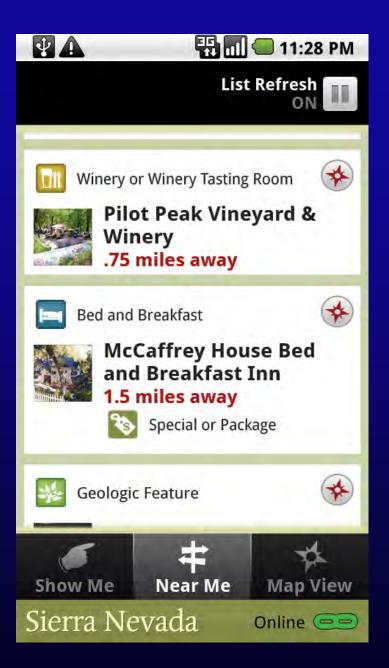


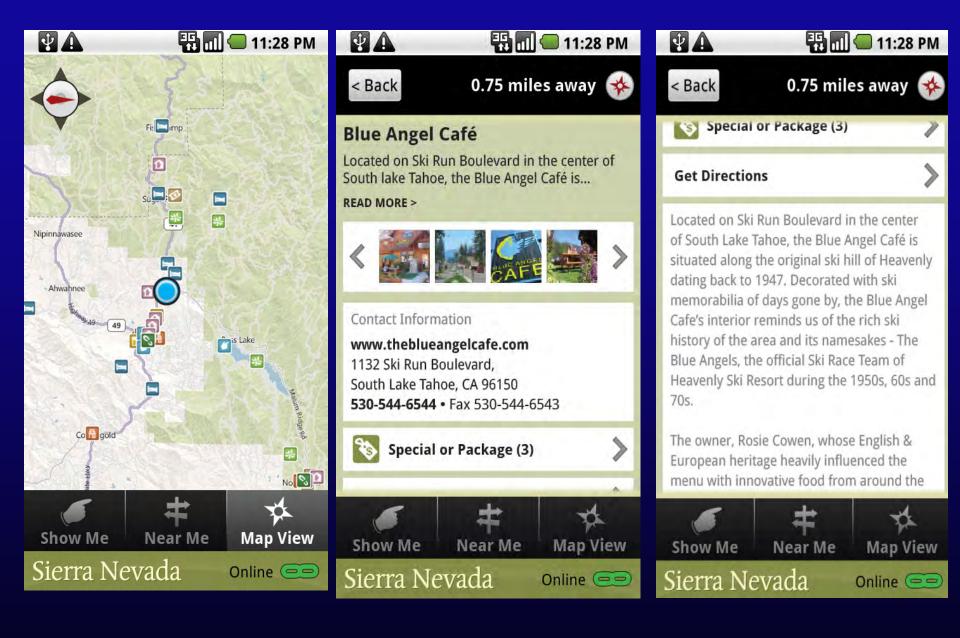
Tools for visitors:

Mobile Geotourism MapGuide

















BLM is teaming up with coastal communities, counties, Ca. State Parks, Ca. Fish and Game, among others, to sustain the character of place of the California Coast.

www.visitredwoodcoast.com

Issues:

- Increasing population
- Greater visitation
- Coastal development
- Climate change



Sierra Nevada of California New on line Geotourism Mapguide highlights the "Range of Light"



sierranevadageotourism.com

Geotourism Stewardship Council (GSC) – Private / Public Sector Stakeholders

The unifying activity of the GSC is the creation of a Geotourism Online Map Guide.

The GSC can be:

- an existing DMO
- an existing association that is taking on the responsibility to act as a DMO
- an ad hoc group brought together for the purpose of creating and managing the Geotourism development process
- an organization institutionalized for the same

GSC Members represent all aspects of the destination of potential tourist interest:

For example:

- Culture
- Cuisine
- Nature and wildlife
- Outdoor recreation
- Folklore
- Artisanry, music, theatre
- History,
- Public lands and water resources

Roles of the GSC

- 1. Define criteria for content on the website
- 2. Provide content to go on the website
- 3. Engage local people to provide content
- 4. Helps NGS edit, verify and select content
- 5. Be the ultimate owners of the site
- 1. Be a permanent local presence
- 2. Network with NGS and our getourism councils around the world

Sustainable Tourism – Criteria:



- Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria (GSTC)
- UNESCO World Heritage Center -Convention
- ICOMOS World Monuments Fund

National Geographic Principals:

- Promote destination appeal
- Market Selectivity
- Plan for the long term
- •Evaluate consumer enthusiasm evaluate benefits per guest



Principals of Geoturism:

- Integrity of the site: Sustain and increase the geographical character of places
- International codes: Adhere to WTO / GSTC / Other
- Market Diversity
- Tourist Satisfaction
- Involving the community
- Interactive interpretation
- Promoting the attractiveness of the destination
- Conservation of resources
- Planning: Balancing economic needs
- Evaluation
- Benefits of community

MapGuide includes:

Locations, sites, attractions, services, businesses, activities, events, or experience that are distinctive elements of our place:

- Natural areas and remarkable geological features
- Habitats and distinctive wildlife species
- Locations / or sites with local agricultural products
- Events, ceremonies, festivals that highlight the
- Cultural Experiences: heritage, museums, theaters, music
- Art galleries, craft workshops,
- Outdoor Experiences such as rafting, hiking, climbing

- Historic sites, trails, farms and local architecture
- Scenic routes
- Community projects, protected areas, initiatives / projects for conservation and restoration
- Small family businesses: cafes and bars with interest, craft shops, farms or unit of rural tourism
- Artists or local artisans, storytellers, historians and guides

http://www.gobluecentralamerica.com/

Steps to develop a Geotourism Website – 12 to 14 month project lifecycle

- 1. Organize Geotourism Stewardship Council
- 2. Project Planning and Orinetation meeting
- 3. Establish site nomination website
- 4. Engage communities geotourism forums, local outreach, media / Gather site nominations
- 5. Create Geotourism MapGuide catalytic program informs, educates and involves local people and visitors
 - Mid term meeting
 - Edit, fact check
 - Choose site nominations to put on the map
 - Identify text themes
 - Write, design, complete and handover site
- 6. Public Roll out event
- 7. Engage GSC to identify what we do next

Measuring Success (MOS) – How and what we will measure

How we will measure success

- •Self Assessment through Geoconsensus content contributors periodic self reporting
- •Stakeholder Surveys web site based / work groups
- •Visitor surveys web site / at visit points in the region
- Data interpretation and reporting in cooperation with Duke University –
 The Nicholas School of the Environment

What we will measure; Key indicators

- •Visitors / Length of stay / Income generation / benefits
- Local participation / public private sector partnerships
- Awareness and perception of the Western Balkans brand
- "Quality Mark" program standards set by the DVWHC



Go Blue Central America Geotourism MapGuide

Español | English

MAP OF NOMINATIONS

ABOUT

ADD NOMINATIONS





Nominate Places to the MapGuide

Help tell the story of what is special about your place. Start Nominating Here! Nominations open now!

Most Recent Nominations



Sea Adventures Carenero, (Bocas) Nominated on 9/3/12



Food or Drink Entre Pisco Y Nazca, Sandy Bay, Linga Longa, West End, Roatan, Roatán, Honduras Nominated on 8/20/12



Food or Drink Honduras Nominated on 8/12/12

Search the MapGuide

Search the MapGuide



INTERACTIVE MAPGUIDE DISCOVER PLACES



Get beyond the beaten track. Discover new people, places, and experiences.

Geotourism FAQ

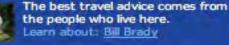
About the Region

Supporters





LOCAL KNOWLEDGE



It's easy to nominate!

Tell us about it, share photos and videos, then map it and submit it for review.

Sign up to start nominating now.

The Sustainable Tourism Test: Are we sustaining or enhancing the character of our place?





NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

July, 2008 – Memorandum of Understanding with the USDA and USDI – align the missions of NGS and these federal departments to develop geotourism strategies that promote wise destination stewardship

The Geotourism MOU Working Group







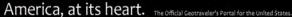




Phase 1 Online site provides a platform for the National Atlas

- Distribution
- Access to Markets
- Access to knowledge













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din Richards 12/12/2009

What is the vision for well managed tourism to sustain the future of coastal Central America?

For my region

For my community

For me

MAREA – Central America Geotourism Website Strategy and Objectives

What do we want to accomplish with this project?

MAREA Region – Central America;

What is so special about your place?

What are at least six, no more that ten, themes that define your sense of place?

GEOTOURISM destination assessment

Rate each section 1–10 with 1 as lowest / 10 as highest Highest Score = 70

1) Environmental / Ecological Quality

- Strong conservation ethic
- Has recycling program
- Conserves water (reducing demand, reusing)
- Conducts environmental impacts
- Waste disposal, sewage processing
- Conservation incentives & enforcement

2) Social / Cultural Integrity

- Maintains/celebrates cultural traditions
- Discourages homogenization
- Follows WTC Global Tourism Ethics
- Encourages entrepreneurship for tourism
- Respectful of residents, indigenous peoples

3) Built environment / historic integrity

- Protection of archeological, historic sites
- New development built to scale, density
- Quality restoration practices

4) Aesthetic Appeal

- Beautification program
- Human-scale signage
- Attractive gateways

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Jim Dion

Sustainable Tourism Program Manager National Geographic Society – Maps Division

jdion@ngs.org