



U.S. DESTINATIONS OFFERING ANIMAL RESCUE VOLUNTOURISM FOR YOUR NEXT FAMILY VACATION

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Photo: Chernetskaya | Dreamstime.com

TRAVEL TIPS

Safari- and wildlife reserve-focused vacations are often considered experiences of a lifetime. Given the global outcry for conservation and animal rescue, there's nothing more empowering than helping animals in need — especially if we can lend a hand to trusted organizations and the people protecting them.

Furthermore, as we have seen on *WhereverFamily* and countless other travel outlets, safari-like trips are no longer reserved for Africa.

Even with so many efforts to rescue and protect wildlife around the world, it's important to acknowledge there are both stray domestic animals and wildlife in the United States that need as much help as they can get. While the ASPCA, Humane Society and numerous independent volunteer organizations spread the word about their efforts, what if you could build your next family volunteer vacation around conservation within North America? This would certainly shift the experience-of-a-lifetime paradigm in a way that is deeply meaningful.

The Crystal Coast/Emerald Isle, North Carolina

With Emerald Isle designated an [official sanctuary for sea turtles](#) and the [North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores](#) actively involved in conservation, those interested in sea turtle rescue can rent vacation homes, May–December, via realty companies, including Emerald Isle Realty, Blue Water Vacation Rentals or Spinnaker’s Reach Realty along the [Crystal Coast area](#) to participate in the collaborative Save the Sea Turtles program. The aforementioned companies make a conscious effort to educate visitors on the do’s and don’t’s of turtle nesting season and local efforts to rescue and rehabilitate the five (of seven) regional sea turtle species.