



SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Summer is right around the corner in Cambria. The days are becoming a little longer, the weather a little warmer, the poppies and lupine are in full bloom, and people from all over the country flock to Highway 1 as part of their summer getaway. Perhaps observing this pilgrimage inspires you to take a trip of your own this season.

And if you do find yourself bit by the travel bug, we urge you to ensure your good memories aren't at the expense of the natural resources and local community you are visiting. Whether it be a day trip to McWay falls up the coast or a two week sojourn to Southeast Asia, it is important to practice sustainable tourism when possible.

Sustainable tourism is often referred to as 'ecotourism', 'nature-based tourism' or even 'cultural tourism', but they all are based on the same principles. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) defines sustainable tourism as "tourism that respects both local people and the traveler, cultural heritage and the environment."

At home, we are often familiar with our natural resources and are motivated to protect them. It's hard not to roll your eyes when tourists get too close to the elephant seals, blindly ignoring the posted signs. However, when we travel, sometimes we too are blind to the effect of our actions. And they aren't always obvious.

For example, elephant rides in Thailand are widely advertised and hundreds, if not thousands, of tourists partake every year. However, illegal capture and

animal abuse is rampant throughout the industry. However, there are many ethical elephant sanctuaries throughout the country where tourists can instead feed, bathe, and play with rescued elephants. It's about making the concerted effort to do your research before you travel. Research travel agencies and brush up on local customs before you book your flights. If you find yourself hiking in Yosemite, don't throw your banana peel just off trail when no one is looking. Pack out what you pack in. Little efforts like these make a huge difference in the long run.

At Greenspace, we believe in the principle of sustainable tourism and encourage everyone to travel, explore, and practice sustainable tourism wherever they go. It's one of the many reasons we are so excited to auction off a trip to the Galapagos Islands with Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic at our Art and Adventure Auction on July 14th. Not only do they offer authentic expedition experiences in the most remarkable places, they are also committed to global stewardship and positively impacting the places they explore. In fact, they have donated more than \$14 million to projects in the regions they travel.

FURTHER READING

"Global Stewardship" Lindblad Expeditions, www.expeditions.com/why-us/global-stewardship/

Marshall, Claire. "Elephant Tourism is Fuelling Cruelty" *BBC News*. 6 July 2017. www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-40501667

"Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future." *UNESCO*, Discovery Channel, Producer.

WIN A GALAPAGOS ADVENTURE



In cooperation with Lindblad Expeditions, Greenspace will auction an amazing Galapagos adventure for two aboard the National Geographic Endeavor II which carries just 96 guests. Retail Value is \$13,920. The Galapagos Islands straddle the equator 600 miles west of South America. They are the original UNESCO World Heritage locale and are known for their vast number of endemic species, including marine iguanas, giant tortoises, flightless cormorants, and a variety of finches.



Photo by Sven-Olof Lindblad

Charles Darwin's observations there on his second voyage on HMS Beagle contributed to the inception of his theory of evolution by means of natural selection. Lindblad Expeditions is the gold standard for adventure travel and began offering expeditions in Galapagos 50 years ago. Because of their intimate size its ships are able to get up close to wildlife with kayaks and Zodiac landing craft. The atmosphere on board is casual and down to earth, with an emphasis on comfort and practicality. The expeditions are led by Lindblad's renowned team of naturalists; Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructors and an undersea specialist, whose knowledge and passion for the islands will amplify the once-in-a-lifetime experience. Your 10 day/9 night expedition begins and ends in Guayaquil, Ecuador, which is

accessible from the U.S. by major airlines. A popular extension of the Galapagos experience is to Machu Picchu and Cuzco, Peru for an additional cost. Trips are offered throughout the year and are subject to availability.

Travel can be booked only within 60 days of travel. A category 1 cabin is offered for this adventure, but the winner can upgrade based on availability. Airfare between Guayaquil and the U.S. is not included. Airfare between Guayaquil and Galapagos is separately charged by Lindblad.

GREENSPACE PRESENTS THE 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY ART & ADVENTURE DINNER and AUCTION

SAVE THE DATE - JULY 14TH!

In addition to the Galapagos Adventure, amazing artwork and exciting additional adventures will be offered by:

[LANA COCHRUN](#)

[WALT GLASER](#)

[AMPHORA STUDIOS](#) –EARTH SEA POTTERY

[TRACEY SYLVESTER-HARRIS](#)

[CLUB DONATELLO](#) IN SAN FRANCISCO

[JULIE COOGAN](#)

4 MEALS BY "MEN OF CAMBRIA COOK" CHEFS

[MELANEE SYLVESTER](#)

[ISLAND PACKERS](#) CHANNEL ISLANDS EXCURSION

& HOTEL STAY

[ART VAN RHYN](#)

[CAROL JEAN ATTOE](#)

GOURMET PIZZA PARTY FOR 20 AT PRIVATE HOME

[JUDY LYON](#)

CARRIZO PLAIN ARCHEOLOGY TRIP

[TURTLEHEAD FARMSTAY](#)

12 MEALS AT CENTRAL COAST RESTAURANTS

To purchase a ticket to the 30th Anniversary Art and Adventure auction, contact the Greenspace office at info@greenspacecambria.org or (805) 927-2866

The North Coast area of San Luis Obispo County is a national treasure. Greenspace will protect and enhance its ecological systems, cultural resources and marine habitats through land acquisition, education and advocacy.