

# AKUMAL

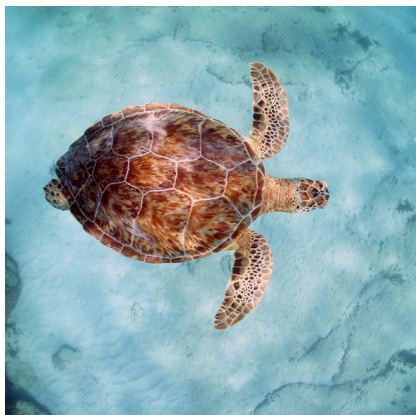
## REEF & TURTLES



# 03

Akumal: Land of Turtles and  
Natural Marine Sanctuary

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# 05

Flora and Fauna: Marine Life  
Among Reefs, Corals, and  
Turtles

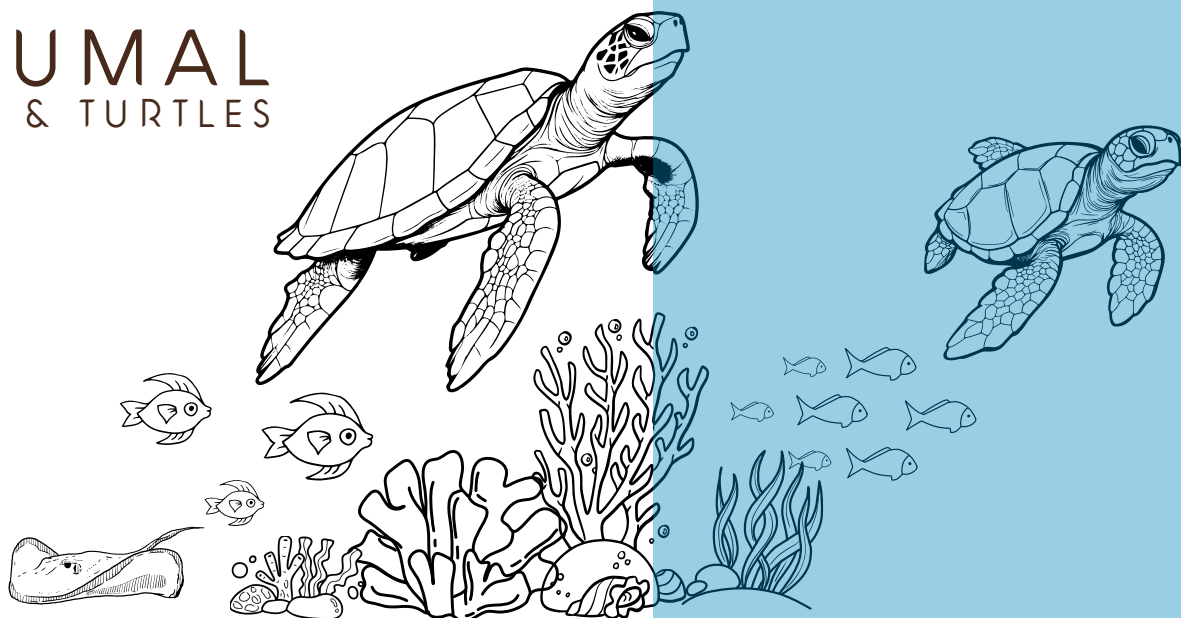
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## Contents

- 03 Akumal
- 05 Flora & Fauna
- 06 Credits



AKUMAL  
REEF & TURTLES







# AKUMAL

## LAND OF TURTLES





# AKUMAL

Its name means "land of turtles" in Mayan, and it is an important habitat for these marine animals, which can be observed while snorkeling or diving. During nesting season, turtles come ashore to lay their eggs — a truly unique spectacle.

Akumal features a stunning bay with crystal-clear, turquoise waters, ideal for snorkeling and observing sea turtles in their natural habitat. Since it is home to countless turtles, the areas where they can be seen are marked with buoys.

In addition to turtles, you can also spot manta rays, starfish, schools of fish, sea urchins, and more.

One of the unique features of Akumal's coral reefs is that they run parallel to the coastline. This allows turtles to pass through the reef barrier to lay their eggs and feed, while at the same time preventing predators from crossing.

This makes it an incredibly safe natural refuge for various species of sea turtles.







# FLORA & FAUNA

The Akumal Reef is part of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef, one of the most important marine ecosystems in the world. Its crystal-clear waters are home to a rich variety of species that coexist in harmony.

Sea turtles, such as the green turtle and loggerhead, are frequent visitors. They feed on the vast seagrass meadows growing on the sandy seabed, making Akumal a key site for their nourishment and rest. It's also common to spot manta rays, octopuses, starfish, sea urchins, and brightly colored tropical fish such as parrotfish, angelfish, and pufferfish, among many others.

Marine flora is essential to the reef's health. Hard and soft corals—like brain coral and sea fans—offer shelter and food to countless species. Seagrasses and algae not only provide nutrition for various organisms but also help maintain water quality and protect the coastline.

The interaction between flora and fauna makes Akumal a vibrant yet fragile ecosystem that must be cared for responsibly. Observing it with respect is a way to contribute to its preservation.





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