

You can be a scientist on your life offers trips to help protect turtle resting sites

This fall, citizen science projects let you do more with your trip pics than get likes

TRAVEL IS ABOUT UNCOVERING hidden gems—a great restaurant, a breathtaking view, the perfect cup of coffee. Now, you can add scientific discovery to the list.

Several citizen science programs are looking for everyday folks to participate in studies around the world, ranging from contributing data with an app to volunteering at an exotic research site. No experience necessary.

"Some projects are about discovery, like finding a comet or a rare bird," says Citizen Science Association executive director Jennifer Shirk. "Others look to address a problem with better information, like documenting instances of pollution or the impacts of climate change."

Travel companies like Adventure Life have begun including citizen science initiatives in their itineraries, such as helping to protect turtle nesting sites from poachers. "These types of trips give our travelers an opportunity to be involved with real change," says Adventure Life general manager Jonathan Brunger. "They feel good knowing they're protecting people, cultures and the environment." —KRISTY ALPERT scistarter.org



in Costa Rica

Great Britain
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affected by climate change.
treezilla.org



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Anywhere
Help researchers better understand squirrel ecology by submitting observations on the Project Squirrel site.

projectsquirrel.org



Cruise goers will flip over these coins

Princess' new Ocean Medallion technology brings artificial intelligence to the high seas

Passengers setting sail this month aboard the Regal Princess will be issued a piece of hightech treasure, Princess' new Ocean Medallion wearable gizmos work as cabin keys, but the 1.8ounce coins are also packed with artificial intelligence and a pair of microscopic antennas that provide continuous information based on guests' location and activities. For instance, if a cruiser walks by the theater, show times could pop up on Princess' smartphone app. John Padgett, the company's chief experience and innovation officer. calls Ocean Medallion the cruise line's "most extensive experiment" vet. Cruisers who don't want to be tracked can ditch the new-fangled booty. princess.com

