

Responsible Travel NEWS



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Trekking for Charity

In October 2008, 21 people struggled over mountains and dried river basins on a five day trek to the historic site of Petra in Jordan. £7890 was raised by the trek through sponsorship which is being divided between two charities: Friends of Conservation's project in Costa Rica and the Al-Hussein Society in Jordan.

Friends of Conservation in Costa Rica

Straddling the Continental Divide at 1,440 metres, the cloud forests of Costa Rica are acclaimed for their lush vegetation and amazing variety of flora and fauna. Here Friends of Conservation work with an NGO called VIDA, who are working to protect and increase habitat in the Santa Elena Reserve for the species who live there, which include the resplendent Quetzal bird, jaguars, American pumas, ocelots and red brocket deer (which require large territories in which to forage and breed).

The Santa Elena Reserve covers an area of 310 hectares (765 acres) of pristine forest and is one of the first community managed reserves in the country. Long term sustainability is not just a concern of the reserve, but of the community as a whole.

The Al-Hussein Society in Jordan

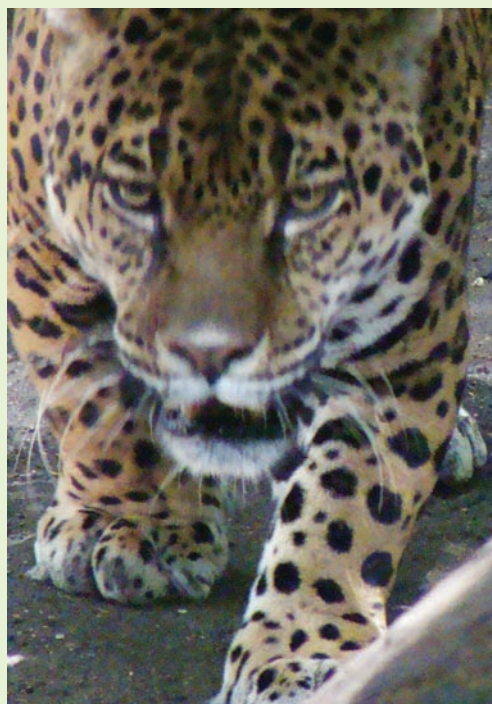
The Al-Hussein society in Jordan helps to rehabilitate children with physical disabilities. They provide a range of services including education, vocational training and therapeutic assistance for these children with an emphasis on providing a better standard of life for those with physical disabilities.

The charity takes their work across the country, not just to the main urban centres and have an outreach programme, mobile clinic and community-based development team. They venture into more remote areas and deliver medical assistance, train local volunteers and work to get physically handicapped children into mainstream schools.

2010 Charity Trek

Following the success of the last two charity treks we will be running another trek to the summit of Morocco's Jebel Toubkal in May 2010. This is a repeat of the very successful trek that we ran in 2007. This 4,167 metre-high mountain is the highest peak in North Africa and is a rewarding challenge with stunning views. The trek includes camping as well as a stay at the renowned Kasbah du Toubkal.

If you would like more information, please call Natalie Humphries on 01993 838 422.



Jaguar captured in a camera trap, Santa Elena



Ascent of Jebel Toubkal