
*JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU'S
AMBASSADORS of the ENVIRONMENT*



Dorado Beach

A RITZ-CARLTON RESERVE

JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU, his last name being synonymous with ocean exploration, has been immersed in the field since early childhood. His mission in life is to advocate for the protection of our waters and the fragile ecosystems that are integral to the survival of our planet.

Cousteau has produced over 80 films, as well as many other environmentally oriented adventure projects, with the purpose of reaching millions of people throughout the world, through the many media channels available in our modern society. A great believer in the importance of personal connections, Cousteau has dedicated himself and his vast experience to communicate to people of all nations and generations his love and concern for our planet. His many achievements and exemplary public service in ocean conservation through education, awareness, and diplomacy, earned him the honor of the highest French civilian order of distinction, the Chevalier de la Légion D'Honneur in 2016.

The creation of Ambassadors of the Environment is the culmination of all these efforts, as he seeks to mold the minds that will carry on his important work of protecting our home and the many marvels within. Ambassadors of the Environment is an active, hands-on outdoor education program developed over the last 15 years by Cousteau, Dr. Richard Murphy, and the education team at Ocean Futures Society. With programs all over the world, the core curriculum focuses on timeless, universal ecological principles applicable to all natural ecosystems in addition to location-specific subjects. Participants learn about sustainable living as they explore nature —lessons that are relevant everywhere in the world.

THE AMBASSADORS PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS TOPICS SUCH AS:

- *Basic principles of ecology*
- *Energy*
- *Waste*
- *Biodiversity*
- *Ecological “jobs” of key species within ecosystems*
- *Metaphors between human cities and natural ecosystems*
- *Sustainability in nature and human communities*
- *Environmental Conservation*
- *Connections: person to person, creature to creature, land to sea, and present to future*

The program also fosters confidence and creativity in its participants through team building and challenge activities. Designed to connect people of all ages with nature and inspire them to protect it, the program empowers each individual to take action to promote sustainable living in their communities at home, thus becoming Ambassadors of the Environment.



EXPLORE

Explore Puerto Rico's extraordinary natural wonders and cultural heritage. Hike through Puerto Rico's rainforest, snorkel Dorado's fascinating coral reefs, experience Taíno culture, create digital nature art, and participate in a wide variety of activities that will inspire guests of all ages.

All of our activities are led by a dedicated team of Cousteau-trained naturalists. We welcome children from 4 years old and up. Younger guests accompanied by an adult are welcome to join activities that are age-appropriate, and to enjoy our facilities when available.

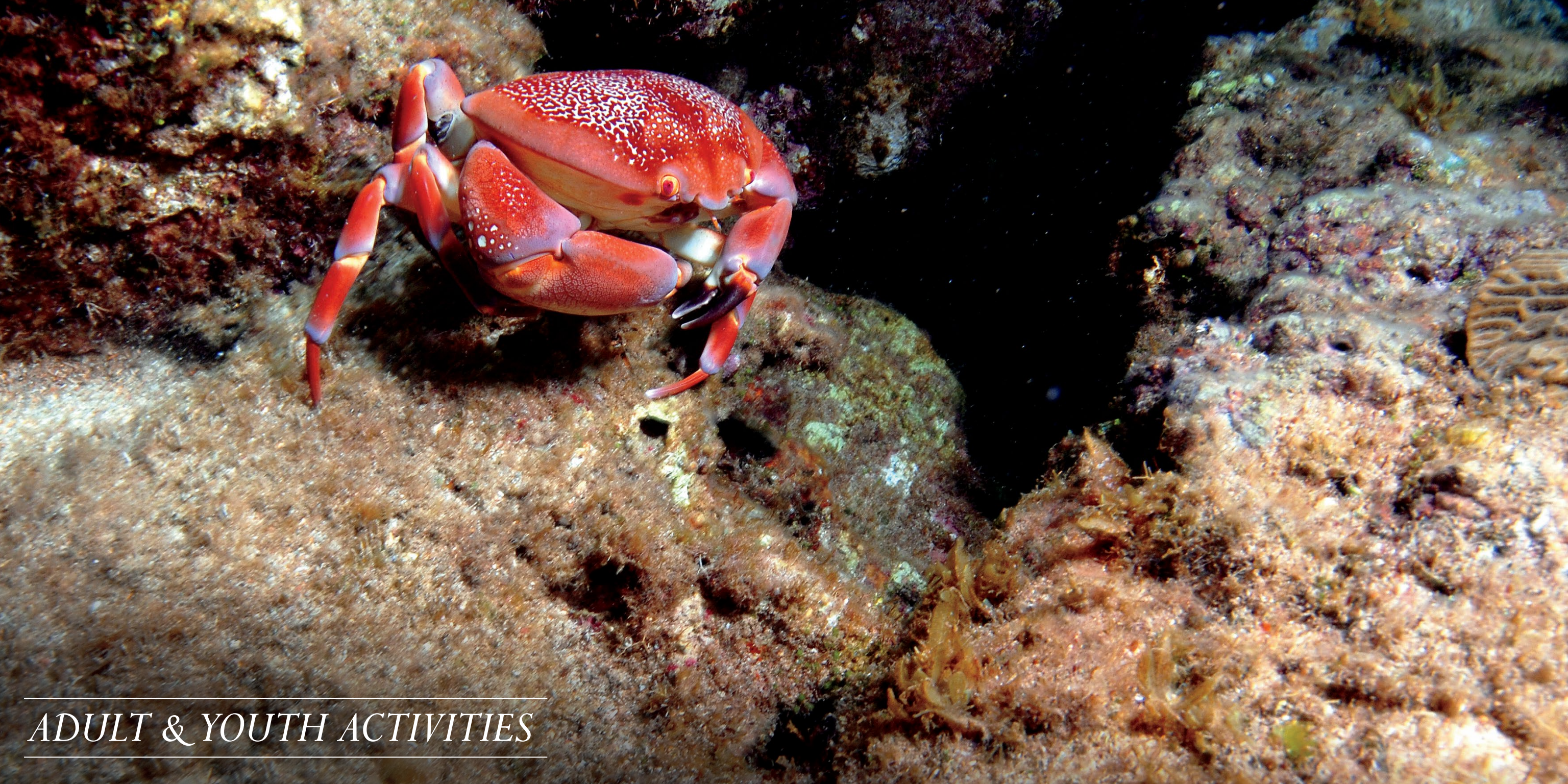
PILLARS:

Everything is Connected

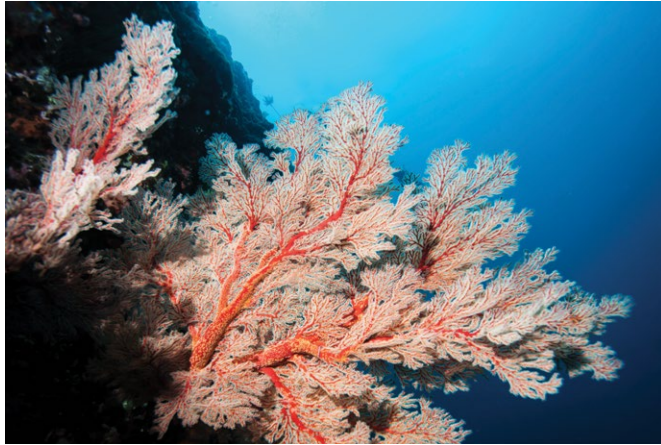
Biodiversity is Good

Everything Runs on Energy

There is No Waste in Nature



ADULT & YOUTH ACTIVITIES



AQUATIC

SNORKEL: CORAL REEFS, CITIES UNDER THE SEA

Explore the exotic communities of fish, coral and algae as our naturalists guide you on an interpretive and exciting snorkel through our very own coral reefs.

SNORKEL: FISH FORM AND FUNCTION

Fish come in all colors, shapes, and sizes. Through a Cousteau naturalist-led snorkeling excursion, we'll observe first-hand the unique nature of our local fish and enjoy the reef from a whole new perspective.

SNORKEL: REEF ADAPTATIONS

The reef holds much more than coral and fish. This snorkel excursion will explore plants, algae, and invertebrates. We will explore how they have adapted to their environment and ecologically connected to each other, how all communities are linked, and the connections between land and sea.



SNORKEL: UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY

Learn how to use underwater digital cameras to capture your own view of the reef. When we return from our guided snorkel, digitally enhance your favorite shots and create a slideshow to take back home.

SNORKEL: ROMANCE ON THE REEF

Join us for a stunning visual adventure that examines the residents of the reef. It is an exploration into the amazing and bizarre reproductive strategies of marine creatures. We will discover that, just like us, many species get dressed up to attract a member of the opposite sex. Some fight for a mate and some are fierce defenders of their nurseries. Some species are great parents and others abandon their young after spawning. This is a story of diversity, beauty and the amazing creativity that enables reef residents to perpetuate their species.



NIGHT SNORKEL

Using waterproof flashlights, we explore the reef after dark when different creatures emerge. Experience the ocean in a way most people have never seen it, and discover the magical nightlife on the reef!

OCEAN KAYAK AND SNORKEL ADVENTURE

The reef in Sardinera Bay is abundant with life! This kayak and snorkel excursion will take you on a journey of the bay. We will explore how creatures on the reef have adapted to their environment and ecologically connected to each other by kayaking to a nearby beach, snorkeling the reef there and kayaking back to the Ambassadors building—all using renewable human energy. [Aquatic]



LAND

PTEROCARPUS FOREST & ROCKEFELLER TRAIL BICYCLE TOUR

Enjoy a revelatory journey around our beautiful reserve, including a tour of the unique and endangered Pterocarpus wetland ecosystem. Delve into the rich history of Dorado Beach with our naturalists as your guides!

LIGHTS, CAMERA, TAKE ACTION

Share your own ideas on being an Ambassador of the Environment, as we research, write, direct and star in our very own public service announcement. At the end you will have a DVD to share your production and message with your friends and family back home. Ages 9-16

ADULT & YOUTH ACTIVITIES (AGES 9+ & ADULTS)





KID'S ACTIVITIES



AQUATIC

SNORKELING 101

Discover the diversity of creatures that call our coral reefs home. Regardless of your level of experience, you'll find it fun and easy with our Cousteau-trained naturalists! All children will be outfitted with a lifejacket

SNORKEL: CORAL REEFS, CITIES UNDER THE SEA

Dive in to see the living communities of fish, coral and algae, as our naturalists guide you on a revelatory and exciting snorkel; where we will discover how coral reefs are solar-powered cities full of activity.

SNORKEL: FISH FORM AND FUNCTION

Fish come in all colors, shapes and sizes. Through a variety of activities, we'll learn how to better understand them by examining their unique features; then we'll dive in to explore our reefs first-hand!



LAND

AMBASSADORS IN THE KITCHEN

We decorate our own chef hats and begin a culinary adventure! Explore our garden and discover how organic practices can produce healthy food for us and the planet. Create tasty snacks using our solar ovens and practice your chef skills in our own eco-friendly kitchen!

TAÍNO ARTS AND CRAFTS

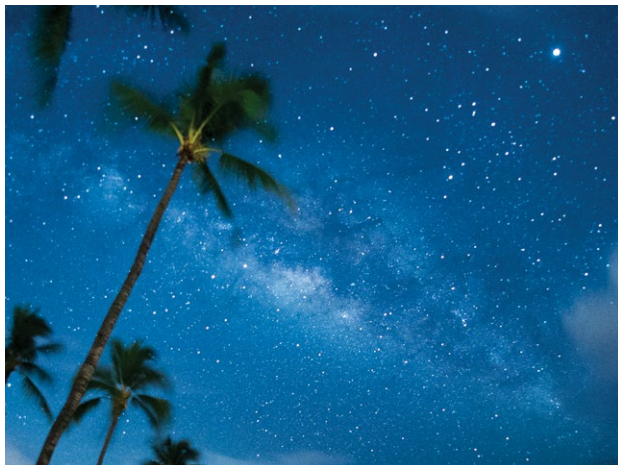
Discovering the art, music, dance, and culture of the Taíno native people, kids will have a blast absorbing what life was like centuries ago, long before we called this island "Puerto Rico." We'll learn about the Taíno lifestyle and their interaction with the natural environment by making our own natural instruments. Weather permitting, we'll take a golf cart ride to our Pterocarpus forest, where we'll experience the land through the eyes of its original inhabitants.

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

By exploring our natural surroundings at night, we will experiment with our senses and discover how our sensory awareness changes in the dark. We'll take a nighttime stroll through our Pterocarpus forest, where we will see the local coquí frogs and observe how other species function in the dark, as we become entranced by this other world of mystery and beauty.

FROM JUNK TO FUNK

Using recycled materials that would have otherwise been thrown away, this "eco-art" activity helps us better understand how we can live more gently on the planet through recycling and reuse. We will explore some of the impact of our activities on the environment and the benefits from environmentally responsible living.



LAND

STARGAZING

We will discover the vastness of the cosmos through a series of activities that includes storytelling, discerning the constellations with laser pointers and getting a closer look at stars and planets with our telescope.

LIVING GREEN

What does it mean to “live green”? Through activities and experiments showing the value of water and energy conservation, renewable energy, and reducing waste, we will learn about our ecological footprint, as we design a sustainable community, an eco-home and use a solar oven.

GARDENING GURUS

Come dig in and explore everything plants have to offer. Join us as we plant seeds in the organic garden and native vegetation plot. Harvest herbs, fruits and veggies for a snack or for organic cooking, and understand the benefits of composting. We will also learn about Taíno traditional medicine and the plants they used for healing.

“The wonders of nature enrich our spirit, the mystery of nature inspires discovery and understanding of nature helps us live more sustainably”

— Dr. Richard Murphy

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

We kindly ask our Reserve guests to always wear swimwear for all snorkeling activities. Reservations for all activities are recommended and should be made a minimum of three hours in advance. All guests will be required to sign a waiver before participation in any of these experiences. All of our activities are led by a dedicated team of qualified naturalists, we welcome children from 4 years old and up. Younger guests accompanied by an adult are welcome to join activities that are age-appropriate, and to enjoy our facilities when they are available. And our Naturalists may require any individual to wear a personal flotation device during water-based activities, to ensure safety and security.

Weather conditions may change the outlook of our daily activities. Activities with no guests signed up by 5:00pm for the next morning's activities, or three hours before the afternoon and evening activities, may be canceled at any time. All activities begin and end at the Ambassadors' House.

Water entry for all snorkeling experiences is from the shore. Motor-boats are not used for our experiences. If you wish to change or cancel your reservation, please contact Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ambassadors of the Environment at 787.640.3777, doradoambassadors@ritzcarlton.com or resort extension 7277, 24 hours in advance, in order to avoid a 50% cancellation fee.

We can create one-of-a-kind private experiences for any family, couple or group. If you would like to experience an activity on a day that it is not offered, please contact us and we will do our best to accommodate your request. Families with children under the age of 4 can utilize the Ambassadors' House with parent/guardian supervision during times it is not being used for activities.

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www.doradobeachreserve.com