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### **Resorts pitch baby sea turtle nesting season**

By [Barbara De Lollis](#), USA TODAY

Some oceanfront resorts are pitching their front-row seats to see baby turtle nests, reports [Doreen Hemlock of South Florida's Sun-Sentinel](#).

The level of experience varies from potentially watching actual eggs hatch to listening to an on-staff biologist talk about the endangered species to simply donating money to a local sea turtle rescue group.

The bottom line for resorts? Nesting season typically lasts from May through October - a period that includes the slow time after school starts.

Examples of hotels marketing baby turtle programs:

**Mexico:** In Puerto Vallarta, the CasaMagna Marriott resort invites guests to pick a baby and watch it make its way to the water. The resort has a biologist on staff to tell guests about what they're witnessing. Room rates start at \$189 per night through Dec. 8. Family packages include breakfast daily for two adults and two children 12 and under, pizza and movie for one night and free entry to the Kid's Club for children 4-12. Use [booking code MAJ](#).

In Mexico's Riviera Maya south of Cancun, the all-inclusive Barceló Maya Beach Resort touts its sea turtle program throughout their May-October nesting season, the story says. The resort has native loggerhead and green sea turtles nesting on its property. August rates start at \$90 per person per night. The story notes a deal that [gives customers a \\$200 resort credit](#), up to 25% off early booking and a kids-stay-free discount.

**Aruba:** The Westin Resort & Casino Aruba has a sea turtle season package good through Oct. 31. The package includes items such as breakfast, lunch, resort fees and a \$10 per night donation to the local save-the-sea-turtles group Turtugaruba, which operates a 24-hour turtle hotline. Use [booking code TURTLE](#).

**Florida:** The pink [Boca Beach Club, A Waldorf Astoria Resort](#) in Boca Raton, Fla., works with a local nature preserve, Gumbo Limbo, to monitor the turtle nests during nesting season. The resort sits on a half-mile stretch of beach. It had a record 52 nests last year - all loggerheads except for four greens and one leatherback, hotel publicist Basia Irzyk says. This season the hotel also began offering "Sammy the Sea Turtle" kits to kids through its new "kite concierge" program.

