

**David Krantz, MTA**, is the Program Director for the Center for Responsible Travel's Washington DC office, where he leads a variety of the center's projects and research. Krantz has over eleven years experience in tourism and hospitality, including a strong focus on sustainability and corporate responsibility. His background includes work in hospitality management at a DC hotel, and experience in adventure and ecotourism in the developing world as he backpacked and volunteered his way through South America, Eastern Europe, and Southern and Eastern Africa for over 2 ½ years. Prior to joining the Center for Responsible Travel (CREST), David



coordinated environmental conservation initiatives in the tourism industry with Conservation International's Center for Environmental Leadership in Business. There, much of his work was focused on the conservation organization's engagement with the cruise industry, and attempts to reduce the environmental impacts of wastewater from ships. His work contributed to the placement of sensitive marine zones on cruise ship navigational charts.

At the Center for Responsible Travel, he was the lead author of a study on the consumer market for responsible tourism products, published in 2010, and has co-authored several studies, including one for the World Wildlife Fund in 2008 entitled *Global Trends in Coastal Tourism*. He led a consulting project with policy advice on corporate philanthropy for Virgin Group, and his public comments on a proposed large scale coastal tourism development in Mexico led to a doubling of renewable energy use and equivalent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, David has been a key organizer of international events like the Innovator's Symposium on Sustainable Coastal Development held at Stanford University's Graduate School of Business in 2010, and two international Travelers' Philanthropy conferences (in Tanzania and Costa Rica). David speaks publicly on behalf of the organization at events such as the ITB Travel Trade Show in Berlin, at the World Bank, IDB, California Sustainable Tourism Summit, with indigenous groups, and elsewhere. He has been quoted as an expert on sustainable tourism by the New York Times, Washington Post, Travel & Leisure magazine, Travel Weekly, Forbes Online and more, and has appeared on Travel Talk Radio as well as on television in Mexico. David holds a Masters of Tourism Administration from the George Washington University's School of Business, and is fluent in Spanish. In his spare time, he enjoys sailing the Chesapeake Bay and planning his next 'green' vacation.

#### **About the Center for Responsible Travel (CREST)**

The Center for Responsible Travel (CREST) is a unique non-profit organization devoted to increasing the positive global impact of responsible tourism. Founded in 2003, CREST functions as a bi-coastal institute, with offices in Washington, DC and at Stanford University in California. It utilizes a network of experts and collaborates with institutes and other organizations around the world. CREST provides interdisciplinary analysis and innovative solutions through research, field projects, publications, video



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documentaries, conferences, and courses. Recognizing responsible tourism's potential as a tool for poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation, CREST's mission is to promote responsible tourism policies and practices globally so that local communities may thrive and steward their cultural resources and biodiversity.

CREST views responsible tourism as a development and conservation tool that has the potential to address some of the most complex and compelling social and natural conservation issues of our times. CREST's core programs and research projects have focused on the analyzing ecotourism, coastal tourism and residential developments, cruise tourism impacts on ports-of-call, indigenous rights and tourism, 'green' certification programs for tourism businesses, travelers' philanthropy, market research on tourism trends and consumer demand, developing tools for financing sustainable tourism projects, cost benefit analysis of different types of tourism, and identifying and promoting innovative and replicable models of sustainable tourism.

CREST has two websites: [www.responsibletravel.org](http://www.responsibletravel.org) and [www.travelersphilanthropy.org](http://www.travelersphilanthropy.org)