

Natural Wonders of Costa Rica Jan 25-Feb 2, 2025

Wide-open spaces, colorful creatures, and bright, vivid scenery welcome you with open arms. As you make your way through Costa Rica, lava trails, cloud forests, and high-in-the-sky suspension bridges invite you to take a walk on the wild side! Scenic boat rides, nature walks, and natural hot springs beckon you to leisurely soak in the views. You'll find hundreds of species of butterflies, birds, reptiles, and wildlife in the most vibrant rainforests, and feast on your own delicious Costa Rican creations in an authentic cooking class. With visits to an active volcano and exotic fruit plantations, plus several meet-and-greets with the native macaws and monkeys, this vacation to Costa Rica is bananas!

Your escorted tour includes:

- 8-nights unique accommodations will immerse you into nature but with the comforts of home
- Travel in an air-conditioned motorcoach with knowledgeable local guides
- Visit Tortuguero National Park and cruise along the canals watching for local animals and birds
- Fascinating stroll through a rainforest with a naturalist followed by a presentation on conservation efforts to preserve the local endangered species
- Tour a pineapple farm, plus coffee and banana plantations
- Santa Elena Cloud Forest Reserve-guided
- Tour and walk on the Monteverde Hanging Bridges above the forest canopy
- Visit Arenal Volcano National Park, take a dip in the Thermal Hot Springs
- Enjoy a stay at the Volcano Lodge to enjoy the magic of the hot-spring fed jacuzzi
- ♦ 8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 5 dinners

Cost: \$2599 per person-double occupancy, \$2459 per person triples and \$3154 for singles

Deposit \$250 per person, non-refundable. Final payment due Nov 20, 2024

Optional travel protection, highly recommended: \$289 per person

Airfare from your preferred city is additional, transfers in Costa Rica will be added closer to travel.



ACTIVITY LEVEL: Easy/Moderate amount of walking required

Contact Bergan Travel for details:

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SMALL GROUP TOUR!! HURRY! Limited

Availability

ITINERARY:

DAY 1: ARRIVE IN SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA Welcome to San José! Meet by your tour director upon arrival.

<u>DAY 2: SAN JOSÉ-TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK</u> Journey to the Caribbean shore & Tortuguero National Park. Pass by several banana plantations and see one of Costa Rica's main exports being harvested. Later, board a motor launch for your cruise along the Tortuguero Canals, crisscrossing the park dedicated to the protection of endangered turtles. The trained eyes of your guide will help you spot freshwater turtles, caimans, herons, toucans, egrets, and monkeys. An afternoon at leisure lets you explore your jungle lodge until you meet for an informative slideshow presentation on the area. **Breakfast, lunch, dinner**

<u>TOUR HIGHLIGHT:</u> Tortuguero National Park was once a volcanic archipelago until sediments from the nearby mountains filled in the valleys forming a network of marshy islands and turtle nesting beaches making this region famous. With 11 different habitats, this lush, protected area is rich with wildlife.

<u>DAY 3:</u> TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK TOUR & CANAL CRUISE A local Naturalist accompanies you on a leisurely boat ride along remote, unspoiled sections of the park's waterways, explaining the bountiful flora & fauna. Enjoy a fascinating stroll through an accessible portion of the nearby rainforest. Later this afternoon, meet a local Naturalist for an informative presentation on the ecology of the area. **Breakfast, lunch dinner.**

TOUR HIGHLIGHT: Tortuguero's turtles that come to nest in the national park named for them are considered one of the main attractions. Green Sea Turtles, leatherback, and Hawksbill turtles can all be found nesting on the beaches here. During your time here, learn about the conservation efforts that have been in place since 1955.

<u>DAY 4: TORTUGUERO-SARAPIQUI-ARENAL</u> A morning boat transfer begins your journey to the Sarapiqui area. Tour a pineapple farm and learn about the history, cultivation, and industry of pineapples. Continue to your hotel in the lush town of Arenal, located in the shadow of Arenal Volcano. **Breakfast, lunch dinner.**

TOUR HIGHLIGHT: Lush tropical gardens, the sound of crashing waterfalls, and striking views of Costa Rica's famed Arenal Volcano from Volcano Lodge will leave you feeling as though you have been transported into the middle of a hidden rainforest jungle but, with all of the comforts and amenities. Experience the magic of the resort's pool and hot spring-fed jacuzzi, or consider a walk in the nearby nature trail in search of 300- to 400-year-old trees, frogs, monkeys, birds, and possibly small animals native to the area.

<u>DAY 5:</u> EXCURSION TO LA FORTUNA & ARENAL VOLCANO NATIONAL PARK Visit Arenal Volcano National Park, where your guide takes you on a walk through lava trails of the volcano. Next, enjoy a walking tour of the town of La Fortuna de San Carlos, offering spectacular views. This evening, drive to nearby Ecotermales Hot Springs for a dip in the curative and relaxing pools. Later, enjoy a dinner at the hot springs. **Breakfast, dinner.**



LOCAL FAVORITE: Towering over the town of La Fortuna, Arenal Volcano is a perfect conical shape. It was once the most active volcano in Costa Rica. In 2010, it entered a resting phase. But, because of the seismic activity of the area, you will find some of the best natural thermal hot springs.

<u>DAY 6:</u> <u>ARENAL-MONTEVERDE</u> After breakfast, continue to Monteverde, where you enjoy two days in the cloud forest. This afternoon, take a guided tour on the Sky Walk Hanging Bridges, combining trails & suspension bridges through the canopy of Monteverde Cloud Forest, to search for flora and fauna. **Breakfast, lunch.**

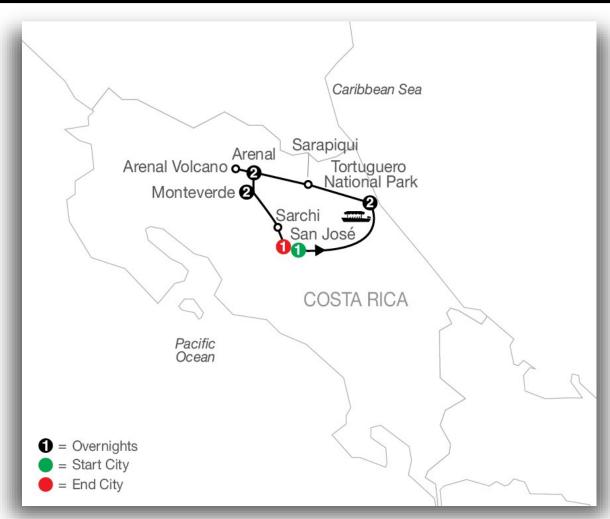
TOUR HIGHLIGHT: Explore the cloud forest from the Sky Walk Hanging Bridges. This Naturalist-guided tour introduces you to the flora and fauna of the Costa Rican cloud forest. Consisting of 6 bridges with some bridges spanning over 700 feet long and over 150 feet high, a unique way to admire the forest canopy.

<u>DAY 7: MONTEVERDE</u> **SANTA ELENA CLOUD FOREST RESERVE** Over 600 species of butterflies & 400 species of birds have been recorded inside this private reserve, along with 100 reptile & 120 mammal species. Later, visit the family-owned Ecological Sanctuary, where you will explore the trails through coffee & banana plantations. After the walk, enjoy a cooking class for authentic Costa Rican food. Tonight, your Tour Director hosts a farewell dinner, toasting an unforgettable discovery of Costa Rica. **Breakfast, lunch, dinner.**

<u>DAY 8: MONTEVERDE</u>—SARCHI—GRECIA—SAN JOSÉ En route to San José, visit Sarchi Village, known as the center of Costa Rican handcrafts. You'll see the artists in their workshops making the famous oxcarts. Next stop is Grecia Village to see the metal church that was imported from Belgium to Puerto Limon in 1897. **Breakfast, lunch.**



DAY 9; SAN JOSÉ Safe travels until we meet again! Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.



Please call for availability and then complete the form below and include with deposit.

Trip: Costa Rica 2025 Full name as on passport	Irip: Costa Rica 2025 Full name as on passport
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
(City)(State)	(City)(State)
(Zipcode) (Cell Phone)	(Zipcode) (Cell Phone)
E-mail address:	E-mail address:
Gender(M)(F) Date of birth:	Gender (M)(F) Date of birth:
Room requests: DblTripleSingle: One bed 2 beds Passport numberExp. date Preferred city of departure:	Passport numberExp. date Preferred city of departure:
Contact person:Phone:	Contact personPhone Contact relationship to you:
Contact relationship to you I would like to purchase travel protection I decline travel protection	I would like to purchase travel protection I decline travel protection