

Costa Rica: A World of Nature

featuring Tortuguero National Park, Arenal Volcano & Manuel Antonio National Park

Highlights...

Tortuguero National Park • Hanging Bridges • Manuel Antonio National Park • Zip Lining or Volcano Lava Field • Chocolate-Making Demonstration & Tasting • River Safari • Jungle Crocodile Safari



12 Days • 23 Meals: 11 Breakfasts • 4 Lunches • 8 Dinners

Cultural Connections

- Learn about Costa Rica's ecosystem and local culture.
- Visit the world's first sea turtle research station.
- Stay in Tortuguero National Park and find yourself surrounded by wildlife.

Must-See Highlights

- Explore Arenal during a captivating 3-night stay.
- Hop aboard a river boat for a jungle crocodile safari and bird watching excursion.

Culinary Experiences

- Taste for yourself why cacao is called "the food of the gods" and observe the process of converting this seed from bean to bar.
- Learn how to cook using a coconut before tasting some delicious local candy.

Day 1: San Jose, Costa Rica

Pura vida. In English, it translates to "the simple life." But *pura vida* is so much more: it's an attitude; a celebration of life in the moment. It's time to experience what *pura vida* means to you. You're on your way to explore a place that's unlike anywhere else in the world, where *pura vida* is an unofficial motto and a way of life. Welcome to the emerald of Central America: Costa Rica. As travelers' arrival times will vary, we have no group activities or meals planned today.

Day 2: San Jose - Tortuguero National Park

Seemingly endless mountain horizons. Complex evergreen forests. These are the wonders of Tortuguero National Park. Travel by boat* to your hotel before heading further down the rivers and canals to the world's first sea turtle research station. Later, have time to explore Tortuguero town with your Tour Manager. Get away from it all and relax at your lodge set in the middle of the jungle, your home for the next two nights. From the morning calls of the monkeys to the gentle chatter of the birds, listen to the active sounds of the rainforest around you. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

Day 3: Tortuguero National Park

Begin the day on an excursion to search for the elusive green macaw and other unique winged creatures that flock to Tortuguero. Embark on a nature cruise, getting a glimpse into the habitat of jaguars, manatees, ocelots, and more. The rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy your Tortuguero resort. Tonight, a local will teach you about his village and share stories about life in Tortuguero's remote town. Watch as he demonstrates how to harvest and prepare coconuts before sampling a local favorite: coconut candy. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

Day 4: Tortuguero National Park - Sarapiquí - San Carlos

Take a boat back to the mainland and make your way towards Sarapiquí and Tirimbina Rainforest Center. Today will be an **Impact Moment** as you visit a cacao plantation at the Tirimbina Rainforest Center — an ecotourism destination that is vigilant of environmental, social, and economic impact. Learn the process of sustainably converting seed from bean to bar and taste for yourself why it's called "the food of the gods." Later, arrive at your secluded nature resort, nestled on the edge of the San Carlos River. Stroll the botanical garden lined with fruit trees, including lemon, soursop, guava, mango and tangerine. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

Day 5: San Carlos

Explore the beauty of your surroundings on a Peñas Blancas River Safari. Paddle and float down the river on a peaceful adventure, taking in the sights and sounds of the rainforest as your naturalist guide describes the intricacies of the wildlife around you. Visit the *finca* of a local family and try homemade snacks such as banana bread, local coffee, and more. End your day with a guided walk through a private, primary forest reserve for a look at the various flora and fauna. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 6: San Carlos - Arenal

Today, suspended over the rainforest floor, relish a bird's-eye view of the jungle on a guided tour of Arenal's famous hanging bridges. High above the jungle canopies, marvel at natural world around you. Later, settle into your resort where you'll be surrounded by striking views of Arenal's famous volcano for the next three nights. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 7: Arenal

Today, **it's your choice!** Since Costa Rica is the birthplace of zip lining, glide over the canopies on a mind-blowing rip through the jungle **-OR-** make your way across lava fields for an up-close-and-personal look at the volcano on a moderate hike along the trails formed by lava during the 1968 eruption. The afternoon is yours to spend as you please. Perhaps you'll discover the town of La Fortuna or relax by the hotel's pool. Also consider an optional excursion to a family-owned *finca* with an included farm to table lunch. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 8: Arenal

In the shadow of Arenal Volcano, the day is yours to enjoy at leisure. Perhaps, if you're feeling adventurous, you'll opt for an exhilarating white water rafting experience.** Or simply hang back at the resort, explore the grounds, and soak in the views. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 9: Arenal - Playa Herradura

This morning, wake up and smell the coffee at a local farm that produces some of Costa Rica's well-known beans. Take a tour with local plantation workers and have a chance to discuss what life is like for these coffee farmers. In the afternoon, head to Playa Herradura and settle into your resort for the next two nights. As the day draws to a close, watch the sun set over the Pacific alongside birds in every color of the rainbow. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 10: Playa Herradura - Manuel Antonio National Park - Playa Herradura

Welcome to Manuel Antonio National Park, home to verdant rainforests and white sand beaches. In this natural wonderland, traverse the trails where the wild things are, or go for a swim in the turquoise waters as wildlife rummages in the canopies. This evening is at leisure. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 11: Playa Herradura - Tárcoles - San Jose

See wild crocodiles among the mangroves of Tárcoles' Rio Grande. On this exhilarating jungle crocodile safari, you'll boat beneath the towering jungle, looking along the river banks for a glimpse of these incredible creatures. Then say goodbye to the coast and hello to San Jose. Toast to the *pura vida* of Costa Rica tonight over a farewell dinner. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.*

Day 12: San Jose - Tour Ends

Bid Costa Rica farewell as your tour comes to an end today. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Experience It! Tortuguero National Park

Located on the Caribbean Coast, this remote national park (accessible only by boat or airplane) is one of Costa Rica's most popular ecotourism destinations. Tortuguero — that translates to "region of turtles" in Spanish — is the most important nesting site of the green sea turtle. Four of the world's eight species of sea turtles call Tortuguero their home including the Leatherback, Olive Ridley, Loggerhead and Hawksbill turtles. With over twenty miles of coastline and over 46,000 protected acres, the park is also home to a variety of animal species including jaguars, reptiles, macaws and over 300 species of birds. Wildlife and nature are abundant in this biologically diverse park consisting of several habitats including rainforest, mangrove forests, swamps, beaches and lagoons. Your lodging at the edge of the park offers environmentally friendly accommodations and a network of rainforest trails throughout the property. Here you are able to relax in comfort while being in complete harmony with nature.

Your itinerary at a glance

Day 1	Doubletree by Hilton Cariari Hotel, San Jose
Days 2, 3	Evergreen Lodge, Tortuguero
Days 4, 5	Tilajari Hotel Resort, San Carlos
Days 6 – 8	Hotel Lomas del Volcán, Arenal
Days 9, 10	Marriott Los Suenos, Playa Herradura
Day 11	Doubletree by Hilton Cariari Hotel, San Jose

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Explorations: These small group tours give travelers access to the world in a truly authentic way. On these active, immersive journeys, travelers connect with the cultures of the world on a deeper, more meaningful level in ways that are hard to replicate. The group size is kept small, allowing these journeys to be the most active, engaging, and rewarding experience possible.

Important Tour Information:

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Travel with no more than 24 travelers on this tour where a smaller group setting means a more personal travel experience.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

The roads in Costa Rica are notoriously poor and impacted by heavy rains each season making them bumpy and requiring lower driving speeds. You can expect winding and some unpaved roads along the way.

IMPORTANT TRAVELERS INFORMATION

We want you to enjoy your tour with us; therefore, it is important that you know this tour is an adventure! You will view spectacular scenery while experiencing the culture and heritage of the region. We have selected small, comfortable hotels and eco-lodges for their locations and they may be considered rustic. Air conditioning and elevators are not available in all properties used on this tour. Travelers must be in good health as sightseeing requires walking on uneven terrain; wheelchairs and walkers cannot be accommodated on this tour.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by the observance of religious or local holidays.

****White water rafting is subject to the operator's safety restrictions.**

During our stay in Tortuguero, you will be staying in an Eco Lodge. This is an experiential stay that will expose you to amazing wildlife. The rooms are rustic and basic but comfortable. There is a ceiling fan but no air conditioning available. Tortuguero National Park lodges can only be accessed by motorboat.

Hotel check-in on your day of arrival is 3:00 p.m. Rooms may not be available prior to that time.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

Smaller buses, which may not be lavatory equipped, may be used on this tour. In this case, frequent stops are made during travel periods.

*Due to luggage size and weight restrictions on the boats, please bring an overnight bag for the 2-night stay in Tortuguero National Park. Your main luggage stays in San Jose and joins you upon your return to the mainland.

To complete your tour, we include round-trip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of purchasing these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised, many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Travel Requirements:

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Important reservation information:

***Airfare:** For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all tour packages. If you purchase an air inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted inclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Preassigned seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date.

Checked Baggage Charges: Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

Cancellation Charges for this tour: After your seat reduction date has passed, a non-refundable deposit will be retained. For Cancellation between 90-16 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 40% of total price. For cancellation between 15-1 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 75% of total price. For cancellation on the day of departure and after: 100% of total price. For Ocean Cruises: For cancellation between 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 40% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: 60% of total price. 30 or fewer days prior to departure: 100% of total price. For River Cruises: including Europe, Russia, Egypt and China, 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 50% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 85% of total price. For cancellation 30 or fewer days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 100% of total price. For Galapagos and Antarctica: A cancellation fee of 60% will apply for cancellation between 120-90 days prior to departure; A cancellation charge of 100% will apply for cancellation less than 90 days prior to departure. Cancellation protection is highly recommended and must be purchased at time of deposit. Air rates are subject to change until tour is paid in full. If Travel Protection Plan has not been purchased and a reservation is cancelled for any reason prior to departure - Air is 100% non-refundable once paid in full. Cancellation charges also apply to reservations made for "pre" and "post" night accommodations. Payment of a Per Person Travel Protection Plan Fee guarantees a full refund of all payments (including deposit), except the Travel Protection Plan Fee itself, made to Collette for travel arrangements in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure. The Travel Protection Plan Fee with Air only covers airline tickets you have purchased from Collette. Exception: If you originally purchased nonrefundable airline tickets, Part B of the Travel Protection Plan may provide a refund for the airline tickets, taxes, or fees in the event of a cancellation for a covered reason (see Part B for more details). The Travel Protection Plan Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. However, the Part B travel insurance includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons as detailed in Part B. In this case, the single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. Division of this charge between the two passengers involved is solely their responsibility. If insufficient funds are deducted from the canceling client, the traveling client will be charged the remaining portion of the single supplement. Cancellation waiver protects you from penalties in the event you have a need to cancel your entire inclusive tour package up to the day prior to departure. Cancellation waiver does not indemnify you from penalties if you chose to cancel partial tour components or air. If you chose to partially cancel your vacation, you will be responsible for a revision fee as well as any penalties that are incurred at the time of the cancellation. Upon cancellation of transportation or travel services where you, the customer, are not at fault and have not canceled in violation of the terms and conditions above, you will be refunded 100%. Please see your sales agent for more information, or review our brochure for details.

Responsibilities: Collette monitors security situations around the world as well as government travel advisories. Conditions may require Collette to change or even cancel trips. You accept the risks involved in travel, both foreign and domestic, and accept responsibility for your own travel decisions. Travelers may be required to review and sign a participation agreement prior to engaging in certain activities on the trip.

Neither Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, shareholders, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Collette"), own or operate any person or entity which is to or does provide goods or services for these trips. You agree to be bound by the conditions of carriage for all transportation providers. Collette does not maintain control or operate the personnel, equipment, or operations of these suppliers it uses and as such Collette assumes no responsibility for and cannot be held liable for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, willful or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the suppliers or other employees or agents, (2) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers, or (3) any wrongful, willful or negligent act or omission on the part of any other party. Client shall indemnify and hold harmless Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, agents, shareholders, officers, successors and assigns (collectively "Collette"), from all suits, actions, losses, damages, claims or liability for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience or irregularity which is occasioned by any negligent acts or omissions of Collette arising out of any goods or services provided for this or these trips. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, weather, strikes, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism, computer problems, or other such causes. Other risks may arise such as, but not limited to, hazards of traveling in foreign countries including undeveloped areas, the hazards of travel by aircraft, bus, van, train, automobile or other motorized vehicle, differing safety standards, sickness, criminal acts committed by others, allergic reactions, and/or animal encounters. You are voluntarily participating in the tour and Collette, and as lawful consideration for the agreement to travel with Collette, you agree not to make a claim against Collette, its related companies, officers and employees for injuries, death, or any other claim and agree to release Collette, its related companies, officers and employees from any such claim. This release is binding on all members of your traveling party, as well as your Estate and heirs and this provision shall be enforceable even after your trip has ended. If you make your own air reservations, Collette is not responsible and shall provide no refund if your flight schedule changes so that you are not able to enjoy the entirety of your tour. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Collette reserves the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if Collette deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour. Collette reserves the right to withdraw any tour announced. Collette reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of the tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such action is determined by the Tour Manager to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the tour group or of the individual participant. If you are traveling with children, you are solely responsible for their behavior and monitoring them throughout the tour. Neither does Collette accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline or other ticket to the tour departure city and return or otherwise. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owner at all times. Collette is not responsible, and will not be bound by, representations made by third party representatives, travel agents, unaffiliated websites, or any other party. Participants may be photographed for the promotional purposes of Collette. In addition, any comments that you submit as a review or your social media posts may be used for Collette's promotional purposes.

Payment of the deposit to Collette constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Collette reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time, without notice.

Consumer Protection Plans: Collette Travel Service holds membership in the following highly reputable industry organizations: the United States Tour Operators Association and the American Society of Travel Agents. Each association operates a consumer protection plan to cover deposits made by travelers. Full details are available from the organizations or Collette Travel Service. Collette is pleased to give this additional protection to our clients. **Our California Sellers of Travel registration number is 2006766-20. Our State of Washington Unified Business Number is 601-220-855. Florida Seller of Travel registration number. ST35613**



