



# Costa Rica

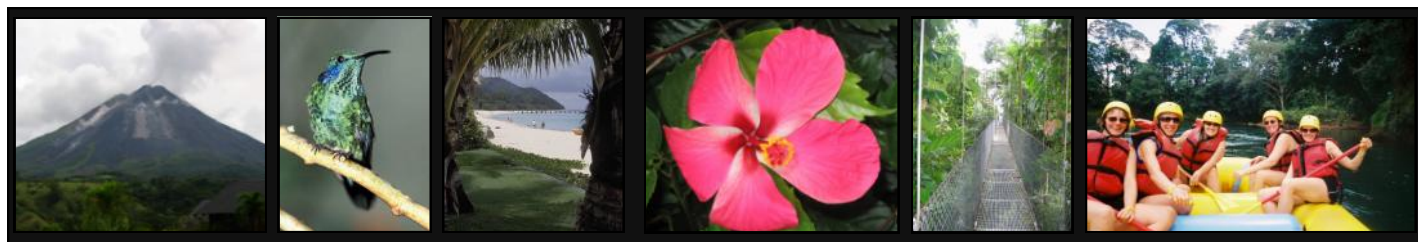
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## Landscapes & Language

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La Fortuna • Heredia • Jacó • San José

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### Day 1 • Departure/La Fortuna

Our adventure begins as we fly to San José, Costa Rica. Upon meeting our tour guide and motor coach at the airport, we drive northward through mountains and valleys to La Fortuna. As we near our destination, we pause for some breathtaking vistas of the **Arenal Volcano** – the most active in Costa Rica! This evening we take a relaxing soak in the pool, warmed by volcanic hot springs, while watching the red-hot lava flow. *[If an early morning flight cannot be booked and arrival in San José is late, first night accommodations will be in San José and a day will be added to the tour.]* **D**

### Day 2 • La Fortuna

Our day begins with a visit to the **Arenal Hanging Bridges** for a nature walk that takes us high above the canopy and across six suspension bridges! During the 1.86-mile walk, we get breathtaking views of the **Arenal Lake**, a waterfall and the majestic Arenal Volcano. After some free time for lunch, we experience the rain forest like never before –zipping by cable through the treetops! The **La Fortuna Sky Trek** system includes a cable car that takes us up the mountain and several cables that zigzag down the mountain. Participants are attached individually to the cables with two high quality harnesses, which support the body so that you feel as though you're sitting in a chair. Safety is the number one priority of the Sky Trek team, and that frees us to experience the thrill of a lifetime! We have the rest of the day to relax at our resort in La Fortuna. **B/D**

### Day 3 • Heredia

We start the day early as we head to the **Sarapiquí River** for some **white water rafting**! The Sarapiquí River has Class II/III rafting, which is perfect for all levels – enjoyable for frequent rafters, yet not overwhelming for beginners. After a few minutes of orientation, we embark on a 3-4 hour ride down the river. All the rafts are escorted by certified rafting and naturalist guides, who are anxious to point out interesting flora and fauna along the way. This afternoon we drive to Heredia, where we meet the Costa Rican families who will be hosting us during our week of language study. **B/D**

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### Days 4-9 • Heredia

Over the next 6 days we are immersed with language and culture. For four hours each day for a full week we attend classes at **Intercultura Costa Rica** where we are introduced to Costa Rican language and culture. We'll enjoy Latin dance, music, and cooking classes in addition to our intensive language classes. Optional evening activities are also offered in addition to spending time with our Costa Rican families and friends in Heredia. We have an extra day after the course concludes to be with families. **B/D**

### Day 10 • Jacó

After breakfast we bid our families a fond farewell. We then descend the mountains to the **Highway Inter-American**, built in the early 1940's, which connects Alaska with the southern tip of South America. Our destination today is Jacó. We pass through various climate zones and ecosystems on our way to the Pacific coast and its beautiful beaches. En route we pass through palm oil plantations, and, with luck, we see a locally famous 14-foot crocodile near the Tarcoles River. In Jacó we have time to relax on the beach. **B/D**

### Day 11 • San José

Today a **private naturalist guide** introduces us to the **Manuel Antonio National Park**. A conveniently paced nature walk through the park will afford us the opportunity to view an abundance of wildlife. This is where white-faced monkeys have been known to steal snacks from knapsacks! We sample some tropical fruits on the beaches of Manuel Antonio Park at the end of our tour. After dinner we return to San José. **B/D**

### Day 12 • Return

This morning we transfer to the San José International Airport for our return flight to the U.S. We leave with lasting memories of an entertaining, educational and adventurous week in Costa Rica. *Adiós!* **B**

**Abbreviations for Meals: B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner**

**Cost of tour: \$1,279\***

*Land portion only*

*\*Based on minimum of 24 paying participants*

<u>Included</u>	<u>Not included</u>
<b>Transportation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach</li></ul> <b>Accommodations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multi-bedded tourist class hotels</li></ul> <b>Meals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As indicated in itinerary</li></ul> <b>Sightseeing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Admission to all activities as indicated in itinerary</li></ul> <b>Tour Guides</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Services of a professional tour guide throughout the tour</li></ul> <b>Taxes and Tips</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All taxes and tips for provided services <i>except</i> end of tour tip for driver and tour guide</li></ul> <b>Complimentary Tours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One tour per 8 paying participants</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Roundtrip air transportation</li><li>• Meals not indicated in the itinerary</li><li>• Beverages, except with breakfast</li><li>• End of tour tip for driver and tour guide</li><li>• Items of a personal nature such as passport fees <i>Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date</i></li><li>• Travel Insurance</li></ul> <p><b>This tour can be customized to your specifications.</b></p> <p>Tour Code: SPCL10</p>

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