



COSTA RICA

Rainforests, Volcano, & the Pacific Coast

10 DAYS | Choose your dates

This 10-day friends-and-family journey is a comprehensive introduction to some of the best Costa Rica has to offer. Begin your exploration in the biodiverse rainforest habitats of Costa Rica's lush Caribbean lowlands, then continue to Arenal Volcano, arguably the country's most picturesque peak. Spend your last few days soaking up the sun on the Pacific coast. Extra optional activities allow you to make your trip as active or relaxing as you desire.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover untouched primary rainforest during guided hikes to look for flora and fauna.
- Choose between a relaxing river boat ride or a thrilling whitewater rafting adventure on the Río Sarapiquí.
- Explore the area surrounding Arenal Volcano, where you may wish to visit Arenal Hanging Bridges reserve or soak in the nearby hot springs.
- Spend several days on Costa Rica's northern Pacific coast, with optional activities like diving, snorkeling, a sunset cruise, paddle boarding, jet skiing, or deep sea fishing.



ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

DAY 1 - SANTO DOMINGO

Upon arrival at the San José International Airport, after clearing customs and collecting your luggage, you will be met and transferred to Hotel Bougainvillea. The hotel is located on 10 acres in the suburbs of San José; the beautiful botanical gardens, tropically enhanced swimming pool and gym, comfortable and well-appointed rooms, delicious meals, a fine collection of art, rocks and minerals, and one of the most excellent gift shops in Costa Rica all combine to make your stay here a delight. *Overnight at Hotel Bougainvillea.*

DAY 2 - SARAPIQUÍ

Following a delicious buffet breakfast, check out and meet your bilingual driver in the lobby for your transfer to the Sarapiquí Valley and Selva Verde Lodge, passing through the outskirts of Braulio Carrillo National Park. Upon arrival at the lodge, enjoy lunch in the upstairs dining room overlooking the white water of Río Sarapiquí, with Selva Verde Reserve across the river. After lunch, you will be able to check in to your room and have the remainder of the afternoon at leisure. This evening, meet the lodge's naturalist guide for a guided night hike to discover the nocturnal fauna on the trails near the Sarapiquí rooms and the river. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve. (BLD)*

DAY 3 - SARAPIQUÍ

Your day starts with breakfast, which is served from 7-9 am. Meet your guide at 8:45 am for a hike in Selva Verde Reserve, home to 300 acres of virgin rainforest. This is a slow walk on uneven terrain, with some steps that can be a bit steep, but of moderate difficulty. Some people are more comfortable with hiking poles/walking sticks. Return in time for lunch. This afternoon, choose between a river boat ride on the calm portion of the Río Sarapiquí or a whitewater rafting adventure on the Class II-III rapids further upstream. This evening, enjoy dinner at Las Terrazas, the lodge's open-air restaurant that specializes in Italian fare, including delicious oven-baked pizza. Cost is on own, as you will be choosing your selection from a menu. Bar service is also offered. If you would rather have Costa Rican fare, it is offered in the dining room, and included in your tour cost. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve. (BLD)*

DAY 4 - SARAPIQUÍ

This morning you can choose between a guided hike at La Selva Biological Station or a chocolate tour at Tirimbina Reserve, with transfers included. La Selva offers a fine guided tour on a large tract of rainforest, while the chocolate tour at Tirimbina offers an informative hands-on demonstration of not only the cultural history of chocolate, but also the process of its creation utilizing rural instruments. Return to the lodge in time for lunch, with the remainder of your day at leisure. There are self-guided trails on the property, as well as activities that can be added to your itinerary if you choose. Again this evening, you can choose from Las Terrazas (at your own cost) or the dining room included in your tour cost. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve. (BLD)*

DAY 5 - ARENAL

Today you'll depart the Sarapiquí Valley and travel to the area of Arenal Volcano. After breakfast this morning, check out and meet your driver at 10 am in the lobby. Proceed with your transfer to La Fortuna. Enjoy lunch at Finca Educativa Don Juan, followed by a guided hike down to La Fortuna Waterfalls, through the rainforest surrounding the falls. Next, travel the fairly short distance to Lost Iguana, where you will have the remainder of the afternoon and evening at leisure to explore your new surroundings or rest and relax with the commanding views of the volcano. *Overnight at Lost Iguana. (BL)*

DAY 6 - ARENAL

The management at Lost Iguana is able to assist you with activities you may wish to partake in today. Highly suggested is the nearby Arenal Hanging Bridges, which is a reserve that abounds with trails, suspension bridges, and outstanding natural areas. We recommend this as a morning activity, with or without including one of their naturalist guides. You might also wish to experience the Totuko Hot Springs, which have visiting times of 1, 3, and 5 pm, for a duration of three hours. The springs consist of eight pools, which cascade through a series of boulders, flowing from spring to spring and

decreasing in temperature. Each pool can be safely accessed using the stairs and handrails and is equipped with colorful ambient light during the evening. Lush gardens surround the pools and provide them with a pleasant, forested atmosphere. There is both indoor and outdoor seating as well as a full-service bar. The bar offers a wonderful assortment of beers, wines, and cocktails, and even a sampling of food items. Additionally, there is a changing room with lockers and showers. *Overnight at Lost Iguana. (B)*

DAY 7 - PLAYA HERMOSA

After breakfast, check out and meet your driver in the lobby of the hotel. Begin your transfer to the Pacific Coast, stopping en route to enjoy lunch at a typical "tico" restaurant. Once you have arrived at your lovely boutique hotel, you will have the remainder of the afternoon and evening to soak in the sunset and coastal breeze. *Overnight at Bosque del Mar. (BL)*

DAYS 8-9 - PLAYA HERMOSA

You will have two full days to enjoy not only your beautiful setting and lodging, but also the optional activities offered at Bosque del Mar: diving, snorkeling, sunset cruise, paddle boarding, jet skiing, and deep sea fishing, just to name a few. This peaceful beach offers a wonderful, relaxing way to enjoy the Pacific coast while savoring delicious food, beverages, and a deck-side private Jacuzzi, all within a fabulous ambience. *Overnight at Bosque del Mar. (B)*

DAY 10 - DEPARTURE

This morning meet your driver in the lobby of the hotel for your transfer to the Liberia International Airport for your flight(s) home. *(B)*

PROGRAM PRICING

Low season: \$2,625 per person (May 1-31; Aug. 1-Dec. 15)

High season: \$2,855 per person (Jan. 3-April 30; June 1-July 31; Dec. 16-21)

Peak season: \$2,965 per person (Dec. 22-Jan. 2; April 14-20)

Prices are based on a party of two in double occupancy. Price includes accommodations, meals as listed, transfers with bilingual drivers, and activities as listed.

Price does not include international airfare, airport taxes, gratuities, meals not indicated, alcoholic beverages, optional activities, or items of a personal nature. Valid for travel in 2018 and 2019.

TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants traveling in 2018 or beyond. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more. Refer to the Plan Document for more details.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

THE FINE PRINT

Rates are based on availability of the hotel; if room type is not available, your agent can make necessary itinerary and price changes. Rates for other hotels in the area are available. Holiday surcharges may apply. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is due upon booking. This deposit is refundable until 61 days prior to departure excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Final payments are due no later than 60 days prior to departure. Cancellations received less than 61 days prior to departure are not refundable.