

# COSTA RICA

PHOTOGRAPHY IN NATURE  
with Gustafson Photo Safari

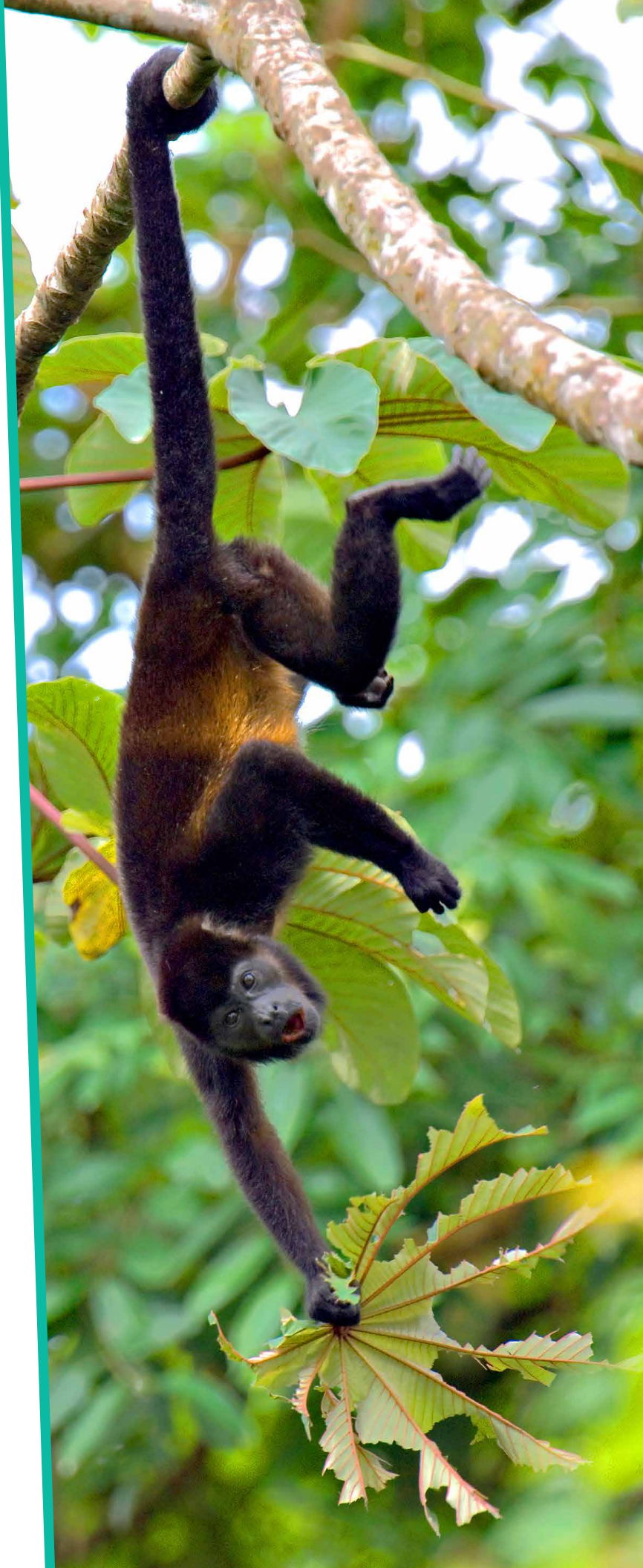
November 29 – December 8, 2021

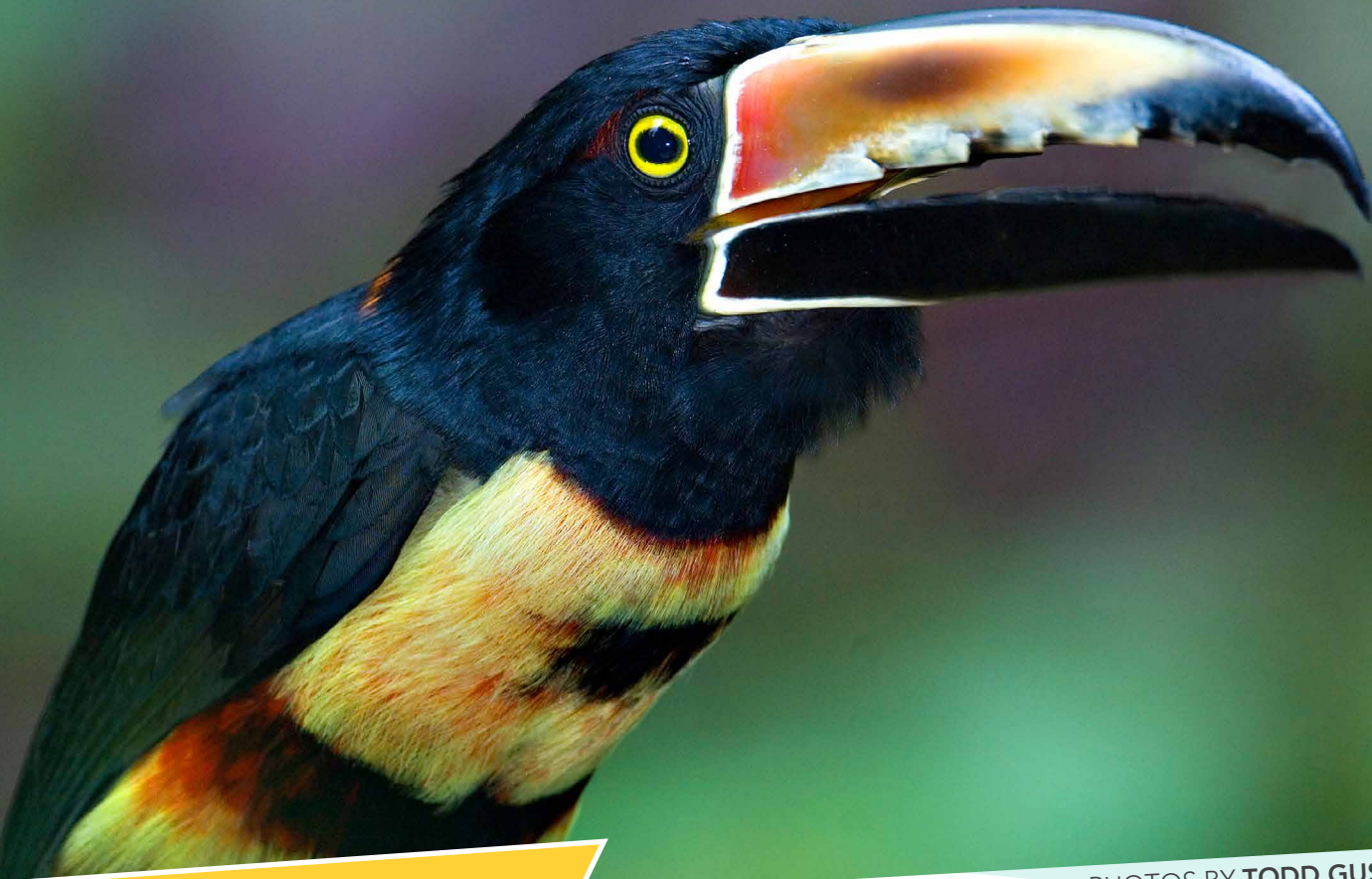
Turtles hatch on a secluded beach, resplendent quetzals glide through a cloud forest, and the green macaw's insistent call breaks the silence of the rainforest, here in Costa Rica at the ends of the Earth. Costa Rica's vibrant flora and fauna offer photographic opportunities you will see nowhere else. This small, friendly country is home to a great diversity of habitats including the lowland tropical rainforest, an outstanding venue to capture shots of a lifetime! The forest is alive with striking plants and colorful flowers, insects, reptiles, amphibians, and a variety of bird life including toucans, parrots, jacamars, hummingbirds, and motmots. Images from Costa Rica that inspire a full chapter in *To the Ends of the Earth Volume 3 The Natural World* include a newly hatched green sea turtle entering the surf for the first time, a two-toed sloth peering through green vines as it clings to its perch on a rainforest tree, and a lemon yellow eyelash pit viper relaxing on a thin branch. With tips, techniques and personal instruction from a top digital photography expert, Todd Gustafson, you will return with an amazing portfolio of colorful images and a new sense of wonder about the tropics.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Macro photography sessions with local flowers, insects, and poison dart frogs.
- Demonstrate wildlife photo shooting methods with local birds and animals.
- Practice photographing fast moving objects and the use of flash set-ups during a hummingbird photo session.
- Discover close-up and light management techniques with tropical plants and orchids.
- Understand the story behind every photograph with site lectures on local wildlife, traditions, and history.
- Discuss results of applied techniques and present suggestions during evening feedback sessions.
- Enjoy free time to practice techniques for a personal appreciation of Costa Rica's natural beauty.

Gustafson Photo Safari





PHOTOS BY TODD GUSTAFSON

## ITINERARY

*B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner*

### NOVEMBER 29 - SAN JOSÉ

Upon arrival in San José, please proceed to clear Immigration & Customs and exit the airport secure area, where you will meet with your Holbrook Representative for your transfer to the hotel. This afternoon enjoy time on your own to photograph the famous gardens at Hotel Bougainvillea. Check-in starts at 3:00 pm. At 6:00 pm there will be an orientation to the program by Todd Gustafson and your Costa Rican Group Leader followed by a Welcome Dinner at the hotel. There is no specific arrival time required; however, if you wish to participate in the Orientation and dinner, we suggest arriving no later than 4:30 pm. If you would like a pre hotel night, arrangements can be made for an additional cost. *Overnight at Hotel Bougainvillea. (D)*

### NOVEMBER 30 - TORTUGUERO

After optional early morning photography around the gardens, transfer to the dock for the boat trip to Tortuguero. Breakfast will be en route. Upon arrival enjoy lunch and settle into your room. This afternoon take a boat ride in Tortuguero National Park, photographing species such as iguanas, monkeys, and a variety of birds. *Overnight at Evergreen Lodge. (BLD)*

### DECEMBER 1 - TORTUGUERO

Continue exploring Tortuguero by boat during the morning and afternoon. Free time will be available to photograph the lodge grounds on your own. *Overnight at Evergreen Lodge. (BLD)*

### DECEMBER 2 - TORTUGUERO

Continue exploring Tortuguero by boat in the morning and in the afternoon. Explore the lodge grounds for photography on your own. *Overnight at Evergreen Lodge. (BLD)*

### DECEMBER 3 - TORTUGUERO

Continue exploring Tortuguero by boat in the morning and in the afternoon. Explore the lodge grounds for photography on your own. *Overnight at Evergreen Lodge. (BLD)*

### DECEMBER 4 - SARAPIQUÍ

Early morning photography session around the lodge. After breakfast depart for the dock and then travel to Sarapiquí by bus, stopping for lunch at a local restaurant along the way. En route stop at CopeArte to photograph bats, owls, hummingbirds, and other species. Arrive at the lodge late in the afternoon. After dinner, enjoy a guided hike around the lodge trails looking for nocturnal species. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve. (BLD)*

### DECEMBER 5 - SARAPIQUÍ

After an early breakfast, transfer to OTS La Selva Biological Station for a guided hike and photography. Lunch at Selva Verde Lodge. In the afternoon, return to La Selva Biological Station for more photography. After dinner, take another optional guided nocturnal hike around the lodge. Tonight, dinner will be at the

Italian restaurant at Selva Verde downstairs. *Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve. (BLD)*

## DECEMBER 6 - SAVEGRE

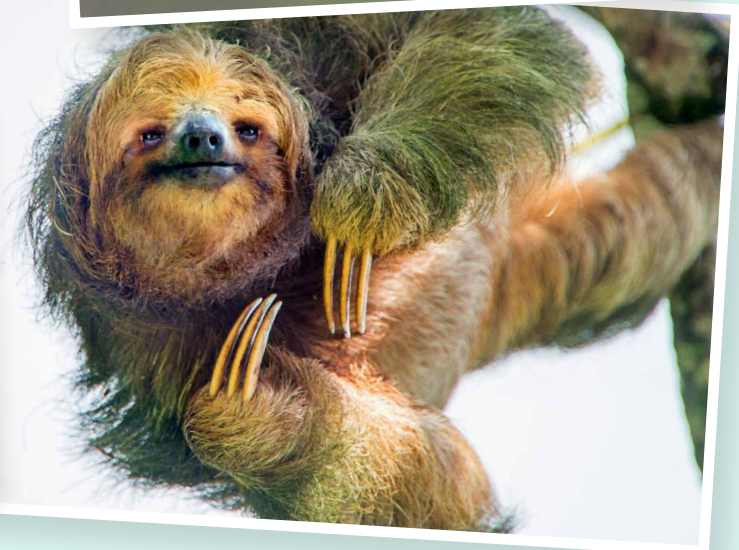
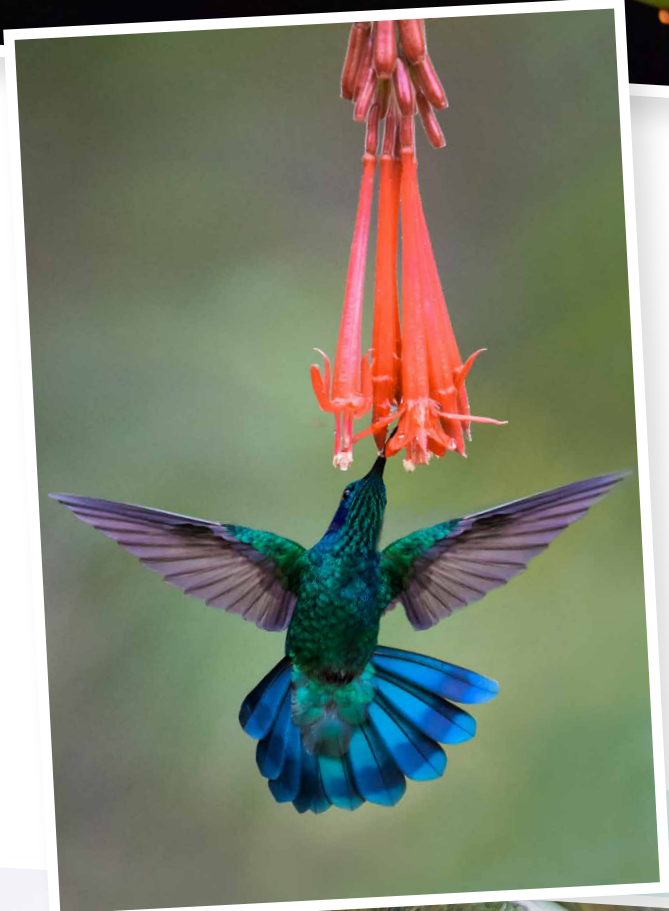
Early morning birding photography on the lodge grounds. After breakfast head for the Talamanca mountains and Savegre, stopping for lunch en route. In the afternoon, explore the trails looking for the Resplendent Quetzal, and visit Miriam's with your guide. *Overnight at Savegre Hotel, Natural Reserve & Spa. (BLD)*

## DECEMBER 7 - SAVEGRE

Spend the morning exploring the property's trails, which wind through mostly virgin forest consisting of hundred-year-old trees, multicolored plants, mushrooms, insects, amphibians, and mammals. Altitudes vary from 7,220 to 11,384 feet. Savegre is a paradise for birders and is known as one of the best places in the country to observe the Resplendent Quetzal. During your stay, you will also enjoy hummingbird photography. In the afternoon, visit Batsú Gardens for bird photography. *Overnight at Savegre Hotel, Natural Reserve & Spa. (BLD)*

## DECEMBER 8 - SAN JOSÉ

After an early breakfast, there will be a group transfer to the international airport for your flight home. Check-in for international flights is three hours prior to departure time. The drive from Savegre to the airport is approximately two hours; if you are arranging your flights independently please reserve a flight no earlier than 12:30 pm. Additional transfers can be arranged at additional cost. We hope you enjoyed your program and look forward to having you on others in the future. Please join our Facebook page at [facebook.com/holbrooktravel](https://www.facebook.com/holbrooktravel) and share photos of your program. Best wishes for all your journeys! (B)



**\$4,299**  
per person

*Based on double occupancy.  
Single rooms are available for  
an additional \$375.*

## THE FINE PRINT

*Price includes all transportation within Costa Rica, accommodations, meals, activities and excursions mentioned in the itinerary, water bottle, English-speaking guide throughout the program, all tips except for guide and driver, and carbon offset.*

*Price does not include international airfare, any beverages throughout the trip (except for non-alcoholic beverages with meals and water on bus), tips for guide and driver, and any personal extras such as phone calls, minibar, and laundry.*

*A \$1,000 per person non-refundable deposit is necessary to confirm a booking. Final payments are due no later than 95 days prior to departure. Cancellations received less than 95 days prior to departure are not refundable.*

*Please note: Itineraries may be subject to change due to protocols and adjustments related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For the latest information regarding our COVID-19 policies, please visit [holbrooktravel.com/covid19](http://holbrooktravel.com/covid19)*

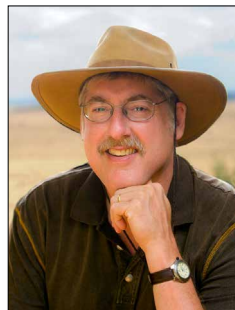


## TRAVEL PROTECTION

*Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants. 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.*

## ABOUT YOUR LEADER



Gustafson Photo Safari is owned and managed by the award-winning nature photographer Todd Gustafson. Todd has led more than twenty safaris in recent years. Gustafson Photo Safari's custom itineraries are designed to get us to the right places at the right times to give the best chance to view wildlife. Our local guides understand the unique needs of photographers (quality and angle of light, the need for an early start etc.) and they

know the difference between seeing a subject and photographing it. We choose high quality lodgings close to the action. Join Gustafson Photo Safari to experience nature photography at its best!

## CONTACT INFORMATION

*Todd Gustafson | [gustaphoto@aol.com](mailto:gustaphoto@aol.com) | [gustafsonphotosafari.net](http://gustafsonphotosafari.net)  
Pelín Karaca | [pelin@holbrooktravel.com](mailto:pelin@holbrooktravel.com) | [holbrooktravel.com](http://holbrooktravel.com)*