# American Tours presents...

# **Tropical Costa Rica**



# AMERICAN TOURS

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9 Days • 14 Meals: 8 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 5 Dinners

**HIGHLIGHTS...** San Jose, Coffee Plantation, Arenal Volcano, Cano Negro Refuge, Lake Arenal Cruise, Farm Tour and Lunch, Monteverde Cloud Forest, Choice on Tour, Guanacaste

#### **ITINERARY AT A GLANCE**

Day 1	Doubletree Cariari Hotel, San Jose
Days 2 – 4	Mountain Paradise Hotel, Arenal

Days 5, 6 El Establo, Monteverde

Days 7, 8 Nammbu Beachfront Bungalows, Guanacaste

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 San Jose, Costa Rica - Tour Begins Your trip to Costa Rica opens in the colorful capital city of San Jose, the perfect place to relax and soak up the sights as your adventure begins.

**Day 2: Wednesday, January 8, 2025 San Jose - Coffee Plantation - Arenal** Welcome to the Central Valley. Begin with a tour of a local coffee plantation highlighting the history and cultivation of this driver of the Costa Rican economy. This afternoon, check in for a leisurely 3-night stay at a lodge overlooking the majestic Arenal Volcano. Get to know the Costa Rican culture this evening. (B, D)

Day 3: Thursday, January 9, 2025 Arenal - Cano Negro - Arenal Embark on a Cano Negro guided riverboat trip in a covered canoe known as a panga. These 20,000 acres are home to the largest viewable collection of indigenous wildlife in all of Costa Rica. Go in search of caimans, river otters, sloths, monkeys, river turtles, exotic birds and rare butterflies. Later, return to Arenal for the chance to relax at your resort. (B)

**Day 4: Friday, January 10, 2025 Arenal** Today, explore a family-owned farm, getting a peek into the daily lives of the locals. During a tour of the gardens, learn how the plants are organically grown through the concept of sustainability. The farm considers itself a "classroom without borders." Taste the exotic fruit harvest and experience the traditional way to process sugar cane. Enjoy a sip of cane liquor before engaging in a culinary demonstration and a farm-to-table lunch. (*B, L*)

Day 5: Saturday, January 11, 2025 Arenal - Lake Arenal Cruise - Monteverde Enjoy a delightful cruise on Lake Arenal, Costa Rica's largest and most important lake. Then, it's off to the secluded Monteverde Cloud Forest, a place you have to see to believe, where trees grow to heights of 100 feet! Set off on a nature walk through this spectacular ecosystem, where you're sure to encounter many incredible species of flora and fauna. (B, D)

Day 6: Sunday, January 12, 2025 Monteverde It's your choice! Explore one of the world's largest butterfly gardens. Then, join an expert for a leisurely paced "Hanging Bridges" walking tour to gain a different perspective of the cloud forest's lush ecosystem -OR- take an exhilarating ride on one of the longest canopy zip line tours in Costa Rica. If you would like to do both the hanging bridges and the zip line tour, you may purchase the second as an option on tour. (B, D)

**Day 7: Monday, January 13, 2025 Monteverde - Guanacaste** Today we make our way to breathtaking Guanacaste, known for its fine sandy beaches. Settle in for a relaxing 2-night stay at your resort and take in the mesmerizing ocean views. (B, D)

**Day 8: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 Guanacaste** Fun in the sun is in store today as you explore the nearby beaches, or simply relax by the pool and take advantage of your resort's lovely amenities. This afternoon, visit the delightful beach town of Samara, one of the top sunset spots in Costa Rica. Soak in the spectacular colors as the sun illuminates the natural landscape. (B, D)

**Day 9: Wednesday, January 15, 2025 Guanacaste - Tour Ends** Today you depart for home with fabulous memories of your Costa Rican adventure. (B)







# **Book Now & Save \$100 Per Person:**

Double \$3,129; Single \$3,029\* Single \$3,729; Triple \$3,099 Triple \$2,999

### For bookings made after Jul 07, 2024 call for rates.

**Included in Price:** Round Trip Air from Dallas Ft Worth Intl, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers **Not included in price:** Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$449 per person

\* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from DFW

<u>IMPORTANT CONDITIONS</u>: 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. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Book Now rates valid until Jul 07, 2024, valid on air inclusive packages only. IDENTIFICATION

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.

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 for their locations and they may be considered rustic.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip 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.

Elevators and air conditioning are not available in most accommodations used on this tour.

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. The roads in Costa Rica are notoriously poor and impacted by heavy rains each season making them bumpy and requiring lower driving speeds. In order to experience all that we have included on this tour, we will spend an average of 4-5 hours on your coach to travel to your next stay. You can expect winding and some unpaved roads along the way. Many accommodations can be spread out and you should be prepared to walk a variety of terrain to get to public spaces like resort lobbies and restaurants; you may need to access your room

#### **Experience It! Monteverde Cloud Forest**

Only four places in the world boast an ecosystem so unique that it produces a cloud forest, and Costa Rica is one of them. Situated high on a mountain, the Monteverde Cloud Forest is created by the forest's dry air combining with the humid, hot air of the rainforest. The result is a blanket of clouds that covers the forest, mimicking constant rainfall. This extremely wet environment has bred a diverse world of exotic flora and fauna. One of the cloud forest's most famous residents is the endangered, resplendent quetzal. This colorful bird sports a golden beak and a green-hooded head, tail feathers of gray, black, and white, and a vibrant scarlet breast. Highly elusive, quetzal sightings are rare, but absolutely unforgettable when attained.

## **EXTEND YOUR VACATION WITH**

# Optional 4 Days 3-Night Jungle Adventure Pre Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$849.00 USD double, \$999.00 USD single, land only

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1217361

through outdoor pathways. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

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.

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.

Our air passengers will depart from Liberia airport. Approximate travel time between Playa Carrillo, Guanacaste and Liberia airport is approximately 2 hours.

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.

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

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of June 30, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by October 08, 2024. Deposits are refundable up until July 07, 2024.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

NOTES:



For important reservation information visit https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1217361. You can also find this information on your tour documents.



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TOUR: Tropical Costa Rica GROUP NAME: American Tours

BOOKING NUMBER: 1217361 DEPARTURE DATE: January 7, 2025

### **Available Options**

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.

Children under the age of 18 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

#### **Monteverde Cloud Forest**

SELLER

**Canopy Adventure** 

\$75 USD

Experience the unique sensation of flying through nature! For nature lovers, the greatest adventure of all is to take a Zip Line Canopy Adventure Tour. Selvatura Adventure Park and Canopy Tour is one of the best soft adventures in Costa Rica. Canopy Tour guides start by outfitting you with the appropriate equipment; then they take you through each of the 12 cables and 19 platforms and through the Tarzan Swing (optional). Selvatura Park is one of the longest Canopy Tours in Costa Rica, and is the only zip line canopy tour located inside the actual virgin cloud forest of Monteverde. Feel pure adrenaline and excitement of flying up to 35 miles per hour, viewing magnificent landscapes. Zip lines ranging from 120 to more than 2,000 feet in length and 60 to 400 feet in height let you experience the cloud forest from a whole new perspective. The tree top canopy tour not only offers a great adventure but also an opportunity to observe wildlife in its natural habitat. Trained personnel (accredited by the Costa Rican Institute of Tourism) accompanies you throughout the tour. If you are looking for a fun adventure and amazing rides, this canopy tour is your best choice. Please note: This option must be booked at least 30 days prior to departure and is non-refundable within 15 days of departure. This adventure is NOT recommended for clients who have high blood pressure, back or heart problems or women who are pregnant. *Duration: Approximately 3 hours.* Please note a minimum of 2 passengers is required. Transportation is included.



#### **Monteverde Hanging Bridges**

\$75 USD

Explore the cloud forest reserve in the heart of Monteverde from up above as you walk among the treetops with a local expert. Venture into an enchanting, colorful world as your tour begins with exploring one of the world's largest butterfly gardens with more than 30 species of tropical butterflies. Then embark on a guided walking tour high above the forest floor on a leisurely paced "Hanging Bridges" tour and gain a different perspective of the cloud forest's unique ecosystem, its mammals, birds, plants and flora. Admire the forest floor bursting with natural wonders, wildlife, and take in the amazing vistas. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to get up close to the indigenous wildlife in their natural habitat as your local expert shares stories of this incredible landscape and the ecology of the cloud forest. *Duration: Approximately 2.5 hours.* Please note a minimum of 2 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

#### Guanacaste



#### Mangrove Kayaking on the Ora River

\$55 USD

Branches reaching out into the swamp, creatures bustling through the undergrowth, and long-necked birds wading into the cloudy water. The mangroves of Costa Rica are not only essential to the larger ecosystem but also function as an ethereal waterway that will make you feel as if you've been transported to another world. Mangrove trees live in swamps where salt water meets fresh water, creating a flourishing home for a wide variety of animals. On your kayak, discover an intimate look at the local wildlife as you gently paddle six miles down the Ora River. Keep an eye out for playful monkeys and explorative iguanas scurrying up the trees. Follow your guide as you coast along the water, making your way along the winding river and taking in the nature all around you.

Availability is based on river or sea conditions and cannot be guaranteed. This tour often runs at the same time as the Dolphin & Snorkel Adventure due to the tide schedule. Therefore, you can only book one of these optional tours, not both. *Duration: Approximately 3 hours*. Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

#### **Dolphin Watching & Snorkel Experience**

**\$65** USD

Get a different perspective of the Costa Rican wildlife when you venture into the natural habitat of a dolphin family. With a guide, get a firsthand look at these elegant creatures and watch as they play along the water's surface. Home to an abundance of animals, keep an eye out for other creatures as well. If you're lucky, you may even spot some whales or turtles! Afterwards, try your hand at fishing as you cast your line into the blue waters of the Pacific. You'll also get a chance to swim and snorkel in the warm waves along the coast, getting a closer look at the sea life. Wildlife sightings are not guaranteed. Activity is dependent on ocean and weather conditions. This tour often runs at the same time as the Mangrove Kayaking on the Ora River due to the tide schedule. Therefore, you can only book one of these optional tour *Duration: Approximately 4 hours*. Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

## **Extend your vacation with**

### Optional 4 Days 3-Night Jungle Adventure Pre Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$849.00 USD double, \$999.00 USD single, land only 8 Meals: 3 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 2 Dinners

Day 1: San Jose

Arrive in San Jose, Costa Rica's capital city for an overnight stay.

### Day 2: San Jose - Tortuguero National Park

This morning set out for an exciting soft-adventure jungle experience in Tortuguero, the Amazon of Costa Rica, in search of wildlife such as macaws, sloths, monkeys, falcons and other native species. Depart your San Jose hotel via private transportation for a transfer to the dock where you board an open-air boat with other travelers to journey into Tortuguero's unspoiled paradise. Check into an eco-lodge built in harmony with nature using the best sustainability practices — where fans create breezes instead of air conditioning and meals feature locally sourced ingredients prepared with Caribbean flair. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.* 

#### **Day 3: Tortuguero National Park**

An early morning bird watching excursion\* is offered so you may learn about the variety of local species and migratory birds that flock to this area. Join your fellow lodge guests on a spectacular boat cruise through the various canals and be sure to keep an eye out for wildlife including howler monkeys, sloths, toucans, aquatic birds, bats and caimans, as well as exotic flora. Tortuguero National Park is a study in rainforest, freshwater, and marine biology. It protects over 350 species of birds and mammals including green macaws; 57 species of amphibians; 111 species of reptiles; and 60 mammal species, including 13 of Costa Rica's 16 endangered species including jaguars, tapirs, ocelots, cougars, river otters and manatees. *Today breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included.* 

#### Day 4: Tortuguero National Park - San Jose

Depart Tortuguero National Park today to return to San Jose. Upon arrival, meet your Tour Manager and fellow travelers for the start of your *Tropical Costa Rica* tour. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included.* 

#### Please Note:

Order of sightseeing is subject to change.

Extensions are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

\*Morning bird watching excursion is weather-dependent.

**Fully-guided** extensions are perfect for travelers who want the complete experience of a new destination and local experiences. Travelers will have a dedicated guide throughout this entire extension.

Your transfer from the San Jose hotel to the dock and on the land return back to the San Jose hotel is private. Upon arrival at the dock, the boat transfer is provided by your Eco Lodge, which you will be joined by other like-minded adventurous guests of the lodge. During your time in Tortuguero, the Eco Lodge will provide you with an exclusive local naturalist guide and all included activities and meals. This price includes activities and meals as outlined; roundtrip transportation to Tortuguero; 1 night in San Jose and 2 nights at the Evergreen, Aninga or Pachira Lodge.

In keeping with best practices for sustainability and responsible tourism set forth by the Rainforest Alliance, the hotel in Tortuguero does <u>not</u> offer air conditioning.

Due to luggage size and weight restrictions on the boats, please bring an overnight bag for the 2-night stay in Tortuguero National Park. Please make arrangements with the concierge's desk at the hotel in San Jose for luggage pick up and for storage until your return from Tortuguero.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 passengers is not met to operate.

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.

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.

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 2. This means you can partake in a two-hour walking tour covering up to 2 miles (including breaks), over a variety of terrains. You can climb two flights of stairs with ease and handle altitudes up to 6,000 feet. While this level is appropriate for travelers that require mobility assistance devices, there could be times when you may have to sit out on some of the included activities.