

AWE INSPIRING DESTINATIONS & EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES



COSTA RICA

6 DAYS PRIVATE DRIVER + GUIDE

SAN JOSE, ARENAL, MONTEVERDE, MANUEL ANTONIO

ITINERARY

DAY 1 - Arrival in Costa Rica, San Jose, Arenal

Arrival in Paradise: San José, Juan Santamaría International Airport (**SJO**)

Welcome to **Costa Rica**, a land where nature's wonders thrive in breathtaking harmony! Nestled in the heart of Central America, Costa Rica is a lush, tropical gem boasting pristine coastlines on both the **Caribbean** and **Pacific Oceans**. Known as a biodiversity hotspot, it dazzles with 12 ecological zones and over 500,000 species, offering unforgettable encounters with vibrant macaws, graceful sea turtles, and the iconic sloths.

Upon arrival, enjoy a **private meet-and-greet** at the airport, ensuring your transition into this verdant paradise is as seamless as it is special.

From the bustling capital, your journey will lead you to the enchanting **Arenal region**, a nature lover's dream near the Nicaraguan border. Prepare to be captivated by a land of dynamic contrasts, where **rivers cascade, hot springs steam**, and **crystal lagoons** mirror the sky. Dominating the landscape is **Lake Arenal**, Costa Rica's largest lake, shimmering beneath the majestic presence of **Arenal Volcano**. Towering at 1,633 meters (5,350 feet), this conical beauty boasts a crater 140 meters (460 feet) wide, a testament to its fiery origins as an active andesitic stratovolcano.

As you travel, let your gaze wander across some of the country's most breathtaking scenery—a preview of the natural wonders awaiting you in this unparalleled destination.

Overnight at Arenal area,



DAY 2 - Arenal, Hanging Bridges, Fortuna Waterfall, Arenal Hike, Hot Springs

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today you will journey into Costa Rica's lush natural wonders. Your adventure begins with a **light hike through the tropical rainforest**, a haven of biodiversity. Traverse a series of stunning hanging bridges, stretching from 5 to 100 meters long and soaring up to 60 meters high. These vantage points offer breathtaking views of the forest canopy, teeming with vibrant birds, curious reptiles, playful mammals, and fascinating insects.

Next, descend to the iconic **La Fortuna Waterfall**, a dazzling cascade pouring into a crystal-clear swimming hole surrounded by massive boulders. Take a refreshing dip in its cool waters or simply bask in the serenity of this natural marvel. Afterward, head into town for a delicious lunch, a perfect pause before more exploration.

Your afternoon brings you closer to the region's fiery past with a guided tour of **Arenal Volcano**. Wander through dense forest trails to reach the historic lava flow sites, where the earth once erupted in glowing displays. Along the way, discover unique plants, encounter local wildlife, and savor panoramic views of the shimmering **Arenal Lake**. Imagine the thrill of standing where molten rocks once tumbled dramatically down the volcano's slopes.

As the day winds down, indulge in pure relaxation at the **Tabacón Hot Springs**, Costa Rica's largest network of naturally flowing thermal mineral springs. Surrounded by lush tropical gardens, these soothing waters offer the perfect setting for natural hydrotherapy, leaving you rejuvenated and serene after a day of adventure.

Overnight at Arenal area



DAY 3 - Rio Celeste

Breakfast at the hotel.

Immerse yourself in the mystical beauty of **Rio Celeste**. Today, prepare for an unforgettable journey into the heart of Costa Rica's lush tropical rainforest, where you'll uncover one of the country's most enchanting secrets. This is your chance to connect deeply with nature, surrounded by vibrant wildlife and breathtaking scenery.

Embark on a 4 hour walk/hike along a picturesque 7 kilometer (4-mile) trail that winds through the verdant rainforest. Along the way, marvel at stunning natural landmarks, including the serene **Lagoon of Rio Celeste**, a perfect spot to capture postcard-worthy photos.

One of the trail's most magical stops is **Los Teñideros**, where two crystal-clear streams meet in a spellbinding alchemy of minerals, creating the river's signature heavenly turquoise hue. It's a phenomenon that feels nothing short of otherworldly.

Conclude your adventure with a descent to the magnificent **Rio Celeste Waterfall**, where the vibrant blue waters cascade into a pristine pool below. This awe-inspiring sight is a highlight of the journey and an unforgettable encounter with Costa Rica's natural wonders.

Overnight at Arenal area



DAY 4 - Monteverde, Crocodile tour, Manuel Antonio

Breakfast at the hotel.

Check out of the hotel. Depart to the **Central Pacific coast** home to the idyllic paradise of **Manuel Antonio**. This lush haven is famed for its pristine white-grey beaches, kissed by the turquoise waves of the Pacific and framed by rolling emerald-green hills draped in tropical forests.

Your route takes you through the world-renowned **Monteverde region**, one of the planet's most captivating rainforests. Along the way, enjoy a thrilling **crocodile tour** on the **Tárcoles River**, a vital waterway that feeds into the Nicoya Peninsula. The river is a sanctuary for one of the **largest wild crocodile populations** on Earth, where you might spot individuals reaching up to 15 feet long! Your journey also promises sightings of over 50 bird species, including the elusive **scarlet macaw**, alongside vibrant **iguanas** and the agile Jesus **Cristo lizards**, known for their ability to "walk" on water.

Guided by a knowledgeable bilingual naturalist, you'll gain fascinating insights into the crocodiles, the surrounding wildlife, and the stunning environment they call home. As the boat ventures downstream, you'll drift into the mystical **Estero Guacalillo**, a captivating mangrove ecosystem. Here, four species of mangrove trees thrive, creating a serene habitat teeming with unique birds and wildlife—a photographer's dream.

By evening, arrive at the Shana Hotel (or similar) in the **Manuel Antonio National Park area**. Relax and savor the tropical ambiance after a scenic journey that's as thrilling as it is beautiful.

Note: Estimated driving time is approximately 5 hours (excluding tour)

Overnight at Manuel Antonio National Park area



DAY 5 - Manuel Antonio National Park, ATV

Breakfast at the hotel.

Begin your day immersed in the breathtaking beauty of **Manuel Antonio National Park**, a sanctuary where nature's splendor meets tranquility. This tropical paradise is renowned for its pristine beaches, the unique geological marvel of **Punta Catedral**, serene mangroves, picturesque offshore islands, and lush tropical rainforests teeming with life.

Explore the park's **four stunning beaches**, each offering its own charm and allure. Accompanied by a professional guide, stroll through this world-famous haven and marvel at the incredible diversity of wildlife. Keep an eye out for vibrant butterflies, playful monkeys, curious raccoons, coatis, and agoutis. Delight in sightings of two-toed sloths, snakes, and stunning orchids as you uncover the magical biodiversity of Costa Rica's most iconic park.

In the afternoon, gear up for an exhilarating **ATV** adventure into Costa Rica's rugged backcountry. After a safety briefing, hop on your fully equipped ATV and follow expert bilingual guides through rustic tropical landscapes. Navigate unpaved trails, pass through vast African palm plantations, and journey into **authentic Costa Rican villages** such as Naranjito, Londres, Villa Nueva, and Esquipulas, soaking in the local charm and culture. Midway through your journey, leave your ATVs behind and venture into the **primary rainforest** on a guided nature hike. Here, your guides will introduce you to even more of Costa Rica's exotic flora and fauna, bringing the jungle to life with their knowledge and stories.

The grand finale of your adventure is a visit to a **hidden waterfall**, a true tropical oasis. Take a dip in its **crystalline waters**, refreshing your senses as you bask in the serene beauty of this natural wonder—a perfect reward for your day of exploration and excitement.

Overnight at Manuel Antonio National Park area

**DAY 6 - Friday, January 31, Departure**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Check out of the hotel. Private transfer to San Jose to Liberia International airports.