

NATURAL BEAUTY AND ADVENTURE

COSTA RICA

9 DAYS – FLY TO AND RETURN FROM SAN JOSE

Costa Rica is a small, beautifully scenic Central American Country, with two ocean coasts and a wide variety of landscapes in between!

Our tour highlights the National Parks, wildlife viewing, lush forests, volcanoes, hot springs and cloud forests. Explore nature in a country dedicated to eco-tourism that preserves its delicate ecology for all to enjoy. You may choose to extend your holiday with an exciting soft-adventure Jungle Odyssey.

HIGHLIGHTS: •14 meals: 8 breakfasts and 6 dinners •San Jose •Coffee Plantation •Guanacaste •Monteverde Cloud Forest •Hanging Bridges •Arenal Volcano •Lake Arenal Cruise •Cano Negro Refuge •Poas Volcano

1 HOME CITIES to SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA: Upon arrival relax, and soak up the sights of your new surroundings. Your tour begins in this colourful capital city of San Jose.

2 SAN JOSE to DOKA COFFEE ESTATE to TAMARINDO BEACH (GUANACASTE): (2 nights) Leave the city and travel through the verdant countryside of the CENTRAL VALLEY to the fertile region world-renowned for coffee. Tour the DOKA COFFEE ESTATE which highlights the history and cultivation of coffee and its importance to the Costa Rican economy. This afternoon arrive at your beachfront accommodations in the Guanacaste region, known for its breathtaking beauty and fine sand beaches. Rest and relaxation go hand-in-hand here with mesmerizing ocean views and lush tropical greenery. *Meals included: breakfast, dinner.*

3 TAMARINDO BEACH (GUANACASTE): The day is yours to simply enjoy this tropical paradise. Explore the nearby town and beaches or simply relax by the pool and take advantage of the amenities offered at your lovely beach resort. *Meals included: breakfast.*

4 TAMARINDO BEACH to MONTEVERDE: (2 nights) Today travel into the MONTEVERDE CLOUD FOREST where trees grow to heights of 100 feet!

In this spectacular ecosystem, you will encounter many incredible species of flora and fauna. A nature walk allows you to discover the natural beauty of the cloud forest first hand. This forest is the home of the world's largest population of the endangered quetzal, celebrated for its gorgeous jewel-toned plumage. Keep your eyes peeled and you may be lucky enough to spot this elusive bird! *Meals included: breakfast, dinner.*

5 MONTEVERDE: Begin your day by learning about some of the region's most beautiful wildlife with a visit to one of the world's largest butterfly gardens. Enjoy viewing and learning about the flora and fauna of the area on a leisurely-paced walk along a series of HANGING BRIDGES with lengths of up to 984 feet. A performance of traditional music and dance by local children will be presented this evening. *Meals included: breakfast, dinner.*

6 MONTEVERDE to LAKE ARENAL CRUISE – ARENAL: (2 nights) Travel through the beautiful mountainous landscapes of Monteverde to Tierras Morenas, visit a local school, meet the children and learn about the educational system and lifestyle of this small farming community. Continue on to Arenal for breathtaking views of the volcano during a delightful cruise on LAKE ARENAL, the largest and most important lake in



Costa Rica. Later, check in for a two-night stay at a typical lodge overlooking the majestic ARENAL VOLCANO which has been generating lava for the past 30 years. *Meals included: breakfast, dinner.*

7 ARENAL: The remote 20,000-acres of CANO NEGRO are home to the largest viewable selection of indigenous wildlife. Embark on a guided riverboat trip in a panga (covered canoe), making frequent stops to watch and photograph the wildlife around you. Crocodiles, river otters, sloths, river turtles, exotic birds and rare butterflies are all known to live in the area. The Arenal Volcano area is known as a land of spas and hot springs. Later in the day you will have an opportunity to attain a state of complete relaxation with an optional visit to one of the finest spas in the region. *Meals included: breakfast, dinner.*

8 ARENAL to POAS VOLCANO to SAN JOSE: Take a leisurely ride through the countryside for a visit to ancient POAS VOLCANO, a powerful symbol of the geothermal forces that formed Costa Rica. Its crater is 1,050 feet deep and a mile wide, making it the largest active crater in the world. The lower slopes of POAS VOLCANO are dotted with fruit farms and huge ornamental flower farms of roses and lilies. Continue on to San Jose where you will enjoy a wonderful farewell dinner. *Meals included: breakfast, dinner.*

9 SAN JOSE to HOME: Today you depart for home with fabulous memories of your adventure in Costa Rica. *Meals included: breakfast.*



Tour Extension!

OPTIONAL 3-NIGHT JUNGLE

ADVENTURE: 8 Meals: 3 Breakfasts,

3 Lunches, 2 Dinners. Enjoy an exciting soft-

adventure Jungle Extension to Tortuguero, the

Amazon of Costa Rica. Explore the region's

wildlife by boat, viewing macaws, sloths, mon-

keys, falcons and other native species. Includes

roundtrip transportation to Tortuguero, 2 nights at

the Evergreen, Aninga or Pachira Lodge, 1 night at

the Doubletree Cariari by Hilton in San Jose and

transfer to San Jose Airport on the last day.

Please note: This extension is fully escorted by a

local representative who will provide all included

services. **CALL FOR PRICES.**

DEPARTURE DATES

CALL FOR DATES AND PRICES

IMPORTANT TRAVELERS INFORMATION:

- To complete your holiday, we include return airfares port-to-hotel transfers when purchasing 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.
- 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.
- On exiting the country, taxes/fees to be paid in local currency are approximately \$32 USD.

DAY YOUR ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

- 1 SAN JOSE: Hotel Doubletree Cariari by Hilton
 - 2, 3 TAMARINDO BEACH, GUANACASTE: Tamarindo Diria Beach Resort
 - 4, 5 MONTEVERDE CLOUD FOREST: El Establo Hotel
 - 6, 7 ARENAL: Arenal Springs Resort or Montana de Fuego Lodge
 - 8 SAN JOSE: Hotel Doubletree Cariari by Hilton
- On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

SPECIALTY TOUR OFFERED WITH "CHANGE OF MIND" CANCELLATION POLICY. CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION

FREE DOOR-TO-DOOR AIRPORT TRANSFER WITHIN 100 KMS.