

Costa Rica Revealed: Our Signature Journey



Costa Rica is a wonderful destination for honeymooners, families and independent travellers of all ages. The country is aiming to get rid of single-use plastics by 2021 and for electricity to be 100% generated from renewables by 2030. Costa Rica is home to 5% of the world's biodiversity with volcanoes, cloud forest, waterfalls, good beaches and some 500,000 species of flora and fauna – including amazing birdlife, mammals and insects. Approximately 25% of the land is protected. Costa Rica has, a pleasant, tropical climate, good-natured people and a well-established tourism infrastructure. Costa Rica regularly appears high on the index of the world's happiest country. There is a direct flight between Gatwick and San Jose.

Highlights: San Jose – Tortuguero - Arenal La Fortuna – Monteverde Cloud Forest – Pacific Coast

Length: 14 Days

Costs: From £1949 pp excluding transatlantic flights



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Natural Beauty; Rivers; Lake; Waterfalls; Volcanos and Mountains; Rainforest; Cloud forest; Jungle; Tropical Wildlife, Birdlife, Flora and Plants; National parks; Zip-lining; Hot Springs

Days 1-3: San Jose: Meet & Greet arrival transfer to your hotel. 2 nights' accommodation at the hotel of your choice. Included excursion: Half day city tour.

San Jose has a population of around 350,000 which makes it much smaller than most Central American capitals. Our half-day city tour includes the Jade and Gold Museums. We offer additional optional excursions to other areas of interest close by such as Sarchí known for its artisan crafts, the Poas and Irazu Volcanoes, La Paz Waterfall Gardens, the ancient archaeological ruins at Guayabo and the Spanish colonial basilica at Cortago.

Days 3-5: Tortuguero: Transfer to Guapiles and onward to Tortuguero. 2 nights' accommodation at a local lodge; Included excursions: Tortuguero town and Tortuguero wildlife channels.

Tortuguero National Park was created in 1975 to protect the most important nesting site of the green turtle in the Western Hemisphere and is one of the most-rewarding places in Costa Rica for spotting wildlife such as iguanas, caimans, sloths, toucans, turtles and monkeys. The park covers a total area of 194 square miles including a 15 mile stretch of coastline and 20 miles out to sea. The labyrinth of deltas, canals, and lagoons are best explored by boat.

Days 5-8: La Fortuna: Departure transfer from Tortuguero to Guapiles and onward to La Fortuna. 3 nights' accommodation. Included excursions: Cano Negro Wildlife Refuge, Arenal volcano hike; Tabacon Hot Springs with dinner.

Lake Arenal is the largest and the most important artificial lake in Costa Rica. It was man-made in 1974 to provide hydroelectric energy for the country. We include a boat tour on the Frio River within the Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge where there are great opportunities to spot fresh water turtles, iguanas, capuchin monkeys, sloths and abundance of birdlife. Arenal volcano has recently been very quiet after almost continuous eruptions between 1968 and 2010 so it is now safe to hike on its lower slopes, following a trail close to the volcano and through the forest over recent lava flows. The Tabacon Hot Springs offers the opportunity to experience a series of well-designed pools, waterfalls and cascades which are filled with naturally-flowing thermal waters with temperatures ranging from 25°C to 50°C. With five springs within the complex, the waters here do not require pumps or artificial heating.

Please contact us to discuss additional excursions and activities in the area for longer stays.

Days 8-10: Monteverde: Transfer by road and boat from La Fortuna across Lake Arenal and onwards by road to Monteverde. 2 nights' accommodation at your cloud forest lodge. Included excursion: Sky Adventure in the Monteverde Cloud Forest, including cable-car and zip-lining.

The Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve extends over 35,000 acres and contains over 400 species of birds, 1,200 types of amphibians and reptiles and more than 100 species of mammals including ocelots, jaguars and pumas.

The Sky Adventure starts with a journey by open cable-car gondola taking you up to the Continental Divide and to one of the highest mountains of Monteverde. To descend there is a system of 8 different zip lines with a total of 2½ miles of cable enabling you to fly through the air from one mountain to another at speeds up to 40 miles per hour.

Optional activities include: Monteverde Cloud Forest or Santa Elena Cloud Forest Reserve guided hike; visit to a coffee plantation; sugar plantation tour; Monteverde Cheese dairy; biking and/or riding.

Days 10-14: Pacific Coast: Transfer from Monteverde to the Pacific Coast. We will book your hotel in Manuel Antonio, the Nicoya Peninsula or Guanacaste according to preference and budget. 4 nights' accommodation with round-trip transfers.

Manuel Antonio National Park offers lovely beaches and wonderful wildlife. The Nicoya Peninsula offers great surfing and water sports in addition to the beaches. The Guanacaste area has some of Costa Rica's best stretches of sand and most luxurious hotels.

Day 14: Departure: Departure transfer to San Jose airport in time to check-in for your flight home.

Suggested Accommodation and Indicative Costs (excluding transatlantic flights):

	<u>Premium</u>	<u>Mid-Range</u>	<u>Value</u>
San Jose:	Finca Rosa Blanca	Grano de Oro	Don Carlos
Tortuguero:	Manatus	Mawamba Lodge	Pachira Lodge
La Fortuna:	Nayara	Manoa	Lomas del Volcan
Monteverde:	Belmar	El Establo	Poco a Poco
Pacific:	Arenas del Mar	La Mansion	Falls Resort Manuel Antonio
Indicative Costs:	May-Nov: from £2,769 pp Dec-Apr: from £3,065 pp	May-Nov: from £2,364 pp Dec-Apr: from £2,745 pp	May-Nov: from £1,949 pp Dec-Apr: from £2,394 pp

Notes:

Indicative Costs are per person based on two people travelling together and sharing a double/twin room for travel before April 2020. Transatlantic flights are not included. Supplements may also apply for travel over Christmas/New Year and Easter.

What's included in the price: All accommodation and meals as detailed; Local taxes & service charges associated with included accommodation - All transfers & sightseeing as detailed; various activities; ATOL protection; Research, sourcing, design and preparation of your tailor-made holiday itinerary and quote; booking admin and processing; The services of our local ground agent who will coordinate your stay and ensure that everything runs smoothly including access to a local English language 24/7 telephone help line.

What's not included in the price: Transatlantic flights; any national park entry fees which have to be paid locally; drinks, gratuities and items of a personal nature; meals and optional excursions not listed as included; personal travel insurance; passport and visa costs (e.g. costs associated with obtaining an American ESTA visa waiver, if flying via USA); Airport departure tax on leaving Costa Rica, payable locally in US\$ and currently US\$29 per person.

Please contact us for costs for families and parties of 3 or more passengers and for travel in 2020/2021.

Transatlantic Flights:

We will book transatlantic flights for you in economy, premium economy, business or first class according to your preference.

Seasons and Climate:

The best time to visit is in the dry season between November and April. The wet season from May to October is characterised by dry mornings, a tropical downpour in the afternoon and intermittent showers in the evenings. Costa Rica is below the hurricane belt.

Entry

British nationals travelling on a full, valid British passport do not require a visa for entry to Costa Rica. You should ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months beyond the date of arrival.

Internal Travel

We arrange airport-hotel transfers and all transportation whether by land or small aircraft within Costa Rica through our ground agents locally. If you prefer to drive yourselves we will arrange 4 x 4 vehicle hire and provide guidance.

Vaccinations

It is advisable to check your immunizations for Polio, Tetanus, Typhoid and Hepatitis A. If you have been to Africa within 3 months of arriving in Costa Rica you may need to provide proof of vaccination against Yellow Fever.

Exchange Rates

Costs in Latin America are subject to \$/£ exchange rates. At present we are working on current exchange rates of 1.21 (as at 29 August 2019) although this may be subject to change.

Group Tours:

Although we specialise in building tailor-made itineraries for independent travellers, some people prefer to travel as part of a small group accompanied by a Tour Leader.

We offer a range of group tours from 14 days to 3 weeks or more at comfort levels to suit most budgets and age ranges.

<https://costaricarevealed.co.uk/escorted-tours/>

Honeymoons:

If you are booking your honeymoon with us, we will create a personalised wedding honeymoon giftlist website for you.

Your friends and family will be able to contribute towards the cost of your trip with personal messages which can be public or confidential as they prefer.

Cruises:

Revealed Travel also book a range of cruise ships which include Costa Rica's Caribbean or the Pacific Coastlines.

For an introduction to some of the cruises we offer, please click the following link:

<https://bit.ly/2R8xAGF>

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