

GO SOLO COSTA RICA, NOVEMBER 7 - 18, 2020



7 November Day 1: Welcome to San Jose, Costa Rica!

Arrival into Juan Santamaria International Airport, San José, Costa Rica. Meet your local guide who will accompany to the Hotel to proceed with the check in.

Overnight at Hotel Radisson San Jose 4* for 1 night

8 November Day 2: San Jose – Tortuguero

B/L/D

Today you will get an early start in heading towards the Northern Caribbean's lowlands. In the first part of the trip you will admire beautiful evergreen mountains and beautiful landscapes of the Braulio Carrillo National Park. Once on the Caribbean side you will continue to the local dock area, where the boats are waiting for you to transfer you to the Tortuguero National Park. A scenic two- and half-hour boat ride will take you through the canals sheltered in the jungle of the rainforest, and from the boat, you will be able to admire the unique flora and fauna of this region. Upon arrival, you will receive a short briefing of your hotel and the surrounding area, followed by lunch. In the afternoon you will visit the village of Tortuguero, where you will learn the lifestyle of local residents and the significant conservation efforts that some NGOs (non-governmental organizations) have developed to protect sea turtles that come to spawn each year along the 22 miles of protected coastline.

Overnight at Pachira Lodge 3* for 2 nights

9 November Day 3: Tortuguero

B/L/D

Today, visit Tortuguero National Park secondary canals that will dazzle you with its enormous biodiversity. From the boat, you can feel a pure contact with nature in a paradise that offers visitors 2000 species of plants and 400 species of trees, just as you can observe some of the 405 bird species here is also presence of crocodiles, different species of turtles and freshwater fish. Tortuguero will definitely offer a unique and unforgettable experience. Much of the National Park extends along its

unspoiled beaches that serve as refuge for spawning of the sea turtles, this event occurs between the months of July to September.

10 November Day 4: Tortuguero – La Fortuna

B/L/D

At mid-morning the journey continues with a boat transfer back to the local dock. Upon arrival, ground transportation will be provided to the area of Guapiles, where lunch will be served. Afterwards, continue on with a land transfer towards the northern lowlands, this route offers the experience to pass through different towns such as Puerto Viejo (Sarapiquí), San Miguel, Venecia and Aguas Zarcas. Also, along the way you will enjoy the beautiful scenery which includes amazing views of the mountains and one of the major sources of revenue in the area: the agriculture, so you will have the opportunity according with the season to observe the crops of pineapple, bananas and sugar cane.

Arrive to La Fortuna Village late afternoon where the mighty Arenal Volcano will welcome you with its impressive perfect conic shape.

During the evening you will visit the world famous Tabacón Hot Springs. These natural hot springs features a hot river that flows through a series of pools. From cascading falls to tropical gardens, the hot springs are the result of rainwater heated by magma in the Earth's interior. Once heated, the waters rise to surface, taking with them minerals found in the earth's rocky crust; this way, waters become very benefic to your body because of its temperature that helps to relax muscles, clean pores and rejuvenate the skin. Tabacón is a very unique location full of natural jewels that definitely you cannot miss staying at Arenal Volcano area.

Overnight at Hotel Arenal Manoa 3* for 2 nights

11 November Day 5: La Fortuna

B/L

Start your day visiting La Fortuna Waterfall. It is located in a biological reserve with an area of 210 acres of transition premontane tropical wet forest, part of the Arenal Volcano National Park and is located at 520 meters over the sea level, where there are sources of our mountains and the waters of the Fortuna River. Within this sector is the Cerro de los Perdidos, Placas de Mayo and Cerro Chato, which are based on rocky foundations of great geological value, causing in turn a lush and scenic beauty.

Stop by La Fortuna village to learn more about the way of living of locals and enjoy lunch in one of the local restaurants on town.

Continue towards to the slopes of the Arenal Volcano. Go to areas that were once destroyed by volcanic activity and are now in the process of regeneration, a hike through the "Coladas Trail" will take you all the way to experience what no long ago were lava flows. Nature, geology and volcano history.

12 November Day 6: La Fortuna - Monteverde**B**

Morning depart from Arenal Volcano to the Monteverde Cloud Forest. Cross the Arenal Lake by boat. Arenal Lake is the largest and the most important lake in Costa Rica. The first part of the trip is adorned with the beautiful scenery of the Arenal Lake. Then, will start the driving ascending through the Tilarán Mountain Range. The final portion of your journey is on gravel roads, giving you more time to enjoy the beautiful mountain scenery. Monteverde is a great destination to experience the culture and traditions of Costa Rica, so that for this afternoon you will have the opportunity to visit a family-run business and learn all about the traditional methods of production in a local farm. The tour begins with an interactive walk through the different plantations, including sugarcane, coffee, bananas, arracache (a local legume), avocado, macadamia nuts as well as other products. In each plantation, the guide will explain you the artisan process using typical artifacts that are involved in the production. You will also visit a Tilapia fish project and a small-trapiche where you will see how the sugar cane is grinded and how, at the end of the process, delicious candy and brown sugar are obtained.

Overnight at El Establo Mountain Hotel 4* for 2 nights

13 November Day 7: Monteverde**B/L**

This morning visits the Santa Elena Biological Reserve and nearby town of Santa Elena. This biological reserve opened in 1992 managed by the local public high school board of directors. This 310 hectare reserve offers a big variety of flora and wild life of the Caribbean slope of the zone. When it is not cloudy, the Arenal volcano and lake can be seen from one of the trails in the reserve. After the tour head to the village of Santa Elena for some free time at leisure and enjoy lunch in a local restaurant before heading back to the hotel.

14 November Day 8: Monteverde – Manuel Antonio**B**

Today, you will travel to the beautiful Manuel Antonio National Park, located on the Pacific Coast, and one of the most popular beach destinations in Costa Rica. The drive takes you via the scenic mountain roads to the majestic shores of the Pacific Ocean.

Overnight at Parador Resort & Spa 4* for 3 nights

15 November Day 9: Manuel Antonio**B/D**

During the morning, you will visit the Manuel Antonio National Park. No trip to Costa Rica's mid-Pacific region is complete without experiencing it - perhaps because of its expansive white-sand beaches backed by an evergreen forest that grows right up to the high tide line. Along the walk, you will discover a wide variety of beach vegetation, lagoons, mangrove swamps, 109 species of mammals and 184 species of birds. You will observe several species of monkeys, iguanas, birds and possibly even the three-toed sloth. After the internal hike at the park, if you would like, you can

remain in the park on your own to relax, enjoy the beach and sunbathe. Otherwise, you will return to the hotel, where you can spend the rest of the afternoon at leisure.

Gather together this evening to enjoy dinner at the hotel.

16 November Day 10: Manuel Antonio

B

Today you have the entire day at leisure, to enjoy the hotel's many facilities, visit the beach or explore the local area. It won't be difficult to find things to do at the hotel; it boasts 3 beautiful pools overlooking the Pacific, a white-sand beach with a host of watersports on offer, winding nature trails to explore, 24-hour fitness center, tennis court and a pampering, full-service spa.

OPTIONAL EXCURSION: Catamaran tour around the coast of Manuel Antonio + \$155 per person

17 November Day 11: Manuel Antonio – San Jose
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B/D

Depart the hotel at noon for the trip back to San Jose and a Farewell dinner this evening.

Overnight at Hotel Radisson San Jose 4* for 1 night

18 November Day 11: San Jose

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Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before the transfer to the Juan Santamaria International Airport (SJO) in San José for your departure flight.

** Itinerary and hotels are subject to change. **

