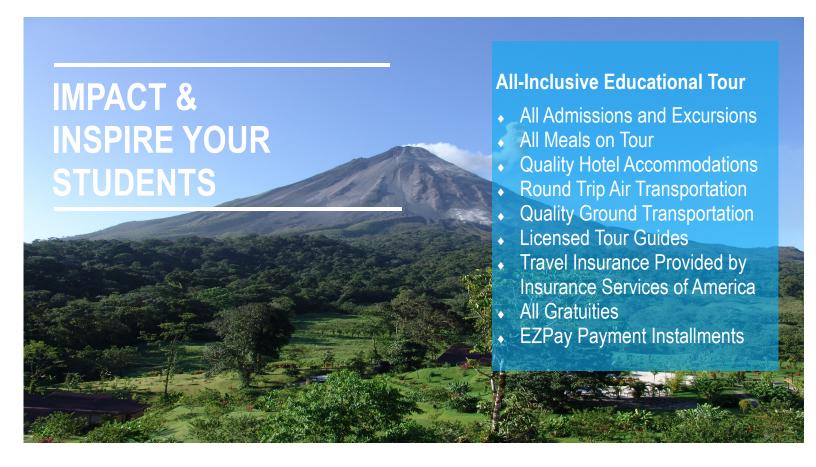


DISCOVER COSTA RICA

11-Day Sample Itinerary



Day 1

Evening arrival in San Jose. Meet and greet with your licensed tour guide at Juan Santa Maria International Airport (SJO) and transfer to your hotel.

Day 2

Breakfast at hotel and brush up your Spanish this morning as you learn useful day-to-day words and colloquialisms that will come in handy during your trip.

Take a morning tour to explore the city center, including the vibrant public market that offers an ideal place to study Costa Rican culture through food, crafts, and language. Shop for authentic souvenirs and snack on local favorites.

Choose a museum visit from the city's many offerings, including the National Museum, Pre-Columbian Gold Museum, or Jade Museum.

Spend the afternoon touring a local business to better understand how the country's diverse resources impact its economy.

Following dinner, take in a cultural performance at one of the city's fine arts venues.

Day 3

After breakfast, transfer to the town of Sarchi, the cradle of Costa Rican handcrafts. Tour an oxcart factory where you will learn about the cultural significance of the painted cart and try you hand at it.

In the afternoon, visit the local technical university to learn how technology and related sciences are being applied to the development of the country.

Enjoy an evening of crafts and socialization with local artisans.

Day 4

Journey to San Carlos today, which is home to the Wildlife Rescue Centre. Spend the morning doing hands-on work to help with rehabilitation efforts while learning about the Rescue's continuing efforts.

In the afternoon, travel to the area's hot springs for dinner and an evening of relaxation.



DISCOVER COSTA RICA 11-Day Sample Itinerary



Day 1 Arrival / San Jose, Costa Rica

Day 2 San Jose

Day 3 Sarchi

Day 4 Santa Clara

Day 5 La Fortuna / Arenal to Monteverde

Day 6 Monteverde

Day 7 Pacific Coast

Day 8 Ostional National Wildlife Refuge

Day 9 Ostional National Wildlife Refuge

Day 10 Pacific Coast to San Jose

Day 11 San Jose / Departure

Day 5

This morning you'll visit a cacao plantation as you learn about the cacao tree and the process of making chocolate from its seeds. It's a delicious lesson in agricultural production and economics.

In the afternoon, visit the Arenal Volcano Lookout Point and learn about how it has shaped the lives and economy of the surrounding community.

Travel to Monteverde.

Day 6

Wake up in Monteverde for a nature walk in the cloud forest led by an expert naturalist.

Get an areal view in the afternoon with an optional zip line tour through the canopy or hike through the rainforest along the hanging bridges.

In the evening, learn about the nocturnal creatures of the rainforest on a guided hike after sunset.

Day 7

Drive to the Pacific coast to begin a three-day stay in this area of rugged rainforest, white-sand beaches, and coral reefs.

Day 8

Prepare for two days of service learning work with staff who will train your group for projects that support the efforts of the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge protects marine turtle species, such as the Olive Ridley (Lora) and Leatherback (Baula) at Playa Ostional on the Nicoya Peninsula Costa Rica.

Day 9

After breakfast, take a boat tour to spot wildlife, including sea turtles, manatees, crocodiles, macaws, toucans, sloths, and monkeys. After, continue work at the Ostional National Wildlife Refuge.

Day 10

Travel back to San Jose today. En route, visit a private cattle and horse ranch for a culinary experience. Learn about traditional Latin American dishes such as tamales, empanadas, and tortillas.

Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner followed by traditional Latin music and dancing, including Merengue, Salsa and Cumbia

Day 11

Check-in at Juan Santa Maria International Airport (SJO) for your return flight. An airport coordinator will meet your group when you arrive to home airport for family pick-up.

