



## Trip Details

# Costa Rica Private Adventure

Trip Dates:

Length of Trip: 10 days / 9 nights

## Guest Itinerary

*Please note that the details of this itinerary including the specific hotels subject to change. Many of the planned activities are organized according to availability, events or seasonal dates, appropriate weather conditions or the discretion of our guides. We make every effort to provide the experience described in the itinerary with the understanding that some things may change.*

### Day 1 – Arrive San Jose

Private airport transfers to the hotel.

*Accommodation:* Xandari

**Lodging of Distinction:** Located in the hills above Alajuela (Costa Rica's second-largest city) and boasting beautiful views of the Central Valley, plus stunning architecture and artwork (think mosaic-tiled fountains, technicolor collages and gorgeous paintings), the 16-hectare (40-acre) Xandari Resort & Spa is an aesthetic delight.

### Day 2 – Bajos del Toro Waterfall

Your private driver guide will pick you up at your hotel at the pre-arranged time. Having your private driver guide allows you plenty of time for exploration at your own pace. During your drive, you can sit back, relax and enjoy the countryside as you travel to Arenal.

On the way, stop for lunch within an enchanting cloud forest, where you'll discover Costa Rica's highest and arguably most exquisite waterfall in the region, Bajos del Toro. Positioned amidst this unique landscape, mist gracefully envelops the scene as the cascade descends into the depths of an ancient volcano crater. There are trails that also descend into the crater for another view. The choice is yours whether you would like to get a closer look!

After your Bajos del Toro visit, you will travel onwards to La Fortuna, where you will find the renowned Arenal Volcano. For approximately 40 years, Arenal erupted near-daily, making it Costa Rica's most active volcano. It has been dormant since 2010, but the area around it and the nearby town of La Fortuna still buzz with activity for adventurous travelers.

Your evening is at your leisure.

*Meals Included:* Breakfast, Lunch

*Accommodation:* Nayara Hotel Spa & Gardens

**Lodging of Distinction:** Located in the middle of a tropical rainforest, on beautifully manicured grounds, Nayara Hotel offers 50 spacious accommodations perfectly situated to take in the jaw-dropping views of nearby Arenal volcano and the surrounding jungle.

## Day 3 – Proyecto Asis Sanctuary and Mistico Hanging Bridges

After breakfast, venture out with your guide to experience **Proyecto Asis Wild Animal Rescue Center**, a sanctuary of hope and healing. The air is thick with the symphony of tropical birds, their vibrant plumage flashing through the dense canopy overhead. This haven for wildlife is a mosaic of life, where the calls of howler monkeys echo through the trees and the gentle rustle of foliage hints at the presence of rescued creatures finding solace and safety.

The center is a living classroom where the natural beauty of Costa Rica converges with a profound mission: to rescue, rehabilitate, and release injured and orphaned animals. Your private guide will lead you through pathways that wind through the property on an immersive journey where you may encounter sloths lounging in the treetops, playful kinkajous, and majestic parrots recovering their strength. Proyecto Asis is not just a rescue center; it's a testament to the resilience of nature and the power of human compassion. It's a place where the boundaries between humans and animals blur, united in a shared journey toward healing and coexistence.

In the afternoon, your guide will escort you to the **Arenal Hanging Bridges**, a 250-hectare/617-acre stretch of rainforest that boasts a series of winding trails and bridges. Upon arrival, you'll set out on a 3-km/2-mi hike along a well-maintained trail featuring 16 bridges and a beautiful waterfall. You'll learn about the area's natural history as you take in the rainforest canopy and its resident wildlife, such as monkeys, toucans, and sloths.

*Meals Included:* Breakfast

*Accommodation:* Nayara Gardens

*Meals Included:* Breakfast

*Accommodation:* Nayara

## Day 4 – Aventuras Arenal Trekking Arenal 1968

With your guide, enjoy extraordinary views of the **Arenal Volcano** with a walk in which you will feel the power and serenity of nature underfoot. Gain insight into the local flora and fauna with an excellent chance for some birdwatching and animal encounters. (With your private guide, the amount of time you hike and the trail is at your discretion.)

Afternoon and evening at your leisure.

*Meals Included:* Breakfast

*Accommodation:* Nayara

## Day 5 – Monteverde

Full day transfer to Monteverde. "Monteverde" means: "green mountain" which aptly describes this rugged and beautiful area. Sitting atop the Continental Divide, the Monteverde region covers cloud forests, rain forests, and high-altitude coffee farms. Ecotourism has grown exponentially here since the 1950s, when local Quaker dairy farmers and ecologists established the Monteverde and Santa Elena cloud forest reserves to preserve the region's biodiversity. Today, you'll find misty forests of giant trees draped in bromeliads and ferns, rare birds like the resplendent quetzal, six large cat species, more than two dozen species of hummingbirds, and countless other plant and wildlife species. Zip lines (some of the longest in the country) and hanging bridges let you experience the lush canopy from above. Visitors can also enjoy cloud forest walks; night hikes; coffee tours; orchid gardens; and live frog, snake, bat, and butterfly exhibits. Santa Elena, the region's main town, offers a few artisan shops and myriad dining options.

After arrival, we have left the time open so you can decide whether to do an optional zip line at Treetopia Park in

Monteverde.

*Meals Included:* Breakfast

*Accommodation:* Monteverde Lodge

**Lodging of Distinction:** One of the top eco-lodges in the area, Monteverde Lodge & Gardens features spacious, rustic-elegant accommodations with excellent forest views. The gardens around the hotel are not to be missed and boast flora like imperial bromeliads and various orchid species and fauna such as white-faced capuchin monkeys, agoutis, and porcupines.

## Day 6 – Monteverde Cloud Forest Biological Reserve

Today with your expert guide discover Monteverde Cloud Forest Biological Reserve, a magical tapestry of verdant life, where mist dances with the treetops and every breath is infused with the rich aroma of earth and foliage. The forest is an emerald sanctuary draped in mosses and ferns that shimmer in the filtered sunlight. Ancient trees, their trunks twisted and gnarled, rise majestically, their branches cradling epiphytes and orchids that bloom in a riot of colors.

The air is alive with the symphony of wildlife: the melodious calls of quetzals and bellbirds, the rustle of agoutis in the underbrush, and the distant hum of insects. Trails meander through this lush labyrinth, leading you into hidden groves where the canopy forms a living cathedral. In this ethereal haven, time seems to slow, and the boundary between earth and sky blurs into a dreamlike mist, inviting all who enter to lose themselves in its serene, otherworldly beauty.

*Meals Included:* Breakfast

*Accommodation:* Monteverde Lodge

## Day 7 – Osa Peninsula

Morning transfer to San Jose, then flight to Puerto Jimenez

In a country with seemingly infinite eco-adventure destinations, Corcovado National Park may be Costa Rica's magnum opus. Reached only by plane or boat, covering more than a third of the Osa Peninsula, hosts nearly half of all of the species in Costa Rica, in one 424 sq. km/164 sq. mi reserve. Although challenging, hot, and humid, a trek on the park's jungle trails may reward you with views of monkeys, scarlet macaws, crocodiles, myriad bird species, and endangered wildlife like anteaters, Baird's tapir, and if you're extremely lucky, jaguars. The Peninsula hosts several excellent nature lodges in Puerto Jiménez on Golfo Dulce (Sweet Gulf), and on Drake Bay on the Pacific side of the Peninsula where you can relax in luxury after a day exploring the jungle, some of Costa Rica's best snorkeling and scuba diving, outstanding sports fishing (off-shore and in-shore), sea kayaking, or kayaking through the mangroves.

*Meals Included:* Breakfast, Dinner

*Accommodation:* Lapa Rios

**Lodging of Distinction:** Located on the Osa Peninsula, in a private nature reserve comprising more than 405 hectares (1,000 acres) of wild, tropical rainforest, Lapa Rios is a magnet for lovers of wildlife, nature, and beaches. Designated as one of National Geographic's Unique Lodge of the World, Lapa Rios is situated high up, on a ridge overlooking the Golfo Dulce, Pacific Ocean, and neighboring forested valleys.

## Day 8 – On Site Activities

At Lapa Rios there's enough going on to keep you occupied from sunrise to nightfall if you wish. Early morning birdwatching tours, post-breakfast rainforest hikes, afternoon surfing lessons, and night walks will keep you busy. Guests who appreciate less time on-the go can still enjoy wildlife viewing & the spectacular scenery from our pool, balcony lounges and new "private beach club" service on Playa Pan Dulce. For well-earned relaxation, we also offer a selection of in-room Spa & Massage services. Guest researchers and visiting photographers often host informal evening discussions about conservation or documentary film making.

*Meals Included:* Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

*Accommodation:* Lapa Rios

## Day 9 – On Site Activities

*Meals Included:* Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

*Accommodation:* Lapa Rios

## Day 10 – Depart

Transfer from Lapa Rios to Puerto Jimenez for flight to San Jose. Connect with departing flights.

*Meals Included:* Breakfast

### CONTACTS:

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