# Costa Rican Adventure



Day 1 Tue 15 Jan Arrive San Jose, Costa Rica-Heredia Welcome to Costa Rica! As we drive in from the airport today, we will stop at the Sr & Sra Ese wood factory and jewelry store. Then, we continue to the hotel for the evening. Country Inn & Suites

#### Day 2 Wed 16 Jan Poas, Coffee & Orchids (BLD)

Our day begins with a visit to Poas Volcano. Poas is considered the largest active crater in the world, about 1 mile (1.6 km.) wide and 320 meters deep, with frequent geyser-like eruptions. At the Volcano, we will have time to see the crater and hike on a trail to Botos Lagoon and learn about the different eco-systems in the park. Next stop is Doka State Coffee Tour, where you will learn about the history of the farm, traditional coffee growing methods and the coffee brewing tradition of "chorrear". Enjoy lunch at the Doka Estate. The last stop is at the Orchid Farm where trees and palms have been planted for more than 30 years, providing the ideal habitat for a wide variety of plants. Visit the nurseries to see the extensive orchid family. Return to the hotel later this evening. *Country Inn & Suites* 

Day 3 Thu 17 Jan Heredia – Tortuguero (BLD)
Early in the morning, depart by bus to Cano Blanco. Here, board the small boats for your 90-minute journey along the canals through the rain forest to your lodge. After lunch at the lodge, a visit to the museum is included, as well as the beach area and the Tortuguero Village. Evergreen Lodge

## Day 4 Fri 18 Jan Tortuguero (BLD)

Enjoy a morning escorted hike in the forest and return to the lodge for lunch. This afternoon, board small boat(s) for continued exploration of the smaller secondary canals. Keep a lookout for river otters, crocodiles and turtles, along with the very talkative howler monkeys and toucans. *Evergreen Lodge* 

### Day 5 Sat 19 Jan Tortuguero – Arenal (BL)

Depart early this morning after breakfast. You will be transferred from the lodge by boat back to the dock. We continue by road towards Arenal, stopping for lunch on the way. We also stop at the Tirimbina Reserve for a guided walk of a cacao plantation, learning about the history of chocolate and how it became so popular. We'll arrive in Arenal later this evening. *Volcano Lodge* 

#### Day 6 Sun 20 Jan Arenal (BD)

For those interested, we'll drop you off in town to walk around today. Later, a visit to Ecotermales Hot Springs is on tap. Eco Termales Hot Springs is a sanctuary of nature and beauty. It is the smallest of the Arenal Hot Springs and is geared towards privacy and relaxation – it doesn't accept more than 100 guests at a time. A highlight of our visit is the traditional Costa Rican cuisine prepared in the kitchen that used to be the home of the Hidalgo family. Enjoy dinner at the springs before returning to the hotel in the evening. *Volcano Lodge* 



#### Day 7 Mon 21 Jan Arenal – Monteverde (BD)

After breakfast, our drive takes us to Monteverde, discovered in the early 50's when a group of Quaker families migrated from Alabama, USA and founded a small village. In 1962, the community acted to protect the high zone of the Tilaran Mountain Range and founded the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. During your 2 day stay, why not take an optional fun zip-line ride through the forest. This afternoon, visit the Monteverde Butterfly Garden for an amazing visit with these delicate creatures. *El Establo Hotel* 

#### Day 8 Tue 22 Jun Monteverde (BD)

Early this morning, visit the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. The changing climate and high altitude provides four life zones at Monteverde, saving the home of over 100 species of mammals, 400 bird species – including the Quetzal, 500 butterfly species, and 120 reptile and amphibian species. Then, a special visit to CASEM. The women of CASEM (Committee of Artisans of Santa Elena and Monteverde) create original handicrafts such as woodwork, embroidery, cards, and clothes often using indigenous materials, inspired by the beauty and biodiversity in the Monteverde area. *El Establo Hotel* 

#### Day 9 Wed 23 Jan Monteverde – Guanacasate (B)

Today the drive takes us to our hotel along the coast, quite close to Liberia town. Enjoy three nights of leisure. *Tamarindo Diria* 

## Day 10 Thu 24 Jan Guanacaste (B)

Day 11 Fri 25 Jan Guanacaste (B)

These two full days are at leisure to enjoy the beach. Why not take an optional surfing lesson or for the more adventurous an optional day of sport fishing is exhilarating.

Tamarindo Diria

#### Day 12 Sat 26 Jan Guanacaste- Depart (B)

This morning you will be transferred from the hotel to the LIBE-RIA Airport for your departure flight.

#### Tour Features Include:

- First Class accommodations on twin-bedded basis with en-suite facilities
- Full breakfast daily, 4 lunches and 6 dinners as shown in the itinerary by BLD
- ♦ All entry fees, where mentioned
- ♦ Porterage and group gratuity included
- ♦ Transportation by private air-conditioned vehicle (with reclining seats, TV/DVD and luggage storage compartment
- ♦ English-speaking guide
- Boat transfers at Tortuguero (luggage limited to 24 to 44 pounds per person depending on the group size
- ♦ UTG baggage tags and small travel bag
- UTG Exclusive Travel Delay Protection includes medical emergency evacuation to nearest hospital or medical facility - and more.

#### Not Included:

- ♦ International flights USA-San Jose; Liberia-USA
- ♦ Local Departure tax \$28.00 per person
- Optional Travel Insurance



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\$800 Per Person Deposit is due by August 1, 2012; final payment is due by October 1, 2012.



To sign up, see the enclosed registration form and flight details.

Joye & Dave Moon

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