

November 12-20, 2024

Costa Rica Trip

Olive Ridley Arribada



An Adventure of a Lifetime

Explore the cloud forest of the majestic Monteverde Mountains, the wetlands of the Tempisque River delta, and the lifetime experience of witnessing an Olive Ridley Sea Turtle arribada. Walk through canopy bridges, take a boat safari, whale watching outing, and sea turtles nesting.



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival to San Jose

Transfer to Bougainvillea Hotel in the town of Heredia

Day 2: Monteverde Mountains

Fonda Vela Hotel. Canopy exploration at Monteverde Cloud Forest Hanging Bridges

Day 3: Monteverde Mountains

Hike at the Cloud Forest preserve. Afternoon coffee tour at a local farm

Day 4: Rancho Humo

Departure to Rancho Humo-Afternoon boat tour on the Tempisque River and Palo Verde National Park

Day 5: Rancho Humo

Morning exploration of the Rancho Humo wetlands. Afternoon visit to local town and women cooperative.

Day 6: Nosara Beach

Departure to Lagarta Lodge-Night visit to Ostional-Arribada Beach

Day 7: Ostional-Lagarta Lodge

Morning visit to Ostional Beach. Afternoon hike through Lagarta private preserve, a combination of mangrove forest and tropical dry forest

Day 8: Day boat tour

Catamaran tour of the Pacific coast, looking for Humpback Whales

Day 8: Departure from Liberia airport

Important Note: Arrival flight should be to San Jose airport, departure flight should be from Liberia airport

Hasta luego Costa Rica!

Day 1: Tuesday, Nov 12

Arrival in San Jose (SJO)



Upon arrival at San Jose International Airport (SJO), our driver will be waiting to transfer you to the Bougainvillea Hotel.

Set among 10 acres of award-winning gardens, the Bougainvillea Hotel is a lush haven within the town of Heredia, known by Costa Ricans as the "La Ciudad de las Flores" (City of Flowers).

The group will gather in the evening for our welcome dinner at the hotel's elegant Vitrales restaurant.

Overnight and dinner at Hotel Bougainvillea
www.hb.co.cr



Day 2: Wed, Nov 13

Monteverde Mountains

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to the Monteverde Mountains in central Costa Rica with a stop-in route for a hike at the Monteverde Skywalk Hanging Bridges.

The trails and bridges of this private reserve will bring you up close to the birds, flowers, and lush vegetation of the Cloud Forest.

Afternoon arrival at the Hotel Heliconia, a family-owned lodge with its own protected Cloud Forest Preserve.

Two nights at Hotel Fonda Vela
www.fondavela.com



Day 3: Thurs, Nov 14

Monteverde

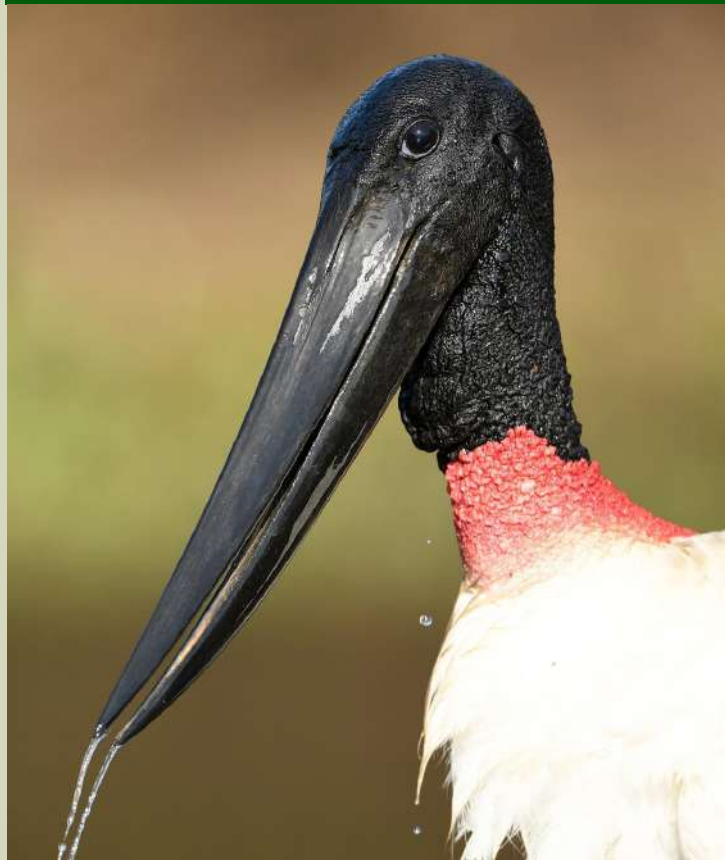


Morning visit to a local coffee farm for a coffee tour. Learn how to grow, harvest and process the best coffee in the world.

Afternoon visit to the Monteverde Cloudforest Preserve, a great example of the local benefits of eco-tourism, followed by a late afternoon visit to the Hummingbird Gallery. A series of hummingbird feeders that attract up to 12 species of hummingbirds. From the giant Violet Sabrewing to the tiny Coppery Headed Emerald. Get your cameras and binoculars ready!

Day 4: Fri, Nov 15

Rancho Humo



Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast, we depart to Estancia Rancho Humo on the Tempisque River wetlands, our home for the next two nights.

Rancho Humo was transformed from a cattle farm into an international example of wetland rescue where visitors can experience numerous ecosystems: mangroves, wetlands, tropical dry forests, and pastures. It is home to a large variety of flora and fauna including wading birds, hawks, ducks, and the largest and most exotic aquatic bird in Costa Rica: the famous Jabirú stork.

Rancho Humo is located near a traditional and picturesque town, Puerto Humo.

Dinner and overnight at Rancho Humo.

www.ranchohumo.com

Day 5: Sat, Nov 16

Rancho Humo



Breakfast at the lodge.

After breakfast, we will depart to explore the Rancho Humo wetlands on board safari Jeeps. We are likely to see diverse aquatic birds, crocodiles, and other local wildlife.

During the afternoon, we will visit a local women's cooperative in the nearby town of Pozo Azul. The women will teach us the traditional ways to prepare the local cheese called "cuajada" and the typical corn base pastries from the area.

Morning departure to Lagarta Lodge. Near Ostional Wildlife Refuge. Olive Ridley Sea Turtles nest in mass at Ostional year-round. Arribadas occur regularly once, sometimes even twice, a month and the numbers of nesting females could range from hundreds to thousands.

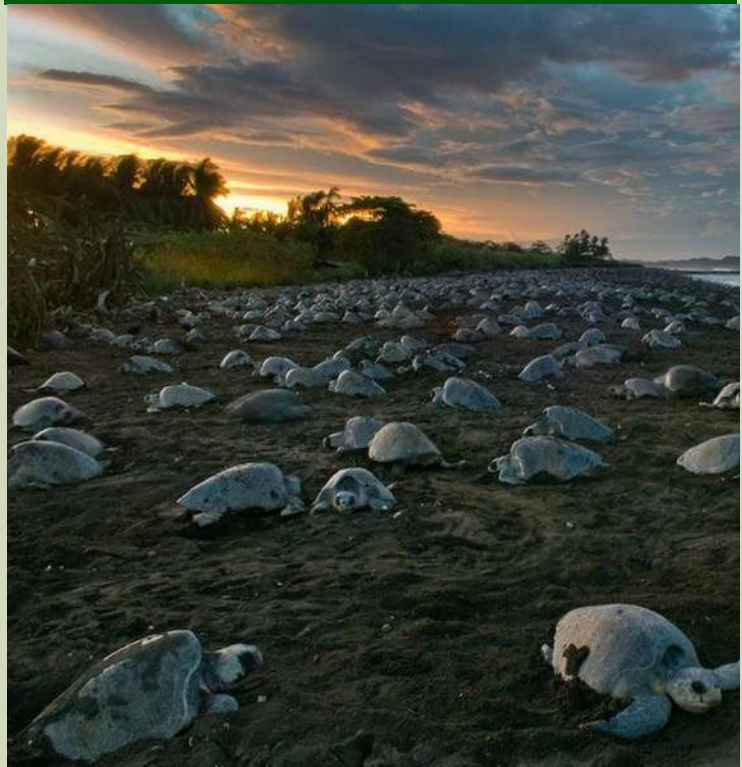
Arribadas are only observed in 6 locations worldwide, two of those in Costa Rica. They also occur in Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and India.

The largest Arribada thus far recorded in Ostional took place in November of 1995 when an estimated 500,000 females came ashore.

www.lagartalodge.com

Day 6: Sun, Nov 17

Ostional Beach



Day 7: Frid, Nov 18

Lagarta Lodge



Morning departure to see the Ostional Beach sea turtle arribada.

Afternoon hike at Lagarta Lodge private biological preserve. This hike will explore the Mangrove Habitat and the Tropical Dry Forest. Great chances to see Howler Monkeys and diverse wildlife.

Day 8: Sat, Nov 19

Whale Watching

Morning departure to explore the coastal waters by Catamaran Boat. Our goal is to see Humpback Whales that come to the warm waters of Costa Rica every year for calving.

We could also see dolphins and potentially mating Olive Ridley Sea Turtles en route to the nesting beach.

Afternoon visit Samara Beach.



Transfer to Liberia Airport



Our adventure comes to an end.

After seven days of exploring the tropical magic of this wildlife-rich country, we return home with lifelong memories.

Hasta Luego, Costa Rica!

Meet your expedition leader



Carlos Chacon

Carlos Chacon is a native Costa Rican who moved to HHI 20 years ago. He has been a naturalist all his life, first in his native country leading nature tours in the RainForest and other tropical environments, and later in his adopted Lowcountry. Shortly before Amber took the lead, Carlos directed the HHI Turtle Patrol for 7 years. Carlos regularly organizes and leads groups of Lowcountry naturalists on Costa Rica nature tours.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The trip is limited to a maximum of 12 participants.

\$ 4,300: Price per person based on double occupancy.

\$750: Single supplement for a private room.

\$1000 from the trip will be donated to the Sea Turtle Trackers

Prices are per person and include:

Private transportation on microbus with A/C,
and boat as described

Private naturalist guide services

Lodging and meals as described

Activities and entrance fees as described

Not Included:

Personal expenses, (medical expenses,
alcoholic drinks, souvenirs, etc.)

Round-trip airfare to Costa Rica

Travel Insurance

Medical Insurance

Payment and Cancellation Policies:

Trips must be paid in full 4 months before departure.

Refunds will be issued according to the following deadlines:

- For cancellations received 60 to 45 days prior to arrival, 50% of the total amount.
- For cancellations received 44 to 30 days prior to arrival, 25 % of the total amount.
- If the participant cancels 29 days to 1 day prior to arrival, no refunds are available.



Secure your space on this trip by emailing Carlos Chacon at Eco1adventures@gmail.com and sending an initial commitment check of \$500 made to Eco-Adventures LLC. Mail your committment check to:

Carlos Chacon | 21 Park Circle. | Bluffton SC 29910