



April 13-20, 2025

## Costa Rica Nature Tour

### An Adventure of a Lifetime

This customized, small-group nature tour led by expert local naturalists will guide you through Costa Rica's diverse ecosystems. Explore luxuriant gardens, pristine tropical rainforest, awe-inspiring volcanoes, and cascading waterfalls in some of the best National Parks in the world. Travel to the tip of the Talamanca mountain range to visit the enchanting cloud forest of Monteverde, nesting sight of the rare and much sought after resplendent quetzel. Visit the south Pacific coast, where mother humpback whales migrate annually to the warm waters of Costa Rica to give birth and raise their calves. Join our adventure, amidst this friendly country's spectacular scenery and welcoming accommodations, in search of extraordinary plants, birds, sloths, monkeys, whales, and a myriad of tropical wildlife.



### Itinerary

#### Day 1: Arrival to San Jose

An airport shuttle awaits to bring you to the Bougainvillea Hotel, nestled among lush botanical gardens.

#### Day 2: Quelitales Hotel

Departure to Quelitales Hotel. Afternoon exploration of hotel rainforest and gardens.

#### Day 3: Tapanti National Park

Explore the Tapanti National Park and surrounding areas. A birding hot spot full of volcanoes and waterfalls.

#### Day 4: Savegre Lodge

Departure to Savegre Lodge and the Talamanca Mountains. Afternoon at leisure to enjoy hotel spa and scenery

#### Day 5: Talamanca Mountains

Hike through an ancient oak forest and cloud forest in search of the resplendent quetzel in full breeding plumage.

#### Day 6: Crystal Ballena

Traverse across the continental divide to reach the scenic south Pacific coast.

#### Day 7: Dominical Beach

Boat outing in search of humpback whales and other marine mammals in Marino Ballena National Park

#### Day 8: Last night in San Jose

Rest at Bougainvillea Hotel and gardens.

#### Day 9: Transfer to San Jose Airport





## Day 1: Sunday, April 13

### Arrival in San Jose

Upon arrival at San Jose International Airport (SJO), we will be transferred to the Bougainvillea Hotel.

Set among 10 acres of lush award-winning botanical gardens, this comfortable haven, just 30 minutes from the airport, is an ideal location to start our adventure in Costa Rica.

We will gather in the evening at the hotel restaurant to go over the itinerary and the next day's activities.

[www.hb.co.cr](http://www.hb.co.cr)



## Day 2: Monday, April 14

### Quelitales Hotel



After breakfast, our bus will take us on a 3-hour drive through the countryside. We'll enjoy lunch en route at a local restaurant.

We reach Quelitales Hotel, a birding hot spot located on the border of Rio Macho National Park with a view of the Irazu Volcano. Here it is possible to see over 70% of Costa Rica's hummingbird species.

Afternoon hikes through our hotel's rainforest trails and gardens. Or visit Doña Ana waterfall.

<https://www.hotelquelitales.com/>



Day 3: Tuesday, April 14

## Tapanti National Park

Early morning bird watching at Quelitales Hotel bird feeders. After breakfast, we will depart to visit the nearby Rio Macho National Park. This massive rainforest preserve encompasses multiple types of forests which provide a home to a myriad of tropical wildlife including tapirs, white-faced capuchin monkeys, kinkajous, ocelots, jaguarundi, rare endemic orchids, and the largest moth on the American continent. Additionally, National Park hosts over 400 species of bird including resplendent quetzels, emerald toucanets, and violaceous trogons.



Day 4: Wed, April 15

## Savegre Lodge



After breakfast, we will take a 2.5-hour drive up the Talamanca Mountains, the tallest mountain range in Costa Rica. Our destination, Savegre Lodge, is a family-owned lodge with its own protected cloud forest preserve located along the bank of the Savegre River. This marvelous location surrounded by cloud forests and orchards offers trails that lead to cascading waterfalls. Here, it's usually possible to see the famous Resplendent Quetzal, an iconic bird idolized by the ancient Mayan culture.

[www.savegre.com](http://www.savegre.com)

Day 5: Thursday, April 16

## Talamanca Mountains



After breakfast, we will board the hotel's Land Rovers and head to an ancient oak forest at the top of the mountain range. From there, we will take a leisurely hike back down to the lodge.

Along the way, we will encounter high-altitude bird species, giant ferns, and other species typical of this region.

We will spend the afternoon at leisure with the option for a walk into town or stay at the lodge and enjoy the hotel amenities which include a great spa, bar, and hot tubs.



### Cristal Ballena Hotel

After breakfast, we depart for the South Pacific coast. Traversing across the Talamanca mountain range and the continental divide.

Lunch upon arrival at Crystal Ballena, our home for the next two days. This 4 star hotel nestled between the Pacific Ocean and rainforest-covered mountains offers breathtaking ocean sunset views.

Afternoon walk on the pristine Playa Ballena beach and visit nearby town of Dominical.

## Day 6: Friday, April 17

### Marino Ballena National Park



## Day 7: Saturday, April 18

### Dominical Beach



Morning outing in search of Watch the Humpback Whales in the Marino Ballena National Park, one of the world's most important refuges for endangered humpback whales.

Multiple populations of humpbacks come from both the northern and southern hemispheres to these tropical waters to mate, give birth, and raise their calves. These "acrobats of the sea," swim slowly and live at the ocean's surface giving us a rare opportunity to witness their beauty. This marine reserve also boasts large populations of bottlenose and spotted dolphins and seabirds in its pristine blue green waters.

Afternoon hike in the hotel's private forest preserve, hosting over 30 acres of jungle trails and tropical gardens.

Dinner at the hotel restaurant enjoying the sea breeze and sunset.

## Day 8: Sunday, April 19

### Bougainvillea Hotel

Breakfast at the Crystal Ballena before departure to San Jose and the Bougainvillea Hotel.

Free afternoon to rest and explore the extravagant gardens, pool, or spa, that make Bougainvillea the perfect setting to end our journey.

Farewell dinner at the hotel's restaurant.



Day 9: Monday, April 20

Transfer to SJO Airport



All adventures must come to an end. After nine days of exploring the magic of this tropical gem, we return home with lifelong memories.

Hasta Luego, Costa Rica!



# ECO-ADVENTURES OF COSTA RICA

## Meet your tour leaders



### Samantha Campbell

Samantha is a naturalist and educator who has worked in the fields of Environmental Education and Wildlife Conservation for 3 decades and is currently the Ecology and Gardening Educator at Lowcountry Montessori School. She has worked with the South Carolina DNR Marine Turtle Conservation and Genetic Research Project for the last 19 years, as well as volunteered with several wildlife protection programs worldwide. She has a passion for plants, animals, travel, and sharing adventures with others outside in nature.



### Annie Boyd

Annie is a lowcountry naturalist specializing in marine biology and environmental education with those that bite (children). She has been an environmental educator since 2017 and has a background in animal rehabilitation, husbandry and education. She works for the Lowcountry Montessori School and Coastal Expeditions Beaufort as an educator. When she isn't waist deep in environmental education, she is engrossed in a book, her hands are covered in clay on a potter's wheel, she's forest bathing on a hike with her dog, or she is out exploring the marsh on a boat with a cast net and binoculars in hand.



### Carlos Chacon

Carlos Chacon, a native Costa Rican, moved to Hilton Head Island, SC about 20 years ago. He has been a naturalist for more than 25 years -- first in his home country leading nature tours in the rainforest and other tropical environments and later on the South Carolina coast and barrier islands. Carlos works part-time as the Natural History Manager for the Coastal Discovery Museum on Hilton Head Island. He regularly organizes and leads groups of U.S. nature enthusiasts through the diverse ecosystems of Costa Rica.



Sign up by emailing Carlos Chacon at [Eco1adventures@gmail.com](mailto:Eco1adventures@gmail.com) and sending an initial commitment \$500 check made to EcoAdventures LLC and mailed to:

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This trip is limited to a maximum of 12 participants.

\$3900: Price per person based on double occupancy

\$750: Single supplement for a private room

\$1000 from the trip will be donated to the LMS Garden Ecology Program

### 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](mailto:Eco1adventures@gmail.com) and sending an initial commitment non-refundable check of \$500 made to Eco-Adventures LLC. Mail your committment check to:

Carlos Chacon | 21 Park Circle. | Bluffton SC 29910