

April 8-16, 2026

Diverse Habitats Costa Rica



This customized small-group nature tour will immerse you in Costa Rica's diverse ecosystems. Explore lush rainforest, get up close to the majestic Arenal Volcano, unwind in natural hot springs, and take a boat ride through the pristine wetlands of the Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge. Hike through the cloud forest, home to the rare Resplendent Quetzal during its nesting season. Join us on this unforgettable adventure through Costa Rica's stunning landscapes, where we'll search for extraordinary plants, sloths, toucans, monkeys, and a variety of other tropical wildlife.



Day 1: Arrive in San Jose

Arrival to Costa Rica. First night at Bougainvillea Hotel.

Day 2: Tocu Tent Camp

Depart to Caño Negro, crossing the Braulio Carrillo National Park

Day 3: Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge

Boat exploration of the Caño Negro wildlife refuge.

Days 4: Arenal Observatory Lodge

Depart to Arenal Volcano. Night hike at the Observatory Lodge Rain Forest.

Day 5: Arenal Volcano

Full-day exploration of the Arenal Observatory Lodge Rain Forest.

Day 6: Arenal Volcano

Cocoa plantation chocolate tour. Afternoon visit to natural hot springs.

Day 7: Hotel Villa Blanca

Hike through the hanging bridges at the Cloud Forest canopy.

Day 8: Cloud Forest

All day exploring the Cloud Forest in search of Resplendent Quetzals

Day 9: Transfer to SJO Airport

Pura Vida Costa Rica.



Day 1: Wed, April 8

Arrival in San Jose



Upon arrival at San José International Airport (SJO), we will be transferred to the Bougainvillea Hotel. Set amidst 10 acres of lush, award-winning botanical gardens, this comfortable haven, located just 30 minutes from the airport, is the perfect place to begin our adventure.

In the evening, we will gather at the hotel's restaurant to review the itinerary and discuss the following day's activities.

www.hb.co.cr

Day 2: Thurs, April 9

Tocu Tent Camp

Our morning drive will take us across the Continental Divide and through the vast rainforest of Braulio Carrillo National Park, which spans 100,000 acres of protected forest. As we descend from the mountains, we'll travel through the Caribbean lowlands of Costa Rica to a boat landing in the town of Los Chiles, near the Nicaraguan border. From here, we'll embark on a 30-minute boat ride to Tocu Tent Camp, located at the edge of the Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge, where we will spend the next two days.

Overnight at Tocu Tent Camp.

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



Day 3: Friday, April 10

Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge



Morning boat tour through the wetlands of the wildlife refuge and along the Caño Negro River.

This sanctuary is renowned for its diverse array of animals and vibrant birdlife.

Open-canopy boats will provide maximum visibility of the surrounding rainforest, offering exceptional observation and photographic opportunities.

After lunch at the lodge, we'll head out for a late afternoon boat excursion into the wildlife refuge.

After breakfast, we will depart for the Arenal Volcano and the Arenal Observatory Lodge, nestled amidst lush gardens at the base of one of Costa Rica's most iconic active volcanoes.

In addition to the breathtaking volcano, the surrounding landscape is home to tropical birds, monkeys, sloths, and other wildlife, making this an unforgettable destination. After dinner, we'll embark on a night hike to the local frog pond in search of red-eye tree frogs and other fascinating creatures.

www.arenalobservatorylodge.com

Day 4: Sat, April 11

Arenal Observatory Lodge



Day 5: Sunday, April 12

Arenal Volcano



Early bird watching will allow us to enjoy our morning coffee near the lodge's bird feeders, which attract a variety of species with tropical fruit. After breakfast, we'll explore the trails and visit a waterfall within the hotel's private reserve.

The Arenal Observatory Lodge is a renowned destination for nature lovers and bird watchers, offering excellent opportunities to see howler monkeys, white-faced capuchin monkeys, spider monkeys, toucans, and other tropical wildlife.

Day 6: Monday, April 13

Arenal Volcano

Early morning bird watching on the lodge's grounds, followed by breakfast.

After breakfast, we depart for La Fortuna town, where we visit a local cocoa plantation to learn about this important plant and the chocolate-making process.

Both chocolate and vanilla come from the tropical rainforest. Can you imagine a world without these flavors?

In the afternoon, we will visit the natural hot springs at Arenal Volcano.



Day 7: Tuesday, April 14

Villa Blanca Hotel



After breakfast, we will depart toward the San Ramón Mountains in the north-central part of Costa Rica, where we will spend two days exploring the tropical cloud forest. This region is home to the famous Resplendent Quetzal. En route, we'll stop at a private wildlife reserve owned by a local family, where we'll explore the cloud forest canopy via hanging bridges.

Lunch will be at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, we'll arrive at Hotel Villa Blanca.

Dinner and overnight at Villa Blanca.

<https://hotelvbcostarica.com/>



Morning hike through a private cloud forest preserve near our lodge. This enchanting cloud forest is the nesting site of the famous Resplendent Quetzal, the Slaty Flowerpiercer, and other rare and magnificent species.

A local naturalist will lead us in the search for Quetzals in their nesting grounds. At this time of year, they are actively breeding.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, we'll hike through Villa Blanca's private Cloud Forest Preserve. Dinner at the lodge's restaurant.

Day 8: Wed, April 15

Villa Blanca Hotel





All adventures must come to an end.

After exploring the magic of this tropical country, we return home with lifelong memories. After breakfast, we will depart from Villa Blanca Hotel for the San José airport, a 90-minute journey. This will allow ample time for you to catch any flight departing at noon or later.

NOTE: Your departure flights must be booked for after 12 p.m. on April 16.

¡Hasta luego, Costa Rica!

Carlos Chacon



Meet Your Expedition Leader

Carlos is Costa Rican and has been passionate about nature since childhood. He studied Tropical Biology at the University of Costa Rica. After graduating, he worked as a naturalist, leading trips for Lindblad Expeditions, National Geographic, The Nature Conservancy and Mountain Sobek Travel.

In 2000, Carlos moved to the U.S. to continue his studies at the University of South Carolina, where he earned a Master's degree in Earth and Environmental Resources Management. He then joined the Coastal Discovery Museum on Hilton Head Island as the museum's Natural History Manager.

In 2018, Carlos launched his own eco-tour company, working alongside his longtime friend and expert birder Ricardo Gómez. Together, they lead small-group trips that immerse participants in the rich biodiversity and vibrant local culture of Costa Rica, creating experiences that are educational, authentic and unforgettable.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ECO-ADVENTURES OF COSTA RICA

The trip is limited to a maximum of 12 participants

\$ 4900 Price per person based on double occupancy \$ 850 single supplement

Prices are per person and include:

Private transportation on microbus with A/C

Transportation by boat as described

Private naturalist guide services

Lodging and meals as described

Activities and entrance fees as described

Not Included:

Round trip airfare to Costa Rica

Personal expenses (medical expenses, souvenirs, etc.)

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:

- \$650 commitment deposit is non-refundable.
- For cancellations received 60 to 45 days before arrival, 50% of the total amount.
- For cancellations received 44 to 30 days before arrival, 25 % of the total amount.
- If the participant cancels 29 days to 1 day before arrival, no refunds are available.



Secure your space on this trip by emailing Carlos Chacon at EcoLadventures@gmail.com and sending an initial non-refundable commitment check of \$700 made to Eco-Adventures LLC.

Mail your commitment check to:

Carlos Chacon | 21 Park Circle. | Bluffton SC 29910