

Tailored Civilized Adventures COSTA RICA

What is a Tailored Civilized Adventure?

Special Celebrations • Personalized Getaways

Travel when you want, for as long as you want, and with whom you choose to. We excel at creating thoughtful itineraries to exciting international destinations, and we can help you design your own Civilized Adventure.

Where do you start? Talk to us! Tell us what you'd like to do on *your* dream trip and let us do the rest. Working together, we can create a completely custom, tailored trip that showcases your special interests.

The cornerstone of any Civilized Adventure is our own passion for exploring the world and experiencing what a country or area is all about. We bring that passion to over 15 years of trip-planning experience. Let us combine our experience with your dreams to result in your very own **trip of a lifetime.**

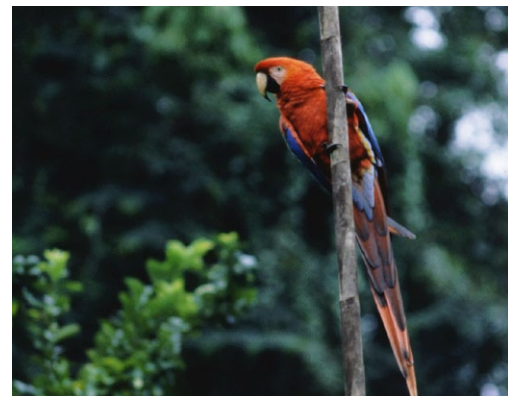
Why COSTA RICA?

A Natural Playground • Different ecosystems • Adventure & Fun

Costa Rica is well known for its tropical beauty, characterized by a rich biodiversity. You can enjoy beaches on both the Caribbean and the Pacific, and in between you can explore cloud forests and rainforests. A wide variety of activities are available, including guided forest

walks, river rafting trips, horseback riding, kayaking and snorkeling.

Our **Sample Itinerary** highlights the "best" of the country and would suit a first-time Costa Rica traveller.



Poison Dart Frog



Manuel Antonio National Park
(and the Parador Hotel, centre right)

Sample Itinerary - COSTA RICA:

Highlights of Costa Rica • Renowned National Parks & Reserves • Certified Guides

Day 1: ARRIVE SAN JOSE. Meet and greet by your guide and transfer to your hotel, a short distance from downtown San Jose.

Days 2 & 3: TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK (2B, 2L, 2D). Drive via the cloud forests of Braulio Carrillo National Park, past banana plantations to the Caribbean. Here, a 2-hour boat trip (25 lb per person luggage restriction) takes you into Tortuguero, Costa Rica's most renowned park. Next day go on a guided jungle boat-tour through the rain-forested waterways of the national park looking for monkeys, sloths, and river otters. Relax in the afternoon. (Optional seasonal night excursion to see nesting turtles; payable locally).

Days 4 & 5: MONTEVERDE (2B). Fly to San Jose, then drive into the mountains to Monteverde, known for its mysterious cloud forest environment. Afternoon at leisure. Next day join a guided walk into Monteverde Reserve in the morning and take the afternoon at leisure. Shop, relax or try an optional activity.

Day 6: ARENAL (B, D). Travel by land and boat to Arenal (~3 hours), an area dominated by the famed Arenal volcano. This afternoon experience the Arenal Hanging Bridges; enjoy the thermal waters at Ecotermales Hidalgo, including dinner.

Days 7 & 8: MANUEL ANTONIO NATIONAL PARK (2B). Fly to Quepos and drive a short distance to your hotel, set on the coastline adjacent to the park. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon by the sea. Start Day 8 with a guided walk in the national park. Your naturalist guide will explain the history and geography of the area. In the afternoon explore the park on your own, return to your hotel, or try an optional activity (river rafting, snorkeling, kayaking, night boat trips, horseback riding, catamaran trip etc., payable locally).

Day 9: SAN JOSE (B). Fly back to San Jose, where you'll be transferred to your hotel for your last night in Costa Rica.

Day 10: HOMEWARD (B). Transfer to the airport for your flights home.

Tailored Civilized Adventures

COSTA RICA



Arenal Springs Resort (3/4 paw)



Arenal Kioro (4/5 paw)

Accommodations:

Hotels are selected for location, ambiance and quality. Rooms at all levels have private bathroom. We invite you to explore the hotel's web sites to see more about each property.

3 paw Level:

San Jose: Bougainvillea Hotel (standard room)
 Tortuguero: Pachira Lodge (standard room)
 Monteverde: Fonda Vela Hotel (standard room)
 Arenal: Arenal Springs Resort (junior suite)
 Manuel Antonio: El Parador Hotel (jungle room)

NEW: 4 paw Level

(same hotels as 5 paw but different room categories)

San Jose: Xandari Resort & Spa (prima villa)
 Tortuguero: Manatus Hotel (standard)
 Monteverde: Monteverde Lodge (standard)
 Arenal: Arenal Kioro Hotel (Jr. suite)
 Manuel Antonio: Arenas del Mar (Superior)

5 paw Level:

San Jose: Xandari Resort & Spa (ultra villa)
 Tortuguero: Manatus Hotel (suite)
 Monteverde: Monteverde Lodge (standard)
 Arenal: Arenal Kioro Hotel (Jr. suite)
 Manuel Antonio: Arenas del Mar (suite)

Sample Itinerary Pricing

2010	ADULT, sharing, per person	3 paw level	4 paw level	5 paw level
	High Season (Jan. 7 - Apr. 30, 2010)	US\$ 2660	US\$ 3470	US\$ 3940
	Low Season (May 1 - Nov. 14, 2010)	US\$ 2630	US\$ 3150	US\$ 3520

Cost is per person, based on a minimum of 2 people travelling together following our sample itinerary. Single rooms are available for a supplement. Your costs may differ depending on departure date, availability, group size and what you include in your final tailored itinerary. Larger parties may benefit from cost savings; please inquire. SAVE 2%: pay by cheque.

More about...

TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK: "Tortuguero" means "turtle catcher". This park is a protected nesting zone for several turtle species including the endangered green turtle. With 35km of Caribbean coastline, the park has 11 ecosystems, from marshes to rainforests, rivalling any other single park in the country. The beach is accessible at night during turtle nesting times, but only with a guide (no cameras or flashlights are allowed). Guided boat trips take you along the canals and channels to spot howler monkeys, sloths, some 300 species of birds, river otters, and caiman, to mention a few. Wettest months: Dec.-Jan./June/July). Driest months: Feb./Mar.-Apr./Sept.; but it rains all year.

Turtle nesting seasons: (eggs hatch about 7-10 weeks after they've been laid).

Green turtles: June-Oct. (highest in Sept.)

Leatherback: mid-Feb.-July (most in Apr./May)

Hawksbills: July

ARENAL NATIONAL PARK protects primary cloud forest and rainforest on the flanks of Arenal volcano. A variety of trails lead through the park, and many have scenic viewpoints. The area around the volcano is characterized by waterfalls, rivers, and thermal hot springs.

MONTEVERDE CLOUD FOREST RESERVE is a private, non-profit reserve. Called a cloud forest because of its elevation (the clouds settle all around you), the canopy is home to tremendous variety of mammal, reptile, insect and bird species (watch for the colourful Resplendent Quetzal during nesting season, Mar.-Apr.). Activities include zip-line rides, exploring the canopy walkways, and even visiting a coffee plantation.

MANUEL ANTONIO NATIONAL PARK overlooks the Pacific Ocean. The protected rainforest falls to the edge of the beaches. Offshore are several small islands and coral reefs. Walk the beaches, snorkel in tidal pools, kayak, or hike in the forest

2010

INCLUSIONS:

- Professional consultation services
- Complete pre-departure information
- Trip Handbook (what you need to know before you go) and a miniguide
- Domestic flights: Tortuguero-San Jose; Arenal-Quepos-San Jose (25lb or 12kg baggage allowance)
- Accommodation on a twin-share basis. Single rooms available for a supplement.
- Meals as listed (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner).
- Private airport meet & greet and transfer to hotel in San Jose and from San Jose Hotel to airport
- Private land transfers in Monteverde to/from activities.
- Shared transfers with tours in Arenal & Manuel Antonio.
- Entrance fees to sites in itinerary.
- One representative activity in each area (boat tour in Tortuguero, guided walk in Monteverde, guided tour of Arenal hanging bridges and swim at hot springs, guided visit of Manuel Antonio).
- Civilized Adventures daypack.

EXCLUSIONS:

- International flights
- Airport departure taxes
- Items of a personal nature (laundry, drinks, etc.)
- Meals, activities or excursions not mentioned
- Optional travel insurance
- Gratuities to local staff (porters, guides, drivers)
- Any increases in cost due to circumstances beyond our control (i.e. airfare or fuel increases/surcharges, fluctuations of currency, park fees, taxes, etc.)
- Special activities, excursions or experiences to match your interests can be added!

Prices quoted are in US\$ as of July 21 '10 and are subject to change.

along any of a series of marked trails. Watch for monkeys, sloths, iguanas and various colourful bird species, including toucans and sea birds like frigate birds.