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TRAVEL THE WORLD

**Early Bird
Price
\$1903.80**

**per person based
on twin-share
Land Only**

VIVA COSTA RICA

University of California - Davis

9 Days | July 8 - 16, 2023

Price increases March 1, 2023. Book now for best rate!

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UCDAVIS

**Cal Aggie Alumni
Association**

2023

VIVA COSTA RICA

9 DAYS

DAY 1 ARRIVE SAN JOSE

Hola San Jose! After meeting up with your fellow Costa Rican explorers this morning we'll get straight on the road, bound for the biodiverse beauty of Sarapiquí.

Sarapiquí

Renowned for its fertile lands and gorgeous scenery, we'll stop off here for our first taste of fresh Costa Rican air - not to mention our first dose of adventure for those keen to get a little wet and wild.

Arenal

How to round off the first day of our adventure? How about catching our first glimpse of one of the most incredible volcanoes in Costa Rica, Arenal. This volcano is near perfectly formed and famed for its hot springs and healing properties (hint hint). Dinner tonight will be a group affair in town, already fully bonded after an action-packed first day. And our accommodation for the night is something special, set within stunning gardens in the shadow of the Arenal Volcano. Take a dip in the pool or watch iguanas bask atop the trees. This is the life.

Stay: Hotel Arenal Montechiari (or similar)

Meal(s): Welcome Reception Dinner

DAY 2 ARENAL

Rappelling through a rainforest canyon will be the perfect wake up call this morning. Not keen? How about taking advantage of the regions geothermal properties with a visit to the hot springs this afternoon? Whichever you decide - adventure, wellness or both, the day is going to be one to remember.

Stay: Hotel Arenal Montechiari (or similar)

Meal(s): Breakfast

DAY 3 ARENAL TO PLAYA TAMARINDO

Leaving Arenal towering behind us this morning we'll move on for a taste of Costa Rican beach life. Playa Tamarindo has the reputation of being Costa Rica's numero uno surf and party destination, and for good reason. This northern beach town boasts tasty waves and golden sands dotted with lounge bars and awesome restaurants. We'll be staying right by the beach so early morning swims are high on the agenda.

Stay: Best Western Vista Villas Tamarindo (or similar)

Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

DAY 4 PLAYA TAMARINDO

The bohemian atmosphere of Playa Tamarindo is utterly infectious, and it won't take long to ease into the pace of life here. Spend the day in the water snorkelling or scuba diving amongst the marine life, or stay above the waves and give surfing a try. This afternoon why not take advantage of our catamaran cruise Add-On, another unique way to experience this beautiful ocean paradise.

Stay: Best Western Vista Villas Tamarindo (or similar)

Meal(s): Breakfast

DAY 5 PLAYA TAMARINDO TO MONTEVERDE

It's goodbye to the beach life for now as we pack up our towels and make for the mountains..

Feel the clean air filling your lungs as we arrive at the misty forests of Monteverde - a sight guaranteed to take your breath away. This leafy wildlife hotspot is home to butterfly gardens, coffee plantations, countless monkey species and passionate locals who work hard to preserve the balance between nature and tourism. We'll also spend some time with our friends at SINAC, helping protect, preserve and regenerate the local forests with a tree planting experience this afternoon. You'll even get to name your tree!

Meal(s): Breakfast

DAY 6 MONTEVERDE

You could spend your morning ziplining a 1km line through the treetops today; and the adventures don't stop there. If you're looking for something a bit more tranquil, take a stroll on the hanging bridges amongst the lush cloud forest offering prime sloth spotting opportunities. The afternoon is dedicated to learning about everyone's favorite caffeinated friend - coffee. One of Costa Rica's most famous exports, we'll learn how the plants are cultivated and the entire process of turning delicious little berries into invigorating coffee beans

Stay: Hotel Montana Monteverde (or similar)

Meal(s): Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7 MONTEVERDE TO JACO

Beachside Jaco is known for its surfing, nightlife and its optimal location as a gateway to Costa Rica's national parks. This afternoon it's time

to check out the town or get right into some relaxing by the pool (or at the bar) whilst contemplating Costa Rican life, soaking up these last few days in paradise.

Stay: Hotel Amapola (or similar)

Meal(s): Breakfast

DAY 8 JACO

Rise and shine! This morning we'll head over to Manuel Antonio, a spectacular national park.

Parque Nacional Manuel Antonio

Manuel Antonio serves up a dizzying mix of ancient rainforest, pristine beaches and dazzling coral reefs. Get your cameras ready and be on the hunt for wildlife as we walk through this hub of mind boggling biodiversity. After a day of exploration this evening we'll arrive back at our hotel for some poolside relaxation.

Stay: Hotel Amapola (or similar)

Meal(s): Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 9 JACO TO SAN JOSE

After a final adventure op in Jaco (kayaking, anyone?) we'll make our way back to San Jose where our trip will come to a close.

San Jose

What an adventure it's been. Swap deets, we'll see each other on the road again soon

Meal(s): Breakfast

YOUR VACATION INCLUDES

- 8 nights of Hotel Accommodation
- 12 included meals: 8 breakfasts, 4 Dinners
- Expert trip manager, driver and local guides

INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

- Hike La Fortuna waterfall
- Experience Monteverde's Cloud Forest
- Day trip to Manuel Antonio National Park
- White Water Rafting in Sarapiquí
- Arenal Hot Springs
- Ziplining in Monteverde Park