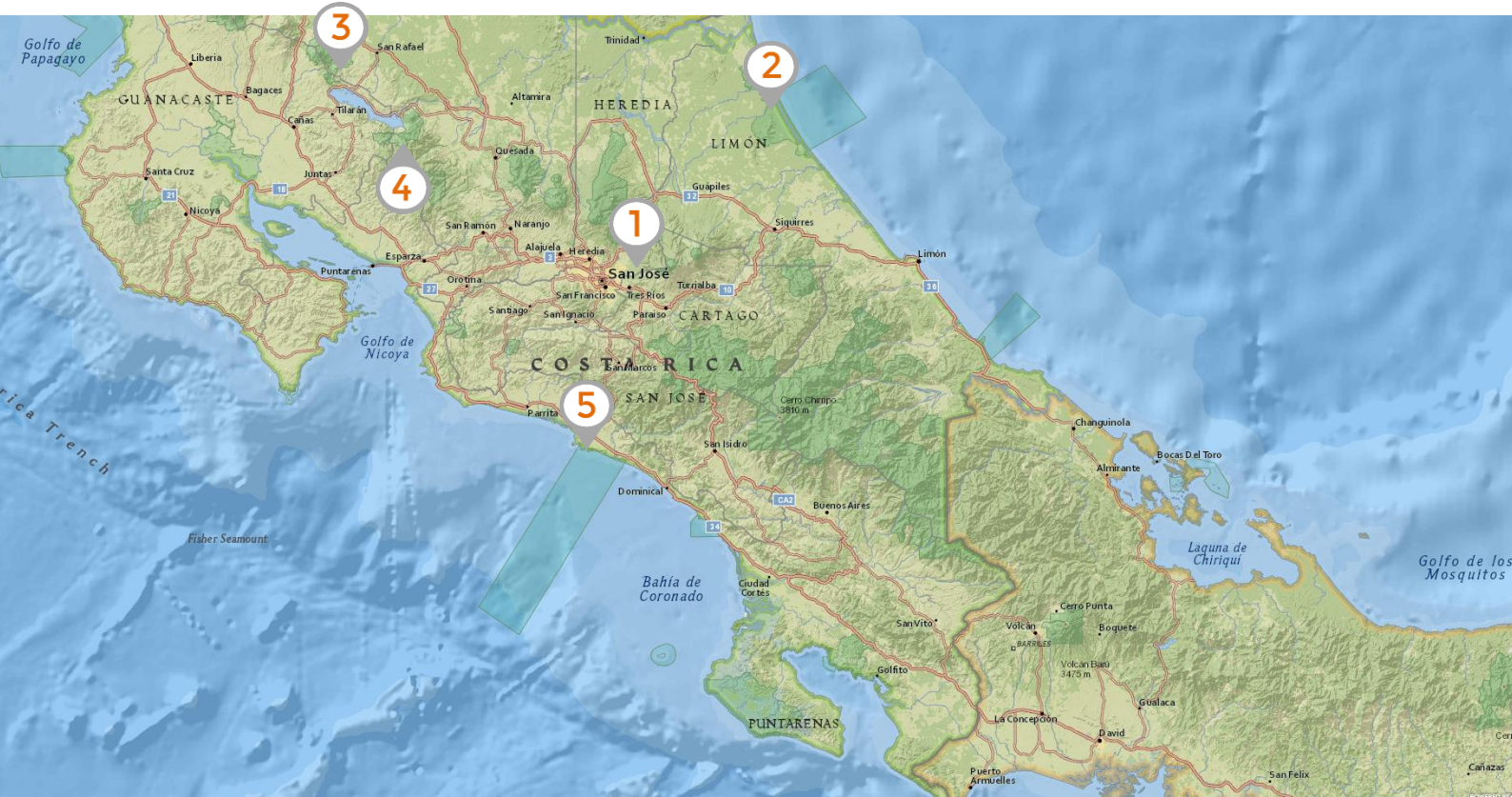


DISTINCTIVE  
AMERICAS



CLASSIC  
**COSTA RICA**

## Itinerary Summary



NO.	DATE	LOCATION	DETAILS	MEALS	HOTEL	NTS
1	Day 01	SAN JOSÉ	Arrive into San José and transfer to your hotel.	-	The Alta	1
2	Day 02	TORTUGUERO	Transfer to Tortuguero and your next hotel	BLD	Evergreen	2
	Day 03		Activities from your Eco Lodge	BLD		
3	Day 04	ARENAL	Transfer to Arenal and your next hotel	B	Lomas del Volcan	3
	Day 05		Volcano hike	B		
	Day 06		Day at leisure	B		
4	Day 07	MONTEVERDE	Transfer to Monteverde	B	Cloud Forest Lodge	2
	Day 08		Canopy tour	B		
5	Day 09	MANUEL ANTONIO	Transfer to Manuel Antonio and your next hotel	B	Parador	4
	Day 10		Day at leisure	B		
	Day 11		Day at leisure	B		
	Day 12		Day at leisure	B		
	Day 13	DEPART	Transfer to San José & meet your BA flight	B	-	-
	Day 14	UK	Arrive back into London Gatwick	-	-	-

## Detailed Itinerary



### Day 01 GATWICK - SAN JOSÉ

Depart Gatwick flying with British Airways.

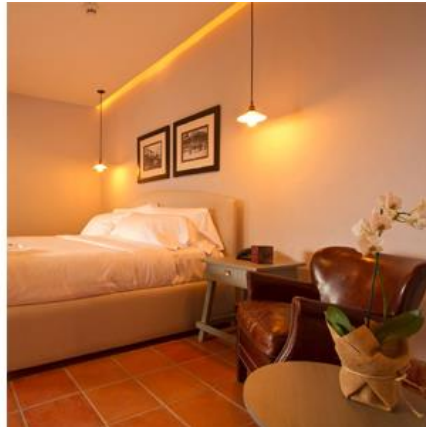


BA2237 Economy Dep: Gatwick 08:20

Arr: San José 14:00

Shared transfer on arrival to your hotel.

### Hotel Alta las Palomas



### 1 x Deluxe Room on a Bed & Breakfast for 1-night

Set in the hills of Alto de las Palomas in the west part of San José, this lovely upscale hotel is just 10km from downtown San José. The Alta las Palomas has 23 rooms & suites which are beautifully styled with 1920's features and are furnished with artisan leather chairs. All rooms and grand suites include balconies with views over the lush tropical gardens. At the La Luz restaurant and bar you will be able to enjoy Mediterranean and Costa Rican specialties. Other facilities include an outdoor pool with whirlpool, a small gym with sauna, a library area and a rooftop terrace.





**Day 02 SAN JOSÉ - TORTUGUERO**

This morning you will have an early collection from your hotel in San José.



**Shared transfer by road and boat to your Tortuguero Lodge**

Your drive this morning will take you through the spectacular Braulio Carrillo National Park, along the way admire the biodiversity and keep an eye out for wildlife. Stop for breakfast en-route where you will be treated to a typical Costa Rican breakfast. On arrival at Caño Blanco Pier you will take a boat through the canals until you reach your Lodge.



**Please Note:**

For the shared transfer to and from Tortuguero there is a max baggage allowance of 12kg per person. However, please be advised that this limit is only a recommendation and it is not strictly enforced and they do not weigh luggage prior to boarding the transfer boats to the lodge. We do advise that you just bring one main bag per person. The weight limits are to encourage passengers not to bring excessive luggage (for example 32kg) as there is only limited space for baggage storage on the transfer boats. If you feel you will have excessive luggage please let us know in advance so we can try to coordinate secure luggage storage in San José for the time you will be in Tortuguero.

This transfer will take approx. 5hrs

**Evergreen Lodge**



**1 x Standard Room with Full Board & Shared Activities for 2-nights**

Enjoying a fantastic location, only five minutes from the entrance to Tortuguero National Park this lovely rustic lodge is removed from the resort style atmosphere some similar properties portray. Its 55 spacious rooms are all nicely decorated, if a little basic, and provide everything you will need for a very comfortable stay. The lodge boasts a nice restaurant, a bar in front of the lagoon and a delightful turtle shaped pool. Other facilities include free WiFi in the reception area, tropical garden, hammocks to enjoy the jungle views and a Spa.

Upon arrival at the lodge you will have refreshing cocktail before having time to settle in. Lunch will then be served ahead of an afternoon excursion.



**CONT ... SAN JOSÉ - TORTUGUERO**



### **Shared excursion to Tortuguero Town and the Green Turtle Information Centre**

Tortuguero is a unique, beautiful village with a rich culture. Because there are no cars, you will walk worry free. Sandy trails and raised cement walkways wander through the town. You'll see a lot of typical Caribbean architecture and artwork, as well as get a glimpse into the lives of the local people. The Green Turtle Information Centre is located at the far north end of the village. Here you will find a small museum where you can learn about the nesting cycle of the turtles and about the other wildlife that calls this National Park their home. The staff are friendly and helpful and will answer any questions you have.



**Day 03 TORTUGUERO**



Enjoy breakfast at the Lodge.

### **Morning walking tour of the park**

During the months of July to September Tortuguero is the primary nesting site for Green Turtles, giant leatherback, hawksbill and loggerhead turtles also nest here. However the turtles are not the only attraction to this stunning National Park, making it well worth a visit no matter what time of year.

### **Afternoon canal excursion**

Today you will get to explore the park's freshwater creeks and lagoons, which will be navigated in small open boats, shelter spectacled caimans and river turtles. The surrounding dense rainforest is also rich with wildlife, from monkeys to many bird species.

Dinner will be served back at the Lodge.





**Day 04 TORTUGUERO - ARENAL**

Breakfast at the Lodge.

Shared boat transfer to Caño Blanco pier where you will meet an onward shuttle transfer to your next destination.



**Please Note:**

This transfer will take approx. 5hrs

**Lomas del Volcan**



**1 x Standard Room on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 3-nights**

Set in stunning lush tropical gardens close to Arenal Volcano National Park, the Lomas del Volcan is perfectly situated from which to explore the local area. The 47 spacious wooden cabins boast terraces overlooking the gardens and each one has coffee making facilities, private bathroom, air-conditioning & free Wi-Fi. The on-site restaurant serves Costa Rican and international dishes. There is a mile and a half of private nature trails which you can explore and a bar for you to relax in after a day of exploration.



**Day 05 ARENAL**



**Shared half day hiking tour of Arenal Volcano**

Although currently in a resting phase, Arenal remains Costa Rica's most active volcano for the past 43 years. Its history is charged with eruptions - both major and minor - that have intimately affected the region and the people who live here. This tour will allow you to enjoy the most extraordinary views of Arenal Volcano during a gentle hike along the lower slopes. The walk begins in one of the trails close to the volcano and continues through the forest until reaching the area destroyed in its first eruption, back in 1968.



**Day 06 ARENAL**



Day at leisure. Lomas del Volcan is strategically located in the heart of Costa Rica's prime eco-tourism area. In all of Costa Rica, La Fortuna is indeed a fortune-atte spot, from which you can explore rainforests, waterfalls, and of course volcanoes, and enjoy easy access to the Caño Negro Wildlife Reserve, Venado Caves, San Juan River and Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. La Fortuna activities include birdwatching, hiking, mountain biking, fishing, sailboarding and river rafting, to name just a few. Alternatively if you wish to relax why not sample the thermal hot springs that the area is world famous for.









**Day 07 ARENAL - MONTEVERDE**



**Boat and road transfer to Monteverde, including a boat excursion on Lake Arenal**

This service, half tour half transfer, is a picturesque and fast way to go to Monteverde from Arenal Volcano area. After a 30 minute ride to the dam, you will board a very comfortable and safe boat.

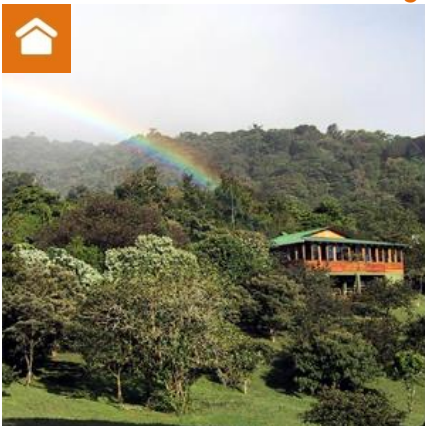
Arenal Lake is the largest and the most important artificial lake in Costa Rica. It was man made in 1974 to provide hydroelectric energy for the country. It is also a place where you can find different kinds of resident and migratory birds; sometimes mammals such as monkeys and sloths can also be seen. In addition, in a clear day, there are great views of the Arenal Volcano. After crossing the lake, (a 30 to 40 minute boat ride), you will arrive to Río Chiquita, a little town at the other side. Once at Río Chiquito, a bus will take you to your hotel in Monteverde.



**Please Note:**

This transfer will take approx. 2hrs

**Monteverde Cloud Forest Lodge**



**1 x Standard Room on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 2-nights**

The Cloud Forest Lodge is located in the beautiful Santa Elena-Monteverde area at an altitude of 5,000ft above sea level. Thanks to its elevation, this area is particularly rich in biodiversity and has lush green forests where more than 180 different species of birds can be observed. This property rests on 70 acres of private reserve with four kilometres of private trails, ideal for hiking or bird watching. Monteverde Cloud Forest Lodge offers 20 rooms in 10 cozy bungalows, located on three acres of parkland and gardens. All rooms have private bathrooms, hot water and a patio where you can appreciate the beauty of your surroundings. The main building holds a bar, a restaurant, a television room and reading area and there is internet access.

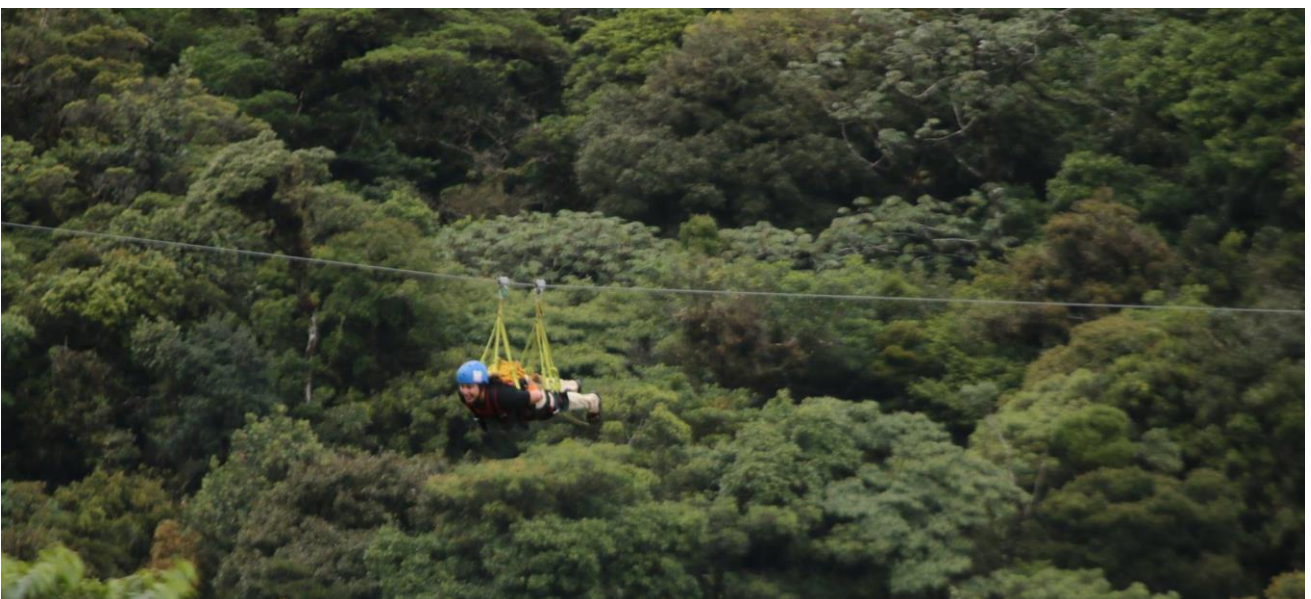


**Day 08 MONTEVERDE**



**Shared full day to Selvatura Park including lunch**

Selvatura Park is a cloud forest conservation project offering a variety of activities and attractions. Visitors can glide along the zip lines through the cloud forest on the canopy tour, including an optional Tarzan swing. Alternatively take the treetop walkways consisting of a 1.9 mile trail and eight different bridges that cruise through the forest. The park also has a butterfly garden hosting more than 50 different species of butterflies and a hummingbird garden, a treat for photography lovers and a spectacular air show for anyone who loves nature. There is also an Education Centre with a large private insect collection, property of world famous entomologist Dr. Richard Whitten and a Reptile and Amphibian Exhibition. The cloud forest history walk teaches visitors about the natural history of Monteverde.







**Day 09 MONTEVERDE - MANUEL ANTONIO**

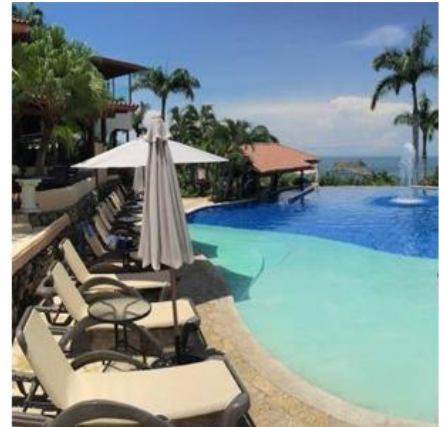
Shuttle transfer to Manuel Antonio.



**Please Note:**

The shared shuttle transfer is in a small air conditioned minivan. The transfer will collect and drop off passengers to / from a small number of hotels. This transfer takes approx. 3hrs.

**Parador Resort & Spa**



**1 x Premium Room on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 4-nights**

Located high above the Central Pacific coastline, this award-winning hotel is built on 12 acres of rainforest in beautiful Manuel Antonio, just minutes from some of Costa Rica's finest beaches. Surrounded by beautiful gardens and astonishing scenery, all 130 rooms and suites have balconies or terraces, with ocean or rainforest views. Facilities at the hotel include two infinity swimming pools with a swim up bar, an adult pool with cascading waterfall, tennis court, fitness centre, mini-golf and computer centre.







**Days 10 - 12    MANUEL ANTONIO**

Days at leisure.

You can also explore the nature trails around the 12 acre premises that take you through the lush gardens and mysterious jungle, where you are almost guaranteed to see some of the abundant wildlife, such as white-faced and titi-monkeys, sloths, iguanas and many bird species. The small beach is great for swimming from.



Manuel Antonio offers the extraordinary scenery and some of the most exotic and beautiful flora and fauna in the hemisphere. The Parador hotel offers a wide range of tours and activities to help you enjoy it all! From sedate nature walks to adrenaline-pumping adventures, their certified professional bilingual guides will ensure you have an unforgettable experience.



**Please Note:**

Manuel Antonio National Park is closed on Mondays.



**Distinctive Recommendation**



**Catamaran Sail Boat Adventure**

Enjoy a relaxing five-hour voyage on a beautiful 85-foot catamaran sailboat through the region's sparkling Pacific waters. The tour gives you a wonderful vantage point from which to view the thick rainforest along coastline and the tiny offshore islands. Dolphins and whales can also be sighted in these waters at varying times throughout the year. You can also snorkel off the side of the boat for an added underwater adventure.

Recommendations are not booked components of your holiday and are bookable & payable locally.



**Day 13** MANUEL ANTONIO

Private transfer to San José airport.



**Please Note:**

This transfer takes approx. 4hrs.

Check in for your return British Airways flight.



BA2236 Economy Dep: San José 18:30

Arr: Gatwick 10:30 (Day 14)



**Day 14** GATWICK

Arrive back into London Gatwick.



# Holiday Cost

**£2,495.00 per person**

20% deposit is usually required to secure this booking

## Suggested Itinerary

- This is just a suggested itinerary which we can amend to fit your exact requirements.

## Includes

- International flights as listed.
- All pre-payable airport departure taxes.
- Hotel accommodation as listed.
- Transfers as listed (on a shared basis unless specified as private).
- Meals as listed.
- Excursions as listed (on a shared basis unless specified as private).

## Excludes

- Local departure taxes where applicable.
  - Tips and gratuities.
  - Any future currency surcharges.
  - Any future airline fare, tax or fuel surcharges.\*
- \*In the event of airfare/tax increases you will have the option to pay for your airfare in advance to avoid these increases.*

## Please Note

- The cost of this itinerary is based on 2 passengers sharing one room.
- All flights, accommodation and services are subject to availability at the time of booking.
- Air fares, taxes, schedules and routings are subject to change until ticket issue.

## Booking Conditions

- Usually a deposit of 20% is required to secure a booking.
- The final balance would be due 10 weeks prior to departure.
- You can review our full booking conditions at: [www.distinctiveamericas.com](http://www.distinctiveamericas.com)

## Financial & Consumer Protection

- When you book with Distinctive World Travel you are safe in the knowledge that we are fully bonded with the Civil Aviation Authority and hold an Air Tour Operators Licence (ATOL 9027).  
[www.caa.co.uk/ATOL9027](http://www.caa.co.uk/ATOL9027)
- We are a member of AITO (Association of Independent Tour Operators) which represents the UK's 140 top specialist tour operators and prides itself on providing the highest level of customer satisfaction by concentrating on: Choice, Quality and Service.  
[www.aito.co.uk](http://www.aito.co.uk)

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