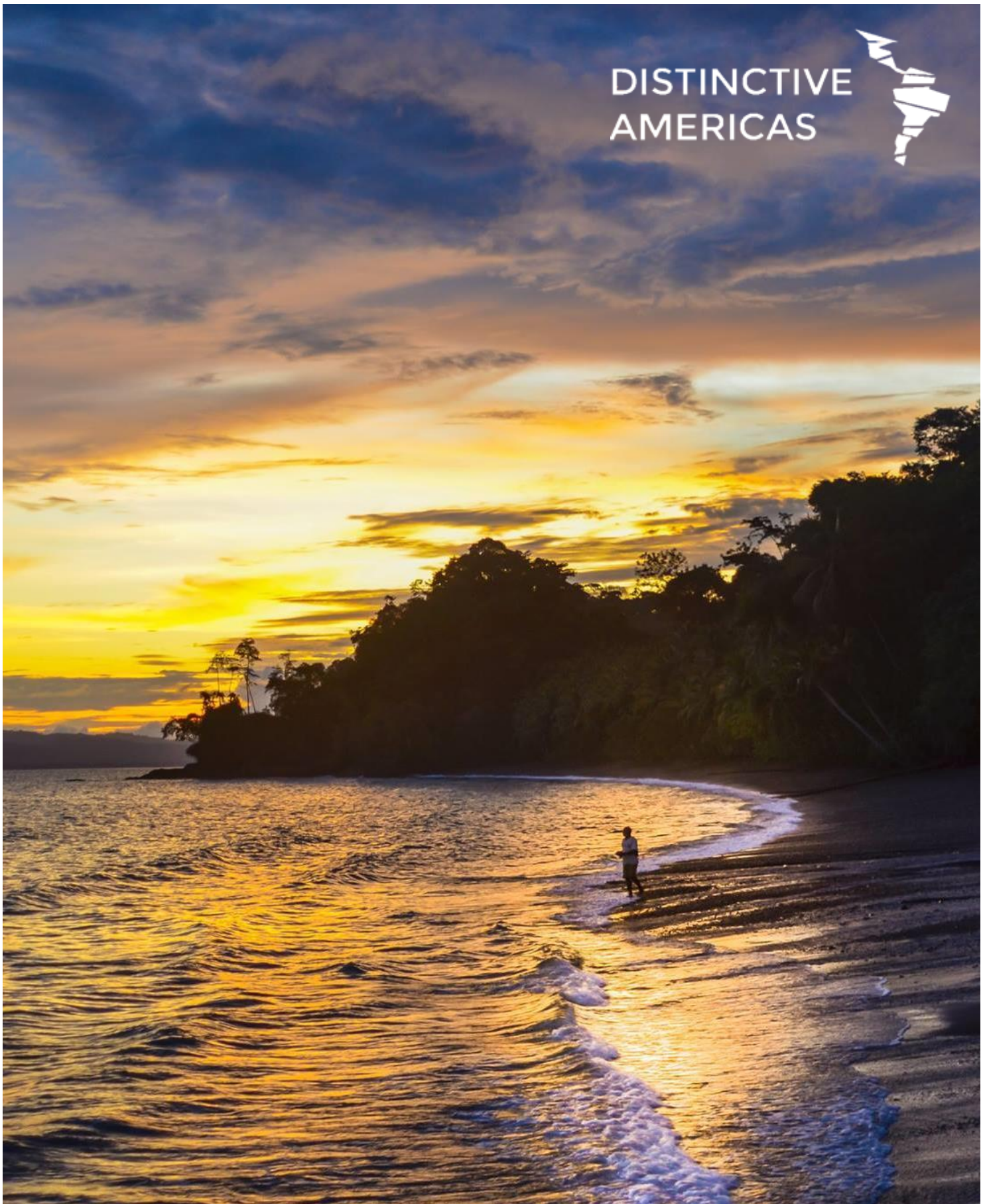


DISTINCTIVE
AMERICAS



FAMILY
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. | - | 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 | Arenal Springs | 4 |
| | Day 05 | | Canopy excursion | B | | |
| | Day 06 | | White water rafting excursion | B | | |
| | Day 07 | | Day at leisure, optional tour available | B | | |
| 4 | Day 08 | MANUEL ANTONIO | Transfer to Manuel Antonio and your next hotel | B | Costa Verde | 4 |
| | Day 09 | | Day at leisure | B | | |
| | Day 10 | | Day at leisure | B | | |
| | Day 11 | | Day at leisure | B | | |
| 5 | Day 12 | GOLFO DULCE | Road & boat transfer to Golfo Dulce | BLD | Nicuesa Lodge | 3 |
| | Day 13 | | Day at leisure | BLD | | |
| | Day 14 | | Day at leisure | BLD | | |
| | Day 15 | DEPART | Transfer to San José & meet your BA flight | B | - | - |
| | Day 16 | 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



2 x Deluxe Rooms 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 takes approx. 5hrs

Evergreen Lodge



2 x Standard Rooms with Full Board & Shared Activities for 3-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

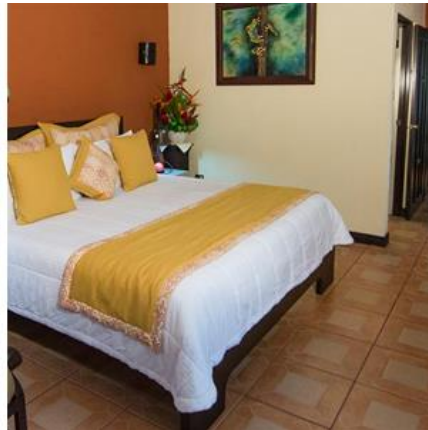
Breakfast at the Lodge.

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



Please Note:
This transfer takes approx. 5hrs

Arenal Springs Resort



2 x Interconnecting Junior Suites on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 4-nights

Enjoying a fantastic location amidst the foothills of Arenal Volcano this tropical resort style hotel and Spa is close to the stunning La Fortuna Waterfall, Arenal Hanging Bridges and Arenal Lake. The bright and airy suites are spacious and feature air conditioning, safe, hairdryer and boast fantastic views of the active side of the volcano. The on-site Spa is where you can book body wraps, hot stones and massage treatments. Other facilities include two hot spring swimming pools, souvenir shops, laundry service and internal shuttle.



Day 05 ARENAL



Shared half day Sky Tram & Sky Trek excursion with zip-wiring

Take an aerial tram through the rain forest to appreciate the Arenal Volcano and the Arenal Lake from a different perspective. The tram takes about 20 minutes to reach the observation platform at the highest point of the Arenal Reserve with opportunities to make intermediate stops. It is a guided tour and includes a 25 minute walk in the rain forest. To descend from the platform, it can be done either on the aerial tram or on the Sky Trek canopy tour. To enjoy the canopy, you will be securely attached to a zip line and slide down cables stretched across platforms over the top of the forest canopy. From this vantage point you will get breathtaking and exhilarating views of the canopy as it rushes beneath your feet. Whilst the tour will certainly get your adrenaline pumping, you will be strapped into a secure safety harness so you will be completely safe throughout the tour. It is possible to do it attached to a guide for added assistance and you can leave the tour at any of the platforms if you find it a little too exhilarating!



Day 06 ARENAL



Shared full day Rio Balsa rafting tour (Class II-III Rapids)

Rafting the Rio Balsa is perfect for families or first-time rafters. Located just 45 minutes from Fortuna, this route is gentle yet has enough challenges to ensure the excursion is exciting and an adventure. Before you begin guides will give you a thorough safety talk and equipment to ensure you are safe on the river. Enjoy the stunning scenery as you pass and keep an eye-out during your excursion for the wildlife around you such as monkeys, sloths and tropical birds including toucans. A local lunch is included.



Day 07 ARENAL

Day at leisure, an optional excursion is available.



Optional Tour: Shared half day horseback excursion to La Fortuna Waterfall
Supplement: £



On this guided trip by horseback to La Fortuna Waterfall you will enjoy a pleasant ride through pastures and rainforest. Be sure to keep your eyes out for toucans, monkeys and other creatures. The ride to the falls takes about an hour. After this, you can hike down to the 200ft La Fortuna Waterfall to enjoy a swim in the fresh (and somewhat chilly!) emerald pool beneath the falls. After your swim and some time at leisure you will return by horseback through a large private farm to complete your ride.



Please Note:
This tour is around 4 hours in duration.





Day 08 ARENAL - MANUEL ANTONIO

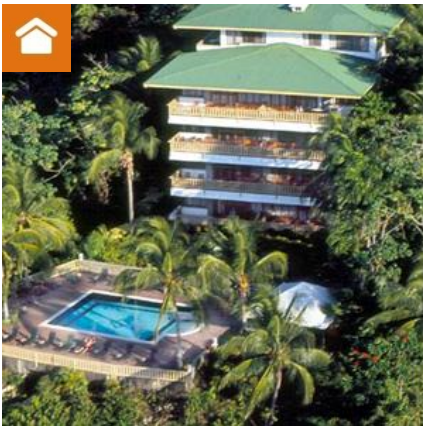
Shuttle transfer to Manuel Antonio.



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. 5hrs.

Costa Verde Hotel



1 x Two Bed House on Bed & Breakfast basis for 4-nights

Hotel Costa Verde is located on a coastal rainforest bluff overlooking the Pacific beaches of Manuel Antonio National Park near Quepos, Costa Rica. Costa Verde's 30 acres of untouched gardens serves as a natural corridor for native wildlife foraging between the national park and the beach. The hotel also has a two mile nature trail where you may be lucky enough to spot white-faced monkeys, iguanas, three-toed sloths and a host of native birds. The Costa Verde Hotel has 70 rooms each with a balcony. The hotel's facilities include three restaurants, four bars and three swimming pools.







Days 09 - 11 MANUEL ANTONIO



There is never a dull moment in Manuel Antonio, let the hotel staff plan an adventure-filled time for your days at leisure. You can customise your itinerary to make sure your tastes and requirements are catered for, including relaxing spa treatments, high-energy outdoor fun or educational tours. Discover the rain forest of this unique National Park and enjoy the beautiful beaches of Manuel Antonio. Numerous guided activities can be arranged locally including fishing, scuba-diving, catamaran cruises, jet-ski tours, white-water rafting, ocean kayaking, mangrove tours and visits to the nearby Manuel Antonio National Park. The park's main habitats are primary & secondary forest, mangrove swamps, marshes, lagoons & woodland. To date, 350 species of plants, 109 mammal species and 184 species of birds have been identified in the park.



Please Note:
Manuel Antonio National Park is closed on Mondays.



Distinctive Recommendation



Sea Kayaking

Kayak the protected mangrove waterways of the Isla Damas Estuary with a guide to show you all the wildlife... or challenge yourself to a more rugged workout on the coastline between Quepos and Manuel Antonio, with some waves and surf.

Recommendations are not booked components of your holiday and are bookable & payable locally. This activity is \$69 pp and includes lunch



Day 12 MANUEL ANTONIO - GOLFO DULCE

Shuttle transfer to Puerto Jimenez



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.

Shared transfer on arrival by road and boat to Nicuesa Rainforest.

Playa Nicuesa Rainforest Lodge

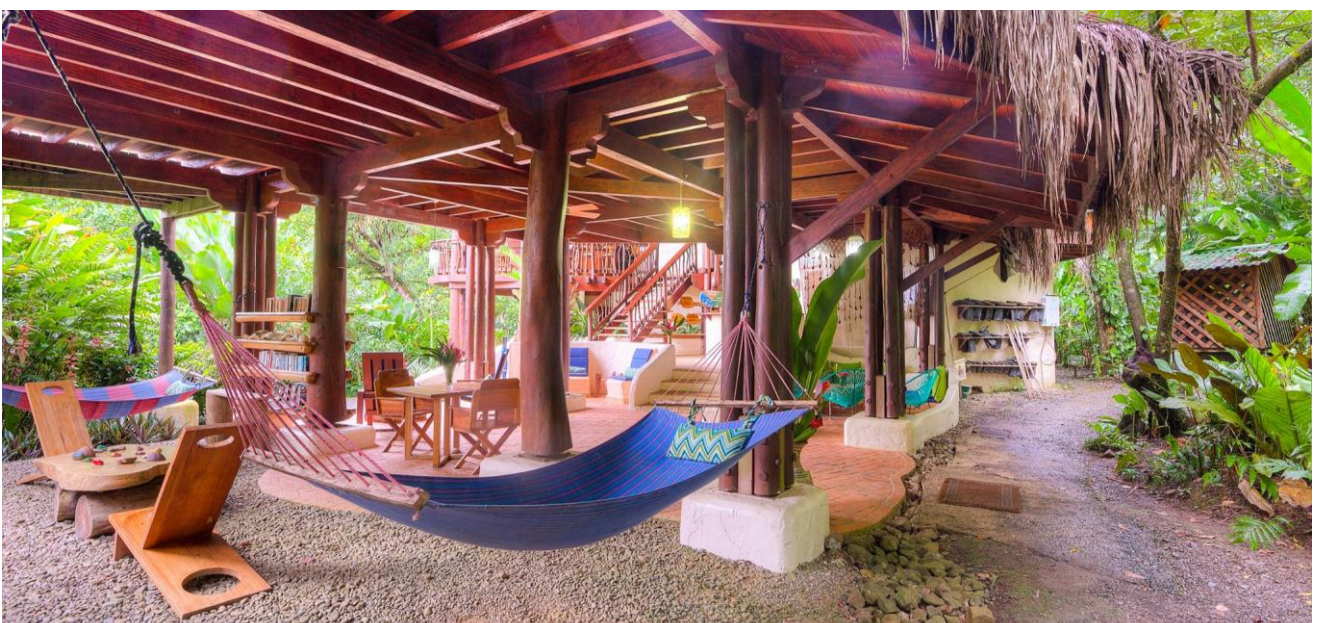


1 x Private Two-Bed Cabin with Full Board & Shared Activities for 3-nights

Located in the Golfo Dulce on the Osa Peninsula, considered to be the largest remaining Pacific Coast rainforest in Central America. The lodge offers adventure, a beautiful location and spectacular rainforest. It was designed and built to blend in with the natural surroundings and have minimal environmental impact. Only reachable by boat, the lodge is located in a 165 acre private reserve with a number of trails running through it and neighbours the 14,000 hectare Piedra Blancas National Park. The main lodge is built into the forest canopy with a terrace bar offering fantastic view across forest towards the sea. There are five private cabins each with private terraces, en-suite bathrooms with hot water and open garden shower. The three daily meals have an emphasis on local cuisine, fresh fish, tropical fruits and vegetables. What also makes Playa Nicuesa Rainforest Lodge so unique and private is that access is by water only. The best way to get there is to fly to either Puerto Jimenez or Golfito; both locations are similar distance from the lodge.



Please Note:
Your stay includes full board, self-guided hikes, snorkelling and fishing equipment.







Days 13 - 14 GOLFO DULCE

Guided activities from your lodge or time to relax on the Pacific Coastline.



The lodge offers kayaking, fishing, snorkelling, hiking, wildlife-viewing, yoga and horseback riding. There is also a free daily sustainability tour that visits the recycling and composting area, the reforestation centre, the solar drying room and describes the construction measures taken when building the lodge.



Day 15 GOLFO DULCE - PUERTO JIMENEZ

Shared transfer by road and boat to airport.



5C-141 Economy Dep: Puerto Jimenez 12:10 Arr: San José 12:50



Please Note:

The checked luggage limit on Sansa flights is 18kg with maximum dimensions of 114cm (length + width + height). The carry-on limit is 4.5kg with maximum dimensions of 50cm (length + height + width). Any carry-on luggage exceeding the maximum weight and/or size will be considered and charged as excess luggage.

Private transfer on arrival to the international terminal to meet your return flight with British Airways.



BA2236 Economy Dep: San José 18:30 Arr: Gatwick 10:30 (Day 14)



Day 14 GATWICK

Arrive back into London Gatwick.

Holiday Cost

£2,395.00 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

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www.aito.co.uk

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