

# DISTINCTIVE 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	TURRIALBA	Transfer to Turrialba	BLD	Pacuare	2
	Day 03		Activities from your Lodge	BLD		
3	Day 04	<b>BAJOS DEL TORO</b>	Transfer to Bajos del Toro and your next hotel	В	Bosque de Paz	2
	Day 05		Day a leisure, optional tours available	В		
4	Day 06	ARENAL	Transfer to Arenal and your next hotel	В	Observatory Lodge	3
	Day 07		Day at leisure, optional tours available	В		
	Day 08		Day at leisure, optional tours available	В		
5	Day 09	MANUEL ANTONIO	Transfer to Manuel Antonio	В	Parador	3
	Day 10		Day at leisure, optional tours available	В		
	Day 11		Day at leisure, optional tours available	В		
6	Day 12	CORCOVADO	Transfer to Corcovado and your Lodge	BLD	El Remanso	3
	Day 13		Day at leisure, optional tours available	BLD		
	Day 14		Day at leisure, optional tours available	BLD		
	Day 15	DEPART	Flight to San José & meet your BA flight	В	-	-
	Day 16	UK	Arrive back into London Gatwick	-	-	-
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# **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 - TURRIALBA

Transfer by road to the banks of the Pacuare River, en-route you'll stop to enjoy an authentic Costa Rican breakfast.

Upon arrival at the river expert guides will give you a safety brief and provide you with the necessary rafting gear before the rafting adventure begins. The rafting to Pacuare Lodge takes just over an hour and a half, the river passes through scenic canyons where crystal clear waterfalls plummet down into the rapidly coursing river below. Tall trees and dense green vegetation come right down to the water's edge. The thick undergrowth of this protected area provides shelter for a variety tropical animals and birds, including some endangered species. On arrival to the Lodge, disembark from your raft and walk up the gently rising steps to the main lodge.



#### Please Note:

Due to health and safety reasons, children 12 and under cannot participate in the rafting transfer; they must travel to the lodge by 4x4 vehicle and gondola.

Also

For the transfers to Pacuare Lodge there is a baggage limit of 25lb (around 12kg) per person. Excess luggage can be stored safely at the Lodge's office in San Jose free of charge. We will provide a suggested packing list for your time at the lodge. The rafting is optional and needs to be booked in advance,

#### Pacuare Jungle Lodge







#### 1 x Standard Room on a Full Board basis for 2-nights

Tucked away deep in the heart of Costa Rica's most pristine rainforest environment, on the banks of the Pacuare River, you will find the Pacuare Jungle Lodge. The Lodge has 19 bungalows and a main lodge, designed to blend in with the surrounding environment. Overlooking the Pacuare River, the palm-thatched, two-story Main Lodge boasts solid teak floors and is candle lit by night. On the ground floor, there is an open-air restaurant with chefs preparing delicious gourmet dishes. Freshly brewed coffee and an assortment of organic teas are available throughout the day and evening. Upstairs, there is a spacious, yet cosy open-air lounge and bar with sitting areas and hammocks and amazing views of the river and surrounding lush rainforest. A collection of beautiful bungalows topped with palm-thatched roofs are dotted throughout the reserve. Illuminated by candles and lanterns, rooms offer a romantic glow at dusk and feature a canopied king size bed, sustainable wood furnishings, a private terrace and alfresco shower. The Honeymoon Suite offers is set high above the forest canopy with access to a hanging bridge connected to a private tree top platform overlooking the rainforest. This plush suite also features an indoor and outdoor shower, private deck and terrace with hammock and a spring-fed infinity pool.

After lunch participate an optional canopy tour (arranged locally) or waterfall hike, or simply relax in your private bungalow or suite. After a candlelight dinner visit the upstairs lounge for a cocktail or refreshment before retiring to your room for a restful night's sleep.







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#### Day 03 TURRIABLA



You'll wake up to bird song and the soothing sound of the river nearby. Then head over to the main lodge for a delicious breakfast of home-made bread, tropical fruits, yogurt, eggs, pancakes, cereal and juice and coffee. The lodge employs a resident naturalist guide who will provide you with unique insights into the plant and animal world. Choose from exciting optional tours that include guided hikes through an emerald rainforest, the Cabecar Indian tour, where visitors may participate in a cultural exchange with a shaman, and an Adventure Canopy Tour where you will glide amid a tropical rainforest canopy.







## Day 04 TURRIABLA - BAJOS DEL TORO



After a healthy and substantial breakfast around 08:00, your return journey by raft is arguable even more thrilling as you take a mixture of class III and class IV rapids. You will raft until around midday when you can then enjoy a tasty lunch on an overturned raft along the water's edge. On disembarkation there are private facilities to change into dry clothes before transferring by road on to Bajos del Toro.

#### Bosque de Paz







#### 1 x Standard Room on a Full Board basis for 2-nights

Bosque de Paz Lodge is located close to the town Zarcero and has just 12 rooms surrounded by forest and a hummingbird and butterfly garden. The rooms are full of character with exclusive ironworks and Costa Rican pottery. Each one has two double beds and private bathroom. Wide balconies offer beautiful views over the forest. The lodge is fantastic place to be amongst nature with outstanding birdwatching.



#### **Please Note:**

Your stay includes entrance to the private reserve and use of the trails.







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#### Day 05 BAJOS DEL TORO



The Bosque de Paz Biological Reserve, is a natural biological corridor, located in the continental divide, between Poas Volcano national Park and the Juan Castro Blanco Water National Park. The reserve is a lush jungle paradise, surrounded by magnificent cloud and rain forests.

At the lodge you will discover great natural beauty, abundance of crystal waters and the richness of some extraordinary forests. The staff of the lodge will be on hand to organise a range of activities and excursions so you can make the most of your time at leisure. Orchid tours are possible in the Dr. Stephen Kirby Orchid Garden. There a number of trails into forest that vary from one to seven and a half kilometres in length. It is also possible to arrange visits to Poas Volcano, La Selva Biological Station, Carara National Park, Caño Negro Wildlife Sanctuary and Arenal Volcano locally.







## Day 06 BAJOS DEL TORO - ARENAL

Private transfer to Arenal.

#### Arenal Observatory Lodge & Spa







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

This lovely Lodge is located within the Arenal Volcano National Park within its own 352 hectare farm. The 48 classically decorated guestrooms are spacious and boast a furnished terrace with stunning views over the garden and Arenal Volcano. At the on-site restaurant you can enjoy both local and international dishes. Facilities also include a Spa, bird sanctuary, almost seven miles of hiking trails, a swimming pool and games room.







#### Days 07 -08 ARENAL



The Arenal Observatory Lodge & Spa 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-ate 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 Preserve. La Fortuna activities include birdwatching, hiking, mountain biking, fishing, sailboarding and river rafting, to name just a few. Alternatively if you wish to relax during you time at leisure why not take advantage of the Lodge's Spa or the thermal hot springs that the area is world famous for.



#### **Distinctive Recommendation**



#### Horse riding waterfall excursion

This fun tour is a combination of horseback riding and hiking in the beautiful scenery by Arenal Volcano on the way to the La Fortuna Waterfall. Sturdy Costa Rican horses will take you through pastures, forest and hills to the entrance of the waterfall. The stunning La Fortuna Waterfall plunges more than 65 meters (213 feet) through dense rainforest into a mist-shrouded pool. At the waterfall, you will leave the horses and hike down a steep trail to the base of the waterfall. The pool right beneath the falls is too rough for swimming, but there are several perfect swimming pools a little bit downstream.

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







#### Day 09 ARENAL - MANUEL ANTONIO

Shuttle transfer to Manuel Antonio and your next hotel.



#### **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. The transfer takes approx. 5hrs

#### Parador Resort & Spa







#### 1 x Tropical Room on a Bed & Breakfast basis for 3-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 & suits 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. 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.







#### Days 10 - 11 MANUEL ANTONIO

Days at leisure.





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. 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.



#### 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 12 MANUEL ANTONIO - PUERTO JIMENEZ - CORCOVADO

Private transfer to Puerto Jimenez.



**Please Note:** 

This transfer takes approx. 3.5hrs

Once in Puerto Jimenez you will be collected by a 4WD vehicle for the transfer to El Remanso.



**Please Note:** 

This transfer takes approx. 45mins

#### El Remanso







#### 1 x Standard Room on a Full Board basis for 3-nights

Hidden in the jungle of the Osa Peninsula, 22km from Puerto Jimenez, this beautiful and comfortable Lodge has a wonderful location offering great wildlife viewing opportunities. Where else could you have an early morning breakfast on a birding platform, only accessible by a zip line! The property has just 12 cabins, built on a steep hill that runs down to the coast and each room is simple but very comfortable and spacious. It has 185 acres of private reserve offering unique possibilities to discover the magic of a tropical rainforest.



Days 13 - 14 CORCOVADO





A wide variety of activities can be enjoyed at El Remanso: thrilling waterfall rappelling, early-morning bird watching, guided interpretative hiking, surfing, kayaking, tree climbing or have a delicious breakfast, while sitting 125 feet up in the canopy tree platform. Guests may also choose to simply relax on the wooden deck of the cabin while watching monkeys swing through the surrounding trees. El Remanso was designed with strict ecological policies in mind and has been a pioneer in sustainable practices in the Osa Peninsula since its creation. In addition, the hotel has close ties with the community and provides work for more than 25 local staff all year around. El Remanso is a place to experience life and create memories. With its lush forest, wildlife diversity and breathtaking views, it is the ideal place for unplugging from every day mundane distractions to start enjoying the beauty of simple life!









#### Day 15 CORCOVADO - PUERTO JIMENEZ - SAN JOSÉ - OVERNIGHT FLIGHT

This morning you will be driven in 4WD vehicles to Puerto Jimenez where you will meet a Nature Air flight to San José.



NA-111 Economy Dep: Puerto Jimenez 07:15 Arr: San José 07:55



#### **Please Note:**

The checked luggage limit on Nature Air flights is 18kg with maximum dimensions of 127cm (length + width + height). The carry-on limit is 4.5kg with maximum dimensions of 84cm (length + height + width). Any carry-on luggage exceeding the maximum weight and/or size will be considered and charged as excess luggage.

On arrival you will be transferred to the International terminal to meet your return flight with British Airways.



BA2236 Economy Dep: San José 15:45 Arr: Gatwick 07:45 (Day 16)



Day 16 GATWICK

Arrive back into the UK.



# Holiday Cost

# £3,985.00 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

#### **Financial & Consumer Protection**

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