

COSTA RICA COAST TO COAST



ATENAS & THE CENTRAL VALLEY (1 night)

Arrive in the central valley of Costa Rica, home to 80% of the country's population and surrounded by mountains. This area boasts fantastic vistas and a perfect climate. You will spend your first night in a comfortable country setting and have a chance to get acquainted with your guides.

SEA TURTLE PROJECT (2 nights)

The turtle projects are located on the Caribbean coast. On the way, visit a butterfly farm and an elementary school.

At the turtle project, the real work begins at night. Patrol the beach at night in search of nesting sea turtles and hatchlings. It's tough work, but worth the effort. You may also conduct population studies, tag turtles, transplant eggs to a protected area or release hatchlings into the ocean. Be aware that sea turtles are an endangered species and their nesting is not "scheduled." Therefore, there's no guarantee that you will see a turtle during your stay.

During the day, explore the local canals for wildlife, hike in the surrounding rain forest or engage in an impromptu game of volleyball or soccer. Have a chance to participate in volunteer activities such as building a hatchery or cleaning the beach of debris to make it easier for sea turtles to nest or return to the ocean.



PITAL FARM VISITS & REFORESTATION PROJECT (1 night)

The drive to Pital takes you from the Caribbean coast to the northern lowlands. On the way, stop for lunch and white water rafting on the Class II and III rapids of the Sarapiquí River. Several small communities around the town of Pital are involved in a project to improve the environment through reforestation and education. During your time here, participate in this reforestation effort and learn firsthand about rural Costa Rican life as you spend the night with a local family.

ARENAL VOLCANO (2 nights)

Stay in Fortuna at the base of the spectacular Arenal Volcano. Fly through the air on a canopy tour and visit an organic farm full of surprises.

GUANACASTE (2 nights)

The Rincon de la Vieja area, "Costa Rica's Yellowstone Park," is located in the northeastern part of Costa Rica and is one of the largest and last remaining tropical dry forests. It's surrounded by dense forest and is home to a plethora of wildlife and insect species—a fascinating place to explore. Hike the trails in the national park, see local wildlife and relax on a nearby beach.

ATENAS & THE CENTRAL VALLEY (1 night)

End the trip right back where you started—in the Central Valley. This is the night to celebrate your accomplishments and reflect on your experiences.



COSTA RICA COAST TO COAST: Trip Outline

The price includes:

Naturalist guide(s)
 Private in-country transportation
 Accommodations (price is based on triple and quads)
 Meals as outlined
 Activities, Entrance fees, and related tips
 Purified water available on the bus
 Post-departure travel insurance

The price does NOT include:

Optional cancellation insurance coverage
 Expenses of a personal nature
 Tip for guide and driver
 (recommended \$10/day for guide and driver to split)

AREA	DAY	SAMPLE LODGING & MEALS	MAJOR ACTIVITIES
Atenas	Day 1	Francisco's Lodge Meals included: none	Arrive Costa Rica Transfer to lodge
Turtle Project	Day 2	Station Dorms Meals included: BLD	Transfer to turtle project School visit enroute Butterfly farm visit enroute Night turtle patrols
Turtle Project	Day 3	Station Dorms Meals included: BLD	Volunteer work Wildlife Viewing Boat Ride Night turtle patrols
Pital	Day 4	Homestays Meals included: BLD	Transfer to Pital Rafting or Float Trip enroute Activities with Families
Arenal	Day 5	Don Juan's Cabins Meals included: BLD	Reforestation Transfer to Arenal
Arenal	Day 6	Don Juan's Cabins Meals included: BLD	EcoGlide Ziplines Don Juan's Organic Farm
Guanacaste	Day 7	Hacienda Guachipelin Meals included: BLD	Transfer to Guanacaste Kayaking enroute
Guanacaste	Day 8	Hacienda Guachipelin Meals included: BLD	Hike in the National Park Natural Hotsprings
Atenas	Day 9	Francisco's Lodge Meals included: BLD	Morning on the beach/picnic Transfer to Atenas
Depart for home	Day 10	Meals included: B	Travel home

COSTA RICA COAST TO COAST: Trip Information

AVAILABLE DATES: This trip is available March through mid-July (Nesting season is March through the end of June; hatching season is mid May through the end of August)

GROUP SIZE:

Minimum group size is 10 participants (including group leaders)

Maximum group size is 24 participants (including group leaders)

We may be able to accommodate larger or smaller groups— please contact us for more information.

PROGRAM FEE:

The price includes:

- Bilingual Naturalist Guide
- Accommodations (based on triples and quads)
- Private in-country transportation
- Meals as stated in the itinerary
- Purified water available on the bus
- Activity & entrance fees, and associated tips
- Post departure travel insurance

The price does NOT include:

- Tips to your EcoTeach guides and driver (recommended \$10/day for guide and driver to split)
- Cancellation insurance
- Expenses of a personal nature both prior to departure as well as during the trip

TRIP LEADER COSTS:

One trip leader travels free (including air) with 10 full paying participants.

Trip leader cost (including air) will be pro-rated if the total number of full paying participants is not a multiple of 10.

FAMILY MEMBER DISCOUNT:

For groups with 10+ full paying participants, a trip leader may bring along a family member at a discount of \$500 off the trip price. For groups with 20+ full paying participants, trip leaders may bring along two family members each at a discount of \$500 off the trip price.

Discounted family members do not count as full paying participants in calculating trip leader costs.

FLIGHTS:

EcoTeach will automatically arrange flights for your group. However, you are welcome to work with your own travel agent or directly with the airline group desk. Just let us know if you would like to make your own group travel arrangements.

For groups booking flights through EcoTeach, a \$25 per ticket service fee will be assessed. Occasionally, EcoTeach will purchase several blocks of tickets for a group at different prices and charge the averaged amount to the participants. Also, please be aware that taxes and fees (fuel surcharges, security costs, etc.) imposed by the airlines and/or the US Government are subject to change until the tickets are purchased approximately two months prior to your departure date. Such changes are outside of EcoTeach's control.