

# **Costa Rica**

# **Luxury Costa Rica Vacation**

San José - Arenal - Río Celeste - Monteverde

# **BEST SEASON**

# PRICE

# **HOW LONG**

All year

From US \$3,070 pp excluding local flights 7 Days / 6 Nights



# ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Embark on an unforgettable 7-day Costa Rican luxury adventure, designed for discerning travelers seeking a blend of nature, relaxation, and adrenaline-filled activities. Begin in San José and journey through the lush rainforests of Arenal, where the majestic volcano and La Fortuna waterfall await. Stay in boutique luxury hotels like Amor Arenal and Río Celeste Hideaway, where you'll enjoy private rainforest bungalows, plunge pools, and gourmet dining. Explore the enchanting Río Celeste, hike the vibrant cloud forests of Monteverde, and experience thrilling zip lines and suspension bridges. Your journey ends with tranquil moments in Monteverde's cloud forest, ensuring your Costa Rican escape is filled with breathtaking landscapes, wildlife, and unforgettable experiences. Perfect for families and couples alike, this tailored itinerary combines luxury, adventure, and the pure magic of Costa Rica. This experience highlights Costa Rica's best-kept secrets, offering sustainable tourism in harmony with nature.

# **Quick Summary**

Day &	Transportation, Highlights and	Meals
Location	Accommodations	
Day 1	Arrival, transfer to Arenal	
San Jose to	OV: Amor Arenal	
Arenal		
Day 2	Arenal Volcano & La Fortuna Waterfall	BL
Arenal	OV: Amor Arenal	
Day 3	Río Celeste Night hike	В
Rio Celeste	OV: Rio Celeste Hideaway	
Day 4	Tenorio Volcano National Park and Rio Celeste Waterfall	BL
Rio Celeste	OV: Rio Celeste Hideaway	
Day 5	Typical Trapiche tour	В
Monteverde	OV: Monteverde Lodge and Gardens	
Day 6	Sky Adventures: Tram, Zip Lines & Hanging Bridges	BL
Monteverde	e OV: Monteverde Lodge and Gardens	
Day 7	Departure transfer to the Airport	В
Departure		

B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner OV: Overnight

# **ITINERARY IN DETAIL**



# Day 1 | San José to Arenal

Upon arrival at Juan Santamaría International Airport, a Green Planet Expeditions (GPE) representative will welcome you and accompany you directly to the majestic Arenal region. Skip the stops and enjoy the drive through lush countryside and charming villages as you make your way to Amor Arenal, a luxury eco-lodge perched on the volcano's slopes. Once there, take time to relax and recover from your flight in your rainforest bungalow with

a private plunge pool. Enjoy a farm-to-table dinner and settle into the rhythm of the jungle. Overnight at Amor Arenal



### Day 2 | Exploring Arenal Volcano & La Fortuna Waterfall

Today, embark on a guided exploration of the Arenal Volcano area. A scenic hike through regenerating forest trails leads you along ancient lava flows, offering panoramic views of Arenal Volcano and Lake Arenal. Your expert naturalist guide will share fascinating stories about the region's volcanic activity, flora, and fauna—making this a rich and educational experience. After the hike, you'll visit the stunning La Fortuna

Waterfall, where crystal-clear waters plunge 70 meters into a lush tropical pool. Descend the 530 steps to the base of the falls for a swim or simply enjoy the majestic scenery surrounded by rainforest and towering cliffs. Following your adventure, enjoy a delicious Costa Rican lunch at a local restaurant before heading back to Amor Arenal. Spend the afternoon at leisure—perhaps soaking in your private plunge pool or indulging in a spa treatment. Overnight at Amor Arenal



#### Day 3 | Arenal to Río Celeste

After a nourishing breakfast, your luxury Costa Rica vacation continues as you travel north toward the enchanting Río Celeste. This scenic 1.5-hour journey winds through rolling hills, rural villages, and stretches of untouched rainforest. Upon arrival at Río Celeste Hideaway Hotel, you'll check into your elegant private casita, set within 80 acres of exotic rainforest. From your room, enjoy views of lush tropical gardens, and unwind with the sounds of nature surrounding you.

Spend the afternoon exploring the grounds or relaxing in the hotel's free-form pool with a cocktail in hand from the swim-up bar. The serene atmosphere invites you to slow down and connect with the natural beauty that defines this region. In the evening, treat yourself to gourmet fusion cuisine at Kantala Restaurant, where dishes like fresh tricolor ceviche and mushroom lasagna delight every palate. As darkness falls, embark on a guided night hike through the jungle. Equipped with headlamps and the expertise of your naturalist guide, discover a hidden world teeming with life—nocturnal animals such as armadillos, frogs, porcupines, and vibrant insects await. This immersive experience offers a unique window into the rainforest's nighttime magic. Overnight at Río Celeste Hideaway



### Day 4 | Hike to the Enchanting Río Celeste

After a delightful breakfast, embark on a guided hike through Tenorio Volcano National Park, home to the famous Río Celeste. Legend has it that after painting the sky, God washed his brushes in this river, giving it its brilliant blue hue. The hike takes you through 4 miles of rainforest, where you'll encounter exotic wildlife, such as monkeys, sloths, and colorful birds. The highlight of the day is your arrival at the Catarata Río

Celeste, a mesmerizing blue waterfall set against a backdrop of lush greenery. Your guide will explain the unique chemical reaction that causes the river's striking color. You'll also visit

bubbling hot springs and volcanic fumaroles, before returning to the comfort of the hideaway. Overnight at Río Celeste Hideaway Hotel.



#### Day 5 | Cloud Forest Journey to Monteverde

Travel through Tilarán and into the misty mountains of Monteverde, where lush greenery and cloud-kissed treetops welcome you. Check into Monteverde Lodge & Gardens, a refined eco-lodge known for its peaceful gardens, gourmet cuisine, and exceptional views of the forest. This afternoon, immerse yourself in one of Monteverde's most enriching cultural experiences with the Typical Trapiche Tour, hosted by a welcoming

local Costa Rican family. This hands-on experience offers insight into the traditional processes behind three essential products of Costa Rican culture: sugar cane, coffee, and chocolate. Walk through plantations, observe the cultivation and harvesting techniques, and learn about the different types of mills—manual, water wheel, and even oxen-powered. You'll also enjoy tastings of each product and finish the tour with a traditional Costa Rican "tapa" and a delicious beverage made on-site. This authentic and educational experience adds a rich local perspective to your luxury Costa Rica vacation. Overnight at Monteverde Lodge & Gardens.



#### Day 6 | Sky Adventures: Tram, Zip Lines & Hanging Bridges

Wake up to the misty magic of Monteverde and prepare for one of the most exhilarating days of your luxury Costa Rica vacation. This morning, head to Sky Adventures Monteverde Park for a high-altitude immersion into nature and adrenaline. Begin with the Sky Tram, an open-air gondola that glides smoothly through the treetops, offering spectacular views of the cloud forest below. At the top, step onto the Sky

Walk, a series of hanging bridges and nature trails suspended through the canopy. With your expert naturalist guide, discover orchids, birds, epiphytes, and the fascinating ecology of this unique habitat. Then, harness up for the Sky Trek zip lines, soaring over the canopy for a thrilling bird's-eye view of the forest. With each platform-to-platform flight, you'll feel the adrenaline and wonder that makes Monteverde so unforgettable. After the adventure, enjoy a relaxing lunch in a scenic setting. The rest of the afternoon is yours to unwind—perhaps indulge in a spa treatment, take a dip in the lodge's heated pool, or explore the peaceful gardens at your leisure.

### Day 7 | Departure



Savor your final morning in the Monteverde cloud forest with a peaceful breakfast surrounded by birdsong and mist-covered treetops. Then, your private driver will escort you to Juan Santamaría International Airport for your flight home. As you journey back, take a moment to reflect on the vibrant wildlife, breathtaking landscapes, and immersive cultural encounters that defined your luxury Costa Rica vacation. You'll leave not just with memories, but with a renewed sense of wonder and connection to

nature.

**Important note:** To facilitate a seamless connection with your local flight, it is crucial that your international flight departs no earlier than 11:00 a.m. If your international flight is scheduled to depart earlier, we recommend planning an overnight stay in San Jose city on day 7 and departing at your convenience on day 8 to ensure a hassle-free continuation of your journey

#### Pricing

2025	Per Adult Sharing double occupancy
Price per person based on 2 travelers	\$3,070

This is a preliminary costing; hotels may vary according to availability at time of booking.

#### Included

- All guided tours and excursions
- Land transfers
- Meals as indicated [B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner]
- Green Planet Expeditions travel consultation and pre-departure services
- All entrance fees to the sites mentioned in the above itinerary
- Hotel accommodation as mentioned in the itinerary
- Permanent assistance during the trip
- Green Planet Expeditions travel consultation and pre-departure services

#### Not included

- International and domestic airfares
- Tips and gratuities
- Airport departure taxes
- Drinks, alcoholic beverages, and meals other than listed above.
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- Mandatory Travel Insurance: To ensure a smooth travel experience, all participants are required to have a comprehensive travel insurance policy. This policy should include trip cancellation, medical services, and coverage for active adventures or evacuations.

"Cancel For Any Reason" (CFAR) coverage is highly recommended to protect your investment in case of unforeseen circumstances.

• Any other items not mentioned above.

# ACCOMMODATIONS



#### Hotel Amor Arenal

Amor Arenal Hotel, a boutique eco-lodge tucked at the edge of the lush rainforest near Arenal Volcano, offers an intimate and immersive experience in nature. Each elegant rainforest cabin features private hot spring plunge pools, spacious balconies with forest views, and modern comforts such as air conditioning, high-speed Wi-Fi, and luxurious linens. Guests can delight in farmto-table gourmet cuisine while gazing at panoramic volcano vistas, or relax with wellness offerings like guided hikes, yoga sessions, and indulgent spa

treatments. With its eco-conscious philosophy and prime location just minutes from La Fortuna's top attractions, Amor Arenal strikes the perfect balance between five-star comfort and adventurous spirit—making it a must-stay highlight of any luxury Costa Rica vacation.



#### Hotel Rio Celeste Hideaway

Nestled in the lush rainforest near the iconic Río Celeste River in Tenorio Volcano National Park, Río Celeste Hideaway Hotel offers an unforgettable luxury retreat. Each spacious casita features a private balcony, outdoor shower, and upscale amenities that blend comfort with the raw beauty of the surrounding jungle. Thoughtfully designed to connect guests with nature, these private villas offer seclusion and serenity just steps from the turquoise waters of Río Celeste. Indulge in gourmet dining at the hotel's open-air restaurant, where local flavors meet international flair, or sip

handcrafted cocktails by the scenic free-form pool. For those seeking nature-based wellness and adventure, the hotel provides direct access to hiking trails and offers guided tours to the mesmerizing Río Celeste waterfall and beyond. With a commitment to sustainability, personalized service, and immersive rainforest experiences, Río Celeste Hideaway perfectly complements your luxury Costa Rica vacation by balancing comfort, authenticity, and ecological awareness.



#### Monteverde Lodge and Gardens

Monteverde Lodge & Gardens, nestled in Costa Rica's lush cloud forest, offers a refined retreat surrounded by nature's serenity. These elegant eco-lodge features thoughtfully designed rooms with large picture windows, inviting the misty greenery indoors for a calming connection to the forest. Guests can stroll through the lodge's beautifully landscaped gardens, unwind by the heated outdoor pool, or enjoy peaceful moments in the butterfly garden and cozy, fire-warmed

lounge. The on-site restaurant serves fresh, locally sourced cuisine that highlights Costa Rica's

culinary richness. Ideal for travelers seeking a luxurious yet nature-immersed experience, Monteverde Lodge provides direct access to cloud forest reserves and private trails—making it a perfect home base for discovery and relaxation during your luxury Costa Rica vacation.

# **Booking your Green Planet Expedition**

### How to reserve a trip

To secure your spot on a trip, you can conveniently book online using our <u>Reserve a Trip form</u> or by calling **1-800-430-9498**. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of the reservation form and the initial 50% trip deposit.

Please note that we are unable to hold space until the deposit is received. If the requested space is unavailable, we will promptly provide alternative options for your consideration (if an upgrade is necessary, higher rates may apply).

# Pre departure service

Upon receipt of your deposit and completed reservation form, we will email you a comprehensive Predeparture Dossier. This contains important information to help you prepare including immunizations, visas, trip insurance, packing checklist, reading list, maps, cross-cultural information, optional trip extensions, and more. You will receive a final trip email including Final Reminders and local contact information in your destination 2-3 weeks before departure.

# **Terms and Conditions**

Green Planet Expeditions has arranged your trip utilizing the travel services of local in-country ground operators who are independent contractors. These local outfitters, lodges, hotels, and other suppliers of your travel services will make every effort to conduct this trip as described in the itinerary; however, it is possible that due to transportation schedule changes, weather, delays, and unforeseeable acts of God, humans or nature, this itinerary may vary from what is described. Participants must assume all risks whether identified in advance or unforeseen. All optional activities are at your own risk. Extra costs due to unexpected changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control are not included.

Caring for our planet is integral to our ethos. In alignment with our commitment to sustainability, a carbon emissions mitigation fee is incorporated into all our trips. This fee contributes to environmental initiatives that offset the carbon footprint associated with our journeys, ensuring a positive impact on the destinations we explore. Your safety and peace of mind during the journey is our top priorities. The purchase of traveler's insurance is mandatory for all participants, and it must cover trip delays, trip cancellations, baggage, accident, or sickness. In some specific cases like Antarctica, it must cover evacuation.

All information and services provided are subject to our Terms and Conditions.

At Green Planet Expeditions, we craft strategically curated journeys that immerse travelers in the finest of nature, culture, and local traditions, always seeking out opportunities for exceptional dining experiences. Our expertise lies in tailor-made trips to destinations where we maintain close relationships with local partners, ensuring flawless execution with the assistance of passionate guides deeply connected to their heritage and committed to its preservation.

We believe that tourism, when harnessed thoughtfully, becomes a powerful catalyst for conservation and community upliftment in the destinations we visit.

# As with any good recipe, our trips are infused with the following flavors:

- Positive impact on the areas you choose to visit, directly or indirectly.
- Amazing private local guides.
- Lovely small boutique hotels according to your budget.
- Good food, no matter how remote the destination is, we strive to offer good cuisine.
- Our trips frequently include surprises, which often turn out to be the highlight of the journey.
- When open to it, visits to less-known destinations, reserved for the daring few, and engages in intimate and meaningful encounters with locals—a cherished treasure highly valued by discerning travelers, as we have discovered through our years of experience in the industry.

# Still haven't found what you're looking for?

We offer a wide range of amazing trips that may not all be listed on our website. Plus, we can custom-build pretty much whatever your heart desires, so let us know what we can do for you. If you have any questions about our expedition cruises, private trips, or just want to talk travel, give us a call at + 1 800- 430 9498 or contact us via email at travel@greenplanetexpeditions.com