



COSTA RICA FAMILY TOUR

 **fly & drive**

17 days / 16 nights

EUROLATINO Tour Operators invites you and your whole family to come to Costa Rica and enjoy the nature and wildlife of one of the most biodiverse countries on Earth. Here you will get the chance to (hopefully) see many different types of animals, plants, and insects in their natural habitat. We have planned a trip that takes you to some of Costa Rica's most unique regions, each with its own characteristics, weather, wildlife and people.

This trip was specially put together for the enjoyment of kids in mind. There are many opportunities to personally see animals, as well as tours and activities that will certainly entertain your children. The hotels were chosen because of their family-friendly service and facilities. We have detailed why the chosen regions of Costa Rica for this tour offer fun and leisure for travelling families.

Costa Ricans (or Ticos as they're commonly referred to) are known for their positive attitude and friendly ways, which can be summarized in their favourite expression: Pura Vida. Costa Rica has been denominated as the happiest country on planet Earth many times by many studies. This way of living translates into good service, some might even say the best customer service culture of Central America and the Caribbean. This tour is designed for families with 2 adults and 1 - 2 children, or for 3 adults travelling with 1 child. There is a maximum of 4 people per room. So don't hesitate to bring your whole family, we promise a good time for the young and the young at heart!

DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN COSTA RICA

After your arrival at the international airport of San José, Costa Rica, you will be welcomed by our English-speaking airport guide at the exit of the airport. He/she will hand you over your travel documents, afterwards seat-in transfer to your city hotel. Overnight at Hotel Presidente***(*)

DAY 2 SAN JOSE - TORTUGUERO

Breakfast at the hotel. Early in the morning, a comfortable bus and an English speaking local guide from the Tortuguero lodge will pick you up at your city hotel. Through the Braulio Carrillo National Park, you drive into the Caribbean lowlands. A typical breakfast will be served in Guápiles after an approximately 1-hour drive. At the Rio Danta Restaurant, you can walk along the river that runs through the property. A further 1.5-hour transfer takes you to the peer of La Pavona where you go on board of a boat. After your arrival at the lodge, a delicious lunch will be served. In the afternoon, you will visit the colourful village of Tortuguero. After your return, the whole family can explore the wildlife on the trails, or you can enjoy some time with your kids in the turtle-shaped pool. Overnight at the Mawamba Lodge***. Please note that for the excursion to Tortuguero, your luggage is limited to 12 kg per person. Extra luggage can be stored at the Rio Danta Restaurant in Guápiles and picked up after the Tortuguero trip. **(B) (L) (D)**

DAY 3 TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK

Breakfast at the hotel. Tortuguero National Park covers more than 26'500 hectares of rainforest and coastline. It can be reached only by boat via an extended river and canal system, or by plane. A third of all endangered animal species in Costa Rica have claimed Tortuguero as their home. Over 300 bird, 30 frog and toad, 28 snake, and 6 sea turtle species can be found in this humid part of the country. The driest months in Tortuguero are February, March, and September; however, even then it's a good idea not to leave your raincoat behind. During two boat tours in the canals of the Tortuguero National Park, you have the opportunity to spot quite a variety of different bird and animal species. In the months from July to September (during the nesting season of the sea turtles), you can take your whole family on an adventurous turtle tour, where you can watch the turtles lay their eggs in the protected beach of the national park. A one-of-a-kind sight! Overnight at the Mawamba Lodge***. **(B) (L) (D)**

**PRICE PER PERSON
EN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**

EUR 2.753.-

**DISCOUNT MAY/NOVEMBER
EUR 110.-**

Special rates for Easter

SURPLUS SINGLE ROOM EUR 1.062.-

PRICE KIDS 4-11 YEARS USD 757.-

PRICE KIDS 1-3 YEARS USD 412.-

2023

**DEPARTURES ON REQUEST
APRIL THROUGH NOVEMBER**

Upon request, you can choose any other day of the week to start the program. Please send us an E-mail or call us to check your dates for availability. Thus, the order of the excursions /tours can vary depending on it. And if you have a group, we will be very happy to send you a special offer with bus or rental cars.

INCLUDED SERVICES

- ✓ 16 nights in San Jose, Tortuguero, Limón, Sarapiquí, La Fortune, Monteverde, Potrero, and Poas
- ✓ 16 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 2 dinners
- ✓ Transfer In on seat-in basis
- ✓ Transfer Out between 5 am and 11 pm
- ✓ Rental car with basic insurance as follows:
 - ✓ * 1 -2 pax: Compact 2WD (Volkswagen T-Cross 2WD AT or similar)
 - ✓ * 3 pax: Mid Size 4WD (Suzuki Vitara or similar)
 - ✓ * 4 pax: Standard 4WD (Suzuki Grand Vitara or similar)
- ✓ - The following ARA Xperiences:
 - ✓ * San José: Walk at the Rhythm of our capital
 - ✓ * Turrialba: Experience the taste of a coffee village
 - ✓ * Puerto Viejo de Limón: Cook Caribbean Style 24 h. support via Whatsapp

NOT INCLUDED

- ❖ International flight
- ❖ Departure tax in Costa Rica USD 29)
- ❖ Further services for the rental car (insurances except for basic insurance, GPS, Drive Relaxed Package, fuel, highway tolls etc.)
- ❖ Parking fees at the hotels and visits
- ❖ Additional tours
- ❖ Personal expenses
- ❖ Tip for drivers, guides and porters
- ❖ Meals not mentioned in the program





DAY 4 TORTUGUERO – GUAPIULES – PUERTO VIEJO DE LIMON (Total Driving: 4,5 km)

After breakfast at the lodge, a boat will take you back to La Pavona, where your bus is already waiting for you. In the restaurant in Guápiles, you will have lunch. Afterwards, you will pick up your rental car. You need a credit card (Visa, Mastercard or American Express) and your valid national driving licence to do so. Then you drive to Puerto Viejo de Limón. Since the Tortuguero package includes lunch in Guápiles, we encourage you to skip any stops on the way. Puerto Viejo de Limón is located on one of Costa Rica's most popular beaches, full of wonderful people and nature, and offers lots of activities. Hotel Caribblue has the Children Friendly Seal of Approval, since its bungalows can accommodate any size of family, plus they pride themselves in offering a nature lover's atmosphere. They have their own pool with a kids section, as well as a surf school. The beach is right across the street (eyes open while crossing!) Accommodation at the Hotel Caribblue***. **(B) (L)**

DAY 5 PUERTO VIEJO DE LIMON Cooking together with a local family

Today you meet an Afro-Caribbean family that has spent its life in this region and therefore knows it as the back of their hand. The meeting takes place in the home of the family, where you cook together with the hostess (the family mother). You will meet other family members, they will show you how to prepare a typical Caribbean dish, you will learn about family life, many stories that will give insight into the culture will be shared with you and old Caribbean grandmother's cooking recipes will be revealed. From the beginning, you will be involved in the preparation of the dish, completely relaxed, among friends and friendly conversations. The hostess helps you with the preparation and shows you what is important. Gradually, you work through the recipe in order to fully enjoy the Caribbean cuisine later on. The chefs speak English and Spanish, which is why you do not need a local guide. In a relaxed get-together, you can enjoy the jointly prepared meal with the family. Definitely an unforgettable and authentic experience. Accommodation at the Hotel Caribblue***. **(B) (L)**

DAY 6 PUERTO VIEJO DE LIMON

Breakfast at the hotel. A hundred meters across the street you will find Cocles beach. However, we also recommend driving south, where you will find quiet and solitary white sand beaches you will definitely love. Here you can also explore the Gandoca Manzanillo Reserve. Accommodation at the Hotel Caribblue***. **(B)**

DAY 7 PUERTO VIEJO DE LIMON – PUERTO VIEJO DE SARAPIQUI (Total Driving: 3,5 – 4 hours)

Breakfast at the hotel. Today, you'll say goodbye to the Caribbean coast and drive to the adventurous and nature-blessed village of Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí. Leaving Puerto Viejo de Limón after lunch would be a good idea. This gorgeous land around Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí with its wide choice of activities attracts adventure-seeking tourists and nature enthusiasts. White-water rafting is one of the most popular activities in the region. However, the region is also a very important destination for ecotourism with several protected areas nearby, such as Braulio Carrillo National Park, Tirimbina Reserve, and La Selva Biological Station. This region is also famous for its banana, cocoa, and coffee plantations. La Quinta de Sarapiquí will open their doors to you after a day of travel. This hotel has ornamental flower gardens, trails, a butterfly garden, a frog sanctuary, and an insect gallery. Just perfect for the whole family to enjoy. If you want to make a stop to buy something to eat/drink and/or use the restroom, the town of Guápiles offers many options. Accommodation at the Hotel La Quinta de Sarapiquí ***. **(B)**

DAY 8 PUERTO VIEJO DE SARAPIQUI – ANT TOUR – FINCA SURÁ ORGANIC FARM TOUR (Total Driving: about 20 Min.)

A day full of adventure awaits you! After breakfast, you will participate in La Quinta's Ant Colony Tour, where they aim to show you the fascinating organization of a leafcutter ant colony and explain the mutual relationship between the fungus and the ants. Later, the Gómez Family will welcome you at their Finca Surá, where you will go on an Organic Farm Tour. After enjoying a fresh fruit drink, Don Rodolfo will proudly guide you to his citrus



and manioc plants, the sugarcane and the pineapple plantations. Many other kinds of plants, producing fruits in different seasons of the year, are growing here, you can even get to know the pepper and cinnamon shrubs. Everything is cultivated in the most natural way possible, in order to protect the animals living inside the property, such as colourful butterflies and frogs. You will also have the chance to plant some pineapple seedlings before enjoying a typical lunch. Accommodation at the Hotel La Quinta de Sarapiquí***. **(B) (L)**

DAY 9 PUERTO VIEJO DE SARAPIQUI Chocolate Tour at La Tirimbina – **LA FORTUNA** (Total Driving: about 3,5 – 4 hours)

Breakfast at the hotel. Experience the traditional process of making chocolate during this interesting tour! Cocoa, the legendary fruit from Central America, was not only an ancient currency with a huge impact on history but also one of the most important products for the Mayan, Aztec, and other Central American cultures. The tour begins with a short walk to a former cocoa plantation, located in a part of Tirimbina forest. In former times, cacao was grown here in the traditional way, the cocoa trees grew in the forest, surrounded by other species of trees. On the way, you receive fascinating information on the natural and cultural history of the cocoa tree. Once arrived, you are shown the artisanal process which transforms the cocoa fruit into chocolate while learning about pre- and post-colonial chocolate. Of course, you will also have the opportunity to taste different kinds of chocolate prepared on the spot in the traditional way!

Then you will continue to La Fortuna at the majestic Arenal Volcano. If you want to make a memorable stop on your way, you should look for the Centro Turístico Las Iguanas. Here you can order food and spend some time with the iguanas. Quite a sight on your way to your today's destination, La Fortuna. At Hotel Arenal Paraíso, a family-friendly hotel with trails and a pool for young and old, you will be expected with open arms. The hotel is located in the middle of huge garden grounds and has a direct view of the nearly perfect cone of the Arenal Volcano. In a short time, you reach other interesting points like thermal springs, the Lake Arenal, lovely waterfalls, and much more. Accommodation at the Arenal Paraiso Resort Spa & Thermo Mineral Hotsprings*** **(B)**

DAY 10 LA FORTUNA Play with local children

Breakfast at the hotel. The adventure starts at 9:30 am. By visiting a local school, you will learn all about the Costa Rican education system in a rural community. Communicate with the children, ask questions about the school, their life in the community, etc. Feel free to enter a classroom, take a seat and enjoy while observing the teaching. The native students will be happy to meet you. You're very welcome! After that, you have learned how the local children are taught and how they learn, it is time to play now. You are invited to participate in traditional games, such as skipping, various ball games or guesswork. At 10:45 am, you say goodbye to your new friends. You make your way to the native forest, where you learn more about the local community and their commitment to the environment. You engage in their tree reforestation project positively by planting trees. Afterwards, you will visit a local family and learn how to prepare sugar cane juice and help to feed various farm animals such as chickens, rabbits, goats and sheep. After a snack, you will say goodbye to the Costa Rican family. Accommodation at the Arenal Paraiso Resort Spa & Thermo Mineral Hotsprings*** **(B)**

DAY 11 LA FORTUNA – MONTEVERDE (Total Driving: about 3,5 – 4 hours)

Breakfast at the hotel. Today you will leave La Fortuna for another of Costa Rica's most beautiful places: Monteverde. In the course of time, many small and rustic hotels, restaurants and bars, mostly run by the inhabitants themselves, have sprung up here. While in the beginning, the Monteverde Reserve was more or less the only major tourist attraction in the area, several interesting ways of experiencing the fascinating natural variety have been developed in the last years. With a bit of luck, you may even catch a glimpse of the mystic Quetzal, once worshipped by the Mayans. A butterfly garden, a snake museum, and various other attractions are a good option for the kids. Accommodation at the Monteverde Country Lodge*** **(B)**





DAY 12 MONTEVERDE

Breakfast at the hotel. Guests of the lodge will love its tranquil ambience and gardens. You will certainly enjoy using this hotel as a base for exploring the cloud forest, as well as observing and learning about the mega diversity of wildlife. Thanks to the lodge's location, you can reach any of the region's attractions within five to ten minutes walking distance. Look for bare-necked umbrella-birds, three-toed sloths, white-faced monkeys and more. Trips to the butterfly and orchid gardens can be arranged, as well as horseback tours and zip-lining. Accommodation at the Monteverde Country Lodge*** (B)

DAY 13 MONTEVERDE – POTRERO (Total Driving: about 3,5 hours)

Breakfast at the hotel. On of your longest drives will take you to Potrero, one of Costa Rica's most beautiful beaches. If you would like to make a stop, the city of Liberia offers you many amenities. The wide and quiet bay of Potrero Beach is located about 20 km north from Tamarindo. The long and sandy beach is ideal for walks and to observe the beautiful sunsets. In and around the small fishing village of Potrero, you find the most important things like restaurants, supermarkets, pharmacies, and banks. There are several interesting points for scuba diving, among them Las Catalinas islands, where with a little bit of luck eagle rays, manta rays, different kinds of sharks and much more may be observed. Depending on the season, even humpback whales have been spotted in the area. Fishing and horseback riding are other excursions offered on the spot.

Accommodation at the Hotel Bahía del Sol***(*) (B)

DAY 14 POTRERO

Breakfast at the hotel. Great views of the Pacific Ocean and romantic sunsets are part of what you can expect from a stay here. The hotel's great location directly on the beach is perfect to spend the whole day with the kids. Accommodation at the Hotel Bahía del Sol***(*) (B)

DAY 15 POTRERO

Breakfast at the hotel. A day at leisure: Spend a relaxing day at the beach, swim in the ocean, go fishing... In other words, enjoy life, you're at the beach! Accommodation at the Hotel Bahía del Sol***(*) (B)

DAY 16 POTRERO – ALAJUELA - POAS (Total Driving: about 4,5 hours)

Breakfast at the hotel. Today, you'll go for your last drive, long but also very scenic. You will pass three of Costa Rica's provinces: Guanacaste, Puntarenas and Alajuela. But fear not, you will be able to rest in a pampering and nice hotel: Hotel Buena Vista in Alajuela. On the way there, at the restaurant "Mi Finca" in Limonal you have the chance to observe some of the large, beautiful Ara Macaw parrots, don't miss it. Buena Vista Hotel is a two-storey, colonial-style building at an altitude of 1'276 meters above sea level and, therefore, enjoys nearly perfect weather conditions all year round. The peaceful place is the only one in the area that has a 360-degree panoramic view and allows you to gaze at the Poás, Barva, and Irazú Volcanoes, as well as the Central Valley, coffee plantations and the city of San José. At this family-oriented hotel with trails, a kids park, and a pool, you also return your rental car. Accommodation at the Hotel Buena Vista***(*) (B)

DAY 17 POAS – JUAN SANTAMARIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

On your last day, depending on your departure time, you will enjoy a tropical breakfast at the hotel. Later, a shuttle bus will take you to Juan Santamaría International Airport, where your Costa Rican adventure will come to an end. If your flight was scheduled in the afternoon, you could pay an optional visit to Poás National Park in the morning. End of our services. (B)

(B) Breakfast (L) Lunch (D) Dinner