

# fly & drive

# **COSTA RICA ACTIVE** 15 days / 14 nights **Comfort hotels**

The adventure in the tropical paradise of Costa Rica is off to a start! Explore the local flora and fauna over suspension bridges, while abseiling, on horseback, on foot and, if you like, equipped with a snorkel. Refresh yourself like never before as you white-water raft over rapids, surrounded by a gorgeous rainforest panorama. And last but not least, the stately silhouette of the nearly perfect cone of the Arenal Volcano that stretches towards the sky. Adventure and activities await on your dream trip to Costa Rica, which you'll be talking about long after you head back home.

# DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN COSTA RICA - SAN JOSE

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 Buena Vista in San Jose \*\*\*(\*)

#### SAN JOSE Pick up Rental Car – RINCON DE LA VIEJA (Total Driving: 230 km) DAY 2

After breakfast, the rental car will be handed over to you at the hotel. You will need a credit card (Visa, Mastercard or American Express) and a valid driving license from your home country. After the formalities, the drive begins through scenic regions of Costa Rica. You will drive north on the famous Panamericana. Near Cañas, you have the option of visiting the Las Pumas Animal Rescue Center. Among other things, you can see big cats native to Costa Rica such as pumas, ocelots and the jaguar here. Continue via Liberia. About 5 km north of Liberia, towards the Nicaraguan border, a road branches off to the right in the direction of Rincón de la Vieja National Park. A few kilometres after the village of Curubandé you will reach your accommodation for today. The Hacienda Guachipelín is still run as a fully functioning cattle farm, and so you can participate in the typical daily routine of a finca in Guanacaste. Overnight at the Hacienda Guachipelín\*\*\* (B)

# DAY 3 RINCON DE LA VIEJA Riding tour to the Oropendola Waterfall

The Oropendola Waterfall is an impressive 25 metres high and the water splashes into a natural pool of refreshing water. The waterfall is surrounded by lush green vegetation and is located in a beautiful gorge of the Río Blanco. The tropical oasis invites you to take a refreshing dip. From the Hotel Hacienda Guachipelín, you ride for about 45 minutes along a picturesque path. As soon as you approach the canyon, you continue on foot. At the waterfall you can relax, take photos and bathe before returning to the hacienda on horseback. Afterwards, you have free time and can book an optional excursion on site. Among other things, there are hikes in the national park, tubing and canyoning. Overnight at the Hacienda Guachipelín\*\*\* (B)

# DAY 4 RINCON DE LA VIEJA – MONTEVERDE (Total Driving: 165 km, about 3,5 km)

Today you drive back a little on the Pan-American Highway and via Cañas and Las Juntas into the mountains of Costa Rica. The climate changes completely. Monteverde lies at around 1'400 metres above sea level, and due to the altitude it can also get quite cool in the evening. The last kilometres here become a somewhat bumpy affair. In the afternoon, you can still explore the small village of Santa Elena or take a walk on the trails of the cosy mountain hotel. You can also book an optional night hike in the evening and get to know the cloud forest from a different perspective. Overnight at the Monteverde Country Lodge\*\*\* (B)

# PRICE PER PERSON **EN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY**

Base 2 Pax	EUR 2.141
Base 3 Pax	EUR 1.914
Base 4 Pax	EUR 1.886

# SURPLUS April EUR 265.-

SURPLUS SINGLE ROOM EUR 1.084.-

#### DISCOUNT TRIPLE ROOM EUR -201.-

### 2023

### DEPARTURES ON REQUEST MARCH THROUGH OCTOBER

Up<mark>on</mark> 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. Upgrade to superior hotels is possible.

### **INCLUDED SERVICES**

- ✓ 10 nights in San Jose, Rincon de la Vieja, Monteverde, La Fortuna, Boca Tapada, Sarapiqui, and Puerto Viejo de Limon.
- 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch-
- Transfer In on seat-in basis
- Reception at the airport
- Alamo Rent a Car Rental car with basic insurance as follows:
- ✓ \* 1-3 pax: SUV MID Size 4WD (Suzuki Vitara 4WD) Manual/Automatic or similar)
- \* 4 pax: SUV Standard 4WD (Suzuki Grand Vitara 4WD Manual/Automatic or similar)
- ✓ Documentation with information about the country in English
  - 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 5 MONTEVERDE Hanging Bridges

Today, the experience of the cloud forest is on the programme. It thrives at altitudes of 1,400 metres and above and is characterized by an extraordinary biodiversity. In addition to hundreds of tree and plant species, you can also find some of the more than 350 bird species that have already been counted here. Among them is the legendary Mayan bird of the gods, the quetzal. To experience this natural paradise, take a tour of the Selvatura suspension bridges. These are easily accessible, and you get a great view of the jungle canopy. At these heights of the jungle, much is still unexplored and the bird's eye view is excellent for photography. Afterwards, you can book an optional tour such as canopy: this consists of 15 cables, 18 platforms and the so-called Tarzan Swing, a steel cable on which you can swing through the forest like Tarzan. You can also visit various animal exhibitions in the Selvatura Reserve (butterflies, sloths, reptiles & amphibians). Overnight at the Monteverde Country Lodge\*\*\* (B)

# DAY 6 MONTEVERDE – LA FORTUNA (Total Driving: 125 km, about 3,5 km)

After breakfast, you will leave the mountains of Monteverde. Via Cañas, Tilaran and around the beautiful Lake Arenal, you will drive today to the idyllic town of La Fortuna, located at the foot of the impressive Arenal Volcano. This area is known for its thermal springs, occasional volcanic activity and picturesque national park. Weather permitting, you can enjoy a breathtaking view of the volcano's almost perfect cone from afar. After check-in at the hotel, you can relax by the pool or in the hotel's own thermal springs and review the impressions gained so far. Overnight at Arenal Paraiso Resort Spa & Thermo Mineral Hotsprings\*\*\*(\*) **(B)** 

# DAY 7 LA FORTUNA Canyoning Tour

Breakfast at the hotel. Your adventure tour starts in La Fortuna, with a four-wheel drive vehicle picking you up at your hotel. Via a mountain road, you will drive to a rancho, from where the adrenaline-packed tour starts after initial safety instructions and a hike through the lush rainforest. From different heights (between 13 and 55 metres), you rappel a total of five times, move between waterfalls and a canyon, climb up the 10-metre-high canyon wall, float 25 metres through the canyon on a canopy rope, hike through the rainforest and enjoy the unique area that will captivate you. After a well-deserved hot shower, you will then be served a typical lunch amidst tropical gardens with spectacular views of Arenal Volcano. Afterwards, you will have time to get to know the gardens and admire the colourful birds and tropical flowers. Finally, return to your hotel. Overnight at the Arenal Paraiso Resort Spa & Thermo Mineral Hotsprings\*\*\*(\*) **(B) (L)** 

# DAY 8 LA FORTUNA – BOCA TAPADA (Total Driving: 80 km, about 2,5 km)

In the morning, you still have time to go on an optional excursion in La Fortuna. Later, the journey continues to Boca Tapada. To do so, you will drive through La Fortuna and on a well-maintained road to the village of Muelle. From here, follow the signs to Aguas Zarcas. However, do not drive into the village of Aguas Zarcas, but follow the signs to Pital. Drive through Pital, past the church and then turn left towards Boca Tapada. At the lodge on the other side of the San Carlos River, which you will reach by boat, you can check into your room and explore the surroundings. Maquenque Eco Lodge is located in the middle of a new 60-hectare protected area just north of Boca Tapada, San Carlos, and offers easy access to the Maquenque National Wildlife Refuge. Overnight at the Maquenque Ecolodge\*\*\* (B) DAY 9 BOCA TAPADA

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, you will go on a hike in the rainforest together with other lodge guests. With a bit of luck, you may see red and green-black poison dart frogs, numerous bird species, leafcutter ants and other insects. Various species of monkeys can also be spotted here with a bit of luck, and you may even come across a tapir or other larger mammals. Your guide will tell you many interesting things about the inhabitants of the forest. Later, you can paddle silently through the rainforest in a canoe and again look out for animals. Overnight at the Maquenque Ecolodge\*\*\* (B)





# DAY 10 BOCA TAPADA - SARAPIQUI (Total Driving: 110 km, about 2 - 2,5 hours)

Breakfast at the hotel. The adventure continues, and you take the car back the same way to Boca Tapada and Pital after breakfast. There, at the crossroads of Pital, you turn left towards San Miguel. From San Miguel you continue to Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí to La Quinta de Sarapiqui, an exemplary sustainable tourism project. You can explore the surroundings, where you are likely to come across poison dart frogs, or visit the vegetable garden where yucca, palm heart, sugar cane and other exotic vegetables are grown. The hotel also has a lagoon where you can sit down to relax in one of the rocking chairs or hammocks. Overnight at the La Quinta de Sarapiquí\*\*\* (**B**)

### DAY 11 SARAPIQUI Wildwater Rafting

Breakfast at the hotel. Today you will discover the untouched nature of the rainforest from the water. The refreshing river and the wildly proliferating rainforest with its uniquely coloured plants, animals and birds make this tour an experience for your senses. Add to this the exciting class II-III rapids, and you have a tropical adventure packed with experiences you will remember long after your stay. Before heading out on the river, your knowledgeable guide will first make sure you have been briefed on all safety regulations. Then begin this unique experience on the river, surrounded by dense rainforest. Look out for various native animals and enjoy the breathtaking scenery as you raft down the adrenaline-inducing rapids. The rest of the day is at leisure. Horse riding, canopy, a chocolate tour or a bat tour are optional on site. Overnight at the La Quinta de Sarapiquí\*\*\* (**B**)

# DAY 12 SARAPIQUI - PUERTO VIEJO DE LIMON (Total Driving: 190 km, about 3 - 3,5 hours)

Breakfast at the hotel. You can use the time after breakfast for an optional excursion, or you can head straight to the Caribbean coast of the country, to Puerto Viejo de Limón. The Cócles beach is about a hundred metres from the hotel. Further south, you will also find other quieter and more secluded beaches with beautiful light-coloured sand that you are sure to enjoy, so why not take a relaxing walk along the beach after arrival? Overnight at the Azania Bungalows<sup>\*\*\*</sup> (B)

# DAY 13 PUERTO VIEJO DE LIMON

Breakfast at the hotel. Enjoy the day on these picture-book beaches and let yourself be seduced by the lightness of the Creole culture, the reggae sounds from the village and the excellent cuisine. If you feel more like activities, you can take an optional snorkelling trip in the Cahuita National Park and, with a bit of luck, discover exotic fish, dolphins and corals. On a hike in Cahuita National Park, with a bit of luck, you can spot some of the area's inhabitants in addition to the impressive flora. These include various species of snakes, sloths, capuchin and howler monkeys, anteaters, armadillos, raccoons, beautiful butterflies, birds and much more. Overnight at the La Quinta de Sarapiquí\*\*\* **(B)** 

DAY 14 PUERTO VIEJO DE LIMON – SAN JOSE Car return (Total Driving: 220 km, about 4,5 hs) Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, you can still enjoy the beaches. Later you will drive back to San José via Limón, Siquirres, Guápiles and the Braulio Carrillo National Park. Return of the car before 4 pm at the hotel.

# DAY 15 SAN JOSE - JUAN SANTAMARIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Breakfast at the hotel. On your last day, depending on your departure time, you will enjoy the hotel facilities. Later, a shuttle bus will take you to Juan Santamaría International Airport, where your Costa Rican adventure will come to an end. End of our services.

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



