

Costa Rica's Undiscovered Caribbean Coast

Factbox	
Prices start from :	£ 3,329
Travel between :	15 Sep 24 and 15 Sep 24
Board Basis :	As per Itinerary
Duration :	10 nights
Book by :	30 Jun 24
Includes :	Return Flights from London Heathrow All transfers (including airport transfers) with Local guide 1 Night at Autentico Hotel on Bed & Breakfast Basis 2 Nights at Casa Turire Hotel Hacienda on Bed & Breakfast Bases 2 Nights Jungle lodge on Full Board Basis 4 Nights La Camelion Premium Boutique hotel on Bed & Breakfast Basis 1 Night Finca Rosa Blanca Coffee Plantation Resort on Bed & Breakfast Basis Irazú Volcano National Park tour Cruise through Barra De Pacuare's Canals La Marta Wildlife Refuge tour Cooking class and lunch with a local family Sea Turtle Conservation Project visit Turtle-hatching Night tour Manzanillo Hike and Dolphin Spotting



Detailed Itinerary

Highlights : San Jose - Turrialba - Barre Da Pacuare Costa Rica Amazon - Punta Cocles - Santa Barbara de Heredia

Hotels featured:

Autentico Hotel
Turire Hotel Hacienda
Jungle lodge
La Camelion Premium Boutique hotel
Finca Rosa Blanca Coffee Plantation Resort

Itinerary:

Sun 15 Sep 24 - Arrival Day

Arrive into San Jose Airport, where you will be picked up and taken directly to your hotel in the Costa Rican capital, where you will get the chance to relax, refresh and get ready for your adventure to begin. At the Autentico Hotel Each room is equipped with a bathroom with shower, ceiling fan, Wi-Fi, coffee maker. The on-site restaurant specialises in typical Costa Rican dishes. Other amenities include a swimming pool and a beautiful garden.

Accommodation
Autentico Hotel

Mon 16 Sep 24 - Volcanoes and Traditional Haciendas

Your first visit will be to Iraz Volcano National Park. Iraz is the highest volcano in Costa Rica at just over 3400 meters above sea level. Then you drive to the Turrialba Valley, a city that was once the gateway to the Atlantic coast, now an important agricultural region and tourism destination. Turrialba is named after the volcano (Torre=tower and alba=white). The volcano sits along the southeast of the Central Volcanic Corridor and currently it is the most active volcano in the country. A combination of reliable rainfall, numerous powerful rivers and rich volcanic soils have made Turrialba an important agricultural region which has been carefully developed to ensure a balance with nature and conservation. The lush mountainous landscapes, pristine tropical forests, thundering rivers and wildlife ensures that there is plenty to do here, and it is also a great place to discover the agricultural side of the country with a visit to one of the plantations to sample some of the best organic produce in Costa Rica. You will stay in a Costa Rican Old Hacienda, where a guide can show you the farm animals and the beautiful tropical gardens, or you could take a kayak out on the beautiful lake of the Reventazn River Dam. The hotel features stunning views of the Turrialba volcano and all guest rooms have a balcony with beautiful views of Angostura Lake.

The rooms are comfortably furnished an all have ceiling fans. The hotel has a gourmet restaurant which serves traditional Costa Rican and international dishes and guests may enjoy a relaxing massage at the spa which offers a variety of treatments including a volcanic rock body wrap.

Accommodation
Casa Turire Hotel

Tue 17 Sep 24 - Cooking with a Local Family

Turrialba hosts a beautiful reserve full of tropical plant species and today you will take a guided hike through La Marta wildlife reserve to a research station administrated by a local private university, drinking in views of jungle-covered hillsides.

After this experience immersed in nature, you will have the opportunity to enjoy cooking lessons with a local family, discovering the secrets of local Costa Rican cuisine, before enjoying your delicious hand made lunch, a truly local experience.

Accommodation
Casa Turire Hotel

Wed 18 Sep 24 - The Costa Rican Amazon

Transfer to the Caribbean plains on a scenic drive as you cross the green mountains that divide Turrialba and the Caribbean Coast. Boca Pacuare is todays destination, the fascinating canals of the Caribbean coast, known as the Costa Rican Amazon, as they snake their way through the jungle.

A boat will take you up to this area through the extensive system of canals to the lodge where you will spend the next two nights. Your guide will provide invaluable insight into this complex ecosystem, before you reach the miles of untouched Caribbean beaches. The worlds largest Turtles, Green sea turtles, nest in this region from June to October, peaking in numbers during July and August, whilst the mighty leatherbacks, measuring up to eight feet in length, nest from March to July.

For the next two nights you will stay in Barra de Pacuare on the banks of the Mother of God Lagoon, at the Lirio Lodge hotel, surrounded by tropical rain forest and overlooking an unspoiled natural canal.

The lodge offers comfortable wooden bungalows raised on platforms, equipped with double beds, private bathrooms, porches, and decks with either lagoon or garden views.

The on-site restaurant is located on the water, providing guests with fantastic views while enjoying breakfast, lunch or dinner.

The tranquility of the water and the area brings wildlife near to the lodge making it the ideal destination for nature lovers.

Accommodation
Lirio Lodge

Thu 19 Sep 24 - Sea Turtle Experience

Today you'll have a full day to explore the Boca Pacuare area. Start with a floating trip on the canals of the Madre de Dios lagoon, a great opportunity to see a huge variety of birds, reptiles, monkeys, and butterflies.

To top it off, you will also visit the Pacuare Biological Reserve. Head to the Sea Turtle Conservation Project and spend time with the volunteers in charge of the program to get an idea of local life in the area. If you visit during the weekdays, you will also visit the local rural school.

When in season, there is an optional night tour to see the green turtle laying eggs on the beach. All the visits will be done with a local naturalist guide.

Accommodation

Lirio Lodge

Meals

Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Fri 20 Sep 24 - Transfer to Caribbean Paradise

Your adventure in Costa Rica continues after breakfast, when you get back on the boat through the canals so you can rejoin your driver and head to the South Caribbean.

On the way, you will visit an iguana conservation project lead by the Bribri Indigenous Group of the Kekoldi Reserve.

Enjoy the rest of the afternoon and night immersing yourself in the relaxing Caribbean lifestyle, music and gastronomy, as you reach one of the best beaches in Costa Rica and your hotel, Le Cameleon Boutique Hotel

There are just 23 rooms in this boutique hotel each has air-conditioning, Wi-Fi, iPod docking station, minibar. The hotel has a spa, daily yoga classes, and a beach club. Guests can enjoy dining at the on-site restaurant, Ocho y Medio, and at the on-site market cafe.

Accommodation

La Camelon Boutique Hotel

Sat 21 Sep 24 - Mon 23 Sep 24 - Relax on the Caribbean Coast

Spend your final days in Costa Rica relaxing on the beautiful Caribbean coast, drinking in the rays on white-sand, palm-fringed beaches.

On one of the days, you will meet a local guide in Manzanillo, and head out on a hike of this amazing refuge. It was created in 1985, to protect both marine and coastal land areas. It also includes communities whose traditional lifestyle has always been to care for their natural environment, so it has some residential/ecotourism zones.

After the hike you will board a boat to search for dolphins: between Punta Mona (Monkey Point) and the mouth of the Sixaola River you can observe three species of dolphins, including the rare Small Pink Tucuxi.

Accommodation

La Camelon Boutique Hotel

Tue 24 Sep 24 - Coffee Highlands and the Central Valley

Transfer back to the Central Valley for your last night in Costa Rica. On this day, enjoy a great last experience of authentic Costa Rican culture and cuisine on a day that includes a visit to a sustainable forested coffee farm.

Taste cuisine that creatively honours the culinary traditions of the coffee highlands, and drink in the richness of the local culture, views of steaming volcanoes, cloud forests and the splendor of the lush natural surroundings.

You will stay the night on the stunning coffee plantation, a unique place to stay that help you feel truly immersed in authentic Costa Rican culture.

Surrounded by coffee plantations, volcanoes and lush gardens, Finca Rosa Blanca is a renowned hideaway, famous for its organic gourmet cuisine, superior comfort and service and its sustainability credentials. Rooms have volcano and valley views and upscale dining in the hotel restaurant is available with fresh local products.

Accommodation

Finca Rosa Blanca Coffee Plantation Resort

Wed 25 Sep 24 - Farewell to Costa Rica

The time has come for you to say farewell to Costa Rica and your new friends who have helped you see the country through the eyes of a local. We hope you have had an incredible 10 days in Costa Rica, and are returning home with wonderful travel memories that will last a lifetime

Prices & Departures:

Deposit for £550pp

Y41738 London Heathrow from £3329pp

Y41819/26 Manchester/Glasgow from £3659pp

Y41831 Dublin from £3799pp

Terms & Conditions:

Based on 2 Adults sharing