



# **Enchanting Costa Rica:**

Cloud forest, Quetzals, Rainforest, Beaches, Waterfalls, Chocolate, Culture!!

## Day 1

#### Welcome to Costa Rica!

An ACTUAR driver will meet your flight and take you to a charming B&B in San José.

#### Services included

Transfer to Hotel Don Carlos Double room at Hotel Don Carlos including breakfast

#### Day 2

## To the cloud forest!

Your bilingual naturalist guide will pick you up after breakfast. Start your 2-hour journey going east on the Interamerican Highway, passing by Cartago, the colonial capital of Costa Rica, then climbing into the mountains to the south of San José. This region is home to a plethora of flora and fauna, but it is most famous for its old growth oak forests, habitat for the Resplendent Quetzal.

Stay at El Toucanet Lodge, within walking distance of the village of Copey de Dota with its charming wooden church.



Breakfast at Hotel Don Carlos Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses Lodging in standard room at El Toucanet



## Day 3

## In search of the Resplendent Quetzal

Wake up early to go in search of the Resplendent Quetzal, the sacred bird of the Maya, with its iridescent green feathers, bright red breast, and long, graceful tail. It only lives in old growth forests at high altitudes. The quetzal cannot live in captivity, and the sight of it is made even more magical by the morning mist.

Come back to the lodge for a delicious breakfast. Spend the rest of the day hiking in the old oak forests or visiting an organic coffee farm.

#### Services included

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses Lodging in standard room at El Toucanet including breakfast and quetzal tour

## Day 4

## Indigenous tradition at the Térraba reserve!

Your guide will take you about 3 hours south on the Interamerican highway to the Térraba indigenous lands, where a local guide will tell you about the history and traditions of the Térraba culture. Learn how they grow and process chocolate! Stay in traditional-style thatched roof cabins at El Descanso Rural Inn.

#### Services included

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses Lodging at El Descanso including breakfast Lunch and dinner at El Descanso Chocolate tour with local guide

## Day 5

## **Beach combing at Ballena Marine Park!**

After breakfast, head west approximately 1.5 hours to the Pacific coast to explore Ballena National Marine Park. Stay at La Cusinga Lodge with its panoramic views of the Pacific and Isla Ballena, where whales come to mate and give birth.

#### Services included

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses Ocean view superior room at La Cusinga Lodge including breakfast

#### Day 6

### Visit Playa del Arco and spot wildlife along the trails!

Explore La Cusinga Lodge, where it is easy to spot monkeys, sloths, birds and frogs on the trails. When the tide is right, visit beautiful Playa del Arco, a 20-minute walk through the rainforest from the lodge.

#### Services included

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses

Ocean view superior room at La Cusinga Lodge including breakfast

## Day 7

## Los Campesinos adventure!

After breakfast, drive north to Quepos and then head inland to Los Campesinos Reserve, a 2-hour drive. After Londres, you'll travel on a dirt road, surrounded by pristine forests and rivers, to the village of Quebrada Arroyo, where you will meet very special country people, former vanilla farmers, who founded this reserve. After a delicious *campesino* lunch prepared over a wood fire, walk across a forested gorge next to the huge Los Chorros waterfall on a suspended bridge. Continue up the trail a bit to take a dip in Poza Olivo, a lovely waterfall-fed swimming hole!

#### Services included:

Breakfast at La Cusinga Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses Lodging at Los Campesinos Reserve Lunch and dinner at Los Campesinos Round trip 4WD transportation from Brisas del Nara

## Day 8

## Go hiking with Don Miguel and explore campesino life!

Don Miguel will take you on the Pacific Lookout trail to share the secrets of the forest passed down for generations. Before you get to the lookout point, you will zoom over a forested canyon in a pulley-powered *teleférico*, the *campesino* form of rapid transit. Continue uphill to the lookout point, where you can see the coast south of Manuel Antonio National Park. In the afternoon, visit the village, then enjoy a barbecue at the home of Don Victor and his family.

#### Services included

One-day tour of Los Campesinos including lunch and snack Lodging at Los Campesinos Lodge including breakfast Dinner and village visit with Don Victor Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses

## Day 9

## Back to civilization....

You will have the morning free before departing for San José, about 4 hours away. Stay at the art-filled Hotel Don Carlos. Fill your gift list at their extensive souvenir shop. Have dinner at one of the city's fine international restaurants (not included).

#### Services included

Breakfast at Los Campesinos Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses Lodging at Hotel Don Carlos including breakfast

#### Day 10

#### Come back soon!

An ACTUAR driver will pick you up at your hotel in time to get you to the airport 2.5 hours before your return flight. Fly home with happy memories of Costa Rica!

#### Services included:

**Breakfast** 

Transfer to airport

NOTE: There is an exit tax of \$26 per person, payable at the airport before you check in. It can be paid in dollars, *colones*, a combination of the two, or with a debit card. It can also be paid with a credit card, but will be charged as a cash advance.

## To sign up for this tour, contact

Key to Costa Rica CONSERVACATIONS

beatrice@keytocostarica.com

All of our ecotours can be customized to meet your interests, budget, and time frame. See next page for prices.







# Enchanting Costa Rica Prices and Family Discounts

Minimum 2 adults	Price per person
In double occupancy	\$2090
In triple occupancy	\$1540
In single room	\$2333
With one child 5-11	\$1509
With two children 5-11	\$1219

# Discounts for more than four

Let us know if there are more than four people in your party. The price per person will go down.

Prices valid through November 30, 2012, EXCEPT for travel during Christmas and Easter weeks. Contact us for repricing during those weeks. beatrice@keytocostarica.com

# Your private guide/driver: an incredible value

**Kids love them:** Kids love our bilingual naturalist guide/drivers because of their friendly, fun-loving attitude, and parents love them because of their kindness and their ability to teach about all things Costa Rica!

**Peace of mind:** Your family will have a guide all to yourselves for as many days as you want during your tour, so you can avoid the hassles that come with traveling with large groups of strangers. Your guide knows the ins and outs of each destination, so you'll have the peace of mind of knowing that your family is safe and well-cared for. **Hassle-free transportation.**: Getting around can be tricky in Costa Rica, but it becomes fun and hassle-free with your private guide/driver. You can stop where you want, whenever you want, giving you more freedom to respond to needs and for off-the-beaten-path exploration.

**Flexibility:** If you and your spouse want to walk along the beach and the kids are not interested, your guide can take them back to the hotel and keep them safe and entertained.

**Personal connection.**: Best of all, your guide is your personal connection not only to nature, but to the culture of the fascinating destination you are visiting. Our professional guides make our trips unforgettable!

To sign up, contact beatrice@keytocostarica.com