

From the Volcano to the Caribbean:

Volcano, Hot Springs, Rainforest, Hiking, Wildlife, Beaches, Chocolate, Culture! Maximize your experience of nature by having your own bilingual, naturalist guide for 5 days, with time on your own at the beach for the last 3 days.

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

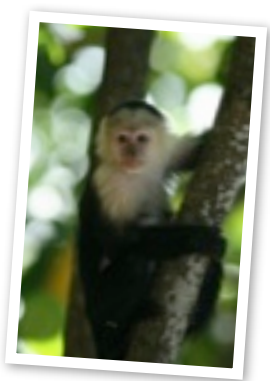
Day 2

To the volcano and hot springs!

Your bilingual naturalist guide/driver will pick you up in the morning. Set out for Arenal Volcano, about 4 hours northwest. The volcano usually explodes several times a day, sending up a cloud of smoke. The trip to La Fortuna, the town to the east of the volcano, is very picturesque, with views of dairy farms and local agriculture. Stop for a breather in Zarcero, known for the topiary gardens in front of its church. When you arrive at Arenal Oasis Lodge, the owners will greet you and orient you to their nature trails, frog ponds and wildlife exhibits. Go for a relaxing soak at the hot springs that night.

Services included

- Breakfast at Hotel Don Carlos
- Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses
- Double room at Arenal Oasis including breakfast
- Entrances to Ecotermas at 5 p.m. including dinner



Day 3

Enjoy Arenal

Today is free to explore the area with your guide, or to enjoy optional activities like a visit to Arenal Volcano National Park, hiking at Arenal Hanging Bridges, white water rafting or a canopy zipline tour (tours not included).

Services included

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses
Double room at Arenal Oasis including breakfast

Day 4

The adventure continues at El Pedacito del Cielo

Your guide will take you about 2 hours north and east to Boca Tapada to find El Pedacito de Cielo, your little piece of heaven. It's located in the San Juan-La Selva Biological Corridor and was a pioneering member of the Costa Rican Bird Route. The inn is surrounded by a great variety of fruit trees and flowers which attract birds. You'll see toucans, Montezuma oropéndulas, and even the famous and endangered scarlet macaw and green macaw. You'll discover beautiful landscapes and a great diversity of rainforest flora and fauna as you enjoy the pure air, the tranquility and comfort of Pedacito de Cielo.

Services included

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses
Double room at El Pedacito del Cielo

Day 5

To Cahuita National Park!

After breakfast, your guide will take you about 3 hours east to the southern Caribbean, where you'll stay at Casa Calateas Lodge. Enjoy a hearty *campesino* lunch and learn about the conservation efforts of the local association that owns the lodge. Savor the afternoon in Cahuita National Park, where it is easy to see monkeys, sloths, iguanas and many tropical birds on the well-maintained path that goes through the forest next to the sea. Take a dip in the ocean.

Services included

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses
Breakfast at El Pedacito del Cielo
Double room at Casa Calatéas
Lunch and dinner at Casa Calatéas

Day 6

Experience Bribri culture!

Get up early and travel with your guide to the village of Bambú where you will meet the BriBri boatmen who will take you by dugout canoe to the isolated riverside village of Yorkín. Meet the villagers, and see how they process chocolate from their sacred tree, the *cacao*. Taste the fruit fresh from the pod, and see how it is dried, roasted and ground. The community of Yorkín raises *cacao* and bananas in harmony with nature in order to protect the huge number of migrating birds that touch down in this region. Enjoy organic bananas dipped in freshly made chocolate sauce! That afternoon, boat back down the river to Bambú. Your guide will take you to Playa Chiquita, one of the most beautiful of Costa Rica's Caribbean beaches. That afternoon, bid farewell to your guide

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Services included

Breakfast at Casa Calatéas

One-day tour to Casa de la Mujeres Yorkín including lunch, snack and boat transportation

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses

Double room at Playa Chiquita Lodge

Day 7

Explore the area!

Enjoy the beach, or rent bikes to explore the area or to go to salsa classes, Caribbean cooking classes, canopy zipline tours, dolphin observation and snorkeling tours in Manzanillo, or visit an animal rescue and rehabilitation center.

Services included

Double room at Playa Chiquita Lodge including breakfast

Day 8

Relax at the beach!

Walk from Playa Chiquita down the coast to beautiful Punta Uva or just relax in a hammock.

Services included

Double room at Playa Chiquita Lodge including breakfast

Day 9

One more morning on the Caribbean....

In the afternoon, the Interbus will return you to San José. Fill your gift list at the extensive souvenir store at the Hotel Don Carlos.

Services included

Interbus back to San José

Double room 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.*

From the Volcano to the Caribbean

Prices and Family Discounts



| Minimum 2 adults | Price per person |
|------------------------|------------------|
| In double occupancy | \$1525 |
| In triple occupancy | \$1162 |
| In single room | \$1787 |
| With one child 6-11 | \$1108 |
| With two children 6-11 | \$900 |

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@keytostarica.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@keytostarica.com**

