

# Cloudforest to Beach

Cloud Forest, Rain Forest, Birding, Beaches, Wildlife, 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 1492  
Double room at Hotel 1492, including breakfast

## *Day 2*

### **To El Copal!**

Your bilingual naturalist birding guide/driver will pick you up at your hotel and take you to El Copal Lodge in El Humo de Tucurrique, about 3 hours from San José. Go birding with your guide in the El Copal Reserve. Then relax in a hammock on the porch and let the tanagers come to you!

### **Services included:**

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses  
Double room at El Copal with shared bath  
Lunch and dinner at El Copal  
Local guide  
Entrance to El Copal Reserve



### *Day 3*

#### **To the Cloud Forest!**

After an early morning birding hike in the reserve and a hearty country-style breakfast, drive about 2.5 hours to El Toucanet Lodge in Copey de Dota. Go hiking and birding in the ancient oak forests near the lodge. That night, enjoy a dinner of freshly-caught trout, El Toucanet's specialty.

#### **Services included**

Breakfast at El Copal  
Local guide  
Entrances to El Copal Reserve  
Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses  
Double junior suite at El Toucanet with jacuzzi  
Trout dinner at El Toucanet

### *Day 4*

#### **Quetzals and culture!**

Your guide will take you on an early morning hike in search of the beautiful Resplendent Quetzal, the sacred bird of the Maya. The quetzal cannot live in captivity. It is only found in old-growth forests at high altitudes. It is an inspiring sight, with its long, graceful tail feathers, iridescent green plumage and red chest.

After a relaxed breakfast, your guide will take you about 2 hours south to the hills around San Isidro de El General, to do some mid-altitude birding at the Alexander Skutch Los Cusingos Bird Sanctuary, the former farm of the author of *Birds of Costa Rica*. Dr. Skutch named Los Cusingos after the endemic orange-beaked toucanet. It is administered by the Tropical Science Center.

After an exciting day of birding, your guide will take you to Bribri Pa Kaneblo, near the town of Buenos Aires.

#### **Services included**

Breakfast and quetzal hike at El Toucanet  
Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses  
Entrance fees to Los Cusingos Bird Sanctuary  
Double cabin at Bribri Pa Kaneblo, including lunch, dinner and breakfast  
Cultural presentation at Bribri Pa Kaneblo

### *Day 5*

#### **To the Pacific!**

After breakfast, learn more about indigenous culture while exploring the rainforest reserve with your BriBri hosts, and savor traditional cuisine for lunch.

After lunch, your guide will take you to La Cusinga Lodge in Uvita de Osa, about 90 minutes south and west. La Cusinga's unique architecture makes the most of natural materials and textures. Rooms and paths are decorated with stones of all shapes, sizes and colors. All rooms have panoramic views of the Pacific.

Pristine Playa del Arco is a twenty-minute walk through beautiful rainforest from the lodge. There is a tunnel at the end of the beach that you can walk through at low tide. Because it is protected by Isla Ballena, Playa del Arco has gentler surf than most Pacific beaches, and thus is more swimmable.

There is also a waterfall-fed swimming hole in the forest.

The excellent cuisine at La Cusinga is made from fresh natural ingredients.

**Services included:**

Breakfast at BriBri Pa Kaneblo  
Morning cultural tour including traditional lunch  
Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses  
Double Ocean View Superior room at La Cusinga

*Day 6*

**Immerse yourself in La Cusinga!**

Hike down to the beach if it is low tide, or go in search of monkeys, sloths, birds and frogs along La Cusinga's trails with your guide.

**Services included**

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses  
Double Ocean View Superior room at La Cusinga including breakfast

*Day 7*

**Birding and wildlife at La Merced!**

Your guide will take you birding in La Merced National Wildlife Refuge, about 5 minutes away in the hills above Uvita.

**Services included**

Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses  
Double Ocean View Superior room at La Cusinga including breakfast

*Day 8*

**Come back soon!**

If you have an afternoon flight, your guide can get you to the airport by leaving around 8 a.m. Fly home with happy memories of Costa Rica.

**Services included**

Breakfast at La Cusinga  
Bilingual naturalist guide/driver and expenses

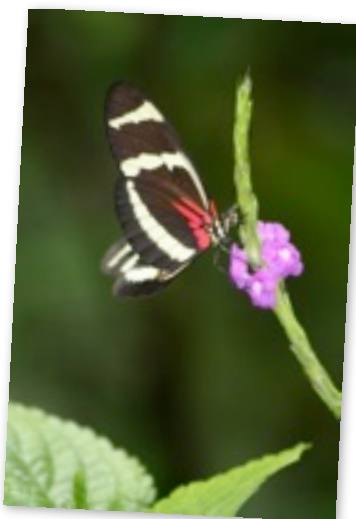
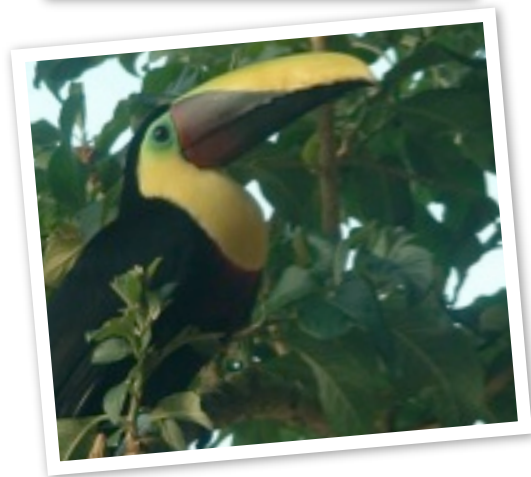
NOTE: There is an exit tax of \$26 per person, payable at the airport before you check in. It can be paid in dollars, colones, a combination of the two, or with a debit card. It can also be paid with a credit card, but will be charged as a cash advance.

**To sign up for this tour, or for help planning your Costa Rica vacation, contact**

**Key to Costa Rica CONSERVACATIONS**

**[beatrice@keytocostarica.com](mailto:beatrice@keytocostarica.com)**

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



## Prices and Family Discounts

Minimum 2 adults	Price per person
In double occupancy	<b>\$1880</b>
In triple occupancy	<b>\$1425</b>
In single room	<b>\$1680</b>
With one child 5-11	<b>\$1254</b>
With two children 5-11	<b>\$1153</b>

### *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@keytocosatarica.com](mailto:beatrice@keytocosatarica.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@keytocosatarica.com](mailto:beatrice@keytocosatarica.com)**