



Costa Rica... beyond senses

Ref. PG055-02 Tortuguero

**Costa Rica
Tortuguero Adventure
3 days / 2 nights**

The fascinating Afro-Caribbean culture, a combination of Jamaican, Italian and Chinese immigrants, predominates in this region and fills the atmosphere with fragrances, tropical rhythms and brilliant colors, which mixes with the daily work of many of the inhabitants on the banana plantations and the ports of Limon and Moin. After the South Pacific, this is the rainiest region in the country and this factor, combined with high temperatures, makes it a very humid area throughout the year.



The extensive Caribbean plains are beautified by the Pacuare, Estrella, Reventazon and Parismina rivers, which join in some sectors with the Tortuguero canals, of great importance for their scenic splendor and as a site of refuge for the marine turtles to lay their eggs. Daily tours to the Tortuguero National Park depart from San Jose. These are complete packages including meals, transportation and short boat rides to observe the native flora and fauna of the region. A two-night stay is recommended.

R04-MIPR-01
Versión 3

producto@travelexcellence.com

Travel Excellence supports the protection and conservation of nature

SC: 2013-19
Rige a partir de: 10 de julio 2012



Verified as meeting
sustainable tourism
requirements and
committed to
maintaining CST



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Day-by-Day Description



Day 01: San José – Tortuguero (B, L, D)

After an early pick up in your hotel in San Jose, enjoy a nice ride through the spectacular Braulio Carrillo National Park. A delicious typical breakfast is included on the road. The bus ride continues through banana fields and plantations of cassava to arrive to the pier. Then a two-hour boat ride through the canals will take you to the lodge... just in time for lunch.

In the afternoon, a guided visit to Tortuguero picturesque town and to the Sea Turtle Information Center (formerly known as the Caribbean Conservation Corporation) is included.

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Sea Turtle Conservancy has worked for the conservation of endangered sea turtles in Costa Rica since 1959. Tortuguero hosts the largest green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) rookery in the Western Hemisphere and also important nesting populations of leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) and hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) turtles. The Costa Rican legislature declared Tortuguero National Park in 1975 to protect the nesting turtles, the beach and the adjacent terrestrial habitats. STC researchers and volunteers, who are based at STC's John H. Phipps Biological Field Station, continue to monitor nesting trends, growth rates and reproductive success begun by Dr. Archie Carr in the 1950s.

Before dinner, free time to enjoy the pool or just to relax in a hammock.

From July to September

Optional night tour (not included in the package) to observe the turtle nesting.

From September to early December

Green Turtle Hatching Season

Two months after the turtles nesting season starts, baby turtles emerge from the sand to make their way to the Ocean. It is a very special moment to witness the little turtles emerging from the sand and starting their new life. Baby turtles do not like to emerge when the sand is too hot, so the best time to be at the beach is either early in the morning, between 5:00 to 6:00 am, or in the late afternoon, around the same time (5:00 to 6:00 pm)

Our advice:

-
- Don't touch the baby turtles. They need to feel and recognize the beach where they are born, as it is said that they will return to the same beach where they were born to nest.
- There are predators and as hard as it is, we must not interfere in the process.
- Don't touch the nests.

What to bring? Flip flops or sandals to walk on the beach, odorless insect repellent, and comfortable clothes.

Night at selected lodge, all meals included

Day 02: Tortuguero (B, L, D)

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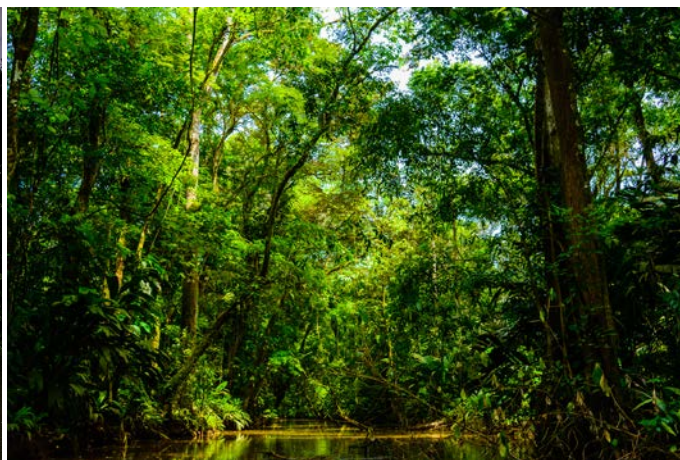
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The main activity included during this day is the guided boat visit to Tortuguero National Park. The time of the visit (morning or afternoon) will depend on the scheduled of your lodge and on weather conditions. A guided walk through the private trails of the lodge may also be included during this day.



About Tortuguero:

Tortuguero is a network of navigable lakes, rivers and canals (both natural and man-made) that are used for transportation and are a great place for observing local wildlife. The climate is warm and humid. Daily temperatures average 26 degrees C (79 F) and annual average rainfall is over 5,000 mm (200+ inches). Warm days are tempered by trade winds and cool nights.

Abundant wildlife inhabits Tortuguero, including 57 species of amphibians, 111 species of reptiles, and 60 species of mammals. More than 300 species of birds live in Tortuguero for all or part of the year. Birdwatchers commonly see keel-billed toucans, slaty tailed trogons, Montezuma oropendulas and a variety of parrots. Birds common along the canals include green and great blue herons, egrets, belted kingfishers, anhingas, jacanas, sun grebes and several species of hawks and kites. Other animals commonly seen are fishing bats, three-toed sloths, iguanas, basilisk lizards, poison dart frogs, and howler, white-faced and spider monkeys. The tracks of river otters, collared peccaries, and Baird's tapirs are often seen on the banks of rivers and canals. Caiman are commonly observed in the waterways, which also are home to gar-fish, manatees, crocodiles, crustaceans, and an occasional bullshark. Jaguars, ocelots, and kinkajous inhabit the park, but are rarely seen.

Free time before dinner.

Night at selected lodge, all meals included

Day 03: Tortuguero – San José (B, L)

After breakfast, shared boat transfer back to the pier, where the trip will continue by bus to your next destination. Lunch is included along the way.

The estimated time of arrival in San José is 3:30 p.m. depending on weather and traffic conditions.

***** End of services *****

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This package includes

- ✓ Shared transfers from/to San José
- ✓ Bilingual guide
- ✓ 2 nights in selected lodge
- ✓ Typical breakfast on Day 1
- ✓ 3 delicious meals per day at the lodge
- ✓ Typical lunch on Day 3
- ✓ Guided visit to Tortuguero town
- ✓ Guided visit to Tortuguero National Park
- ✓ Entrance fee to the national park
- ✓ Guided walk in the private trails of the lodge or a second visit to the park in the case of Manatus Hotel
- ✓ Lodging taxes

Important Notes

- The order and logistics of the itinerary may change depending on weather conditions.
- Alcoholic beverages, sodas or bottled water are not included
- During turtle nesting season, dinner will be served at 6:45 pm, to allow visitors to join the tour
- We recommend using dark color clothes when taking the night tour during the nesting season.
- Luggage is limited to 25 pounds (12 Kg) per person

Not Included: Departure tax (US\$29 per person), tips, optional tours, alcoholic beverages, personal expenses, air tickets to/from Costa Rica

NET RATES PER PERSON 2018

US DOLLARS

Option 1: Mawamba Lodge



The lodge has 54 Standard rooms featuring one double and one single bed or three single beds, garden views, a ceiling fan and a safety box. In addition, there are 4 independent Superior Bungalows with ample room space, featuring one king size bed, a ceiling fan, views of the canals, a safety box and a larger bathroom with separate tub and shower. These rooms are a wonderful option for Honeymooners. Services and facilities include a restaurant, a bar and game room, cafeteria with free WI-FI connection access, swimming pool, souvenir shop and free access to the private trails, the butterfly gardens and the frog farm in Mawamba Park (guided visit included in the two- night package). All tour packages are led by a bilingual naturalist guide (English/Spanish) and include land and boat round trip transportation from San José, all meals and activities according to the number of nights at the Lodge. Guests can also take optional tours such as night hikes in a private trail, sunset trips in the new floating Katonga restaurant, fishing, kayaking and canopy tour.

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| Dates | Double | SGL Supplement Minimum 2 pax | TPL Reduction | SGL Solo | Children from 5 to 11 years old Sharing room with two adults |
|---|--------|---------------------------------|---------------|----------|---|
| From 15 December 2017 to 14 December 2018 | 282.00 | 27.00 | 31.00 | 309.00 | 152.00 |

** This prices do not apply for Christmas, New Year nor Easter Week (from March 24th to April 1st, 2018)

Rates are subject to change without previous notice

Child Policy

Free for children up to 4 years old. Children from 5 to 11 years old pay a special price sharing a guestroom with two adults. Maximum occupancy: two adults and two children. In case of one adult traveling with one child, please ask us the price.

Option 2: Evergreen Lodge



Evergreen Lodge is located only five minutes by boat from the entrance to Tortuguero National Park. This wild and remote area is only accessible by plane or boat (5 to 6 hours from San Jose). Rooms are spacious and nicely decorated rooms and they all have comfortable beds and ceiling fans. This jungle lodge offers a nice restaurant, a bar in front of the lagoon, a nice and refreshing turtle-shaped swimming pool, free Wi-Fi access near the reception. There are also Spa services available under request. This lodge is part of a hotel group including Pachira and Aninga Lodge.

| Dates | Double | SGL Supplement Minimum 2 pax | TPL Reduction | SGL Solo | Children from 5 to 11 years old Sharing room with two adults |
|---|--------|---------------------------------|---------------|----------|---|
| From 15 December 2017 to 14 December 2018 | 283.00 | 19.00 | 44.00 | 302.00 | 117.00 |

** This prices do not apply for Christmas, New Year nor Easter Week (from March 24th to April 1st, 2018)

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Option 3: Manatus Hotel



Only a few minutes away from Tortuguero National Park, this hotel is located on a land strip between two canals. The property features 12 stylish bungalows surrounded by tropical vegetation. The services provided include an excellent “a la carte” restaurant, bar, swimming pool in front of the main canal, Spa services in the privacy of the bedroom, and a small art gallery. Guests will also enjoy this wonderful area by kayak or they can go fishing or bird watching. Manatus Hotel offers first class services and comfort in the middle of Tortuguero’s tropical forest.

Important notes: - Beverages are not included.

| Dates | Double | SGL Supplement Minimum 2 pax | TPL Reduction | SGL Solo | Children under 10 years old Sharing room with two adults |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|------------------|----------|---|
| From 01 January to 31 December 2018 | 556.00 | 44.00 | 35.00 | 600.00 | 507.00 |

** This prices do not apply for Christmas, New Year nor Easter Week (from March 24th to April 1st, 2018)

Rates are subject to change without previous notice

Child Policy

Children under 10 years old pay a special rate.

**This is just a quote. If at time of booking quoted hotels do not have availability, similar hotels will be booked.
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