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TRIP DETAILS
12 Days / 11 Nights - Multi-country

Departures Daily
Trip Ref 3636

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

PRICES FROM $2,493

Mundo Verde Costa Rica & Nicaragua

Day 1: Arrival San José / Costa Rica - Transfer to city hotel
A member of CANATUR, who will assist you, will await you right after immigration. Our English-speaking guide will wait for you at the exit of the airport. Transfer to the hotel near downtown San José.

Included meals: None
Accommodation: Hotel Tryp La Sabana ***(*), Standard or similar

Day 2: San José - Monteverde - Monteverde Reserve
Right after breakfast, your natural experience starts with a journey up into the mountains of Monteverde passing via San Ramón and Puntarenas. The last 35 km will be a quite bumpy adventure. Here, a hike in the famous Monteverde Reserve with safe and extense hiking trails is on your schedule. You may see many birds and plants in the dense green. With some luck the Quetzal bird may also be seen. Check-in at your hotel. The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure.

Included meals: Breakfast
Accommodation: Hotel Heliconia ***, Standard or similar

Day 3: Monteverde - Cañas - Liberia - Peñas Blancas / NICARAGUA - Ometepe
Quite early today you will head back to the Panamerican Highway. Once arrived there, you continue via Cañas and Liberia northwards to Peñas Blancas, border town to Nicaragua (approx. 11:30h). After passing the immigration formalities at the border, ORO Travel will take the group over and you continue along the great Lake Nicaragua. In San Jorge you will change to ferry transportation and enjoy a scenic drive to the volcanic Island of Ometepe. In Moyogalpa our local transportation will be waiting for you and drive to Playa Santo Domingo passing several colourful villages.

Included meals: Breakfast
Accommodation: Hotel Villa Paraiso **(*) or similar

Day 4: Ometepe - Granada City Tour - Granada
In the morning we will visit the museums ?El Ceibo? and stop at the famous laguna - Charco Verde before taking the ferry back to the mainland. From San Jorge, we continue towards Granada, the oldest city in the Americas, founded in 1524 by the conqueror Hernández de Córdoba. You will discover and enjoy the historical centre of this colonial jewel during a walking tour. Dinner in a restaurant in town.

Included meals: Breakfast, dinner
Accommodation: Hotel Alhambra **(*) or similar

Day 5: Granada - Masaya Volcano - Catarina – Boat Tour Las Isletas - Granada
After breakfast, you will start for today‘s excursion. First destination is the Masaya Volcano National Park, where you can observe the Santiago Crater. Due to its tremendous activity, local people call this crater =mouth of the devil‘. Then, you will follow the road to Catarina, a traditional town, to enjoy the breathtaking panorama of Apoyo Lagoon and the whole region. On the way to Granada you will stop by the Isletas‘, an archipelago of 350 little islands. By boat you will discover some of these charming islands just offshore Granada and observe the bird life of this area. Return to Granada.

Included meals: Breakfast, lunch
Accommodation: Hotel Alhambra **(*) or similar

Day 6: Granada - San Carlos - Los Chiles / COSTA RICA - La Fortuna / Arenal Volcano
We leave Granada in the morningand drive along Lake Nicaragua to San Carlos. Enjoy the varied scenery and learn more about this Nicaraguan region by your guide. From San Carlos we take a private boat along the Rio Frío to Los Chiles, where you reach Costa Rican soil. The guide from ARA Tours will wait for you in Los Chiles / Costa Rica (at approx. 2:45 pm), from where the journey continues by land transportation to La Fortuna, located at the foot of the active Arenal Volcano. Check in at hotel Arenal Paraíso. After dinner you may enjoy the hotel‘s own hot springs until 10:00pm. If the weather is good, we will also approach the volcano to observe the volcano‘s activity. Return to

the hotel.

Included meals: Breakfast, dinner
Accommodation: Hotel Arenal Paraíso ***(*), Superior or similar

Day 7: Arenal National Park - Suspension Bridges - Thermal Springs
After breakfast, hike through the Arenal Nationalpark with the Volcano always in view. Later, you pass through a small forest until you reach an old lava stream from the year 1992. Afterwards, walk across the suspension bridges to observe nature and landscape from another perspective. In the evening relax at the thermal springs of the hotel and enjoy your dinner at the hotel.

Included meals: Breakfast, dinner
Accommodation: Hotel Arenal Paraíso ***(*), Superior or similar

Day 8: La Fortuna - Tortuguero
Today we will start very early. After a quick cup of coffee we will leave at 05.00am and drive via Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí and Horquetas to Guápiles, where we will reach the main road to Limón. Here, at 07.45am, you will enjoy a typical Costa Rican breakfast before we continue to the area of La Pavona o Caño Blanco. This area is important for banana production and you will see huge plantations here. Your guide will tell you about advantages and disadvantages of the yellow fruit. Near La Pavona o Caño Blanco we will then continue by boat and you will cruise on rivers and channels along the beautiful nature to Tortuguero. Check-in at a comfortable lodge and latelunch. The afternoon is at your leisure to explore the surroundings of this beautiful place. The afternoon may be used for an optional visit to the Tortuguero Village and the Turtle Conservation Center (entrance fee aprox. USD 2 per person, not included). It is important to point out, that the local people used to earn their incoming with killing the sea turtles and sell meat and eggs to the markets in San José. Thanks to many years of education and voluntary efforts of nature activists, almost the whole population lives from tourism and protect nature. Return to the lodge. After dinner and from July to September, you have the possibility to book an optional night tour to the beach of Tortuguero, where the endangered Green Sea Turtles lay their eggs into the sand (not included, costs approx. USD 30,- per person).

Info 1: Together with our group, there are also other participants on the Tortuguero Tour days 8, 9 and 10. Even on private operation basis, the transfer to Tortuguero is on seat-in not be changed.

Info 2: The luggage is limited to 12 kg per person. We recommend to pack the things you need for days 8 to 10 into a smaller bag and send the main luggage with the driver to San José. It will be stored in your hotel in San José for you.

Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner
Accommodation:Mawamba Lodge *** or similar

Day 9: Tortuguero National Park
Today we again recommend getting up very early. This will not be very difficult with the natural sounds of the surrounding jungle waking up. Shortly after sunrise is the best time to observe wildlife in the national park. This early morning tour in a boat is included in the price. If you are lucky, you will be able to observe crocodiles, monkeys, turtles, sloths, bats, iguanas and of course allot birds. You will return to the lodge for breakfast Later that day, a rainforest hike is on your schedule to observe the local flora and fauna together with your guide and local guide. In the afternoon hours enjoy an included boat ride through the park and the narrow channels. Return to the lodge.

Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner
Accommodation: Mawamba Lodge *** or similar

Day 10: Tortuguero - Cahuita
After breakfast, you leave the beautiful area of Tortuguero by boat. Near La Pavona o Caño Blanco, the bus is waiting for you. You drive to the Caribbean coast, passing the port town of Limón. With a little bit of luck, from far you can watch one of the huge transatlantic freighters or cruise liners passing by. We follow the coast to the South to Cahuita, a small village with a typical Caribbean ambience. Check in at the hotel. The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure, enjoy it with a drink in one of the reggae bars and have dinner in one of the local restaurants. Overnight at the hotel.

Included meals: Breakfast
Accommodation: Suizoloco Lodge ***, Standard or similar

Day 11: Cahuita - San José
After breakfast, we load the luggage once more on the bus and drive the short way to Cahuita NationalPark, where you will start for a walk. At the entry you will be requested a small donation. Besides of many species of birds, with a little bit of luck you can see sloths, monkeys and some more inhabitants of the jungle. Afterwards you can spend some free time in Cahuita until the tour bus is picking you up and driving you back to San José. Check-in at the hotel and overnight (approx. 1 pm).

Included meals: Breakfast
Accommodation: Tryp La Sabana ***(*), Standard or similar

Day 12: San José - Transfer out
Our services end after drop of at the international airport of San José. Or you may also book any extension program if you prefer (at an extra charge). The transfer out is always included and will not be charged separately.

Included meals: Breakfast

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Included:

- All transfers and transportation during the roundtrip in comfortable vehicles with a/c (except on Ometepe Island, where vehicles generally do not provide a/c) and by boat according to programme Costa Rica: 1-6 Pax: Bus with 12 seats, 7-12 Pax: Bus with 19-22 seats Nicaragua: 1 Pax car, 2-3 Pax Hyundai Minibus, 4-8 Pax Hiace Bus with 16 seats, 9-14 Pax Typ Sprinter with 19 seats, 15 – 18 Pax Coaster with 25 seats
- Accommodation at the mentioned hotel categories in rooms with private bathroom
- Meals as per description
- English-speaking guide during the roundtrip, except on the boat tour to Los Chiles on day 6. Guides change per country.
- All entrance fees for the mentioned excursions and activities
- Travel documentation with useful information (the program itself has to be provided by the travel agent)

Not included:
- Tourist Card entering Nicaragua (currently USD 10,- per person)
- Border costs in Peñas Blancas and Los Chiles (currently USD 6,- per person)
- Departure Tax in Costa Rica approx USD 28,- per person
- Eventual Fuel Surcharges
- Optional tours
- Voluntary tips
- Beverages
- Additional meals
- All extras in the hotels

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