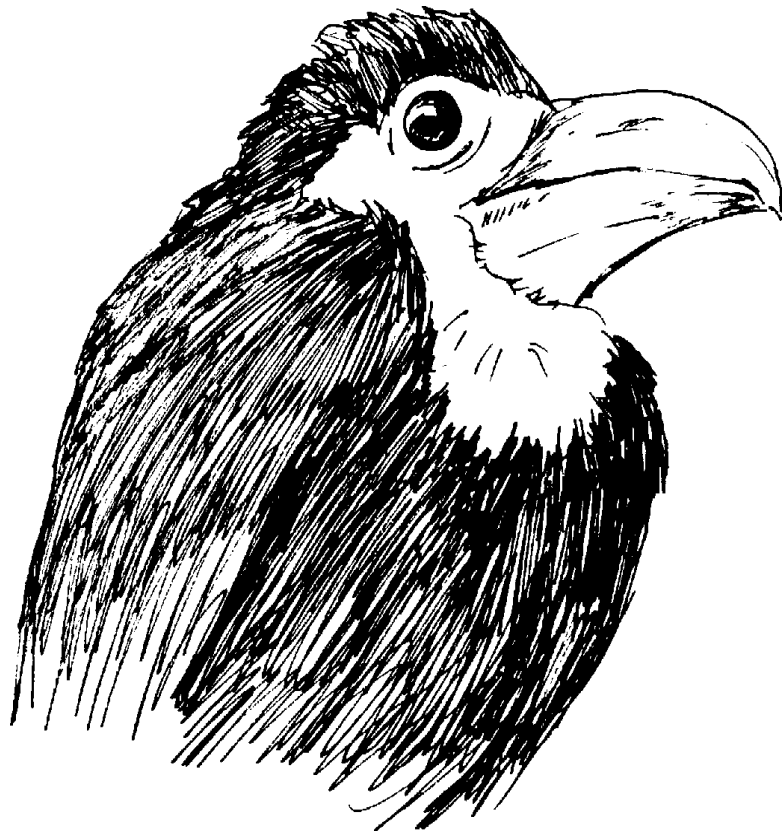
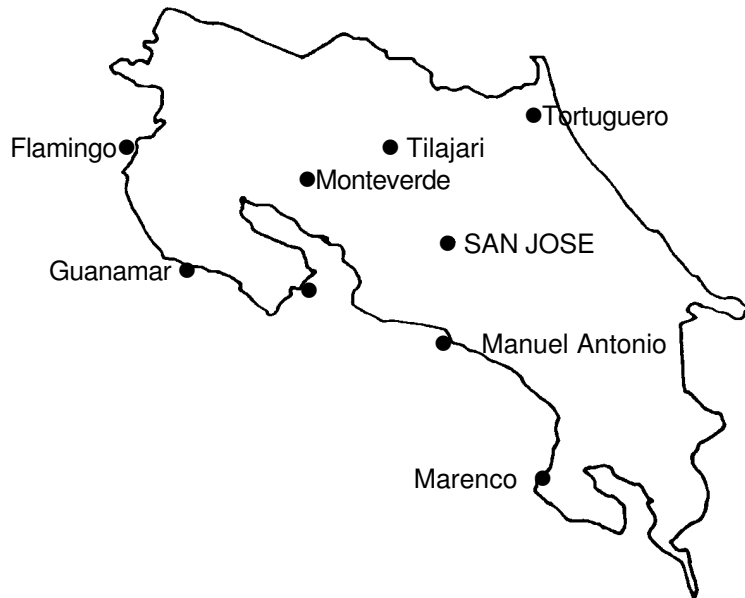


Costa Rica

ADVENTURES



The California Native



For information or reservations call:

The California Native

(310)642-1140

(800)926-1140

www.calnative.com

6701 West 87th Place, Los Angeles, CA 90045 USA

Costa Rica

Costa Rica is a small, democratic and peaceful country located at the exact center of the Americas, between Nicaragua and Panama. It is slightly smaller than the state of West Virginia and has a population of three million.

In recent years, Costa Rica has made the preservation of its natural heritage a top priority. More than 23 percent of its mountains, valleys and shoreline is protected in national parks, forestry reserves and wildlife refuges. Its twelve distinct ecological systems contain more than 8,000 species of plants, including 1,500 varieties of orchids, more types of birds than in all of North America, and more butterfly species than the entire continent of Africa.

Unlike most other countries in the world, Costa Rica has no army, choosing instead to spend its tax dollars on education and health care for its citizens.

Our California Native trips explore the country from its Pacific to its Caribbean coasts and introduce the visitor to the rich contrasts and natural diversity of this unique land. Please join us on one of our Costa Rican Adventures. I know you'll have a wonderful time.

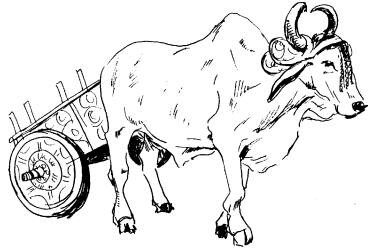


December 2011

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Costa Rica Adventures



Discover the beauty of Costa Rica's jungles, volcanoes, cloud forests and beaches, where, amidst the lush foliage, you'll encounter an incredible variety of wildlife—monkeys, sloths, birds, butterflies and more.

7-day Nature Explorer

This trip is perfect for those who want to see the most they can of Costa Rica but only have a week to spend.

1st Day: Arrive in Costa Rica and spend the night at a turn-of-the-century coffee plantation home, converted into a charming bed and breakfast hotel.

2nd & 3rd Day: Travel through banana plantations to the Reventazón River, then journey on a river boat up the system of rivers and canals to Tortuguero National Park, where you'll stay at a jungle lodge, hike in the rain forest, walk along the Caribbean beaches, and explore the jungle waterways by boat.

4th & 5th Day: Travel by launch along the Nicaraguan border and down the Rio Sarapiquí, and then by van to the Tilajari Resort. You'll go on an evening tour to the Arenal Volcano, visit the Caño Negro Wildlife Reserve, swim in hot mineral springs, ride horses, and more.

6th Day: Travel back to San José for your final night in Costa Rica.

7th Day: After a week of experiencing the beauty and excitement of Costa Rica, it is now time to return home, loaded with film to be processed and memories to be cherished.

What's included: All lodging, meals (except in San José), transportation and tours. Minimum: 2 persons.

Price per person:	Double Occupancy	\$1540*
	Single room supplement	\$ 370*

***NOTE:** Prices subject to change without notice.

Call 800-926-1140 or 310-642-1140

9-day Nature Explorer

This trip is the same as our 7-day Nature Explorer, with two additional days to experience even more of the beauty of Costa Rica.

1st thru 5th Day: Same as the 7-day Nature Explorer.

6th & 7th Day: Travel to Monteverde for a two-night stay. Tour the cloud forest, the butterfly farm and the crafts galleries.

8th Day: Visit the Poás volcano and the crafts town of Sarchi before returning to San José.

9th Day: Enjoy a last tropical breakfast at the hotel before departing this beautiful little country at the center of the Americas.

What's included: All lodging, meals (except in San José), transportation and tours. Minimum: 2 persons.

Price per person:

Double Occupancy	\$2120*
Single room supplement	\$ 490*

11-day Nature Explorer

This trip is the same as our 9-day Nature Explorer, with the additional excitement of a two-day whitewater rafting trip on the Pacuare River.

1st thru 8th Day: Same as the 9-day Nature Explorer.

9th thru 11th Days: Raft down the Pacuare River, one of the most exotic and scenic rivers in the world. You'll spend the night at the Pacuare Lodge, a jungle lodge nestled in the middle of an enchanting rainforest. The following morning you'll continue your journey down the river with even more challenging rapids and a stop at pristine waterfalls and natural waterslides. Then return to San José for a final night in Costa Rica before departing for home.

What's included: All lodging, all meals (except in San José), transportation and tours. Minimum: 2 persons.

Price per person:

Double Occupancy	\$2490*
Single room supplement	\$ 610*

***NOTE:** Prices subject to change without notice.

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14-day Nature Explorer

This trip begins with our 9-day Nature Explorer and then adds three nights at Marengo Biological Reserve, including Caño Island and Corcovado National Park, and a day of whitewater rafting on the Reventazón River.

1st thru 8th Day: Same as the 9-day Nature Explorer.

9th thru 12th Days: Travel by plane and boat to Punto Marengo Lodge, where you'll spend the next three nights and four days. You'll visit Caño Island, where you can hike, swim and snorkel (scuba diving is available by special arrangement), and then travel by boat to Corcovado National Park, to hike through its rainforest and explore its secluded beaches. Return to San José

13th Day: Spend the day whitewater rafting down the Reventazón River—the water is warm, the rapids are thrilling and the lush tropical scenery is magnificent. Return in the late afternoon to San José for a final night in Costa Rica.

14th Day: Enjoy a last tropical breakfast at the hotel before departing this beautiful little country at the center of the Americas.

What's included: All lodging, all meals (except in San José), transportation and tours. Minimum: 2 persons.

Price per person:	Double Occupancy	\$3290*
	Single room supplement	\$ 780*



***NOTE:** Prices subject to change without notice.

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Study Spanish in Costa Rica

What better way to spend a vacation than living with a family in an exotic country, having fun and returning home with a skill that will enrich the rest of your life? The California Native, in conjunction with Centro Lingüístico Conversa, offers this wonderful Spanish language program in Costa Rica.

The campus is located on a hilltop about ten miles west of San José. The views from the campus are spectacular. The air is fresh and pure and tropical fruits grow in abundance—an ideal place for language study.

An important part of the Conversa experience is living with a Costa Rican family. Conversa will place you with a host-family, one student or couple per family. Your hosts will provide you with a private room, breakfast, dinner and laundry service. Those not wishing to take advantage of the host-family program may stay at one of two attractive lodges located on the Conversa campus.

The class sizes are small, with a maximum of four students per instructor. When you enter the program, you are tested for your level of proficiency and are placed in a class that is perfect for you.

The Intensive Program: 4 hours of Spanish classes daily, stay with a Costa Rican host family, afternoons free for exploring.

4-Week program \$ 2,650*
3-Week program \$ 2,085*
2-Week program \$ 1,460*
1-Week program \$ 760*

The Super-Intensive Program: 5½ hours of Spanish classes daily, stay with a Costa Rican host family, our most intensive Spanish program.

4-Week program \$ 2,980*
3-Week program \$ 2,365*
2-Week program \$ 1,630*
1-Week program \$ 850*

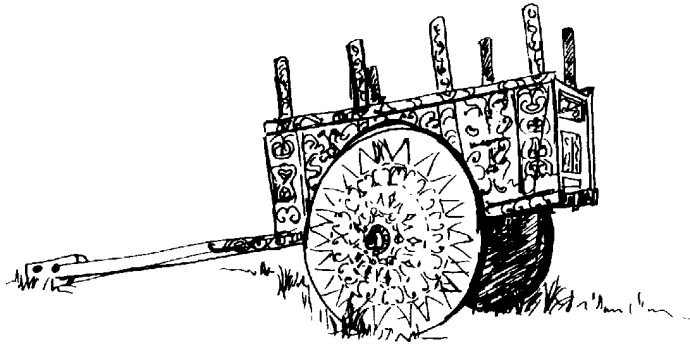
Give us a call and we'll be glad to give you more information on our language programs in Costa Rica.

***NOTE:** Prices subject to change without notice.

Call 800-926-1140 or 310-642-1140

“Add-On” & Custom Adventures

The following resorts and activities can be added to our Costa Rica Explorer trips to design a vacation that is perfect for you.



1. San José

All Costa Rica trips begin and end in San José. There are many fine hotels located in this capital city. We've selected the following hotel as a very good example.

Hotel Santo Tomas Single: \$ 95* Double: \$ 105* Triple: \$125*

***NOTE:** Prices subject to change without notice.

Call 800-926-1140 or 310-642-1140

2. Beach Resorts

Want to spend a few days soaking up the sun on a Costa Rican beach? These beach resorts are strictly for relaxing. Choose the resort that suits your style and budget.

HOTEL GUANAMAR BEACH & SPORTFISHING RESORT - Located at beautiful Carrillo Beach in Guanacaste Province, Guanamar is a luxury resort where you can snorkel, surf, fish, scuba dive, sea kayak, or just relax on the beach or by the pool. Sportfishing packages are available.

Single: \$125–190* Double: \$125–190*

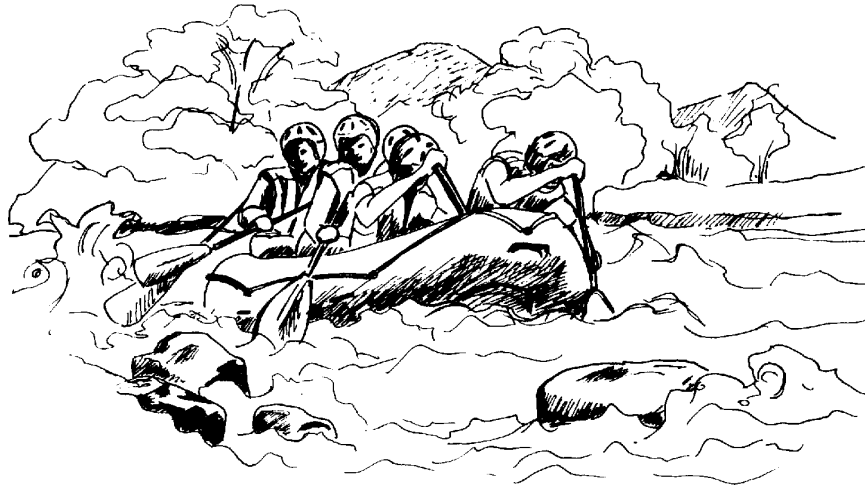
AUROLA FLAMINGO BEACH RESORT - Located only 150 feet from the water's edge at Flamingo Beach in Guanacaste Province, this deluxe hotel offers scuba diving and sportfishing, a casino and three swimming pools.

Single: \$130–350* Double: \$130–350*



***NOTE:** Prices subject to change without notice.

Call 800-926-1140 or 310-642-1140



3. Whitewater Rafting

Costa Rica’s jungle rivers are perfect for whitewater rafting—the water is warm, the rapids are thrilling and the lush tropical scenery is unsurpassed. The all-day trips depart San José in the morning, include breakfast and lunch and a beautiful, thrilling day of rafting on the Reventazón or Pacuare Rivers. We also offer exciting multi-day trips.

One-day Tours

	Price/person
Rio Reventazón (Class II-III)	\$ 75*
Rio Reventazón (Class IV)	\$ 85*
Rio Pacuare (Class III-IV)	\$ 99*

Multi-day Tours

Rio Pacuare (Class III-IV)	2 days	\$285*
Rio Pacuare (Class III-IV)	3 days	\$355*

***NOTE:** Prices subject to change without notice.

4. Puenta Marengo Lodge

Located in Costa Rica's far southern Pacific corner, next to Corcovado National Park, Punto Marengo encompasses a vast area of beach, jungle and forest. Accommodations are in picturesque open-air screened bamboo and wood cabins, all with private baths. The cabins are located on top of a hill, and the views of the jungle and ocean from the verandas are wonderful. Marengo's beaches are beautiful, secluded and unspoiled. The trips include transportation by air and boat from San José, all meals and a tour of Corcovado National Park. The four-day package also includes a boat trip to Caño Island for hiking and snorkeling (scuba diving is available by special arrangement), and the five-day package adds a hike to the Rio Claro.

Price per person:	3 day/2 night package	\$ 790*
	4 day/3 night package	\$ 990*
	5 day/4 night package	\$1190*

5. Calypso Island Cruise

The *Manta Raya*, a beautiful catamaran, features an underwater viewing window, freshwater showers, a full bar, an air-conditioned main salon and an expansive deck area that includes two jacuzzi pools. After leaving port, the boat cruises through calm water past the islands of Guayabo and Negritos and anchors off of Tortuga Island, where you can swim, snorkel, or just soak up the sun on the secluded, rainforest-fringed beach. The trip includes a continental breakfast, a barbecue lunch served with ice cold beer and wine, soft drinks, fresh fruit and live music. Departs daily.

Price per person:	\$109*
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***NOTE:** Prices subject to change without notice.

People Love Our Costa Rica Adventures:

“Costa Rica has something for everyone! Marvelous country. Really enjoyed my visit. A unique trip. People are so helpful and friendly. Nice sampling of Costa Rica. The California Native guides are the best!!!”

Joi Chase

“The travel arrangements were seamless. Everything appeared to happen effortlessly.”

Connie Stout

“Beautiful trip and country. The Itinerary gave us an excellent variety of what the country has to offer—from jungle, to mountains to beach.”

John W. Chase

“Costa Rica is beautiful and I loved everywhere we went and everything we did. Seeing wildlife in their natural setting was the biggest thrill.”

Connie Norton

“The trip was great. Tortuguero was awesome—a once in a lifetime chance to be somewhere like that. The travel arrangements were excellent and the California Native guide was great.”

Michael Polenzani

“The trip was well planned and run. The California Native guides were unbelievably helpful and considerate. Our comfort and desires were always of prime concern to them. They made the trip most enjoyable.”

Jill & Jay Michtom

“Wonderful trip. We thoroughly enjoyed it. The California Native guides were easy to travel with—lovely people, warm and friendly, cared about their group, shared their knowledge and experience at every opportunity—they made the trip great for us.”

Howie & Jean Silverstein



Terms, Conditions and Stuff Like That

RESERVATIONS:

Please reserve as early as possible as space is limited on all of our trips. A \$200 deposit is required at the time of booking. Airfare not included in packages must be paid in full at time of booking. Final payments are due 60 days prior to the trip date. All deposits and payments are **nonrefundable**. For your convenience, we accept most major credit cards.

CANCELLATIONS:

In the case of cancellation by participants, **no refunds** will be made. To protect yourself against unforeseen illness or other emergencies, we encourage you to purchase travel insurance.

TRIP INSURANCE:

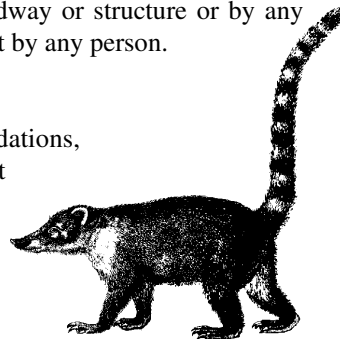
We offer optional travel insurance.

RESPONSIBILITY:

The California Native is acting only as an agent for the particular airlines, lodgings and other providers of services. Accordingly, these arrangements are made for you upon the express condition that neither The California Native nor its officers or employees shall have any responsibility for, nor shall they be liable for, any claim or loss whether or not arising from any personal injury, illness, property loss or damage, wrongful death, monetary loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, irregularity, omission, failure to provide adequate service, additional charge, failure to warn, defect or failure in any vehicle, facility, roadway or structure or by any breach of contract, negligence or wrongful act by any person.

SUBSTITUTIONS:

We reserve the right to substitute accommodations, transportation and itinerary when we deem it necessary or advisable.



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Questions We Are Frequently Asked About Costa Rica:

What is the weather like?

There are only two seasons in Costa Rica, the rainy season (or “Green Season”) and the dry season. The rainy season starts in May and finishes in November. During this season there is usually rain in the late afternoon. Unlike rain in more northern latitudes, this is warm water and not uncomfortable. Many people prefer to travel during this season in tropical countries as there are less tourists, the colors are more vivid, and the rivers and waterfalls are at their fullest. The majority of visitors come to Costa Rica during the dry season, and Christmas is the most popular time of the year. Since this season is the middle of winter in North America, people like to travel to Costa Rica to “thaw out”.

The average temperature in Costa Rica is approximately 73° F and varies little with the season. Average rainfall on the Caribbean coast is around 120 inches a year, while the Pacific coast averages 75 inches a year.

Do I need a passport or visa?

If you are a U.S. citizen you only need a valid passport. Citizens of other countries should check with the Costa Rican consulate regarding visas.

Do I need shots?

No shots or inoculations are needed for Costa Rica.

What part of Costa Rica is best to visit?

Costa Rica has much to offer. There are rainforests, beaches, volcanoes, mountains and more. If this is your first trip to Costa Rica, you probably want to get a sampling of each of the environments the country has to offer. The best way to do this is by joining one of our Nature Explorer adventures.



Discovering The “Rich Coast”

ON SEPTEMBER 8, 1502, ON HIS FOURTH VOYAGE TO THE NEW World, Christopher Columbus landed on the Atlantic Coast of Costa Rica, close to what is now the port of Limon. The Spaniards were greeted by friendly Indians. Columbus was so impressed by the golden mirrors they wore around their necks and their stories of gold mines along the coast to the south that he named the land Costa Rica, the “Rich Coast.” The “Rich Coast” turned out to be one of Spain’s poorest American colonies, with impenetrable forests, impassable mountains, raging rivers and a lack of natural resources. The gold mines of the Indians, if they ever really existed, were never discovered. In addition, the Spanish colonists found that they could not force the Indians into slavery, so the Spaniards themselves were forced to eke out a living with their own labor in a hostile land. This inability to delegate work to a subservient indigenous population led to a democratic, do-it-yourself tradition, which became a part of the national character.

Despite the lack of gold, Costa Rica is indeed a rich land. It is rich in the diversity of its animal and plant life, its mountains, rivers, swamps and grasslands, and in its traditions of democracy and individual freedom.