



Escorted Tours Since 1952  
**Caravan**  
.com

Phone 1-800-Caravan

#1 in Value

**Costa Rica Natural Paradise** from: **10 Days from \$995**

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**2012 Departure Dates**

<b>Jan</b>	2*, 4*, 6*, 8*, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
<b>Feb</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29
<b>Mar</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24,

**Dear Traveler,** Welcome to a great vacation and an affordable tour. Your Costa Rica tour is all inclusive with all meals, all activities, all hotels, a great itinerary, all airport transfers, all transportation and excursions. A professional Tour Director accompanies you for the entire Costa Rica vacation. Our travel packages also offer purified water at meals and on the motor coach. Join the smart shoppers and experienced travelers who have chosen Caravan Tours since 1952.

**Happy Travels!**



Help keep our prices low: **Tell a friend about this vacation!**



	25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
<b>Apr</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 20, 27
<b>May</b>	4, 11, 18, 25
<b>Jun</b>	1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29
<b>Jul</b>	1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29
<b>Aug</b>	3, 10, 17, 24, 31
<b>Sep</b>	7*, 14*, 21*, 28*
<b>Oct</b>	5*, 12*, 19*, 26*
<b>Nov</b>	2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30
<b>Dec</b>	2, 5, 7, 16**, 17**, 18**, 19**, 20**, 21**, 22**, 23**, 24**, 25**, 26**, 27**, 28, 29, 30, 31

\*indicates Super Value date.

### Call For Latest Availability

Caravan's tours sell out fast! Please call 1 800 CARAVAN or 312 321-9800 before confirming other travel arrangements to verify availability and place a complimentary hold on your preferred departure date. Other dates may be available.

### 2012 Price Per Person - \$U.S.

Room Type	Super Value	Great Value	Holiday Value
<b>Double</b>	<b>\$ 995</b>	<b>\$ 1,095</b>	<b>\$ 1,195</b>
Triple	975	1,075	1,175
Single	1,245	1,345	1,445

Plus Taxes and Fees:

Double \$214; Triple \$199; Single \$249

"Caravan Tours is...  
very reasonably priced."  
**The New York Times**  
January 2004

### How to Reserve Space

Call 1-800-Caravan. You can reserve space free for up to 3 days, then a \$300 deposit per person is due. Full payment due 60 days prior to departure.

In Latin America, Caravan transfers you between the airport and hotel on the starting and ending dates of your tour.

Airfare is not included or sold by Caravan. [Here is a list of some of the airlines that service this tour.](#)

11 Meals Included



## Itinerary

**Begins and Ends:** San Jose, Costa Rica

### Day 1 - San José, Costa Rica

Welcome to the "rich coast," friendly land of democracy and rare natural beauty. With naturalist guides, see exotic birds and wildlife, hike in jungle rainforests, view volcanoes, soak in hot springs and cruise through biological reserves. Relax on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Caravan provides transfers from the Juan Santamaria International Airport (SJO) in San José, Costa Rica to your hotel for a two night stay. Rooms are available for check in after 4:00 p.m. Dine at your hotel, then join Caravan for a 8:00 p.m. welcome briefing. **D**

### Day 2 - Poás Volcano, Cloud Forest

This morning, enjoy a drive through Costa Rica's famous coffee growing region. Next, visit Poás Volcano. Weather permitting, you can see inside the active crater from an overlook. Next, hike the Escalonia Cloud Forest Trail, home to epiphytes, orchids, ferns and tropical hummingbirds. Cloud forests are like rainforests, but with less rain and more humidity. Lunch. Next, visit Cafe Brit, a coffee plantation nestled in Barva de Heredia, on the slopes of the extinct Barva Volcano. Enjoy a guided tour and sample fresh Costa Rican coffee. Then, see San José's Plaza de la Cultura, Central Park and the National Theatre. Dinner. **BLD**

### Day 3 - Butterfly Garden, Tortuguero Park

Scenic morning drive through Braulio Carrillo Park. Look for cascading waterfalls. Visit a butterfly garden. Enjoy lunch. Drive by a banana plantation. Then, cruise through rivers and canals to the 47,000 acre Tortuguero National Park. Tortuguero is home to more than 300 species of birds. Look for toucans, parrots, kingfishers and the rare green macaw. Free time to enjoy the swimming pool and tropical flower gardens at your lodge. Listen to joyful jungle sounds. Enjoy a two night stay at your lodge. Dinner. **BLD**

### Day 4 - Tortuguero Park, Canal Cruise

Cruise this morning with naturalist guides along canals lined by raffia palm, the habitat of howler and white-faced monkeys, green iguanas and tropical birds. Look for white and snowy egrets and the amazing nests of the montezuma oropendola. Then, enter the mysterious reflecting waters of Caño Palma wildlife reserve. Next, visit the Green Turtle Research Station. Learn about efforts to protect the turtles. Walk along the Atlantic turtle nesting beaches with a naturalist guide. Next, to Tortuguero village. Meet Costa Rican school children on your visit to a local school (when in session). Return to your lodge for lunch. Enjoy an

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

## What's on this Page:

- [Daily Itinerary](#)
- [Hotel Descriptions](#)
- [Airport Transfers](#)
- [Weather \(year round\)](#)
- [F.A.Q. for this Tour](#)
- [Customer Reviews](#)

## Hotels - listed by day

- 1, 2 **San Jose**  
[Barcelo San Jose Palacio Hotel](#), [Aurola Hotel](#)
- 3, 4 **Tortuguero Park**  
[Laguna Lodge](#), [Pachira Lodge](#)
- 5, 6 **Fortuna**  
[Lomas del Volcan](#), [Arenal Springs](#), [Arenal Manoa](#), [Magic Mountain](#)
- 7, 8 **Guanacaste, Pacific Beach**  
[J.W. Marriott Resort and Spa](#)
- 9 **San Jose**  
[Aurola Hotel](#)



## General Info

- [Check Availability Now](#)
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- [Terms of Travel](#)
- [Travel Planner](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [For Passengers in Groups of 10+](#)

## Pay by



or  check.

## Travel Protection Plan

Caravan's very reasonably priced travel protection plan offers peace of mind if you cancel for any reason prior to departure of the tour and also includes comprehensive medical air and baggage insurance. Caravan strongly recommends purchasing this plan. The

afternoon boat excursion into Tortuguero Park. Look for otters, turtles and manatees. Dinner. **BLD**

## Day 5 - Pineapple Tour, Fortuna

Morning cruise on Tortuguero River. Enjoy lunch. Visit a pineapple plantation. Sample Costa Rica's famous sweet organic pineapples. Next, through scenic countryside to the San Carlos Valley for a two night stay in Fortuna. Dinner. **BLD**

## Day 6 - Caño Negro, Hot Springs, Arenal

Head north this morning, passing through sugar cane, teak and orange plantations. Then, cruise on the Rio Frio which runs through the world famous Caño Negro wildlife refuge, home to many migratory birds found nowhere else in Costa Rica. Look for whistling ducks, roseate spoonbills, cormorants, anhingas, blue heron, and northern jacanas. Watch for caimans, crocodiles, spider monkeys, and web-footed, water-walking lizards. Lunch. Return to Fortuna. Then, enjoy a relaxing soak in the volcanic hot springs. Weather permitting, see nearby Arenal Volcano's softly glowing lava flow. Enjoy dinner. **BLD**

## Day 7 - Hanging Bridges, Guanacaste

This morning enjoy an unforgettable adventure in the heart of the rainforest at the Hanging Bridges, rated one of Costa Rica's top tourist attractions. Hike on six suspension bridges, through lush tropical rainforest canopy. Enjoy views of a waterfall and look for tropical birds. Later, a scenic drive around Lake Arenal. Enjoy lunch. Next, enter the Guanacaste province. Drive through the only tropical dry forest in Costa Rica. Stop in Liberia. Then, to Costa Rica's beautiful Pacific Coast for a two night stay. Dinner is at your resort. **BLD**

## Day 8 - Pacific Coast, Guanacaste

This morning drive to the nearby Natural Trail of Hacienda Pinilla. This tropical bird and wildlife sanctuary is home to the playful howler monkey. Lunch. Enjoy a carefree leisurely afternoon. Time to beachcomb or stroll the pristine beaches of your resort. Enjoy your hotel's infinity pool, the largest in Central America. Dinner. **BLD**

## Day 9 - Tarcoles Cruise, San José

Morning drive through the cattle ranches of Guanacaste. Lunch. Next, enjoy a bird and crocodile spotting cruise on the Tarcoles River, adjacent to the Carara Biological Reserve. Cruise through a mangrove reserve. This tropical bird and wildlife sanctuary is a nesting site for the scarlet macaw. Return to San José. Farewell dinner. **BLD**

## Day 10 - San José

Your tour ends after breakfast this morning at your hotel. Breakfast begins at 6:30 a.m. Caravan provides transfers to the Juan Santamaria International Airport (SJO) in San José, Costa Rica arriving at 5:00 a.m., 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.. Thanks for vacationing with Caravan. ¡Hasta la vista! **B**

**Frommer's®**

### Arthur Frommer's Budget Travel

See what Arthur Frommer says about us in his syndicated Budget Travel column.

#### December 2005

"The distinguished 53-year-old Caravan Tours has scheduled virtually daily departures there throughout January, February and March for its escorted 10-day tour."

cost is \$99. [Find out more](#)

"And what a tour it is: Usually, travelers have to choose from among Costa Rica's beaches, volcanoes and rain forests. This tour goes to all those places and includes every major sight, as well as three meals a day on all but two days, and excellent hotels and lodges. The cost is a remarkable \$995 per person for everything other than airfare to the capital city of San Jose."

"Caravan's long record in its tour programs ... inspires confidence about this strong effort to establish a presence in Costa Rica."

#### **January 2006**

"I am still impressed that the large Caravan Tours has scheduled almost-daily departures from January through March of its escorted tour of the beaches, volcanoes and rain forests of Costa Rica. It's a sign of how firmly tourism has taken hold of that Central American republic, and a tribute to the appeal of unsullied nature, which Costa Rica represents. However, it's also because of the brilliant, affordable pricing of this tour by Caravan."

#### **September 2007**

"On my Sunday radio program, I've several times mentioned the attractive price of \$995 per person plus airfare for a 10-day, fully-escorted trip to Costa Rica offered throughout the year by the distinguished Chicago tour operator called Caravan Tours. The price includes all accommodations, all meals, and all motorcoach sightseeing and transportation...highly affordable vacations. "The Travel Show with Arthur Frommer"

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