

DAY ONE - Costa Rica

Welcome to nature's wonderland. Most flights arrive in the evening. Interact's foreign representative will meet you in the airport lobby. Transfer to your hotel or lodge near the airport.

DAY TWO - Bosque Tropical

Enjoy a scenic mountain drive into the rainforest, where you'll arrive at the Sarapiqui River. Board your lancha as you cruise through the rainforest. You'll witness tropical birds, monkeys, lizards, miniature bats, and caiman. Later, arrive at your rain forest jungle lodge. Prior to dinner, enjoy a walk along the self-guided jungle trails.

DAY THREE - Chocolate interaction / Canopy option

Participate in a unique chocolate *InterACT Ion*. Experience the chocolate-making process first-hand and even have the opportunity to treat your taste buds to organic rainforest chocolate! Following lunch, consider a popular option to Hacienda Pozo Azul, a 400 acre, protected forest where 12 cables and 14 platforms have been installed. This canopy ride has double cable in each zip line. The tour ends with a spectacular 330 ft. line that crosses the Sarapiqui River Canyon, landing right by the reception building.

DAY FOUR - Pineapple Plantation/Arenal Hot Springs

Visit a pineapple plantation. Learn about the history and cultivation as you witness all phases of pineapple growth, from sowing to harvest. Continue to Arenal, Costa Rica's most active volcano. Relax in a hot springs recreational area. Swim in one of nature's therapeutic pools and stroll the botanical gardens. Transfer to Rancho Lodge or meet your host family.

HOMESTAY: Rancho de Español is located in the countryside community of La Guacima, Alajuela. Your host families are relatives, neighbors, or lifelong friends of our homestay directors. In fact, many host families are related to one another. Regardless, all families are monitored and continually evaluated. Everyone speaks Spanish in the home. Rancho serves as the meeting point and social center for all activities. The park-like grounds feature a swimming pool, volleyball, and soccer.

DAY FIVE - Café Britt/Shopping/Dance interACT ion

Experience the original Café Britt coffee tour at their farm located in Barva de Heredia. You'll be immersed in a colorful journey through their working plantation and roastery. Learn how experts *taste* or "cup" coffee to identify and grade the characteristics that qualify a gourmet coffee. Then, browse their factory store and gift shop. Later, visit a popular craft center. Enjoy shopping for traditional hand-painted oxcarts and souvenirs. Later, gather at Rancho, where you'll learn to salsa!

DAY SIX - InterACTions

Today, participate in our humanitarian and cultural *interActions*. Visit a local school, orphanage or day care center. Please bring basic school supplies and wear old clothes. Your host family provides packed lunch. Interact donates roundtrip transportation, staffing, and project materials. Later, at Rancho, have fun with your cooking *InterAction*, featuring picadillo and tortillas.

DAY SEVEN – Manuel Antonio National Park

Enjoy a panoramic drive along the Pacific Coast to Manuel Antonio National Park. Explore the walking trails, with tons of wildlife, and then spend the afternoon at a beautiful white-sand beach. Cool off and swim, or just lie on the beach and soak-in the scenery. Replace Manuel Antonio with an optional Pacific Island Cruise: Drive to Puntarenas, where you'll board your catamaran. Cruise past the Guayabo National Park Sanctuary on your way to Isla Tortuga. Enjoy your day on an island where sun, sand, and crystal clear water beckons you to swim, play beach volleyball, or relax under swaying coconut palms.

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DAY EIGHT - Costa Rica Departure



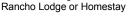
MIDWEEK DEPARTURE

8 days/7 nights



NIGHTS

Airport hotel or Rancho Lodge Rainforest Lodge





ALL MEALS ARE INCLUDED