

# Alajuela



## DAY ONE - Costa Rica Homestay

Welcome to nature's wonderland. Your Interact Representative greets you in the airport and transfers you to Rancho de Español, located in the countryside community of La Guacima, Alajuela, where you'll meet your homestay director and host families.

**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. Host families provide all meals - except those included as part of the touring. Everyone speaks Spanish in the home. Students normally share with one other group member of the same general language ability.

Rancho de Español serves as the meeting point and social center for all activities. The park-like grounds feature a swimming pool, volleyball, and soccer.

## DAY TWO – Volunteer Project/Cooking *InterACTion*

Your Homestay Director coordinates this special activity at a local school, orphanage or “day care center” in need. Transportation and supplies are donated by Interact. You'll have an opportunity to interact with the children while painting, gardening, etc. No experience necessary! Your host family provides packed lunch. Later, have fun with your cooking *InterACTion* at Rancho de Español featuring picadillo and tortillas.

## DAY THREE – River Cruise/Optional Canopy

Panoramic drive via exuberant Braulio Carrillo National Park. Upon arrival at the Sarapiquí River, cruise through the magnificent rainforest as you witness tropical birds, monkeys, sloth, lizards and caiman. Canyon, landing right by the reception building. 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 Sarapiquí River Canyon, landing right by the reception building, \$35.

## DAY FOUR - Arenal Hot Springs

A delightful drive through the highlands leads to Arenal, Costa Rica's most active volcano. Lunch is included today. Visit a hot springs recreational area. Swim in one of nature's therapeutic pools, stroll the botanical gardens, and witness the spectacular fiery display from an observation point at sunset.

## DAY FIVE – Café Britt/Moravia Shopping

Enjoy panoramic views of San Jose on your way to Café Britt. Experience firsthand the incredible process that transforms a red coffee cherry into a perfect cup of coffee – all the while being entertained with tales of tradition, song, and costumes. After lunch, search for your favorite souvenir in the popular shops of Moravia.

## DAY SIX – Volunteer Project/Salsa *InterACTion*

Your Homestay Director coordinates your second day at a local school, orphanage or “day care center”. Transportation and supplies are donated by Interact. You'll have another opportunity to interact with the children while painting, gardening, etc. Later, gather at Rancho, where you'll learn to salsa!

## DAY SEVEN - Pacific Island Cruise

Drive to the Pacific Coast. Cruise past the Guayabo National Park Sanctuary on your way to Isla Tortuga. Lunch is included today. 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.

## DAY EIGHT - Costa Rica Departure



**MIDWEEK DEPARTURES**  
8 days/7 nights



**NIGHTS**  
Alajuela Homestay

7



**MEALS**  
Host families provide all meals.  
Tour lunches as specified.