

Costa Rica 5-night DETAILED ITINERARY

2027 Jan 26 - 31

Day 1, 26 Jan 2027



Transportation from Puerto Caldera to Arenal with a stop at a traditional Costa Rican oxcart factory

When you disembark your ship at the cruise port, your professional guide will be there to welcome you and accompany you throughout the day. From there, you'll travel to the charming town of **Sarchí**, which is famous for its traditional craftsmanship.

In Sarchí, you'll visit a local workshop where skilled artisans handcraft Costa Rica's iconic ox carts. During the guided tour, you'll learn about the history and cultural significance of these beautifully painted carts, which have been recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. It's a wonderful opportunity to experience an important part of Costa Rica's traditions and heritage firsthand.

After the visit, you'll continue your journey to the Arenal area, where the next part of your adventure begins.



Guided visit to Grecia and Sarchí downtown

During this journey, our tour guide will take you to some of the most important sites to know **Grecia**, a very typical and traditional town, where we will admire the **metal church**, a building that has a rare architecture, with high ceilings, ornate stained-glass windows, and classical lines.

Then, you will visit the town of **Sarchi**, known as the birthplace of **Costa Rica's Artisans**, where you will be able to appreciate many of the **art crafts and souvenirs** managed by the local artists.





Arenal Volcano

Elevation	258 m / 845 f	Temperature	28 C / 82 F
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La Fortuna is home to the greater Arenal recreation area, the entire region is paradise on Earth for **outdoor adventurers**. Volcanic views grace the landscape and heat several **geothermal hot springs**. A lake and rivers beckon you toward **aquatic adventure**. Refreshing **waterfalls** reward you after **hikes**, offering crisp pools and spectacular views.

Arenal Volcano is one of **Costa Rica's most notable natural features**. Standing at 5,437 feet (1,657 meters), this volcano has been resting (i.e. not active) since 2010. However, it is no less majestic to behold, as it's practically a behemoth against the region's perfect skies. **Rising above the rainforest** that surrounds its base, Arenal Volcano frames the skyline with near-perfect **symmetry**.



Arenal Volcano Inn / Deluxe Room / Breakfast included / 2 Nights

Day 2, 27 Jan 2027

Your day will begin with a guided walk through the Arenal Hanging Bridges, where you'll explore the rainforest from a unique perspective. As you walk along the trails and suspension bridges, your guide will point out the incredible plants and wildlife that call this ecosystem home, giving you the chance to learn more about the area's rich biodiversity.

Later in the afternoon, you'll head to the hot springs, where you can relax and enjoy the naturally heated thermal pools surrounded by beautiful tropical scenery. It's the perfect way to unwind after the morning's adventure. To end the day, you'll enjoy a delicious dinner at the hot springs' restaurant before returning to your hotel.



Arenal Hanging Bridges Guided Walk / Transportation, water, snacks

Arenal Hanging Bridges: A Journey Through the Rainforest with Volcano Views

Step into the heart of Costa Rica's rainforest at **Mistico Park**, an eco-friendly reserve at the base of the majestic **Arenal Volcano**. This walking tour is one of La Fortuna's must-do adventures, perfect for families, couples, and nature lovers.

What Makes This Tour Special?

- **Breathtaking Views:** Cross 15 bridges—including six hanging bridges—with unforgettable panoramas of the rainforest and volcano.
- **Rich Biodiversity:** Spot colorful birds, monkeys, exotic plants, and other hidden wildlife along the way.
- **Expert Guidance:** Your journey begins with convenient hotel pickup and a friendly bilingual naturalist guide to enhance your experience.
- **Accessible Adventure:** Covering about 2 miles in 2.5 hours, these well-maintained trails are safe and suitable for all levels.

This is more than a hike—it's an immersion in nature. From the sound of tropical birds to the sight of Arenal's volcanic peak framed by lush jungle, every step offers something new.





Ecotermates Hot Springs (Night Charm) / Entrance fee, Dinner, Towel & locker included

Ecotermates Hot Springs is a perfect place to **relax and blend into nature**. It is one of the smallest hot springs in Arenal, which means **privacy**, it does not accept more than 100 visitors at one time. Ecotermates is a family-run project focused on offering the perfect balance of natural harmony and environmental responsibility together with maximum comfort and luxury.

The resort offers **four thermal pools** with different temperatures, with the coolest being 91° F (32 C) and the hottest being 105° F (41 C). One of the pools has a refreshing, **cascading waterfall** that you can stand beneath. Paths laid with volcanic silt run throughout the complex, connecting the pools, changing rooms, and restaurants making it easy and safe for you to navigate the pools and property.

Dinner is included before coming back to the hotel.



Day 3, 28 Jan 2027

Today, you'll travel from Arenal to Monteverde by **crossing the beautiful Lake Arenal, enjoying breathtaking scenery along the way and keeping an eye out for local wildlife**. It's a scenic journey that offers a different perspective of Costa Rica's natural beauty.

Once you **arrive in Monteverde**, you'll check in at your hotel and have some time to settle in before the afternoon's activities. Later, you'll visit a charming **Butterfly Garden**, where an expert guide will introduce you to the fascinating life cycle, behavior, and diversity of these colorful insects.

As the sun sets, you'll head into the **Monteverde Cloud Forest for a guided night walk**. This is a completely different experience from exploring the forest during the day, as many of the area's animals become active after dark. With the help of your guide, you'll have the opportunity to spot nocturnal wildlife and discover the unique sights and sounds of the cloud forest at night.



Shared Transfer from Arenal to Monteverde, Lake Crossing / Shuttle Service

The trip combines comfortable **door to door** minivan transfers with a fun and **scenic cruise** across the tranquil **Lake Arenal**, where you will experience beautiful views of **the majestic volcano** and the forested **Tilaran Mountain Range**. You will also have the chance to see a variety of wetland birds such as kingfishers, flycatchers, waders and other exotic species that abound on the lakeshore.

You will be picked up from your hotel in **Arenal** and be driven to the Lake Arenal dam, where you will board a **covered boat**. This is where the scenic 45-minute cruise across the lake begins. Next, you will begin the impressive 1.5-hour journey up the mountainside on a steep road offering stunning views of the lush, green valley. You will be driven directly to your **Monteverde** area hotel.



Monteverde

Elevation	1,543 m / 5,060 f	Temperature	22 C / 71 F
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Home to cool, **misty cloud forests**, and deep **green foliage almost everywhere** you look, there's no mistaking that you've stepped away from everyday life. If **spending time in nature** is at the top of your travel to-do list, then you'll get your **fill of adventure** in this part of Costa Rica's Central Highlands. From **ziplining** across a canopy to tours of **coffee plantations**, there are **plenty of activities** to keep you moving in the fresh air. Monteverde is translated as "green mountain", and once you've reached the mountaintop, you'll first come upon the quaint town of **Santa Elena**. Here you'll find gift stores, accommodations, a bus stop, restaurants, cafes, a supermarket, banks and much more. Though Monteverde proper does not have a town center, it is comprised of a dirt road that leads to the **Cloud Forest Reserve**. Spread out along this walkable road are hotels, cafes, restaurants, galleries, and **excellent views**



Hotel Almore / Standard Room / Breakfast included / 2 Nights



Butterfly Garden Tour / Transfer included

Discover the fascinating world of butterflies in the heart of Monteverde's cloud forest. During a **guided tour**, you will learn about the extraordinary life cycle of these colorful insects while walking through lush tropical gardens where dozens of native Costa Rican butterfly species fly freely.

In addition to admiring the iconic Blue Morpho butterfly and many other tropical species, you will visit the breeding area to observe caterpillars, chrysalises, and the incredible process of metamorphosis up close. The experience also offers an introduction to Costa Rica's rich biodiversity through exhibits featuring insects, leaf-cutter ants, and other fascinating creatures that inhabit the cloud forest. This experience is perfect for visitors of all ages and is especially ideal for nature lovers, photography enthusiasts, and anyone interested in discovering Costa Rica's remarkable biodiversity in a peaceful and interactive setting.



Night Walk Tour / Transfer included

This **night walk tour immersive experience** offers a rare opportunity to witness the cloud forest from a different perspective, surrounded by the sounds of nature and the tranquility of the evening. It is an unforgettable activity for nature lovers, wildlife enthusiasts, and anyone looking to discover the incredible biodiversity that makes Monteverde one of Costa Rica's most remarkable destinations.



Day 4, 29 Jan 2027

Your morning will begin with a **guided walk through the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve**. As you explore the trails, your guide will help you discover the fascinating plants, birds, and wildlife that make this reserve so special.

After returning to the hotel, you'll head out for an **authentic cultural experience** that highlights some of Costa Rica's most important traditions. During the tour, you'll learn how coffee, sugar cane, and chocolate are produced, and of course, you'll have the opportunity to taste each of these delicious local products. To complete the experience, you'll enjoy a homemade lunch at a traditional Costa Rican restaurant, where you'll get to sample authentic local flavors in a warm and welcoming setting. After a day full of experiences, a delicious dinner awaits you at the hotel.



Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve, Guided Walking Tour / Transfer included

The **Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve** is the **largest** of these private **protected areas**, with over 25,730 acres (10,415 hectares) of land. More than 500 species of **orchids** cling to the limbs of enormous **trees**, while **vines, ferns, mosses** and **lichens** fill every other available space. The Cloud Forest of Monteverde house more than 130 species of **mammals**, 400 species of **birds**, including the beautiful **quetzal**, 30 species of **hummingbirds**, 5000 species of **moths** and 3000 species of **plants**. It is a **nature lover's paradise**.



El Trapiche Tour / Transfer and lunch included

The tour begins with a **short walk** through the farm where you can get a glimpse of **plantations as sugar cane, coffee, cocoa** and more. Enjoy the entire **coffee process**, the **artisanal cocoa process** and **sugar cane traditional process**. Experience the process of making the **traditional sugar cane candy**, to finish delight yourself with a **fragrant cup of coffee** from our farm.



Day 5, 30 Jan 2027

On the final day, **the group will transfer to San José**, where they will spend their last night in Costa Rica. **In the late afternoon, you will have a Guided Tour of San Jose - the city!**



Private Transfer from Monteverde to San Jose



San Jose

Elevation	1,169 m / 3,835 f	Temperature	24 C / 75 F
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Costa Rica's capital and the **largest city in the country**. Downtown San Jose is the busiest part of town. A maze of streets and avenues, here you can find most of the city's museums as well as several hotels and plazas.

In the center of the city, several attractions can be found, such as the **National Theater, the National Museum, and the Jade Museum**. Also, several parks like **Plaza de La Cultura and Parque Morazan** are interesting places to visit. In San Jose exist a wide variety for gastronomic, each corner of the city has great restaurants or the famous **Barrio Escalante**, a gastronomic center where high-quality food is offered. But for more local and typical food the central market offers tasty food.



Delta Hotels Marriott San Jose Aurola / Standard Room / Breakfast included / 1 night

Day 6, 31 Jan 2027



Transfer OUT from Hotel in San José to Juan Santamaria Airport (*Not included*)

See you Soon, Costa Rica!

All good things must come to an end, and it's time to say goodbye to this magical land and its wonderful people.

Please arrange with the hotel a taxi to the airport at your designated time, or you can go by UBER (approx \$15usd).

We truly hope to see you again soon so you can continue experiencing the *pura vida* that only Costa Rica can offer

Pura Vida !

LODGING DETAILS

Arenal Volcano Inn

Deluxe Room with Breakfast included

Arenal Volcano Inn enjoys a privileged location overlooking **the majestic Arenal Volcano**, just minutes from downtown La Fortuna, making it the perfect base for exploring the area's natural attractions. The hotel features comfortable guest rooms equipped with air conditioning, complimentary Wi-Fi, cable TV, a private bathroom, a terrace, a coffee maker, and a minibar. Select rooms offer breathtaking views of the lush gardens and the iconic Arenal Volcano.

Guests can unwind in the outdoor swimming pool or the garden spa and savor a variety of dining options at the hotel's restaurant and pizzeria, ensuring a relaxing and memorable stay.



Hotel Almore

Standard Room with Breakfast included

Hotel Almore is a cozy, family-owned hotel in Monteverde, Costa Rica, offering a peaceful stay surrounded by nature. It features comfortable rooms, an on-site restaurant, complimentary Wi-Fi, and easy access to Monteverde's main attractions, making it an excellent choice for couples, families, and small groups.



Delta Hotels Marriott San Jose Aurola

Standard Room with Breakfast included

Located in the heart of downtown San José, **Delta Hotels by Marriott San Jose Aurola** offers a comfortable and convenient stay, ideal for travelers looking to explore the city. Its central location provides easy access to major attractions, restaurants, shops, and cultural sites, making it an excellent base for a city tour and for discovering San José on foot.

The hotel offers a convenient location within easy reach of some of San José's main attractions, including the National Theatre, Morazán Park, museums, the Central Market, shops, and restaurants. Its central location makes it particularly well suited for a guided city tour and for travelers who would like to explore the city on foot during their stay.

Guests can enjoy comfortable rooms with city views, complimentary Wi-Fi, an indoor swimming pool, fitness center, on-site restaurant, bar, and room service. The hotel also offers **Tropicana Restaurant**, serving international cuisine, and **La Palma**, a relaxed bar ideal for enjoying a drink after a day of sightseeing



EXCLUSIONS

- Optional tours
- Departure taxes (\$29 per person)
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Airfare
- Tips
- International Travel Insurance
- Transfer Out to the Airport