



TRAVEL TIP
**15 Days –
 A Paradise
 on Earth**

THE HIDDEN COSTA RICA

By the Swiss Stéphane Dähler

ITINERARY

Costa Rica is probably the most beautiful and safest country of Central America. Lush vegetation, heavenly-looking plants and wildlife, mountain ranges peaked with majestic volcanoes and the deep blue Pacific are all one of a kind experiences. The inhabitants of this democratic country dominated by the agriculture have a good economic and social performance. They are very accommodating and hospitable, which makes the trip even more attractive. We are delighted to have you on our journey to this Central American paradise.

1. Day: Zurich – San José

Flight from Zurich to San José. Transfer to the hotel, which is located near the center of the capital city of San José. Common dinner.

2. Day: San José – Granja de Piña – San José

Today we leave for a one-day tour into the capital city of San José and visit the pineapple plantation of the Swiss emigrant Johann Dähler.

During the tour at the farm, you learn everything about the production and the quality of the pineapple, queen of fruits. Subsequently we travel to a heart-of-palm (palmito) farm. There we learn all the secrets of this white rod that tastes so good in salads as well as in dipping sauces. Return trip to San José.

3. Day: San José – San Gerardo de Dota

The history of Costa Rica is young but fascinating. Guayabo, one of the few archaeological sites of Costa Rica is our goal today. During a tour in the midst of nature we dive in the history of the indigenous people of Costa Rica. After a leisurely lunch we drive into a colder landscape towards San Gerardo de Dota, hometown of many quetzal birds.

4. Day: San Gerardo de Dota

Day tour from our hotel situated in the valley. We perform a hike through Los Quetzales National Park and hope to spot this beautiful bird when nesting or when eating his favorite fruit «Aguacatillo» (wild avocado).

5. Day: SanGerardo de Dota – Drake Bay

Today the heat of the Pacific Ocean awaits us. We drive with our bus over the highest pass of Costa Rica towards the South passing by Indian reservations and wonderful landscapes. A brief stop will be done in Perez Zeledón, also known as the city of the most beautiful women in Costa Rica. Continue to Sierpe. There we leave our bus and get on a ship that will take us through the largest mangrove forest of Costa Rica to our lodge, located in the middle of the forest with views of the ocean. This small hotel with 13 rooms will be our home for the next 4 nights.

15 DAYS FULL BOARD

Price on request

BOOKABLE

- All year long for group tours
- Individual travel with a rented car
- Travelling in small groups





DISPONIBLE PARA

Group tours
Small Groups
Individual

6. Day: Drake Bay

Enjoy nature, long walks by the sea, kayak trips on the river or just relax in the room with a private balcony ... Pura Vida!

7. Day: Whale watching

A huge luck and an absolute must is today's tour. We go with our ship far out and watch the whales. Baby whales playing, mothers who protect them – just an incredible experience.

8. Day: Corcovado

The hotel's boat will take us to the entrance of the Corcovado National Park. It is probably the best preserved and wildest National Park in Costa Rica.

9. Day: Drake – Manuel Antonio

Today we leave the last paradise on Earth. The hotel in Manuel Antonio lies high above the ground and has one of the most beautiful views from Manuel Antonio Park and its bay. On the program there is an optional night tour at the hotel's mini-nature reserve. This time of the day is the best to watch frogs, spiders, moths and many more exciting nocturnal animals.

10. Day: Santa Juana

Visit the hotel's reforestation Project Santa Juana. Here you will learn everything about agriculture in Costa Rica.



- 1 San José
- 2 Pineapple farm
- 3 San Gerardo
- 4 Drake Bay
- 5 Manuel Antonio
- 6 San Ramón

11. Day: Manuel Antonio

With the towel in the bag we explore today Manuel Antonio National Park, known for its diversity of nature and animals but above all for its white sand beach, where we will be able to recover comfortably after the walk.

12. Day: Manuel Antonio – San Ramón

Hoy Today the trip brings us inland of the country, in a magnificent area forgotten by mass tourism, to San Ramon. The Villa Blanca Hotel, built in the style of traditional houses waits for us in the middle of nowhere with wonderful views of the nearby nature.

13. Day: San Ramón

Visit the cloud forest, do bird watching and relax.

14. Day: San Ramón – San José

Coffee plantations and traditional history distinguish this area. Let's be excited about what we will learn today.

15. Day: San José – Airport

Early transfer to San José's airport and return flight to Switzerland towards Zurich.



YOUR TRAVEL

Arrival and return journey to / from Zurich Airport – San José via Madrid. (Subject to change)

ACCOMMODATION

14 nights including full board in very good and selected hotels / lodges.

SERVICES

- Full board
- All nights
- Round trip air-conditioned Minivan
- Swiss German tour guide
- All meals excluding alcoholic beverages
- All tours and entrance fees according to the program
- Highlight: whale watching and quetzal birds in the wild
- Special tours such as raclette cheese factory, palm heart production or a private coffee plantation

NOT INCLUDED

- Tips
- Alcoholic beverages
- Private expenditures

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+41 71 688 60 66
 +506 88 86 03 63
 +506 27 64 52 80
 www.meincostarica.com
 facebook.com/SwissTropicalTourism