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By Talbot Tours

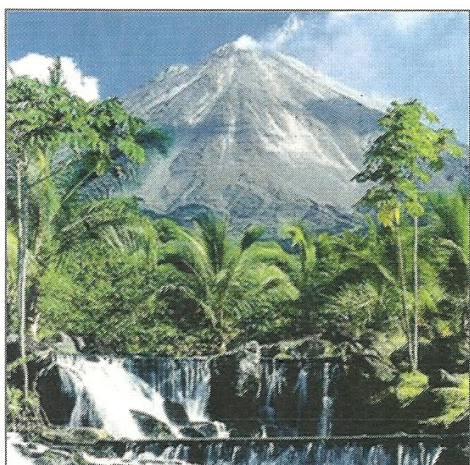
Costa Rica

Natural Paradise!

9 Days ~ 21 Meals
Professional Tour Director
October 20-28, 2015

The Northern Plains showcases some of Costa Rica's most scenic countryside and small towns. Only a two-hour drive from

San Jose, small agriculture communities and cattle ranches cover rolling hills and deep valleys. Known as the heart of Costa Rica, you'll find a strong cultural identity here. The plains, rivers and most importantly the people make the north central a must-see in any Costa Rica program. The main attraction is the Arenal Volcano which is the youngest and most active in Costa Rica.



TOUR INCLUSIONS

- **Professional Tour Director throughout 8 Nights Accommodations:**
 - ⇒ 1 night San Jose ~ Casa Conde Hotel
 - ⇒ 2 nights Tortuguero ~ Pachira Lodge
 - ⇒ 2 nights Arenal ~ Arenal Spring Hotel
 - ⇒ 2 nights Monte Verde ~ Fonda Vela Hotel
 - ⇒ 1 night San Jose ~ Casa Conde Hotel
- **21 meals**—8 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 8 dinners
- Purified water at meals & free bottled water
- Luggage handling for One Suitcase Per Person *{Excluding Airline Fees}*
- Driver and Guide Gratuities Included
- All Applicable Taxes



Shabby Lee
tours

PO Box 1032
Rapid City, SD 57709

Call Toll Free: 800-888-8306



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Travel through the **Braulio Carrillo National Park**
 - Visit a **Banana** processing and packaging plant
- Enjoy a cruise along the **Tortuguero Canals**
 - Visit the museum in the town of Tortuguero
- **Cruise through Tortuguero National Park**
 - View the Arenal Volcano
 - Visit the San Marcos de Cutirs area, for an Agricultural Day
 - Experience the “farmer’s daily life”
 - Visit the **Pineapple** farm of the Vega Castro family
- See the production of **cheese** and learn how to make Tortillas with cheese on the stove
 - Enjoy a delightful **cruise on beautiful Arenal Lake**
- The exciting Canopy Tour is one of the longest zip lines in Costa Rica
 - Visit the **Butterfly Gardens & Hummingbird Garden**
- Enjoy a traditional **Costa Rican Dance Show**



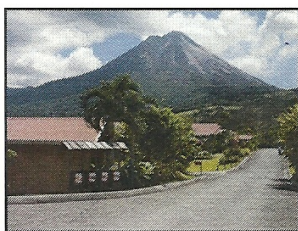
Day 1 <> Arrive Costa Rica <> Upon arrival at the Juan Santamaría International Airport, meet your tour director, who will bring you to the **Casa Conde** hotel for a one night stay. Dinner included at the hotel. (D)

Day 2 <> Tortuguero <> Early morning departure from the hotel. Travel through the Braulio Carrillo National Park, a primary forest in 95% of its extension. Have a taste of our delicious Costa Rican breakfast en route. After breakfast stop, our trip to Caño Blanco continues. On the way, stop to visit a banana processing and packaging plant and learn more about one of Costa Rica's prime products (subject to availability). In Caño Blanco board a comfortable boat upon arrival to the port and let this extraordinarily exotic paradise enchant you, as you travel along the Tortuguero Canals. Have a one-in-a-lifetime experience in this unique place surrounded by a great variety of flora and fauna of breathtaking beauty. Enjoy a refreshing cocktail and a delicious Lunch as we welcome you to **Pachira Lodge** where you will spend two nights. (B, L, D)



Day 3 <> Tortuguero <> This day discover the nature and wildlife of Tortuguero in a different way. Tortuguero National Park has to be visited by boat. Enjoy nature at its best as you undertake a journey through the canals at dawn, and take your best shot of a real Caribbean sunrise. Breakfast included at Pachira Lodge. After breakfast time at leisure to enjoy the hotel facilities. Following lunch, take your time to enjoy our private trails, ride a boat through the canals or just relax. **Optional** night tour: If conditions are favorable, a night walk on the beach with a naturalist to see the Green Turtles nesting. (B, L, D)

Day 4 <> Tortuguero to Arenal <> Early breakfast at Pachira, check out and transfer by boat to Caño Blanco, where your private transportation will be waiting for you. En route to Arenal, stop at Nueva Virginia town, where you will taste one piece of typical bread, discover the flavor of a "Costilla (RIB), Oreja (ear), enchilada" in a small bakery, owned by three women who are the head of their home. Continue the trip to



Arenal, with lunch included on the way. Two nights accommodations at **Arenal Springs Hotel**. (B, L, D)

Day 5 <> Arenal <> This day great experience is waiting for us, after breakfast we will visit the San Marcos de Cutris area, for an Agricultural day. During this tour, we will see different agricultural activities, and you can experience the farmer's daily life, and learn how they reduce environmental pollution and improve their social and economic wealth. Visit the farm of Vega Castro family who have been cultivating pineapple for more than 30 years. They will explain the whole process of the cultivation and we will taste fresh pineapples. We will have also the opportunity to milk cows, see the production of cheese, learn how to make Tortillas with cheese on the stove and serve coffee the traditional way. Lunch included on Tour. In the afternoon, free time to enjoy the hotel facilities. Dinner tonight is included on a local restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 6 <> Arenal to Monteverde <> After breakfast check out and transfer to Monteverde. This transfer is a special one, because it includes a boat trip at Arenal Lake. This service is scenic, fast and the newest way to go from La Fortuna Arenal Volcano Area, to the Monteverde area. After our boat transfer we'll continue to the **Fonda Vela** hotel in Monteverde for a two night stay. Lunch on own. Dinner tonight at the hotel. (B, D)

Day 7 <> Monteverde Cloud Forest <> Following breakfast at the hotel, a cloud forest adventure awaits as you fly or walk over the canopy trees. You will be thrilled at our exciting Canopy Tour, which is one of the longest zip lines in Costa Rica. For those who prefer to keep their feet on something solid,



walk through the virgin cloud forest and enjoy its beauties on elevated walkways. Next experience the peace that the butterfly garden has to offer, with more than 50 species of butterflies living in their natural habitat. Then visit the Hummingbird Garden with 14 species of hummingbirds - the ideal nature photography spot. Lunch is included. Return to the hotel with the rest of day at leisure to enjoy the area. Dinner in a local Restaurant. (B, L, D)

Day 8<> Monteverde to San Jose <> Breakfast at the hotel. Morning at leisure in Monteverde with lunch on own before transferring back to San Jose. In the evening, enjoy a spectacular view of Central Valley and a traditional Costa Rican farewell dinner/dance show while drinking a "Sangre de bruja". Overnight accommodations at **Casa Conde Hotel**. (B, D)

Day 9 <> Costa Rica return <> After breakfast, transfer from San José to the Juan Santamaría International Airport for your return flight. (B)