

Walking Costa Rica

Adventure Memo

Greetings from the WAI Travel Team,

Costa Rica is an explosion of life! With a seashore-to-mountaintop topography and a tropical climate, it is home to an unbelievable variety of plants and animals from both sides of the equator. No other country on the planet has a greater number of species per square mile or offers so many fun and educational pursuits for the traveler in such a small package!

We've added a new wrinkle to this edition of Costa Rica. Leaving the Arenal Volcano region, we cross north of San Jose into Sarapiquí, an area renowned for its flora and fauna, for its excellent river safaris, and for interesting excursions offering insight into uniquely Costa Rican lifestyles. We visit a cacao plantation for the first time to learn the process of making the fifth food group – chocolate, and overnight in a deluxe jungle tent camp (don't worry—all facilities are en suite ☺).

How do I lock in my place on this Adventure?

To save yourself a spot on this Adventure, contact us to register with a \$500 payment as soon as possible! Registrations will be accepted on a first-come-first-serve basis.

How should I arrange transportation for this Adventure?

The official start and finish point for this Adventure is San Jose, Costa Rica, where you will be met at the airport upon arrival. We recommend the travel agent we work with to help book your flight arrangements. In this age of airfare complications and airport uncertainty, using a travel agent is a good investment! More details about flight arrangements and travel agent contact information will be provided in the *Adventure Advice* flyer which will be mailed to you after you register for the Adventure.

Please do not book your airfare prior to receiving the Adventure Advice flyer!

Group Travel Credit

If you are part of a Group, remember that your full deposit of \$500 is still required to hold your spot on this Adventure. Your group leader is responsible to submit your name in writing to us before you register, qualifying you for the Group Travel Credit, but a full deposit is needed to officially reserve your place.

Travel Insurance

Walking Adventures has negotiated with an insurance carrier to provide travel insurance in the form of a Preferred Benefits™ policy. We are pleased to make this package available and believe that it will provide travelers with an important element of security at a reasonable price. (See the back of the General Tour Conditions sheet for more detailed information.)

IMPORTANT: The insurance policy includes time-sensitive coverage provisions for some benefits, including pre-existing conditions and trip cancellation coverage for any reason (with additional fee), **provided you purchase the insurance within 14**

days of your registration. Should you choose to add the cost of your airline tickets to your insurance policy, contact our office within 14 days after you purchase your airfare. Airfare is NOT automatically covered by the insurance you purchase for the tour!!

What Happens Next?

Upon registering for this Adventure, you will receive a welcome letter, initial invoice, and Adventure Advice flyer with important information about steps to take in the months before your trip.

Please do not buy your airline tickets until you receive the Adventure Advice flyer.

The final payment for the program is due 90 days before departure, and you will receive a final billing about 2 weeks prior to that point, along with a factsheet of additional information about the Adventure to help you get prepared! Then, about 3 weeks before departure, you will receive a final packet with all the details of the program, including hotel names and contact information, a list of fellow travelers, and a more detailed daily schedule.

Take a minute to peruse the enclosed itinerary: envision yourself lounging in geothermal hot springs beneath the shadow of Arenal Volcano, standing eye to eye with a chattering capuchin monkey on our Cahuita National Park Walk, or marveling at a the multi-hued bill of a toucan in Tortuguero! Then give us a call and talk to one of our Adventure Consultants who can help you join us for an unforgettable Walking Adventure in Costa Rica!

Insurance – What if I need to place a claim?

Jumping through hoops to get results from large, bureaucratic organizations can be enough to try the patience of Job! Travel insurance companies, unfortunately, are not immune to bureaucracy. Ambiguity and forms-overload often seems to outweigh reason and simplicity. Ultimately, however, travelers are paid and the *Preferred Benefits* policy we recommend works! Though it is easy to view insurance as a necessary evil, we have seen the benefits of travel insurance time and again. We believe it is worth the cost...and hoop-jumping required!

More than a vacation...it's an Adventure!

