



**Costa Rica**  
Family Special

# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS








## Itinerary

## Costa Rica • Family Special

8 Days • 7 Nights

San José – Irazu Volcano – Cartago – Orosi – Tapanti National Park  
– Turrialba – Sarapiquí – La Paz Waterfall Gardens

### HIGHLIGHTS

-  **GROUP ONLY (group of 6-14 people)**  
Group departures 2016: 27<sup>th</sup> Mar; 30<sup>th</sup> Jul
-  Visit one of most biologically intense places on earth
-  Raft the Sarapiquí river
-  Chance to see vast array of birds and mammals
-  Ideally suited to families with children age 7 - 14

### TOUR ESSENTIALS

Tour Style	Family Adventure
Tour Start	San José
Tour End	San José
Accommodation	Hotel, Eco-Lodge
Included Meals	7 Breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 Dinner
Difficulty Level	Easy - Medium

For this fantastic activity packed Costa Rican adventure we explore the central part of Costa Rica, taking in the Irazu Volcano National Park, Tapanti National Park, Turrialba and Sarapiquí – an adventurers dream.

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## Overview

A fantastic action packed Costa Rican adventure perfect to keep the whole family (including children) engaged and entertained.

We explore the central part of Costa Rica, taking in the Irazu Volcano National Park, Tapanti National Park, Turrialba and Sarapiquí – an adventurers dream.

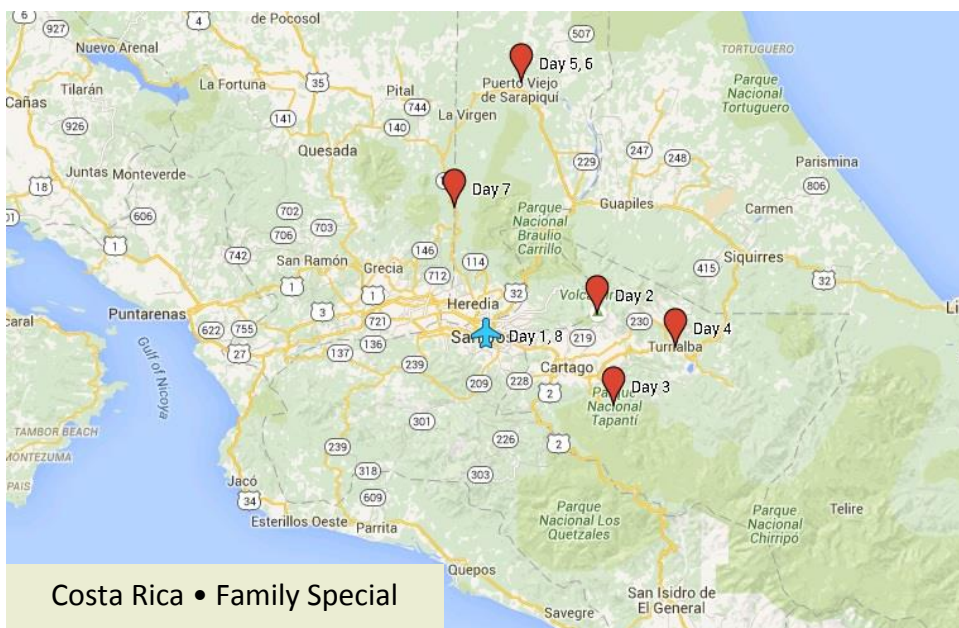
We will walk & boat through tropical rainforests; enjoy a fun river rafting adventure or safari float tour, canyoning and rapelling; check out the stunning Irazu volcano; enjoy a visit to Cartago City and Orosi; learn about the bats and relax at the natural hot spring pool. A perfect itinerary that really allows you to experience Costa Rica – its flora and fauna at the same time as having family holiday everyone will love to remember.

This is a great adventure and is ideal for families with children age 7 -14. We can arrange a private extension at the end of your trip.

## Price (excluding international flights)

- 🌿 **£1250 pp** 1 adult + 1 child (one shared room)
- 🌿 **£1150 pp** 2 adults + 1 child (one shared room)
- 🌿 **£995 pp** 2 adults + 2 children (one shared room)

## Itinerary



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## DAY 1: SAN JOSÉ (D)

Arrive in San Jose at Juan Santamaría International airport where you will be met for your private transfer to your hotel. Welcome dinner with brief in of the trip.

*Overnight at hotel in San Jose (standard room)*

## DAY 2: IRAZU VOLCANO – CARTAGO – OROSI (B)

After breakfast we will take a transfer to Irazu Volcano National Park, one of the most frequented national parks in Costa Rica situated close to the city of Cartago. It is home to Costa Rica's highest active volcano Irazu (11,260 ft). Enjoy a guided tour in the park and then head to Cartago City where you will enjoy a guided visit to the Basilica of Our Lady of the Angels, a Roman Catholic Church built in 1639. The basilica was partially destroyed once in an earthquake but has since been restored.



Then, we will take a transfer to Orosi. This small town has the oldest church in the country still in use. This church, Iglesia de San Jose de Orosi, was built in 1743 during the Colony. The Orosi region offers some of the richest scenery with its rainforests, volcanoes, hills and valleys lined with rows upon rows of coffee plants and sugar cane.



In the evening enjoy a natural hot spring pool at Rio Perlas Resort and Spa.

*Overnight at Rio Perlas Resort and Spa (standard room)*

## DAY 3: TAPANTI NATIONAL PARK (B,L)

Today you will enjoy a guided walk to the Tapanti National Park, one of the rainiest national parks in Costa Rica which protects the northern slopes of the Cordillera de Talamanca. The Tapanti National Park is home to four different kinds of ecological zones; low mountain pluvial forests, pre-mountain pluvial forests, mountain pluvial forests and pre-mountain forests. These forests provide habitat for 400 bird species and 45 mammal species, including the tapir, ocelot, paca, jaguarondi, red-brocket deer, kinkajou, raccoon and white-nosed coati.

Enjoy a walk and lunch at Orosi Valley and then hot springs.



# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS



*Overnight at Rio Perlas Resort and Spa (standard room)*

## DAY 4: TURRIALBA: CANYONING TOUR (B)

After breakfast we will take a private guided transfer to Turrialba in Cartago province. This charming little town is famous for being a white water rafting hotspot and base camp. Enjoy a canyoning adventure tour, a fun and unforgettable experience – rappelling down four waterfalls, zip lining down four canopy cables and walking across a 132 foot hanging bridge.



*Overnight at Casa Turire (standard room)*

## DAY 5: SARAPIQUI: WATER RAFTING / SAFARI FLOAT TOUR (B)

This morning you will take a private guided transfer from Turrialba to Sarapiquí. Enjoy Sarapiquí river white water rafting / or safari float tour (depends on the age of the children).

The Sarapiquí River is known as the scenic river of Costa Rica's tropical rain forest, with 35 Kilometers through forest reserves, stunning views and full of enjoyment for all.

Enjoy a nocturnal walk.



*Overnight at Pozo Azul Lodge (Tent Suite Room)*

## DAY 6: SARAPIQUI (B)

For today you will select two options from: horseback riding / canopy/ rappel / chocolate tour.

In the evening enjoy a bat program, which includes a multimedia presentation of about 30 minutes regarding the natural history of bats, their classification, diversity, adaptations, reproduction, threats and more. At the end of the presentation, a trained guide will provide you with a safe opportunity to observe up close some of the bats that were captured during the evening for research projects.



*Overnight at Pozo Azul Lodge (Tent Suite Room)*



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# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS



## DAY 7: LA PAZ WATERFALL GARDENS – SAN JOSE (B)

On the way to San Jose we will stop at the La Paz Waterfall Gardens, the most visited privately owned ecological attraction in Costa Rica featuring the best hiking, the most popular waterfalls, and rescued wildlife preserve with over 100 species of animals.

The La Paz waterfall is the most famous waterfall in Costa Rica, but the best waterfalls are above the La Paz waterfall along a steep canyon accessed by our safe hiking trails. Here, you will have a great opportunity to take really beautiful photos.

Then enjoy a cultural tour of “Mascaradas and Cimarrona”.

*Overnight at hotel in San Jose (standard room)*



## DAY 8: FLIGHT HOME (B)

End of the trip - after breakfast you will take a transfer to airport.

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## Important Information

### INCLUDED

- 🌍 Arrival Airport Transfer (from Juan Santamaría International Airport (SJO) to hotel in San José.
- 🌍 Accommodation as outlined above.
- 🌍 Local bilingual English-Spanish speaking guides/interpreters on shared basis during the excursions and tours.
- 🌍 A combination of private land transportation and shared transfers.
- 🌍 Meals (B= Breakfast, L= Lunch, S = Snacks/light lunch; D= Dinner).
- 🌍 All tours and activities as outlined. Some tours are on a shared basis.

### NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- International Airport departure tax of \$26 p/p. payable in San Jose upon exit. Extras at hotels (telephone calls, room service, portorage, laundry, alcoholic drinks, etc.)
- Any additional/extra tours or park fees.
- Tips & Gratuities for Guide, Driver, local guides and service providers.
- Personal and/or medical expenses.
- Entrance fee to Tortuguero National Park

## Additional Information

ACTIVITY DURATION	2 – 5 hours per day
SEASON	This expedition is open between January and December
BEST TIME TO GO	The driest time of year to travel to Costa Rica is December – April, so this does make a great Christmas and Easter holiday destination.
GROUP SIZE	This itinerary is based on between 6 – 14 people. The prices per family are based on sharing a room. If you have older children and would prefer not sharing this is possible at a small supplement.
EXPEDITION SCHEDULE	This is run as a private departure (with some shared excursions) on dates to suit you
DIFFICULTY LEVEL	Our grades have been designated based on our perception of the degree of physical activity you are likely to require to enjoy the adventure. These are only a guideline. This itinerary has an 'Easy - Medium' level (2 – 5 hours of activities per day). This means that you will need an average level of fitness.