

# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS





# **ITINERARY**

Costa Rica, Nicaragua and El Salvador • Central America Trekking Holiday

#### 21 DAYS . 20 NIGHTS

San Jose – La Fortuna – Arenal – Hecienda Guahipelin – Rincon De La Vieja – Penas Blancas – San Jorge's Port – Ometepe – Granada – Leon- San Cristobal – Cerro Negro – Potosi – Puerto La Union – Bahia De Jiquilisco – Suchototo – Joya De Ceren – Cerro Verde National Park – El Sunzal Beach – San Salvador

#### HIGHLIGHTS

#### TOUR ESSENTIALS

- Experience canopy views from hanging bridges.
- Trek the highest Volcano in Nicaragua
- Spot dolphins on the Gulf de Fonseca
- Look into a live volcano at night
- Discover the beauty of El Salvador.

#### .

Tour Style Active & Wildlife

Tour Start San José

Tour End El Salvador

Accommodation Lodge & Hotel

Included Meals 19 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 2 Dinners

Difficulty Level Medium

#### **CRATER ADVENTURE**

Inspired by the UK's Three Peeks Challenge we thought we'd create our own three peak adventure without the pressure of a race but not without some testing treks! We've allowed a leisurely three weeks to explore several varied and beautiful volcanic landscapes and interspersed them with a heavy dose of wildlife, jungle, lakes, rivers, colonial cities and cloud cloud forests. Short on time- you can always do two weeks, even one – but our three themed trip in full also covers three countries in three weeks including the delightful, undiscovered paradise of El Salvador's volcanic national parks.



# COSTA RICA, NICARAGUA AND EL SALVADOR an overview

Eco-diversity like no other - Costa Rica encases 500,000 different species which account for roughly 4% of the world's plant, insect and wildlife species. Witness Sloths, Monkeys, Frogs, Snakes, Turtles, Iguanas, Humming Birds and so much more. Wander through tranquil bird-packed cloud forests and rich rainforests brimming with a plethora of spectacular wildlife. As well as its head-turning abundance of wildlife, this Central American paradise is famed for its never-ending activities, making it an adventure-seeker's dream; the vast array of activities widely on offer include Zip-lining, White-Water Rafting and Trekking.

Nicaragua is the largest nation in Central America with amazing natural diversity. Coffee is the country's largest export which grows in the temperate, shaded Northern most mountains of the highlands. In the South the vegetation is more tropical as low lying rainforests and palms bend towards the sea. The west has world-famous surf and gorgeous beaches. Inland from the coast is the famous Cordillera Volcanica, offering an epic sight and trekking at all levels. Between the coast and the volcanoes stunning colonial cities pepper the interior around Lake Nicaragua and Lake Managua.

El Salvador is the smallest country in Central America but has it all! It's the perfect destination in which to get 'off the beaten track' and stay there as it remains relatively undiscovered. The beaches have world class surf and are often used for competitions. Routes of small villages dot the central valley – each with their own identity producing their own craft and foods. National Parks are awe- inspiring with crater views and flora and fauna to rival any destination in the world.

# WHY PIONEER EXPEDITIONS?

Pioneer Expeditions are one of the few specialists that really *do* off the beaten track and unique adventures. The team have a real passion for wildlife and adventure travel which we love to share with our clients. We delight in searching the world for new destinations, new experiences and creating the most incredible adventures.

We like to introduce our clients to unique, the different, and the incredible. Whether it is through wildlife tracking, sea kayaking, snorkelling, trekking, rafting, cycling or observing wildlife in its natural environment, we want to give you the real Pioneer experience.

From the moment you choose to travel with Pioneer Expeditions until you return back home, you are supported by our dedicated team. We listen to what you want and can create an itinerary around your specific needs, working with your budget and with a commitment to responsible travel.

# ITINERARY



#### **DAY 1: Welcome to Costa Rica**

#### WELCOME TO COSTA RICA!

Our driver waits you outside the airport building holding a sign with your name on it. From him you will receive the vouchers that you will need for your trip in Costa Rica as well as a map and information about the country. In about 40 minutes he takes you to your hotel in the center of San José.

San José is the capital of Costa Rica and the political and economic heart of the country. Due to Its location at an altitude of 1200 meter above sea level it has a temperate climate; the average temperature is about 25°C. The city became important after the independence of Costa Rica in 1821. For this, therefore, you will not find many colonial buildings in its center. It's charm however comes from the laid back 'Tico' (people from San Jose) atmosphere that can be enjoyed in the streets and the cities numerous parks, fiestas and markets. A visit to the National Theatre, the Central Market or the famous Gold museum in the center will give you a taste of downtown San Jose. The vibrant neighborhood of Barrio Escalante is perfect for dining after a day of exploration.

Overnight in Presidente or similar



Overnight: **Hotel** 



Meals:



Distance: **40min airport transfer** 



Activities: **Travel** 

#### **DAY 2: Arenal Volcano**

La Fortuna is a well-known touristic center situated in the Northern Lowlands, in the shadow of the most famous volcano of Costa Rica: El Arenal. The village gained much popularity during the period of extreme activity of the volcano (1968 -2010). The red lava flowing from its slopes was clearly visible by night in these times. Despite the fact that the giant is dormant now, the surrounding natural attractions are of such beauty that La Fortuna remains one of the most visited places in Costa Rica. National Park Arenal with its old lava flows, the hanging bridges that provide unforgettable views of the rainforest and of course the natural hotsprings are all great to visit. Furthermore, La Fortuna is an excellent base for excursions to Lake Arenal and the northern wetlands of Caño Negro.

#### Shuttle transfer from San José to La Fortuna

After pick up in the morning you will drive over the PanAmerican Highway for about an hour before turning northward into the highlands. A beautiful through the rural countryside follows. At the end of the morning the mighty silouhette of the Arenal volcano looms in the background. Distance: 140 km. Average travel time: 3 hrs. This is a shared service.

Overnight in Hotel Monte Real or similar



Overnight:



Meals:



Distance: **Apprx. 3h** 



Activities: **Travel** 



#### **DAY 3: Explore Arenal**

Hike over the Hanging Bridges: a trail of 3.2 kilometer make a loop through the secondary forest and lead over 16 fixed and hanging bridges of different heights. These bridges allow you to experience the rainforest at different levels: from the ground to the canopy.

#### The following options can also be arranged

- Visit one of the hot-springs around the volcano and have a relaxing couple of hours.
- Make a tour by kayak over Lake Arenal and enjoy the beauty of the surroundings
- Set out for a search of the sloth, one of the most emblematic animals of Costa Rica. It is almost guaranteed that you will find one: either the two toed, or the three toed sloth.
- Waterfall Tour: Take a refreshing dip near the majestic waterfall of La Fortuna after the steep descent

Overnight in Hotel Monte Real or Similar



Overnight: **Hotel** 



Meals:



Distance:



Activities: **Explore** 

#### DAY 4: Rincon de la Vieja

Shuttle transfer from La Fortuna to Rincón de la Vieja

A beautiful ride today with much contrasts. You drive all along the northern shore of the artificial Lake Arenal. At the town of Tilarán you already have crossed the watershed that divides the Atlantic and Pacific side of the country. Then you take the Panamerican Highway heading northward in the direction of Nicaragua.

After having passed the capital of the province of Guanacaste, Liberia, you ascend on the flanks of the Rincón de la Vieja volcano with its spectacular vegetation.

#### Overnight Hotel Hacienda Guachipelin or similar

Hotel Hacienda Guachipelin is located on one of the largest private properties in Costa Rica. Formerly a big cattle ranch, the owners renovated the ranch into an eco-hotel and adventure center. There are many on-site activities to do. The hotsprings where guests without costs can take a mud bath are very popular. There is a spectacular zipline tour and of course, horse riding. Sunset tours are particularly atmospheric.

The property gives access to the main entrance of the National Park Rincón de la Vieja (closed on Mondays). A visit is very much recommended. There are various trails that lead along geological activities of this active volcano, like boiling mudpots and a mini volcano. With luck you will see the white faced capuchin monkeys eating in the giant trees of the park.



Overnight:



Meals:



Distance: **4hours** 



Activities: **Travel** 



#### DAY 5: Rincon De La Vieja

Rincón de la Vieja forms part of the 'Mountain Range of Guanacaste' in the northern part of Costa Rica. It is an active volcano which from time to time has an eruption. The main access to the area is via the town of Liberia and the villages Curubandé and Cañas Dulces. Nature in this area contrasts starkly with the rain-, and cloudforests of the Atlantic side of Costa Rica and the South Pacific. Here dominates the tropical dry forest where trees drop their leaves in the hot summer and a savannah like vegetation prevails. It is an entirely different ecosystem. The main attraction in the area is the National Park. Visitors enjoy here the stunning beauty of tropical dry forest combined with volcanic activity in the form of boiling mud pots and mini-volcanos. Two rangers stations, las Pailas and Santa María, offer extended trails for hikers but also a path around the volcanic activity that is suited for all visitors. The park is closed on Mondays Hotels in the area offer treatments with volcanic mud that is said to have therapeutic characteristics.

Rincon de la Vieja National Park Las Pailas hike, Rio Negro Hot Spring & Hot Mud included

Overnight Hotel Hacienda Guachipelin or similar



Overnight: **Lodge** 



Meals:



Distance: **Approx. 2h Drive** 



Activities: **Travel** 

#### **DAY 6: Welcome to Nicaragua**

Private Transfer around 08.00 from Rincón de la Vieja to Peñas Blancas

Welcome to the country of lakes and volcanoes! At the beginning, one of our representatives will meet you in Peñas Blancas to transfer you to San Jorge's port. Upon arrival in San Jorge you will receive assistance to board the ferry to Ometepe Island and stayed in your hotel.

#### Isla De Ometepe

Once thought to have been the promised land by Aztec explorers, Isla de Ometepe is made up of two imposing volcanic cones rising out of western Lake Nicaragua. Ometepe has been inhabited for thousands of years due to its fertile volcanic soils, and evidence of its past can be found in archeologic sites dotted all around the island. Most travelers come here for the sandy beaches, clean waters, diverse wildlife and stunning scenery, with numerous forests, waterfalls and springs in the island's center. Ometepe is beautiful, unique and one of Nicaragua's lesser-known highlights.

Overnight in Fianca San Juan De La Isla (Double room – Lake Front with 2 double beds)



Overnight: **Lodge** 



Meals:



Distance:



Activities: **Travel** 

#### **DAY 7: Hiking the Concepcion or Maderas Volcano**

After breakfast at your hotel we give you an option of Maderas or Conception volcano. Both are challenging but with a reasonable level of fitness both are achievable. Concepcion is a lot more exposed and generally considered the more challenging of the two.

#### Maderas Volcano Hike

The adventure starts at 5:30 in the morning with the pick up at the hotel, in order to head towards Finca Magdalena, where the hike to the dormant Maderas volcano begins, a traditional community farm situated at the eastern slope of the volcano. While in the farm and the property, several pre-Columbian remnants are encountered. The climb is quite



steep and difficult, but the trail is well-kept, a good physical condition is required, as the hike to the summit takes around four hours. At the summit you can oversee the mystical crater lake, and on a clear day you have wonderful views of the island; moreover, during the climb white-faced and howler monkeys may accompany you, rustling in the leaves, curiously observing hiking humans!. Once it's time to ascend, prepare for another 4 hours of hike to get to the base of the volcano, then you are taken to the hotel.

#### Concepcion Volcano Hike

Early in the morning you head for the foot of the impressive and active volcano Concepción. From Urbaite, you start the climb, passing coffee and banana plantations. Stunning nature and great views can be expected on the way up, but be prepared for a tough day of climbing. After passing the treeline, the sun can be very strong so important to take protection but the views get even better. It is necessary to climb over rocks for the last part, as the trail gets rather rough and difficult. From the summit, the sky is clear and the views are superb. Seeing sulfur smoke getting up from the crater is a magnificent and satisfactory thrill.

Overnight in Fianca San Juan De La Isla (Double room – Lake Front with 2 double beds)



Overnight: **Hotel** 



Meals:



Distance: **N/A** 



Activities: **Hiking** 

#### **DAY 8: Granade Islets**

At the end of your stay in Ometepe, you are transferred to your hotel in the city of Granada. In the afternoon, enjoy some relaxation time while kayaking around the Granada's beautiful islets.

#### Granada

Granada, or the "Gran Sultana", is one of Latin America's most beautiful cities, and is listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Founded in 1524 on the shores of vast Lake Nicaragua, this ancient town is full of history and Spanish colonial charm, and is famed as one of the oldest European settlements in the western hemisphere. Amongst the narrow streets and glorious architecture, you'll find some excellent hotels, fine restaurants and plenty of interesting sites and museums to fill your days. The city also makes a great base for exploring the surrounding area, with volcanos, beaches, national parks and the incredible waterworld of Las Isletas de Granada all within easy reach.

#### Las Isletas Kayak Adventure

Explore the stunning Las Isletas archipelago by kayak, along with an experienced local guide. As you navigate through the calm waters around these 365 islets, you can spot species of birds and other wildlife that lives around this vast lake, and you'll also pass by local fishing communities and see their daily lives unfold. As you reach the quiet canals, you'll find yourself surrounded by lush vegetation, with kingfishers, white and grey herons and white throated magpie jays living in the trees. It's the perfect way to see this spectacular part of Nicaragua.

Overnight Hotel Plaza Colon (Double Room – Queen or King Superior)



Overnight: **Hotel** 



Meals:



Distance:



Activities: **Kavakina** 



#### **DAY 9: Free Time and Lava Night**

Free time to explore the city of Granada and its historic streets.

In the evening, you will be impressed by the sight of lava coming from the Masaya Volcano

#### Masaya

Considered to be Nicaragua's most folkloric department, the city of Masaya and the surrounding areas abound with culture, traditional artwork, and handicrafts. From hand-woven hammocks to terra cotta pottery, furniture, and musical instruments, Masaya specializes in most everything creative. The department of Masaya is also home to Nicaragua's most accessible volcano, Volcano Masaya. If the wind is blowing in the right direction, you might even get close enough to smell the sulfur emitting from this very active volcano. Hiking trails allow visitors to further explore the national park. Be sure to visit the museum at the bottom of the park. Another interesting site in the area is the historical fortress, El Coyotepe. Built in 1893 and used as a prison during the Somoza regime, the dungeons and fortress can now be explored on a guided tour led by the Boy Scouts. This historical site is also great for its breathtaking views.

#### **Lava Night Tour**

Masaya Volcano National Park is one of the most famous volcanoes in the pacific region of Nicaragua due to its constant activity, and was known to the Spanish at the "Mouth of Hell". It offers the unique experience of seeing an active volcano up close, and watching as molten lava glows in crater just meters away from you. It's an awe-inspiring experience allowing visitors to experience a phenomenon once sacred to the pre-Columbian Nicaraguans, who were inspired by the raw power and beauty of nature.

Overnight Hotel Plaza Colon (Double Room – Queen or King Superior)



Overnight: **Lodge** 



Meals:



Distance:



Activities: **Relax** 

#### **DAY 10: Transfer To Leon City**

This day you are transferred to your hotel in Leon city "The university city "

#### Leon

Seen by many as the intellectual center of Nicaragua, León offers energy and beauty in equal measure. A picturesque colonial town dating back to the 1600's, it has grown into a city full of political spirit, art, great food and buzzing nightlife. The city has a fascinating history, having been relocated from its original location at Leon Viejo, which you can still visit today. The historic center of Leon is filled with stunning colonial architecture and museums, whilst nearby you'll find fantastic beaches and volcanic landscapes which are perfect for adventure seekers.

The afternoon is left free for you to explore or take an additional trip. Leon also has a high number of very good eateries and welcoming bars ( don't overdo it though as you have a spectacular but tough hike the next day!)

Overnight Hotel El Convento



Overnight: **Lodge** 



Meals:



Distance: **Approx. 2h** 



Activities: **Travel** 



#### **DAY 11: San Cristobal Volcano Hike**

Hiking the highest volcano in Nicaragua " San Cristobal volcano". Get a wonderful landscape. Transfer roundtrip from Leon to Chinandega included.

San Cristóbal, the highest (and also one of the most active) volcano in Nicaragua, stands symmetrically proudly at 1,745 meters (5725 ft) above sea level. The youngest volcano in San Cristóbal complex, San Cristóbal Volcano (capped by a massive 500 x 600m wide crater, 1640 x 1968 ft) is accompanied by adjacent less-active volcanoes in the range, namely La Casita, El Choncho, Moyotepe and La Pelona. These other volcanoes make the view unbelievably beautiful once you reach the peak of San Cristóbal. Not only will you see these gargantuan summits, you will also see the beauty of the breathtaking scenery displaying the Gulf of Fonseca, Honduras and El Salvador. The passage to the top is not considered easy. It is actually the most challenging volcano in Nicaragua to climb. It will take you one whole day to do the ascending and descending trip. The volcanos steep slopes are one of the reasons why climbing San Cristóbal is rather challenging. In fact, a decent level of fitness and stamina is recommended for you to hike San Cristóbal.

Overnight Hotel El Convento



Overnight: **Hotel** 



Meals:



Distance:



Activities: **Hiking** 

#### **DAY 12: Adventure Day!**

Today you get more adventurous. Early departure to Padre ramos for kayaking. Lunch en route. Then continue Climb the Cerro Negro volcano to feel the adrenaline of descending this volcano.

#### Kayaking in Padre Ramos Estuary

Upon arrival at Estero Padre Ramos, and after receiving our guide instructions we begin the tour kayaking into the mangroves a circular route around a branch of the estuary. Halfway, you can enjoy the panoramic views of the reserve in a natural viewpoint called Chichihualtepe where during this quiet trip you could have the opportunity to watch the most common birds, you can observe: With more than 175 species of birds, 3 species of sea turtles, iguanas, conch, mollusks, crabs, caimans, crocodiles, butterflies, tubeworms, and fish galore, this protected wildlife sanctuary is also a nature lover's paradise. Note: Most birdlife watching during early in the morning and during sunset time (when sea level start to rise) \* The Padre Ramos Nature Reserve includes more than 22,500 acres (9000 hectares) of mangrove forests, mudflats, sandy beaches, rocky reef, and estuarine waters, measuring between 3 to 5 miles across and 18 miles long. \* The Estero's shoreline is home to approximately 150 dispersed families who rely on the local natural resources for their livelihoods. Fishing, clamming, and harvesting wood is crucial to the survival of these rural communities.

After San Cristobal don't be put off by another volcano- this is a lot of fun and the climb is not a tough one!

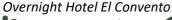
#### Volcano Boarding at Cerro Negro

Take on one of Nicaragua's most iconic experiences as you go boarding down the side of an active volcano! The experience starts with an off-road transfer from Leon city, followed by a one-hour hike to the top of the Cerro Negro volcano, during which your guide will teach you some of the geology of the area. Once at the top, safety instructions and a short practical training are given before starting your thrilling descent. No experience is necessary, but we recommend sitting down only!

#### Juan Venado Island Motorboat Tour

You will be transferred from León to the Pacific bay of Las Peñitas, where you can find wetland, famous for its turtle and bird nesting. Your guide will find the best way to cut through the inlet to the Pacific Ocean, where you can walk or swim.











Meals: **B,L** 





#### DAY 13: Puerto Potosi – Puerto La Union

Welcome to the "Golfo de Fonseca". Transfer by boat from the Potosi Pier(Nicaragua), sailing through islands and volcanoes to the La Union Port (El Salvador). During our ride, you can admire the volcanoes and villas of artisanal fishermen who inhabit one of the more than 20 islands that make up the golf and the exotic flora and fauna of the region.

On route, we will stop at Zacatillo Island for lunch, an excellent opportunity to contact the locals and learn about their laid-back lifestyle.

Arrive at the Port of La Union and transfer to the hotel. At night, transfer to the colonial town of Conchagua. Here we visited the central square, famous for its local gastronomic offer, especially the pupusas, a typical dish of El Salvador.

#### **Potosi**

The village of Potosí is a small fishing village and the connecting point between Nicaragua, El Salvador and Honduras. There are only a few restaurants to be found and even fewer hotels. The tranquility of this village is what gives it its charm as the feeling of stress seemingly does not exist here. It is the best way to get between borders and on the beach waiting to board your boat marvel at the Volcano Consiguïna towering up behind you and if you are lucky then you will also see the cows which wander the beach lapping at the ocean water! The coastlines of El Salvador and Honduras can be seen from this point and entirely during the few hours spent in a comfortable boat cruising in the gulf on the way to La Union, El Salvador. Its also a great spot to watch returning fishermen with boats teaming with fish or empty boats and empty smiles.

Overnight Comfort Inn La Union



Overnight: **Hotel** 



Meals: **N/A** 



Distance: **Apprx. 1h30min** 



Activities: **Travel** 

#### DAY 14: Bahia De Jiquilisco

After breakfast, transfer to Jiquilisco Bay, the primary marine ecosystem of El Salvador and the main region for the spawning of hawksbill turtles in all of the country. In addition, this natural reserve possesses a system of natural canals formed by islands and exotic mangrove forests, which serve as a refuge for a vast diversity of birds and reptiles. Arrival at the lodge. Today, we will have the opportunity to visit a cacao plantation to discover the plant processing of cacao, its drying methods, and its fermentation for exporting one of the finest cacao seeds in the world, criollo. Then, the visitor can taste the fruit of cacao, toast cacao after the drying process, and back in our restaurant, can taste a cup of hot chocolate. Rest of the day at leisure to enjoy the sun or participate in a Protecting the Sea Turtles project (optional).

Overnight Puerto Barillas



Overnight: **Hotel** 



Meals:



Distance:



Activities: **Travel** 



#### **DAY 15: Suchitoto**

Today, we will drive to the colonial town of Suchitoto. On route, we'll stop at Alegria town; here, we will set off for the Laguna de Alegria (Happiness Lagoon), located within the crater of the dormant volcano Tecapa. The lagoon glows a brilliant green color due to sulfur and other minerals. We'll stay to soak up the views before continuing to a familyrun coffee farm beneath the volcano Tecapa. We'll stop for a drink and learn more about the farm's small-scale coffee production. After de visit, we continue to Suchitoto.

Overnight Los Almendros De San Lorenzo



Overnight:



Meals: В



Distance: Apprx, 3h



Activities: Travel

**DAY 16: Suchitoto** 

We will dedicate the morning to visiting El Salvador's most preserved colonial town, important for its indigo trade during the colonial period. Afternoon at leisure for optional activities like taking a walk through the cobblestone streets between portals and ancient houses or enjoying a pleasant boat ride to watch the sunset by Lake Suchitlan.

Overnight Los Almendros De San Lorenzo



Overniaht:

Hotel







Activities:

#### DAY 17: Suchitoto – Joya De Ceren – Cerro Verde National Park

We set out towards the archeological site of Joya de Ceren, aptly known as the Pompeii of the Americas. It is considered the most important archaeological discovery in Latin America and has been declared a World Heritage of Human Kind by Unesco. After the visit, we will continue to Cerro Verde National Park, a dormant volcano covered by dense and biodiverse cloud forest foliage. During our stay, we will explore its crater and admire the spectacular panoramic views of the Izalco volcano, Ilamatepec volcano, and Coatepeque Lake. Tonight we will be glamping in the national park: our camp is made up of large fixed tents, each on a wooden base and with two full single beds inside. Sheets, duvets, pillows, and towels are provided, and there's even a bedside table with an electric lamp. Bathrooms are shared, with showers available.

Overnight Tres Volcanes Glamping



Overnight: Hotel



Meals: B.D





30min airport transfer



Activities: **Explore** 

#### **DAY 18: Cerro Verde National Park**

Today we will climb the Santa Ana volcano, the highest in El Salvador, at approximately 2300 m high. Our camp is already 1800m, so the ascent is only a moderate grade; it is a one-hour hike to the summit and our great reward: the Llamatepec crater lake, whose emerald green color and spectacular views of the El Salvador volcanic chain. After our return, we head to the base camp for lunch. In the afternoon, we visited Lake Coatepeque, having free time to rest, sunbathe and regain strength. Then, return to base camp to participate in local food dinner.

Overnight Tres Volcanes Glamping



Overnight: Hotel



Meals:



Distance: 30min airport transfer



Activities:



#### **DAY 19: El Sunzal Beach**

After breakfast, we set out to explore the "Ruta de las Flores"; we pass through a quaint village to finally arrive at the colonial gem of Ataco, set between mountains and coffee plantations. Later this afternoon, we will drive along the coast until we reach our beach hotel, in front of the impressive black sand beaches of volcanic origin.

Overnight Casa De Mar



Overnight: Hotel



Meals:



30min airport transfer



Activities: **Explore** 

#### **DAY 20: El Sunzal Beach**

Day at leisure to enjoy the sun and the warm pacific ocean temperatures.

Overnight Casa De Mar



Overnight: Hotel



Meals:



Distance: 1h airport transfer



Activities: Leisure

#### DAY 21: San Salvador Airport – End of Tour

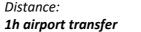
Breakfast. Morning at leisure to enjoy the beach. At the pre-arranged time, we depart for San Salvador international airport to board your flight back home.



Overnight:









Activities:

Travel

**NB:** This itinerary is subject to change – arrangements, routes and facilities are subject to variation depending on local conditions.



# EXTENTION

#### **DAY 1:**

Crossing the Gulf, arrive at La Union port and transfer to Perquin. Check-in and accommodation.



Overnight:



Meals:



Distance:



Activities: **Transfer** 

#### **DAY 2:**

Visit Cerro El Pericón; during the tour, the local guide will tell his life experience, and they walk until they reach the community to have breakfast at the home of a community leader.

Transfer to El Mozote Village, where we will learn the history of one of the most iconic events during the war. In the afternoon, we will visit the Museo de la Revolucion Salvadoreña. Accommodation in Perquín



Overnight:



Meals:



Distance:



Activities: **Tour** 

#### **DAY 3:**

Breakfast and transfer to Puerto Barillas to continue with the tour of the main plan



Overnight:



Meals:



Distance:



Activities:

Tour

# ACCOMMODATION, at a glance

Accommodation subject to availability



#### **Presidente**

#### San Jose

#### https://www.hotel-presidente.com/en/





#### **Monte Real Hotel**

#### La Fortuna

http://www.monterealhotel.com/cms/





#### **Hacienda Guachipelin Hotel**

#### Liberia

https://www.guachipelin.com/





Photos from TripAdvisor

Finca San Juan De La Isla

Penas Blancas

(No website)







**Hotel Plaza Colon** 

Granada

https://hotelplazacolon.com/





Comfort Inn La Union Puerto La Union

(No Website)





**El Convento Hotel** 

Leon

(No Website)





**Puerto Barillas** 

Jiquilisco

https://www.puertobarillas.com/welcome/



#### Los Almendros De San Lorenzo

#### Suchitoto

http://www.losalmendrosdesanlorenzo.com/





#### **Tres Volcanes Glamping**

#### Cerro Verde

https://www.tresvolcanes.travel/





#### Casa De Mar

#### El Sunzal

https://casademarhotel.com/wp-casademar/





# IMPORTANT INFORMATION



#### **INCLUDED**

- Meet and greet
- Information package with maps and a detailed itinerary
- Reusable bottle
- Lodgement at hotels as mentioned or similar
- Transfers / car rental according to program
- Breakfast
- Tours mentioned with an English speaking guide + entrance fees
- VAT/Taxes
- 24/7 Emergency service
- Excursions according to program

#### **NOT INCLUDED**

- Meals other than mentioned
- Migration fees
- Personal expenses
- Optional tours/activities
- Tips nor porters
- International flights

# WHEN TO GO

#### **COSTA RICA**

- Costa Rica's weather is affected by it proximity to the equator and the varying altitudes, meaning temperatures can vary depending on where about you are in Costa Rica.
- The wet season is roughly between May to the middle of November, with the heaviest rains in September and October. Costa Rica can still be quite pleasant in the wet season with rainy afternoons but sunny mornings.
- The dry season, therefore, is between the middle of November to April, bringing you sunshine and warm temperatures
- Temperatures can be anything from 16°c to 32°c. However, higher altitudes can exceed 0°c during the night.

#### **NIGARAGUA**

- Best time to visit Nicaragua is between November and May The countries dry season
- You'll see plenty of sunny days, with temperature between 25 °c to 28 °c in the majority if the country

#### **EL SALVADOR**

Best time to visit El Salvador is during the country's dry season between November to March, and you'll avoid the worst of the heat in March and April, before the rains hit in May that last all the way to October

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**



ACTIVITY DURATION 5 – 7 hours per day

SEASON December through June

BEST TIME TO GO January through April

GROUP SIZE Tailor-made

EXPEDITION SCHEDULE This is run as a private trip, so we are able to suit your dates and

requirements. We can also tailor the trip to suit.

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 a 'difficult level' (5-7) hours of activities per day. This means you will need more than a basic level of fitness and

some specific training may be required.

## THE PIONEER BOOKING PROCESS

Where do you go from here? Well, you can feel free to email us at <a href="mailto:info@pioneerexpeditions.com">info@pioneerexpeditions.com</a> if you're interested in this trip, or any of our other expeditions from around the world. Visit our website <a href="mailto:www.pioneerexpeditions.com">www.pioneerexpeditions.com</a> to unearth all of our other equally amazing trips and destinations.

#### 1. Contact us -

We will be happy to answer any questions or enquiries you may have. From here we will begin to plan and put together your dream adventure holiday! Alternatively, on our website you will find our booking and enquiry forms; once filled in, we will be notified of your enquiry and will get back to you ASAP.

#### 2. Leave everything to us -

Everything will be arranged and booked by us, but we will make sure to keep you updated every step of the way. In addition, we can arrange your international flights if needed, as we have access to competitive airfares. We can also arrange any additional tours or additional night's accommodation.

#### 3. Wait for your adventure to begin -

Sit back and count down the days until your trip of a lifetime with Pioneer Expeditions. We'll handle all of the last minute preparations and provide you with everything you need. All practical information will be sent out to you, prior to your trip.

If you feel like altering this itinerary to suit your personal preferences, we can arrange all of that and more – just get in contact with us and let us know you requirements and wishes. From here, we can simply tailor-make your dream holiday.



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