



## Costa Rica

Coast to Coast Honeymoon Adventure

# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS



## ITINERARY

## Costa Rica • Honeymoon

**15 DAYS • 14 NIGHTS**

San José – Tortuguero – Siquirres – Sarapiquí – La Fortuna –  
Monteverde - Arenal Reserve – Selvatura Park – Rincon De La -  
San José

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Stay in surreal Xandari Hotel
- Raft the wildly beautiful Pacuare River
- Chance to see vast array of birds and mammals
- Relax in hot springs under the shadow of a Volcano
- Enjoy the Pacific coast beach at your leisure.

## TOUR ESSENTIALS

Tour Style	Family Expedition
Tour Start	San José
Tour End	San José
Accommodation	Hotel, Lodge
Included Meals	16 Breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 Dinners
Difficulty Level	Medium

## COSTA RICA HONEYMOON ADVENTURE



For this fantastic Costa Rican Honeymoon adventure, we explore National Parks and Forests, experience rapids, unforgettable wildlife, hot springs and even a volcano. There is so much to take in; including days spent relaxing on the beach towards the end of the trip. A perfect way to spend your honeymoon with your loved one.



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Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e [info@pioneerexpeditions.com](mailto:info@pioneerexpeditions.com)

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# COSTA RICA, *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. The incredibly beautiful east and west shores that run down the sides of Costa Rica display gorgeous paradise beaches lined with jungle, such as the secluded sandy stretches of the laid-back Caribbean coastline and the 'sun and surf' pacific stretches containing some great marine life. Become acquainted with the warm friendly locals, offering huge smiles, an easy-going manner and 'Pura Vida's. Despite receiving a heavy influx of tourists in recent years, there are still some extraordinary hidden gems and quiet spots to be found which will allow the more adventurous of tourists to experience nature, activities and culture that the typical tourists let pass them by.

## 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.

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## DAY 1: Arrive in SAN JOSÉ



Meeting and greeting at the San Jose International Airport by our staff and get a private transfer to your Hotel in San Jose.

Our staff will help you with the check-in and will give you the Welcome Kit with important information about your trip and will review the itinerary with you. Hotel includes: 2 hours open bar, free international phone calls – Wi-Fi- daily breakfast.

*Lodging at San Jose, Hotel Presidente (Superior Room)*



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**Nil**



Distance:  
**10-15min airport transfer**



Activity:  
**Travel**

## DAY 2: Transfer to TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK

Early morning start as you are picked up from your hotel and transferred to Tortuguero (breakfast on route). You will arrive to Caño Blanco pier before boarding a motor boat (2hours) to take you to the lodge for lunch.

In the afternoon you will get the chance to adventure into Tortuguero Town and visit the Turtle Centre!

**\*\* Today we recommend taking the tour to see turtles, it has to be arranged at the front desk of the hotel (cost \$35 per person). You can also book it for the second night in case that you don't have any luck on the first night.**

*Lodging at Mawamba or Pachira Lodge – Standard Room or similar*



Overnight:  
**Lodge**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Approx. 2.5hrs driving**



Activity:  
**Travel and wildlife**



## DAY 3: Explore TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK

Day in Tortuguero, visit to the canals. (Entrance fee to the National Park is not included, as this has to be paid directly at the park, \$10 per person). *Tour can be in the morning or afternoon; it will depend on the itinerary.* Today you can also visit the butterfly garden, frog garden and the trails around the hotel. Optional tours are offered at the lodge

*Lodging at Mawamba or Pachira Lodge – Standard Room or similar*



Overnight:  
**Lodge**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**Varies**



Activity:  
**Wildlife**

## DAY 4: Depart from TORTUGUERO and travel to SIQUIRRES for some White Water Rafting – SAN MARTIN

Breakfast at the lodge, followed by a 2 hour motor boat to the pier where you will board the bus for your return drive to Siquirres. You will be dropped off at a restaurant where the rafting company Rios Tropicales will be waiting to take you to their Operations Centre where lunch will be served. You'll then depart for our private rafting put-in on the Pacuare River in San Martin. There your professional guides will load your gear into dry bags, prepare all the rafting equipment, give you complete safety and paddle instruction. The first day's Class III rapids welcome you to the Pacuare gorge's charm as you raft deep in the heart of primary rainforest. Along its course lie several densely vegetated gorges sheltering many animals, including sloths, river otters, and anteaters, and an incredible variety of birds—toucans,



egrets, herons, kingfishers, sunbirds, and trogons. Before you know it, you'll arrive at our unique Rios Tropicales Lodge where you can spend the afternoon relaxing, hiking or soaking in our waterfall and pools. Nestled in the jungle on our 2,000-acre private reserve, the Lodge offers you all the comforts you need in "Cabecar Indian" style bungalows.

*Dinner and overnight at Rios Tropicales Lodge*



**Overnight:**  
**Lodge**



**Meals:**  
**B, L, D**



**Distance:**



**Activity:**  
**White water rafting**



## DAY 5: A Forest Adventure past Waterfalls, Serene Pools and Pounding Rapid – LA FORTUNA

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning, enjoy a four-platform canopy tour through the forest. Hike on a trail high above the rainforest canopy for sweeping view of the river corridor below. After the hike we will pack up and load the rafts in preparation for paddling down the Pacuare gorge past gushing waterfalls, serene pools and pounding rapids. A snack stop by the riverside lets you explore more waterfalls and natural waterslides. An adrenaline-packed afternoon running rapids like Double Drop, Upper Huacas, Lower Huacas, Cimarron, Dos Montañas and many more, will have you cheering ecstatically. We take out near the town of Siquirres and come back to the Operation Centre where you can take a shower and get ready for the transfer to La Fortuna, home of the famous Arenal Volcano.

*Lodging at Montaña de Fuego – Standard room or similar*



**Overnight:**  
**Resort**



**Meals:**  
**B, L**



**Distance:**  
**Approx. 3hr transfer**



**Activity:**  
**Hiking**



## DAY 6: LA FORTUNA ADVENTURE – BALDI HOT SPRINGS

After a delicious breakfast your adventure begins. Get ready to fly through the rain forest on one of the best zip lines in La Fortuna. You will ride an open-air gondola from the ground to the heights where you'll be dropped off at an observation deck for fantastic views of the volcano and land below. From the observation deck, return to the ground below by riding down on a circuit of zip lines stretching across canyons and between treetops.

In the evening you will travel to the Baldi Hot springs where you can relax on the 18 free form, landscaped pools that provide a great view of the volcano and a multitude of options. With temperatures ranging from 83 °F to 103°F and



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environments that vary from raging waterfalls to tranquil forest experiences you can find the perfect pool for their mood and the current weather conditions. Dinner is included at the hot springs. Transportation is not included but you can coordinate a taxi from the front desk of the hotel.

*Lodging at Montaña de Fuego – Standard room or similar*



**Overnight:**  
**Resort**



**Meals:**  
**B, D**



**Distance:**

**Activity:**



## **DAY 7: Spend the day explore the ARENAL VOLCANO before indulging on a CHOCOLATE & COFFEE TOUR**

Breakfast included at the hotel.

Today you have a shared transfer to Monteverde. Your 3 hours transfer starts with a ground transfer, then continues from where you will admire the exotic wildlife that lives within this zone while enjoying the transition from the rain forest to the cloud forest, reaching the best view point of the Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve and an impressive panoramic view of the Arenal Volcano. The scenic transfer ends on the other side of the Lake, where a jeep ride will be waiting for you to take you to your hotel.

Afternoon Chocolate & Coffee Tour. On the tour you will be completely immersed for 30 minutes within the world of chocolate enjoying its delicious aromas and learning about its history. You will participate in the chocolate making process and have the opportunity to taste the fruit of the cacao and observe how the small cocoa beans are magically converted into a rich tasting chocolate drink.

You will get an insight into the traditional methods that our ancestors used to roast the beans, separate the husks and grind the beans. At the end of the tour you can enjoy the taste of the chocolate you've made in a variety of forms; liquid chocolate, plain chocolate, spiced chocolate and of course, coffee chocolate.

*Lodging at Monteverde Country Lodge – Standard room or similar.*



**Overnight:**  
**Lodge**



**Meals:**  
**B**



**Distance:**  
**3 hr**

**Activity:**  
**Wildlife**



## DAY 8: SELVATURA PARK, MONTEVERDE CLOUD FOREST

Breakfast included at the hotel.

Selvatura Park is a nature and Adventure Park where visitors can enjoy the beauty of the Monteverde Cloud Forest today you will enjoy of the Hanging Treetop Walkways Bridges, Selvatura's Tree Top Walkways consist of a **1.9 mile** (approximately 3 kilometres) trail that crosses through the Monteverde Cloud Forest. Here visitors will walk on eight different bridges with various lengths ranging between 150 feet (50 meters) up to 510 feet (170 meters) and altitudes ranging between 36 feet (12 meters) up to 180 feet (60 meters). Each bridge has a width of five feet, the widest bridges in Costa Rica, and also a capacity of up to 80 people per bridge making them both the longest and strongest bridge systems in the Monteverde Cloud Forest. The duration of the hike usually takes between 1.5 and 2 hours we recommend the early morning tour so you can have more chance of observing more wild life. After that, visit to the Butterfly garden of Selvatura. Afternoon, shared transfer to Rincon de la Vieja.

*Lodging at Hacienda Guachipelin – Standard room or similar.*



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B**



Distance:  
**Approx. 2-3hr transfer**

Activity:  
**Wildlife**



## DAY 9: RINCÓN DE LA VIEJA NATIONAL PARK

Breakfast included at the hotel

Today you have a guided hike to Rincon de la Vieja National Park – Las Pailas section. The Las Pailas section of the Rincón de la Vieja National Park is located very near Hacienda Guachipelín's ranch. On this loop trail of about 2.5 miles (3.5 km), you can enjoy the best views of the active Rincón de la Vieja Volcano without climbing the main crater. Here you can find a great variety of vegetation and trees, and the Park is home to mammals like raccoons, white-nosed coatis, Central American agoutis, armadillos, tapirs and three species of monkeys, as well as birds such as the Blue-crowned Motmot, the Crested Guan and the Emerald Toucanet. The most impressive and spectacular features of the National Park are its volcanic elements. Steam and sulphur pour out of the yellow and rust-coloured ground at natural fumaroles. Clay and coffee-coloured pools bubble with boiling hot volcanic water. Smooth grey volcanic mud froths and explodes upward at the "Cauldrons" ("Las Pailas" in Spanish), for which this section of the Park is named. You'll also find beautiful little rushing rivers and small waterfalls crisscrossing the trails.

The rest of the day is at leisure (you can choose an option to visit the Hot Springs and relax with the volcanic mud – not included in package)

*Lodging at Rincon de la Vieja, Hotel Hacienda Guachipelin (superior room)*



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B**



Distance:  
**Varies**

Activity:  
**Wildlife**



## DAY 10: SPA / HORSE BACKRIDING

You'll start your morning with breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast you will choose from the following activities: Spa day (Mus Bath + Sauna + hot springs) or horse back riding to the waterfalls.

*Lodging at Rincon de la Vieja, Hotel Hacienda Guachipelin (superior room)*



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B**



Distance:  
**Approx. 2hrs drive**



Activity:  
**Relax at the beach**

## DAYS 11: AT THE BEACH

Breakfast included at the hotel

These days are for you to enjoy the beach and the facilities of the hotel.

*Lodging at Guanacaste, Hotel Bosque del Mar (garden view suite)*



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B**



Distance:  
**N/A**



Activity:  
**Days at leisure**

## DAY 12-15: TRANSFER FROM BEACH TO SAN JOSÉ

Free days.

Breakfast at the Hotel

Share transfer from Bosque del Mar Hotel on Playa Hermosa to San Jose

*Lodging at Bosque del Mar Hotel on Playa Hermosa- Beachfront room*



Overnight:  
**N/A**



Meals:  
**B**



Distance:  
**10-15min  
transfer**

airport



Activity:  
**Travel**



# ACCOMMODATION, *at a glance*

Subject to availability

## Best Western Irazu

San José

<https://www.bestwesterncostarica.com/en-gb>



## Mawamba Lodge

Tortuguero

<https://www.mawamba.com/>



## Pachira Lodge

Tortuguero

<https://www.pachiralodge.com/>



## Rios Tropicales Lodge

Guayacán

<https://rios-tropicales.business.site/>



Photos from TripAdvisor



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## Montaña de Fuego

Arenal Volcano

<https://www.montanadefuego.com/>



## Monteverde Country Lodge

Children's Eternal Rainforest

<http://www.monteverdecountrylodge.com/>



## Hacienda Guachipelin

Provincia de Guanacaste

<https://www.guachipelin.com/>



## Tamarindo Diria Hotel

Tamarindo

<https://www.tamarindodiria.com/>



## Bosque Del Mar

Playa Hermosa

<https://www.xandari.com/>



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# WHAT OUR CLIENTS HAVE SAID

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*"Everything was just perfect - thank you all!"*

-Di Clemente



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