



## Study Abroad in Education

**EDF 4952**

### Costa Rica 2022 Itinerary

Travel Dates: 15, June, 2022 – 23, June, 2022

#### **DAY 1 15, JUNE**

##### **Fly to Costa Rica**

**Arrive in San José:** Touch down in San José, the capital of Costa Rica.

**Dinner:** Enjoy the first meal together as a group.

Course Objectives: None - Tour orientation

#### **DAY 2 16, JUNE**

##### **San José | Arenal region**

**Walking tour of San José:** Stretch your legs and explore San José on a walking tour led by your Tour Director.

**Poás Volcano:** Visit the Poás Volcano, one of the largest active volcanoes in Costa Rica.

**Travel to the Arenal region:** As you continue to the Arenal region, watch for the tremendous cone that emerges from the green hills of Alajuela—the mile-high Arenal Volcano.

**Hot springs:** Enjoy the nearby thermal hot springs. Relax as you dip your toes in these naturally heated pools.

Participants will brainstorm draft educational lessons and how this experience could relate to students in the U.S. schools.

Course Objectives: 1.a, b, c, 2.a

## DAY 3 17, JUNE

### Arenal region | Los Chiles

**Take an excursion to Los Chiles:** Make your way to Los Chiles, a bustling community only a few miles from the Nicaraguan border and overflowing with Costa Rica's trademark biological splendor.

**Boat tour of Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge:** Hop on board a fully equipped boat and explore the wetlands of Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge with an expert guide. As you navigate Lake Caño Negro, you may have a chance to meet a long list of rare and endangered animals that have made the refuge their home—including waterfowl, cougars, jaguars, ocelots, and several species of monkey.

**Return to the Arenal region:** After a full day, head south back to the Arenal region for the night.

During the return trip from the Arenal region, participants will list ways to use the information from the refuge in local U.S. schools.

Course Objectives: 1.a, b, c, 2.b

## DAY 4 18, JUNE

### Arenal region | Monteverde

**Hike to La Fortuna Waterfall:** This morning, lace up your walking shoes and hike through dense forest vegetation to the spectacular La Fortuna Waterfall. Surrounded by tall, green cliffs, this 200-foot cascade churns the aqua pool below.

**Travel to Monteverde:** Make your way to Monteverde. Situated near the Continental Divide, the Monteverde (Green Mountain) region contains a spectacular range of flora and fauna in six distinct ecological zones.

Participants will discuss what they have observed on this day and provide strategies on how to use the information presented during this program.

Course Objectives: 1.a, b, c, 2.c

## DAY 5 19, JUNE

### Monteverde

**Santa Elena Cloud Forest:** Explore the greenery of the community-run Santa Elena Cloud Forest on your canopy tour. You'll view rare orchids and the elusive quetzal birds that thrive in the perpetual soft mist. At this altitude, you'll literally walk through clouds. Leave a positive mark on the earth when you plant a tree with your group in the EF reserve. Then, attend a lecture at the Santa Elena Institute and learn about their mission to promote environmentally conscious development practices and help protect area wildlife.

Participants will be led in a discussion to identify ways to use the information and how this could be used in an educational setting.

Course Objectives: 1.a, b, c, 2.c

## **DAY 6 20, JUNE**

### **Monteverde | Central Pacific Coast**

**Travel to the Central Pacific Coast:** Head to Costa Rica's Central Pacific Coast, where the beautiful scenery and exotic wildlife attract visitors from around the world.

The area is especially popular with outdoor enthusiasts.

**Rainforest Adventures Park:** Enjoy the beautiful butterfly garden and go for a nature hike, then take in sweeping views on an aerial tram ride.

Participants will be asked to brainstorm how to apply this experience in their educational setting.

Course Objectives: 1.a, b, c, 2.a

## **DAY 7 21, JUNE**

### **Central Pacific Coast**

**Manuel Antonio National Park:** Get ready for an adventure as you journey to Manuel Antonio National Park, one of the most popular national parks in Costa Rica. Founded in 1972, the park offers visitors plenty to see and do. Kick off your shoes and stand on white sand beaches, where you can sometimes spot dolphins and migrating whales just off the coast. An abundant and diverse array of marine life within the coral reefs here. Take some time to check out the lush jungle greenery, which includes lagoons and mangrove swamps.

**Crocodile River Tour:** Get an up-close view of crocodiles from the safety of your boat, and look out for beautiful exotic birds along the way.

Participants will identify ways to use the experiences in developing lessons in U.S. schools.

Course Objectives: 1.a, b, c, 2.b

## **DAY 8 22, JUNE**

### **Central Pacific Coast | Sarchí | San José**

**Travel via Sarchí to San José:** Browse colorful local markets today in Sarchí. The city is a major crafts center, and famous for its brightly painted ox carts, or *carretas*, typically covered in elaborate designs.

**Coffee plantation:** Visit the estate of a Costa Rican coffee plantation. Sip on samples and learn how these beverages are produced before continuing to San José for the night.

From all the educational experiences on this study abroad program, participants will be asked to write lesson strategies reflecting various educational settings.

Course Objectives: 1.a, b, c, 2.c

## **DAY 9 23, JUNE**

### **Depart for home**

Transfer to the airport and check in for your return flight home.