Culture in the jungle (005)

Day 1 – Arrival to San Jose, Costa Rica
Upon your arrival to the terminal you will pick up your car.
Overnight at hotel Real Intercontinental (superior), deluxe room or similar or hotel Casa Roland (standard), standard room or similar or hotel Colonial (budget), standard room or similar
NOTE: Estimated driving time 30 minutes, transportation on private basis.

Day 2 – San Jose – Rural life in San Antonio de Escazú
(Breakfast, lunch) Reveal the rural life culture in San Antonio de Escazú. a beautiful hike along the Escazú majestic mountains, impressive views of the mountains, the central valley and the valley of San José. Including a short oxcart ride. Continue with a visit to the masquerade’s workshop, where you can try to make them yourself. After a traditional lunch you will learn about the CODECE efforts to conserve the mountains. And then visit the traditional sugar mill to learn the process of making sweets from the sugar cane.
Overnight at hotel Real Intercontinental (superior), deluxe room or similar or hotel Casa Roland (standard), standard room or similar or hotel Colonial (budget), standard room or similar

Day 3 – San Jose – Puerto Viejo
(Breakfast) Early in the morning drive to the Caribbean coast to relax and enjoy the beautiful Caribbean beaches. Optional stop at Poas Volcano (not included in the package), large geysers and awesome crater-over 1.5 km wide.
Overnight at hotel Le Caméléon (superior), superior room or similar or hotel Totem (standard), standard room with AC or similar or hotel Casa Camarona (budget), standard room or similar
NOTE: estimated driving time 5 hours.

Day 4 – Puerto Viejo – Mishka Yorkín tour
(Breakfast, lunch) At Bambú, a Bribri guide will take you along the Yorkin river, the natural border between Costa Rica and Panama. At Yorkín, you will take a town tour and visit organic cocoa and banana plantations. Learn about the medicinal plants and crops that the local community uses and enjoy a Bribri style lunch. For dessert, you will participate in making chocolate and learn how the Bribri people wove the roofs of their houses.
Overnight at hotel Le Caméléon (superior), superior room or similar or hotel Totem (standard), standard room with AC or similar or hotel Casa Camarona (budget), standard room or similar

Day 5 – Puerto Viejo – Lands in Love Hotel & Resort
(Breakfast) A drive to Hotel Lands in love, a cloud forest hotel resort and adventure center.
Overnight at Lands in love hotel & resort, standard room
NOTE: estimated driving time 5 hours.

Day 6 – Lands in Love Hotel & Resort – Guided trails – Combo Canopy
(Breakfast) start with a guided tour to the forest to see the monkeys, birds and other animals, trees, flowers and orchids. Then the combo canopy tour, an amazing view of more then 500 acres of forest from the top of the trees - 8 cables, 10 platforms, 3 trails, 2 hanging bridges, 1 Tarzan swing - total of 845m. Then adventure cables - 3 twin cables for partner's experience in high velocity of 80 km per hour, steel towers and hanging bridges, 150m above the hidden valley, the longest cable is 750m.
Overnight at Lands in love hotel & resort, standard room

Day 7 – Lands in Love Hotel & Resort – Arenal – La Fortuna Medicinal Plants Tour
(Breakfast) Early in the morning you will visit Sandoval Berrocal’s family farm in La Fortuna, for a tour in their medicinal plants garden. The owner, Mrs. Cristina will introduce you to the curative properties of the plants with an explanation about the process of plant collection, drying and industrialization, and a taste of a delicious medicinal herbal tea.
Day 8 – Arenal – Monteverde – Frog Pond, Butterfly Farm, Night Tour
(Breakfast) Breathtaking view of the Gulf of Nicoya and the islands below will accompany you while ascending the hill to Monteverde and Santa Elena, the famous wildlife sanctuary. Monteverde community was founded in 1951 by a group of North American Quakers who did their best to keep the natural surrounding which led to the foundation of a biological nature preserve that hosts one of the richest ecological systems in the country.

After lunch you will take a guided walk in the cloud forest trails and learn about the unique species of butterflies and frogs typical to the tropics and then a night walk in the cloud forest trail going into the thick jungle to see sleeping birds, tarantulas, spiders, grasshoppers, crickets, lizards, frogs, sloths, porcupines, white nose coatis, olingos, kinkajous, snakes and more.

NOTE: estimated driving time – 4-5 hours

Day 9 – Monteverde – El Trapiche Tour
(Breakfast) A tour to a coffee farm where you can pick coffee beans and transport them to the grinding machine followed by a visit to a sugarcane mill to see the process of making brown sugar and other sugarcane products including the extraction of guaro, the Costa Rican famous alcohol.

Day 10 – Monteverde – Manuel Antonio
(Breakfast) After an early breakfast you will continue to the central pacific coast to Manuel Antonio, which is one of the most luxuriant places in Costa Rica, with spectacular white-grey sandy beaches fringed by thickly forested green hills.

Day 11 – Manuel Antonio – Vanilla Tour
(Breakfast) The Vanilla tour, a botanical garden & spice tour, takes place in a farm called “Villa Vainilla”, about 10 miles east from Quepos and Manuel Antonio National Park. Experience the sights and aromas of vanilla and tropical spices, cocoa, essential oil and ornamental plants, sustainable practices in permaculture such as composting, milking, spice drying and the unique aerated compost tea systems for disease prevention and plant nutrition.

Day 12 – Manuel Antonio – Catamaran
(Breakfast, lunch) An amazing Catamaran island adventure begins at Quepos harbor. Cruise through the aquamarine waters to the spectacular and scenic coastline of Manuel Antonio Park. In open water look for dolphins, migrating humpback whales, sea turtles and manta rays. Don’t miss the sight of dolphins frolicking in the boat’s wake, or the inimitable sound of the whale’s song. Watch mysterious islands jagged cliffs and unique rock formations as you make your way down the coastline. These are also the nesting grounds and home for numerous species of marine birds, pelicans, boobies and ibises. Later anchor in a protected cove within the pristine Biesanz bay for spectacular snorkeling.

Day 13 – Departure to San Jose
(Breakfast) Early in the morning you will drive back to San Jose to the international airport.
Estimated driving time 3.5 hours
NOTE: check in for international flights must be made three hours prior to departure.

END OF JOURNEY!

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE:

Accommodation and meals
- As specified in the program (breakfast is not included in hotel Verde Mar)

Transportation
- Car rental - Daihatsu Bego from day 1 to day 13, full insurance, extra driver, zero deductible. Pick up at the international airport - drop off at the international airport click for upgrade

Guided tours- up to 15 pax per tour (seldom there will be more), including roundtrip transportation from the hotels
- Rural life in San Antonio de Escazu
- Mishka Yorkín tour (no transportation, independent arrival to El Bambú)
- Lands in love guided trails
- Lands in love combo canopy tour
- La Fortuna medicinal plants tour
- Frog pond & butterfly canopy tour (entrance fees only)
- Night tour
- El Trapiche tour
- Vanilla tour
- Catamaran

Not included
- Personal expenses & tips
- Optional tours and activities that are not mentioned above
- Food and beverages not mentioned above
- Departure taxes ($26.00 per person at the time of quote)

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