

The Ultimate Nature Trip in Eco-Friendly Costa Rica

Costa Rica has astonishing biodiversity unlike anywhere else on the planet. The country is packed with rainforests, cloud forests, volcanoes, caves, lakes, waterfalls, rivers, and beaches—home to thousands of animal species. Costa Rica nature trips offer possibilities for endless exploration, while the country's widespread sustainable practices ensure the preservation of its natural beauty. Being a world leader in sustainable tourism, Costa Rica is the ideal destination for anybody who wishes to explore the wonders of nature with respect for local ecosystems.

What makes Costa Rica's nature unique?

Costa Rica's landmass is small, but its biodiversity is huge. Home to 500,000 species of animals, representing four percent of the world's biodiversity, Costa Rica has the most biodiversity per square mile in the world. Costa Rica natural parks abound with mammals such as monkeys, sloths, and endangered wildcats, while incredible bird species inhabit its treetops. Thirty percent of the country's territory has a protected status, proving Costa Rica takes the protection of its natural richness serious.

The best national parks and natural sites in Costa Rica

There are Costa Rica national parks and natural sites to suit everybody's needs—whether you're looking to do hiking or birdwatching, outdoor sports or wildlife spotting. [REDACTED] can match you with local English-speaking experts, to help you create an itinerary that includes all your favorite nature spots and activities.

An iconic landmark at El Arenal Volcano National Park

El Arenal is an active volcano with a characteristic conical shape. The national park surrounding the volcano is great for hiking and other outdoor activities, while the hot springs on the foot of the volcano are the perfect spot to revitalize tired feet.

Monteverde cloud forest: where the sky meets the forest

The mystic Monteverde cloud forest is permanently covered in a veil of mist, caused by low-hanging clouds. Suspension bridges offer unique panoramas of the rainforest and up-close views of the extraordinary wildlife inhabiting the treetops.

An experience of a lifetime at Corcovado National Park

Costa Rica's largest national park is remote and wild, but also one of the world's most pristine nature sanctuaries. Featuring thirteen major ecosystems, it's home to some of the country's shyest and most rare animal species, including tapirs, jaguars, and macaws.

Turtle paradise at Ostional Wildlife Refuge

The Ostional Wildlife Refuge is an important nesting ground for Olive Ridley sea turtles, which lay their eggs on the beach every night. During "arribadas", which occur once a month in the rainy season, thousands of turtles cover the beach at the same time.

Beat the crowds at tranquil Los Quetzales National Park

Los Quetzales National Park, located in the highlands, is home to the renowned namesake bird: the quetzal. The nearby town of San Gerardo de Dota is a peaceful little mountain retreat and the ultimate place to escape the crowds and the heat.

What's the best time of the year to experience Costa Rica's nature?

Costa Rica has a tropical climate, with stable hot temperatures year-round and a distinct dry and rainy season. The dry season lasts from December to April, while the rainy season lasts from May to November. Although the dry season is the most convenient and popular time for Costa Rica nature trips, some travelers prefer the rainy season as it's less crowded, discount rates are available, the jungle is at its greenest and the wildlife is very active.