

# COSTA RICA

January 2027

**WELLS GRAY TOURS**  
a world to experience



Spider Monkey

Costa Rica covers only 0.03% of the planet's surface but is home to 5% of all living organisms on earth. Active volcanoes, lush cloud forests, lowland jungles, rolling savannas, and coral beaches create a spectacular setting to experience the country's natural beauty and exotic flora and fauna. During this unique tour, we travel through some of the richest habitats of Costa Rica, from Caribbean lowland rain forests to central volcanic highlands, from a cloud forest interior to coastal resorts. Enjoy the Tortuguero wildlife cruise, Arenal Volcano, Ecotermals Hot Springs, and Monteverde Cloud Forest. Another highlight is a three-night stay at the Diria Resort at beautiful Tamarindo Beach.

Come and admire the natural eco-wonders of Costa Rica and get away from a Canadian winter for two relaxing weeks.



INTERNATIONAL



GROUP SIZE



ACTIVITY LEVEL

## ► Departure from:

- 📍 BC Interior:** January 15, 2027 - 15 days
- 📍 Vancouver Island:** January 15, 2027 - 15 days
- 📍 Lower Mainland:** January 16, 2027 - 14 days

## ► Fares per person

- 📍** from **\$10,125** double/twin, **\$11,975** single\*
- \*Pricing details for all departures provided on page 2.*

## ► Early Booking Bonus

**\$150** discount on first 8 seats; **\$75** on next 4.

## ► Earn 213 Experience Points



# DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Your departure point will be discussed at the time of booking.

**I BC Interior:** We drive to Vancouver for an overnight stay on Friday, January 15. We fly to Costa Rica the following day. We fly from Costa Rica to Kelowna on Friday, January 29 and travel home. Transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure, and back again when we return.

**V Vancouver Island:** We travel to Vancouver for an overnight stay on Friday, January 15. We fly to Costa Rica the following day. We fly from Costa Rica to Victoria, Nanaimo, or Comox on Friday, January 29.

**Departure from Victoria:** For passengers in the Greater Victoria Area, transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure and back when we return. Home pickup may be offered in the Greater Victoria Area depending on the number of people booked and coach size. The decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.

**Departure from Up-Island:** There is an additional cost for passengers who wish to fly from/ to Nanaimo or Comox Airport on this tour. Transportation to/from Nanaimo or Comox Airport is not provided. Please note that while we always prioritize convenient connections for our clients, sometimes it is not possible given the airline schedule and availability. You will be contacted regarding your schedule after final payment. Please request departure from Nanaimo or Comox at the time of booking.

**L Lower Mainland:** We fly from Vancouver to Costa Rica on Saturday, January 16. We fly from Costa Rica to Vancouver or Abbotsford on Friday, January 29.

**Departure from Vancouver:** Home pickup for clients in the Greater Vancouver Area may be arranged at the time of booking.

**Departure from Langley, Abbotsford, or Chilliwack:** Pickup will be on Friday, January 15 by the BC Interior coach for the overnight in Vancouver. Return flights will be from Costa Rica to Abbotsford Airport. No transportation is provided from Abbotsford Airport.

## FARES PER PERSON

	Departure Point	Fares per Person	Notes
<b>I</b>	BC Interior	\$10,295 double/twin \$12,325 single	
<b>V</b>	Vancouver Island	\$10,470 double/twin \$12,500 single	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Please add 0.3% GST.</li><li>• There is an additional cost to join this tour from Nanaimo or Comox.</li></ul>
<b>L</b>	Lower Mainland	\$10,125 double/twin \$11,975 single	

# WHAT'S INCLUDED

## ▶ Meals

- 📍 **29 total:** 13 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 8 dinners
- 📍 **28 total:** 13 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 8 dinners

## ▶ Transportation

- Transfer to Vancouver Airport from the BC Interior, Greater Vancouver, or Greater Victoria Areas
- Flights to San Jose, Costa Rica
- 1 checked bag per person
- Current air taxes, fees & fuel surcharges
- 10 days of coach transportation in Costa Rica
- Transfer from San Jose Airport to hotel
- Flight from Liberia, Costa Rica, to Kelowna, Victoria, Nanaimo, Comox, Abbotsford, or Vancouver

## ▶ Accommodation

- 📍 **14 nights** accommodation & hotel taxes
- 📍 **13 nights** accommodation & hotel taxes
- Luggage handling at most hotels

## ▶ Wells Gray tour director throughout tour

## ▶ Key Highlights

- Doka Coffee Plantation
- La Paz Waterfall Garden
- River boat cruise through Tortuguero National Park to Evergreen Lodge & return
- Sea Turtle Conservancy Museum
- Wildlife & birdlife watching boat tour along the Tortuguero Canals
- Arenal Volcano National Park
- Arenal Volcano Sky Tram
- Nature walk on an Arenal trail
- Ecotermals La Fortuna Hot Springs

*Attractions are subject to change. Please see [Tour Policies](#) for more information.*

## ▶ Guides & Gratuities

- Expert local guides & naturalists
- Gratuities to local guides, drivers & naturalists

## Activity Level 3



**High Activity:** You are an active traveller who wants to explore wherever you go. You don't mind a mix of full days, early morning starts, and some late nights. You can walk longer distances, up to 4 km without difficulty which may be over uneven

ground, beaches/shorelines, or at higher elevations; climb in and out of small boats without any assistance; stand for prolonged periods; and participate in nature walks looking for birds and animals. You can climb three flights of stairs easily and unassisted and can handle your own luggage in airports or at hotels where luggage handling may not be available.

This tour is not appropriate for people with canes, walkers, wheelchairs, or other mobility assistance devices. Hiking poles are fine. Additionally, this tour is not appropriate for those who have cognitive impairments such as memory loss or confusion, difficulty expressing thoughts, repeating questions, or getting lost. The tour director, Costa Rican guides, and drivers have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require frequent assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some days of the tour. In extreme situations, you may be required to leave the tour and travel home at your own expense; travel insurance will probably not cover you.

**Please note:** Prior to accepting your booking, you will be required to [sign a declaration](#) that you are capable of travelling on an Activity Level 3 tour.



### Tour Size 25

This tour is limited to 25 participants, making it a more intimate travel experience.

# ITINERARY

## Friday, January 15

Passengers from the BC Interior and Vancouver Island travel to Vancouver and stay at the Fairmont Hotel, conveniently located in the airport terminal.

**Meals included:** Lunch (BC Interior)

**Accommodation:** Fairmont YVR Hotel (BC Interior & Vancouver Island)

## Saturday, January 16

Passengers from Vancouver join us at the airport. We fly via Toronto to San Jose, arriving late evening. **Welcome to Costa Rica.** San Jose is one hour ahead of Pacific Time. Our coach and Costa Rican guide meet us at the airport.

**Accommodation:** Hotel Doubletree Cariari

## Sunday, January 17

Today's tour visits some of the highlights surrounding San Jose. First, we visit **Doka Coffee Plantation** for a coffee tour where we learn the techniques used by the experts to produce one of the best coffees in Costa Rica. The careful process involved in the cultivation, harvesting, and roasting of the Golden Bean is demonstrated, then we savour the delectable end-product. At **La Paz Waterfall Garden**, we visit several waterfalls in the rainforest, the hummingbird gallery, the bird house, the butterfly garden, and the frog exhibit. La Casita de la Paz is a farmhouse reproduction that gives a cultural insight into the lives of rural Costa Ricans. A get-acquainted dinner is an opportunity to visit with your fellow travellers.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel Doubletree Cariari

## Monday, January 18

At Guápiles, we board a river boat which takes us down the winding Tortuguero River through the ecological diversity of **Tortuguero National Park** with lots of birdlife and wildlife viewing. After a two-hour journey, we arrive at remote Evergreen Lodge, located in the jungle on one of the Tortuguero waterways, and lunch is waiting. During the afternoon, we boat across the canal

to visit the colourful village of Tortuguero and the **Sea Turtle Conservancy Museum**. Renowned naturalist Archie Carr, author of the 1956 book *The Windward Road*, studied sea turtles at Tortuguero and was instrumental in establishing the Caribbean Conservation Corp.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Evergreen Lodge

## Tuesday, January 19

First, there is an optional guided walking tour along some trails near the lodge, looking for wildlife and gaining a better understanding of rainforests. After lunch, we take a boat tour along the **Tortuguero Canals**, a unique paradise of magnificent flora and fauna. It's a great place to observe local wildlife such as birds, monkeys, two- and three-toed sloths, crocodiles, and caimans. The canals also provide shelter to endangered animals such as the Oriental Indian Manatee, a large variety of crustaceans, and about 30 species of sweet water fish including the gaspar, considered as a living fossil. The rest of the day is free to enjoy the hotel grounds and jungle trails at leisure, or simply relax.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Evergreen Lodge

## Wednesday, January 20

We return to Guápiles by boat, then continue by coach to La Fortuna de San Carlos, a small town located at the base of **Arenal Volcano**. Standing prominently at 1,636 metres, it was one of the 10 most active volcanoes in the world until 2010 with constant lava flows and eruptions. Today, the volcano is dormant, but its perfect cone shape and superb hot springs make this place a must-visit! Our accommodation for three nights is at Tilajari Eco Resort, a splendid hotel with panoramic views of the volcano and surrounded by gardens and streams.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel Tilajari Eco Resort

## Thursday, January 21

We board the **Arenal Sky Tram** for a slow-paced journey through the rainforest with awesome views of the volcano during the ascent. Each gondola is accompanied by a bilingual guide and it can be stopped anytime for a special picture or if a bird or animal is spotted. At the top, there is an observation deck with a wonderful vista of the Arenal Volcano's southern face, Lake Arenal far below, and the rolling hillsides around it. Later we relax at **Ecotermas La Fortuna Hot Springs** where four geothermal pools vary in temperature from 32°C up to 41°C.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel Tilajari Eco Resort

## Friday, January 22

We drive to the western side of Arenal Volcano where most of the activity since 1968 has occurred. There are two interesting walks and our guide chooses a suitable one. The Las Coladas trail traverses the rainforest and crosses over a large lava flow from 1992 where the impact of recent eruptions is visible. The Los Tucanes trail passes through the regrowing forest where we can see more wildlife. The afternoon is free time.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Hotel Tilajari Eco Resort

## Saturday, January 23

We travel around Lake Arenal to reach **Monteverde**. Ocotea Boutique Hotel is located in the beautiful Monteverde region, an important part of the Costa Rican cloud forest, one of the most exceptional areas for botanists, birders, and nature lovers. The hotel is surrounded by the lush greenery and biodiversity that makes Monteverde famous. Less than 1% of the world is classified as cloud forest, and that makes much of the flora and fauna around the hotel both rare and exotic. The hotel has only 21 rooms and provides a quiet escape from the outside world. Savour delicious and innovative dishes in the Nectandra Restaurant. Those with a yen to be zen can satisfy their needs with a luscious massage in the Lauracea Massage Room.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Ocotea Boutique Hotel

## Sunday, January 24

This is a day to do as you wish. Tropical forests, including sections of montane and dwarf cloud forest, surround the hotel, providing a haven for a host of flora and fauna. Mammals include pumas, jaguar, monkeys (howler, spider, and white-faced), kinkajous, sloths, and tapirs. Walk the hanging bridges in the jungle canopy.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Ocotea Boutique Hotel

## Monday, January 25

We descend from the mountains, driving past huge ranches and lots of cattle to reach the Pacific Coast and the Guanacaste region. Local delicacies are corn tortillas or horchata beverages. On arrival at **Tamarindo Beach**, we settle into the oceanfront Tamarindo Diria Beach Resort for three nights. You will be awed by the natural beauty of this private tropical resort, located on a stunning white sand beach. There is plenty of time to relax and soak up the sun. Breakfasts are included and there is a choice of four restaurants and a buffet for other meals. Other facilities are three pools, a whirlpool, free wi-fi, and a small casino. The resort is in the town of Tamarindo which has plenty of shops and entertainment.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Tamarindo Diria Beach Resort

## Tuesday, January 26 & Wednesday, January 27

These two days are free for you to enjoy on your own schedule. You may wish to relax by the pools or on the beach by the ocean, soaking up the warmth of Costa Rica. Several optional excursions are offered for extra cost:

- 1. January 26:** A 4-hour catamaran sailboat with guided snorkelling, kayaking or fishing. Snacks and open bar included. This is not a private Wells Gray boat, expect to share with other travellers. \$192 surcharge plus 0.3% GST.
- 2. January 26:** A full day excursion to Rincon de la Vieja National Park including 2.5 hours of hiking, a traditional Costa Rican lunch, and a hot spring visit. \$359 surcharge plus 0.3% GST.

- 3. January 27:** A 2-hour boat tour along the Tempisque River in Palo Verde National Park viewing lots of wildlife. This trip has a drive of 2 hours each way to and from the river. \$279 surcharge plus 0.3% GST.
- 4. January 27:** White water rafting along 20 km of the Tenorio River (Class III and IV rapids). \$403 surcharge plus 0.3% GST.

Please let us know your choices at the time of booking, or by final payment at the latest.

**Meals included:** Breakfast each day

**Accommodation:** Tamarindo Diria Beach Resort

## Thursday, January 28

In the afternoon, we drive to **Liberia** and stay overnight. Our farewell dinner is a chance to reminisce with fellow travellers about our winter getaway to Costa Rica.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hilton Garden Inn

## Friday, January 29

We fly home via Calgary.

**Meals included:** Breakfast

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## TOUR NOTES

**Documentation:** A passport is required, valid until your return date. A visa is not required for Canadians.

**Currency & Expenses:** The currency in Costa Rica is the colon; \$1 Canadian = 350 colons as of March 2026. US dollars are widely accepted and exchanged. Gratuities are included for all group meals and for Costa Rica guides, naturalists, and driver-guides. As this tour has been planned and priced 11 months before departure, it is possible that exchange fluctuations could affect the fare, in which case you will be notified of the increase or decrease. Most meals are included in Costa Rica. See also the note about beverages.

**Departure Tax:** Costa Rica charges a departure tax at the Liberia airport. Air fares usually include this tax.

**Flight seating:** We are unable to take requests for window or aisle seating on the planes. The airlines will not accept them, as group seating is assigned as a block. If this is important to you, we suggest you take the "No Flight" option with a fare reduction (quoted in late-March 2026) and book your own flight which allows seat selection. Please refer to our [Terms & Conditions](#) for more information on taking the "No Flight" option.

**Flight upgrades:** Please enquire about current prices for upgrades on the flights to San Jose and return from Liberia. Premium economy and business class may be available.

**Flight delays or cancellations:** In the event flights are delayed or cancelled by airlines due to weather or other reasons, there may be additional costs to you. Wells Gray Tours will not pay for hotel rooms and meals during the delay. Most travel insurance policies cover expenses incurred for flight delays.

**Accommodation:** Even though Costa Rica has a busy tourism industry, it is still considered a developing country and accommodation outside the cities may not be up to the standards of Canadian hotels. We generally select the best available lodging in each location, but please do not expect to stay in luxury hotels.

**Triples** are not available on this tour.

**Beverages:** In many countries outside Canada and USA, it is not standard practice to include beverages with tour meals. On this tour, a soft drink or bottled water is usually included with each meal and other beverages can be purchased.

**Food Allergies:** You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. This tour goes to some remote places where restaurants probably cannot satisfy all food allergies. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. For some allergies, please consider bringing your own snacks or food items so you are not dependent on what restaurants are able to serve.

**Vaccinations:** Costa Rica is a tropical country, so you may need vaccinations. Please visit your local Travel Health Clinic for advice on required vaccinations. Bring this itinerary.

# TOUR POLICIES

**Payments:** A deposit of \$800 per person is requested at time of booking and balance is due October 8, 2026. By paying the deposit, you agree to the [Terms & Conditions](#), Activity Level 3 [Declaration](#), and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (3% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard.

**Early Booking Bonus:** Receive \$150 discount on first 8 seats and \$75 on next 4 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after October 8, 2026.

**Cancellation Policy** Up to September 8, 2026, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From September 9 to October 8, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From October 9 to November 9, the cancellation charge is 70% of the tour fare. After November 9, there is no refund.

**Itinerary and Fare Changes:** Our many suppliers may notify us about changes to the itinerary prior to departure and sometimes during the tour. We do our best to substitute a similar service if something cancels, but occasionally the only alternative is to provide a refund for the missed activity. Please note that if we are forced to cancel a tour component due to an issue beyond our control, the current penalties still apply if you choose to cancel the entire tour. Fuel surcharges and changes to taxes, currency exchange rates, or other tour costs can occur at any time, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up to departure.

**Travel Insurance:** A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Medical questionnaire is not needed. Please contact us for details. If you have your own travel insurance, please read the policy carefully to be sure that you are adequately covered for medical, cancellation, interruption, and luggage. Please do not travel outside Canada without medical insurance as a minimum.

**Photo Credits:** Adobe Stock (Spider Monkey) and tour director Marion (Tortuguero Canal Tour).

**Experience Points or E-points:** This tour earns 213 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn e-points that are added to your account after the tour returns. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your earned points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until October 8, 2026.

**Consumer Protection BC Licences:** Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842

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<b>KAMLOOPS</b> (Head Office) 250 Lansdowne St. Kamloops, BC V2C 1X7 <b>250-374-0831</b>	<b>KELOWNA</b> 2575 Richter St. Kelowna, BC V1Y 2R1 <b>250-762-3435</b>	<b>VERNON</b> 3206 35th St. Vernon, BC V1T 6B7 <b>250-545-9197</b>	<b>PENTICTON</b> 159 Wade Ave E Penticton, BC V2A 8B6 <b>250-493-1255</b>	<b>VICTORIA</b> 102-736 Broughton St. Victoria, BC V8W 1E1 <b>250-590-7889</b>
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