

COSTA RICA

2015 KALAMAZOO COLLEGE ALUMNI & FRIENDS TRIP

NOVEMBER 30TH - DECEMBER 7TH, 2015



Costa Rica may be a small country wedged between two continents, but few locales in the world are bigger on nature and adventure. Flanked by miles of beaches on the Pacific and the Caribbean, Costa Rica's interior is a lush tangle of rainforest, mist-veiled mountains, active volcanoes and habitat for some of the greatest biodiversity on earth.

Within the layers of green upon green, thousands of species thrive: gigantic ferns, magenta orchids, neon-bright parrots, three-toed sloths, monkeys, peccaries, crocodiles, iguanas and frogs, just for starters. In the colors and cacophony of the tropical jungle, your senses will be engaged as never before!

NOVEMBER 2015 COSTA RICA ALUMNI & FRIENDS TRIP
WITH KALAMAZOO COLLEGE PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY PAUL SOTHERLAND



PRICE PER PERSON:
\$1895.00 Land Only
 (Single supplement \$200)

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Discover the rainforest surrounding the Arenal Volcano from a unique perspective on the Arenal Hanging Bridges tour
- Take a floating safari through tropical rainforest to visit Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge
- Hike the Children's Eternal Rain Forest and view this area's amazing biodiversity
- Experience Turtles Nesting at Night, one of the most incredible phenomena of Mother Nature
- Tropical Sunset Cruise



Itinerary

Kalamazoo College Alumni & Friends Trip

November 30th - December 7th, 2015

Day 1 Monday Nov 30

Private guided transfer Liberia Airport to Arenal Springs Hotel. Transfer time is approximately 3.5 hours

Accommodations - Arenal Springs Hotel | Breakfast Buffet Included

Day 2 Tuesday Dec 1

Tour Private Arenal Hanging Bridges: The Arenal Hanging Bridges tour takes place on a 600 acre reserve filled with lush vegetation and a variety of birds and animals, which your experienced guide will help you spot. The trail itself is 1.9 miles (3.1 km) in length, crossing nine fixed bridges and 6 suspension bridges and is laid out at a maximum grade of 7 degrees so that anyone can walk it.

Included: Transportation, naturalist guide, entrance and beverages.

What to bring: Comfortable clothing, hiking shoes, insect repellent, camera, binoculars, sunscreen (sunny days) or rain gear (rainy days).

Accommodations - Arenal Springs Hotel | Breakfast Buffet Included

Day 3 Wednesday Dec 2

Tour Private Caño Negro by Boat at Río Frio: The Caño Negro Wildlife Refuge is considered one of the richest sites in the continent for the observation of birds. Beside an abundance of birds, Caño Negro is also a refuge for many other animals like: sloths, three types of monkeys, caimans, lizards, bats, and native flora of the wet land.

We will depart from La Fortuna, driving for about an hour and a half until we reach Los Chiles, which is a rustic town located only 5 kilometers from the border of Nicaragua. From here we will take the boat down to Río Frio for about three hours. Throughout the trip, your professional guide will explain each one of the plantations along the way, as well as the flora and fauna of the region.

Includes: Transportation, bilingual naturalist guide, lunch, and cold drinks.

What to bring: Fresh and comfortable clothes, tennis shoes or sandals, camera, hat, binoculars, sunscreen.

Accommodations - Arenal Springs Hotel | Breakfast Buffet Included

Day 4 Thursday Dec 3

Tour: Private Children's Rain Forest: In 1987 Swedish school children started a worldwide effort to purchase and protect rainforest in the Monteverde region of Costa Rica. Since then, children and adults for 44 nations have joined that effort. Today, the 55,000-acre Children's Eternal Rainforest is a testament to the change that can be accomplished by individual action.

Early morning departure with your guide in a 4x4 vehicle. When you arrive at the Poco Sol Biological Station, the park ranger will give a small talk about the history of the park.

You will hike (approximately 2 hours) on a trail called "La Zamia" and experience the virgin primary rain forest. In the afternoon, hike the "Catarata Velo de Novia" trail or adjust depending on the stamina of the group.

Includes: Transportation, lunch, naturalist guide and entrances.

What to bring: Hiking shoes, insect repellent, camera, binoculars.

Accommodations - Arenal Springs Hotel | Breakfast Buffet Included



DEPOSITS & PAYMENT

A deposit of \$300.00 per person is required within seven days of reservation with full balance due 75 days prior to departure. Certain inclusions may require immediate purchase. Please complete Reservation Form and include with deposit.

Reservations are made and confirmed with
Roni Williams
Travel Leaders 800-633-6401
Email: RWilliams@travelladers.com

Check should be made out to:
Travel Leaders
1958 Mall Place, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

CANCELLATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS:

We highly recommend travel insurance.

All requests for cancellations and refunds must be in writing and sent to Travel Leaders together with appropriate receipts and documentation. If the request is received by Travel Leaders 75 days or more before the departure date, a full refund will be made less a \$300.00 per person charge that will be assessed in addition to any other cancellation fees and charges which may be assessed by suppliers such as airlines, hotels, and ground operators. If the request is received less than 75 days before the departure date no refund will be granted. Once travel commences, unused portions of packages are non-refundable. Some changes may incur additional costs.

Day 5 Friday Dec 4

Private transfer Arenal Springs Hotel to Tamarindo Diria | Transfer time is approximately 4-hours | Driver will stop for a lunch on your own

Accommodations - Tamarindo Diria, Sunset Ocean View Rooms | Breakfast Buffet Included

Day 6 Saturday Dec 5

Tour: Turtle Nesting at Night: After you are registered at the park ranger station, you will wait for a while until one of the local tour guides spots a turtle that is starting to come out of the ocean. You will walk on the beach to get to the place where you will experience one of the most incredible phenomena of Mother Nature. An enormous turtle will begin to dig a hole in the sand to lay 65 to 90 eggs. Then, she will start to cover the nest to protect them from predators. Sixty days later, the baby turtles will emerge to become a new hope for the turtle's survival.

Included: Bottled water, guide, transportation, entrance fees to the park.

What to bring: Hiking shoes or sandals, passport, warm and dark clothing.

Accommodations - Tamarindo Diria, Sunset Ocean View Rooms | Breakfast Buffet Included

Day 7 Sunday Dec 6

Tour: Blue Dolphin Sailing | Private Sunset Sailing Cruise

The Sunset Sail includes:

- Three hour sail at sunset (2:30pm – 5:30pm)
- Fresh appetizers including tropical fruit, antipasto platter and chips and salsa
- Open bar with juices, sodas, beer, wine, rum, guaro, vodka, and bottled water

The Blue Dolphin can accommodate 40 passengers and has many amenities including trampolines for relaxing and tanning, a shaded main salon, fresh water shower, stairway to the sea and a restroom.

Accommodations - Tamarindo Diria, Sunset Ocean View Rooms | Breakfast Buffet Included

Day 8 Monday Dec 7

Private transfer Tamarindo Diria to Liberia Airport | Transfer time is approximately 1-hour

* Departure tax of \$29 per person is not included. Please purchase at airport before getting in line for check in.

TRIP INFORMATION

Please Note: some tours and air transportation services have weight restrictions.

Costa Rica Entry Requirements

For US Citizens a valid passport is required to enter Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Passport must be valid for at least 6 months past travel dates. Additional information on entry requirements may be obtained from:

Consular Section

Embassy of Costa Rica
2114 S Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

202-328-6628

<http://costarica-embassy.org/>



PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY PAUL SOTHERLAND

Kalamazoo College Faculty Member Since 1985

I am interested primarily in the ecological physiology of vertebrate eggs. Much of my attention for the past 40 years has been on factors affecting developmental trajectories of birds, turtles, and alligators while they develop in their eggs. For several field seasons at Playa Grande, Costa Rica, I focused on trying to understand how leatherback turtle embryos develop while in nests buried nearly one meter below the surface of the sand. So...come with me to Costa Rica, where we will explore cloud forests near an active volcano and beaches on the Pacific coast. ¡Pura vida!

ACCOMMODATIONS

Arenal Springs Hotel: The Hotel Arenal Springs is located just 5 miles away from La Fortuna town near the Arenal Volcano and National Park. The hotel features 87 Junior Suites with direct views of the Arenal Volcano. Each room is surrounded by exotic gardens, beautiful flowers and many species of birds. The property also features 2 swimming pools and a Thermal river.

Junior Suite: Junior Suites offer either a king size bed or two queen beds. Rooms with handicap access and adjoining rooms for families are available. Amenities include: hair dryer, cable TV, free mini bar, free Wi-Fi internet access, air conditioning, ceiling fan, laundry bag, telephone, safe deposit box, coffee maker (coffee and tea provided), bath amenities, private bath with tropical garden, hot water, private terrace, free yoga deck access and free access to the hot springs.



ARENAL SPRINGS HOTEL

Tamarindo Diria: Tamarindo Diria sets its self apart from all others as the only hotel located on the white sand of the world famous Tamarindo Beach. As Tamarindo's first hotel, we have been the area's premier lodging facility and offer our guests 30 years of hospitality experience. Spread out over 5 acres, Tamarindo Diria's mixture of traditional and contemporary style and architecture is surrounded by exotic and beautifully maintained lush tropical gardens that offer our guests the natural beauty of Costa Rica right outside their doors.

Sunset Ocean View Room: These rooms are elegantly and tastefully furnished with every comfort in mind. Rooms on the second and third floors include 2 Queen Size beds. Rooms on the first floor include 1 King bed. All rooms feature a terrace surrounded by green tropical gardens with views of the ocean and the beautiful beach of Tamarindo. Amenities include: air conditioning, fan, king or queen size beds, cable/satellite TV, hairdryer, phone, safe, and free wireless high-speed internet access.



TAMARINDO DIRIA

Responsibility

Travel Leaders arranges tour services and accommodations through suppliers who will provide goods and services for your trip. You agree that Travel Leaders acts only as your agent and you agree not to hold Travel Leaders liable, and Travel Leaders hereby disclaims all liability, for any delay, loss, injury, expense of accident occasioned directly or indirectly by any action or omission, whether negligent or otherwise, of any supplier or other entity entrusted with the performance of any service or the delivery of any goods in connection with your trip or any available option. You agree to seek all remedies directly with suppliers. On advancement of deposit to Travel Leaders, the depositor therefore agrees to be bound by the above recited terms and conditions.

KALAMAZOO COLLEGE
2015 ALUMNI & FRIENDS TRIP COSTA RICA

BOOKING FORM

BOOKING DEPOSIT

To hold space up to time of "Final Payment", a deposit of \$300 per person is due with Reservation Form.

Reservations are made and confirmed with
Roni Williams
Travel Leaders 800-633-6401
Email: RWilliams@travellers.com

Check should be made out to:
Travel Leaders
1958 Mall Place, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Final Payment is due 75 Days prior to departure

Full Name (as on passport) _____

Mailing Address _____

(Street address for FEDEX)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address: _____

K Class Year _____ Did you participate in Study Abroad? _____ Location _____

Additional Information _____

In case of emergency, please notify _____

Phone: _____ Address _____

Email: _____

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

I _____, hereby acknowledge that I am aware that Travel Leaders acts only as your agent and you agree not to hold Travel Leaders liable, and Travel Leaders hereby disclaims all liability, for any delay, loss, injury, expense of accident occasioned directly or indirectly by any action or omission, whether negligent or otherwise, of any supplier or other entity entrusted with the performance of any service or the delivery of any goods in connection with your trip or any available option. You agree to seek all remedies directly with suppliers. On advancement of deposit to Travel Leaders, the depositor therefore agrees to be bound by the above recited terms and conditions.

I have read the Responsibility paragraph for this trip, this Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk, and agree to the conditions, especially noting the policy on cancellation and refunds section, and am signing this form of my own free will and accord, voluntarily and without duress.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please sign, date and return this form to:

Roni Williams at Travel Leaders, 1958 Mall Place, Benton Harbor, MI 49022