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Nature & Cultural Journeys
for the Discerning Traveler

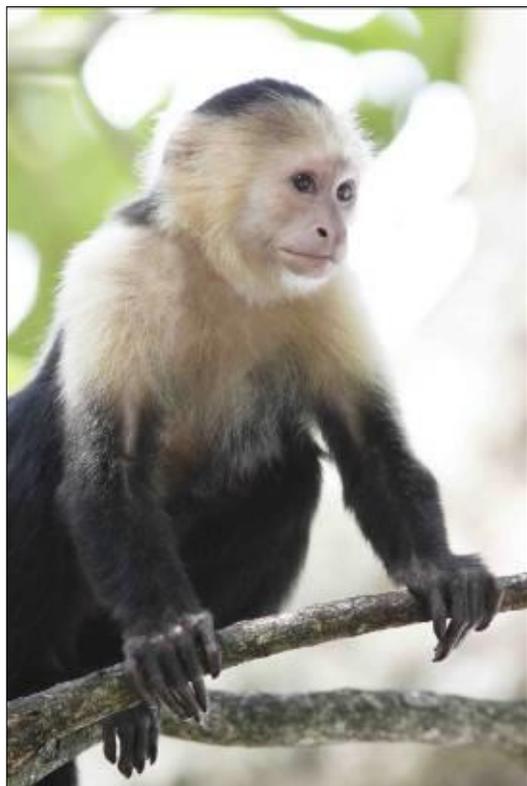
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN

THE PHILADELPHIA ZOO

ON A FAMILY ADVENTURE TO

COSTA RICA

DECEMBER 26, 2013 TO JANUARY 3, 2014



YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~THURSDAY ~ DECEMBER 26 PHILADELPHIA/SAN JOSE



Your journey begins as you board your aircraft in Philadelphia, en route to San Jose. Upon arrival, you will be escorted to your accommodation, the Bougainvillea, where your day is at leisure. The entire family will love the ten acres of lush gardens of the unique and comfortable Hotel Bougainvillea. Located at the outskirts of a pleasant residential area in San Jose, Hotel Bougainvillea provides a quiet hideaway where guests can truly experience the world famous natural beauty of Costa Rica. The grounds of the hotel are spectacular and will impress everyone in the family. Coffee drinkers will be amazed by the surrounding coffee plantations. Make certain the kids know what is growing in the citrus orchards. The lush gardens provide an enticing setting for jogging through the winding trails, tennis, or tossing the ball around. The kids will love relaxing by the swimming pool. Each of the 83 rooms has twin double beds, tub or shower, and a separate seating area. The furniture is especially made of Costa Rican

hardwoods, and all rooms have cable television and direct dial telephones. In addition, each room has a balcony offering marvelous views of the mountains on one side and the San José skyline on the other.

Overnight at HOTEL BOUGAINVILLEA. (Meals Aloft) www.hb.co.cr/

DAYS 2/3 ~ FRIDAY/SATURDAY ~ DECEMBER 27/28 BRAULIO CARRILLO NATIONAL PARK/ TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK

This morning, after breakfast, board your vehicle for a drive to the Rainforest Aerial Tram. This will be more fun for the kids than any thrill ride! Begin your trip into the treetops to experience nature and view the forest from a bird's-eye perspective. The tram is situated in a 1,000-acre private reserve of virgin tropical forest that borders the Braulio Carrillo National Park. Your tour starts with a 15-minute video, followed by an exciting, 90-minute aerial tram ride. You access the canopy as you glide along the 1.6 mile circuit in six-passenger gondolas. Your incredible views are enhanced by the quiet – minus the oohs

and ahhs of excited children of all ages, allowing you to listen to the various sounds of the rainforest. The canopy is home to an enormous amount of flora and fauna and in their eagerness to search for light and space many plants have colonized the tree tops turning them into "small ecosystems" – these plants are known as epiphytes. Orchids, "bromeliads", different types of moss, ferns, lianas and the bejucos, are just some of the species which make up the canopy. The fauna is also very abundant, however it is much harder to observe. Butterflies abound inside the park. You would be unlucky not to see a Blue Morpho, Swallowtails, Magnificent Owl butterflies, and Zebra Longwings. Engage the entire family in a competition to spot the most species of butterfly. A walk through the Butterfly



and Frog Garden showcases some of the world's most impressive flying and leaping creatures. The butterfly exhibit is an educational area where an expert guide will explain to you the complete life cycle of these spectacular insects. Discover the iridescent beauty of the blue Morpho butterfly and the captivating look of the red-eyed tree frog. During this tour, you'll have the chance to walk with a naturalist guide amongst a garden overflowing with plants, flowers, butterflies and frogs.



As you stroll through this 2,150 sq. ft. controlled environment, you'll learn both the common and scientific names for these creatures, and have the opportunity to snap pictures of the colorful critters.

Some 350 species of birds have been reported here, such as the Solitary Eagle, Ornate Hawk-eagle, Rufous-vented Ground-cuckoo, Common Potoo, Lanceolated Monklet, Yellow-eared Toucanet, Bare-necked Umbrella bird, and Rufous-winged Tanager. Reptiles like snakes and lizards as well as amphibian species such as "tree frogs" can also be found, as well as mammals – three monkey species, two types of sloths, two kinds of anteater bears and a great number of bat species. From the Aerial Tram you can also appreciate all the different shades of green as well as the various sizes and shapes that the leaves have created as a

strategy to capture sunlight.

Resume your drive through banana plantations to a jetty where you board your speedboat for another family thrill ride to Tortuguero, which consists of a vast alluvial floodplain. Tortuguero's tropical; moist to wet forest is accessible only by small plane or boat, along the famous Tortuguero Canals. This system of rivers and man-made channels parallels the coast and cuts through beautiful primary forest. One of the wettest regions in the country, it is also one of the areas with the greatest biological diversity. There are 11 distinct habitats, ranging from littoral woodland and berm, to very moist high forest and swamp forest where the predominant species can grow up to 130 feet tall such as wild tamarind. The water hyacinths are so thick in places that boats cannot get through. The wildlife is rich and varied with unusually large populations of monkeys, frogs and amphibians (60 species), birds (309 species) and fish. Some of the resident mammals are the elusive tapir which feeds mainly on plants and seeds, jaguar (rarely seen), ocelot, kinkajou, collared and white-lipped peccary, Neotropical river otter, tayra, olingo, three-toed sloth, spider monkey and howler monkey. A fascinating mammal that lives in the swamps is the fishing bulldog bat which is one of the largest bats in the country. Three unusual frogs live in this wilderness – the smoky frog which abounds on the banks of streams, the glass frog which has such transparent skin that its internal organs can be seen underneath, and the poison dart frog which is dangerous to the touch. Resident avian species include the Green Macaw which prefers to move about in the upper canopy of the rain forests and mainly feeds on seeds of the wild almond tree, Great Curassow, Keel-billed Toucan, Turkey Vulture, White-necked Jacobin, Violaceous Trogon, Great Tinamou which is a very terrestrial bird that feeds on seeds, berries and small insects caught in its flight path, Neotropical Cormorant, Anhinga, and Montezuma Oropendula. The channels and marshes are home to seven species of turtles which can be seen sunning themselves on logs in the middle of the water or on islands of floating vegetation. Here, too, you can find the West Indian manatee – one of the most endangered Caribbean species – crocodiles, caimans, and green iguanas. There's also a great variety of crustaceans and about 30 species of freshwater fish, including the gar – considered to be a living fossil and amazing when spawning, eel, bull shark, Caribbean snook, tarpon, red snapper and mackerel.



Renowned naturalist Archie Carr and author of the 1956 book *The Windward Road* did much of his work on sea turtles at Tortuguero and was instrumental in establishing the Caribbean Conservation Corporation (CCC) – his "Casa Verde" research station is still here. In fact, Tortuguero gets its name from the Spanish word for turtle and is the most important nesting site in the entire western half of the Caribbean for the green turtle – which gathers in large numbers to nest

between July and October. Other species of sea turtles that also nest on the wide beaches of the park and refuge are the leatherback and hawksbill. The green turtle population is believed to have come perilously close to extinction in the 1960s when nearly every female turtle arriving to nest in Tortuguero was taken for the export market for turtle soup. CCC was established in 1959 specifically to study and protect Caribbean green turtles. Working closely with the Costa Rican government, CCC helped establish Tortuguero National Park in 1970, a move that offered protection to the turtles and strictly limited the number of turtles that could be taken. Green turtles were first tagged with flipper tags at Tortuguero in 1955. With the help of volunteers, almost 48,000 sea turtles have been tagged at Tortuguero since then. Some of these turtles have been recaptured by fishermen and others away from the Tortuguero nesting beach, providing useful information about sea turtle migrations and emphasizing the shared nature of the sea turtle resource.



Located on the Northeast area of Costa Rica's Caribbean coast, between the Tortuguero Lagoon and the Caribbean Sea, Mawamba is a 15-acre beachfront lodge offering stunning views of the canals. It's beautiful gardens and rustic rooms, blended with the exuberant jungle vegetation, exotic birds and wildlife, create the perfect balance of nature. It is the ideal hideaway for families, nature lovers and people seeking soft adventure. The lodge has 36 comfortable rooms with private bathrooms, hot water, ceiling fans and rocking chairs for pleasant relaxing evenings. Kid friendly facilities include two docks, swimming pool, Jacuzzi, souvenir shop, relaxing ranchos with hammocks, nature trails, walking beach access, volleyball sand court and for adults a conference room with air condition, where lectures of Tortuguero National History and videos are presented daily. Overnights at the MAWAMBA LODGE. (All Meals Daily) www.mawamba.com

DAYS 4/5 ~ SUNDAY/MONDAY ~ DECEMBER 29/30 **ARENAL VOLCANO**

Enjoy a delicious breakfast before the return boat ride to Cano Blanco's dock. From there your drive now takes you to Arenal, which is located in the northern region of Costa Rica.



The landscapes as you drive along the twisting roads make for incredible photographs, so make sure you have your cameras handy. Costa Rica has so much to offer and no exploration of this amazing diversity would be complete without a visit to the Arenal Volcano and what kid has not dreamed of visiting an active volcano? Arenal Volcano rises to approximately 5,357 feet at its summit, although the exact summit height changes frequently due to the volcanic activity. In 1968, after having lain dormant for more than 400 years, Arenal Volcano erupted with extreme violence and fury. Since that time, it has maintained nearly constant activity that ranges from soundless explosions with large mushroom-shaped clouds of ash overhead, to booming explosions that send hot rocks nearly a mile into the air. Perfect classic cone shape and world class hot springs make this scene a must.

Your second day will include an exploration of the Arenal National Park in the morning. Your afternoon is at leisure with the family, to enjoy the fabulous facilities of your hotel. Your accommodation for the next two nights, the Arenal Observatory Lodge, is located just in front of the Arenal Volcano. Surrounded by gardens, pastures and wildlife, each guestroom has been designed with a panoramic view of the volcano. Take advantage of the spacious gardens for walking and meditation as well as the opportunities to take a family tour of a typical Costa Rican farm. Relax at the pool or spa, all with the iconic volcano framing your view



Tonight, visit the Tabacon Hot Springs for a swim in the thermal pools and dinner. You will be transported to a higher level of energy, which makes Tabacon a one-of-a-kind place. From the heart of the volcano, spring fountains of thermo mineral water which form the Tabacon River, running at a soothing 102°F, form cascades, waterfalls, and natural pools through exotic tropical gardens, and flow into pools, to guarantee an unforgettable sensation. The resort features mineral water pools, indoor Jacuzzi, therapeutic massages and mud treatments (at an extra cost), restaurant with international and Costa Rican cuisine, tropical bars, souvenir shop, lockers, changing rooms, and showers. You may want to indulge yourself with a massage, a swim in the hot springs, or any other of the facilities offered before your included dinner here.

Overnights at the ARENAL OBSERVATORY LODGE. (B,L,B,D) www.arenalobservatorylodge.com

DAYS 6/7 ~ TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY ~ DECEMBER 31/JANUARY 1 MONTEVERDE CLOUD FOREST



Continue to Monteverde, one of the most beautiful cloud forests in the world. This afternoon, prepare the family for a very unique experience, the Selvatura Treetop Walk on hanging bridges. You will be surprised to find yourself - like the birds - admiring Mother Nature from the top of the trees. This is because from the beginning of your walk you will be ascending - step-by-step - until you find yourself as high up as the vegetation that will surround you (from 150 to 510 feet). Here, a series of eight bridges await you in order to safely walk without any worries. If you hear a clicking sound, look around closely for the Calico butterfly, the only butterfly in the world that makes noise. The almost 2-mile walk is an unforgettable experience, the excitement of looking to one side and seeing the tops of the trees and at the same time feeling the sensation of walking among the clouds. Welcome the New Year during a festive family dinner New Year's Eve celebration at your hotel this evening.

New Year's Day is spent exploring the Monteverde community and the private Cloud Forest Reserve with your naturalist-guide.

Monteverde is a rich and complex cloud forest reserve which protects six different ecological communities, making it a paradise for nature enthusiasts and a renowned field site for biological research. Note that a "cloud forest" differs from a "rain forest". In particular, a cloud forest will generally receive less rain on an annual basis than will a rain forest.

However, a cloud forest generally has more humidity and (because of its higher altitudes) more cloudiness than a rain forest. The reserve encompasses about 10,000 acres, with many interesting trails to wander through the thick tropical vegetation. You'll recognize many familiar house plants growing freely in the wild, including schefflera, bromeliads, and ferns, as well as some more exotic species. Although it's difficult to spot them, more than 320 species of birds are resident, including the seasonal Resplendent Quetzal, considered the most beautiful bird in the Americas, as well as the Three-wattled Bellbird, Black Guan, Umbrella bird, Spangled-cheeked Tanager, Orange-bellied Trogon, Emerald Toucanet (you

usually hear them more than see them), and numerous other specialties. Among the 100 species of mammals are the Baird's tapir, jaguar and ocelot (all rarely seen), howler monkey, kinkajou, and prehensile-tailed porcupine. There are over 6 species and numerous subspecies of butterfly including swallowtails, white, sulfur, Owl butterfly, Leaf butterflies, Milkweed butterflies, longwing, clearwing, Snout butterflies, morphos, brush-footed, and Satyr butterflies.

For the adventurous families and kids at heart there is an optional (*extra cost*) exhilarating excursion available at the Sky Trek, a system of trails, suspension bridges, and zip lines that offers visitors the opportunity to observe and appreciate tropical vegetation from different vantage points. Sky Trek Costa Rica offers a total stretch of over a mile of cables. The system is integrated with a gorgeous Cloud Forest trail, 1 ½ miles long. Enjoy a different perspective of the Monteverde Cloud Forest that not many people have a chance to see – as most of the wildlife found in the Cloud Forest is living or feeding in the tree tops. Along with the 11 cables zipping through the canopy forest, two suspended bridges 160 feet off the ground, and some of the most beautiful trails in the Cloud



Forest, take advantage of the Sky Trek's observation tower that is 70 feet off the ground, where on clear days you can see the Arenal Volcano. This view reveals lush green gardens of mosses, ferns, flowers, and epiphytes growing on every tree. Sky Trek in the perfect blend of nature and adventure as you fly over this magnificent jungle.

Your lodging will be at the Fonda Vela Hotel, located on a 35-acre property, full of lush forests and verdant pastures that are excellent for birding and family hikes. In this tranquil setting, you may see parrots and emerald toucans that come to feed in the fruiting trees. During certain months, the Fonda Vela is excellent for seeing Resplendent Quetzal, Three-wattled Bellbird and Keel-billed Toucans. Horses graze in the pasture below. The Fonda Vela Hotel has nine buildings nestled in the landscaped property, designed with natural lighting, privacy and warmth. All have large windows

with views of the forest allowing the outside beauty to be a part of a cozy interior. Their 20 junior suites, where you will be accommodated, have a small refrigerator, table, king and queen-size beds, a comfortable sofa and telephones. On your first night in the hotel, enjoy a special New Year's Eve dinner.

Overnights at the FONDA VELA. (B,D; B) www.fondavela.com

DAY 8 ~THURSDAY ~JANUARY 2

SARCHI/SAN JOSE

This morning after breakfast, drive back to San Jose. En route, stop at Sarchi, for some of Costa Rica's best shopping of local handicrafts, especially the infamous wooden oxcarts. Upon arrival in San Jose, you will check in at the Bougainvillea where the remainder of the day is at leisure. In the evening you will enjoy a farewell dinner in your hotel. Overnight at HOTEL BOUGAINVILLEA. (B,L,D)

DAY 9 ~FRIDAY ~ JANUARY 3

SAN JOSE/PHILADELPHIA

Time to return to the USA, as you will be transferred this morning to the airport for your return flight home. Sadly it is now time to say "adios" to hospitable Costa Rica. (B)

OPTIONAL POST-EXTENSION TO CARARA & MANUEL ANTONIO NATIONAL PARKS

DAYS 8/9 ~ THURSDAY/FRIDAY ~ JANUARY 2/3

CARARA NATIONAL PARK/ VILLA LAPAS

Bid farewell to the rest of the group as you drive to Villa Lapas, located in the transition zone between the dry and moist forest of the Pacific lowlands. En route, you will stop at the Tarcoles River which is legendary for bearing one of the most important crocodile populations in Costa Rica. Some of these animals reach more than four meters long! In addition to the crocodiles, you can also watch the great diversity of birds of this area, including Roseate Spoonbills, Wood Storks, Pelicans, Frigatebirds, Scarlet Macaws and countless others.



The Villa Lapas Hotel is located in the province of Puntarenas, only 75 minutes from the capital of Costa Rica. Its strategic location next to the Carara Biological Reserve is key to the beauty that surrounds the facilities. The property is surrounded by one of the last tropical rain forests in the Pacific coast. The area protects numerous indigenous plants and animals and there are many possibilities to observe the secrets of this natural treasure. The resort offers 47 rooms, all with balconies enjoying vistas of either river, garden or pool views.

If time permits, you may want to indulge in an optional canopy walk located in Villa Lapas's own private reserve. "Villa Lapas Sky Way" is a union of natural trails and hanging bridges (hammocks) throughout a wonderful rain forest of centenary trees. Depending on the time which you take this tour, you can see many species of birds and animals. This trail has a length of 2.5 km with a descending slope. This tour is very accessible for children and adults of all ages offering total security from any kind of danger. This new attraction consists of 5 bridges, four of which are

1000 meters long (329 feet), each, and the fifth is half that length. They are totally built in metal and have holds with metallic towers, as well as a fence and plastic rail for added security and comfort.

This evening, bird in nearby Carara Biological Reserve, or take a hike on one of the trails within Villa Lapas. This reserve is one of the last remaining tracts of tropical rainforest on the Pacific side of Costa Rica, and as such plays a vital role in providing refuge for an amazing array of native plant and animal life. The biological diversity is astounding due to the geographic location of the reserve in the transition zone between the Mesoamerican dry forest and the Pacific Coast tropical rainforests. Enjoy the raucous flight of Scarlet Macaws, the dexterous foraging of White-faced Monkeys, the search for brightly colored Harlequin Poison dart Frogs, or the deceptively lazy flight of a large Blue Morpho Butterfly.

Overnights at the VILLA LAPAS HOTEL. (B Daily)
www.villalapas.com



DAYS 10/11- SATURDAY/SUNDAY

JANUARY 4/5

MANUEL ANTONIO NATIONAL PARK

You will visit another Costa Rican national treasure today – Manuel Antonio National Park, just south of Quepos on the Pacific Coast, 132 kms from San José. The Park's two white sandy beaches, Espadilla Sur and Manuel Antonio, stand out as its main attractions. Just off shore are twelve islands, most of them without vegetation, but excellent seabird sanctuaries nonetheless. Punta Cathedral was an island at one time, an accumulation of the sediments joined to the land with a sandy belt named Tombolo, a prized nesting site for the brown booby. You may see dolphins here, and once in a while a pod of migratory whales. There are more than 100 mammal species and 180 species of birds here, including the rare White Ibis. Squirrel monkeys (another endangered species) play in the trees above the trails in the Park. In addition, you may see two-toed sloths, raccoons, white-nosed coatis, howler and white-faced monkeys, and squirrels. Take your pick of any one of several short trails that meander through the park, passing scenic overlooks and white-sand beaches (the second beach is one of Costa Rica's safest swimming beaches, and is also a good place for snorkeling). The most popular trail is the small loop that takes you around Punta Cathedral and pays off with a wonderful view of the Pacific. El Perezoso takes you to Playa Blanca. El Puerto Escondido and El Mirador trails take you through the dense humid tropical forests to Playa Puerto Escondido. With its' stunning, picture-postcard backdrop, and



miles of white sandy beaches it's easy to see why Manuel Antonio National Park is Costa Rica's most popular. Return to your hotel, where the remainder of your day is at leisure.



Situated right in the heart of Costa Rica's most electrifying Pacific coastal region and close to the small sport fishing town of Quepos, hidden away in its own private world of lush jungle and gardens and only minutes away from the world-renowned Manuel Antonio National Park, El Parador offers a private and serene ambiance in a tropical paradise. All rooms have balconies and offer spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean, the rainforest and the gardens surrounding the hotel. Tastefully

decorated, your room includes room service, cable TV, air-conditioning, minibar, coffee maker, telephone, safety deposit box, ceiling fans, and hair dryers

Overnights at the EL PARADOR HOTEL. (B Daily)

DAYS 12/13 ~ MONDAY/TUESDAY ~ JANUARY 6/7

SARCHI/SAN JOSE/PHILADELPHIA

Return to San Jose, but first stop at the Sarchi town for some of Costa Rica's best shopping of local handicrafts

Upon arrival in San Jose, check into the BOUGAINVILLEA HOTEL where the remainder of your day is at leisure. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner at your hotel. The next day, transfer to the airport for your return flights home. (B,L,D; B)

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COSTA RICA

Participants

- Participants must be able to climb in and out of buses and boats unassisted. You should also be able to tolerate nature walks at an easy pace on uneven terrain, sometimes uphill, for three or four hours at a time in heat and humidity.
- You should be in good physical health to enjoy this destination to its fullest.

In general, this trip requires:

- Flexibility and good humor – unexpected changes and/or glitches will occur
- A spirit of adventure and curiosity.
- Interest in and willingness to appreciate a destination with a modest infrastructure and a bending definition of comfort. That being said, some locations are nestled in absolute luxury where pampering is the norm.

Air Schedules

Choosing the best possible air arrangements for our travelers is always a challenge. We work with many airlines that offer the best level of service, routings and value for our programs. While there may indeed be more direct routings available with another airline, the cost of these flights may not be within the budget that allows us to give you the best value possible. If you prefer to purchase your own international air, please feel free to choose the “land only” rate for this program. **The start and end city for this program is San Jose, Costa Rica.**

Upon registration, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with reissuing the ticket.



BRING-A-BOOK FOUNDATION

Your tour will include a visit to a local school. We encourage you to bring colorful books and magazines, particularly if you can get them in Spanish, as well as school supplies such as pens, paper, crayons, soccer balls, etc., which you can present to the children during your visit. You'll find that children in the schools are eager to meet with visitors, practice their English, learn about your culture and proudly share their own. You are often welcomed with a local song or dance. After seeing schools first hand, meeting the dedicated teachers, often working under difficult conditions, and children hungry for knowledge, many travelers have wanted to help the schools they visited or continue to support a child's learning opportunities after they return to their homes. Bring-A-Book is an innovative effort adopted by Classic Escapes to expand education opportunities for school children. The Bring-A-Book Foundation is a registered Charitable Trust that was created as a way to facilitate travelers' wishes to help the schools and is used to get books into the hands of children as quickly and economically as possible. Information will be given to you with your final documents, but if you wish to help further, feel free to call Classic Escapes at 800-627-1244 for details.



CLASSIC ESCAPES CONSERVATION FUND

In keeping with our mission to provide exciting, educational, and fun-filled experiences that nurture and directly support the diverse wildlife and cultures we visit around the world, Classic Escapes has established the Classic Escapes Conservation Fund to ensure that a percentage of all profits go to support conservation and wildlife researchers performing their critical work in the field. Project support has included wild dog, elephant, rhino and cheetah conservation in Botswana, Kenya, Tanzania and Namibia, penguins in Punta San Juan Peru, tiger preservation in India, and sponsoring school children in Kenya, among many other projects around the world. By traveling with Classic Escapes, you are supporting travel as a tool for building the mutual respect, awareness and understanding that are vital to preserving this planet for future generations.

INCLUSIONS

- All ground transfers in air-conditioned motorcoach.
- Superior accommodations throughout as indicated or similar.
- Naturalist guide will accompany the group with a minimum of 10 travelers.
- Enrichment lecturer from Philadelphia Zoo will accompany the group with minimum of 10 travelers on the main program and 10 on the extension.
- All meals as specified above.
- All park entry fees on main program and extension.
- All applicable hotel and lodge taxes and gratuities for baggage handling.
- Complimentary baggage tags and passport wallet.

EXCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip air transportation from Philadelphia to San Jose, including fuel surcharges and airline taxes. (quoted separately)
- Costa Rica departure tax \$28.
- Passport. No visa is required in Costa Rica.
- Excess baggage charges levied by airlines.
- Meals and beverages, other than specified.
- Laundry and other items of a personal nature.
- Personal and baggage insurance.
- Gratuities to driver, naturalist-guide and other conveyance attendants.
- Cost for anything not specifically mentioned in the listing above.
- Optional insurance coverage is available for Baggage, Accident and Trip Cancellation/Interruption at special low cost group rates.

*Please Note That The Itinerary Sequence Is Correct At The Time Of Writing,
But Is Subject To Change.*

YOUR JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

INCLUDING: SAN JOSE, AERIAL TRAM, TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK, ARENAL VOLCANO, MONTEVERDE CLOUD FOREST

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: PHILADELPHIA ZOO

ESCORTED BY: PHILADELPHIA ZOO ESCORT

DATES: DECEMBER 26 TO JANUARY 3, 2014

| COSTS: PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY | MAIN TOUR BASED ON 10 TRAVELERS | POST EXTENSION TO CARARA & MANUEL ANTONIO NATIONAL PARKS BASED ON 10 TRAVELERS |
|---|--|---|
| ADULT- LAND ONLY | \$2,650 PER PERSON | \$1,495 PER PERSON |
| CHILDREN BELOW 11 YEARS OLD | \$1,350 PER CHILD | \$495 PER CHILD |
| INTERNATIONAL AIR FROM PHILADELPHIA, ECONOMY, INCLUDING DEPARTURE TAXES** | \$1,200 PER PERSON | N/A |
| SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT* | \$695 PER PERSON | \$595 PER PERSON |

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: RATE IS VALID FOR FIRST TWO SINGLE ROOMS BOOKED. IF MORE THAN TWO SINGLE ROOMS, ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT WILL APPLY. SINGLES ARE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST COME/FIRST SERVE BASIS.*

***ALL INTERNATIONAL AIRFARES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND BASED ON MINIMUM NUMBER OF TRAVELERS. TAXES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL TICKETED.*

DEPARTURE CITY: PHILADELPHIA (DEPARTURES FROM OTHER CITIES ARE POSSIBLE AT EXTRA COST)



CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL:

HOW TO BOOK: Fill out the attached reservation form and send it to CLASSIC ESCAPES, 58-25 Queens Blvd., Woodside, NY 11377, together with a deposit of \$500 per person, plus \$250 for the extension, as well as your insurance payment if you wish to take advantage of the pre-existing medical condition exclusion. On receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your place on your tour. When we send off your confirmation invoice, your booking is confirmed and accepted by us. Final payment is due not later than 75 days prior to departure (October 12, 2013). Final documents will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure.

OPTIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION: Roundtrip economy-class jet transportation from Philadelphia via American Airlines and/or other IATAN carriers. Rates based on special promotional fares and cancellation fees apply once tickets are issued. Departures from other cities in the USA are possible at additional cost. Kindly inquire at the time of reservation.

AIRLINE SEATING: For American Airlines, we request seats together for the group. All planes are non-smoking. We can request a seating preference on your behalf, however this is only a request and not guaranteed. Requests should be made in writing no later than 60 days prior to departure. Bulkhead and/or emergency row seats can only be requested at airport check-in on the day of departure. Boarding passes will only be issued at the airport on the day of departure. You may inquire during check-in to have a seating change made, however this change is based on availability and is at the sole discretion of airport staff.

FREQUENT FLYER MILEAGE: At time of publication, **American Airlines** is a member of the One World network and is a partner with airberlin, Air Pacific, Alaska Airlines/Horizon Air, British Airways, Cape Air, Cathay Pacific, El Al, Etihad Airways, Eva Air, Finnair, GOL, Gulf Air, Hainan Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, Iberia, Japan Airlines, Jet Airways, Jetstar Airways, LAN, Open Skies, Qantas Airways, Royal Jordanian Airlines, WestJet Airways and S7 Airlines. You may obtain frequent flyer mileage on any of these carriers. Present your frequent flyer card for all flight check-ins and keep the boarding passes until you receive a statement with the mileage credit

BAGGAGE: International flights from the U.S. allow two pieces of checked luggage, each not exceeding 50 lbs. However we recommend you travel as light as you can manage, as it is more comfortable for you. Also, the size and the structure of the bag is limited. Soft duffel bags are ideal as they stow best in vehicles. **WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN THE OPTIONAL INSURANCE POLICY.**

ACCOMMODATIONS: You will marvel at the wonderful accommodations provided throughout your tour. All rooms have private facilities, and all rates are based on double occupancy. Most rooms are twin-bedded, but king-size beds are occasionally available and should be requested in advance. Accommodations listed in this itinerary are correct at time of writing, but on rare occasions can change for similar lodging.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: Rate quoted is valid for first two single rooms booked. If more than two single rooms, additional supplement will apply. Singles are assigned on a first come/first serve basis. Single accommodations are not guaranteed, but will be provided at additional cost if available (see reservation form for cost.) The single room supplement pays for privacy, not better accommodations. On occasion, in smaller lodges and camps, you may be required to share with other members of your tour group if single rooms are not available upon check-in. If this is the situation, appropriate per diem refunds are made to passengers in the event they paid for a single room but had to share during any portion of their trip. For passengers who are traveling alone and wish to share a room with another tour member, we will do our best to provide a roommate. However, if this is not possible, you will be required to pay the single room supplement prior to your departure from the USA.

MEALS: American breakfast daily. All other meals as specified.

TRANSFERS: Roundtrip transfer of travelers between airports and hotels are included in the tour when arriving on group flights. If travelers make their own air arrangements, they will be subject to extra transfer fees.

TIPS AND TAXES: Gratuities for baggage handling, service charges and taxes imposed by hotels, lodges and tented camps, and entrance fees to all reserves as outlined in the itinerary are included. Airline taxes and fuel surcharges are included in the air. Foreign airport taxes are included in the air cost and are subject to change prior to issuance of tickets. Costa Rica departure tax is **NOT** included. Tips to driver/guides and specialist-guide are **NOT** included.

INOCULATIONS: We would suggest you contact your personal physician or local health department for their recommendations as to inoculations. At the time of printing, no vaccinations are required for entry into Costa Rica. Water is safe to drink, but we always recommend bottled water.

RATES: All rates quoted are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of April 17, 2013, and are subject to change. Rates are based on a minimum of 10 passengers traveling together (with a maximum of 20 passengers). The right is reserved to levy a surcharge if minimum is not met, but that is rarely done. We will do our utmost to keep to the prices as published. Should increases be forced on us by airlines, exchange rates, etc., we reserve the right to surcharge.

ESCORT: Group will be accompanied by a member of the Philadelphia Zoo with a minimum of 10 passengers on the main and 10 passengers on the extension program.

TRIP INFORMATION: Upon receipt of your application, instructions will be sent to you concerning all aspects of your trip, such as itinerary, photographic equipment, documents, clothing, insurance, etc.

INVOICING: Final invoicing of your trip will be done approximately four months prior to departure. Final payment is due 75 days prior to departure (October 12, 2013).

FINAL DOCUMENTS: Final documents and tickets will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure. We regret to advise that no documents can be released if final payments are not received.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: A deposit of \$750 per person must be submitted with each application, plus an additional deposit of \$250 per person if you wish to take the extension. Deposits may be paid by check or charged to American Express, MasterCard, Visa or Discover. Final payment is payable by check or money order ONLY and is due no later than 75 days prior to departure (October 12, 2013).

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this trip:

- Up to 75 days prior to departure, less \$250 handling fee.
- 74-60 days prior to departure, deposit is forfeited.
- 59-45 days prior to departure, less 50% of tour cost.
- Less than 45 days prior to departure, refund is dependent on amount recoverable from overseas suppliers.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any imposed by airlines. **WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN THE OPTIONAL INSURANCE POLICY. INFORMATION WILL BE SENT TO YOU UPON RECEIPT OF RESERVATION FORM. INSURANCE PREMIUMS ARE NOT REFUNDABLE.**

DEVIATIONS: Should additional reservations be required, including extensions in other countries in South America, we will be happy to make all the arrangements. However, there will be an extra charge of \$150 per person for such deviations, over and above the cost of the services required.

CHANGE FEES: Once you reserve your tour, changes are possible subject to availability of air or land space at the time of request. Should there be any change fees imposed by airlines or ground operators, or additional costs incurred due to availability of any space, this cost will be invoiced to you.

NOT INCLUDED: Cost of passport and visa fees, and service charges for obtaining visa fees; excess baggage charges levied by airlines; beverages and meals not specified in itinerary; gratuities to driver/guides and specialist-guide, and other conveyance attendants; laundry and other items of a personal nature; gratuities not imposed by hotels and/or restaurants for included services; optional personal, baggage and tour cancellation insurance policy; foreign airport taxes; cost for anything not specifically included in listing above.

WILD ANIMALS: Please be aware that this trip may take you into close contact with wild animals. Attacks by wild animals are rare, but no trip into the wilderness can guarantee that this will not occur. Neither the company, nor their employees, nor agents can be held responsible for any injury or incident on the trip. Please note that not all camps are fenced.

PASSPORT & VISAS: The onus is upon the guest to ensure that passports and visas are valid for the countries visited. The company, their staff and their agents cannot be held liable for any visas, etc. not held by the guests, nor the cost of visas.

RESPONSIBILITY: Neither Classic Escapes (the Company) nor any person or agent acting for, through or on behalf of the Company shall be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever arising from any cause whatsoever and without restricting the generality of the foregoing shall particularly not be responsible for loss or damage arising from any errors or omissions contained in its brochure or other literature, loss or damage caused by delays, sickness, theft, injury or death. In addition the Company shall have the right at any time at its discretion to cancel any trip or the remainder thereof or make any alteration in route, accommodation, price or other details and, in the event of any trip being rendered impossible, illegal or inadvisable by weather, strike, war, government or interference or any other cause whatsoever, the extra expenses incurred as a result thereof shall be the responsibility of the passenger. The Company may at its discretion and without liability or cost to itself at any time cancel or terminate the guest's booking and in particular without limiting the generality of the foregoing it shall be entitled to do so in the event of the illness or the illegal or incompatible behavior of the guest, who shall in such circumstances not be entitled to any refund. The person making any booking will, by the making of such booking, warrant that he or she has authority to enter into a contract on behalf of the other person included in such a booking and in the event of the failure of any or all of the other persons so included to make payment, the person making the booking shall by his/her signature thereof assume personal liability for the total price of all bookings made by him/her.

PHOTOGRAPHY: The Company reserves the right without further notice to make use of any photograph or film taken on the trip by our photographers without payment or permission. We guarantee that no photographs of a compromising nature will be used.

CHANGES TO SCHEDULES: Although every effort is made to adhere to schedules it should be borne in mind that the Company reserves the right and in fact is obliged to occasionally change routes as dictated by changing conditions.

REFUNDS: While the company uses its best endeavors to ensure that all anticipated accommodation is available as planned, there shall be no claim of any nature whatsoever against the Company for a refund either in the whole or part, if any accommodation or excursion



is unavailable and a reasonable alternative is not found. If the guest is unable to use any service provided in the itinerary, then there are no refunds due.

AIRLINE CLAUSE: The airlines concerned are not to be held liable for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyance. The passengers' tickets in use by the airline or by other carriers concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or passengers.

DELAYS: We cannot be held liable for any delays or additional costs incurred as a result of airlines not running to schedule.

If one of our guides is unable to take a tour due to illness, etc. we reserve the right to substitute with another guide.

This agreement is made subject to and shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the country in which the tour takes place. Classic Escapes act merely as an agent for the operating companies.

To the best of our knowledge the itinerary is correct at the time of writing. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or changes that may occur after printing.

CONSENT: The payment of the deposit OR any other partial payment for a reservation on a tour constitutes consent by all guests covered by that payment to all provisions of the conditions and general information contained in this brochure whether the guest has signed the booking form or not. The terms, under which you agree to take this tour, cannot be changed or amended except in writing signed by an authorized director of the Company.

INSURANCE: It is a condition of booking that the sole responsibility lies with the guest to ensure that they carry the correct comprehensive travel and medical insurance to cover themselves, as well as any dependents/traveling companions for the duration of their trip. This insurance should include cover in respect of, but not limited to, the following eventualities: cancellation or curtailment of the program, emergency evacuation expenses, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money and goods. Classic Escapes, including their representatives, employees and agents will take no responsibility for any costs, losses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest's dependents or traveling companions, with regards to, but not limited to, any of the above mentioned eventualities. Guests will be charged directly by the relevant service providers for any emergency services they may require, and may find themselves in a position unable to access such services should they not be carrying the relevant insurance cover.

PLEASE NOTE INSURANCE PREMIUMS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE SHOULD TOUR BE CANCELED BY PARTICIPANT.

INSURANCE PACKAGE: Classic Escapes offers a comprehensive insurance package, which allows the Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion to be waived if purchased within 15 days of the initial trip payment. Details can be found on our website at <http://www.classicescapes.com/insurance.html>. or call our office for more details (800-627-1244). If obtaining this pre-existing condition waiver is not of importance to you, you may opt to wait until you receive your pre-departure packet of information which will include details on the insurance package.

INSURANCE PREMIUM: See premium schedule below, or call us for the exact amount and information on the policy. This is applicable to all coverage contained in the policy. You must be medically able to travel when you pay your premium. In the event that a claim is filed, the injury or illness must be substantiated to the Claims Department.

The cost of your insurance premium is based on the TOTAL cost of your trip including: the main itinerary, airfare, airline taxes, single supplements, optional excursions and optional extensions. The premium for your tour will be calculated as follows:

| TOTAL TOUR COST | PREMIUM PER PERSON |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| \$2,501 - \$3,000 | \$119 |
| \$3,001 - \$3,500 | \$140 |
| \$3,501 - \$4,000 | \$159 |
| \$4,001 - \$4,500 | \$177 |
| \$4,501 - \$5,000 | \$198 |
| \$5,001 - \$5,500 | \$226 |
| \$5,501 - \$6,000 | \$254 |
| \$6,501 - \$7,000 | \$300 |

Please contact Classic Escapes if you have any questions or need assistance calculating your premium.

PLEASE NOTE INSURANCE PREMIUMS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE SHOULD TOUR BE CANCELED BY PARTICIPANT

HELP US GO GREEN

Dear Traveler,

In an effort to help protect our planet, Classic Escapes has begun the transition of becoming paperless. We need your help getting there!

Did you know?

Recycling one ton of paper saves 20 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, three cubic yards of landfill space, 60 pounds of air pollutants, and saves enough energy to power the average home for six months...

Please indicate in the chart below whether or not you prefer to receive paperless correspondence from us – all you need to do is put a check under the “green” symbol for yes or a check under the “NO” for no.

Simply fax or email your responses to reservations@classicescapes.com!

| You Will Receive The Following Items For Your Program: |  | NO |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Welcome Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Preliminary Materials - prelude packet and invoice | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reminder Invoice with balance due | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Paid-in-Full Invoice | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Final Documents - species list, journal and final booklet | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Together we can make the world a better place!

Thank you for your support,

Enclosed is my deposit for \$ _____ (\$500 per person on main and \$250 for extension) to hold _____ place(s) on the Adventure to Costa Rica departing December 26, 2013. Cost is \$2,650 per person, double occupancy, land only. Additional international air from Philadelphia is \$ 1,200, including departure taxes & fuel surcharges. (As of April 17, 2013- subject to change).

Final payment due date is: October 12, 2013

Please make check payable to CLASSIC ESCAPES and mail to 58-25 Queens Blvd., Woodside, NY 11377

OR

Charge deposit to: MasterCard Visa American Express Discover

(Credit Card Authorization form needs to be completed and returned to Classic Escapes via mail or fax to (718-204-4726)

Deposits can be made by credit card; however, all final payments are required to be made by check or money order only.

1) NAME (As appears on passport): Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) ____ / ____ / ____

Passport No. _____ Green Card No. _____ Expiration Date _____ Nationality _____

2) NAME (As appears on passport): Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) ____ / ____ / ____

Passport No. _____ Green Card No. _____ Expiration Date _____ Nationality _____

NAME FOR NAME BADGE IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE: 1) _____ 2) _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONES: HOME: () _____ OFFICE: () _____ MOBILE: () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ FAX: () _____

- I certify that I have not recently been treated for, nor am I aware of any physical or other condition or liability that would create a hazard to myself or the other members of this tour.
- The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with: ONE TWO Beds (Make one selection only)
- I am sharing with _____ (form sent separately)
- I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if Philadelphia Zoo or the tour operator cannot locate one for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single supplement amount of \$695. I prefer to share with: Smoker Non-smoker
- I desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single supplement additional cost of:
 \$695 for the main trip \$595 for Manuel Antonio & Carrera National Parks post-extension
- I will have a child below 11 years old travelling with me and will pay an additional cost of:
 \$1,350 for the main trip/per child \$495 for Manuel Antonio & Carrera National Parks post-extension /per child

- Please make my/our round trip air reservations on the group flights from Philadelphia via American Airlines.
 - Please make domestic round-trip air reservations for me from my home city: _____ to connect with the group flights and let me know the additional cost.
- Please send me information on air upgrades for: Business/First Class (only one class - business/first - exists)
- Airline Seating Preference Aisle Window Frequent Flier # _____
- **We can request a seating preference on your behalf, however this is only a request and NOT guaranteed, as some seating assignments may be airport check-in only. Requests should be made in writing no later than 60 days prior to departure. Bulkhead and/or emergency row seats can only be requested at airport check-in on the day of departure. Also note that even if we do obtain your preferred seat, it is not guaranteed that the seat will be provided during check-in as there might be equipment changes that nullify our selection.
- I/We will make own air arrangements and will provide you with an itinerary before trip departure.

- I/We wish to participate in the optional extension(s) at an additional per person cost of:
 \$1,495 for Manuel Antonio & Carara National Parks post-extension.

How did you hear about this trip? _____

All rates quoted are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of April 17, 2013 and are subject to change. Refund of deposit is made if cancellation is received in writing up to 75 days prior to departure, less \$250 per person handling fee. Thereafter, refund is made less any cancellation charges levied in accordance with the policy outlined in the accompanying Conditions of Travel. **WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN TRAVEL INSURANCE. RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO TOUR CONDITIONS AND WILL BE CONFIRMED ONLY IF ACCOMPANIED BY COMPLETED FORM SIGNED BY THE TOUR PARTICIPANT(S).**

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

CLASSIC ESCAPES INC.
58-25 Queens Blvd.
Woodside, NY 11377

(We recommend that you keep a copy of your selections as noted above for your future reference)



58-25 Queens Blvd., Woodside, NY 11377
T: (718) 204-7077; (800) 627-1244
F: (718) 204-4726
E: info@classicescapes.com

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION

Please Note: If you wish to charge your deposit to Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover, this authorization form MUST be completed and returned to us along with your reservation form before we can process your application.

I authorize (Classic Escapes Inc.) to charge my VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER/AMEX listed below:

Name appearing on credit card _____

Card number _____ Expiration date _____

Card Verification Number* _____ Card Type _____

Billing address of credit card _____

Amount of transaction _____ Invoice # _____

Services rendered/Items purchased _____

Phone number _____

Signature _____ Date _____

***How To Locate Your Card Verification Number:**

(**Visa, MasterCard, Discover:** Locate the credit card number on the back of the card above the signature box. Enter the 3 digit number which follows the credit card number. **American Express:** Enter the 4 digit number found directly above and to the right of the credit card number.)

I understand that all rates quoted on this tour I'm making a payment on are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of April 17, 2013, and are subject to change. Refund of deposit is made if cancellation is received in writing up to 75 days prior to departure, less \$250 per person handling fee. Thereafter, refund is made less any cancellation charges levied, based on the following schedule:

- Up to 75 days prior to departure, less \$250 handling fee.
- 74-60 days prior to departure: deposit is forfeited.
- 59-45 days prior to departure: 50% of the tour cost.
- Less than 45 days prior to departure, refund is dependent on amount recoverable from overseas suppliers.
- These cancellation fees are also in addition to any imposed by airlines.

PLEASE NOTE: At times, our bank requires photocopy of credit card (both sides) and driver's license or document showing signature of cardholder, in order to process the charge. While it is not required at this time that you include these materials with your deposit, if our bank requests it, we will contact you for these