

Hidden Treasures Tours in conjunction with
Discover Garden Tours

Presents

Costa Rica 2023

An Exclusive tour for
Master Gardeners of North Carolina

Travel Dates:

February 16, 2023 thru February 23, 2023



Nature

Horticulture

Gardens

LAND ONLY PACKAGE PRICE: \$3,258.00 per person, double occupancy.

**Airfare is not included in package price and can be arranged
independently or through your Tour Leader.**

**For more information leave a message for Ray at (816)-842-7500
or send him an email at ray@discoverourtours.com**

\$1,000 deposit per person is required to hold your reservation.

Final payment required by November 7, 2022.

COSTA RICA GARDEN TOUR 2023

Costa Rica, meaning “rich coast” in Spanish, has a wealth of natural diversity and wildlife. With over 10,000 plant species and more than 850 species of birds, including many endemics found nowhere else on earth. This study program will expose you to some of this stunning array of exotic tropical plants and animals, the ecology of the rainforest and other ecological habitats, and tropical horticultural production.

Join this Discover Garden Tours’ exclusive tour as we leave the typical tourist route to visit some of the most exclusive areas of this stunningly beautiful country to discover the vast array of endemic plants in the rainforest, be immersed in the rainforest, learn about tropical horticulture and crops, see abundant wildlife — monkeys, butterflies, birds, frogs and more — in their natural habitat, and much, much more.

The Itinerary



relax



learn



Arrival - San Jose

Thursday, February 16

Travel to Costa Rica. Upon arrival at San Juan International Airport (SJO), you will be met by your driver and taken to the Radisson San Jose. Depending on what time you arrive, take time to relax and explore the hotel grounds, maybe go for a dip, or stop in at Bar Jobo for an aperitif before dinner. Our tour Welcome Dinner will be held in the hotel’s restaurant

Meals included: Dinner

Lodging: Radisson San Jose

Link: [Radisson San Jose](#)

Day 1 - Turrialba

Friday, February 17

This morning we will travel to the City of Cartago where we will tour Solo Rosas. Solo Rosas is the only rose garden open to the public where you will see more than 400 varieties of roses. After lunch we will tour Lankester Botanical Garden, one of the most active and important botanical institutions in the Neotropics. Collections include Bromeliads, Cactus, Ferns, Forest, Heliconias, Orchids, and Palms.

Link: [Solo Rosas](#)

Link: [Lankester Botanical Garden](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Lodging: Hotel Villa Florencia

Link: [Hotel Villa Florencia](#)

COSTA RICA GARDEN TOUR 2023



explore



rejuvenate



experience



Day 2 - Turrialba

Saturday, February 18

Today we will continue our exploration of the Turrialba District and discover CATIE. CATIE, translated The Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center, is an international institute for agricultural development and biological conservation in Central America and the Caribbean, combining science, education, and innovation. From there we will move on to visit Hacienda Tayutic, a working farm where macadamia nuts, coffee, bananas, and sugar cane are grown. The old way of processing sugar cane, using oxen to squeeze the juice will be demonstrated.

Link: [CATIE](#)

Link: [Hacienda Tayutic](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Lodging: Hotel Villa Florencia

Link: [Hotel Villa Florencia](#)

Day 3 - San Jose

Sunday, February 19

Today we will be moving back towards San Jose. Before we do, however, we will be taking a visit to one of the many local plant nurseries in the area. Later this evening we will be visiting the home of Ileana Terán. Ms Terán is a coffee plantation owner and founder of the SACRO Foundation, Save Our Costa Rican Orchids. We will see her private garden and share her stories and knowledge over fine wine.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Lodging: Radisson San Jose

Link: [Radisson San Jose](#)

Day 4 – Central Pacific

Monday, February 20

We will visit The Green Ark, located west of San Jose in Santa Barbara de Heredia, a foundation that educates and shares knowledge of plant use. In the afternoon, we will travel to the Central Pacific coast where you can choose to spend time on the beach or a forest hike on a private reserve with your tour guide.

Link: [The Green Ark](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Lodging: Hotel Punta Leona

Link: [Hotel Punta Leona](#)



encounter



discover



appreciate



Day 5 – Central Pacific

Tuesday, February 21

After breakfast, we will attend the Villa Vanilla Spice Farm, located in the Central Pacific rainforest. In addition to vanilla, the expansive farm harvests true Ceylon cinnamon, cocoa, black pepper, turmeric, and exotic fruits, as well as essential oil and medicinal plants. You will receive a hands-on tour, meander along the winding plantation trail and shop for souvenirs. After lunch, we will be off to Manuel Antonio National Park, one of the most bio-diverse areas in the world. Boasting enthralling rain forests, pristine beaches, and gorgeous coral reefs, this is an ultimate destination for outdoor explorers. The forest is mecca for birdwatchers, housing more than 350 spectacular species, including toucans and emerald Amazon kingfishers.

Links: [Villa Vanilla Spice Farm](#) **Link:** [Manuel Antonio National Park](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Lodging: Hotel Punta Leona

Link: [Hotel Punta Leona](#)

Day 6 – San Jose

Wednesday, February 22

Today we will be headed back towards San Jose. Along the way, we will stop to tour the Orchid Botanical Garden in La Garita. The Orchid Botanical Garden lets you experience orchid life through different settings such as tropical trails, varied gardens, exhibition spots, learning nurseries and more. Their goal is to maintain the garden as an ecological haven since ecological conservation is a priority. The area hosts a full representation of the flora and fauna of the tropical dry forest.

Link: [Orchid Botanical Garden](#)

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Lodging: Radisson San Jose

Link: [Radisson San Jose](#)

Departure – San Jose

Thursday, February 23

After breakfast, transfer to the San Jose (SJO) Airport for the flight home, or begin your optional trip extension.

Meals included: Breakfast

COSTA RICA GARDEN TOUR 2023

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS — these can be arranged to be guided or independent, for as many days as you wish; prices will vary. Possible destinations include resorts on the Pacific coast for time in the sun and water; or the isolated Osa Peninsula for scuba diving, kayaking, and exploring remote, pristine Corcovado National Park, or just an extra day or two in the capitol city of San Jose for shopping and to see the museums. Please contact **Hidden Treasures Tours/Discover Our Tours** or your **Tour Leader** to discuss the possibilities.

PLEASE NOTE — This trip is suitable for all ages if you are in good health, get regular exercise, enjoy the wilderness, and have a good-humored approach to traveling in Latin America — where things might not go as predictably as they do at home. Our trip is not strenuous and can be considered predominantly leisurely-to-moderate. Elevation gains and losses on most walks will be minimal, but there are some steep walkways at some resorts in the mountains. In order to fully enjoy this trip, you'll need to be willing to accept the many surprises this marvelous environment has in store for us!

Although this trip is focused on botanical aspects, **no prior knowledge about plants is necessary to enjoy this tour.** And all aspects of the natural world and culture are included where appropriate. Our Costa Rican guide and driver have extensive knowledge of the plants, ecology, culture, and history of Costa Rica — they are also expert birders and speak excellent English.

Details

Please note that changes to the itinerary may be necessary due to weather, or other factors beyond our control. Participants must be able to endure moderate physical activity (daily activities include 2-4 hours of walking and 3-4 hours of bus rides) and should be in good overall health!

This tour will require a minimum number of 12 tour participants to establish viability.

! Do not arrange airfare until you have been notified that the trip is fully viable !

Tour price: \$3,258.00 per person (double occupancy)
Single supplement: add \$600

Cost includes:

- Shuttle from and to San Jose (SJO) airport
- 7 nights accommodations
- All meals as indicated on Itinerary
- All activities as indicated on Itinerary
- Tips for local tour guides, waiters, and hotel staff
- Private air-conditioned transportation and driver
- All admission/entrance fees to venues and events on Itinerary
- All taxes

Cost does NOT include:

- Airfare to or from San Jose, Costa Rica
- Alcoholic beverages
- Personal expenses
- Optional or additional activities
- Trip insurance – **highly recommended**
- Full coverage travel health insurance
- End of tour gratuity for local guide (\$5-10/day) and for bus driver (\$5/day)



Please note:

- Maximum number of tour participants is 16. Minimum number of tour participants is 12.
- A passport is mandatory to enter Costa Rica. Your passport must be valid for six months beyond return date.

! Please allow several months to obtain or replace your passport !

- Deposit is refundable minus a \$250 processing fee for cancellations within 90 days prior to trip departure.
- Please contact **Hidden Treasure Tours/Discover Our Tours** or your **Tour Leader** for questions about the itinerary, details of travel conditions, logistics, health and safety issues or any other questions.

To reserve YOUR spot on this unique trip:

- Send the completed registration form (next page), and a \$1,000 deposit payment per person to **Discover Our Tours** at the address below.
- Final payment due **October 25, 2022**

Registration Form

COSTA RICA 2023

February 16-23, 2023

Participant Information

! Your passport information must be written exactly as it appears on your passport !
(Passport information may be sent later if you are waiting to receive your new passport)

Name as on Passport: _____

Name as on Passport: _____

Passport #: _____

Passport #: _____

Passport Expiration Date: _____

Passport Expiration Date: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Emergency Contact Phone # _____

Emergency Contact Email _____

Select your occupancy preference:

Single Occupancy — **add \$600.00**

Double Occupancy — (if not named above) I would like to room with: _____

Payment Information (deposit \$1,000 per person)

Amount: _____ Check #: _____

If paying by credit card, provide the following:

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVC: _____

Mail the completed Registration Form and payment (make checks payable to "Discover Our Tours") to:

Ray Eaton

Hidden Treasures Tours/Discover Our Tours

PO Box 1017

Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: ray@discoverourtours.com

Phone: (816) 842-7500

Hidden Treasures
TOURS

