Caribbean Lowlands Birding Tour!
March-01-2019 - March-12-2019 (12 Days, 11 Nights) - 2 Adults

Please find below your custom travel itinerary for your upcoming trip to Costa Rica. This itinerary can be modified anyway you'd like to better suit your needs, interests and budget. If you would like to see more information about your hotels or tours, you will be able to find it on our website CostaRica.org. We want you to be 100% satisfied with your travel itinerary, so please let me know if there are any changes you'd like to make.

03/01/2019
PAX: 2
Met by My Costa Rica Representative - Excursion

A representative from our company will be waiting outside of the airport when you arrive with a sign with your name on it. She will provide you with a welcome package that includes all the information you need for your vacation here in tropical paradise. They will get you to your transportation and your trip in Costa Rica will begin.

03/01/2019 00:00
PAX: 2
Private Transfer from San Jose Airport to San Jose

Enjoy your transportation from Juan Santamaria International Airport to your Hotel.
Stay at the **Hotel Bougainvillea**

At the Hotel Bougainvillea you will easily forget that you are just 15 minutes from downtown or the airport in San José. Set amidst the coffee farms of Santo Domingo de Heredia, the hotel has extensive gardens dominated by mature trees and brightened by tropical flowers and offers 81 deluxe rooms, a picturesque outdoor pool, tennis courts, a fitness center, an epicurean restaurant and a bar. *Breakfast included.*

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**Private Transfer from San José to Turrialba**

Sit back and enjoy the lush greenery on your way from San José to Turrialba. Your private transfer will reach Rancho Naturalista in approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes.

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Stay at **Rancho Naturalista**

Rancho Naturalista is located in the Caribbean slope in the Cordillera Talamanca, about ½ an hour away from the small town of Turrialba. The lodge is placed in 125 acres of untouched and protected Caribbean slope rainforest. Within the grounds you will find semi-wooded pastures, mountain streams and the beauty of wildlife all around you. Rancho Naturalista gives you access to great trails in diverse sections of the forest, whether you’re looking for a peaceful nature walk or a breathtaking hike. Rancho Naturalista has it all. The forest contains two popular parts for bird watching, Hummingbird Feeders and Hummingbird Pools, giving you spectacular close-up views of the signature bird of Rancho Naturalista: the Snowcap. This adventurous voyage will fulfill all your naturalist dreams! *All meals included.*
Morning Birding Tour - Excursion, Morning time

The birding activity starts early in the morning at sunrise when the birds become active. Most mornings you will meet with other birders on the balcony for a quick cup of coffee or tea at dawn. Then it's birding on the balcony to see what comes to the feeders, off to the insect light to see some of the insect feeding species like the Red-throated Ant Tanager, or birding around the lodge. You will come back for a full breakfast at 7:00 am. After breakfast you will head out on the trails in the private forest reserve to look for mixed species flocks. Several different species can be seen foraging together in the canopy and understory of the forest. Birdwatching in the rainforest can be challenging and will take some skills. You will probably spend all morning in the forest moving quietly along a trail to watch and listen for the birds. If you are looking for a certain species, you can talk to a guide who will be happy to give you advice on where to see it, or you can hire a guide to maximize your birding experience. Then it's back to the lodge for a delicious and healthy lunch.

Rio Tuis Valley Birding Tour - Excursion, Regular

You can hike the trail into the vast forest reserve (4113 ha) of the Zona Protectora Rio Tuis for just a few hours to an entire day. The birding is excellent all along! Great mixed tanager flocks and a variety of raptors are always present, while higher up you can find Azure-hooded Jays, and Spangle-cheeked Tanagers. It is also the most reliable locale in the country to try your luck for the enigmatic Lanceolated Monklet.
- Stay at Kenaki Lodge
This hotel offers you a unique retreat in the Caribbean. The Kenaki Lodge Cahuita is built with tropical woods and has a Balinese style, you will be surrounded by nature during your stay. Kenaki Lodge Cahuita is only a short 100 meters from the beach, providing you with a beautiful and relaxing view. The lodge offers surfboards and boogie boards for rental to enjoy on the ocean. You can also rent a bike for the day to be able to explore and enjoy the local area. Breakfast included.

- Gandoca-Manzanillo Wildlife Refuge Tour - Excursion, Regular
Enjoy an amazing tour of the unique Gandoca-Manzanillo Wildlife Refuge where you will see many wild inhabitants of the rainforest including toucans, monkeys, sloths, caimans and many others. You will be picked up in the morning at your hotel in Puerto Viejo or Cahuita. You will be brought to Manzanillo where you will meet your guide who will take you on an about 4 hours jungle adventure. There you will experience a variety of vegetation as well as plenty of birds. Participants must be in good physical condition. What to bring: water, hiking shoes, light cotton clothes, long pants and insect repellent. For the beach: towel, sun block, some cash for food or drinks. Includes: Rainforest hike with professional naturist guide.

- Bird Watching Tour at Kekoldi Indian Reserve - Excursion, Regular
This tour takes place in the Kekoldi Indian Reserve, an ideal location for bird watching in different habitats. We will make short stops during the trajectory until we get to a tower, which is a migratory bird watching research center. This place is considered the third most important in the world for the sighting of birds of prey. From this viewpoint we watch an average of 50,000 to 450,000 birds per day during the season. Among them are species like hawks, falcons, red-headed buzzards, heron storks, toucans, parrots, hawks, manaquines, tanagers, a variety of hummingbirds, honeycreepers, euphonies, orioles, warblers, flycatchers, trogons, the blackcheasted magpie (endemic from the Caribbean low slope), and the surprising Buco Barbón. Migration occurs from north to south, between August and December, and from south to north between February and May; but we have a great diversity of endemic birds throughout the year.
Duration: 3 hours approximately.
Departure: 6:00 a.m. approximately.
Pick up place: Your hotel in Puerto Viejo or Cahuita.
Level: Moderate to hard.
Includes: Transportation, experienced local guide
Recommendation: Not suitable for pregnant women, children under 12 years old.
What to bring: Bottled water, snack, insect repellent, binoculars, long pants, hiking boots, and camera. Minimum: 2 persons

After breakfast you’ll have a van ride from Guapiles to Pavona (approx. 1 hour). Here you will board a boat and have a scenic ride to Tortuguero!
Tortuguero Town Tour

Tortuguero Town Tour, and every tour you take. Every visitor wants to remember the beauty of this area, and as the saying goes, "A picture is worth a thousand words." The town of Tortuguero has a fairly basic lifestyle. Wash is done by hand and hung on trees, bushes, and occasionally a clothesline. With the frequency of showers, sometimes it hangs there for days. As you walk through the town you will find children at play like anywhere else in the world. There are no cars in the island town of Tortuguero. What would they do with them? There are a few bicycles, and many children who want a turn riding them. While there are a few shops and restaurants in Tortuguero, be sure to walk among the little footpaths among the houses. These paths are the roads of the town. To venture down them is to discover rustic charm as if from another time. Includes: guide. What to bring: camera, repellent, cap, sunblock, sunglasses, rain jacket, and money.

Entrance to Tortuguero National Park is not included and will need to be paid in cash at the Lodge: $16 USD per person.

Tortuguero National Park

Tortuguero National Park is a protected wilderness area on Costa Rica's northern Caribbean coast. Its beaches are famous nesting grounds for sea turtles, including endangered green turtles. The park's freshwater creeks and lagoons, which can be navigated by boat or canoe, shelter spectacled caimans and river turtles. The surrounding dense rainforest is also rich with wildlife, from monkeys to many bird species. Includes: guide and transportation. What to bring: camera, repellent, sunblock, sunglasses, cap, and rain jacket. **Entrance to Tortuguero National Park is not included and will need to be paid in cash at the Lodge: $16 USD per person.**
After breakfast start your transfer (by boat and land) to your next destination connecting via Guápiles, once in Guápiles enjoy lunch before a new van picks you up to take you to your new hotel.

- Stay at **Tapirus Lodge**
Tapirus Lodge is the best hotel for bird watchers and nature lovers. It offers ten comfortable rooms equipped with private baths, hot water and terraces. Your room boasts unforgettable views of the forest, mountains and stars. They are next to Braulio Carrillo National Park, which makes them the only nature lodge near the area of this majestic scenery. The Lodge shares the facilities and services of Rainforest Adventures eco-adventure park, so it’s perfect for retreat packages, birding tours, yoga trips, seminars, healing and educational functions. **Breakfast included.**
As one of Costa Rica's Top Birding Hotspots; Tapirus Lodge has been recognized by the National Audubon Society has one of the best places for birding Central America with over 400 species in our surrounding areas. The characteristics of our protected natural private reserve made it a perfect habitat for hundreds of bird species that are continually looking for safer and purer. **Includes:** Birding tour (natural guided walks) Aerial tram flight - Bird-list - Breakfast - Lunch Expert naturalist bilingual guide (half day/full day). **What to bring:** Closed-toe Shoes, Comfortable clothes, Comfortable Shoes, Repellent, Sunscreen, Jacket or sweater.

03/12/2019 00:00
PAX: 2

Private Transfer from Caribbean (Guapiles, Siquirres) to San Jose

| TOTAL: | 5,144.00 USD |

**Payment & Cancellation Policies**
We can accept a 25% deposit to book your trip with the balance due 60 days before arrival through credit card or bank wire transfer. Deposits are non-refundable, but can be applied to a future trip in the event of a cancellation. If client cancels reservation 60 days or more prior to 1st day of travel, they will be refunded 75% of the package price (30 days = 50%, 15 days = 25%, less than 15 days = no refund). My Costa Rica will not be held responsible for those passengers arriving without the correct Passport and Visa requirements to enter Costa Rica.