

Casa Corcovado Jungle Lodge
Different by Nature



Adventures & Aventuras

Adventures



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Tours and Activities

Hiking in Corcovado National Park

Corcovado is the last remaining Pacific lowland rainforest of sustainable size in Central America and has been called "the most biologically intense place on earth" by no less an authority than the National Geographic Society. Here among Costa Rica's largest trees can be found Central America's densest populations of tapir, jaguar and scarlet macaws.

Constrained within this tropical wilderness is an immense biodiversity and this will be your chance to explore it.

Starting out from the lodge with your naturalist guide you journey into Corcovado National Park. The cool morning hours offer a good opportunity to spot wildlife and to observe some of the incredible variety of birds that abound in the park.

Along the trail your guide will have a chance to tell you some of the fascinating stories about life in the rainforest and point many things out to you. Later, coming down through the forest you will find a river and then discover an incredible waterfall. Now is your chance to cool off in one of the shaded pools of the rushing river. Afterwards, you wind your way down the river until reaching the Park Station at San Pedrillo. There under shade trees on the beach you will enjoy a sumptuous picnic with fresh fruit and ice-cold drinks. After lunch there will be time to explore the beach or to just relax. In the afternoon it's a short distance along the coastal trail to return to the lodge. Join us later for a frosty margarita and to watch the sunset. As you watch the sun melt into the sea you can reflect upon the wonders of the most intricate and intense place on earth, the rainforest of the Osa Península.



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Tours and Activities

Early Bird Tour

Just after first light, we invite you on a quest to discover the world of incredible variety, of the "Birds of Corcovado".

Share the cool morning air with some of the over 350 species of birds found in the Peninsula de Osa.

Your day begins at 5:30 am in the "Bar El Bosque" where you can have coffee or tea before the excursion. We recommend that you bring binoculars, a bird book or the booklet, "Let's Go Birding" that's in your room or that can be found in the office.

We also suggest that you use closed shoes and bring raingear or an umbrella if there is a chance of rain.

The first stop of the tour will be the "Margarita Sunset Bar" where we might have a chance to observe Scarlet Macaws, Chestnut Mandibled Toucans, Brown Pelicans and Magnificent Frigatebirds.

Coming down to the bridge and approaching "Inspiration Point" we hope to see many different birds including Scarlet Tanagers, Summer Tanagers, Red-capped Manakins, Red -legged Honeycreepers, Turquoise Cotingas, Scarlet-rumped Caciques, White -vented Euphonias, Yellow-billed Caciques, Eastern Meadowlarks, Blue-black Grosbeaks and Black-striped Sparrows.

Of course we will also have a good chance to see other wildlife and admire the butterflies floating above us, especially the blue morphos which are spectacular in the morning light.

As the mist rises off the rainforest floor and the majestic trees tower above, you will feel harmony and peace and feel like the first explorers of a primeval forest.



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Tours and Activities

San Josecito Tour

You start your adventure in the morning as you head out with your guide for just a 15-20 minute boat ride. You will arrive to a true, tropical paradise. San Josecito is a wonderful swimming beach sheltered in a coral-filled bay perfect for snorkeling. This is an excellent spot for beginners or more experienced snorkelers. All the gear is provided with optional flotation vests available if you wish. The guide will lay out the tablecloth and present a delicious picnic lunch served under the shady palms lining the beach.

After lunch you can walk through the forest to a cool, flowing river for a refreshing swim. In the afternoon your boat will be waiting to carry you back to the lodge, taking along memories that will accompany you for a lifetime.



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Tours and Activities

Horseback Riding

Half and full day guided tours for all levels of riders from beginner to advanced are available.

Both the full day and half day tours start their adventure in the morning as you head out with your guide for just a 15-20 minute boat ride to a true tropical paradise, San Josecito Beach.

The half day tour will follow the coast around a rocky headland and then cross the beautiful, Rio Claro. The coast then has palm lined beaches interspersed with shaded points. After about an hour and a half you will reach a small bay with a nice swimming beach, Playa Caletas.

After a refreshing swim it will be time to head back to meet your boat.

The full day adventure will take you along San Josecito beach and then you follow a trail through the jungle passing remote homesteads and observing the incredible variety of plant life, butterflies and an abundance of bird species.

After about two and a half hours of the trail ride there appears a beautiful crystal clear river, where there will be ample time to refresh yourself in a natural pool and be stunned by the force and majesty of an unforgettable waterfall.

A short ride away you come upon a rustic lodge in a clearing where it's lunchtime. Your hosts, Gregorio and his wife, will be serving a traditional Costa Rican meal while you relax in the shade. When lunch is over it's back into the saddle. Starting back you begin to catch views of the ocean through the trees as you head down towards San Josecito beach where large flocks of scarlet macaws are common. Here there is a chance to gallop along a white sand beach, the sparkling ocean on one side and the forest behind.

Your boat will be waiting to take you back to the lodge, with the late afternoon sun slanting through the trees you will be weary but aglow with the vivid images of a day unlike any other.



Tours and Activities

Caño Island Snorkeling

Snorkel in the clear warm waters and protected coral reefs off the shores of Caño Island, and then relax with a picnic lunch on the beach at Casa Corcovado.

Your tour starts after a leisurely breakfast, when you'll meet your guide at the Gear House to select your flippers and mask. It's then a 40-minute boat ride to the 'Coral Garden'. At certain times of the year, you may also see pilot or humpback whales, and dolphin along the way. The snorkelling site is located within a marine reserve, and is a good place for spotting a wide variety of fish and marine mammals, including - if you are lucky - manta rays, turtles and small white-tipped sharks. Our inflatable diving vests can be adjusted to allow you to bob on the surface, fully supported, or dive down below, whichever you prefer. Accompanied by your guide, this is a great tour for beginners and experienced snorkelers alike. We usually snorkel for around an hour.

Caño Island was once an important ceremonial site and burial ground for the pre-Colombian Indians. It's possible they abandoned the area when pirates began arriving - the first, according to legend, being Sir Francis Drake back in 1579. The island is now a National Park.

There are no facilities, and visitor access to the interior is prohibited while important infrastructure work is carried out. However our boat can take you close to the shore, and you are welcome to wade ashore and stroll along the beach.

A picnic lunch is laid out and served at the rancho on the Casa Corcovado long beach on your return.

Includes: Guide, Transportation, equipment, park entrance tickets, picnic lunch.

Schedule: 8.30am-up to 12:00 md (max. 4 hours)

What to bring: extra water, sunscreen, sunglasses, sandals or water shoes, hat, swimsuit and a long sleeved shirt.



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Tours and Activities

Scuba Diving

Diving on the southern Pacific Coast of Costa Rica can be simply described as spectacular. We'll go with our colleagues at Caño Divers to explore several sites around Caño Island. Protected as a marine and biological reserve by the Costa Rican Government, the water surrounding the island is pristine and teeming with life.

Water visibility is good and can range from 45-90 feet. Temperatures hover in the upper seventies to low eighties throughout the year and provide for an exquisite diving experience.

Marine Life Encountered Around Caño Island: In one word, abundant!. Humpback Whales, Dolphins, Reef Sharks, Giant Manta Rays, Mobula Rays, Sting Rays, Sea Turtles, Groupers, Snappers, Angels, Moorish Idols, Trumpetfish, various types of Eels, Crustaceans, huge schools of Barracuda, Jacks, Grunts, and much more.

Caño Island offers some of the most exciting diving anywhere in the world

Departure Time for Caño Island Dives: 8:00am
Average Time to Reach Dive Sights: 45min - 1hr
Average Dive Depths: 60ft - 80ft

A Sample of Caño Island Dive Sights



El Bajo Del Diablo (The Depth of the Devil): The best site by far in the area and one of the best in the entire country. A huge area with many sub sites. Towering rock pinnacles rise from over 150ft to just under 20 ft. the best visibility, overall fish life and the best place to encounter Giant Mantas. An incredible maze of peaks and valleys. Groupers, snappers and amberjack reaching 70lb, swim along side great schools of tuna, barracuda, reef sharks and a large number of different tropical fishes. More than 4 species of eels can be found as well.

Cueva Del Tiburon (Shark Cave): A small cave that is home to you guessed it, sharks! Other inhabitants include angels, butterfly, damselfish and parrotfish. Moorish idols, puffers, sturgeonfish, and occasional mantas and stingrays. A very exciting dive.

Los Arcos (The Arches): Unique rock formations formed in the shape of arches. Swim through these towering underwater arches and see fish life similar to the Shark Cave due to its close proximity.

El Barco (The Wreck): No wreck here, only a variety of rock formations with the areas most plentiful hard corals. Fish life profuse and a great dive to encounter white tip reef sharks, stingrays, and an occasional sea turtle.

Paraiso (Paradise): Prolific fish life. Excellent site to view white tip reef sharks. Large schools of big groupers, snappers, tuna, and rooster fish can be found here as well as a number of smaller species mentioned earlier.

Other Information:

The purchase of DAN (Divers Alert Network) Insurance is highly recommended prior to arriving in Costa Rica. Cost for basic coverage is inexpensive (around \$35us) and is well worth the price if an unforeseen accident should occur.

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Tours and Activities

Sea Kayak Tour

There is nothing like a kayak to get a true, visceral feel for the ocean. Your experience is up-close and down-close to the water. Our kayaks are Scupper Pro classic, sit-on-top, self-bailing kayaks and are great fun, they are good for more experienced kayakers and very forgiving for beginners. You can take one out for a ride and explore the coast, or take a spin around “ Roca Campanario”, Bell Tower Rock, just offshore. For those who feel more ambitious you can adventure further a field and paddle to San Josecito beach. This should be less than a couple of hours following the coast and should you get tired or thirsty you need only wave to your support boat for a cold drink or for a tow. Either option will be exhilarating and will keep you in a good shape.

San Josecito is a wonderful swimming beach and has a coral- filled bay perfect for snorkeling. All the gear is provided with optional flotation vests available if you wish. The guide will lay out the tablecloth and present a delicious picnic lunch served under the shady palms lining the beach.

After lunch you can walk through the forest to a cool, flowing river for a refreshing swim. In the afternoon your boat will be waiting to whisk you back to the lodge, as you'll be ready for a hot shower and a rest before drinks and dinner.



Tours and Activities

Mangrove Tour

The delta formed by the Sierpe and Terraba Rivers holds great biological wealth. Here is found the largest mangrove forest system in Central America. The importance of this was recognized by the Costa Rican government and it is now a protected area.

Mangroves which were once considered worthless swampland have been shown to be of great benefit to man. They are the nurseries where many of our fish and shrimp species breed and produce more than any other possible use of the land. Mangroves also play an important role in improving water quality and controlling sedimentation and erosion.

After a leisurely breakfast enjoy a boat ride to the storied gold island, Isla Violin, where you will have a chance to immerse yourself in the mangrove forest in kayaks. This a chance to explore the small channels and a good opportunity to spot squirrel monkeys, caimans, crocodiles, boas and some of the almost 100 species of birds that can be found here.

After a couple of hours in kayaks we will rejoin our speed boat and venture through a little traveled area in the mangrove forest and arrive at an incredible, isolated tropical beach for a picnic lunch.

After lunch on the journey back to the hotel we will investigate imposing offshore rocks that thrust from the sea and are the nesting site of many seabirds including the 'magnificent frigatebird'. This is a day full of many adventures and won't soon be forgotten.



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Sportfishing

Fishing just does not get any better than you will find in Costa Rica.

On the Pacific, it is common to release a dozen or more sails and even a marlin or two in a single day, and not unusual to release more than 30 sailfish a day.

There are also dolphin (including the long –standing International Game Fish Associations all tackle record 87-pounder), giant yellowfin tuna, wahoo, cubera, roosterfish, a variety of snapper, grouper, blue runners, rainbow runners, snook and much more. And Costa Rica boat operators release all billfish that are not record contenders, so the future of the resource is assured.



In the Peninsula of Osa area, bill-fish are the target of most visiting anglers, and they are seldom disappointed from around December through April. Some sails and marlin are taken throughout the year. From most areas around Costa Rica it is no more than a 12 to 20 mile run to the blue water where most of the billfish action is encountered. Inshore sport includes tuna, roosterfish, wahoo, dorado, jacks, mackerel, cubera, a variety of small snapper species and even snook. The snook can be taken trolling just outside the breaker line off the river mouths in the area, but are more often fished from shore.

Casa Corcovado Jungle Lodge offers several economically priced sportfishing packages in the incredible waters of the South Pacific Coast of Costa Rica.

More than 40 world records have been set in the area which abounds which schools of dorado, yellowfin tuna, spanish mackerel, jacks and wahoo. We specialize in inshore fishing for roosterfish and in the teaming waters of Caño Island where grouper and giant cubera snapper can be found. Equipped with Pen International reels and customs rods our covered 21-foot twin outboard boats can offer a fantastic half-day or full day of fishing action.

For the Sportsman who wishes to hunt marlin or catch a sailfish, we can arrange for you to fish on a 31-foot "Palm Beach" sportfishing boat powered by a turbo diesel powerplant. Rigged with state of the art equipment, Rupp outriggers and a complete range of Pen and Shimano reels, the on-board equipment will satisfy the most demanding angler.

Whichever your choice you can be sure to enjoy an exciting sportfishing experience in these unspoiled waters.

MARLIN

October is normally the top month for marlin in this area, but action is also good in September and November and occasional blues and rare blacks are likely to be found anytime of year although they are usually out further than the boats hunting for sailfish are likely to be fishing.

SAILFISH

A few taken off and on year round with best fishing from December through March. It often slows from April into early June, then picks up again and peaks in August and September.

TUNA

Best Fishing for the 100 pound and up yellowfin corresponds with marlin and sailfish season, but the schools of up to 30 pound tuna can nearly always be found outside.

DORADO

Best runs are traditionally from late May through October when the rivers are running full.

WAHOO

Not abundant, but occasional fish may be taken most any time of the year while trolling offshore for billfish.

ROOSTERFISH

The region is famous for its big roosters and they can be caught virtually any month of the year.

SNOOK

All year, but best from mid or late May through July and in January and February.

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Sirena Adventure

The Sirena ranger station is situated in the heart of Corcovado National Park and is the only station situated on the Corcovado plain, where wildlife is more easily observed.

The trails surrounding the Sirena ranger station offer some of the best opportunities in Costa Rica for wildlife viewing. The tour starts after breakfast when you and your guide will meet a chartered boat at the beach. On board will be a packed lunch and cold refreshments. The boat trip, heading south along a beautiful stretch of coast will take approximately an hour and a half. When the boat arrives there will be a beach landing after which you can decide at what time to break for lunch at the ranger station and which of the trails you are going to explore.

The Guanacaste Trail begins just 600 meters from the ranger station. Approximately 2 km. long, this trail has earned its name from the large number of Guanacaste trees found along the trail. Relatively flat and easy to navigate, the trail initially winds through primary rainforest, which is very dense and possesses taller, older trees. Later, as it nears the Sirena River, it enters into secondary rainforest, where the canopy is noticeably thinner and low lying. There are several rivers and/or streams to cross, leaving the trail quite muddy in low-lying areas, particularly during the rainy season. The hike along the Guanacaste trail takes approximately 1 hour to complete, which will bring you right down to the Sirena River.

The Espuvelas trail, is 2.5 km. long and runs through primary rainforest behind the Sirena Ranger Station. This trail is also quite flat, easy to navigate and crosses several small streams and/or rivers. The canopy overhead is very thick, with little direct sunlight reaching the trail floor. To complete the entire trail one should expect to hike for approximately 2 hours.

The Rio Claro trail is only 1 km long and connects the ranger station to the beach area, just to the right of the Claro River. The initial portion of this trail is very different than the two previous trails. The canopy overhead is very thin, and the trail has a much more coastal or beach like feel to it. The first half of the trail is lined with beautiful heliconia plants and colorful berry trees, some of which hang overhead. The ground in this section is considerably drier due to the direct sunlight that hits the trail. Near the midway point of the trail the rainforest becomes denser and begins to resemble the Guanacaste and Espuvelas trails. You will, for a short time, need to straddle a river that runs adjacent to the trail, which can get muddy and wet during the rainy season. Your hike comes to an end as the trail reaches the park station, after approximately 30 minutes of hiking.

To complete these three trails one should expect to hike for approximately 3 1/2 hours, but much depends on the weather, trail conditions and your interest level, you will need time as the rainforest is a very complex community of living organisms, with so much to see.

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Tours and Activities

Claro del Bosque Expedition

After breakfast join us on an excursion to our off-the-grid, organic farm that rests in a serene clearing in the rainforest. We will be trekking through virgin forest on the "Tinamou Trail", traversing private reserves that adjoin Corcovado National Park. The hike should take about an hour and a half depending on the pace and any sightings the group may have and then we will emerge into the calm and sunny, open space of "Claro del Bosque".

This new project that we have started intends to be a "Food Garden" for the hotel and plans to disseminate seeds, plant material and knowledge to the local communities. The installation can also play host to student and university groups, volunteer programs and offer a base for short and long term studies of the complex ecosystems of the Osa Peninsula.

While we are at the farm you can help squeeze fresh sugar cane juice and enjoy dried fruits produced in our solar dryer. Lunch will be served in the thatched "Rancho" and afterwards there will be time to wander down to a sun-dappled stream to cool off or to just hang out at the shelter by the water. In the afternoon we'll take a short, improved road back to the hotel for a well deserved rest.

