



Costa Rica Photo Safari

For those of you who like to see life and nature through your camera lens, there is now a new way to explore Costa Rica and capture breathtaking images of flora and fauna, as well as life in the country surrounded by amazing nature.

The Costa Rica Photo Safari tours offer splendid scenarios to expand your skills and advance your photos from digital capture to final image. You will be travelling with congenial, like-minded people whose primary interest is outdoor photography.

Based on Costa Rica's northern coast in Guanacaste province and headquartered at the beautiful boutique hotel Villa del Sueño, leave each day for a different destination full of living creatures and explosive contrasting colors awaiting your camera.

Hotel description:

Villa del Sueño is a 46 room hotel nestled in the first entrance to Playa Hermosa, Guanacaste, just 150 meters from the beach. Manicured grounds and lush vegetation surround our pool, bar, open air restaurant and gift shop. We were visited recently by a hospitality training professional who said "boutique hotel" is the current term that best describes our property. A well tended, cozy atmosphere, serviced by experienced staff. Villa del Sueño's "table" enjoys a growing reputation for fine foods and on most nights you have the pleasure of live dinner music.

Junior Suite Description:

Equipped with 1 queen-size bed or double bed and one single sofa bed. Breakfast bar equipped with a mini- refrigerator, courtesy coffee and toaster oven, telephone, TV, private bathroom, private European balcony, ceiling fan and A/C.

The theme menu ranges from panoramic sunsets at the beach near the hotel to wildlife such as howler monkeys and a variety of birds and mammals. Life at the Guanacaste Savannah will be yet another discovery, with surfing scenes surrounded by primary forests.

There is also the opportunity to visit the active Arenal volcano and capture its fireworks at night, as well as the surrounding hot springs and wildlife.

This five day tour is meant to combine the best photographic outdoor scenarios with great moments and places so you can enjoy the finest of the tropical forest.



Day 1:

3:00 P.M. Welcome cocktail at Hotel Villa del Sueño. Brief lecture on the basics of outdoor photography applied to the Guanacaste environment. Frequent questions answered.

4:30 P.M. Departure for a sunset extravaganza at Playa Ocotal, panoramic views and beach details.

6:30 P.M. Return to Hotel Villa del Sueño.

Day 2:

8:30 A.M. Departure to Playa Avellanas - 2 hours distance - for surfing and water sports photos. Bring your camera and be ready to capture the many unexpected images emerging while driving through the Savannah.

Noon: Brown bag lunch at the beach.

2:00 P.M. Visit to Tamarindo Beach and the wetlands. Great moments for photo creation and sunset images.

6:00 P.M. Return to Hotel

Day 3:

8:00 A.M. Departure for Liberia and a visit to Savannah zoo Africa Mia, with special access to areas from which to photograph exotic wildlife such as zebras as well as a variety of other African animals living in a similar environment.

11:00 A.M. Departure to Santa Rosa National Park - 1 hour distance. Enjoy the beauty of the dry forest, with plenty of flora and wildlife to shoot at. The tour will be organized according to our guests' preferences. Always bring your camera!

12:00 A.M. Brown bag lunch at the park.

1:30 P.M. Walking through the trails, capturing life, silent shooting, sharing spots, and photography as its best.

4:30 P.M. Return to hotel - about 2 hours distance.



Day 4:

8:00 A.M. Departure to Santa Cruz - 90 minutes distance. Visit to pottery village of Guatil to photograph Indian villages and rustic art venues. Lifestyle, architecture, pottery, clay ovens, and of course people.

Noon: Brown bag lunch.

1:30 P.M. Visit to Santa Cruz hacienda. Cowboy life, horses, architecture, crops, and colorful scenes for great images.

4:00 P.M. Return to Hotel.

Day 5:

10:00 A.M. At Hotel launch. Two selected images from each of the tour attendants will be processed and edited by photography tour specialist Jim Rodriguez. Based on lightroom and photoshop, Mr. Rodriguez will process the images and will share with tour associates tips to enhance outdoor photography in the tropics.

Equipment:

Traveling abroad is always more complicated. Weight, size and type of equipment limitations are often a problem when thinking about what to bring to the aircraft cabin. You have to make sure your camera bag complies with all the requirements. Canon or Nikon (your choice) and in any case we prefer digital because of lab limitations in the country, especially because we expect to process our work at the end of every day. You may wish to bring both, but keep in mind this is primarily a digital experience.

Memory: 1 or 2 Lexar memory cards, 4 GB each, at least.

Lenses: 17-70mm or similar, 70-200 mm or similar, and anything else is a plus.

Flash: A must.

Tripod: Preferably.

Lab: Laptop with photoshop and lightroom installed. If not, let us know in advance.

Binoculars: recommended. All nature photographers—especially wildlife shooters—should always carry a pair of binoculars in their camera bag. They are indispensable for viewing wildlife or scanning large areas. With a bit of practice, binocular use should become second nature in no time.



Package Includes:

- 5 Nights in a Junior Suite, at Hotel Villa del Sueño.
- Professional photographic assistance during five day photo safari
- Transport from hotel to photo locations.
- Tickets to National Parks.
- "Brown Box" lunch during tour days.
- Photographic workshop at Hotel Villa del Sueño

All for: **\$ 975.00 per person.**

Minimum: 6 people

Tel: (506) 26.72.00.26 Fax: (506) 26.72.00.21

info@villadelsueno.com www.villadelsueno.com