

Exclusive UW departure - February 1-12, 2016

# COSTA RICA'S NATURAL HERITAGE

**12 days for \$3,781 total price from Seattle**

(\$3,495 air & land inclusive plus \$286 airline taxes and departure fees)

*In this small Central American democracy kissed by nature, our small group discovers a nation's wealth in four distinct regions, from cloud forest to rain forest; Central Valley to Pacific Coast. As Costa Rica presents its staggering display of bio-diversity – pristine landscapes, unique microclimates, exotic flora and fauna – we enjoy a relaxed yet comprehensive exploration that celebrates Costa Rica's wide-ranging natural resources.*



| Avg. High (°F) | Jan | Feb |
|----------------|-----|-----|
| San Jose       | 75  | 76  |



We'll see Arenal, one of the world's most active volcanoes, from a safe distance.

**Day 1: Depart for San Jose, Costa Rica** We arrive in the Costa Rican capital and transfer to our hotel located in the San Jose de Belen area outside the city. This afternoon and evening are at leisure.

**Day 2: San Jose** After meeting our Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and fellow travelers at this morning's breakfast briefing, we embark on an excursion through the Central Valley to Poas Volcano National Park. Here we view the world's largest crater, a steaming, bubbling caldron; and also take a guided walk along park trails. We continue on to the Doka Coffee Estate, located on the fertile slopes of Poas Volcano, where we learn about coffee-making and Costa Rica's coffee industry, one of its largest exports. After lunch at the Doka Estate, we return to our hotel late afternoon. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel. *B,L,D*

**Day 3: San Jose/Arenal Region** We leave this morning for the Arenal region, passing picturesque villages along the way. We stop in Carrizal at the family-owned Botanical Orchid Garden, with tropical trails, exhibits, nurseries, and gardens all dedicated to the wondrous orchid plant. After time to explore here, we travel on to Arenal and our hotel, which offers magnificent views of Arenal Volcano and where we dine tonight. *B,L,D*

**Day 4: Arenal Region/Penas Blancas River** This morning we visit a local elementary school to enjoy a cultural exchange with the children and learn about Costa Rica's vaunted educational system – the country boasts a literacy rate of more than 95%. Then this afternoon we embark on a "float safari" on the Penas Blancas River, whose slow-flowing waters make it perfect for spotting wildlife in the adjacent rainforest. Experienced guides will help to spot the monkeys, sloths, iguanas, caimans and tropical birds that call the jungle home, as we learn about this extraordinary biosphere while rafting the mellow Penas Blancas. Later today there's time for more volcano viewing before and after dinner (at a local restaurant) from a comfortable perch at our hotel. *B,L,D*

**Day 5: Arenal Region/Monteverde Cloud Forest** We travel today to the "green cathedral" of Monteverde. En route we stop to visit a non-profit handicrafts cooperative, dedicated to enhancing the economic and social well-being of local women artists. Then we continue on to our hotel, arriving in time for lunch on our own and an afternoon at leisure. We dine tonight at a local restaurant in Monteverde. *B,D*

**Day 6: Monteverde** This morning we embark on a guided walk through Monteverde's biological reserve,

## Your Small Group Tour Highlights

Poas Volcano excursion ... La Garita's Botanical Orchid Garden ... Visit with children at elementary school ... Night viewing of Arenal Volcano ... Monteverde Cloud Forest, including Hanging Bridges Sky Walk, Biological Reserve, and Hummingbird Gallery ... Penas Blancas and Tempisque rivers float safaris ... Three-night stay at secluded Pacific beach resort ... Stays in eco-friendly hotels suited to the natural environment

| Day  | Itinerary                | Hotel                        | Rating           |
|------|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1    | Depart U.S. for San Jose | Doubletree by Hilton Cariari | Sup. First Class |
| 2    | San Jose                 | Doubletree by Hilton Cariari | Sup. First Class |
| 3-4  | Arenal Region            | Arenal Manoa                 | First Class      |
| 5-7  | Monteverde Cloud Forest  | El Establo Mountain Hotel    | First Class      |
| 8-10 | Guanacaste               | Casa Conde del Mar           | Sup. First Class |
| 11   | San Jose                 | Doubletree by Hilton Cariari | Sup. First Class |
| 12   | Depart San Jose for U.S. |                              |                  |

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



**Tour membership limited to 18 UW alumni and friends**

learning about the amazing bio-diversity in this relatively small area. Next we tour the Hummingbird Gallery, where feeders attract several different species of the delicate hummingbird. After lunch together we visit the Monteverde Bat Jungle to learn about Costa Rica's diverse – and important – bat population. Late this afternoon we return to our hotel for time at leisure and dinner on our own. *B,L*

**Day 7: Monteverde** Early today we visit the hanging bridges Sky Walk, where we have the opportunity to experience this natural preserve from the canopy level, high above the rain forest floor. Our naturalist guide will point out some of the 100 species of mammals, 400 species of birds (including 30 kinds of hummingbirds), and 2,500 species of plants (including 420 kinds of orchids) that thrive in this unique setting. This afternoon is at leisure; the hotel facilities include a water-purified heated pool. *B,D*

**Day 8: Monteverde/Guanacaste** We depart by coach this morning for Guanacaste, Costa Rica's stunning north-west Pacific coastal region lined with beaches and home to several national parks. Before departing Monteverde, we visit the delightful Butterfly Garden, whose variety of species includes the stunning Blue Morpho; the unique Calico butterfly which produces sound;



Tortuguero canals (optional extension)

**Post-Tour Extension**

**TORTUGUERO NATIONAL PARK**

**4 days/3 nights for \$595 total price**  
Single Supplement: \$145

*Encounter exceptional bio-diversity, from rain forest to marsh, where fresh water meets the sea to form canals, lagoons, and wetlands; and also to provide an important turtle nesting reserve. An ecological tour de force!*

**Your Tour Price Includes**

- Round-trip transfers San Jose/Tortuguero by van and boat
- 3 nights' accommodations: 2 nights in Tortuguero National Park at Mawamba Lodge (First Class); 1 night in San Jose at Doubletree by Hilton Cariari (Superior First Class)
- 8 meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Included sightseeing: Tortuguero town and Caribbean Conservation Center; two boat safaris along the Tortuguero canals
- Services of expert staff and guides at Mawamba Lodge

*“You’re the best! So professional. Well organized and amazing itineraries – nice to have the UW connection with fellow travelers.”*  
– Dick, '72, '79, and Debbie, '73, Galuska

and the virtually transparent Glasswing butterfly. We stop for lunch along the way, reaching our beachfront resort hotel mid-afternoon. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. *B,L,D*

**Day 9: Guanacaste** A float safari on the Tempisque River highlights this morning's excursion to the Palo Verde region, which is both an extraordinary wetland and also one of the world's last tropical dry forests. On this boat ride, we should see abundant bird- and wildlife, including monkeys, iguanas, sloths, and crocodiles, in this unique ecosystem. We enjoy lunch at a local restaurant then return to our hotel mid-afternoon. The remainder of the day is at leisure along one of Costa Rica's most pristine dark sand beaches. Dinner tonight is on our own. *B,L*

**Day 10: Guanacaste** Today is at leisure to enjoy the beautiful beach and other amenities of our hotel, including an outdoor pool. Optional activities include snorkeling, kayaking, sailing, and diving. We dine tonight at our hotel. *B,D*

**Day 11: Guanacaste/San Jose** Today we leave Guanacaste, traveling back to San Jose. We reach our hotel in Belen early this afternoon then have time to relax and refresh before tonight's farewell dinner at the hotel. *B,D*

**Day 12: Depart for U.S.** We transfer to the airport this morning for our return flights to the U.S. *B*



Macaws count among Costa Rica's vibrant birdlife.

**Your Tour Price Includes**

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 11 nights' accommodations in Superior First Class and First Class hotels
- 25 meals: 11 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 8 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an expert Costa Rica naturalist as your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



We enjoy treetop rain forest views from Monteverde's Sky Walk.

**Tour Departs: February 1, 2016**

*Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees*

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Miami  | \$3,381 |
| Orlando, Tampa   | \$3,481 |
| Atlanta, New York, Washington, DC  | \$3,581 |
| Baltimore, Boston, Charlotte, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, San Francisco | \$3,681 |
| Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Minneapolis, Phoenix, Portland (OR), Seattle             | \$3,781 |
| Land Only (transfers not included)   | \$2,895 |

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, fuel surcharges, and departure fees of \$286, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$895. All 2016 tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, fuel surcharges, and departure fees) are guaranteed.

**Please note: This trip includes nature walks and some lengthy coach rides over bumpy dirt roads. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.**

*Important Information About Your Tour*

## General Terms and Conditions

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

### Tour Prices

Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2016, and include accommodations based on double occupancy; airfare from your departure city; airline taxes, fuel surcharges, departure fees, and port charges and cruise line fees (where applicable), which are subject to change until final payment has been made; internal air, rail, and motorcoach transportation, meals, sightseeing, and transfers as described; hotel taxes; entrance fees for included sightseeing; the services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director; luggage handling for one bag per person; and all gratuities as described below. Please note that the cost of air upgrades is subject to change.

### Gratuities

Tour prices include all gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers on base tours and on optional extensions when accompanied by an Odysseys Unlimited representative. Please note that gratuities for the Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour) are not included. These tips are optional and should be extended on a voluntary basis. Gratuities are not included on "On Your Own" optional extensions.

### Not Included in Your Tour Price

Airfare from your hometown to your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; communications charges; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities \$10-\$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

### Registration and Payment

A deposit of \$500 per person confirms your reservation. Full payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure and may be made by personal check or credit card. Odysseys Unlimited reserves the right to cancel any reservations that are not paid in full at any time after final payment is due. If you make your reservation after the final payment date, payment in full will be required upon reservation.

### Cancellations and Refunds

If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. Refunds for



cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

### *For all tours (except as noted)*

| <u>Prior to departure</u> | <u>Charge</u>     |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 95 days or more:          | \$200             |
| 94-65 days:               | 25% of tour price |
| 64-45 days:               | 50% of tour price |
| 44-30 days:               | 75% of tour price |
| 29-0 days:                | No refund         |

### *For Africa's Wildlife, Egypt & the Eternal Nile, Journey through Vietnam, Legendary Turkey, Patagonian Frontiers*

| <u>Prior to departure</u> | <u>Charge</u>     |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 95 days or more:          | \$200             |
| 94-65 days:               | 50% of tour price |
| 64-30 days:               | 75% of tour price |
| 29-0 days:                | No refund         |

Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. If because of low participation Odysseys Unlimited cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

### Pre-Departure

After reserving your tour, you will receive pre-departure mailings that include a detailed itinerary, visa requirements, and reading list. We will send your final tour documents, including airline itineraries (with e-ticket numbers) two to three weeks before departure.

### Single Travelers

We welcome single travelers, and offer a limited number of single accommodations on each tour. Because hotel and cruise rates are priced by the room or cabin, the per person cost for accommodations occupied by one person is higher than that shared by two people. We will endeavor to keep single supplements at a reasonable cost. Please note that single rooms in many foreign hotels may be smaller than those to which you are accustomed.

### Changes to Your Reservation

We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your

reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement.

**No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure.**

### Required Information

Upon reservation, we will need to obtain from you passport information including the following, in accordance with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Secure Flight program, as well as by our international travel partners: **your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender** (for further information, please visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov)). In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

### Travel Documents

A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour, and with at least six blank visa pages, is required for U.S. citizens on all tours in this catalog. If your tour requires a visa or other entry documents, we will send you the appropriate information after you make a reservation. You are responsible for obtaining these documents. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please contact your embassy or consulate to ensure you obtain the proper documentation.

### Smoking

For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Odysseys Unlimited has a No Smoking policy on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.

### Health and Medical Issues

We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in an Odysseys Unlimited tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day), often uphill or on uneven or cobblestone streets. **You must be**

**able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own.** We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance if you require the use of a wheelchair or have other personal needs; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that a number of our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and the University of Washington Alumni Association (UWAA) reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, UWAA and Odysseys Unlimited assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. In addition, Odysseys Unlimited and UWAA reserve the right to decline to accept the trip application of any prospective traveler who, in the opinion of Odyssey Unlimited or UWAA, is incapable of successfully completing the trip.

### **Air Transportation**

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and the UWAA will

incur no liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes therein. In any event, neither Odysseys's Unlimited, Inc., nor the UWAA is responsible for losses, direct or indirect, or missed components of a trip which result from air delays, cancellations, rerouting or any other air-related problem.

### **Responsibility**

The liability of Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under its control. It serves only as an agent for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within its control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. Cruise itineraries may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions. See also the University of Washington Alumni Association's (UWAA) Release of Liability, Assumption of All Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement form which you have to sign as a condition of your going on this trip. This form is sent to all participants upon placing a tour deposit and needs to be returned within 30 days after receipt or at least 60 days before the beginning of the trip, whichever is sooner. This document can be found at [www.UWalum.com/tours](http://www.UWalum.com/tours) or by emailing [uwaatour@uw.edu](mailto:uwaatour@uw.edu) or calling 206-685-9276.

**UW ALUMNI TOURS RESERVATION FORM**

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$500 per person) for \_\_\_ person/people on the tour listed below. I/we understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. **Please make checks payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and mail deposit check and signed reservation form to: The UW Alumni Association, Attn. UW Alumni Tours, Box 359508, Seattle, WA 98195-9508. You may also fax your reservation to: 1-206-685-0611 or email it to uwaatour@uw.edu. If we can be of any assistance, please call us at 1-206-685-9276 or toll-free at 1-800-289-2586.**

Tour Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): Please sign me/us up

Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_  
 Full Passport Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Ph. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Ph. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please book my/our air from \_\_\_\_\_ I/we request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with \_\_\_\_\_ I request a single room (limited availability)

I/we request an upgrade to CABIN category \_\_\_\_\_ (for Patagonian Frontiers only)

I/we request an upgrade to TENT category \_\_\_\_\_ (for Africa's Wildlife only)

**Please Note:** Membership in the Alumni Association is a requirement for participation – one membership per reservation. Membership is open to all friends and alumni of the UW. UWAA membership details are available at [www.uwalum.com](http://www.uwalum.com)

**Please Note:** The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for this trip and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment**

Check       American Express       Discover       MasterCard       VISA

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure and can be paid by check or credit card.