

Costa Rica November 10-19 2022
Volcanos, Wetlands, and Rain Forests

Itinerary:

Day 1: Thurs, November 10 – Arrival

Please arrive before dinner on this day so we can have a welcome dinner at the hotel. We will meet in the lobby of the hotel at 5:30 P.M. for orientation and dinner. There is a shuttle from the airport to the hotel. If you arrive early, we may have time to bird the hotel grounds.

Night at Hotel Bougainvillea, San Jose area.

Day 2: Fri, November 11 – PN Volcano Poas; Mirador Cinchona

This morning we will have a quick check of the hotel grounds for the endemic **Cabanis's Ground Sparrow**. We will then make our way toward the higher elevations of Volcano Poas National Park. The entrance road to the park is a great spot for **Long-tailed Silky-Flycatcher, Fiery-throated Hummingbird, Golden-browed Chlorophonia, Northern Emerald- Toucanet** and many, many more. By evening we will be near another volcano – Arenal, where we stay the next 2 nights. ***Night at Arenal Observatory Lodge.***

Day 3: Sat, November 12 – Arenal Observatory Lodge and Peninsula Road

This morning we will bird the lodge grounds, which are nestled amongst 2,000 acres of tropical forest. We will have ample chance to look for such birds as **Great Curassow, Tawny-capped Euphonia, and Golden-hooded Tanager**. We will also spend some time on Peninsula Road. Here we will look for wetland birds like **Amazon Kingfisher, Limpkin, and Rufous-tailed Jacamar**. ***Night at Arenal Observatory Lodge.***

Day 4: Sun, November 13 – Sky Arenal and Medio Queso Wetland

Today we will walk along the hanging bridges of Sky Arenal. We will search for some hard-to-find species here such as **Ocellated Antbird, Yellow-eared Toucanet, and White-ruffed Manakin**. In the afternoon we will drive over to Cano Negro birding the Medio Queso Wetland on the way. We will have a chance of seeing **Jabiru, Purple Gallinule, Southern Lapwing**, and many more wetland species. ***Night at Cano Negro Lodge.***

Day 5: Mon, November 14 – Cano Negro

Today we will take two boat rides exploring the wetlands of Cano Negro, located in the northwest portion of the country. Between a morning boat ride and another at sunset, we'll give ourselves excellent chances at seeing not only all our wetland target birds but also **White-faced Capuchin Monkeys, Howler Monkeys, and Spectacled Caiman**, among other wildlife. This will be a day to remember with much of the day having lots of excellent photo opportunities. ***Night at Cano Negro Lodge.***

Day 6: Tues, November 15 – Bird Songs Garden

Today we will transition away from Cano Negro and head west, making a stop at the beautiful Bird Songs Gardens. Here we will enjoy an assortment of hummingbirds, honeycreepers, tanagers, and whatever else we can find in the gardens. Main target birds today are **Shining**

Honeycreeper, Red-legged Honeycreeper, Snowcap, Scarlet-rumped Tanager, White-fronted Nunbird, and many more. *Night at Hacienda La Pacifica.*

Day 7: Wed, November 16 – Palo Verde National Park

We will head to Palo Verde National Park today. This wetland park is home to a high concentration of waders including **Wood Stork, Roseate Spoonbill, Limpkin**. We will also look for kingfishers such as **Ringed, Amazon, and Green**. This is also a good place to find **Bare-throated Tiger-Heron**. Once we are finished at Palo Verde we will continue to the cloud forests of Monteverde! ***Night at Ficus Sunset Hotel.***

Day 8: Thur, November 17 – Curicancha and Monteverde Cloudforest Reserve

Today will be filled with beautiful views and great birding at two awesome reserves in the cloud forest near Monteverde. **Resplendent Quetzal** is a main target today. This is also a good place to check for the elusive **Silvery-fronted Tapaculo**. Other birds we will look for are **Ruddy Pigeon, Coppery-headed Emerald, Magenta-throated Woodstar, and Long-tailed Manakin**. This should be an awesome day of birding! ***Night at Ficus Sunset Hotel.***

Day 9: Fri, November 18 – Head to San Jose

Today we will head down from the cloud forest and make our way back to San Jose, birding along the way. ***Night at Hotel Bougainvillea, San Jose area***

Day 10: Sat, November 19 – Departure

You can leave anytime today. We will make sure that the hotel that we are staying at has a shuttle that can easily take us back to the airport for departure. We will take with us the memories of an awesome birding trip to a fabulous country!