

## La Fortuna - Arenal (by Travel Videos HD, World Travel Guide)

### EXCURSIONS

The Organization of Tropical Studies (OTS) is a nonprofit consortium of nearly sixty universities, colleges, and research institutions from around the world

BioCursos is an Environmental Education Program started by OTS since July 1999. Practical short (field) courses for all age groups are offered in a great variety of topics and sites considered unique in terms of Nature conservation.

The Local Organizing Committee has consolidated the following BioCursos with OTS for our TDWG participants and guests:

1. Osa Peninsula, Campanario Biological Reserve and San Pedrillo /Corcovado
2. La Selva Biological Station
3. Palo Verde National Park, and
4. Santa Rosa National Park

All the biocursos will departure from La Fortuna and will arrive to San José after the trip except Osa Península. This biocurso will departure from San Jose and will return to the same place. These below are some options of hotels in San José where participants could reserve rooms to stay after coming back from the biocursos. As long as the reservation is made in coordination with the office in San José, a special corporate rate for OTS groups could be applied. Please contact: [Helenia Salazar Piedra, Reservas Biocurso](#) . Office (506) 2524-0607 ext 1530 / (506) 8729-0088

#### Rates per room

	single occupancy	double occupancy	Web Page	Included:
Hotel Rincón de San José	\$ 55.00	\$ 60.00	<a href="http://www.hotelrincondesanjose.com">www.hotelrincondesanjose.com</a>	breakfast, taxes and internet
Hotel Park Inn	\$ 79.00	\$ 79.00	<a href="http://www.parkinn.com">www.parkinn.com</a>	breakfast, taxes and internet
Hotel Ave del Paraiso	\$ 55.00	\$ 64.00	<a href="http://www.hotelavedelparaiso.com">www.hotelavedelparaiso.com</a>	breakfast, taxes and internet
Hotel Irazu Best Western	\$ 82.00	\$ 82.00	<a href="http://www.bestwesterncostarica.com">www.bestwesterncostarica.com</a>	breakfast, taxes and internet

1. Osa Peninsula, record in global biodiversity, Campanario Biological Reserve and San Pedrillo / Corcovado



The Osa Peninsula has some of the most beautiful living creatures on earth. With this BioCurso the participants will witness the presence of some of the largest, majestic, colorful and peaceful animals that exist in the world.

During our trip we will find a vast area of mangrove forest of vital importance to the country because it hosts more than 285 species of birds, 139 mammals, and 116 amphibians and reptiles. The flora in the mangroves is formed by hydrophytes

where its growth cycle is in harmony with the aquatic environment.

This journey will take you to some of the most beautiful spots along the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, which includes the area surrounding Caño Island National Reserve, and the Osa Peninsula coastline, with snorkeling included. In this region of Costa Rica we will enjoy Corcovado National Park, this site protects approximately 54,539 hectares (134,764 acres) of humid rainforest and 2,400 hectares (5,930 acres) of ocean. It has become an international attraction for the ecotourism, because it holds 5% of the entire world's biodiversity, definitely it is a **PARADISE FOR ECOTURISM!**

**Minimum number of participant:** 14 **Depart:** December 11, 2016 6:00 AM

**Maximum number of participants:** 20 from San José.

People could be

picked up in any of

the four hotels

with special OTS

fares indicated

above.

Everyone else

would be picked up

at "Teatro

Nacional" (National

Theater) in

downtown San

José **at 5:30 a.m.**

**Duration:** 3 days

**Return:** December

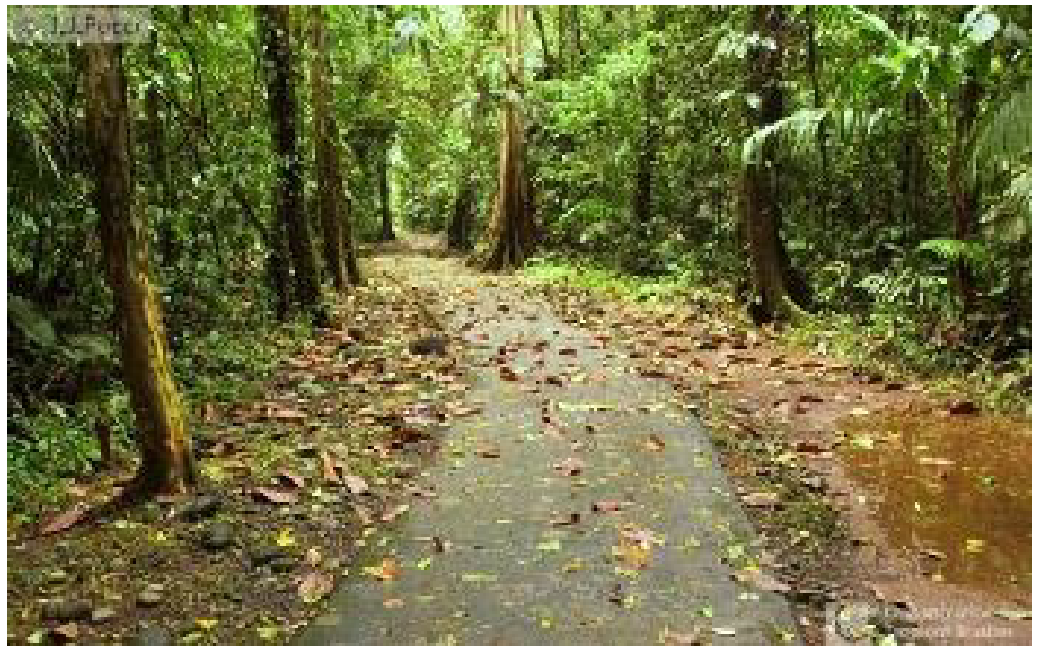
13, 2016 8:30 PM

to San José

**Registration fee:** \$455

**More information** [here](#)  
**To Reserve:** Please contact [Helenia Salazar Piedra, Reservas Biocurso](#) , Costa Rica Office (506) 2524-0607 ext 1530 / (506) 8729-0088

## 2. La Selva Biological Station



At the confluence of two major rivers in the Caribbean lowlands of northern Costa Rica, La Selva comprises 1,600 hectares (3,900 acres) of tropical wet forests and disturbed lands. It averages 4 m (over 13 feet!) of rainfall that is spread rather evenly throughout the year. It has become one of the most important sites in the world for research on tropical rain forest. Over 240 scientific papers are published yearly from research conducted at the site.

Guided walks with excellent bilingual naturalists will give a glimpse of the leading-edge research conducted at La Selva as well as the Natural History of the Tropical Rain Forest. La Selva Biological Station is one of the finest places for bird watching in Costa Rica. Guided by our excellent biologist, search for bright shiny eyes, listen to the calls of frogs and the

singing of birds, to discover the variety of the night wildlife –birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles which are also seen at late afternoon. Finally, explore the wildlife in a boat tour on the Sarapiquí River.

**Minimum number of participant:** 14 **Depart:** December 10, 2016 7:00 AM **Registration fee:** \$175

**Maximum number of participants:** 24 **Duration:** 2 days

**Return:** December 11, 2016 5:00 PM

from La Fortuna to San José (time to be confirmed)

**More information** [here](#)

**To Reserve:** Please contact [Helenia Salazar Piedra, Reservas Biocurso](#) , Costa Rica Office (506) 2524-0607 ext 1530 / (506) 8729-0088

### 3. Palo Verde National Park, OTS Biological Station



Palo Verde is one of the most important sanctuaries in Central America for migrating and resident species of waterfowl. Enjoy the natural beauty of the tropical dry forest and the magnificent wetlands, a rich mosaic that encompasses 15 different habitats. During most of the year, the marshes, which can be seen from the station and reached in a few minutes walk, provide shelter for herons, storks, egrets, grebes, ibis, ducks, jacanas and other waterfowl and web-footed birds, many of which are migratory. We will explore one of the last remnants of dry forest of the Neotropics.

More than twenty endangered hardwood tree species are protected. Enjoy Isla Pájaros in the Tempisque River, the most important nesting colony for wading birds in northwest Costa Rica. Eleven resident bird species and some 3,000 individuals altogether nest there, late in the wet season. Tempisque River has one of the largest concentrations of crocodiles in Costa Rica. Four different trails expose walk lovers to beautiful scenic views that will definitely be worth the effort! Just make sure to bring water, comfortable hiking boots and of course a camera!

**Minimum number of participant:** 14 **Depart:** December 10, 2016 7:00 AM **Registration fee:** \$215

**Maximum number of participants:** 20 **Duration:** 2 days

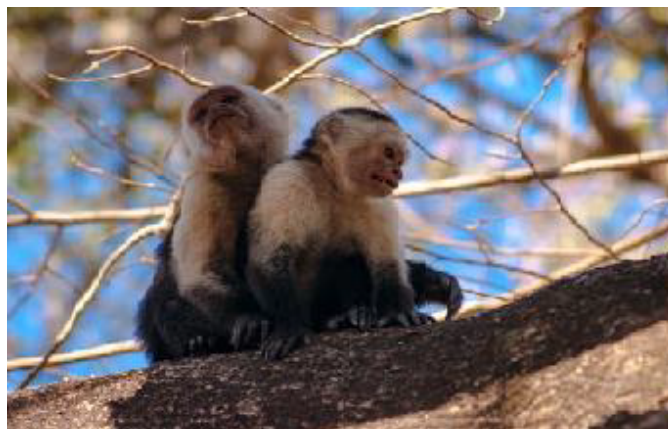
**Return:** December 11, 2016 8:00 PM

from La Fortuna to San José

**More information** [here](#)

**To Reserve:** Please contact [Helenia Salazar Piedra, Reservas Biocurso](#) Costa Rica Office (506) 2524-0607 ext 1530 / (506) 8729-0088

### 4. Santa Rosa National Park, Historical Legacy and Natural Wonder... Peña Bruja (Witch Rock)



Santa Rosa National Park is part of the protected wild areas of the Guanacaste Conservation Area, along with Guanacaste and Rincón de La Vieja National Parks, the Horizontes Experimental Forest Station and the Bahía Junquilla Wildlife Refuge.

Santa Rosa Hacienda is recorded in the national history of Costa Rica since the XIX century. On March 20, 1856, the most important battle in the war against the filibusters.

This Costa Rican National Park contains a great variety of natural habitats (sea, beaches, mangroves, marshes, plains, mountains, etc.) and therefore is home to a remarkable variety of fauna. Till date, 115 mammals, 250 birds, 100 amphibians and reptiles and more than 30,000 insect species have been registered. With a little luck, you may see white-faced and howler monkeys, white-tail deer, iguanas, pumas, coyotes and many others.

**Minimum number of participant:** 14  
**Depart:** December 10, 2016 7:00 AM

**Maximum number of participants:** 20  
**Duration:** 3 days  
**Return:** December 12, 2016 8:00 PM

**Registration fee:** \$235  
**More information** [here](#)  
**To Reserve:** Please contact [Helenia Salazar Piedra, Reservas Biocurso](#) . Costa Rica Office (506) 2524-0607 ext 1530 / (506) 8729-0088

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