



# COSTA RICA

2018-2019

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# COSTA RICA

*student immersion*

Document prepared by: Cody Bliss





# GENERAL TRIP INFO



**Group:** Florida Institute of Technology

**BTM Trip Coordinator:** Cody Bliss

**Participants:** Min 10/Max 30

**Trip Length:** 4 nights/5 days

**Trip Dates:** March 4-8, 2019

**Cost:** *Price breakdown below*

**Airfare Cut-Off Date:** December 1, 2018

**Trip Cut-Off Date:** February 1, 2019





## ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Day 1: Fly to Juan Santamaria International Airport (San Jose), Stay in a homestay ranch tonight and have our first group dinner.

Day 2: Hike to a family homestay in the jungle, experience the local culture and learn about the surrounding environments. Join the local community in a group service project

Day 3: Hike to our next family homestay. Take a dip in the largest un-damned river in Costa Rica. Help make a traditional homemade dinner tonight and partake in another community service project.

Day 4: Travel to the Pacific Coast where you'll be learning how to surf. Enjoy a final group dinner while watching the sunset.

Day 5: Depart from San Jose.



# ITINERARY



## Day 1: Welcome to Costa Rica!

Hola amigos and welcome to Costa Rica! Arrive at Juan Santamaria International Airport in San Jose where our private transportation and Beyond the Map guide will be waiting for you with snacks in hand. Our journey begins immediately as we point our compass south towards the highest point in the country and over the Cerro de la Muerte, or "The Mountain of Death." Along the way, we will stop at a local soda (equivalent to a diner) for lunch or a snack. Tonight we will stay at a local lodge and ranch. Our first dinner will be followed by a brief orientation to the adventures ahead! Relax, you've made it!

## Day 2: Living Pura Vida

Today we set out to reach a tiny local village that is quite literally off the map! This town is tucked away in the rainforest and can only be reached on foot. Today we will work with the small community to restore roadways that were destroyed by Hurricane Nate in 2017. The community survives because of farming and tourism- both of which require safe and reliable roadways. Spend the afternoon in the one bedroom school and help educate the local children- they love practicing their English skills!\*

## Day 3: An Authentic Costa Rica

Slowly wake up to the symphony of the jungle. After breakfast, we will continue our journey to the next local homestay. This eco-lodge is perched high above the river. We shift perspectives this afternoon and work alongside the community to preserve the delicate rainforest that their lives depend on. Spend the evening drifting into relaxation in one of the many hammocks on the open air, covered deck while listening to the river flowing below.





**LIVE LIKE LOCALS**



# ITINERARY



## Day 4: The Pacific Coast

Today we leave the inland jungles and journey to the Pacific Coastline. Arrive just in time for an all organic lunch while overlooking the rocky coastline. After lunch, we will meet our trained and certified surfing coaches to learn about the sport that has transformed Costa Rica. After catching a few waves and working up an appetite, we will get cleaned up and go out for our final group dinner.

## Day 5: The End of the Journey

Today we travel up the coast back to the airport. Along the way, we stop for lunch and souvenirs before heading home.

*\*Service projects are subject to change based on the current needs of the community*





# TERMS & CONDITIONS



## Price Includes

All expenses outlined in itinerary, including:

- Pre-Trip Research, Planning & Logistics
- Accommodations (double occupancy)
- Roundtrip Airfare \*\*
- Private In-Country Transportation
- Activity & Entrance Fees, Permits and Associated Tips
- All Meals, Breakfast, Lunch & Dinners
- Personal BTM Trip Director
- BTM Local Guide (CPR/Lifeguard/First Aid certified)
- Personal Travel Insurance
- Departure Tax
- Personalized Trip Webpage
- Catching the sunset over the Pacific Ocean!!

## Price Does Not Include

- Expenses of personal nature both prior to departure as well as during the trip including additional snacks and souvenirs. Airport luggage fees

## Participant Abilities

Fitness level: moderate and will be required to walk moderate distances on several occasions with a few activities that require strenuous up-hill hiking and a good sense of adventure! Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

*\*\*Students must be signed up by Dec 1st for airfare rate. See details & Policies for more information*



# PAYMENT DETAILS



## Trip Cost:

\$1500 per person (based on 16 students)

## Deposits:

25% due to reserve dates

25% due 6 months prior to trip date

25% due 3 months prior to trip date

25% or remaining balance due 1 month prior to trip date

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions approved in the contract.

## Authorized Trip Coordinator:

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Beyond the Map Trip Representative:

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cody Bliss

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 8/11/18





# BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY TODAY!

Email: [info@beyondthemap.org](mailto:info@beyondthemap.org)

Ph 1: 724-757-6474

Ph 2: 954-772-7800

**Follow Us @beyondthemaptravel**



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# Details & Policies

## Cancellations:

The trip coordinator agrees to notify Beyond The Map (BTM) with written notice of cancellation **90** days prior to the trip date. Cancellations less than 90 days prior to the trip date will be charged the remaining balance of the trip. Any deposits paid prior to the cancellation are non-refundable.

## Refunds:

The trip coordinator agrees to notify BTM with written notice of any change in the final numbers **90** days prior to the trip date. Refunds are based on the final balance due, excluding deposit(s). No refunds will be issued for participant absences if notification is received after the date listed above. The group will be responsible for paying the estimated minimum balance based on the contracted minimum as stated in the contract. Therefore, no refunds will be issued if final numbers fall below the contracted minimum. An adjusted invoice will be provided to account for additional participants above the contracted minimum.

## Deposits

Initial deposit is based on the contracted minimum and is required to secure trip dates. **All deposits are non-refundable.** A custom payment schedule will be determined by BTM and the group leader and listed in the contract. If the deposit is not received by the due date noted in the contract, the trip dates will be released and the contract will be voided.

## Weather & Uncontrollable Events:

Many of our trips run regardless of the weather conditions; however, in the event of an extreme weather event or safety concern, BTM will determine if the trip cannot proceed. If this were to occur, the trip would be rescheduled and no refunds will be issued.

## Release Forms & Other Documents:

In many instances, release forms and other documents are required prior to the trip. BTM will be sure to provide ample time for delivery and return of these documents to each traveler. In the event that a traveler does not return the documents in the allotted amount of time, there is a chance that he/she may be denied access to an activity or experience.



# Details & Policies

## **Dietary Restrictions:**

Various BTM trips require prior meal planning for the group. BTM will be sure to provide ample time to request special dietary needs or restrictions prior to the trip. In the event that the traveler has failed to respond in the allotted amount of time, there is a chance that he/she will not have the appropriate rations during the trip and will be responsible for supplying their own if need be.

## **Accommodations:**

Most BTM trips require prior planning to determine room configurations. BTM will be sure to provide ample time to request special room configurations prior to the trip. In the event that the traveler(s) have failed to respond in the allotted amount of time, there is a chance that he/she will not be given the appropriate room configurations requested and will be responsible for any changes that may be necessary.

## **Airfare & Trip Cut-Off Dates:**

Participants must be signed up with a completed "Flight Information Form" by the airfare cut-off date. Those who sign up AFTER this date will be responsible for paying the difference in costs for the flight. In addition, the group must reach the contracted minimum number of participants by this cut-off date or BTM will release the respective trip date(s). Students are able to sign up until the trip cut-off date under the terms stated above.

## **Contracted Minimum and Maximum Participants:**

The price is based on a minimum and the maximum number of participants. The minimum number of participants must be reached by the contracted cut-off date in order for the trip to occur. The final cost of the trip is subject to change if it falls below the contracted minimum or above the maximum number of participants.

**Please Make Checks Payable to:**

**Beyond the Map**

**3440 NE 12th Avenue**

**Oakland Park, FL 33334**