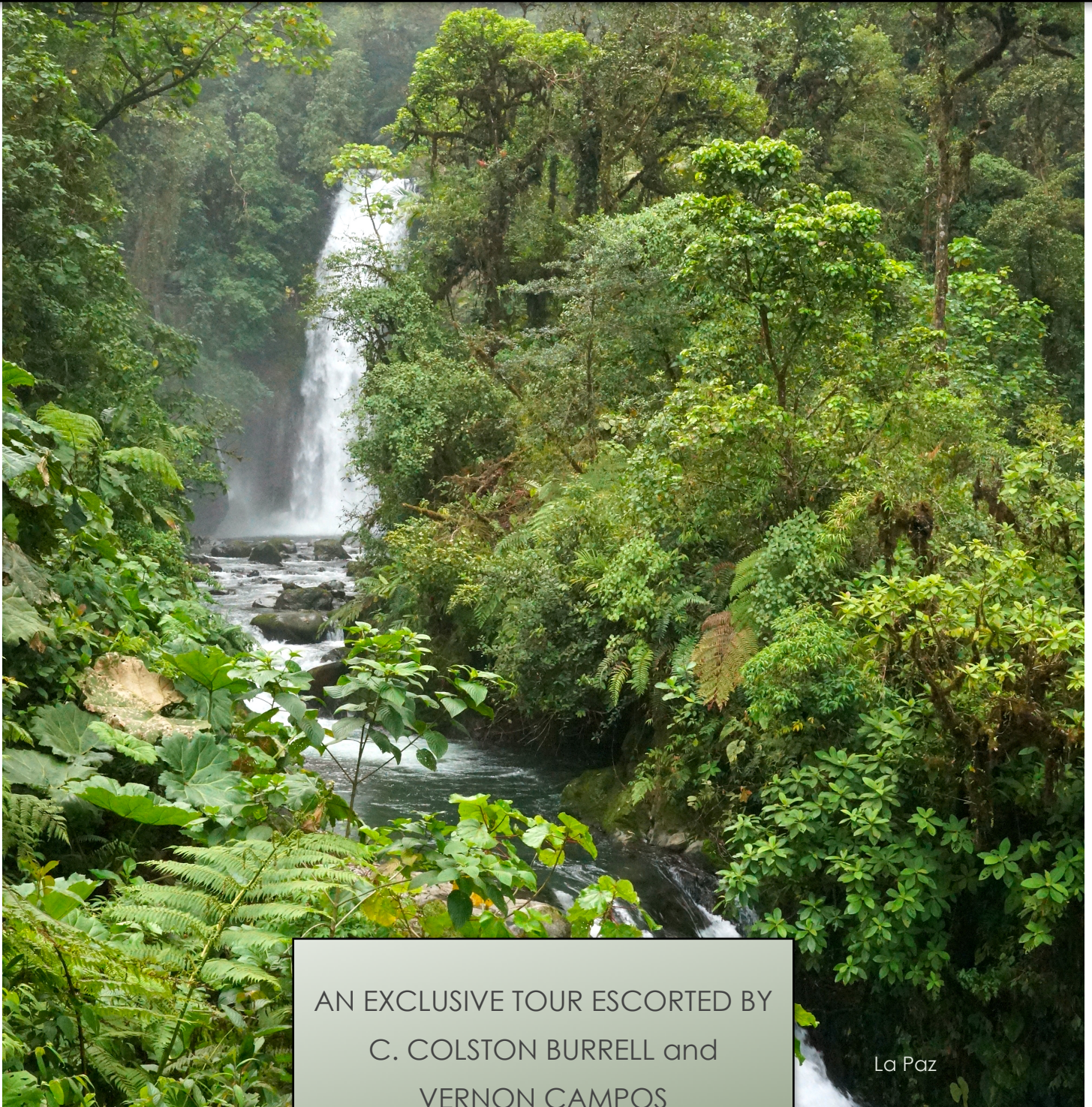


COSTA RICA

GARDENS, VOLCANOES AND WATERFALLS

January 10 - 20, 2025



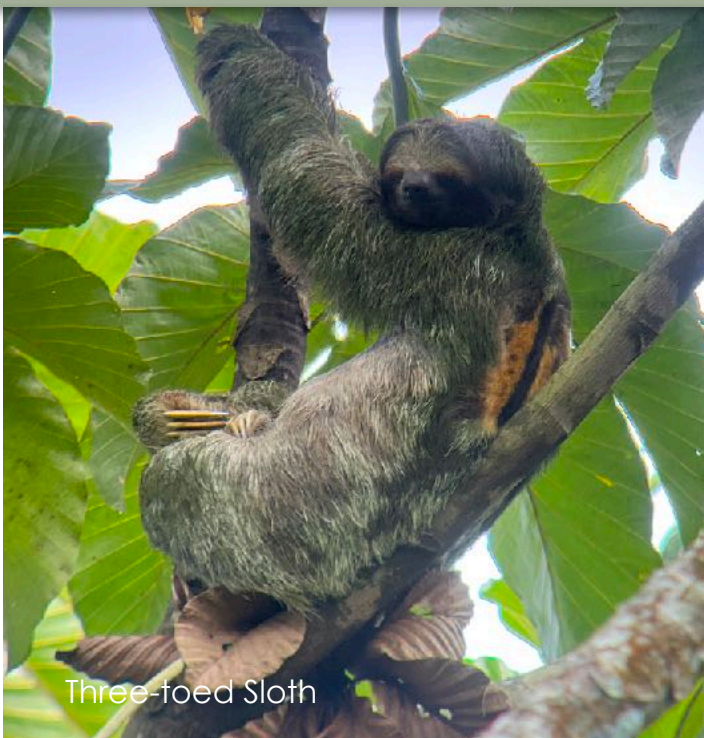
AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR ESCORTED BY
C. COLSTON BURRELL and
VERNON CAMPOS

La Paz

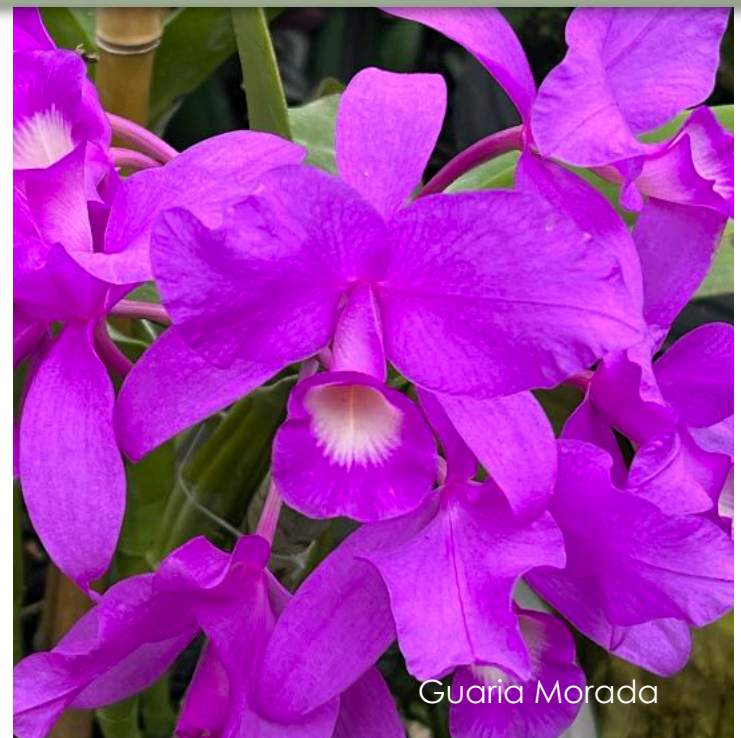


Teran Garden

This winter join **Garden and Nature Tours**, **Friendship Tours** and the **Minnesota State Horticultural Society** for an unforgettable adventure in Costa Rica, a tropical paradise where gardens, organic farms and thundering waterfalls are set against lush tropical forests and dramatic volcanic peaks. This bucket-list trip offers exciting opportunities for exploration, discovery and relaxation.



Three-toed Sloth



Guaria Morada

Meet Your Escort and Guide



C. Colston Burrell is a lifelong naturalist, plantsman, and gardener. He is principal of Native Landscape Design and Restoration, which specializes in blending nature and culture through artistic design. When Cole is not traveling, he is designing gardens for his clients, or tending his own 10-acre property designed to display the plants he loves while letting natural succession serve as head gardener. He shares his garden with birds, butterflies, and a wealth of amphibians.

Cole escorts garden and natural history tours throughout the United States and abroad. The New World tropics are a favorite destination. He has traveled in Costa Rica, Panama, Brazil, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Argentina, as well as Canada, Europe, Africa and Japan.

Vernon Campos is a popular and outstanding native Costa Rican guide. He has been leading natural history and birding tours since 2007. Vernon studied botany before taking up bird watching. He is well versed in the cultural history and natural sciences of his native country. He is able to spot a tiny hummingbird at 60 mph, and has a unique talent for finding rare birds and mammals.

Cole and Vernon have led eight trips together, exploring the garden, plants and animals of this lovely country. You will immediately fall in love with Vernon; everyone does!



WELCOME TO COSTA RICA

Join **Garden and Nature Tours with C. Colston Burrell** and local guide **Vernon Campos** in San Jose, Costa Rica to explore a tropical paradise. Though scarcely larger than West Virginia, this friendly country is a magnet for gardeners, birders, natural history enthusiasts and adventurers.

Costa Ricans, like most gardeners, are drawn to a wealth of plants from around the world. Gardens here are as variable as their owners but are often set within a nurturing envelope of native trees. Colorful foliage is favored as a foil for the deep green palms, philodendrons and elephant ears that are commonly grown. Gingers, heliconias, birds of paradise, gardenias and succulents provide long seasons of bloom, augmented by orchids and tropical bulbs in season.

In these gardens, parks and lodges an unbelievable array of tropical ornamentals and edibles awaits discovery. Costa Rica boasts over 9,000 species of flowering plants and 800 species of ferns. The 876 species of birds, including flamboyant toucans and tanagers, are sure to seduce even the casual birder. Parrots, hummingbirds, tanagers and honeycreepers flock to the blazing orange coral trees that set the countryside awash with spring color. This diversity of plants and animals is due to incredible variation in topography, vegetation and rainfall patterns. For its size, Costa Rica has more preserved land than any other country in the world, nearly 1/4 of its landmass.

In addition to gardens, we have ample opportunities to explore the unique topography and geology of Costa Rica. Stunning birds, spectacular scenery and beautiful orchids await our arrival. We plan to walk on the lava field of an active volcano and experience the exhilaration of traversing hanging bridges. We tour Nectandra Cloud Forest Reserve to experience the beauty of the cloud forest, and visit an organic farm. On our visit to CATIE we learn about tropical agriculture and tour the extensive collection of tropical fruits. We marvel at the thundering cataracts at La Paz waterfall Gardens and visit their hummingbird garden and butterfly conservatory.

Join us for this unforgettable journey to explore bucolic and rugged regions of Costa Rica, with exciting opportunities for exploration and relaxation.

Tour Itinerary Highlights

- Tour the private garden and extensive orchid collections of Myriam Sagot and savor a tapas luncheon prepared for the group by Myriam
- Walk in the wonder of Zarcero Topiary Garden
- Visit two extraordinary botanical gardens - Nectandra Cloud Forest Reserve and Lankester Garden
- Walk to a lava field in Arenal National Park
- Experience the exhilaration of Mistico Arenal Hanging Bridges
- Explore sustainable coffee and chocolate production at Vida Campesina Organic Farm
- Explore sustainable tropical agriculture at CATIE, a premier tropical agricultural institute
- Visit the active crater of Poas Volcano
- Marvel at colorful hummingbirds while visiting the feeders of Cinchona and La Paz Hummingbird Garden
- Experience world famous La Paz Waterfall Gardens
- Partake of a guided tour and delicious dinner with SACRO founder Ileana de Teran in her magnificent garden



La Paz Waterfall Gardens

Tour Details

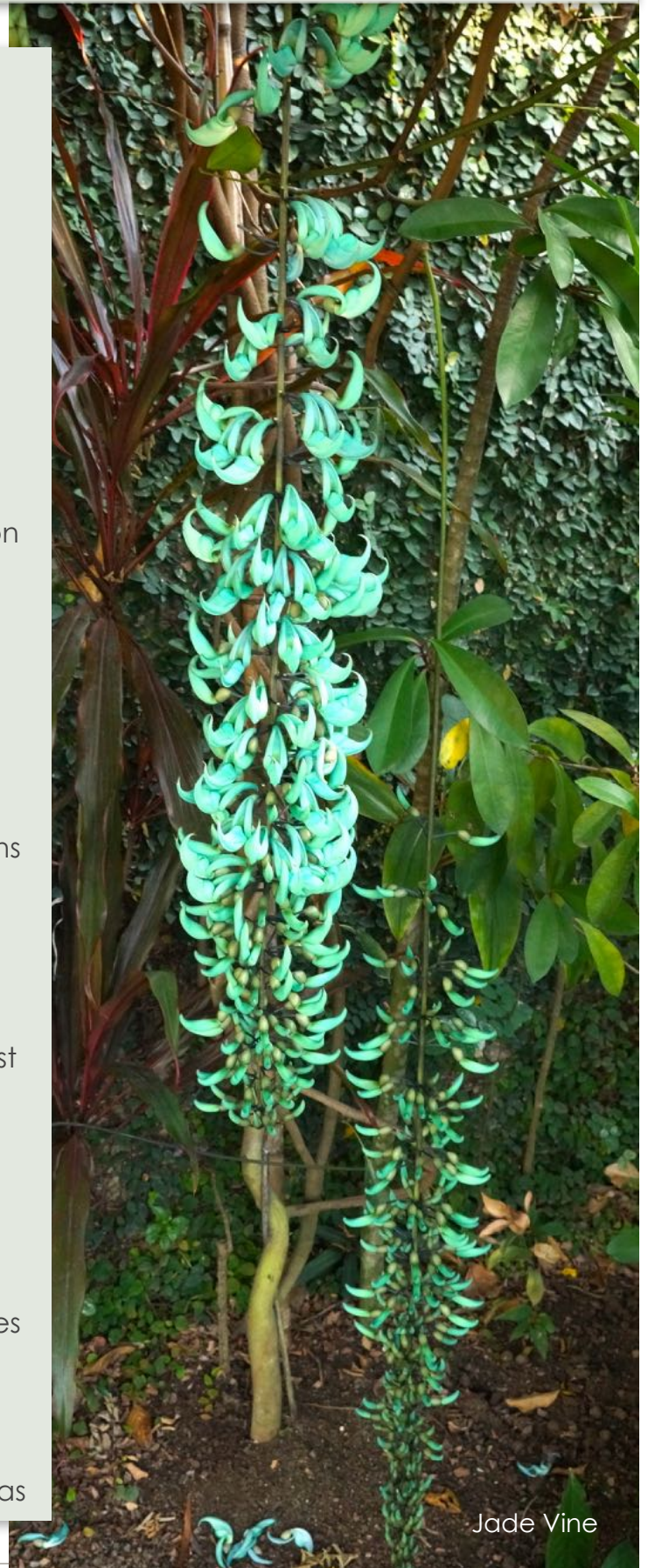
TOUR DURATION 10 Nights / 11 Days

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- † Airport transfers on arrival day
- † Ten nights hotel/lodge accommodations
- † All meals from dinner on January 9 to breakfast on January 19
- † Sightseeing and transportation by Toyota Coaster as outlined in the program itinerary
- † Local guide and flora & fauna expert Vernon Campos
- † Escort throughout tour—C. Colston Burrell
- † Visits to two exceptional private gardens
- † Visits to four public gardens
- † Private tour of CATIE
- † Guided natural history and birding excursions
- † Admissions to all gardens and parks
- † Water and snacks in the Coaster
- † Hotel taxes and service charges
- † Gratuities to your local driver, guide and host

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR

- † Round-trip airfare from home cities
- † Travel insurance
- † Airport fees, taxes and baggage charges
- † Optional sightseeing or recreational activities
- † Gratuities to servers, luggage handlers or housekeeping
- † Alcoholic beverages during the trip
- † Any other items not specifically mentioned as



Jade Vine

Tour Pricing and Registration

TOUR DURATION

10 Nights / 11 Days

DETAILED ITINERARY UPON REGISTRATION

PRICING

\$xxxx.00 Land Price — Double Occupancy

\$xxx.00 Single Supplement



- ~ Tour price is based on 12 travelers
- ~ Fewer than 12 travelers may result in a small surcharge
- ~ Itinerary subject to change without notice

DEPOSIT

\$2,000.00 per person with reservation to secure your spot

TO REGISTER AND VIEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS VISIT:

<https://www.friendshiptours.net/group-travel>

Select "Group Sign In". Enter the Tour Code **XXX** in the box labeled "Make a New Reservation."



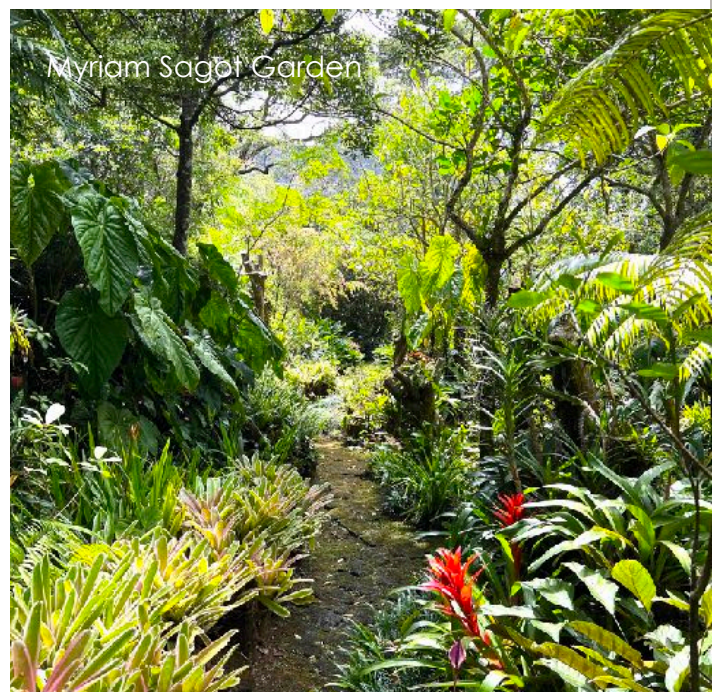
FRIENDSHIP TOURS
THE SHIP SHOP



Cloud Forest Harvest, Nectandra

Itinerary

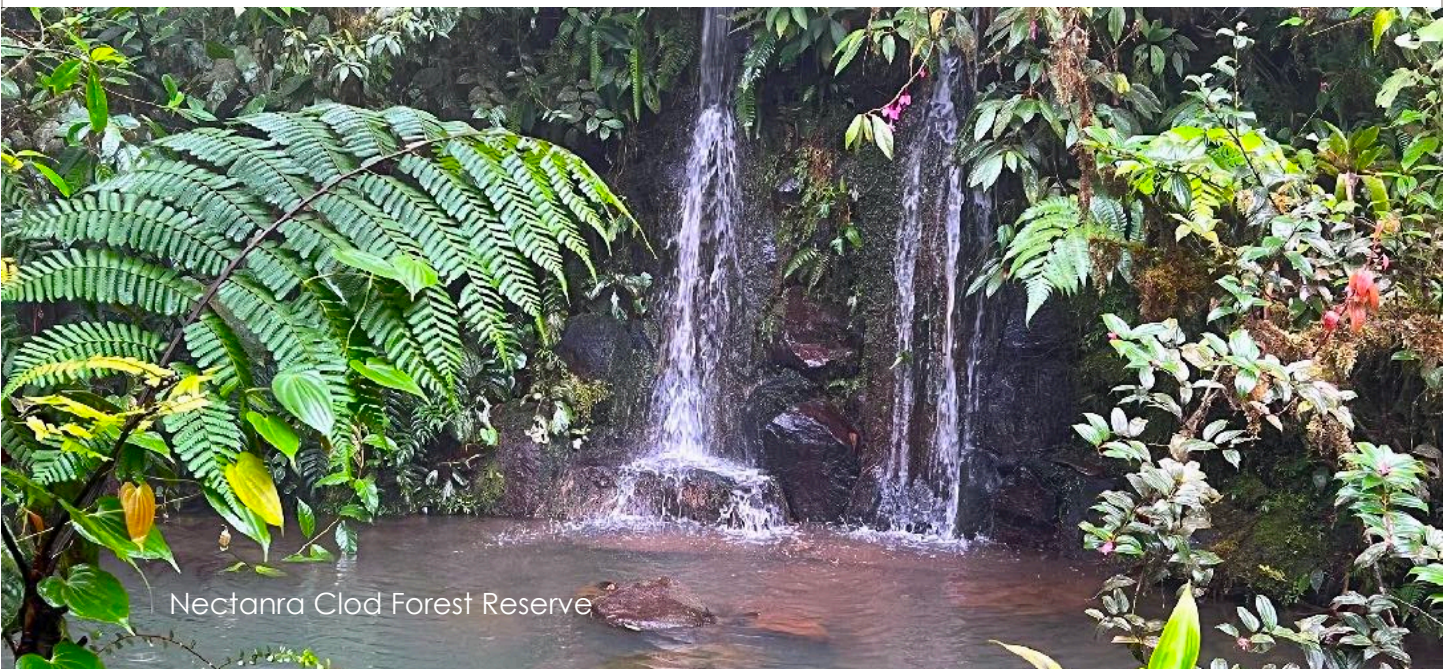
- DAY 0 Early Arrival Day
 Night at Xandari Resort and Spa
- DAY 1 Arrive and transfer to Xandari Resort and Spa
 Welcome Dinner at hotel
 Night at Xandari Resort and Spa
- DAY 2 Private Garden Tour
 Visit Myriam Sagot Private Garden
 Afternoon at leisure - gardens and swimming pool
 Night at Xandari Resort and Spa



Itinerary

DAY 3 Nectandra Cloud Forest Reserve
Morning checkout
Stop at Zarcero Topiary Gardens
Tour and lunch at Nectandra Cloud Forest Reserve
Night at Arenal Observatory Lodge

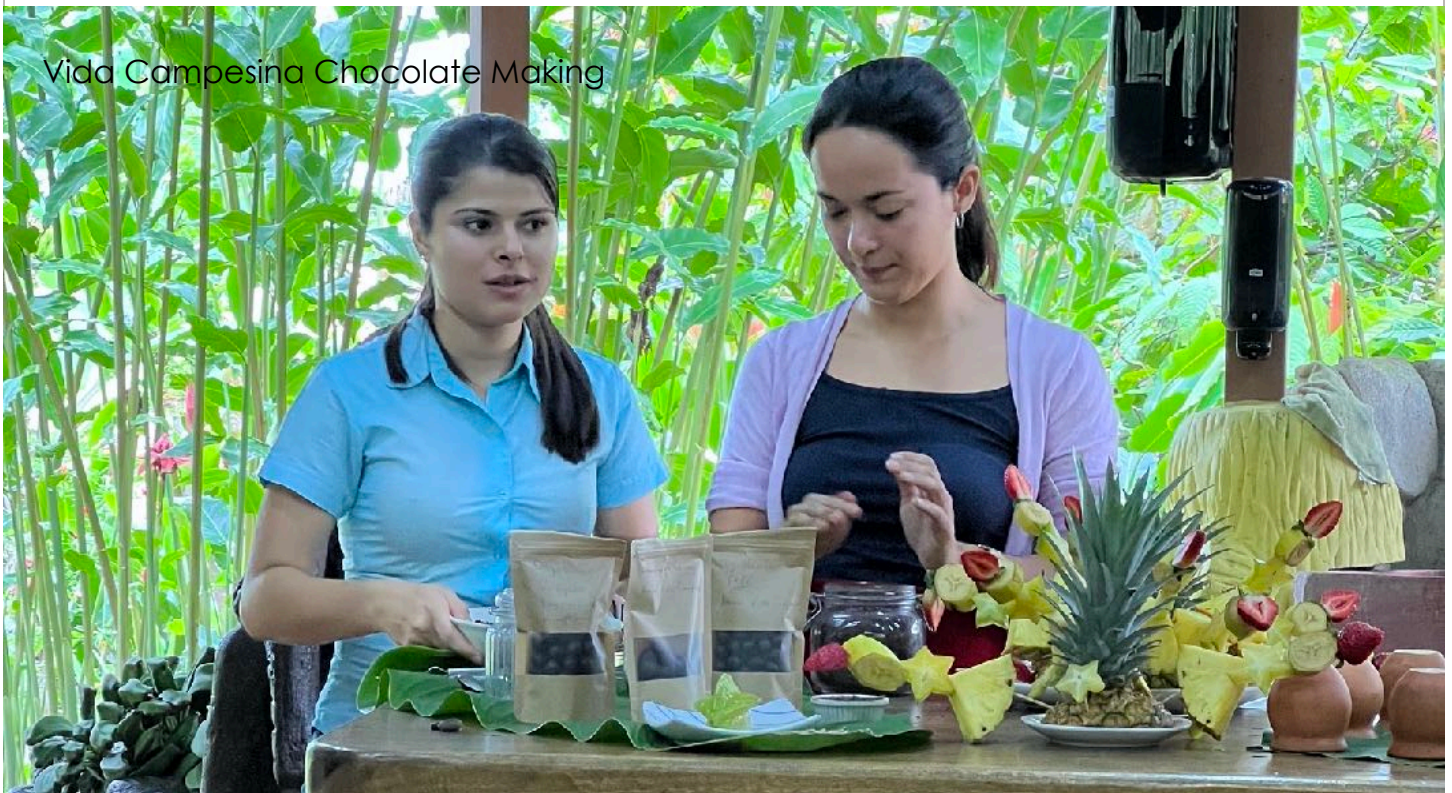
DAY 4 Arenal Volcano Lodge
Explore lodge gardens and trails, volcano museum, pool
Night at Arenal Observatory Lodge



Itinerary

DAY 5 Arenal Hanging Bridges
 Arenal National Park lava fields
 Arenal Hanging Bridges
 Night at Arenal Observatory Lodge

DAY 6 Organic Farms and Tropical Birds
 Morning checkout
 Bogarin Feeders & Trails - birds and sloths
 Vida Campesina Organic Farm and Educational Center -
 Coffee and Chocolate Tours and Lunch
 Night at Poas Volcano Lodge



Itinerary - Continued

DAY 7

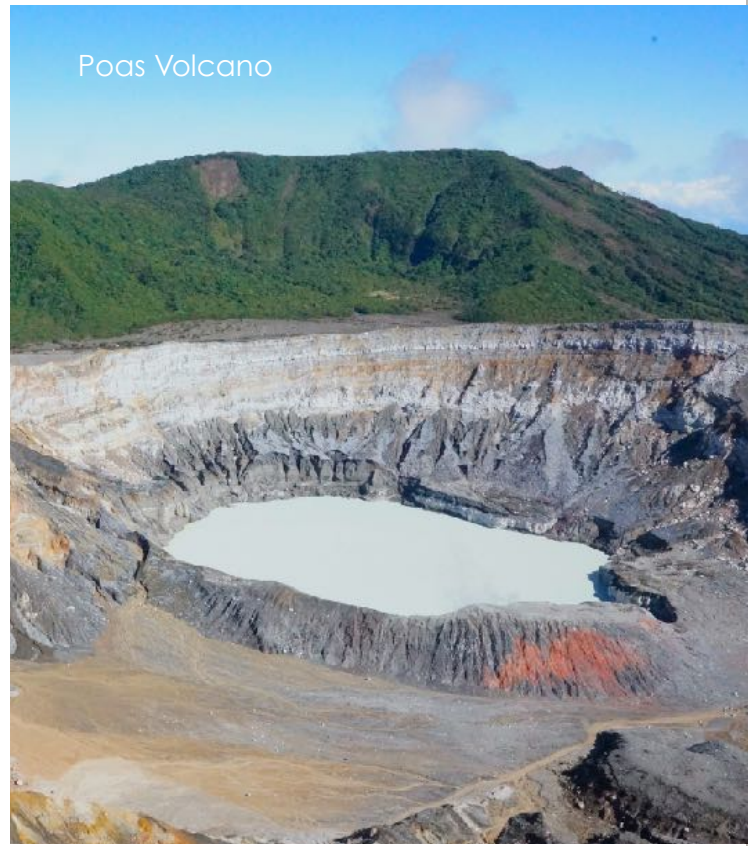
La Paz Waterfall Gardens

Visit Poas Volcano Park and crater
La Paz Waterfall Gardens and lunch
Night at Poas Volcano Lodge

DAY 8

Eastward to Cartago

Morning Checkout
Cinchona Waterfall and bird feeding stations
Afternoon Visit to Lankester Botanical Garden
Night at Hotel Quelitales



Itinerary - Continued

- DAY 9 Central Highlands
 Visit CATIE Botanical Garden with lunch
 Afternoon at leisure
 Night at Hotel Quelitales
- DAY 10 Hacienda la Laguna Private Garden
 Checkout and morning at leisure at Hotel Quelitales
 Afternoon tour and dinner with Iliana de Teran
 Night at Hotel Bougainvillea
- DAY 11 Depart for Home
 Checkout and transfer to the airport for late morning or
 afternoon flights



Hotels and Lodges



Birds of Costa Rica



Keel-billed Toucan



Green Honeycreeper



Emerald Toucanet



Red-legged Honeycreeper



White-necked Jacobin



Red-headed Barbet

