

COSTA RICA

GARDENS, ORCHIDS, AND ADVENTURE

February 10 - 21, 2027



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



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, nature reserves and thundering waterfalls are set against lush tropical forests. This bucket-list trip offers exciting opportunities for exploration, discovery and relaxation.



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, New Zealand, Vietnam, Africa, and Japan.

Vernon Campos is owner of Costa Rica Gateway, our local tour company. He is a popular and outstanding native Costa Rican guide and 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 eleven 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, The Minnesota State Horticultural Society** and local guide **Vernon Campos of Costa Rica Gateway** 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. For its size, Costa Rica has more preserved land than any other country in the world, nearly 1/4 of its landmass.

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.

We plan to tour the private garden of Randall Obsney and enjoy lunch in his garden. As a special treat, we visit the private garden and extensive orchid collection of Ileana de Terán and enjoy dinner in her garden with stunning views of the Central Valley. We visit Green Ark Foundation to learn about sustainable agriculture and enjoy a farm-to-table lunch in their restaurant. We have three days to explore nature reserves and gardens in Monteverde, perhaps the best known destination in Costa Rica. Additional stops include Rincon de la Vieja National Park - the Yellowstone of Costa Rica, as well as Santa Rosa National Park, and La Paz Waterfall Gardens.

Join us for this unforgettable journey to explore bucolic scenery, gardens and wild landscapes of Costa Rica, with exciting opportunities for exploration and relaxation.

Tour Itinerary Highlights

- Partake of a guided tour and delicious dinner with SACRO founder Ileana de Terán at Jardin de Hacienda la Laguna, her magnificent private garden
- Savor a farm-to-table lunch and private tour at Green Ark Foundation
- Enjoy a private tour and lunch at La Catalina Botanical Garden
- Visit three National Parks - Santa Rosa, Rincon, and Poas Volcano
- Spend three days exploring the nature reserves and gardens of Monteverde, one of Costa Rica's most popular destinations
- Marvel at colorful tropical birds while visiting the feeders at Colibri Café
- Visit two private nature reserves - Curi-Cancha and Tapir Valley Reserve
- Observe the wonders of the forest on a canopy walk at Heliconias Lodge
- Visit the active crater of Poas Volcano
- Experience world famous La Paz Waterfall Gardens, with 26 species of hummingbirds
- Partake of our farewell dinner at Poas Volcano Lodge



La Paz Waterfall Gardens

Tour Details

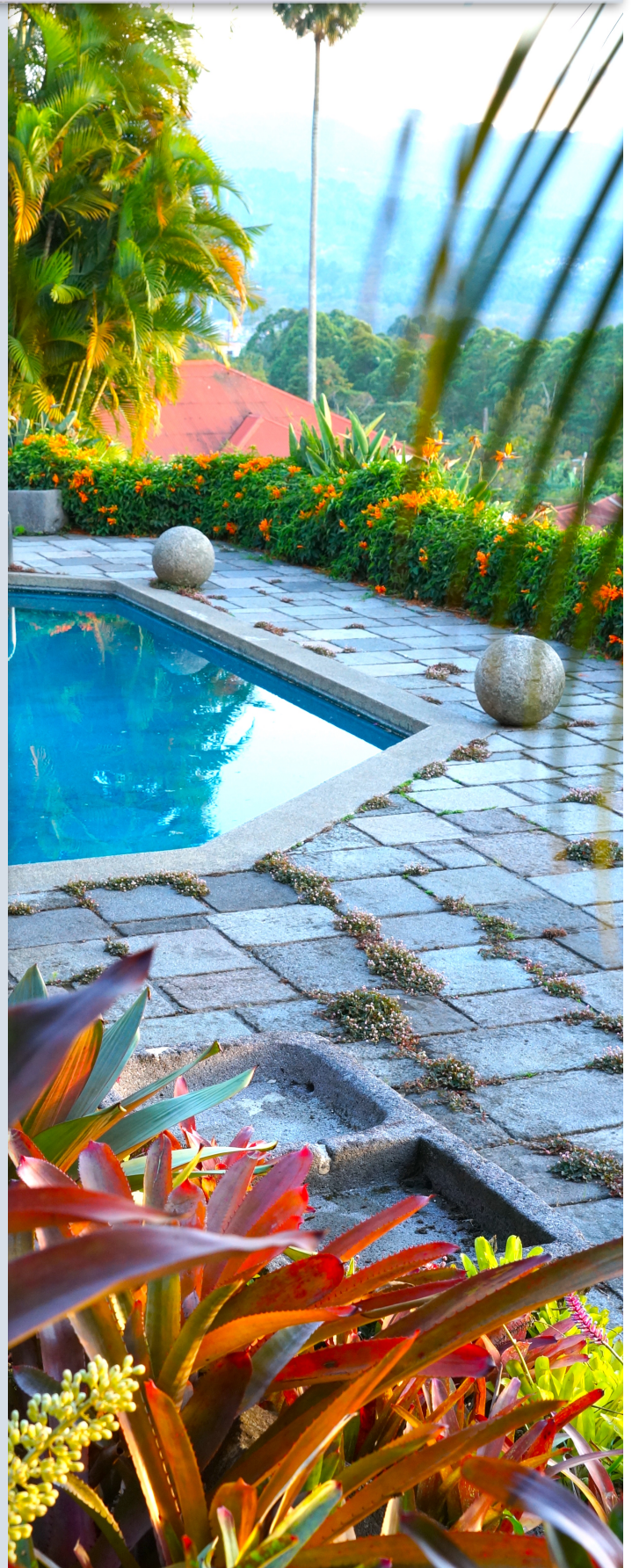
TOUR DURATION 11 Nights / 12 Days

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- † Airport transfers on arrival and departure—single transfer each way. Additional transfers will be arranged for you at your own expense
- † Eleven nights hotel/lodge accommodations
- † All meals from dinner on February 10 to breakfast on February 21
- † Sightseeing and transportation by Toyota Coaster as outlined in the program itinerary
- † Local expert guide — Vernon Campos
- † Escort throughout tour — C. Colston Burrell
- † Visit two exceptional private gardens
- † Tour public gardens and nature reserves
- † Visit The Green Ark Foundation with lunch
- † Guided natural history and birding excursions in three National Parks
- † Admissions to all gardens and reserves
- † Water and snacks in the Coaster
- † Hotel taxes and service charges
- † Gratuities to your 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 included in the itinerary



Tour Pricing and Registration

TOUR DURATION

11 Nights / 12 Days

PRICING

\$6,485.00 Land Price — Double Occupancy

\$1,040.00 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

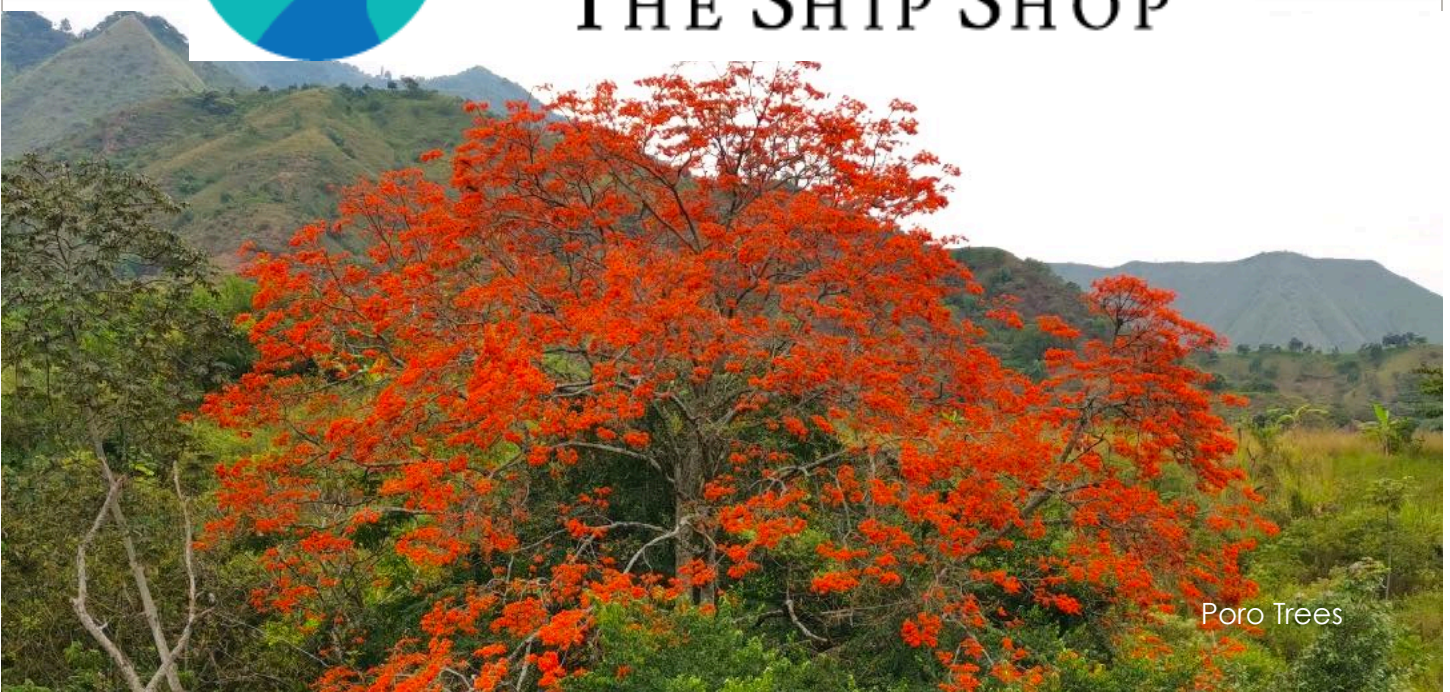
TO REGISTER AND VIEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS VISIT:

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

Select "Group Sign In". Enter the Tour Code **27FEB10COSTA** in the box labeled "Make a New Reservation." Make sure there are no spaces in front or behind the code!



FRIENDSHIP TOURS
THE SHIP SHOP



Poro Trees

Registration Details

Costa Rica: Gardens, Orchids, and Adventure

Escorted by C. Colston Burrell

February 10 - 21, 2027 11 Nights/12 Days

ARRIVAL: Wednesday, February 10, 2027 at San Jose's Juan Santamaria International Airport (SJO). Single Group Transfer included from SJO to the hotel. Time TBD based on passenger arrivals.

RETURN: Sunday, February 21, 2027 single group transfer included from hotel to SJO for your flight home. Please do not book flights departing before noon.

COST (with 12 paying guests):
\$6,485. per person based on double occupancy
+\$1040. per person single supplement
Option to add Pre-Night Stay on Feb 9 at Hotel Bougainvillea:
Inquire about price and availability
Fewer than 12 travelers will result in a small surcharge.

AIR TRAVEL: Do not purchase air until you have been advised that the minimum number of travelers for this tour has been reached. This trip is based on 12 passengers. Flight arrangements are not included in this tour package.

RESERVATIONS VIA FRIENDSHIP TOURS:
CALL: 800-243-1630 and ask for **Costa Rica tour with C. Colston Burrell**

ON LINE : www.friendshiptours.net/group-travel
and select "Group Sign In". Enter the Tour Code **27FEB10COSTA** in the box labeled "Make a New Reservation."

DEPOSIT: \$2,000 per person with reservation to secure your spot.

FINAL PAYMENT: balance due November 10, 2026

CANCELLATION POLICY: If a passenger cancels after deposit to Nov 10, 2026, the fee is \$1,000 pp;
Nov 11, 2026 to Dec 10, 2026, fee of \$4,000 pp;
no refunds if cancelled after Dec 10, 2026. If Friendship Tours needs to cancel due to lack of participation, a full refund will be processed.

PASSPORT: U.S. Citizens: Valid Passport required and must be valid 6 months past the return date. Non U.S. Citizens are responsible for obtaining proper documentation for travel.

PRICES & ITINERARY: Prices are valid at time of publication. Friendship Tours shall not be liable for any fluctuation in price or change in schedule or equipment or accommodations for any travel booking or travel service to be provided by a Travel Supplier. Changes to itineraries may become necessary. These changes will not be considered a material change and will not be cause for cancellation or refund. This itinerary is planned &

operated by Costa Rica Gateway. Friendship Tours acts solely as the liaison between Costa Rica Gateway & Garden & Nature Tours.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: ACTIVE

You can walk and stand for longer periods of time (1-2 hours). You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. In some cases, the terrain can be a little strenuous. Passengers should consult their physician should they have any concerns regarding their physical condition.

TRIP PROTECTION COVERAGE is strongly recommended.

Friendship Tours can assist with the purchase of trip protection coverage through Travel Insured International's Worldwide Trip Protector Plans.

Travel Insured International offers the Worldwide Trip Protection plans with the option to add upgrade benefits (available for additional cost) including CANCEL FOR ANY REASON coverage (CFAR) when purchased within 14 days of your initial deposit. Insurance Premiums are non-refundable. Ask Friendship Tours for more information and a quote: 860-243-1630 or 800-243-1630.

<https://www.friendshiptours.net/assets/documents/Travel-Insured-International-Platinum-vs-Deluxe.pdf>

Or request a quote online referring to: **Agency #18649**

<https://www.friendshiptours.net/protection-plan>

RESPONSIBILITY: This package is subject to our full terms and conditions which can be found on our website at <https://www.friendshiptours.net/tour-policies>. Paper copies are available upon request. **By signing up for the tour, making a payment and continuing to use our services, you are agreeing to be bound by the Terms and Conditions.**



FRIENDSHIP TOURS
THE SHIP SHOP

705 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002
860-243-1630 • 800-243-1630
www.friendshiptours.net

Itinerary

DAY 0 February 9 Optional Pre-Night at Hotel Bougainvillea

DAY 1 February 10 Arrive and Transfer to Hotel Bougainvillea

Arrival at San Jose's Juan Santamaria International Airport

After passing through customs, meet your driver in the Arrivals Hall for transfer to Hotel Bougainvillea

Welcome dinner at the hotel

Night at Hotel Bougainvillea D

DAY 2 February 11 Private Gardens

Visit La Catalina Botanical Garden of Randall Obsney, with lunch in the garden

Private dinner and tour at Hacienda la Laguna with Ileana de Terán

Night at Hotel Bougainvillea B, L, D



Jardin de Hacienda la Laguna

Itinerary

DAY 3

February 12 Sustainable Agriculture

Morning checkout

Visit The Green Ark Foundation with a farm-to-table lunch

Onward to Monteverde

Night at Hotel Fonda Vela B, L, D

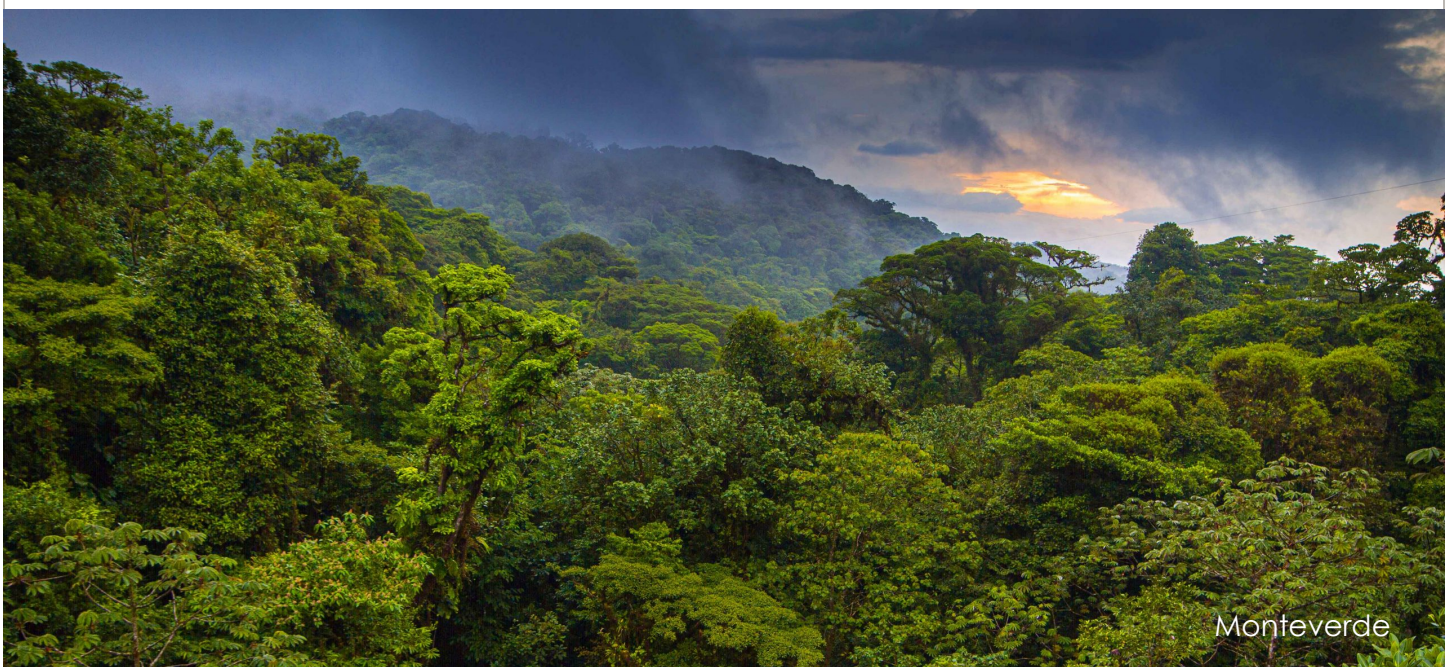
DAY 4

February 13 Exploring Monteverde

Walk the trails of Santa Elena Reserve

Visit Baho del Tigre and Children's Eternal Rainforest

Night at Hotel Fonda Vela B, L, D



Itinerary

DAY 5

February 14 Gardens of Monteverde

Morning visit to Monteverde Orchid Garden

Visit Monteverde Butterfly Garden

Night at Hotel Fonda Vela B, L, D

DAY 6

February 15 Monteverde and Beyond

Morning checkout

Visit Curi-Cancha Private Reserve

Transfer to Hacienda Guachipelin

Afternoon relaxing/birding in tropical dry forest

Night at Hacienda Guachipelin B, L, D



Resplendent Quetzal



Owl Butterfly



Monteverde Butterfly Garden

Itinerary - Continued

DAY 7 February 16 Exploring the Yellowstone of Costa Rica

Visit Rincon de la Vieja National Park

Night at Hacienda Guachipelin B, L, D

DAY 8 February 17 Costa Rica's History of Independence

Morning checkout

Visit Santa Rosa National Park

Transfer to Tenorio Lodge

Night at Tenorio Lodge B, L, D



Yellow-eared Toucanet



Santa Rosa



Rincon de la Vieja

Itinerary - Continued

DAY 9

February 18 Exploring the Tapir Valley Private Reserve

Morning visit to the Tapir Valley Reserve

Afternoon canopy walk and trails at Heliconias Lodge

Night at Tenorio Lodge B, L, D

DAY 10

February 19 Onward To The Highlands

Morning checkout

Refreshments and birding at Colibri Café feeders and
Cinchona Waterfall

Night at Poas Volcano Lodge B, L, D

Baird's Tapir



Itinerary - Continued

DAY 11

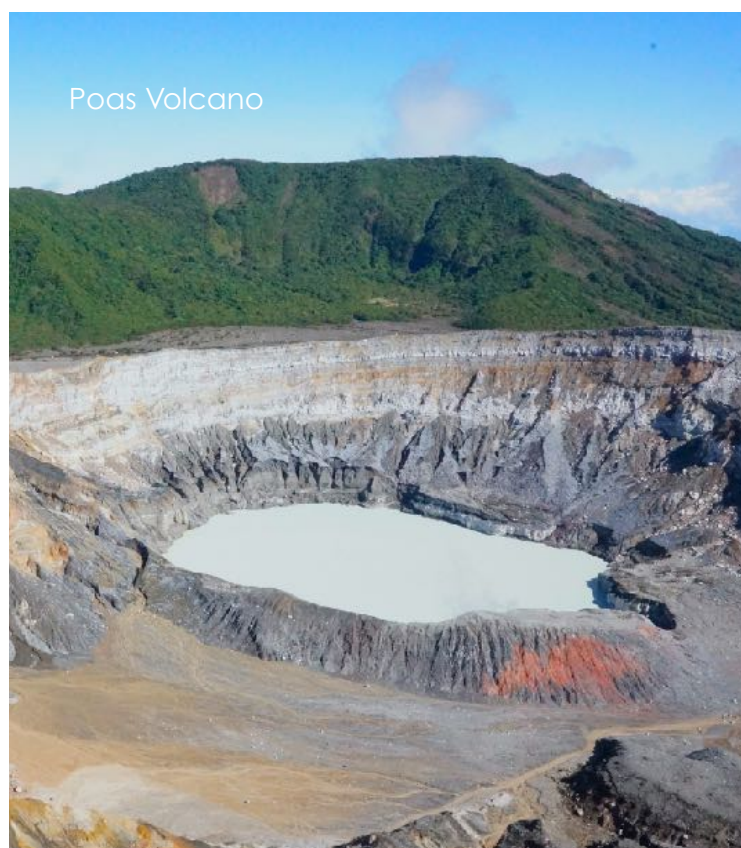
February 20 The Wonders of Poas Volcano

Visit Poas Volcano National Park

Tour and lunch at La Paz Waterfall Gardens

Farewell dinner

Night at Poas Volcano Lodge B, L, D



Itinerary - Continued

DAY 12

February 21 Check Out and Depart for Airport, Flights Home

After breakfast, enjoy a walk around the garden before we check out and head to Juan Santamaria Airport for flights home B

*****PLEASE DO NOT BOOK FLIGHTS DEPARTING BEFORE NOON*****



Hotels and Lodges



Birds of Costa Rica



Turquoise-browed Motmot



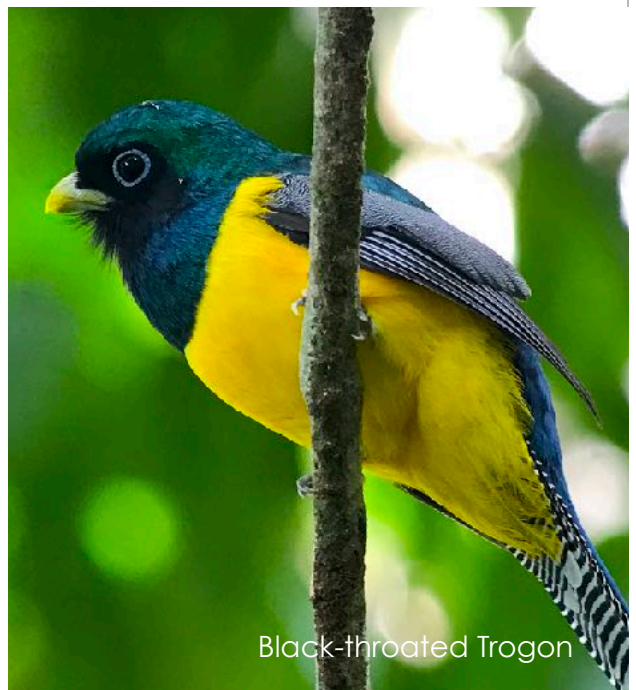
Green Honeycreeper



Keel-billed Toucan



Emerald Toucanet



Black-throated Trogon



