

**Living Costa Rica (3 weeks Program)**

A unique experience of language and adventure in Costa Rica

The following description is a model of the program, it might change due to weather or unexpected situations or contingents.

Our three weeks Living Costa Rica **is a wholesome experience that same that our Living Costa Rica 2 weeks program introduces students to Costa Rican culture, its people and natural beauty. However the three week program will prepare students to give back to the local community by volunteering during their last week in the country.**

The program is designed to integrate the learning of Spanish language through cultural immersion by living with a tico (Costa Rican) family, also by participating in real daily activities out of the beaten path and volunteering. N**o other Spanish school or tourist program will get this close to what ticos are really like.**

Living Costa Rica gives our students the opportunity to develop a new perspective on the country they are visiting, at the same time that they are involved in fun, educational and culturally significant activities such as city and museum tours, going to out to hip local places and interacting with ticos, learning to dance local rhythms, visiting our world famous national parks, and of course as mentioned returning home with a feeling that they make a positive impact in the life of others.

**Included in this summer camp is the following:**

* 52 hours of Spanish lessons and materials
* Mini groups of 4 people maximum per class
* Spanish lesson by local teachers
* Placement Spanish text
* Cultural and recreational activities
* Volunteering
* Local tours in the city
* Homestays with two daily meals, laundy and WiFi
* Adventure tours
* Airport transfers
* Final dinner in local restaurant

**HOME STAY BASE TOWN:**

[**San Jose (Tres**](https://www.isls.com/costarica/schools/sanjose.php) **Rios)**

* San Jose is the capital of Costa Rica and Tres Rios is one of its nicest suburbs. Located just 40 minutes away from San Jose, where you will be living with a local family. Most families live within walking distance from the school, although there might be a case of a student having to take public transportation to get to the school.

**THINGS TO KNOW:**

* Program dates are fixed.
* Each Living Costa Rica will have a maximum of 12 students
* Classes are held from Monday to Friday, inside a classroom or in a context situation
* If you are coming with a friend please let us know in advance so we can place you in the same family
* Volunteer activities will vary accordingly to volunteer programs disponibility.
* We recommend students to bring an extra $500 in cash personal expenses and souvenirs
* The difference between the regular and the plus program are the weekend activities. In the option plus students sleep away on weekends and can choose between a variety of adventures that come along with the tour.
* For more information please check our policies.

**First week: Welcome to Costa Rica**

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| Sunday  | **Arrival to SJO international airport and transfer to nearby community of Tres Rios** |
| Monday 7:50am-3:00pm | **Morning 7:50am: Arrival to P.S.** **Spanish classes****Afternoon: San Jose city tour and National Museum visit.** |
| Tuesday8:00am-4:00pm | **Morning: Spanish classes. (\*)****Introduction to Spanish and the history and culture of Costa Rica. What is a TICO/A?****Afternoon 2:15pm: Presentation Non-verbal communication and idiomatic expressions.** |
| Wednesday8:00am-4:00pm | **Morning: Spanish classes****One of these two options accordingly to tour availability: Visit to CENAC Cultural Center historical tour or Congress tour.****Lunch in Barrio Escalante OYO****Afternoon: Cultural tour of barrio Escalante, a hip and fashion district in the city of San Jose. Includes visit to a couple of local design houses and we finish the afternoon in a local cafeteria.** |
| Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm | **Morning: Spanish classes****Afternoon: Let’s dance! Dance class #1** |
| Friday8:00am-12:00 | **Morning: Spanish classes**AFTERNOON; Time to interact with your tico family and explore the city OYO |
| Saturday: | **ARENAL VOLCANO TOUR**: Volcano tour and hot springs **Regular Option**: Return on Saturday to homestay **PLUS Option**: Stays in Arenal Saturday night. |
| Sunday  | **Regular Option**: Café Brit coffee tour.**Options PLUS**: Choose one of the next activities: Zip line, horseback riding, waterfall tour, Sky trek. Return to homestay in the afternoon |



**Second week:**

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| Monday 8:00am-12:00 | Morning: Spanish classes. Afternoon: Time to interact with your local family and explore Tres Rios OYO |
| Tuesday8:00am-4:00pm  | Morning: Spanish ClassesAfternoon: Visit to Chieton Moren Indigenous museum and market |
| Wednesday8:00am-4:00pm | Morning: Spanish classes. (\*)Afternoon: Local cooking lessonRecommendation as a night activity: Movie night at the Cinemal (2 x1) OYO |
| Thursday8:00am-12:00 | Morning and afternoon: Spanish classes in Cartago city tour and Market (former capital of Costa Rica)  |
| Friday 8:00am- 3:00pm | Morning: Spanish classesAfternoon: COFFEE FAIR: Presentation about the history and variety of coffee and the type of coffee we prefer in Costa Rica. Making café chorreado, cultural fast about Costa Rican and their coffee time. Presentation of different products make with coffee |
| Saturday  |  A weekend in Manuel Antonio National Park, world famous for having one of the most beautiful beaches in the world.**Regular option:** Return to homestay that night,**Plus Option**: Stays one night in Manuel Antonio  |
| Sunday  | **Regular option**: La Carpintera CanopyPlus option: A day to relax at the beach and return to home stay in the afternoon |

**Third Week: Costa Rican today**

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| Monday 8:00am- 12:00 | Morning: Spanish classesAfternoon: Time to work on your Spanish and Costa Rica project |
| Tuesday 8:00am-4:00pm | Morning: Spanish classesAfternoon: Dance class. |
| Wednesday 8:00-3:00pm | Volunteer activity  |
| Thursday8:00-3:00pm | Volunteer activityAfternoon; time to work on final details for your presentation |
| Friday8:00-1:00PM | Morning: Morning classesAfternoon: Time to interact with your tico family and explore the city OYOParty and graduation with typical lunch.Afternoon: Groups graduation and final dinner |
| Saturday | Doka tour:Volcan Poas and La Paz waterfalls tour, Doka coffee plantationLast night in home stay |
| **Sunday** | Student’s departure |