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Carleton  
ALUMNI ADVENTURES

Explore the world

# COSTA RICA:

## Tropical Forests & Citizen Science

November 29 - December 9, 2022 (11 days | 18 guests)

With Professor of Biology Mark McKone, an evolutionary ecologist

*Spend three days at La Selva Research Station as a "citizen scientist"!*

### Optional Independent Extension in the Papagayo Gulf

December 9-12, 2022 (3 days)



© DSavarese



© MWink



© CMarkley

Travel with Carleton Alumni, Family, and Friends

## Carleton College Faculty Leader



Mark McKone is the Towsley Professor of Biology at Carleton. He received a Ph.D. in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior at the University of Minnesota in 1985, followed by post-doctoral work at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand until he joined

Carleton's Biology Department in 1987. Mark is an evolutionary ecologist, with particular interest in how the interaction between plants and insects influences their mutual adaptations. He also has worked extensively to plan and assess the outcome of the large prairie restorations in the Carleton Arboretum. Mark's regular courses at Carleton include Evolution and Population Ecology. For 20 years, Mark taught a Carleton course in Tropical Rainforest Ecology that included a trip to La Selva Research Station in Costa Rica. Research work carried out during this course resulted in six publications in peer-reviewed journals with 23 Carleton student co-authors. Mark now is excited to return to La Selva to involve alumni in ongoing research work that started more than 20 years ago.

"[Mark] is truly a gifted teacher and a great guy to hang out with in close quarters for two weeks." – Neil & Johanna, Maryland



© Greg Basco



# Carleton

ALUMNIADVENTURES

Explore the world

Dear Carleton alumni, family, and friends,

Join Carleton evolutionary ecologist Mark McKone, plus an expert Costa Rican tour manager/guide, and up to 18 Carleton travelers for this unique adventure into three distinctive ecological habitats in Costa Rica's northeast, center, and northwest.

### Highlights:

- Explore the lush tropical rainforest of La Selva, within the Sarapiquí Rainforest Preservation Area, and enjoy three days at lovely *Selva Verde Lodge*. You will be a "citizen scientist" at La Selva Research Station with Professor McKone, who has conducted similar research with Carleton students.
- Spend two days at a lovely resort with hot springs and stunning views of the Arenal Volcano. Hike in Arenal Hanging Bridges Reserve and Arenal Volcano National Park, enjoying views of lovely Lake Arenal.
- Discover the northwestern dry forests, savanna, and marshlands of Guanacaste, including Santa Rosa National Park.
- Learn about the diversity of amphibians, birds, mammals, insects, and plants for which Costa Rican habitats are renowned.
- Enjoy charming lodges and resorts that offer generous comfort and healthy, delicious cuisine.
- By staying at Sustainable Tourism Certified hotels, you are helping to minimize the impact on the environment.

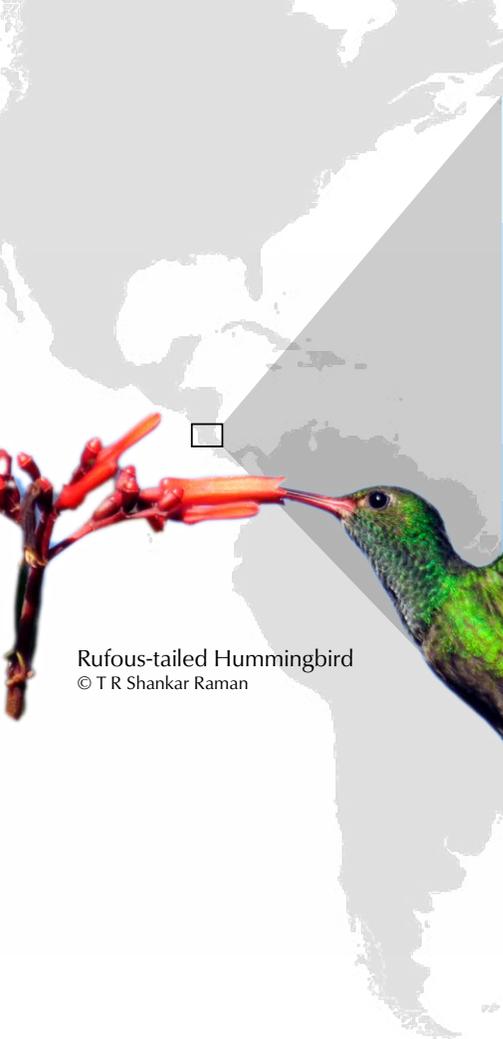
I hope you will join Professor McKone in exploring three diverse ecological systems of Costa Rica and participating first-hand in research in a tropical rainforest.

Sincerely,

Amy Bevilacqua '89  
President, Carleton Alumni Council

P.S. Our group is limited to only 18 participants, so don't delay—contact us at 800-811-7244 or [carleton@studytours.org](mailto:carleton@studytours.org) to reserve your space.

Cover: Strawberry poison-dart frog, (bottom from left) hiking in Arenal Volcano National Park, a sloth, La Selva within the Sarapiquí Rainforest Preservation Area. Left, *Laparus doris* butterfly found in Costa Rica.



Rufous-tailed Hummingbird  
© T R Shankar Raman



-  = Overnight stays
-  = Itinerary stops
-  = Flights
-  = Optional extension (independent)

*“Great faculty leader...fabulous lectures by Mark.”*

-William, Minnesota



Lake Arenal

© Antonio López



© Greg Basco

La Selva Research Station

## ITINERARY

B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner

### **Tuesday, November 29, 2022: Depart home | Fly to San Jose, Costa Rica | Welcome dinner**

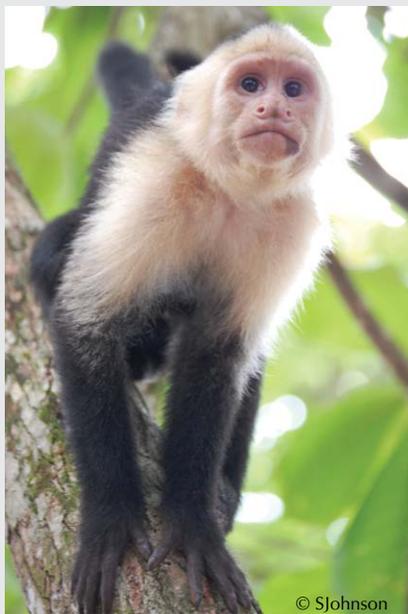
Upon arrival at San Jose International Airport (SJC), after clearing customs and immigration, meet your driver and transfer to *Hotel Balmoral*, situated in the heart of the city near the Gold Museum and the National Theater, along the city's famous pedestrian boulevard. This evening we enjoy a welcome dinner and program orientation at El Patio. *Overnight at the 3-star [Hotel Balmoral](#).* (D)

### **Wednesday, November 30: La Paz Waterfall Gardens | Sarapiquí Rainforest Preservation Area**

After breakfast we depart San José, heading north to Sarapiquí Rainforest Preservation Area. En route stop at La Paz Waterfall Gardens to explore the many trails and picturesque waterfalls, as well as the hummingbird garden and lush botanicals. Enjoy lunch at La Paz, and continue on to *Selva Verde Lodge*. Selva Verde is located along the Sarapiquí River and consists of 500 acres of primary and secondary forest. The lodge is designed to have a minimum impact on the environment and is a proud participant in the Certification for Sustainable Tourism Program (CST). After settling in, receive an orientation to our research project and start planning for the work to take place in the following days at La Selva Research Station. *Overnight at the 3-star [Selva Verde Lodge](#) for four nights.* (B,L,D)

### **Thursday, December 1 to Saturday, December 3: La Selva Research Station**

La Selva Research Station, operated by the Organization for Tropical Studies, is one of the most important sites for tropical research in the world. The station itself consists of 4,000 acres of primary and secondary wet tropical forest, and it is connected by a forested corridor to the massive Braulio Carrillo National Park (over



© SJohnson

White-faced capuchin monkey

*“Great trip, fabulous group of people to travel with. Fellow travelers had huge and varied knowledge and were willing to share in understandable and humble fashion.”*

- Ruth, Colorado



© Frank Ravizza

## Arenal Volcano

100,000 acres). The species diversity of La Selva is astonishing: 470 birds (more than in the entire state of California), 125 mammals, 87 reptiles, 48 amphibians, more than 2,000 plants, and countless insects.

Scientists from around the globe come here to work, and we will carry out our own research project here over these three days. We will get oriented to the local ecology with the help of station naturalists, then divide into teams to collect data. Lectures and demonstrations will help explain aspects of the remarkable ecological interactions among the multitude of species that occur here. In the evening of December 3<sup>rd</sup>, visit the nearby Tirimbina Biological Reserve for a presentation on the fascinating lives of bats. During the visit, learn about some of the 113 species of bats that can be found in Costa Rica, with an opportunity to see live specimens humanely caught by local researchers collecting data. (B,L,D daily)

### **Sunday, December 4: La Fortuna | Arenal Vida Campesina | Arenal**

After breakfast we depart for Arenal, stopping along the way at La Fortuna. This picturesque town is a great place to take photos and shop for souvenirs. This afternoon, visit Arenal Vida Campesina, an organic farm and education center dedicated to advancing environmentally-friendly agriculture. Enjoy a traditional lunch prepared with fresh produce from the farm, then get hands on as you learn how to make tortillas. The hospitality is as heartwarming as a shot of their farm-fermented liquor, a traditional farewell gesture. Check-in to our lodge, where the balance of the day is at leisure to enjoy the amenities and an independent dinner. *Overnight at the 3-star [Arenal Observatory Lodge & Spa](#) for two nights.* (B,L)



© Greg Basco

Arenal Hanging Bridges

## Spend three days as citizen scientists

Our group will participate in our own research project. Professor McKone has collected data on the reproductive habitat of strawberry poison-dart frogs (see cover) at La Selva periodically from 1998 to 2012. Previous changes in the rainforest have led to significant losses in sites where tadpoles can be raised. We will revisit these sites ten years after the last data collection to see if previous trends have continued. Our data could contribute to efforts to conserve this iconic rainforest species.

### Monday, December 5: Arenal Hanging Bridges | Arenal Volcano National Park

This morning after breakfast we depart for Arenal Hanging Bridges, a reserve that abounds with wonderful trails, suspension bridges, and outstanding natural areas. After lunch we take a hike in Arenal Volcano National Park, home to two volcanoes (Arenal and Chato), picturesque Lake Arenal, and a variety of flora and fauna, including more than 850 species of birds. Return to our resort where, this evening, we attend a talk by a volcanologist who will also join us for dinner. (B,L,D)

### Tuesday, December 6: Guanacaste

Depart Arenal for Guanacaste early this morning. En route, there will be some birding along the well-maintained gravel road and we will stop for lunch. Expect to see the colorful and iconic Keel-billed toucan, Turquoise-browed motmot, and trees full of chattering White-fronted amazons (parrots). Continue on to our resort, situated in a charming hamlet along the foothill of the mountain, and check-in to your spacious room with a private deck or balcony. This evening we enjoy dinner at the resort. *Overnight at the 4-star [Borinquen Mountain Resort & Spa](#) for three nights.* (B,L,D)

### Wednesday, December 7: Santa Rosa National Park

After breakfast, journey to Santa Rosa National Park. The dry forests of the west coast of Costa Rica stand in stark contrast to wet tropical forests such as La Selva. There is a marked dry season from December to May, and most of the trees drop their leaves during this time, which is quite surprising to many visitors from the north. Such “rain green” or “dry deciduous” forests are widespread across the tropics, and we will explore the very different ecology of this understudied habitat. Santa Rosa National Park conserves more than 123,000 acres and includes savanna and marshlands in addition to dry forests. Approximately 250 species of birds, 115 species of mammals, and 100 species of amphibians and reptiles occur here. Return to our resort for dinner. (B,L,D)

### Thursday, December 8: Guanacaste Conservation Area | Farewell dinner

This morning, depart for other sites in the Guanacaste Conservation Area, potentially including Rincón de la Vieja National Park or Guanacaste National Park. We will spend the day exploring the forests and volcanic features of the area. (Those who would prefer to remain at the resort today may book alternate activities directly through the resort, at an additional cost.) We return to the resort for an evening sundowner, with Pacific coastal views, and enjoy a farewell dinner. (B,L,D)

### Friday, December 9: Fly home OR Begin the optional extension

Transfer as a group to Liberia International Airport (LIR), approximately one hour away, for flights homeward OR begin the optional extension to Sugar Beach. (B)

From top: Chestnut-mandibled toucan, Menelaus blue morpho, Howler monkey, Female green basilisk



## What to Expect

This program is centered around the natural beauty of Costa Rica, experiencing three distinctive ecological habitats and, therefore, a wide range of climates in Costa Rica's northeast, center, and northwest. Three days will be spent as citizen scientists doing field work, helping to collect data at La Selva Research Station as well as attending informative lectures. During the days at La Selva there will be daily walks of approximately 3 or more miles, with periodic stops to count plants and listen for the frogs. Some trails will be paved and accessible, but others may be muddy and steep. There will be ample opportunity for hikes in other locations as well. For this tour, you must be able to walk, unassisted, over uneven terrain. Participants who are not able to walk or stand unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour. All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand and discuss whether or not this program is appropriate for you.

We ask travelers to be flexible and have a sense of adventure, as the itinerary is set well ahead of time and may need to be adapted on the fly for changes in weather, ease of access, transportation, or other factors. At the time of our visit we can expect temperatures in the mid- to high 80s (F) during the day, and overnight lows in the mid- to low 60s (F), with high humidity and always a possibility of heavy downpours. A suggested packing list will be provided, and appropriate clothing and footwear will be required. Hotels, lodges, and resorts have been chosen for their excellent locations, generous comfort, and sustainable practices. Included meals are of a very high quality and will feature local flavors.

*Complete pre-departure details, including up-to-date COVID-related protocols, will be sent to participants.*



### Optional Independent Extension

# PAPAGAYO GULF

**December 9 - 12, 2022 (3 days)**

#### **Friday, December 9, 2022: Liberia | Papagayo Golden Palms**

Check out after breakfast at the resort, then begin the transfer to Sugar Beach. En route, stop in Liberia to drop off participants departing today and have lunch. Check-in upon arrival, and enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure to explore the hotel's facilities. Dinner is at the hotel. *Overnight at the 3-star [Papagayo Golden Palms Beachfront Hotel](#) for three nights.* (B,L,D)

#### **Saturday, December 10: At leisure**

Enjoy a day at leisure to relax and enjoy the beach. (B)

#### **Sunday, December 11: Catamaran cruise with swimming and snorkeling**

After breakfast, head to nearby Flamingo Beach for a scenic catamaran journey along the beautiful Pacific coast. From the dock, take a brief ride by motorized tender to arrive at the catamaran, then embark and set sail! Enjoy a picnic-style lunch onboard. Swim and snorkel from the catamaran in search of tropical fish, octopuses, starfish, rays, and pufferfish. You might also spot dolphins or whales. At the end of the cruise, take the tender back to shore and return to the hotel. The afternoon is at leisure to explore the beach and relax. Enjoy dinner at your resort hotel. (B,L,D)

#### **Monday, December 12: Fly home**

Transfer to Liberia International Airport (LIR) for flights homeward. (B)



# Accommodations

These hotels are designed to have a minimum impact on the environment and are participants in the Certification for Sustainable Tourism (CST) Program.



SAN JOSE: *One night at the 3-star [Hotel Balmoral](#)*



GUANACASTE: *Three nights at the 4-star [Borinquen Mountain Resort & Spa](#)*



SARAPIQUÍ: *Four nights at the 3-star [Selva Verde Lodge](#)*



ARENAL: *Two nights at the 3-star [Arenal Observatory Lodge & Spa](#)*

## This tour participates in Carbon Offsetting

Carbon offsetting is a calculation of the distance of your air travel to/from your destination (based on averages from common U.S. gateways) and the tons of CO<sub>2</sub> used by both your air transportation and land (on-tour) travels. This calculation determines the cost to offset that amount of carbon, which is then invested in programs such as tree planting, emission-free energy (e.g., hydroelectric power), energy efficiency (e.g., lightbulb replacement programs and “green” building projects), and cleaning up landfill sites to reduce methane gases. Please contact us if you are interested in learning more about this carbon offset program.



Suspension bridge over Rio Sarapiquí





### Tour Prices Per Person (10 nights)

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Double Occupancy (16 to 18 participants)..... | \$3,895 |
| Double Occupancy (13 to 15 participants)..... | \$4,095 |
| Double Occupancy (10 to 12 participants)..... | \$4,395 |
| *Single Supplement.....                       | \$585   |

*\*Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability).*

*With fewer than 10 participants on the main program and/or fewer than two on the optional extension, a small group surcharge may be added.*

### Prices Include:

- **Faculty leader Mark McKone**, plus an expert **local guide/tour manager** on the main program
- **10 nights** on the main tour in unique, environmentally-friendly accommodations including lodges, a hotel, and a resort offering a spa and hot springs; and **three nights** on the optional independent extension at a beachfront hotel
- Group **arrival and departure transfers** on tour dates, based upon the suggested flights (TBA)
- Surface transportation by **air-conditioned motor coach** with water available at all times
- The main tour includes **breakfast daily, 9 lunches, and 9 dinners** (including welcome and farewell dinners with wine/beer). Dinners include water, tea, coffee, and either one beer or glass of wine per person. The extension includes **breakfast daily, 2 lunches, and 2 dinners**
- **Personal listening device** for use during guided excursions on the main program
- **All gratuities** to drivers, local guides, tour manager/guide, porters, staff at all accommodations, and restaurant staff for included meals
- All excursions and entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Local taxes and service charges
- **Baggage handling** at hotels, where available
- Comprehensive **pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading/media guide, travel guide, and packing list.

### Flights & Transfers:

Airfare to San Jose International Airport (SJC) and from Liberia International Airport (LIR), also known as Guanacaste Airport, is not included. Group airport arrival and departure transfers on program dates are included based on the suggested flights (TBA). Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact our office first. Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to departure. *We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.*

### Optional Independent Extension Prices Per Person (3 nights)

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Double Occupancy (7 to 18 participants)..... | \$985   |
| Double Occupancy (4 to 6 participants).....  | \$1,185 |
| Double Occupancy (2 to 3 participants).....  | \$1,585 |
| *Single Supplement.....                      | \$395   |

**Prices Do Not Include:** Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, health, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature such as medical expenses, required testing for entry, laundry, taxi, telephone, and fax charges; meals or beverages (except as noted); optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour; airport transfers for those not traveling on the suggested flights.

**Payments:** A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to “EOS-Passenger Account-CAA Costa Rica 11/22.” Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure and elsewhere published.

**Participant Cancellation Fees:** All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by Alumni Adventures. Cancellations received at least 180 days prior to departure are fully refunded. Cancellations received between 179 and 90 days prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received between 89 and 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. *For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.*

**Note:** Prices are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of publication and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

Prices, itinerary, accommodations, and leader are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at [carleton.edu/alumni/adventures/](http://carleton.edu/alumni/adventures/)

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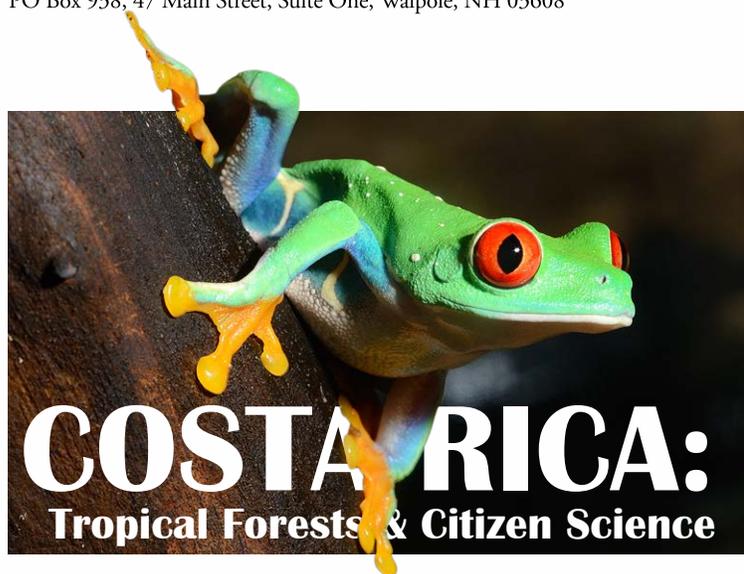
**For questions, and to reserve your space, please contact Alumni Adventures at:**

800-811-7244 | Fax: 603-756-2922 | [carleton@studytours.org](mailto:carleton@studytours.org) | [carleton.edu/alumni/adventures](http://carleton.edu/alumni/adventures)

P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608



PO Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608



# COSTA RICA:

## Tropical Forests & Citizen Science

November 29 - December 9, 2022  
(11 days | 18 guests)

With Professor of Biology Mark McKone, an evolutionary ecologist

Optional Independent Extension Available

*“Great to meet other Carls and their partners who have interesting perspectives and an enthusiasm for travel and learning.”*

- Jay, Utah

# COSTA RICA:

## Tropical Forests & Citizen Science

November 29 - December 9, 2022 (11 days | 18 guests)

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Optional Independent Extension Available



To fill out an online reservation form, [click here](#). Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.

RESERVATION FORM



**Costa Rica: Tropical Forests & Citizen Science**  
November 29 - December 9, 2022 (11 days | 18 guests)  
With Professor of Biology Mark McKone, an evolutionary ecologist  
Optional Independent Extension, December 9-12, 2022 (3 days)

To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at 800-811-7244 or [carleton@studytours.org](mailto:carleton@studytours.org).

Participant Name 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Carleton Class of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on passport)

Participant Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Carleton Class of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on passport)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I/We have read the 'What to Expect' section and am/are physically able to participate fully on the program.  
Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? Yes, \_\_\_\_\_

I/We are interested in the optional independent extension to the Papagayo Gulf (additional fee)

How did you hear about this tour?  eNewsletter  mailing  website  friends/family  other \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

- Double (one bed)  Twin (two beds)  Single
- I will be sharing with: \_\_\_\_\_  Share - please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)
- Please share my contact information with potential roommate(s).

**RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:**

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. You will receive an invoice for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

**DEPOSIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ONE):**

- Check payable to: EOS Passenger Account-CAA Costa11/22  Visa  Master Card  American Express  Already paid by phone

CC# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3- or 4-Digit Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this reservation form, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement.  
Submit via email, mail, or fax to:

**Carleton Alumni Adventures - P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938**  
**Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: [carleton@studytours.org](mailto:carleton@studytours.org)**

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.

Signature (participant #1) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (participant #2) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Carleton College and its agent, Eos Study Tours, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (hereinafter "Sponsors/"), and the tour operator and/or its agents (collectively "Sponsors/Operator") do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities; airline, vessel, or other transportation companies; guides or guide services; local ground operators; providers or organizers of optional excursions; food service or entertainment providers; etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or of any other third party. In addition and without limitation, Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of force majeure; acts of God; acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection, or revolt; bites from or attacks by animals, insects, or pests; strikes or other labor activities; criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof; sickness, illness, epidemics, pandemics, or the threat thereof; the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation; or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. In addition, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for their own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. **CHANGES IN ITINERARY OR FEATURES:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsors/Operator shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsors/Operator are not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization, or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsors/Operator make the flight arrangements or cancel the trip. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. **LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. **PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY:** All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws, and any participant who refuses to follow protocols may be asked to leave the program with no refunds provided. **REFUNDS:** Prices quoted are based on group participation. No refunds will be made for any part of the program in which a participant chooses not to participate. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for any reason, nor to participants whose entry into any country or aboard any transportation vehicle, including airplanes and cruise ships, is delayed or denied. **TOUR CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part unless trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, in which case the participant shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by Sponsors/Operator, or else receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Sponsors/Operator are able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Sponsors/Operator, however, shall not have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Sponsors/Operator strongly recommend that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through

Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. **PRICES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations, or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. **FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant's option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to dispute resolution in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. **U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL:** Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices> and <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK:** Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. **APPEARING IN PHOTOS:** Photos from Alumni Adventures' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future Alumni Adventures promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. **ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release.