

COSTA RICA

June 5th - June 17th, 2020

PHOTO EXPEDITION



Blue-throated Toucanet

Green Violet-ear



Strawberry Dart Frog



Eye-lash Viper



A UNIQUE WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE RAINFOREST



Gray-tailed Mountain Gem

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Hello Everyone

I just wanted to welcome you to another Costa Rica photo adventure. It's been quite some time since my first trip to this great country. On my first visit, I explored some of the most remote places in search of good opportunities to shoot wildlife. The adventure was intense. I had to take our small SUV through swollen rivers to get to our final destination, and lost few parts on the rocky road to Monteverde, but it was all fun and it opened a big door to our future travels. Over the years I've been blessed to see and meet the most incredible wildlife and people a country can hold, yet I always come back with something new. It appears that with all my visits I have not even scratched the surface of this ecologically rich country. Diversity is at its best in Costa Rica. Nowhere in the New World you can find this variety of plants and animals in such a small land mass.

By now you should have read our trip newsletter, but if not, I'm attaching it to this email. There you will also find the rooming list and a packing list. Obviously you should know what to pack when it comes to your clothing, and photo gear. Make sure to leave a copy of this document with family at home as it has a day-by-day itinerary with all the lodges and hotel information including their phone number and website.

If you have any questions about anything related to this trip, please feel free to ask me. I know some people had questions about what photo gear to bring, and my answer tends to be about the same. Make sure you cover all focal lengths, as you'll be shooting wide angle landscapes, zoomed-in birds and really tight close-ups, so don't forget your macro or your flash.

Thank you for joining us on this trip.

Reiniér Munguia

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Itinerary	Activities
5 SJO - Chilamate	<p>Our first stop is for lunch at a local restaurant in Heredia. On our way to Sarapiquí, we'll go over the continental divide bordering the flanks of the Poas volcano. We'll stop at the La Paz waterfall. We'll shoot frogs after dinner.</p> <p>Lodging: La Quinta de Sarapiquí http://www.hotellaquintasarapiqui.com/ Tel. 01 1-506-2222-3344</p>
6 Chilamate	<p>Today we'll visit the Catarata del Toro to capture some incredible vistas and our first encounter with several species of hummingbirds. High speed setup for hummingbirds will be available. We'll have time to bird around the lodge after breakfast and prior to departure. In the afternoon we will shoot some poison dart frogs and butterflies. More night photo opportunities.</p> <p>Lodging: La Quinta de Sarapiquí</p>
7 Chilamate - Pital	<p>We will leave early in the morning to shoot macaws at Rancho Las Tres Calaveras. Here's a great opportunity to photograph Great Green Macaws in flight plus an arrangement of Scarlet Macaws that visit this breeding facility. After lunch we will start our drive to the Laguna del Lagarto Lodge in the border with Nicaragua. This isolated lodge provides endless opportunities to photograph birds, mammals and our target, the King Vulture.</p> <p>Lodging: Laguna del Lagarto Lodge http://www.lagarto-lodge-costa-rica.com/ Tel. 01 1-506-2479-9522 Lodging:</p>
8 Pital	<p>In the morning you will have a chance to shoot some very colorful birds that come to the feeders at the lodge and later we will shoot one of the most colorful raptors, the King Vulture. The shoot will take place near the lodge on a private blind. It can get hot and sticky, but you will have some amazing views of these birds. A short hike on the trails will provide endless opportunities to photograph poison dart frogs and leaf-cutter ants. It's not uncommon to find troops of coatimundis or agoutis around the lodge.</p> <p>Lodging: Laguna del Lagarto Lodge</p>
9 Pital - Fortuna	<p>On this morning we will have another opportunity to shoot the King Vultures. Aracaris, Monctezuma oropendulas and brown-hooded parrots are among the species that can be photographed near the feeders. After lunch we will travel to our next destination Fortuna, a beautiful town on the foothills of the Arenal Volcano.</p> <p>Brisas del Arenal https://www.brisasarenal.com/ Tel. 01 1-506-2479-9225</p> <p>Lodging: Brisas del Arenal</p>
10 Fortuna - Tarcoles	<p>On this day we depart to meet the Pacific Ocean after doing some bird photography around Lake Arenal. This is a great place to find the White-throated Magpie Jay, Collared Aracaris and Gray-headed Chachalacas. On arrival to the lodge, we'll do a quick exploration to check on Scarlet Macaws and other birds that can be found down the road.</p> <p>Lodging: Cerro Lodge http://www.cerrolodge.net/ Tel: 01 1-506-2427-9910</p>

- 11 Tarcoles This morning we are scheduled for a boat tour of the Tarcoles River where many species of birds and hungry crocs can be found. Macaws visit the almond trees in a nearby beach providing amazing opportunities to capture them in flight. The road that leads to the river is good for trogons, kingfishers, hawks and iguanas. In the afternoon, we will shoot macaws as they fly back to their roost.
- Lodging: Cerro Lodge
- 12 Tarcoles - Dominical Today we'll be heading to Dominical, but not before stopping along the way to take some pictures of the Pacific Ocean. Lunch will be on arrival to Quepos, then we will continue to our lodge at Baru Wildlife Refuge a great place to shoot sloths and Fiery-billed Aracaris. At night, we will shoot frogs around the lodge and take a walk along one of the most pristine beaches in Costa Rica; perhaps we can catch a glimpse of a jaguar or a nesting sea turtle.
- Lodging: Hacienda Barú
www.haciendabaru.org
Tel: 01 1-506-2787-0003
- 13 Dominical Today we'll go early in the morning to Manuel Antonio National Park. This is the crown-jewel of the National Park system in Costa Rica. Here you'll be able to photograph some great landscapes as well as three species of monkeys and sloths. After lunch we will head back to our lodge in Dominical where you can relax by the pool or continue shooting wildlife around the lodge.
- Lodging: Hacienda Barú
- 14 Dominical - San Gerardo Today we'll be on our way to the high mountains of Savegre. For lunch, we'll make a stop at La Georgina, a mountain lodge and restaurant full of hummingbirds. At nearly 10,000 feet, this mountain paradise hosts many bird species, but nothing more spectacular than the Fiery-throated Hummingbird. After lunch, we will continue to Savegre Lodge, a most amazing lodge wedged in a valley cut by the swift Savegre river and home to the Resplendent Quetzal. Dinner will be served in their beautiful restaurant.
- Lodging: Savegre Lodge
<http://www.savegre.com>
Tel: 01 1-506-2740-1028
- 15 San Gerardo After breakfast you will be taken up the mountain to shoot at Bantu Gardens, an amazing location to shoot birds such as the Red-headed Barbet, Acorn Woodpecker, Flame-colored tanagers and Chlorophonias among others. After lunch, we'll look for the Resplendent Quetzal.
- 16 San Gerardo - Alajuela After breakfast, you'll have some time to shoot around the gardens before we start our trip back to San Jose. Lunch will be at a nearby lodge with plenty of hummingbird feeders. Our farewell dinner will be at a seafood restaurant near the hotel.
- Lodging:
Bristol Airport Hotel
<https://hotelesbristolcr.com/hotel-bristol-aeropuerto/>
Tel: 01 1-506-2433-4350
- 17 SJO - MCO Today you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back home.



**COSTA RICA PHOTO EXPEDITION
(Lowlands/highlands)**

PRICING

\$2,300 (8 participants)

* Cost does not include airfare estimated at \$425 from Orlando International

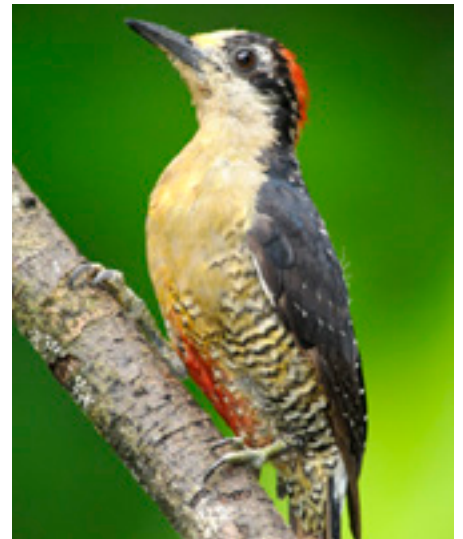
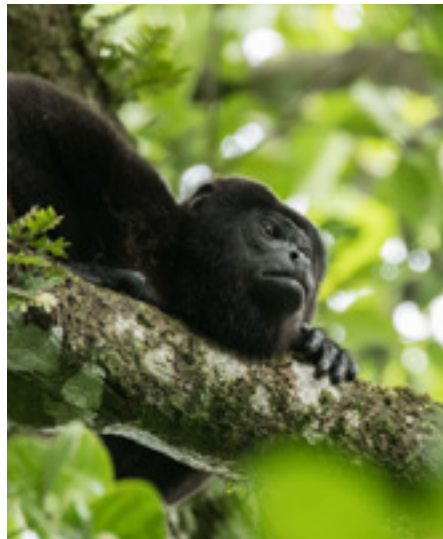
Price is based on double occupancy; for a single room throughout the trip add \$300. A deposit of \$500 per person is required to secure your space on the trip. This deposit is used to purchase your air tickets. In the case you want to book your own ticket, the deposit is applied to your balance for the trip.

What is Included?

All meals and transportation as well as boat tours, national park entrance fees, naturalist guide and photography guide are included. Tips and international flight are not included in the above price.

To register or find out more about this trip, go to:

www.wildstockphotos.com/expeditions



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