


COSTA RICA

June 2nd - June 16th, 2024


PHOTO EXPEDITION



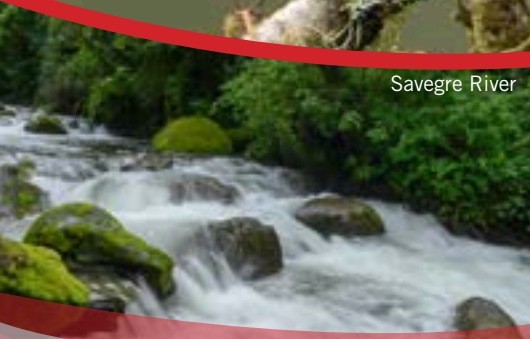
Golden-browed Chlorophonia



Red-eyed Treefrog



Speckled Tanager



Savegre River

A UNIQUE WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE RAINFOREST

WILDSTOCK™
Photography



Leaf-footed *Diactor bilineatus*

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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.

Reinier Munguia

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Day	Itinerary	Activities
2	US - SJO	Arrival date: Lodging: https://www.airporthotelcostarica.com/
3	SJO - Chilamate	<p>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. 011-506-2222-3344</p>
4	Chilamate	Today we'll visit the Catarata del Toro to capture some incredible vistas and our first encounter with several species of hummingbirds. 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. Lodging: La Quinta de Sarapiquí
5	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. 011-506-2479-9522 Lodging:</p>
6	Pital	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. Lodging: Laguna del Lagarto Lodge
7	Pital - Fortuna	<p>On this morning we will have another opportunity to shoot. Aracaris, Monctezuma oropendulas and brown-hooded parrots are among the species that can be photographed near the feeders. We will travel to our next destination Fortuna, a beautiful town on the foothills of the Arenal Volcano. Lunch will be in Fortuna. We will be shooting amphibians and reptiles at night.</p> <p>Lodging: Arenal Oasis https://www.arenaloasis.com/ Tel. 011-506-2479.9526</p>
8	Fortuna	Today you have the chance to shoot many bird species at a feeding station. Expect tanagers, aracaris, parrots and honeycreepers. Those of you interested in doing zipline, white water rafting, hot springs or horseback riding, Fortuna is the right place to enjoy any of these activities. If the sky is clear, we'll try some landscape shots of the Arenal Volcano. The property around the lodge offers great opportunities to capture the real feel of the rainforest, with beautiful gardens and leaf-cutter ants, sloths and much more. More amphibian photography at night. Lodging: Arenal Oasis
9	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 around the lodge. This is a brand new lodge that was recently built and catering to birders.</p> <p>Lodging: Tarcoles Birding Lodge</p>

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| 10 | Tarcoles | <p>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.</p> |
| | | Lodging: Punta Leona Resort |
| 11 | Tarcoles - Quepos | <p>Today we'll be heading to Quepos, but not before stopping along the way to take some pictures of the Pacific Ocean. Lunch will be on arrival to Quepos at a local lodge with opportunities to shoot more birds and wildlife.</p> |
| | | <p>Lodging: Cabinas Espadilla
 http://espadilla.com/
 Tel: 011-506-2777-2113</p> |
| 12 | Quepos | <p>Today we'll visit the Manuel Antonio National Park where you'll have the chance to shoot White-faced Capuchin Monkeys and a variety of wildlife found on this coastal rainforest.</p> |
| | | Lodging: Cabinas Espadilla |
| 13 | Quepos - San Gerardo | <p>This morning we'll visit the Manuel Antonio National Park in search of white-faced capuchins and squirrel monkeys. The park is the crown jewel of the national parks in Costa Rica offering great landscapes and wildlife opportunities. Later that working we'll start our drive 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.</p> |
| | | <p>Lodging: Savegre Lodge
 http://www.savegre.com
 Tel: 011-506-2740-1028</p> |
| 14 | San Gerardo | <p>After breakfast you will be taken up the mountain to shoot at Batsu 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.</p> |
| | | Lodging: Savegre Lodge |
| 15 | San Gerardo - Alajuela | <p>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 restaurant along the way. We'll stop to get everybody Covid tested for our entry into the US the following day.</p> |
| | | <p>Lodging: Bristol Airport Hotel
 https://hotelesbristolcr.com/hotel-bristol-aeropuerto/
 Tel: 011-506-2433-4350</p> |
| 16 | SJO - MCO | <p>Today you will be transported to the airport for your departure to the US.</p> |



June 2nd - June 16th, 2024

COSTA RICA PHOTO EXPEDITION

(Lowlands/highlands)

PRICING

\$2,600 (8 participants)

* Cost does not include airfare estimated at \$500 from Orlando International

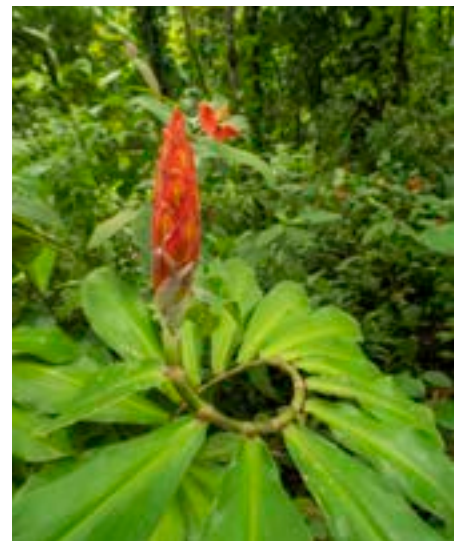
Price is based on double occupancy; for a single room throughout the trip add \$600. A deposit of \$500 per person is required to secure your space on the trip. This deposit is applied to your balance for the trip.

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:

<https://www.wildstockphotos.com/photo-expeditions/>



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