



Plein Air Painting Splendor of Costa Rica

January 5 – 12, 2011

About Costa Rica ... Costa Rica is one of the most peaceful countries in the world. The tremendous natural diversity of plants and animals, as well as culture ... and the friendliness of the Costa Rican people will ensure that you will have an unforgettable experience as our guest in this magnificent country. Join us as we explore Costa Rica through the eyes of artistic expression. We will enjoy painting gardens and tropical plants galore, as well as monkeys and birds while surrounded by a backdrop of mountains or the picturesque Pacific coast.

About this tour ... This tour is all-inclusive with no hidden costs. We pride ourselves on small group sizes and custom itineraries with an expert bilingual naturalist guide that will accompany the tour fully. We have excellent client satisfaction because of our attention to every detail. We will do our utmost to ensure you have a delightful worry free trip. We partner with a Costa Rican travel company that maintains very high standards for sustainable travel. We try to use all sustainable lodges wherever possible – lodges with low carbon footprints.

Artistic tour highlights ... This tour will be enjoyed by both novice and experienced artists seeking the incredible palette of this fantastic country that is one huge garden of lushness and warmth. The central valley of Costa Rica (San Jose) enjoys the fabulous daytime temperatures of mid to high 70s as the average, and nighttime temperatures in the high 50s to low 60s. Enjoy painting while escaping the worst winter weather of January. Join us where sandals and short sleeve shirts are the attire of the day. The sun always shines on the Pacific Coast – and the breezes are soothing. This tour will have a very laid back pace where you may choose to paint all day, or you might walk the gardens or beach in the morning, paint in the afternoon, and bird watch in the late afternoon. Or visit local artisans who love to share and talk about their crafts and lifestyle. There is no set agenda except relaxation, being warm and soaking up the sun, and painting as you desire. This tour will be accompanied by Jerry Thompson, a mid Missouri watercolor artist. Jerry will be available for instruction as desired and to offer advice or commentary whenever requested. Jerry has taught beginning watercolor and sketching ... so any beginners are most welcome to join this tour and take full advantage of Jerry's talents. This tour is not exclusive to artists. Anyone is most welcome.



For more information, email mary@hiddentreasuresbotanicaltours.com or visit the website at www.hiddentreasuresbotanicaltours.com



Itinerary at a glance ...

January 5, 2011

San Jose

Upon arrival in Juan Santamaría International Airport in San Jose (SJO) you will be greeted and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day will be free to relax and enjoy being warm. If you arrive in the afternoon, take time to visit the gardens or paint. Dinner will be on your own this evening.

Lodging: Hotel Bougainvillea, www.hb.co.cr



January 6, 2011

B,L,D

San Jose

Today we will visit a delightful Botanical Orchid Garden in the small village of La Garita, Alajuela. Here you will find a wonderful palette of orchids from their permanent orchid flower exhibition. Here you will find exclusive greenhouse suited perfectly to display the great variety of hybrids and species present in their collection.

Bougainvillea Lodging: Hotel Bougainvillea

January 7, 2011

B,L,D

San Gerardo de Dota

We depart to the area of the San Gerardo de Dota Mountains. This evening will be cool as we will be at a higher elevation deep in the mountains. For those that like to paint hummingbirds – you will have a delightful time enjoying the many species of hummingbirds in this location. Also, higher elevation plants thrive here such as fuschia and verbena. En route we will also visit the highest peak in Costa Rica, Cerro de la Muerte. If a clear day, the vistas from the top of this mountain are exquisite.

Lodging: Trogon Lodge, www.grupomawamba.com/trogon_lodge/index.php

January 8, 2011

B,L,D

Dominical

This morning the Pacific Ocean is calling – which will provide for beautiful, lush tropical scenery and great birding. Toucans will call each morning and visit the trees outside your rooms, and the howler monkeys will provide your wake up call each day. From the lodge, you will have vistas of the ocean in three directions. Sunsets are magnificent. The lodge provides yoga on request and has a resident yoga instructor. The beach is part of the Marino Ballena National Park and very private and accessible from the lodge via a somewhat steep trail. La Cusinga is tucked into the heart of the coastal rainforest and is surrounded by preserves and natural areas.

Lodging: La Cusinga Lodge, www.lacusingalodge.com/

January 9, 2011

B,L,D

Dominical

This morning you can explore the beautiful surroundings of La Cusinga, or enjoy painting at your leisure. There are no planned activities for today. For those that want a little more adventure, we will offer an optional zipline canopy tour (extra expense applies). There are also optional boat tours in the area that can be quite lovely, or whale watching tours (extra expense applies).

Lodging: La Cusinga Lodge

January 10, 2011

B,L,D

Dominical

Today will be another day at your leisure to choose your own activities.

Lodging: La Cusinga Lodge

January 11, 2011

B,L,D

To San Jose

Transfer back to San Jose. Tonight we will enjoy a farewell dinner together.

Lodging: Bougainvillea Hotel

January 12, 2011

B

Airport Transfer to the Juan Santamaría Airport in Alajuela (SJO)



TRIP COST AND CONDITIONS

This trip has been organized by Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours, L.L.C. who reserve the right to make necessary changes to the itinerary due to unforeseen circumstances. Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours will provide details on necessary supplies and logistics for this trip when the departure date gets closer. You will receive confirmation of registration by mail within 30 days of receipt of registration. Final payment is due 90 days prior to trip departure and all invoices will be sent in advance of this date.

Land-only package price* (based upon double occupancy)	\$1,975
Single room occupancy supplement	\$600

***Airfare NOT included in package price**

REFUND SCHEDULE

Final payment is due 90 days prior to trip departure. A full refund will be given up to 90 days prior to the departure date, minus a \$250 administrative fee. Once final payment is made, there are no refunds within 90 days of trip departure as airfare is booked at that time, and hotel non-refundable deposits have been paid. If we can re-sell the slot, we can offer a full refund minus the original deposit and airfare charges.

We highly recommend trip insurance, which include cancellation and trip delay coverage, as well as baggage and medical coverage. Most trip insurance policies waive pre-existing conditions if you sign up for trip insurance within 15 days of sending in this registration form and paying your initial trip deposit.

Please see our attached Terms and Conditions document for specific refund schedule.

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES ... private transportation with driver and air-conditioning, private naturalist guide, U.S. tour escort, meals as included on the itinerary, entrance fees pertinent to the itinerary, local taxes on meals and lodging, and tips for onsite guides, maids, waiters and porters

(B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner)

TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE... airport departure tax (USD\$26.00 per person) and tips for the guide and driver (\$5 per each guide and driver per day)



Registration Form

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Passenger Information

Please record information exactly as it appears on your passport. Passport information may be sent later if you have yet to obtain a passport.

Name as on passport _____ Name as on passport _____

Passport # _____ Passport # _____

Passport Exp. Date _____ Passport Exp. Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (home and or cell) _____ Email _____

Emergency Contact Name and Phone _____

Please mark your preferred travel arrangements (Airfare is NOT included in package price)

____ I will make my own airline reservation/arrangements

____ I would like Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours to arrange airline reservations from the following airport

Double Occupancy (\$1,975) _____ **Single Occupancy (\$2,575)** _____ **

** (we cannot guarantee a roommate, and if not, you will be responsible for single occupancy price)

Payment Information (deposit \$1,000 per person)

If paying by check: make payable to Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours, L.L.C.

amount \$ _____ check no. _____

If paying by credit card (we can accept only VISA or Mastercard)**

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Amount to be charged _____ Three digit security code from back of the card _____

**Final payment by credit card will have an additional 3% surcharge

Mail this form and your deposit to:

Hidden Treasures Botanical Tours, L.L.C.

P.O. Box 39

Rocheport, MO 65279

Email: info@hiddentreasuresbotanicaltours.com

www.hiddentreasuresbotanicaltours.com