



Come Discover Classroom Earth!™

Dear CLE Student and Prospective Global Explorer:

I am excited to introduce you to an amazing educational travel opportunity available to College Living Experience students. We invite you to embark on an enlightening journey to the diverse ecosystems of Costa Rica May 14-22, 2011! CLE students from across the country will be joined on this adventure by several CLE educators, a world-class Global Explorers Expedition Leader and local guides and scientists.

CLE has elected to work with Global Explorers to provide this life-changing travel opportunity for CLE students. Global Explorers is a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring responsible global citizenship through comprehensive educational travel programs. We work with schools, zoos, museums and other educational institutions across the U.S.A. Learn more about our unique programs and our educational philosophy at www.GlobalExplorers.org.

Why Travel?

Travel inspires us. Travel teaches us. Travel empowers us to know that we can accomplish whatever we want. Travel with Global Explorers is a unique and challenging leadership and service experience. Much more than just a trip, the Global Explorers program includes preparatory curriculum and a follow-up service leadership initiative in your home community.

Global Explorers helps students understand their role in the world and discover a path that's right for them. Independent studies from Duke University and Texas A&M University show that Global Explorers program alumni exhibit increased:

- Cultural awareness, acceptance and tolerance
- Leadership skills, self-awareness and interpersonal abilities
- Awareness of global interdependence
- Understanding of the importance of community service
- Sense that they can make a positive difference in the world

LEARN MORE!
Visit
www.globalexplorers.org/news/CLECostaRica
for more details!
**Plus! Look for information soon to access an
webinar regarding this program!**

We encourage you to consider this once-in-a-lifetime experience. For details, contact Mary Adams at madams@experiencecle.com or (720) 470-8425. You may also contact me, Katie Watkins, at katie.watkins@globalexplorers.org or (877) 627-1425.

I hope that you are excited about this opportunity and I invite you to visit www.GlobalExplorers.org to learn more about our nationally-recognized programs, which have been featured on ABC World News Tonight, CBS Sunday Morning and the Travel Channel. Come Discover Classroom Earth!

Sincerely,




Katie Watkins
Communication and Outreach Manager – Global Explorers



Global Explorers

WHERE // Sustainable Tropics: Costa Rica

Program Highlights

-  Stroll along Caribbean beaches, explore the rainforest and cruise through the cloud forest on zip-lines as you experience the myriad ecosystems and incredible biodiversity this tiny country has to offer.
-  Immerse yourself in the animated “Pura Vida” lifestyle that makes Costa Rica known for its vibrant culture worldwide.
-  Search for howler monkeys, poison dart frogs, toucans, macaws, three-toed sloths, basilisk lizards, caimans and more with expert local guides.






“I felt this swelling inside, like my consciousness, my confidence, my inner-self was literally just growing.”
 - Melinda, Student Explorer

Program Description

Full of adventure, beauty, captivating culture and rich biodiversity, Costa Rica has everything you could ask for in an educational travel destination. It’s small in size and well-traveled, making it one of the best countries on Earth for student groups. The Sustainable Tropics program brings us to several lesser-known learning spots in some of Costa Rica’s most enticing destinations and immerses us in three different ecosystems. We search for all kinds of wildlife and learn about the successful sustainable development strategies that have made Costa Rica famous for conservation and ecotourism. We also interact with rural community members and have the chance to give back through service projects. Traveling by foot, kayak, boat, canopy walkway and zip-line, we truly experience this wonderful country up close and personal.

Pre-Travel Curriculum

-  Tropical ecosystems, sustainable development and rainforest conservation.
-  Costa Rican history and culture and Spanish language.
-  Leadership skills, service learning and responsible travel knowledge.



Program Itinerary

Day 1

After traveling from the U.S. to San Jose, Costa Rica, we settle into a comfortable hotel.

Days 2 – 3

We depart by van and continue by boat for our trip to the Caribbean beaches and canals of Tortuguero. We arrive at our beachside lodge, explore the community of Tortuguero and visit the area's turtle museum. We spend time tonight walking the forest trails in search of nocturnal wildlife. Our next morning begins with a spectacular boat ride through Tortuguero's "Little Amazon" canals to search for wildlife such as caiman, basilisk lizards and monkeys. Our day continues with a service project in Tortuguero, a kayaking adventure in the wetlands canals and another night time walk in search of turtles and other critters.

Days 4 – 5

We depart Tortuguero this morning and head to the Sarapiquí region. Our first day includes a visit to the rainforest trails of La Selva, one of the most important sites in the world for scientific research on tropical forests. We conclude the day with an exciting bat observation activity and fall asleep to the sounds of the tropical lowlands rainforest, our home for the next two nights. Our second morning in Sarapiquí is spent working on a service project with the Sarapiquí Conservation Learning Center and a local community. Day 5 also includes a visit to a pineapple plantation that

involves plenty of samples! Tonight we stay at lodge in the heart of the forest.

Days 6 – 8

Our next stop is the Monteverde region, filled with cloud forests and wildlife. After a beautiful drive we arrive at the UGA San Luis Research Station, where we stay for the next three nights, and search for wildlife nearby our lodging. We begin the next day by experiencing the forest as the birds do, zipping through the canopy and exploring a series of walkways. At a local handicraft cooperative, we can support local artists and find gifts for our families and friends. We also visit a local dairy to sample the cheese and ice cream that make Monteverde famous. On Day 8, we visit Finca la Bella, a small, local, sustainable farm where coffee, sugarcane and other crops are grown. Here, we have the chance to learn about local agriculture practices and even participate by milking the cows for the milk we enjoy at breakfast. We discuss sustainability and participate in an ongoing conservation project that will contribute to offsetting some of the carbon our trip has produced.

Day 9

We depart early this morning for San Jose to catch our flight back home.

*This represents a sample itinerary that is subject to change based on weather or other circumstances outside the control of Global Explorers. Turtle viewing is unpredictable & it is rare to see nesting turtles in the winter.

Program Details

Program Fee: \$2,800

Expedition Length: 9 days

Location: Costa Rica – San Jose, Tortuguero, Monteverde and Sarapiquí

Dates: May 14-22, 2011

What's Included:

All lodging in Costa Rica; all meals and drinking water in Costa Rica; all transportation in Costa Rica; all daily activities and related fees; Global Explorers Expedition Leader; local guides and drivers; all gratuities; basic travel insurance; airport departure fees; preparatory materials and support; t-shirts and journals; carbon offsets for international air travel.

What's Not Included:

International airfare between your home city and San Jose, Costa Rica (airfare can range from \$600 - \$1,000 depending on where you fly from); passport fees; immunization fees; spending money (for souvenirs and extra snacks); expenses as a result of travel delays or cancellations that fall outside of Global Explorers' control.

Accommodations:

Students stay in clean and rustic dormitory-style lodges with bunk beds, indoor bathrooms and electricity in the day time. Students will stay in double rooms with one other traveler. Depending on final group size, students may share triple or quadruple rooms for a night or two, but every traveler will have their own bed every night no matter what. Food is delicious and healthy local cuisine. Fresh drinking water is always available.

How to Sign-Up:

Submit an application to CLE by January 14, 2011. See your student advisor for details and an application. Successful applicants will be notified of acceptance by January 21, 2011. \$200 nonrefundable deposits will then be due by February 1, 2011. Half of the remaining program fee (\$1,300) will be due by March 1, 2011, and the full remainder of the program fee (another \$1,300) must be paid by April 1, 2011. Checks can be made payable to College Living Experience (please write the student's name and Costa Rica on the memo line) and mailed to:

College Living Experience
7150 Columbia Gateway Dr., Suite J
Columbia, MD 21046

***To pay by credit card, please contact:
Mary Jo Martin: 615-969-1393

WHAT WE TEACH

Our Mission is to inspire responsible global citizenship by providing life-changing travel experiences for students and educators of all abilities and backgrounds.

Our unique educational model equips students to explore science and culture for a deeper understanding of the world, to discover their personal interests and to tackle community issues with passion and wisdom.

EXPLORE YOUR WORLD

Scientific Curiosity & Competence: Students develop a curiosity towards the natural world and understand the complexity of interrelationships between human and environmental systems.

Cultural Curiosity & Competence: Students build curiosity, respect and tolerance for different ways of life and experience our connectedness with people around the world.

Career Exposure & Leaders that Inspire: Students learn about the motivating factors behind career choices made by a diverse group of professionals and develop ideas about fulfilling careers for themselves.

Service Knowledge: Students explore the meaning of service-learning and civic responsibility and navigate the challenges of working with communities to identify and evaluate needs.

DISCOVER THE LEADER WITHIN

Self-Awareness: Students explore the ways they see themselves, others, the world and their place in it.

Communication: Students learn to listen, to appreciate diverse perspectives and to improve their peer-to-peer communication skills.

Collaboration: Students learn about creating a shared vision and utilizing the skills of all team members.

Critical Thinking Skills: Students practice problem solving, analysis, logic and reflecting on the big picture using systems thinking.

Self-Direction: Students explore their personal passions, adaptability, sense of responsibility and personal vision.

Information Literacy: Students investigate various forms of knowledge acquisition, source discernment and management of complex information to deepen the quality of their analyses.

INSPIRE CHANGE

Appreciation for Life: Students deepen their appreciation for the opportunities they have in life and recognize that there are many ways to make a difference in the world.

Take Action: Students take action and engage in service before, during and after their Global Explorers expedition.

Service Attitude: Students develop confidence in their ability to inspire change and demonstrate an ongoing willingness to spend time bettering communities at home and abroad.

"I not only gained academic knowledge, but also learned about the importance of an open mind and an open heart, the power of smiling at a stranger and so much more. Global Explorers is a family that gives young adults incredible opportunities and teaches life skills that make us all better people."

- Laura, Student Explorer

