# Tours of Monteverde 2014

All tours are per person, based on the adult rates.

Many tours also have child rates:

Sky Tram & Sky Walk Tour Combo Monteverde Sky Tram & Sky Trek Tour Monteverde Sky Tram, Sky Trek and Sky Walk Tour Combo Monteverde Sky Walk Tour With Guide Monteverde Nocturnal Sky Walk Tour With Guide Monteverde Serpentarium Tour Bat Jungle Tour Coffee Tour Monteverde Cloud Forest Tour Santa Elena Cloud Forest Biological Reserve Tour Butterfly Garden Tour Ecological Sanctuary Tour Monteverde Trainforest Tour Butterfly Garden, Frog Pond, & CASEM Tour Horseback Riding Tour Children's Eternal Rainforest Tour Monteverde Cheese Factory Tour Monteverde Cloud Forest Night Tour





**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

**77** 

Rate per person:

Ψ**39** + \$6.50 transpor

**ESSENTIALS:** 

Light clothing, comfortable shoes, camera, sun lotion and repellent.

### Sky Tram and Sky Walk Tour Combo Monteverde

STYLE: Nature & Family

This is a unique way of exploring the Monteverde cloud forest from different perspectives! Board a gondola and soar through the forest taking in the incredible views of the mountainous area. The tram can be stopped at any time to spot wildlife and to take photos. Enjoy the landscape views from the wide observation platform at the end which overlooks Lake Arenal.

The second leg of the trip has you walking on trails through the cloud forest. Your bilingual guide will be a wealth of information, pointing out native plants, animals and birds.

Included: tram ride, hanging bridges, entrance fee & bilingual guide.

### Sky Tram & Sky Trek Tour Combo Monteverde

STYLE: Nature, Adventure & Family

Monteverde is acclaimed as one of the most outstanding wildlife refuges in the world. This is a wonderful way of viewing the cloud forest from a different perspective while mixing nature with adventure. Board a gondola with your local bilingual guide, and soar through the cloud forest! The highest point is at the end of the tram where you will find yourself at 5800 ft (1770 m) above the sea level!

Then your guide will take you to the canopy ziplining. Enjoy the views of the cloud forest from the tree tops!

Included: hanging bridges entrance, zip lining, all equipment, bilingual guide.



DURATION:

4h

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

**Φ/I**+ \$6.50 transport

**ESSENTIALS:** 

Light clothing, comfortable shoes, camera, sun lotion & repellent.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

5h





**309** 

+ \$6.50 transport

### **ESSENTIALS:**

Light clothing, comfortable shoes, camera, sun lotion & repellent.

# Sky Tram, Sky Trek and Sky Walk Tour Combo Monteverde

STYLE: Adventure & Nature

Ascend to the continental divide on this exciting cable car that includes a ride on a 1-mile cable line with altitudes between 4500 to 5250 feet above sea level. After an exciting tram ride, get ready for the Sky Trek Canopy tour! Ride down on a circuit of ziplines stretching across deep canyons across the treetops.

Finally, Sky Walk offers you another opportunity to get a perspective on the dynamic cloud forest at a much slower pace. Here you can enjoy two amazing waterfalls and a stunning cantilever platform 100 feet high with spectacular views of the forest, volcano and lake

Included: tram ride, ziplining, hanging bridges entrance fee, all equipment and safety procedures, bilingual guide.

### Sky Walk Tour With Guide Monteverde

STYLE: Adventure & Nature

You'll arrive to Sky Adventure by car/van. Your guide will lead you to the beginning of the walking trails that take you into the cloud forest over five hanging bridges in total with the longest spanning 984 feet.

The trails extend for slightly over a mile and a half (2.5 km), making this tour extremely feasible for anyone in moderate shape Your bilingual guide will be a wealth of information pointing out native plants, animals and birds as you walk along.

Included: hanging bridges entrance, zip lining, all equipment, bilingual guide.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

**ESSENTIALS:** 

Light clothing, comfortable shoes, camera, sun lotion and repellent.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

+ \$6.50 transport

### **ESSENTIALS:**

Light clothing, comfortable shoes, camera, sun lotion and repellent.

### Nocturnal Sky Walk Tour With **Guide Monteverde**

STYLE: Adventure & Family

This is a wonderful insight to the rainforest at night, where you will hear the forest come to life, spotting animals that awake as the sun goes down.

You start your tour when you are picked up from your hotel and driven to the Sky Adventure park. Cross five hanging bridges in total with the longest of which is 984 feet. The trails extend for slightly over a mile and a half (2.5 km), making this tour extremely feasible for anyone in moderate shape. Your bilingual guide will help you spot and hear insects, birds and nocturnal mammals. In this night tour you can find nocturnal wild life from a different perspective on the Cloud Forest using your ears more than your eyes.

Included: hanging bridges entrance fee, zip lining, all equipment, bilingual guide

# Serpentarium Tour

STYLE: Nature & Family

There are 137 species of snakes in Costa Rica, and 22 of them are poisonous. At the Serpentarium, you will find an excellent display of terrariums where you can admire and learn about the different species such as corals, boa constrictor, rattle snake and jumping pit viper. You can appreciate over 40 species, including venomous and non-venomous snakes, poisonous frogs, toads, lizards and turtles. All snakes are behind glass for total comfort and safety.

Included: Serpentarium entrance fee, bilingual guide.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

+ \$6.50 transport

**ESSENTIALS:** 

Comfortable clothes & camera.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:



\$33

Rate per person:

L.bn

ESSENTIALS: Comfortable clothes, camera & water.

### **Bat Jungle Tour**

STYLE: Nature & Family

The Bat Jungle tour is a great insight into the world of bats and is suited for anyone interested in learning about the vital role that bats play within the ecosystem! One of the principle objectives of this tour is to promote the ecological importance of bats.

A bilingual guide will walk you through the bat exhibit where live bats fly through a simulated jungle environment. Along the tour you will be able to watch the 8 different varieties of bats fly, eat, socialize, care for each other and nurse their babies and possible see them give birth right before your eyes. The Bat Jungle has a special ultrasonic microphone allows you to hear the bats!

Included: transportation from/to your hotel, entrance fee, bilingual naturalist guide specialized in bats.

### Monteverde Coffee Tour

STYLE: Cultural & Family

Costa Rica produces some of the best coffee in the world and much of that is grown in the cloud forests of Monteverde.

After a 15 minutes ride, arrive to a private, locally owned coffee plantation where your bilingual guide will take you on a journey through the process of making coffee. You will walk through the fields to view the coffee plants growing, learn how they are harvested and see how the coffee workers separate the bean from the fruit and then lay them out to dry in the sun ready for toasting. Then finally the grinding of the bean where you will then finish the tour with a cup of fresh local Costa Rican coffee!

Included: transportation from/to your hotel, entrance fee, guide & snacks.



DURATION:

AGE: INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

3h

ALL

**ESSENTIALS:** 

Comfortable clothes, camera, rain jacket, comfortable sturdy shoes or hiking boots & binoculars.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person: \$78

ESSENTIALS:

Comfortable clothes, hiking boots or sturdy shoes, binoculars, hat, rain jacket, camera & extra cash.

### **Monteverde Cloud Forest Tour**

STYLE: Nature & Family

The Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve spans over 10,500 hectares of tropical forest with 90% being primary forest. This tour is great for anyone who has a true love of nature and looking for an active half day walk in the cloud forest.

Your local naturalist guide will take you through the mountainous forest, and will be a wealth of information, pointing out the golden toad's unique habitat, see birds like the resplendent quetzal and amazing species of trees.

Included: transportation from/to your hotel, entrance fee, bilingual naturalist guide, a 15 minute-stop at CASEM. (Local women's handicraft cooperative).

### Santa Elena Cloud Forest Biological **Reserve Tour**

STYLE: Nature & Family

The Santa Elena Reserve was created by the local communities who wanted to protect the cloud forest while at the same time use tourism as a means to benefit the area. All entrance fees go to protecting and managing the reserve as well as providing higher quality education for the schools of Monteverde.

Your local bilingual guide will take you along 3 hours of hiking trails where you will explore the flora and fauna in this rich forest. Different species of trees, orchids, lichens and a large range of birds like the Resplendent Quetzal and also some amazing mammals. Enjoy the wonderful views of the Arenal Volcano and the Guanacaste lowlands.

Included: transportation from/to your hotel, entrance fee & guide.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

**INTENSITY:** 

Rate per person:

### **ESSENTIALS:**

Comfortable clothes, camera, rain jacket, comfortable sturdy shoes or hiking boots & binoculars.



**DURATION:** 

INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

\$39

### **ESSENTIALS:**

Comfortable clothes, camera, rain jacket, comfortable sturdy shoes or hiking boots & binoculars.

### **Butterfly Garden Tour**

STYLE: Nature, Cultural & Family

Butterflies are among the most beautiful creatures in the world and Costa Rica has over 14,000 species of butterflies with approximately 750 found in Monteverde Cloud Forest!

Your tour begins when your bilingual guide will take you through the gardens, each simulating different habitats. These gardens will show you the different species of butterflies found in the country. There is also a rearing chamber where you can see caterpillars becoming butterflies. There is also a nature center where you will learn about other species of insects such as scorpions, tarantulas and walking sticks.

Included: transportation from/to your hotel, entrance fee & bilingual guide.

# **Ecological Sanctuary Tour**

STYLE: Cultural, Falmily & Nature

The Ecological Sanctuary is a wildlife refuge found on the Pacific slope of Monteverde cloud forest, a beautiful mountainous area offering hiking trails that take you through the cloud forest, passing waterfalls, coffee and banana plantations.

Ecological Sanctuary was founded by a local family in 1992. The sanctuary conserves 30 hectares of primary and secondary forest and is a beautiful place to get up close and personal with an abundance of wildlife, flora and fauna.

Please note: This tour requires a good physical condition as there are 2.5 hours of hiking trails available.

Included: transportation from/to your hotel, entrance fee, guide.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person: \$65





### **ESSENTIALS:**

Comfortable clothes, camera, rain jacket, comfortable sturdy shoes or hiking boots & binoculars.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

\$85

**ESSENTIALS:** 

Comfortable clothes, camera & binoculars.

### Monteverde Trainforest Tour STYLE: Nature, Culture & Family

Board the locomotive train, with 3 old fashioned carriages to begin your journey through the cloud forest. Your bilingual guide will be a wealth of knowledge on the local plants and wildlife!

After 30 minutes, reach a lookout point that gives you an incredible view of the Arena Volcano and lake, the extinct Cerro Chato and the San Gerardo waterfall that feeds the Arenal lake. Enjoy the views from here or go for a short 20 minute walk along an easy nature trail with your guide. Re-board your train to continue the journey passing one tunnel and four bridges back to the Central Station.

Included: transportation from/to your hotel, entrance fee & guide.

### Butterfly Garden, Frog Pond & **CASEM Tour**

STYLE: Culture, Family & Nature

Arrive to CASEM (Cooperative of Artisans of Santa Elena Monteverde), where you can view and purchase the handcrafted items that the women of Monteverde hand make. Then head to the Butterfly Gardens. Costa Rica has over 14,000 species of butterflies with approximately 750 found in Monteverde Cloud Forest! Your bilingual guide will take you through the four gardens, each simulating different habitats.

There is also a rearing chamber where you can see caterpillars becoming butterflies. Then head on to the Frog Pond, admire some colorful frogs such as the famous red-eye tree frog and the blue jean.

Included: transportation from/ to your hotel, entrance fees, bilingual guides.



DURATION: AGE: INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

**ESSENTIALS:** 

Comfortable clothes, camera & extra cash.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:



Rate per person:

### **ESSENTIALS:**

Comfortable shoes, long pants, camera, rain gear (especially if it looks cloudy) & bottle of water.

# Horseback Riding Tour

STYLE: Nature, Adventure & Family

This Monteverde tour begins only 500 meters from downtown Santa Elena, in a private farm of about 80 hectares with adequate trails for horses.

Meet the horses at the stables, and a bilingual guide will go over safety tips for your tour. Ride through private trails and country roads for a total duration of 2 hours. During the tou, you can observe the abundant flora and fauna of this region which is very particular since it is located on the continental divide. From there, you will be able to enjoy a spectacular view of the Gulf of Nicoya.

Weight limit: 210lbs

Included: transportation to/from the hotel, well maintained horse with equipement & a bilingual naturalist guide.

### Children's Eternal Rainforest Tour STYLE: Nature & Family

The Children's Eternal Forest is the largest private reserve in the country with over 22,000 hectares of protected tropical forest in the northeast of Costa Rica.

This reserve started in 1987 with contributions from children from Sweden and USA and now people of all over the world contribute to the reserve. This is a great halfday tour for anyone who is interested in learning more about Costa Rica's protected forests as well as enjoying an active hike!

Your tour starts when your bilingual guide will take you on a walk through the forest where you may observe some mammals like the coatis, white-faced monkeys, agoutis, and porcupines. Over 150 species of birds may be seen such as the keel billed toucans.

Inlcuded: transportation, entrance fee & guide



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person:

\$65

### **ESSENTIALS:**

Comfortable clothes that will get wet, swim wear, strap on sandals or water shoes, change of clothes & sunblock.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

\$33

Rate per person:

### **ESSENTIALS:**

Comfortable clothes, camera & extra cash.

# Monteverde Cheese Factory Tour

STYLE: Culture & Family

Monteverde cheese is famous all over Costa Rica and a visit to the factory is a great way to experience the local culture and tradition!

A guide will take you through the factory which includes 3 observation rooms and the laboratory. You will experience the cheese making process first hand and will then have an opportunity to try the different cheeses and the famous local caramel!

There is also a range of other locally produced products you may wish to sample and purchase like cured meats, hams, sausages, cream, milk and the not to be missed Monteverde ice creams and milkshakes!

Included: transportation from/ to your hotel, entrance fee & bilingual guide.

# Monteverde Cloud Forest Night Tour

STYLE: Adventure & Nature

An amazing option for anyone who has a true love of nature and looking to experience the forest at night!

The reason of this night hike is not just to see the norcturnal animals come out at night, but it's also a way to give a different perspective on the Cloud Forest using your ears more than your eyes.

Turn off your flash light for a few minutes to see the fireflies light around you or a phosphorescent mushroom on the ground.

Included: transportation from/to your hotel, entrance fee, guide & snacks.



**DURATION:** 

AGE:

INTENSITY:

Rate per person:





\$46

### **ESSENTIALS:**

Comfortable clothes, hiking boots or sturdy shoes, binoculars, hat, rain jacket, camera, extra cash.

### Additional Info:

### **TOUR DURATION**

Stated tour duration time is approximately the length of the tour and the transportation time to and from the activity. Dependiong on the location of your accommodation in the Monteverde area, these times may vary.

### **TIPS FOR TIPPING**

Tipping is a personal choice, but you should know that most people who work in tourism here depend on tips as part of their income. While it's not expected; it's definitely very much appreciated. The amount you tip is based on the length of your tour as well as the service of your guides. For a short, half-day or less tour \$3-\$5/person is sufficient. For a longer or full-day tour \$7-\$10/person would be appropriate. Tipping for fishing trips is usually 10% of the cost of the fishing trip.