

# Welcome to Costa Rica!



**2009 Dates: Begin any Monday!**

**2009 Prices Estimate  
for 12-Week Program:  
\$5,170**

***4-Week to 12-Month Programs Possible!***

## **The Locations — Choose One or Explore All Three!**

Experience Costa Rican culture first-hand as you interact with the friendly people of **San Joaquín de Flores**, a suburb of Heredia conveniently located near the capital city of San José. Choose this location if you enjoy the atmosphere of a smaller community and the convenience of close access to the culture and life of a big city. If you have always wanted to disappear into the clouds, we recommend that you study Spanish at the school in **Monteverde**, famous for the cloud forest reserves. The Monteverde zone is well known for its commitment to the sustainable development of the community and conservation efforts. If you choose the school in **Flamingo**, you can do your homework on a sunny beach, just five minutes from campus! The province of Guanacaste is renowned for its breathtakingly beautiful beaches and Flamingo beach is considered the best in the area.

## **The Language Institute**

Located in modern facilities designed specifically for language instruction, each campus has comfortable classrooms as well as comprehensive orientations, a bilingual staff and email access. Teachers are university-educated native speakers and use a communicative approach, designed to develop fluency in Spanish in the shortest possible time. Because the maximum class size in each school is just four students, you will have many opportunities to interact with classmates and receive personalized attention from your teacher.

## **Cultural Activities**

You are invited to join in a variety of lectures and activities each week that focus on the culture and history of Costa Rica. Classes in Latin dance and Costa Rican cooking are included in the tuition fees. Additionally, each location offers unique excursions and activities to explore the surrounding area and the local culture.

## **Volunteering Opportunities**

If you want to enrich your stay in Costa Rica by supporting local education, social services, or natural conservation program, we can arrange a volunteer placement for you. You can get involved for just a few weeks or for several months. Students planning to volunteer for 3 months or longer should contact us about special projects in the community of Orosi, located in the heart of the country.



## **Special Option: Spanish and Diving!**

This 2-week course lets you discover the magic beauty of the underwater world of Costa Rica's "Golden Coast" while improving your Spanish conversation skills. You will take home a diver's certification, specialized vocabulary, and a wealth of ocean memories. Available as an addition to any program in Flamingo, call for details.

## **Accommodations**

Deepen your understanding of the Spanish language and the Costa Rican culture by living with a welcoming local host family. Homestay accommodations include airport pick-up, a private room, laundry service, and breakfast and dinner each day.

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

**What does the cost include?** Application processing, pre-departure orientation materials, homestay placement with two meals per day, cultural activities, class materials and on-site support are included in the cost.

**Can I study if I am a beginner?** Yes, beginners can participate in this program.

**When will I receive my host family placement information?** You will receive host family information, details and school contact information in the week prior to your class starting date.

**Can I study at more than one location?** Yes, you can divide your time between two or more locations. Plan to spend at least two weeks at each school. The school will arrange transportation between the locations. Transportation fees from San Jose to Monteverde or Flamingo and between locations are not included in the cost.

**Will there be an orientation in Costa Rica?** Yes, on the first Monday of your program you will have an orientation meeting that will include information about your program and the location.

**Will I have access to email?** Yes, all three campuses have computers with internet access that students can use at no extra charge.

**Will the institute be closed for any holidays?** Yes. The dates are: January 1, Thursday and Friday of the Easter week, May 1st, July 25 and 27, August 15, September 15, and December 25.

**Can I get credits for studying abroad?** Yes! Whether you are a high school graduate, a university student working toward a degree, or a teacher looking for professional development, you can get credit for continuing your education abroad. Earn 5 to 10 credits by signing up for a variety of courses offered by We Study Abroad, an accredited college program linked with Seattle Central Community College. Please visit [www.westudyabroad.com](http://www.westudyabroad.com) for more information.

**Do I need travel insurance?** We strongly recommend that you get travel insurance that includes a medical plan. Prices depend upon trip length and participant age. You can compare prices online or by contacting your local travel agent.

**Can I speak to people that have attended the program before?** Definitely! Please contact our office and we can provide you with emails for students who have previously participated in this program.

**How do I apply?** To apply, complete an initial application and return it with a \$300 deposit. You can download an application at [www.andeo.org](http://www.andeo.org). Your deposit will be applied to the total program price. Upon receipt of your program registration and deposit, we will send you a detailed orientation packet. The balance of your program fees will be due 30 days before your program start date.

**What is your cancellation policy?** If you cancel your program more than 45 days prior to your start date, we will refund the amount you have paid toward your program fee except for the \$100 non-refundable deposit and any cancellation fees charged by the language school. The cancellation fees vary from school to school, so please feel free to ask us about the fees that apply to your program. For cancellations made less than 45 days prior to your program start date, your \$300 deposit will be forfeited, and you will also be responsible for the cancellation fees charged by the language school. If Andeo cancels your program, you will receive a full refund.

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