

Costa Rica

January 27 - February 7, 2027
Led By: Sue and Don Kissinger



Continuing Education
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point





An Itinerary for Costa Rica January 27 - February 7, 2027

For the 2027 tour, we are focusing on areas south of San Jose, including the cloud forests near San Gerardo de Dota, the tropical rainforests of the Osa Peninsula & Corcovado National Park and the beaches of the Pacific Coast. The itinerary below is filled with a variety of activities including guided nature hikes, snorkeling, kayaking, boat tours and cultural experiences. This all-inclusive tour features beautiful lodging, amazing local foods and knowledgeable local guides. Our University's 32-year relationship with Rosie at Costa Rican Specialties allows for a higher quality adventure which is guided by bilingual guide and naturalist extraordinaire, Lloyd Martinez. Sue, Don and Lloyd have been leading tours together for 25 years, so your experience will be exceptional! Pura Vida!

Trip Leaders: Sue and Don Kissinger

Costa Rican Naturalist & Guide: Lloyd Martinez

Wednesday, January 27, 2027 - Arrive in San Jose

- Guide will welcome us outside airport and take us to the hotel
**If your flight doesn't match the group schedule, your taxi ride to Bougainvillea Hotel is ~ \$50*
- Dinner and Overnight at **Bougainvillea Hotel**

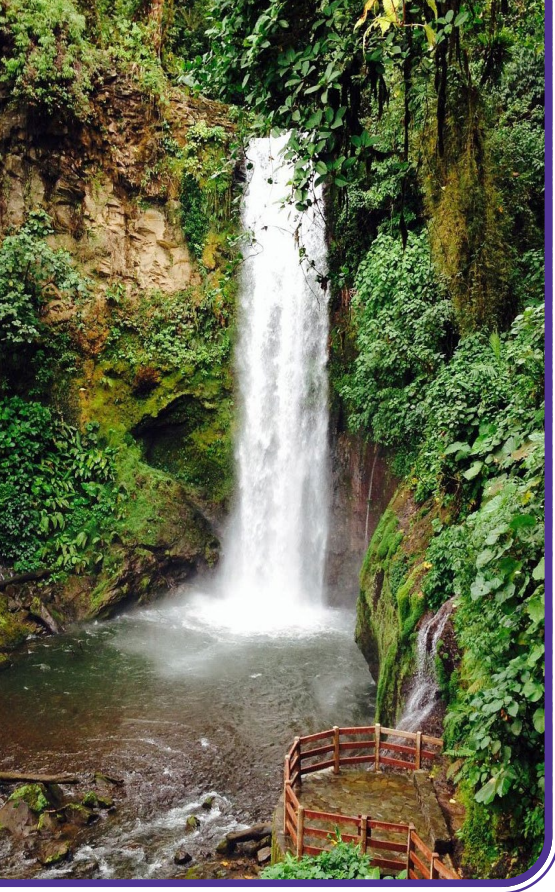
Thursday, January 28, 2027 - Rescate Wildlife Rescue Center

- Explore **Rescate Wildlife Rescue Center**
- Relax and enjoy the gardens and birds at Bougainvillea Hotel
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at Bougainvillea Hotel

Friday, January 29, 2027 - Poas Volcano National Park and the La Paz Waterfall Gardens

- Visit **Poas Volcano National Park** and the **La Paz Waterfall Gardens**
 - Spend the afternoon visiting the hummingbird garden, enclosed tropical bird and butterfly gardens, and hiking the trails to view five waterfalls all in a lush, tropical setting.
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at Bougainvillea Hotel





Saturday, January 30, 2027 - Savegre Lodge and Cloud Forest

- Travel to Savegre Lodge and spend the afternoon relaxing and exploring the grounds
- Naturalist guided night hike
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at **Savegre Lodge**

Sunday, January 31, 2027 - Exploring the Cloud Forest

- Naturalist lead hike in **Savegre**
 - Learn about the cloud forest and its fantastic wildlife and vegetation. We will be on the search for monkeys, sloths, agoutis and the beautiful quetzal.
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at Savegre Lodge

Monday, February 1, 2027 - Osa Peninsula

- Depart after lunch and drive to Sierpe where we will take a boat to arrive at our resort - Jinetes de Osa
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at **Jinetes de Osa**

Tuesday, February 2, 2027 - Cano Island

- Boat tour of **Cano Island Biological Reserve**
 - We will have the opportunity to explore the island and snorkel among the rocks and reefs to see colorful fish and possibly rays and sea turtles (*snorkeling equipment provided*).
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at Jinetes de Osa

Wednesday, February 3, 2027 - Corcovado National Park

- Explore the **Corcovado National Park** through Naturalist guided hikes
 - Visit one of the world's most biodiverse ecosystems. Bring your binoculars to see scarlet macaws, squirrel monkeys and maybe even an elusive tapir or jaguar!
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at Jinetes de Osa

Thursday, February 4, 2027 - Manuel Antonio

- Morning boat ride to Sierpe
- Visit **Sitio Museo Finca 6** to learn about archeological finds including the mysterious stone spheres
- Drive up the coast to tour **Manuel Antonio National Park**
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at **Hotel San Bada**



Friday, February 5, 2027 - Mangrove Kayak Tour at Isla Damas

- Enjoy a **Magrove kayak tour** via single or tandem sit-upon kayaks at Isla Damas
 - This is a relaxing way to experience the beauty of this unique ecosystem and get up close with wildlife.
- Afternoon beach and/or pool time
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at Hotel San Bada

Saturday, February 6, 2027 - Return to San Jose

- Morning beach and/or pool time
- With a few stops along the way, including the famous crocodile bridge at Tarcoles, we will make our way back to Bougainvillea Hotel for our Farewell Dinner
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner included
- Overnight at Bougainvillea Hotel

Sunday, February 7, 2027 - Departure Day

- Breakfast provided, depending on departure time
- Transfer to the airport
 - *If your flight doesn't match the group schedule, your taxi ride to Bougainvillea Hotel is ~\$50*

Please Note:

This tour will accommodate a variety of fitness levels but to fully enjoy the activities, it is best to be in good physical shape as we will be hiking on unpaved trails and uneven ground in the forest and other ecosystems. Must be able to do water exits from a boat in knee deep water to get to the shore.

Please identify any accessibility needs at registration, including mobility, seating, transportation, dietary, and communication needs. Some activities involve stairs, walking, uneven surfaces, or limited accessibility. Early notice helps us plan reasonable accommodations. We are unable to guarantee last-minute changes or provide personal physical assistance that requires staff to lift, carry, or physically support participants. Requests are reviewed individually so we can plan appropriate accommodations in advance.



Meet Your Trip Leaders:

Sue and Don Kissinger, Sue and Don have traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Central America, South Africa, and Europe. They met as forestry students 44 years ago on a UW–Stevens Point (UWSP) international course in Europe and are celebrating their 42nd wedding anniversary this year! Sue has led over 30 international tours through UWSP, including six to Costa Rica. Don has been her co-leader throughout the years, and they enjoy sharing their love of travel with others. They recently retired from 30-year careers at UWSP (Sue) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Don) and are enjoying retirement on a lake in northwestern Wisconsin.

Pricing

Registration Fee

Double occupancy rates: **\$4,550 per person**

*Single occupancy rates are not available for this trip

***Registration closes October 23, 2026**

Payment Schedule:

\$450 deposit due at registration (*This fee is nonrefundable*)

\$2,050 is due on Friday, July 31, 2026

\$2,050 is due on Friday, October 30, 2026

*Since we make financial commitments in advance, no refunds will be issued for cancellations less than 90 days prior to the trip. Cancellations received more than 90 days before the trip will receive a full refund minus \$450. However, you may send a substitute in your place. Please email us at uwspceweb@uwsp.edu to inform us of a cancellation or substitution.

Price includes:

- Escorted tour by bilingual guide Lloyd Martinez throughout the trip in Costa Rica
- All land transfers with expert driver
- Boat transfers to/from Sierpe to Drake Bay
- All lodging and taxes in cabins/rooms with private bathrooms
- All-inclusive! All meals are included (Dinner on January 27 - Breakfast on February 7)
- Guided tour of Rescate Wildlife Refuge Center
- Admission to Poas Volcano
- Admission to the La Paz Waterfall Gardens
- Naturalist guided hikes in the cloud forest at Savegre
- Boat tour to Cano Island Biological Preserve with snorkeling (equipment included)
- Naturalist guided hikes in Corcovado National Park
- Admission to Sitio Museo Finca 6
- Admission and guided tour of Manuel Antonio National Park
- Mangrove kayak tour at Damas Island

Price does not include:

- Roundtrip airfare to/from the Juan Santamaria International Airport (SJO), Alajuela Province, Costa Rica
- Travel insurance (recommended)
- Personal expenses (including alcohol, sundries, laundry, and souvenirs)
- Anything not mentioned in the itinerary
- Tips for guides and bus drivers

UWSP Continuing Education does not provide travel insurance, medical, or emergency evacuation and thus you are 100% responsible for these expenses. Visit [Travel Insurance Review](#) to answer any of your travel insurance questions, get tips, and advice, or compare different providers.