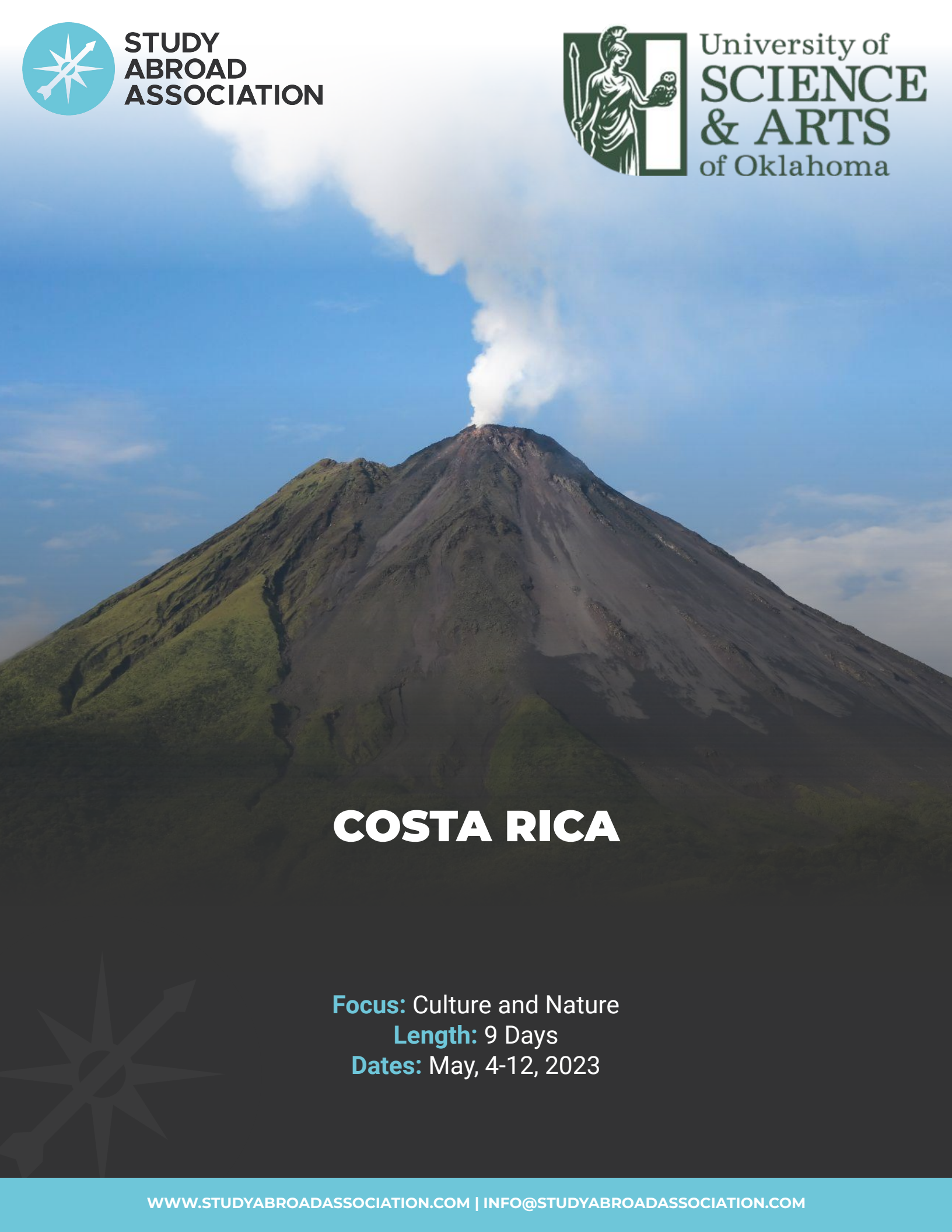




**STUDY
ABROAD
ASSOCIATION**



University of
**SCIENCE
& ARTS**
of Oklahoma



COSTA RICA

Focus: Culture and Nature

Length: 9 Days

Dates: May, 4-12, 2023



PROGRAM INFORMATION

Costa Rica is a small country located in Central America. What it lacks in size it makes up for in breathtaking nature and friendly locals, who are more than happy to teach travelers the relaxed Caribbean way of “pura vida”, or pure life.

During this 9-day program students, can immerse themselves in the stunning diverse ecosystem, which is comprised of a myriad of natural wonders, such as dense tropical forests, pristine sandy beaches, active volcanoes, and more. The abundant and exotic flora and fauna are ready to be discovered by students from all fields through extensive walking tours in some of the most famous national parks, wildlife reserves and will get to know more about the local culture thanks to the visit to an indigenous community and a self sustainable farm.

ACCOMMODATION TYPE

Accommodation selection will be based on group size, gender breakdown and availability. Students will share rooms of 2-4 people per room, each student will have their own bed. Faculty leaders will have their own private room with en-suite bathroom.

Accommodation are always centrally located and top rated (minimum rating of 8 out of 10). Daily continental breakfast and Free Wi-Fi included.

PROGRAM PRICE PER STUDENT WITH AIRFARE (ROUND TRIP)

10:1 11 travelers	15:1 13 travelers
\$3,430*	\$3,180*

*Program price stands as an estimate until ticketing is finalized.



WHY STUDY ABROAD ASSOCIATION?

Since 2009, Study Abroad Association has been committed to customizing the most in-depth and affordable short-term, faculty-led study abroad and service learning experiences. We have been working with colleges and universities across the United States to assist in achieving their international education goals. All programs revolve around our core values of Education, Authenticity, Affordability, Sustainability, and Safety.



Authenticity & Affordability

By collaborating with local partners we enable our travelers to have unique experiences while supporting local economies. This allows us to provide authentic and locally designed experiences and keep our costs low.



Education

All SAA programs are built on the foundation of education. We offer unique programs in over 18 areas of study, striving to offer programs to underserved academic fields such as STEM, Business, Allied Health, Humanities.



Customer Service

A dedicated Account Manager will assist during the entire process. We fully understand the challenges that go into organizing the perfect faculty-led programs. We will assign you an account manager fully dedicated and available to assist you at every point of your process.



US Based

We are a fully insured and accredited US organization with the advantages of having direct operations in more than 25 countries. We also have strong partnerships with local universities to ensure credits and educational methods are fully respected.



Safety

Safety is our number one priority. To ensure our travelers are completely protected throughout the program, we provide an all-inclusive travelers insurance policy, comprehensive risk management procedures and training before the program starts. Additionally our programs include 24/7 on-ground emergency support and assistance.



Sustainability

We promote sustainability with all our programs, visiting local communities and projects in need, as well as establishing long-lasting relationships and positive impacts with everyone we collaborate with.



PROGRAM ITINERARY

DAY 1 - DEPARTURE - Thursday, May 4

Depart Home for San Jose, Costa Rica
Arrive in San Jose, Costa Rica
Airport Transfer
On-ground Briefing
Orientation Walking Tour - *The group will become oriented with their neighborhood, the public transportation systems, nearby pharmacies, markets, ATMs, etc. Additionally, an in-depth safety briefing will be provided for what to do in case of an emergency.*
Historical & Cultural Walking Tour of San Jose
Welcome Dinner - *The group will be taken for an authentic dinner with a wide variety of menu options to cater all diets.*

DAY 2 - SAN JOSE/CAHUITA - Friday, May 5

Transfer to Turrialba (approx. 2.5 hrs)
Transfer by truck to the Pacuare River - *This river is amongst the top 10 rivers with the best scenery in the world for rafting.*
Rafting Pacuare River - *This is about 6 hrs rafting adventure with some stops on the way, lunch on the riverside including delicious local fruits. Get ready for some action rapids class 3 & 4*
Rafting end point - *Here there will be showers and changing rooms. When the group is ready, we get on the road to the beach!*
Transfer to Cahuita (approx. 2.5 hrs)

DAY 3 - CAHUITA - Saturday, May 6

Breakfast & Day Briefing
Visit the Cahuita National Park - *Here we will see monkeys, sloths, raccoons and more.*
Visit the Bribri Indigenous Community - *You will learn all about their day-to-day, their culture and also about medicinal plants.*
Visit to a Waterfall - *Approximately 45 meters high, we can bathe in this refreshing water from the Talamanca Mountain range.*

DAY 4 - CAHUITA/LA FORTUNA - Sunday, May 7

Breakfast & Day Briefing
Surf Lesson - *Show your surfing skills in this 1.5 hrs fun time at the beach!*
Transfer to La Fortuna, Arenal Volcano (approx. 4.5 hrs) - *The Arenal area contains a bizarre landscape of solidified lava flows, lush natural forest and tropical flora and fauna which includes howler monkeys, toucans and over 350 bird species.*
Structured Free Time & Cultural Immersion





PROGRAM ITINERARY

DAY 5 - LA FORTUNA - Monday, May 8

Breakfast & Day Briefing

Educational Don Juan Farm - *Learn about how to be a self-sustained farm, medicinal plants and Chocolate.*

Juan Eco Farm is an educational farming experience. Students have the opportunity to discover the different crops and organic farming methods. The end of the tour is at the troja (cane sugar press), a place where sugar cane can be processed in a manual press. In addition to enjoying fresh sugar cane juice, sugar cane products are sampled in the form of a sweet called sobado and cane liquor.

La Fortuna Waterfall - *This 70 mt high waterfall with very fresh water coming from the base of Cerro Chato and Arenal volcano is where we end our exploration day.*

DAY 6 - LA FORTUNA - Tuesday, May 9

Breakfast & Day Briefing

Full Day Canopy, Rappelling & Hot Springs - *Enjoy travelling the forest comfortably in our revitalizing paths full of nature and wildlife. In front of the majestic Arenal Volcano you can admire its beauty and the wonderful forest that surrounds it, as well as a reserve populated with wildlife in their natural habitat that will allow you an encounter with the roots of the human species.*

DAY 7 - LA FORTUNA/GUANACASTE - Wednesday, May 10

Breakfast & Day Briefing

Transfer to National Park Tenorio (*approx 2 hrs*)

Hike Through the Jungle - *Learn from an expert guide about the plant and animal life of the rainforest, and see the Rio Celeste waterfall. Located in the Guanacaste Volcanic Mountain Range, this park has a rainforest that protects species of wildlife of regional importance.*

You'll find more magic at Los Teñideros, where two rivers merge, and watch the water turn turquoise right before your very eyes. Discover the secret behind this transformation and after the walk, enjoy a delicious lunch in a restaurant in the area and also be able to swim in the majestic turquoise water.

Transfer to Guanacaste (*approx 2 hrs*)

DAY 8 - GUANACASTE - Thursday, May 11

Breakfast & Day Briefing

Free Day - *Enjoy the sun on the beach and have a full day off to decompress from this big journey. This is the Caribbean coast toward in land, sleeping at the base of volcano where you'll swim on turquoise water from Tenorio National Park. You will really understand the reason of locals to keep saying Pura vida !*

Farewell Dinner & Program Closing

DAY 9 - RETURN - Friday, May 12

Breakfast & Day Briefing

Airport Transfer

Depart Liberia, Costa Rica for Home





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- San Jose
- Cahuita National Park
- Rafting
- Rappelling
- Canopying
- Surf Lesson
- Visit Indigenous Community
- Visit self-sustainable farm
- Learn how to make chocolate and how sugar cane is processed
- Hike through the Jungle
- Swim around Waterfalls

PROGRAM INCLUDES

- Roundtrip Airfare
- 8 Nights of Accommodation
- All Ground Transportation (*inc. Transportation Pass*)
- Daily Continental Breakfast
- All Lunches
- All Dinners
- Historical & Cultural Walking Tours
- Full Time Local Guide
- 24/7 On-Ground Emergency Support
- Travelers Health Insurance & Liability Insurance
- Tips & Gratuities

ALL OF OUR PROGRAMS ARE 100% CUSTOMIZABLE.

Is there an experience you'd like to provide the students that's not included in the itinerary?

Let's add it!

Are there sites that better fit your subject than the ones provided?

Let's swap them!

Tell us your dream itinerary and we'll work with you to make it a reality.



**STUDY
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ASSOCIATION**

LIVE GLOBAL STREAMING



Bring professionals from around the globe directly into your classroom for a live streaming event from the location of your choice and/or on a topic related to your academic program content. We can often secure the specific onsite guest speakers you and your students will meet during the program abroad!

These **synchronous** activities are a great way for students to feel connected to the location and academic subject prior to departure. From live virtual walking tours of an area of a city to a Q&A session with a local business owner, these experiences can enhance your faculty-led program by providing participants a glimpse into what they will experience abroad. These live events also work as a great marketing tool to recruit students for your program.

Learn more at <https://studyabroadassociation.com/virtual-study-abroad/360-live-experiences/>

360 GLE™ (Global Learning Experiences)



What better way to get students excited about studying abroad than to let them explore the world virtually in advance? SAA's 360 GLE™ is an interactive platform featuring immersive international education materials and experiences from all over the world that you can use to supplement and enhance your courses and recruit more students for your study abroad programs.

The **asynchronous** 360 GLE™ content gives students an opportunity to virtually travel at their own pace to see what they will soon get to explore in person! It can also help institutions support globally competent and competitive students while expanding their career opportunities and perspectives.

Learn more at <https://studyabroadassociation.com/virtual-study-abroad/360-gle/>

Click [here](#) to see all of our affiliated Institutions & Consortiums

Testimonials



Cring Rosby recommends Study Abroad Association. April 4

This was my first trip as a professor taking students abroad. Christian and his team were magnificent. Everything was taken care of, accommodations were excellent, the guides were friendly. My students had an opportunity to earn college credit while abroad and Christian personalized our trip to meet those needs. I fully recommend the Study Abroad Association, and I can't wait to attend next year.



Brad Schatzel reviewed Study Abroad Association — 5 stars May 22

Outstanding tours at the lowest prices in the industry. Our institution has worked with the Study Abroad Association on five study tours to locations as diverse as China, Central Europe, and Costa Rica.

SAA worked with us to build an itinerary that was both educational and a ton of fun. The local guides far exceeded our expectations.



Amber Carey-Jernigan reviewed Study Abroad Association — 5 stars July 13 at 10:16 AM

Christian and his guides arranged an amazing and affordable adventure for our students.

The guides' expertise was unmatched. I have studied abroad before and have never had such knowledgeable, friendly, and fun guides. I definitely will be using SAA for all our future trips.



View more reviews on Facebook: [@studyabroadassociationpage](#)



#wearestudyabroad

Study Abroad Association has launched a **Private Facebook Group** made of educators, professors, directors, industry expert and like-minded people that would like to contribute, share and learn more about anything related with study abroad, faculty-led and service learning programs.

Click [here](#), or search on Facebook “#wearestudyabroad” and request your free access today.

Top Quality - Read all our 5 Star Reviews

Go and have fun reading all our public reviews of both students and educators on our Facebook page. In conjunction with those feel free to reach out to any reference we have. Due diligence is essential when choosing the right program for your students.

References

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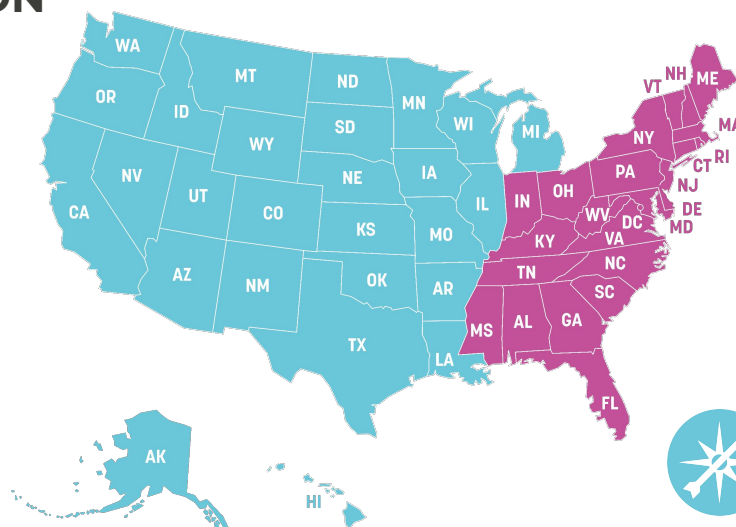
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