



/ EDUCATIONAL
TOURS



Live the language

To learn Spanish, it helps to fall in love with Costa Rica. Our Language Immersion Tours make both happen by combining interactive language lessons with authentic cultural experiences. Each day has a theme—like art, history, or food—that connects lessons to hands-on activities and conversations with locals. Your fluency expands along with your confidence and your passion for language. And through it all, your Language Immersion Program Director is by your side, supporting your language learning and highlighting every breakthrough moment.

LANGUAGE IMMERSION THROUGH COSTA RICA

8 or 11 days / Costa Rica

What you'll experience on your Language Immersion Tour

Each day in Costa Rica is built around a **daily theme** that explores topics you can relate to—like sustainability, food, and youth culture. You'll improve your Spanish skills and confidence as you discover a new appreciation for the local culture.

LANGUAGE LESSONS

You'll learn and practice vocabulary relevant to each day's theme during interactive lessons. Each day, you'll be strengthening your language skills through real conversations designed to prepare you for the day's immersive activities.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Learning how to cook a traditional meal with a local chef or appreciating breathtaking views on a zip-line canopy tour adds authentic cultural richness to your language development. Your specially trained Language Immersion Program Director will be by your side through it all, helping along beginners and challenging the more advanced students.

INTERACTIONS WITH LOCALS

Conversing with locals over a home-cooked meal or chatting with artisans is the ultimate opportunity to put your new skills to use while learning more about the culture. With each conversation, you'll gain more confidence in your ability to speak and listen.

> Colorful tree frogs will be hard to miss as you explore Costa Rica's rich biodiversity



You'll glide across the treetops on your zipline canopy tour



^ Traveling through Costa Rica's beautiful and varied landscapes will show you what makes it the most biodiverse country on the planet

DAY 1: FLY TO COSTA RICA

- Meet your Program Director at the airport.

DAY 2: GUANACASTE

Today's Theme: Community & Social Entrepreneurship—Guanacaste's strong Indigenous roots and long-preserved, folkloric traditions have shaped a unique sense of community in this peninsular region. Harboring an abundance of natural materials used in local crafts and in everyday life, Guanacaste is home to proud, entrepreneurial people that put their community first.

- Practice vocabulary related to sustainability and craftsmanship during a language lesson.
- Explore a socially and environmentally sustainable project in Guanacaste.
- Learn to make crafts, pottery, soap, or paper from recycled materials.
- Enjoy a dip in the thermal hot springs.
- Reflect on your experiences today in Spanish with the group. How can we, as travelers, explore Costa Rica in a socially responsible manner?

DAY 3: ARENAL REGION

Today's Theme: Costa Rican Diversity—Costa Rica is one of the most diverse countries in the world, and home to an astounding half million species of animals, plants, and fungi. You'll find dry forests, cloud forests, rainforests, and even volcanoes across this extremely varied landscape.

- Learn terms used to describe the country's natural surroundings and wildlife during an interactive language lesson.
- Interact with local vendors and shoppers during a market challenge and sample local Costa Rican foods.
- Travel to the Arenal Region.

DAY 4: ARENAL REGION

Today's Theme: Environmental Sustainability and Ecotourism—Ecotourism is a way for tourists to experience a country in an environmentally responsible manner—promoting awareness and minimizing our impact along the way. As you'll discover today, when done responsibly, tourism boosts the local economy and contributes to both national and natural development.

- Learn how Costa Rica uses ecotourism to develop its economy while protecting its biodiversity.
- Explore an eco-lodge and learn about alternative energy, microorganisms, and sustainable agriculture.
- Take a kayaking trip along Lake Arenal.
- Reflect on your experiences today in Spanish with the group. What could you do in your hometown to make it more environmentally sustainable?

DAY 5: SARAPIQUÍ REGION

Today's Theme: Daily Life in Costa Rica—It might be hard to imagine a world where you start college at 15, but live with your parents until you're married—or where everyone lives by a *pura vida* (or "pure life") philosophy that values relaxed, laid-back attitudes. But that's how life for most Costa Ricans is, and today is your chance to see things from their perspective.

- Learn and practice vocabulary related to daily life in Costa Rica.
- Practice your Spanish during an interactive scavenger hunt.
- Participate in a cultural exchange activity where you'll interact with locals. You'll speak about daily life in the country and what it's like to call Costa Rica home. They'll want to learn about your life in the U.S. and will have plenty of questions, too!
- Travel to Sarapiquí Region.
- Discover the beat of Costa Rica during a salsa lesson.
- Get a bird's-eye view of the landscape on a zipline canopy tour.

DAY 6: SARAPIQUÍ REGION

Today's Theme: Costa Rican Culinary Traditions—Costa Rican cuisine typically includes both local and international flavors. From Creole and Jamaican influences on the Caribbean coast, to hearty comfort foods in the central regions, Costa Ricans are well known for their use of fresh fruits and vegetables in every meal. Rice and beans are staples of Costa Rican diet, and when accompanied by meat, fish, or poultry, you get a classic *casado* that is a go-to lunch for most Costa Ricans.

- Learn food-related terms and practice your conversational Spanish during an interactive language lesson.
- Learn about local specialties and have fun preparing them in a cooking class.
- Go whitewater rafting with a local guide.
- Enjoy a homemade dinner with locals, the perfect opportunity to gain unique insight into life in Costa Rica today.
- Reflect on your experiences today in Spanish with the group. How did you like the Costa Rican flavors? Did you try anything you've never eaten before?

DAY 7: SAN JOSÉ

Today's Theme: Costa Rican History—As you'll discover in your class today, the mixing of Spanish and local cultures is just one part of what shaped Costa Rican history and made the country what it is today. Today you'll learn about one of the most important industries in Costa Rican history—pineapples—as you visit the fertile region where the fruit is most widely grown.

- Learn about Costa Rica's early settlements and industry.

- Travel to a pineapple farm and take a tour of the property.
- Transfer to San José, the country's bustling capital and cultural center.
- Learn about traditional Costa Rican handicrafts.

DAY 8: DEPART FOR HOME

Your tour may be coming to an end, but your lifelong love of the Spanish language is just beginning.

✦ 3-day tour extension

DAY 8: SAN JOSÉ | TORTUGUERO

- Travel through Braulio Carrillo National Park.
- Travel by boat to Tortuguero.
- Enjoy time to explore Tortuguero Village.

DAY 9: TORTUGUERO

- Enjoy a boat tour through the Tortuguero canals.
- Visit Tortuguero National Park—the most important Caribbean breeding ground for green sea turtles, who have lived here for more than 100 million years.

DAY 10: SAN JOSÉ

- Travel back to San José.

DAY 11: DEPART FOR HOME



LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Your Language Immersion Program Director provides linguistic insight in addition to handling all on-tour logistics. They're here to:

- Present lessons to help prepare you for the day's activities
- Facilitate key language-learning moments while exploring the country
- Help you with local idiomatic phrases
- Be your 24/7 language partner



Talk with local craftsmen and learn about their trade on Day 2

The World Leader in International Education

For over 55 years, EF has worked with educators across the world to help millions of students become citizens of the world through one global mission: *Opening the World Through Education*. With more than 600 schools and offices in over 50 countries, our staff can respond in person wherever you are, 24 hours a day. We're also an accredited educational institution, offering students the option to earn high school and college credit.

START PLANNING

To enroll on this tour, ask your teacher for the tour number and visit eftours.com/enroll or call 800-665-5364

AFFORDABLE

We always offer the guaranteed lowest prices so more students have the opportunity to travel and experience the world.

FULLY ACCREDITED

We're fully accredited, just like your school, so you can earn high school and even college credit while on tour.

SAFETY

We're committed to your safety. With more than 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, local EF staff can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.

INSIGHT

We believe in experiential learning at the most important sites. Your Program Director is with you at every step, providing their own perspective and local tips.



Every day reveals Costa Rica's colorful culture

THE LANGUAGE IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

Program price includes



FULL-TIME LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Your bilingual, specially trained Language Immersion Program Director stays with you 24/7 to handle all on-tour logistics and provide knowledgeable insights everywhere you go.



LANGUAGE LESSONS

Interactive language learning with your Language Immersion Program Director.



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Sustainability workshop; interactive activity with local students; sustainable eco-lodge visit; dinner with locals; salsa dance lesson; cooking class; organic farm; pineapple farm visit



ENTRANCES

Zipline canopy tour; kayaking tour; whitewater rafting



PERSONALIZED LEARNING GUIDE

Engages students before, during, and after tour, with the option to receive academic credit.

ALL THE DETAILS ARE COVERED

Round-trip flights on major carriers; comfortable motorcoach; 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (10 with extension); breakfast and dinner daily; lunch included on days 2-7 (days 8-10 with extension).