

ITINERARY | DAY-BY-DAY



CAREER ENRICHMENT



Law Program to San José, Arenal, Granada & Managua City

Costa Rica / Nicaragua

9 days / 8 nights

October 22-30, 2016

\$4,299 (Based on double occupancy)

Enjoy the unique culture and traditions of Costa Rica & Nicaragua while you spend time with the locals. This includes a very special visit to Granada and Managua in Nicaragua, just across the border of Costa Rica!

BOOK NOW 888.747.7501

Costa Rica Highlights

- ✓ 9 days & 8 nights
- ✓ Zip line through the jungles of Costa Rica and soak in a volcanic hot spring
- ✓ Spend 3 nights based in Granada, Nicaragua, the colonial town founded in 1524 next to the now dormant Mombacho volcano and freshwater Lake Nicaragua – a photographer's dream!

Community Connections

- ✓ Interact with the local people and have the chance to give back with a *community service activity*

Professional Interaction

- ✓ Engage with local speakers about their legal systems, government, and culture
- ✓ Receive an overview of the legal system while meeting with an organization such as the **Legislative Assembly**
- ✓ Learn about the role of lawyers and the courts in both Nicaragua and Costa Rica while engaging with local legal professionals
- ✓ Visit a **law school in Nicaragua** to learn about legal education

What's Included:

- 5* accommodations in San José, Arenal & Granada
- All transportation and activities outlined in the itinerary
- Group transfers to and from the international airport
- International air to and from San Jose (gateway city set tentatively out of Houston)
- Local English speaking guide throughout
- Most meals and tips

Not Included:

- Personal expenses at the hotel
- Meals not specified
- Tips for maid/cleaning staff
- Passport and/or visa entry fees to Nicaragua at the border
- Domestic flight to gateway city
- Departure taxes where applicable



📍 San José, Costa Rica

DAY 1

Fly to San Jose today.

Depart from Houston and arrive in San José, Costa Rica this evening. The stunning beauty and friendly people alone are worth a visit!

Upon arrival the group will be met and transferred to your local hotel for check in. Relax this evening and settle into your lovely five star hotel located in the heart of Escazú, the most prestigious area of San José. Ideally located for business or leisure, the hotel is within Multiplaza, the city's most important mall, where you can find a variety of stores, bars and restaurants.

Time permitting you might make use of the four unique restaurants and lounges, interior and exterior Spa facilities, and beautiful pool area surrounded by tropical gardens.

Depending on flight arrival time, dinner is on your own tonight (if not provided in flight).

Overnight at Real Intercontinental Hotel
Included meals: N/A



📍 San José, Costa Rica

DAY 2

Downtown San José – City tour

Please Note: Breakfast is included daily in your program.

Start your morning with a group meeting and welcome orientation session at the hotel. Your local guide will go through your schedule, answer questions and provide some tips for travel in Costa Rica before you get started!

Make your way to lunch and then off to explore Costa Rica's capital city, San José. Visit some of its historic residential areas, **La Sabana Metropolitan Park**, and the **National Theater**, an icon of the San José of the late 19th century.

You will also visit the **Pre-Columbian Gold Museum**, one of the few that exists worldwide. The exhibition consists of 1,000 original pieces that date from 300 to 1500 A.C. The Pre-Columbian Gold Museum has an extraordinary collection of gold objects that reflect the gold working techniques of the Pre-Columbian people of Costa Rica.

Enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at Real Intercontinental Hotel
Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner





📍 San José, Costa Rica

DAY 3

Introduction to legal systems in Costa Rica

Today's activities will focus on interaction with local speakers who can provide an overview of the legal system of Costa Rica. A meeting has been requested with the **Legislative Assembly**. Learn how the legal system works, how a legislative period is composed, what types of legal procedures are submitted to popular vote for laws or administrative acts, and the requirements to be a delegate in the Assembly.

The Legislative Assembly is the unicameral legislative branch of the Costa Rican government and is responsible for approving laws. Composed of 57 members who are elected by popular vote according to a majority vote, they enact, dictate, reform, derogate and interpret laws regulating national life.

Lunch will be provided this afternoon with dinner by individual arrangement (own expense).

This afternoon meet with a **local law firm**. Learn about the role of lawyers within the court system and observe how the legal system in Costa Rica works while discussing how it reaches a balance between punishment and rehabilitation. Explore how the legal system affords access to the underprivileged and underserved.

Guest program:

Today, guests will visit a working coffee plantation. Costa Rica produces outstanding coffee and guests can learn about the roasting process as well as the history of this famous export, dating back to 1779. Of course the visit wouldn't be complete without sampling some coffee! After lunch, spend time shopping alongside locals at a bustling marketplace.

Dinner is by individual arrangement (own expense) this evening.

Overnight: Real Intercontinental Hotel
Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 San José, Costa Rica

DAY 4

This morning the group will participate in a **social service project to benefit a local organization** (this could be a local school, orphanage or NGO).

We are working with **Obras del Espiritu Santo**, a project lead by a Catholic priest who is in working on funds to build a huge shelter for abandoned children and teenagers, to arrange a project for the group.

Depart later today for Arenal. En route, see **La Fortuna Town**—a charming town located in the valley of the Arenal Volcano and nestled among lush vegetation and waterfalls.

This afternoon, relax and reflect in the mineral-rich waters of a local hot springs. **Volcanic hot springs** result when rainwater heated by magma in the Earth's interior rises to surface, bringing important minerals found in the earth's rocky crust with it.

Lunch and dinner will be provided today.

Overnight: Hotel Royal Corin
Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner





📍 Arenal, Costa Rica

DAY 5

Adventure & animals

After breakfast, visit **Arenal Natura Ecological Park**. A local expert will guide the group to discover exotic frogs, birds, and reptiles living in a magnificent tropical rainforest at the base of the majestic Arenal Volcano. During this guided exploration, learn about the more than 30 species of Costa Rican diurnal and nocturnal frogs; see a reptile lagoon; and witness a snake exhibit.

Later, enjoy local wildlife living in the trees during a **gondola ride** rich with fantastic views of Arenal Volcano, a nearby lake, and the Tilarán mountain range. Next, **fly across the forest on zip lines** for a thrilling look at even more tree-dwelling creatures—or return to the bus via the slower-moving gondola!

Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Hotel Royal Corin
Included meals: Breakfast & Dinner

📍 Granada, Nicaragua

DAY 6

Cross the Peñas Blancas Border into Nicaragua

After an early breakfast, make your way by motor coach to the border (approximate 5 hour drive). After border procedures and payment of the visa fees (less than \$20 currently), enter Nicaragua and make your way to Granada. Lunch will be provided in route today.

After checking into your lovely hotel, get settled before taking a short walk to dinner.

Hotel Real La Merced in a renovated mansion and has 18 rooms that are fully equipped for the comfort of any business or leisure traveler. The hotel has a private pool, gym, and onsite restaurant. Each guest room has cable television, WiFi and air conditioning.

Overnight: Real la Merced Granada
Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



📍 Granada, Nicaragua

DAY 7

Overview of the legal systems of Nicaragua

This morning meet with a **local law school** to get an overview of the legal system in Nicaragua and to learn about the country's legal education programs.

After lunch meet with attorneys at a **local law firm**.

Guests:

Today guests will explore the highlands of the Pacific Region of Nicaragua. In today's adventure, visit some picturesque "white towns", given their name in the early colonial period as part of Nicaraguan folklore. Each town has its own specialty when it comes to art, food and tradition. Today's tour through these towns will give you a chance for stops to learn how the locals make bamboo baskets and furniture. Time will be made to stop at a market in San Juan de Oriente and Catarina (check out their lovely pottery). Enjoy a photo opportunity to see the view from Catarina of the surrounding water and volcano landscape.

Dinner is by individual arrangement this evening (own expense).

Overnight: Real la Merced Granada
Included meals: Breakfast & Lunch



📍 Granada, Nicaragua

DAY 8

Day Trip to Managua City

After breakfast the group will explore Managua including stops at the old city center which was destroyed by an earthquake in 1972, and the new downtown area where the city is continuously rebuilding and investing for the future.

Get to know the story behind their national hero Augusto Cesar Sandino and the Somoza dictatorship. See the ruins of the old presidential palace, also destroyed by the earthquake that leveled the city. Continue your drive down to the old city center to visit the "Park of Peace", a very important symbol of the peace Nicaraguans are now enjoying.

Explore "El Malecon", for a closer look at Lake Managua and the surrounding areas. We will see the monument to Simon Bolivar, in the avenue of the same name and also the National Theater Ruben Dario, New Presidential House, Palace of Culture and other buildings. The tour will take us to the enigmatic human footprints of Acahualinca, (6000 years old).

Return to Granada for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Real la Merced Granada

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



📍 Granada, Nicaragua

DAY 9

Depart for home

Say farewell to Nicaragua today as you board your flight back home early this afternoon.





LAW | DAY-BY-DAY

📍 San Jose, Costa Rica

Real Intercontinental Hotel

Prospero Fernandez Highway
Excazu, San Jose, Costa Rica

Telephone: 011-506-2208-2100

www.intercontinental.com/SanJose



📍 Arenal, Costa Rica

Hotel Corin Resort

La Fortuna de San Carlos
Alajuela, Costa Rica

Telephone: 011-506-2479-2200

<http://www.royalcorin.com/>



📍 Granada, Nicaragua

Real la Merced Granada

Calle Real Xaltev
Granada, Nicaragua

Telephone: 011-505-2552-2824

<https://hotelrealamerced.online.com.ni/>

