



# "Pura Vida" Tour to Costa Rica

13 days / 12 nights

**Departs from:** Brownsville, TX. on Monday, February 14, 2011

**Returns to:** Brownsville, TX. on Saturday, February 26, 2011

## Overview

A fascinating trip through Central America to visit unique off the beaten path destinations. CST Flight Services will take care of entry/over-flight permits, eAPIS, international flight plans, aeronautical charts, pilot guides, lodging, meals, ground transportation and group activities as outlined in the itinerary. Our stops include Veracruz, Tikal, Arenal volcano, Barra Tortuguero, Guapiles, Tamarindo and San Salvador. Experience archeological marvels and natural beauty in a way that only general aviation flying allows.

## Navigation Information



Brownsville to Veracruz, Mexico	429 NM
Veracruz to Villahermosa, Mexico	212 NM
Villahermosa to Flores/Tikal, Guatemala	208 NM
Flores/Tikal to La Ceiba, Honduras	205 NM
La Ceiba to Liberia, Costa Rica	339 NM
Liberia to Arenal, Costa Rica	57 NM
Arenal to Barra Tortuguero, Costa Rica	63 NM
Barra Tortuguero to Guapiles, Costa Rica	27 NM
Guapiles to Tamarindo, Costa Rica	129 NM
Tamarindo to Liberia	23 NM
Liberia to Ilopango, El Salvador	296 NM
Ilopango to Tapachula, Mexico	204 NM
Tapachula to Veracruz	359 NM
Veracruz to Brownsville	429 NM
<b>Total distance:</b>	<b>2,980 NM</b>

Airports of landing	Identifier	Runway length
Veracruz	MMVR	7,874 FT
Villahermosa	MMVA	7,218 FT
Flores/Tikal	MGTK	9,843 FT
La Ceiba	MHLC	9,876 FT
Liberia	MRLB	9,022 FT
Arenal	MRAN	2,625 FT
Barra Tortuguero	MRBT	2,559 FT
Guapiles	MRGP	3,281 FT
Tamarindo	MRTM	2,625 FT
Ilopango	MSSS	7,349 FT
Tapachula	MMTP	6,562 FT

## Itinerary

### Day 1, Monday

Depart Brownsville to Veracruz. We will stay at Gran Hotel Diligencias located on the lively downtown square of the historic city of Veracruz. Enjoy the sounds and sites of the "zocalo".



### Day 2 Tuesday

Depart Veracruz and fly to Villahermosa to refuel and check out of Mexico. Continue on to Flores, Guatemala. After processing documents transfer to Hotel Casona del Lago in Santa Elena to relax and get ready for our trip to Tikal.



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## Day 3 Wednesday

After breakfast, we will travel via private vans to visit the spectacular archeological site of Tikal nestled in the tropical jungle of Guatemala. We will have lunch in Tikal and then return to Santa Elena to spend the rest of the afternoon at leisure relaxing or strolling through the narrow streets on the island of Flores. Reconvene for dinner at the Hotel.



## Day 4 Thursday

After breakfast we will transfer to the airport, check out and fly to Liberia, Costa Rica via refueling stop at La Ceiba, Honduras. Upon arrival we will clear customs and immigration, process entry permits and transfer to our Hotel Hilton Garden Inn in Liberia to rest.



## Day 5 Friday

Depending on weather, we will either fly ourselves to the La Fortuna airport or board private vans to La Fortuna. After checking in at our Hotel Montaña de Fuego we will freshen up and reconvene at 3:00 pm to take a private tour to the Arenal volcano (one of Costa Rica's most active) with an expert nature guide. You will be able to hear the rumbling of the volcano and see the rocks being flung out of the crater. A special dinner has been scheduled at the hotel.



## Day 6 Saturday

After breakfast we will start our tour to the organic pineapple farm and dairy where a guide will explain the production processes. Lunch will be served after the tour. Upon returning to the hotel we will get our bathing suits and transfer to a thermal water natural spa (Eco-Termas) where we will have a chance to relax, enjoy the hot waters and have a delicious dinner.



## Day 7 Sunday

After an early breakfast, we will head back to Liberia and fly to Barra Tortuguero located on Costa Rica's Caribbean coast. (Or we will head to the la Fortuna airport after a later breakfast and fly to the beautiful natural reserve of Tortuguero). Once we have landed, boats will come up the river to take us from the airport ramp to the lodge. We will have lunch upon arrival at Tortuga Lodge and spend the afternoon relaxing. In the late afternoon we will take a guided nature tour to get acquainted with the hotel grounds and wildlife surrounding it. We will meet for dinner at the hotel restaurant.



## Day 8 Monday

After breakfast, chartered boats will pick us up from the lodge and take us on a tour of the Natural Park of Tortuguero to experience the local flora and fauna and learn about the different animal and plant species found in this area. Our expert nature guide will lead us along canals that wind deep into the jungle affording us an opportunity to experience nature up close. Upon returning to the hotel we will have lunch and relax before visiting the picturesque local village.





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## Day 9 Tuesday

After an early breakfast we will transfer to the airport and head to Guápiles for our visit to EARTH (Escuela Agrícola Regional del Trópico Húmedo or Regional Agricultural School for the Wet Tropics). After the tour and lunch we will transfer back to the airport and head towards Tamarindo a quaint tourist resort on the Pacific coast where we will check into the Hotel Diria on the Tamarindo beach.



## Day 10 Wednesday

Relax! Spend the day on the beach, by the pool and doing some shopping for souvenirs.



## Day 11 Thursday

After breakfast we will head to the Tamarindo airport and fly to Liberia where we will refuel, check out of Costa Rica and fly to Ilopango, San Salvador where we will refuel and spend the night. We are considering staying at Hotel El Mirador.



## Day 12 Friday

After an early breakfast we will transfer to the Ilopango airport and head to Tapachula, Mexico to clear customs and immigration. We will then continue on to Veracruz where we will spend the last night of our trip at Gran Hotel Diligencias.



## Day 13 Saturday

We will clear out of Veracruz and head back to Brownsville.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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