



Travellers Worldwide is a leading International Provider of  
Volunteering Programmes, Work Experience Internships  
and Cultural Courses Abroad

# COSTA RICA



## CONSERVATION WITH THE NATIVE MACAWS OF COSTA RICA

Work with a project that is a Costa Rican licensed zoological park and non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of the two native macaw species of Costa Rica. You'll be able to assist in various aspects of work that contributes to the Conservation of these wonderful exotic birds, including some of the following:

- Maintenance of Trails and general infrastructure
- Monitoring of the nesting activity (species identification, biometrics)
- Information and marking
- Liberation of new-born.
- Obtaining information and data collection on the remains of the nest.

***Thank you for your interest in volunteering on this Project. Below is a description of what you can do and expect. You can volunteer whether you're taking a gap year, on a career break, retired, or on a holiday with a purpose. No matter what your age or experience, we look forward to welcoming you to the team!***

## WHAT DO YOU GET?

### SELF-DEVELOPMENT:

- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- The enormous satisfaction of helping threatened Macaws and knowing that you made a difference to them.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.

### SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Your safety is our top priority. We risk-assess all destination countries, projects, accommodation and more to ensure that they are stable and safe.
- We have experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who are there to assist you and look after you, starting with an in-depth induction on your arrival.

### AN ADVENTURE!

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into the fascinating culture of Costa Rica, and best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**

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## SUMMARY

**Prices:** From **£1,295** for 4 weeks, then **£200** for each additional week, excluding flights. See our [Full Price List Online](#)

**Duration:** From 4 weeks to 6 months or longer, subject to visa requirements

**Start Dates:** Availability all year round – you choose your start and finish dates. You should ideally arrive at the weekend, between 8.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m.

**Requirements:** Minimum age 18. No qualifications necessary, but you should have Low to Intermediate Spanish. You should be able to adapt to a tropical environment and should also be flexible and patient.

### What's Included:

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ▶ Arranging your Programme,          | ▶ Full pre-departure support and assistance, |
| ▶ Payment Protection insurance       | ▶ Accommodation                              |
| ▶ Food                               | ▶ Transfer to your accommodation             |
| ▶ Meeting you at the nearest airport | ▶ Local in-country team support and backup   |
| ▶ Transport to and from your project | ▶ Certificate of Completion                  |
| ▶ 24-hr emergency support.           | ▶ Free T-Shirt.                              |

**What Not Included:** Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required), Return transfer to airport,

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### WORK CONTENT:

You'll work with a project that is a Costa Rican licensed zoological park and non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of the two native macaw species of Costa Rica:

- The critically endangered Great Green or Buffon's Macaw (*Ara ambiguous*) and
- The Scarlet Macaw (*Ara macao*).

The Project has been involved in macaw conservation for over 25 years and incorporates breeding techniques and aviary management in order to carry out controlled release programs in conjunction with Costa Rican wildlife laws imposed by MINAET (the Ministry of the Environment, Energy & Telecommunications).

The breeding center is currently situated in Rio Segundo de Alajuela in the Central Valley. Its' only purpose is captive breeding for release into the wild. Between 1999 and 2009, they released a total of over 80 Scarlet Macaws in it's three release sites and since then further releases have been made.

The released macaws have a survival rate close to 90% and several pairs have been successfully reproducing, creating natural population augmentation.

New stages have been added to the overall objectives, including creation of extensive environmental education programs in communities and schools surrounding release sites, expansion of monitoring of released macaws, protection of natural populations, contribution to biological corridor conservation, development of a successful Great Green Macaw reintroduction program and incorporation of national biologists and staff.

Some or all of the work you may get involved in include:

- Maintenance and reconstruction of the Trails
- General infrastructure maintenance
- Working with the tourists who come to view the birds and bring much-needed funding and attention to the project
- Control Walks.
- Monitoring of the nesting activity (species identification, biometric
- Information and marking (among several others).
- Liberation of new-born.
- Obtaining information and data collection on the remains of the nest.
- Garbage clean-up and separation for recycling to remove the danger to wildlife.



## CAN'T SPEAK THE LANGUAGE?

If you speak some Spanish, you'll find it very beneficial on this project. However, don't be put off if languages aren't your thing! You're sure to pick up some of the basic words whilst you're there and, like other volunteers, you'll find other ways to converse without language becoming a barrier.

Don't forget that we can also arrange some Spanish Lessons for you during your programme if you'd like.

***“Travellers provided the infrastructure, safe accommodation and very friendly UK and local staff that made the difference, especially to someone like myself travelling on their own.”***

**Janice Imrie**

***“I would definitely recommend Travellers Volunteering to anybody that wants a challenge and is ready to get stuck in.”***

**Lizzie Faithfull**

## ACCOMMODATION

### ACCOMMODATION

For a true Latin American experience, your accommodation will be with one of our wonderful host families. All of our hosts are very welcoming and not only will you be made to feel part of the family, you'll also gain a great insight into Costa Rican culture and customs. Many of our volunteers remain friends with their host families long after they leave Costa Rica and in some cases they return to the country later especially to visit their family.

Your host family is located in the centre of the small town - it is a large traditional Costa Rican house with separate bedroom.

You may share a room with up to 2 other volunteers and you'll be provided a simple room with all the basic utilities, such as electricity, showers and most things you would find in your own home.

### FOOD

Your host family will provide you with three meals a day. The meals are typical delicious Costa Rican dishes. The meals usually consist of rice and beans, which are served with meat.

The fruit in Costa Rica is outstanding, fresh and inexpensive; host families will usually provide fruit on occasion, but it's always available at the markets. If you are vegetarian or have any special dietary restrictions, please let us know as most of our families can accommodate this.



## WHY TRAVELLERS WORLDWIDE?

- Over 20 years' experience of sending thousands of participants overseas, plus the largest variety of flexible projects that are value for money!
- Accredited projects helps appeal to future employers
- Excellent support!
- Your own dedicated Project Co-ordinator to answer all questions before, during and after your trip of a lifetime!
- Detailed information on your project and country and suggestions, safety guide, tips and checklists, via our EXTRANET, available from anywhere, 24/7.
- 24/7 emergency helpline for you and your family
- Free pick up from the nearest airport.

## HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible. Donations to **Bridge The Gap Foundation**. This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Food (Breakfast only)
- ✓ Meeting you at the airport
- ✓ Transport to and from your project
- ✓ Local in-country team support and backup
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline
- ✓ Full pre-departure support
- ✓ UK administration
- ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations)
- ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection
- ✓ Staff Training/Equipment
- ✓ Free T-Shirt
- ✓ Donations to worthwhile project

*“Travellers is an amazing organization that offers life changing experiences to people of all ages, I will highly recommend it to everyone, and I will be planning another volunteer experience for myself as well as for my sons.*

*Thank you so much for the experience of a life time!”*

**Deanne Peterson**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Got any questions? Please email us: [info@travellersworldwide.com](mailto:info@travellersworldwide.com)

Once you have applied for a placement, we'll contact you and send you our Welcome Pack. You'll also receive Log-on details and password for our Volunteer Extranet where you'll have access to all the documentation and information which we've put together to facilitate preparations for your adventure!

Your Project Co-ordinator for your country will liaise with you throughout the arrangements process, as well as while you're on your placement and on your return home.

The documents you'll have access to also include a Country Factfile, Safety Guide and any manuals that may assist you on your particular programme (for example, Teaching Guide, Sports Manuals, Enrichment Suggestions for Animal Care, etc.). We do all we can to make your stay one that you'll never forget.

As with all our destinations, the culture and heritage is different to what you're used to ... which, although one of the most exciting aspects of travelling, should be borne in mind. Self-reliance and independence are highly appreciated in all our destinations and will help you to make the most of this wonderful opportunity! This is a truly awesome, elegant and beautiful country.

### On Arrival, your Introduction to the Country:

When you arrive you will be welcomed by a representative who will take you to your accommodation and introduce you to everyone. During your first few days you'll be given an induction so that you can learn about the country and its culture, as well as other useful information, like how to use the transport system, banks, safety issues, tipping, and lots more.



# THINGS TO DO IN COSTA RICA

## LOCATION, EXPLORING AND SIGHTSEEING:

### HEREDIA

Just 10 km from San Jose you'll find Heredia. The city lies in the foothills of the Brava volcano (extinct) and is so full of lush gardens that it's nickname is the 'City of Flowers'.

Heredia is also home to the country's national university, which has one of the foremost Veterinary schools in Central America and is also well known for it's outstanding Biology department. Because of this, the city teems with university students!

Heredia is relaxed and laid back, with a main square in the heart where everyone gathers, surrounded by superb colonial architecture. One of the more outstanding examples of architecture is the historic La Inmaculada Concepcion, a majestic church built in 1796. The church stands in Heredia's Central Park, and has a variety of shops and restaurants neighbouring it.

The weather here is mild and temperate all year round - a perfect place to stay and a great point from which to visit San Jose.

### JACO BEACH

As Jacó lies on the seashore, climate is normally humid, with relative humidity around 80%, reaching 90% in June. Temperature is 85–90 °F (24-32 °C) during the day and 75–80 °F (24-26 °C) at night.

Jacó lies between several mountains, and is neighbored by the beaches of Herradura Bay to the North, and Playa Hermosa to the South. It's an excellent jumping off point for visiting some of the many rain forests and national parks that are close by.



## HOW TO BOOK

### TWO EASY WAYS ...

Complete a [booking form](#) online.

Telephone  
01903 502595 (UK)  
or  
1-603-574-4935 (USA)



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR PROGRAMME!**

**We hope you'll join us!**

**Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.**

**We're happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!**

[www.travellersworldwide.com](http://www.travellersworldwide.com)

[www.travelersworldwide.org](http://www.travelersworldwide.org)