



Education First

Educational Tours

Costa Rica | March 2015

GLOBAL STUDENT LEADERS SUMMIT

ADDRESSING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

TROPICAL ECOLOGY IN SARAPIQUI AND ARENAL

March 20 - 28

Tropical toucan, perched at La Selva Biological Station.

SOLVE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Costa Rica is setting a powerful environmental example for the rest of the world by working to become completely carbon neutral by 2021. Join us here for our March 2015 Global Student Leaders Summit, *Addressing Environmental Sustainability*.

This is your chance to explore Costa Rica's diverse ecosystems on an immersive Summit tour of the Arenal region and Sarapiquí. You'll expand your knowledge of environmental sustainability at the two-day Summit leadership conference in San José, where you'll join hundreds of other globally minded teachers and students. Inspired by world-renowned speakers and expert-led workshops, you'll collaborate in small international teams to create and present solutions to an environmental challenge.

A deeper learning experience—at home and abroad

1

Before the Tour

The Summit experience begins at home with weShare, our online learning platform. It's designed to prepare you for the conference with fun activities and projects that support the implementation of your ideas.

2

While on Tour

Your itinerary introduces you to Costa Rica—and brings environmental sustainability to life. Through hands-on learning and authentic local connections, you'll gain new perspectives on the challenges, ideas and progress being made to protect the environment.

3

Leadership Conference

In San José you'll hear from world-renowned conservationist **Dr. Jane Goodall**, best known for her study of chimpanzees in Tanzania. She will be joined by **Severn Cullis-Suzuki**, an environmental activist who, at age 12, delivered a powerful speech that garnered worldwide attention at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. Then, using design thinking—a creative problem-solving technique used by companies like Apple and Google—your international team will work to address an environmental challenge. The conference culminates with the Innovation Village, a showcase of student work where your ideas are shared and celebrated.



DR. JANE GOODALL



SEVERN CULLIS-SUZUKI

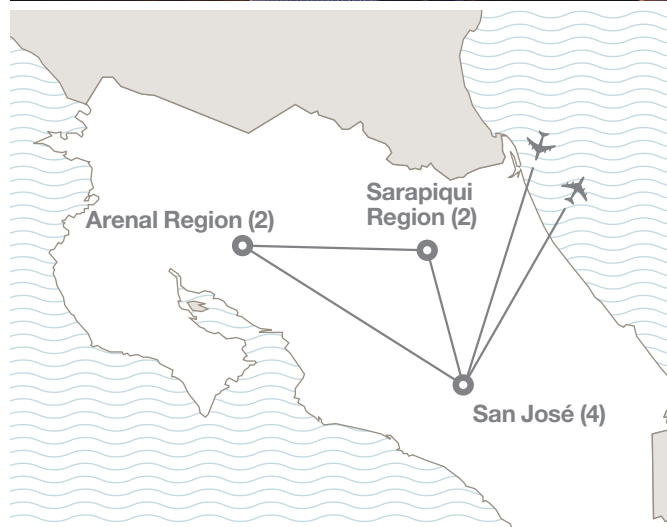
4

After the Tour

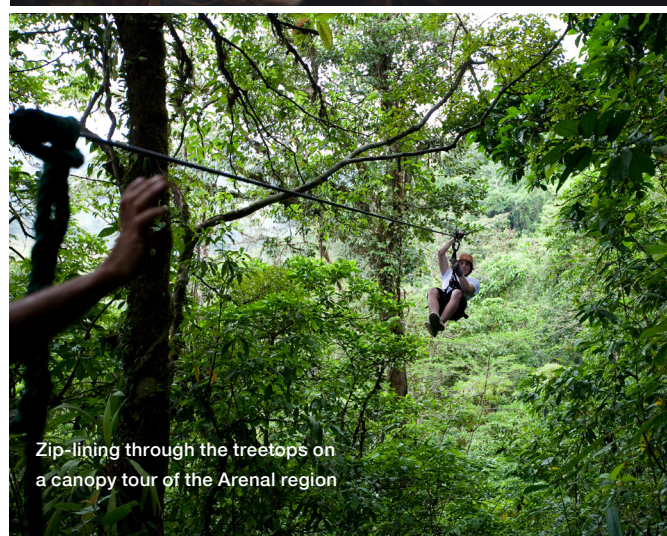
Back home, the learning experience continues with weShare, where you can submit and share your final project online for high school or college credit. The best project even receives grant money to help make it a reality.



Leadership Conference student presenter



Collaborating solutions for environmental issues



Zip-lining through the treetops on a canopy tour of the Arenal region

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION

*Highlights of what you'll experience on your
9-day tour of the Arenal region and Sarapiquí:*



EARTH UNIVERSITY

Visit EARTH University to learn about sustainable agricultural development practices of the tropics.



TIRIMBINA BAT ACTIVITY

Learn about Costa Rica's wide variety of bats as you see them up close in their natural habitat.



LA SELVA BIOLOGICAL STATION

Observe plants and animals while taking a guided nature walk at La Selva Biological Station.

Itinerary

March 20—28, 2015

Day 1: San José

Fly to San José and meet your Tour Director at the airport. Then transfer to your hotel, where you will settle for the night.

Days 2—3: San José

The **leadership conference** begins as you connect with students from all over the world in an inspiring and dynamic setting. Using what you learn from speakers and experts at the conference, you will collaborate using the design-thinking process to develop new ideas about environmental sustainability—ideas that you can bring back to your own community.

Day 4: Sarapiquí

Travel to Sarapiquí, where you will have the chance to observe Costa Rica's biodiversity—and practice your teamwork—while on a whitewater rafting adventure.

Day 5: Sarapiquí

Visit EARTH University, a school that offers a four-year undergraduate program in agricultural sciences and natural resources management. Established by Costa Rica law in 1986 as a private, non-profit international university, EARTH's 8,342-acre tropical campus includes laboratories and academic farms. Ever wondered how that bunch of bananas got to your local fruit stand or grocery store? Meet the people who plant, harvest and export those Fair Trade bananas and learn more about how important peri-urban gardens are in building communities and economies.

Visit the Tirimbina Biological Reserve and see bats in their natural habitat during this activity. There are 113 species of bats in Costa Rica, which represents nearly 50 percent of the country's mammals. You'll learn about the natural history of bats, their classification, diversity and what threatens them, while also having

the chance to observe, up close, bats that have been temporarily captured for research projects.

Day 6: Sarapiquí/Arenal region

Take a nature walk at La Selva Biological Station, the world's most popular site for tropical rain forest research. Situated on 15 kilometers of protected natural rainforest, the area averages over 13 feet of rain per year. Learn about the various research projects going on in La Selva and the array of flora and fauna that you will see on your walk. Be on the lookout for poison-dart frogs, green iguanas and giant tropical ants on your guided walk. Then, travel to the Arenal region.

Day 7: Arenal region

One of Costa Rica's most spectacular waterfalls, La Fortuna is located within the thick jungle of the Arenal Rainforest. View spectacular biodiversity as you walk to the bottom of the waterfall. Then,

change your perspective by taking a bird's-eye view of plants, animals and treetops on your canopy tour.

Cap your day's adventures by relaxing in hot springs. The Arenal Volcano not only serves as a watershed for Lake Arenal, but it also provides thermal energy for these naturally heated pools.

Day 8: San José

Travel to Sarchi, a small, picturesque town known for the brightly painted designs and colorful wheels that adorn local oxcarts. Here you'll enjoy lunch before visiting Café Britt, a world-famous purveyor of coffee. Take a tour of the coffee plantation and enjoy a coffee tasting before continuing on to San José.

Day 9: Depart for home

Return home, prepared to solve environmental issues at the local level.

Space is Limited

Please ask your teacher for your tour number and visit eftours.com
or call 800-665-5364

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INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched experience and worldwide presence, as well as our commitment to providing students with life-changing travel opportunities that are immersive and affordable.

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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 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 Tour Director is with you at every step, providing their own perspective and local tips.

THE SUMMIT EXPERIENCE

— Program price includes —



Full-time Tour Director

Your expert naturalist guide, certified by the Instituto Costarricense de Turismo, is by your side throughout the tour.



Student Leadership Conference

Conference registration; Keynote addresses; Expert workshops; Student workshops; Innovation Village



Experiential Learning

EARTH University, Tirimbina bat night walk; La Selva Biological Station; Coffee plantation



weShare

Online program prepares students for conference themes and supports implementation of ideas.



Entrances

Whitewater rafting; Hot springs; La Fortuna Waterfall; Canopy tour



All of the details are covered

Round-trip flights on major carriers; Comfortable motorcoach; 8 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms; Breakfast, lunch and dinner Days 2-8; Dinner on Day 1; Breakfast on Day 9

Experience first hand the coffee farming process at the Café Britt plantation.