COSTA RICA
Preserving Paradise: National Parks and Private Reserves
January 28 – February 7, 2019
Accompanied by Professor Kathy Keeler
With 4% of the earth’s biodiversity packed onto just 0.03% of its surface, Costa Rica’s varied ecosystems represent a wealth of nature to preserve and protect. On this 10-day expedition, delve into the country’s national parks and private reserves to observe the lush landscape and diverse wildlife by foot, boat, and even on horseback. As you traverse one of the world’s most impressive biological footprints, you’ll also meet with local citizens and naturalists to discuss issues of conservation and sustainability. Join us for an unforgettable experience through Costa Rica’s verdant paradise with Cal Discoveries Travel!

THE CAL DISCOVERIES TRAVEL DIFFERENCE

Our goal is to provide the University of California, Berkeley community with an exciting combination of discovery, learning, and adventure in educationally oriented travel. When you travel with Cal Discoveries Travel, you can be assured that we understand your desire for a strong educational component, a carefully selected destination, and a Cal connection on every trip.

BENEFITS OF TRAVELING WITH CAL DISCOVERIES TRAVEL

- Experience “lifelong learning” with world-renowned Cal faculty and/or local experts
- Receive outstanding customer service from Cal Discoveries Travel staff with more than 40 years expertise
- Meet new friends and old, and find interesting, inquisitive travel companions who have Cal in common
WHY COSTA RICA? With one-fourth of its land mass under protection, Costa Rica encompasses 12 climatic zones along mountains, forests, ocean, and coast, and boasts nearly 4% of the world’s biodiversity – despite spanning just 0.03% of the earth’s surface.

CAL DISCOVERIES LECTURER

Prof. Kathleen Keeler

Kathy Keeler received her Ph.D. from the Genetics Department at UC Berkeley studying plants in both Central Valley vernal pools and Costa Rica. She was Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for 31 years. In retirement, she became A Wandering Botanist, writing and speaking about plants, travel, and history—because plants have great stories! She has published popular science books, like "Curious Stories of Familiar Plants from Around the World," a book on prairies, and more than 50 technical plant ecology papers. She first visited Costa Rica in an Organization for Tropical Studies Tropical Ecology course in 1972. In 1972-1974 she did Ph.D. thesis research in Guanacaste, being the first person to study at the Palo Verde Field Station, now Palo Verde National Park. She returned to Costa Rica as a researcher four more times including a backpack journey surveying an Atlantic rainforest reserve and as a tourist twice.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

• Visit some of Costa Rica’s most awe-inspiring parks and reserves, including Palo Verde National Park, Monteverde Biological Reserve, and Carara National Park.
• Learn about sustainability and conservation during a hands-on experience at a chocolate farm.
• Watch for wildlife and discuss land use during a boat ride on the Sarapiquí River.
• Talk with researchers and scientists as you gain a deeper knowledge of Costa Rica’s ecology and conservation.
• Engage with community members and business owners to learn more about local culture and history.
• Hit the trails for a chance to see Costa Rica’s impressive biodiversity up close.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

MODERATE: involves daily walking, hiking, and/or stair-climbing.

PHOTOS BY DON HENISE, JERRY GOFFE | NATUREPHOTOWORKS.COM, JENNIFER SHEA MOSES, LINDSAY TAULBEE, BRIAN WILLIAMSON, JESSICA MAINIERI

Cal lecturer’s participation cannot be guaranteed and is contingent on a minimum number of paying travelers
Dear Alumni and Friends of Cal,

We invite you to join us in exploring the natural paradise that is Costa Rica, where national parks and private reserves protect more than one-fourth of the land and where colorful and interesting wildlife abounds.

As you visit a cross-section of Costa Rica’s renowned protected areas in Monteverde, Sarapiquí, and Carara, you’ll not only experience the country’s verdant landscapes and impressive biodiversity, you’ll also engage with local citizens and naturalists about the history and future of this environmentally-conscious country.

You won’t want to miss this unforgettable learning adventure. We expect our limited space will fill up quickly. Please make your reservation as soon as possible to guarantee your spot!

Go Bears!
Cal Discoveries Travel

Like us at facebook.com/caldiscoversietravel

MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT
One traveler per room, whether an alumni or friend, must be a current Cal Alumni Association member at the time of departure to participate in Cal Discoveries Travel offerings. Payment of $60 for seniors 65 years and over and $75 for others establishes a regular or affiliate membership with all other Association benefits. Memberships are for individuals only, and are non-refundable and non-transferable. A traveling pair and their children under 21 years of age may travel on one membership. Please make dues payable to CAA by separate check, or, if you prefer, provide a Visa, MasterCard, or American Express number with expiration date for payment. You can also enroll online at alumni.berkeley.edu/join

DONOR STATEMENT
The Cal Alumni Association (CAA) is a self-funded nonprofit organization that relies on donations to provide programs and services that support students, alumni, and the University. To make a gift, please visit alumni.berkeley.edu/give. Thank you for choosing CAA as the recipient of your generosity.

CAL DISCOVERIES TRAVEL RESERVATION FORM

Preserving Paradise: National Parks and Private Reserves

Enclosed is my/our deposit for $______($500 per person) for ____ person/people on the tour listed below. I/we understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make check payable to Holbrook Travel, Inc. and mail deposit check to: Cal Discoveries Travel, Cal Alumni Association, 1 Alumni House, Berkeley, CA 94720-7520. For questions please call 510.900.8222 (toll free 888.225.2586) or email caldiscoveries@alumni.berkeley.edu.

Full Passport Name________________________________ DOB ____________ Gender ______
E-mail ______________________________________________ Cal Class Year ____________

Full Passport Name________________________________ DOB ____________ Gender ______
E-mail ______________________________________________ Cal Class Year ____________

Badge Name(s) _____________________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________________
City _____________________________________ State ____________ ZIP ______________
Primary Ph. (_______)____________________   Cell Ph. (_______)______________________

Please book my/our air from __________________. I/we request an air upgrade to _____________.
I will share a room with __________________________.
I request a single room (limited availability). □ Y □ N

Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for the above-referenced tour, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature __________________________________________ Date________________
Method of Payment □ Check  □ American Express  □ Discover  □ MasterCard  □ VISA
Account # ____________________________ Security Code ________ Exp. Date _________
Name of Cardholder __________________________________________________________
Signature ______________________________________________________________

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Holbrook Travel, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Holbrook Travel. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure (check or credit card).
JANUARY 28 – LIBERIA
Upon arrival at the airport in Liberia, you will be met by your local guide and transferred to the hotel. Please note the hotel is approximately 1.5 hours from the airport; flights should arrive before 2:00pm. Transfer to the hotel, and have welcome dinner and orientation. Overnight at Hacienda la Pacifica. (D)

JANUARY 29 – PALO VERDE
This morning, visit the Organization for Tropical Studies’s Palo Verde Biological Station. The Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) operates three research stations across Costa Rica with a mission of educating on and protecting the natural environment. Upon arrival, we will enjoy a talk by the Director of Palo Verde National Park. Have lunch onsite and then explore the extensive trail systems. The park encompasses 13 types of habitat and boasts a wide range of flora and fauna to observe, making it one of the most ecologically diverse parks in Costa Rica. Later this afternoon, return to the lodge for some time to relax. In the evening, have dinner at the lodge, followed by an optional twilight walk. Overnight at Hacienda La Pacifica. (BLD)

JANUARY 30 – MONTEVERDE
Early morning birding, breakfast, and then transfer to Monteverde Biological Reserve. Monteverde’s consistently cool and wet environment receives over three meters of rain annually and is home to an astounding variety of flora and fauna. More than 2,500 plant species have been identified here, including 300 individual orchid species and over 200 species of ferns. The beginnings of the reserve can be traced back to a group of Alabama Quakers that emigrated to
Monteverde in the early 1950s. Visiting biologists discovered that the cloud forest located around the Quaker community was rich in plant and animal life. Due to the incredible foresight of the Quakers and the Tropical Science Center, the first non-governmental scientific and environmental organization in Costa Rica, Monteverde became the biological reserve it is today. After check-in, enjoy a guided hike in the cloud forests of the Curi-Cancha Reserve. The Curi-Cancha Reserve is located in the Arenal-Tempisque conservation area at the center of Monteverde. With 205 acres of forest, secondary growth and open pasture, Curi-Cancha is a paradise. This evening enjoy a presentation after dinner. Overnight at Montana Monteverde. (BLD)

January 31 - Monteverde

Wake up early for birding in the Santa Elena Cloud Forest Reserve, home to approximately 200 species of birds, and over 2000 species of plants. After lunch, visit Santa Elena Village and meet with the Women of the Cloud Forest Co-op, a non-profit artisan cooperative dedicated to enhancing the economic and social wellbeing of local women artists. Then, explore their organic farm. This evening enjoy dinner and a talk by a local Quaker family. Overnight at Montana Monteverde. (BLD)

February 1 - La Fortuna

This morning enjoy a bird walk and then breakfast before departing to Arenal via Arenal Lake Crossing. Have lunch en route, with some time to explore the picturesque town of La Fortuna. After check-in at the hotel, we’ll be joined by a volcanologist for dinner at the lodge, and a talk on Costa Rica’s geology. Overnight at Arenal Observatory Lodge. (BLD)

February 2 - Sarapiquí

This morning check out of the hotel and transfer to Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve. Upon arrival, receive an orientation to the lodge and the Sarapiquí Conservation Learning Center, a non-profit organization focused on environmental education and community development. Following lunch, visit the nearby Tirimbina Reserve for a visit to a working chocolate farm. During this hands-on experience, learn how ancestral indigenous traditions tie in with modern commercial needs, and discuss the sustainability of commercial crops – in particular chocolate, which requires shade to grow. Discuss the importance of incorporating human needs into the conservation landscape to support sustainable livelihoods as well as environmental practices. Return to Selva Verde Lodge for dinner. This evening enjoy a lecture on the importance of Selva Verde in the creation of a biological corridor between Braulio Carrillo National Park and the Caribbean coast. This lecture will highlight the plants and animals found in and associated with the rainforest at Selva Verde. Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve. (BLD)

February 3 - Sarapiquí

After an early morning breakfast, hike the Selva Verde Rainforest Reserve. Nearly 500 acres of tropical forest, the reserve is home to over 300 bird species, 120 species of mammals, and 330 species of trees. After lunch, take a nature boat ride on the Sarapiquí River. The journey will introduce the birds and animals that frequent the riverine vegetation, including caimans and a variety of water birds. A site lecture during the boat ride will draw attention to land use along the riverbanks and the human impact on the ecology of the river system. Return to the lodge for time to relax and enjoy the amenities of the lodge before dinner. Overnight at Selva Verde Lodge & Rainforest Reserve. (BLD)
FEBRUARY 4 – CARARA
Enjoy early morning birding with your guide. After breakfast, depart for La Paz Waterfall Gardens. At this nature park and animal sanctuary, explore the many trails and picturesque waterfalls as well as the hummingbird garden, lush botanicals, and much more. After lunch, continue to Hotel Villa Lapas, situated on a 500-acre private reserve near the Pacific coast. Overnight at Hotel Villa Lapas. (BLD)

FEBRUARY 5 – CARARA
Rise early for birding along the forest trails. After breakfast, explore the biodiversity of the transitional forest during a hike in the Carara National Park. Experience double the diversity exploring this forest, which overlaps Pacific rainforest and tropical dry forest. Next, explore the famed Tárcoles River for an up-close experience with the massive crocodiles that inhabit these waters. Return to the lodge for lunch and then hike along the hotel’s canopy walkway, 1.5 miles through the heart of the rainforest canopy. This evening there will be a lecture on macaws and crocodiles, followed by a night walk to look for kinkajous and other nocturnal creatures. Overnight at Hotel Villa Lapas. (BLD)

FEBRUARY 6 – SAN JOSÉ
In the morning, you may choose to go on a canoe outrigger experience with lunch at Jacó Beach, or simply enjoy free time to explore on your own. Return to San José later this afternoon, with farewell dinner at the hotel. Overnight at Wyndham Herradura Hotel. (BLD)

FEBRUARY 7 – DEPART
Transfer to the airport for the flight home. (B)

PRICING
$3,790 per person

Price is based on double occupancy with 10 participants. Single occupancy offered at additional cost of $275 per person.

Your price includes:
- 10 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
- 29 meals (10 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 10 dinners)
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees
- Holbrook Travel tour guide
- Private motorcoach or minibus transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling, one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Carbon offset
- Departure tax

Price does not include: international airfare, trip cancellation insurance, gratuities for maids, drinks purchased on own, or items of a personal nature.

Holbrook Travel can assist with making your flight arrangements upon request. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended and will be sent to you by Cal Discoveries Travel with your reservation confirmation. To research further please visit travelinsure.com/calalumni

SELVA VERDE LODGE
Holbrook Travel’s own Selva Verde Lodge is nestled amid lowland tropical rainforest along the Sarapiqui River. Simple, comfortable rooms tucked into the lodge’s tropical gardens provide a cozy place to rest after adventure-filled days. Visitors can take advantage of the trails in Selva Verde’s private 500-acre reserve, an ideal spot for birders, nature enthusiasts, and hikers desiring to experience the rainforest.
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Your Tour Price (International airfare from your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; communications charges; gratuities to your Holbrook Travel Tour Guide which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities $10-$15 per guest, per day); and trip cancellation insurance. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

International Air Transportation Estimated airfare: $695 from San Francisco to Liberia. Holbrook Travel offers group airfare and ticketing. Group transfers between the airport and hotel are included in your program cost. A note about online airfare: Occasionally, you may be able to find airfares online that are listed at a lower cost. In general, individual fares lack the flexibility of group airfare and often require immediate purchase. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Holbrook Travel is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour “Land Only” is available. We recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Cal Alumni Association and Holbrook Travel, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

Cancellations, Changes and Refunds If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. All cancellations need to be submitted in writing to Cal Discoveries Travel. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: Cancel 95 days or more before departure: $200 charge; Cancel 95-0 days before departure: no refund. Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a $100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure. Trip cancellation insurance is available from Cal Discoveries Travel and information will be sent after you reserve. You may research travel insurance online at travelinsure.com/calalumni. If due to unforeseen circumstances Holbrook Travel cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

Health and Medical Issues We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate on a Holbrook Travel tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day). You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance, in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, Cal Alumni Association and Holbrook Travel assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Holbrook Travel has a No Smoking policy on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.

Required Information Upon reservation, you must provide your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender (for details, please visit tsa.gov). In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket’s reissue. A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on this tour.

Responsibility The liability of Cal Alumni Association (CAA), as sponsor, and Holbrook Travel Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. CAA and Holbrook Travel, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. CAA and Holbrook Travel, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality and may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions. The services of any IATA and ATC carrier may be used in connection with these tours. The participant understands that if he/she books special low cost airfares with penalties, and cancels the reservation, he/she is responsible for any penalties incurred from the airline.

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