

AUBERGE ADVENTURES



Hacienda AltaGracia

AUBERGE RESORT
PÉREZ ZELEDÓN, COSTA RICA



Hacienda AltaGracia offers authentic experiences rooted in the heritage and culture of Southern Costa Rica. Widely considered as the country’s agricultural capital, Pérez Zeledón is also one of the last destinations untouched by tourism. We provide intimate ways to explore the Hacienda and the surrounding areas, and we can tailor your experience to suit your needs.



EQUINE ADVENTURES

LOS ESTABLOS

Our stables are home to a wide variety of gentle horses from all over the world. The stables boast a Saddle Room with a collection of handcrafted saddles made by local artisans. It also has a birthing room where we welcome new members of our equine family, and showers where the horses are bathed. We welcome guests to visit the stables, see facilities, and of course, meet our horses.

Duration 1 hour.

EL PICADERO

Our enclosed riding ring is an idyllic location for horse shows, demonstrations, and riding lessons. Our “caballistas” offer lessons for the beginner who wants to learn how to ride in an enclosed environment and the rider that wants to hone his or her horsemanship and learn how to trot, canter, and gallop.

Duration 1-2 hours.

TRAIL RIDES

The Hacienda is home to multiple “fincas” (fields) each with their own unique characteristics. The various trail rides take you through different, but all very scenic parts of the hacienda for you to enjoy. Our trail rides start at Los Establos where you will be introduced to your horse and your “caballista” (horsemen) followed by a brief introduction on safe riding.

Santa Maria Trail 90 minutes

Santa Teresa Trail 90 minutes

Manantiales Trails 2-3 hours

Sunset Horseback Riding

Duration 1.5 to 3 hours, depending on the trail.

EQUINE ADVENTURES *(continued)*

RIVER LUNCH

Enjoy a scenic horseback ride along the Santa Maria trail to Rio Calientillo. After traversing through the scenic countryside and arriving at the river's edge, you will be served a traditional Costa Rican farmer's meal wrapped in banana leaves and served with a traditional drink of "agua sapo".

Duration 3 hours.

LIFE OF A CABALLISTA

Experience the day to day life of caballista (horsemen) and vaquero (cowboy) with a hands on opportunity to interact with and care for a horse. Take your horse from the pastures and bring them to the stables for a bath then saddle up for a chance to join the caballista herding cattle from one field to another. Afterwards, enjoy breakfast from your saddle bag sitting by the river before returning to the stables to see a caballista shoe a horse. You may even get a horseshoe as a souvenir!

Duration 3-4 hours.



ACTIVE ADVENTURES

ULTRALIGHT FLIGHTS

Take an adventure of a lifetime as you climb aboard one of our Ultralight aircraft that takes off from a private airstrip. Enjoy the scenic aerial tour of a pineapple plantation, rainforest, waterfalls, San Isidro del General Valley and the Pacific Ocean.

Waterfalls 30 minutes

Valle del General 30 minutes

Pacific Coast 1 hour

Duration either 30 minutes or 1 hour flying time.

ACTIVE ADVENTURES *(continued)*

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Access the Hacienda's lush unpaved trails on a mountain bike. Whether you are new to the sport or looking for an easy cruise, our trails have something for everyone from moderate to a more adventurous and adrenaline filled ride! Our guide will surely take your riding to the next level.

Las Alturas Trail 45-60 minutes

Santa Maria and Manantiales Trails 1.5 hours

Las Alturas, Santa Maria and Manantiales Trails 2.5 hours

Duration 1 to 2.5 hours, depending on the trail.

ZIPLINE ADVENTURE

Zip through the beautiful cloud forest of the Valle del General, Talamanca mountains and Cerro de la Muerte. This adventure is a combination of nature walk, bird watching and zip lining!

Duration 4 hours, including a travel time of 1 hour each way.

RIVER RAFTING

Experience the breathtaking rapids and beauty of the cleanest river of Costa Rica - Rio Savegre. The adventure will raft you through waterfalls and primary rainforest - home to many water birds, monkeys and iguanas.

Duration 7 hours, including a travel time of 2.5 hours each way.



NATURE AND WILDLIFE ADVENTURES

LOS CUSINGOS WILDLIFE REFUGE

Los Cusingos Wildlife Refuge was the home of the late Dr Alexander Skutch, a renowned ornithologist, botanist and author. Walk through the nature trails and discover the distinct and diverse flora and fauna of Costa Rica as well as pre-Columbian petroglyphs. The refuge is surrounded by wet forest and the waters of the river Rio Frio.

Duration 3 hours, including a travel time of 30 minutes each way.

NATURE AND WILDLIFE ADVENTURES *(continued)*

ALTAGRACIA TRAILS

A beautiful hike through the forests and rivers of the Hacienda. The interlinked trail system provides an excellent opportunity to see the various flora and fauna we have throughout the resorts 850 acres. Be sure to stop and enjoy the water of Rio Calientillo.

Duration 1 to 3 hours, depending on the trail. Available by December 2016.

NAMU WATERFALLS

Experience one of the hidden gems of Southern Costa Rica. Hike through a private rainforest and be rewarded with panoramic views of three-tiered waterfalls. Returning from the falls, you'll enjoy a traditional Costa Rican "casado" lunch in a private picnic area.

Duration 5 hours including travel time of 50 minutes each way.



CULINARY ADVENTURES

SAN ISIDRO FARMER'S MARKET TOUR

The San Isidro farmer's market is a weekly event where residents come for farm fresh produce and local delicacies. Pérez Zeledón farmers bring the freshest fruits of their harvests for all to enjoy. Available on Thursdays only.

Duration 3 hours, including travel time of 45 minutes each way.

CHEESE WORKSHOP

Don Wilberth welcomes us to their family's sustainable home farm and introduces us to the process of making authentic Swiss cheese. Be ready to get your hands dirty in the cheese making process and for a truly memorable cheese tasting experience. The cheese you make will need to mature for a minimum of three months, and the resort can arrange to send it to your home when it's ready! If you don't want to wait that long, you can also hand pick some cheeses from Don Wilberth's personal collection.

Duration 5 hours, including travel time of 1 hour each way.

CULINARY ADVENTURES *(continued)*

COSTA RICAN COOKING CLASS

Experience authentic Costa Rican flavors as you join a local family for a cooking class. Discover their household techniques and customs in preparing a typical meal. Then gather round the table and enjoy the wonderful meal you've prepared with yours hosts. Buen provecho!

Duration 3 hours including travel time of 10 minutes each way.

CASA BERAKA

Costa Rica is home to many traditional breads and pastries that are sure to satisfy your sweet cravings. Get your hands in the dough and learn how to make homemade delicacies like bizcocho, arepa, empanadas, pan casero and much more. Enjoy treats fresh from the oven with cafe chorreado!

Duration 4 hours including travel time of 30 minutes each way.



CULTURAL ADVENTURES

CAFÉ CEDRAL

Visit nearby town of Cedral, a community that prides itself in their coffee growing heritage. Located in the foothills of the Talamanca Mountain range, you'll ride through the region on horseback along unpaved roads, admiring lush views of the rainforest and the Rio Cedral river along the way. Meet landowners who plant, harvest, and sell their own organic coffee that is all produced in a sustainable manner - a truly unique way to immerse in a true Costa Rican culture and rural life.

Duration 90 minute tour (guests can choose to access Cedral via a 20 minute car ride or 90 minute horseback ride).

LIFE ON THE FARM

Experience Costa Rican farm life. A short horseback ride from the Hacienda will take you to Don Nery's family farm where you'll get a glimpse into the variety of crops grown there - from sugarcane and coffee to plantains. This is a hands-on farming experience where you will extract juice from sugar cane, milk the cow and make cheese, check the chicken coop for fresh eggs and meet other farm animals. During your visit you will get to enjoy various typical Costa Rican drinks made from sugarcane, fresh cow's milk and sample some homemade cheese.

Duration 4 hours, including 30 minutes horseback riding each way.

CULTURAL ADVENTURES *(continued)*

BORUCA, MORE THAN A MASK

Meet the Boruca (also known as Brunca or Brunka) tribe, one of the last indigenous tribes of Costa Rica. They are known for their intricate handmade wooden masks. We will take you beyond their masks to their village atop the Fila Costeña to experience their rich culture, customs, traditions, crafts and enjoy a Borucan lunch by the waterfalls. Every year at midnight from December 30 until January 2, the Borucas celebrate the “Baile de los Diablitos,” which depicts the battle between the Spanish and the native tribes. Visitors are welcome to join them for the festivities.

Duration 7 hours, including a travel time of 1.5 hours each way.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

HOGAR DE ANCIANOS

Hogar de Ancianos is a fully-assisted senior living facility in San Isidro del General. Volunteers from Hacienda AltaGracia’s Planet Auberge committee visit the facility every third Monday of the month and guests are welcome to join or can volunteer outside the scheduled visits to help with various errands or simply spend time with the elderly.

Travel time: 45 minutes each way.

ADOPT-A-TREE

Supporting our local adopt-a-tree program through FUDEBIOL-Centro Biológico las Quebradas, we welcome guests to support our Planet Auberge program by adopting a tree planted at the nature reserve. Guests hike through a rainforest to locate a tree and formally adopt it with a marker. Receive a certificate of adoption that includes the type of tree adopted along with its GPS coordinates so you can come back to visit and see how your tree has grown.

Duration of the activity approximately 4 hours, including travel time of 50 minutes each.
