



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
Alumni Association



Costa Rica and the Panama Canal



COSTA RICA AND THE PANAMA CANAL

Immerse yourself in a natural world of wonder and travel through one of the greatest engineering marvels of our time and as you journey through virgin rainforests and jungle-fringed beaches from Costa Rica to Panama. This 9-day, 8-night luxury itinerary combines tours of historical and cultural sites with visits to some of the most incredible nature preserves and rainforests in Central America. Begin your exploration of this extraordinary region with one night on land in historical San José, Costa Rica, before embarking on a cruise from the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica to Panama.

Look for howler monkeys, toucans, three-toed sloths, tree frogs, coatis, iguanas, leatherback turtles, and over 600 species of non-migratory birds, on naturalist-led hikes off the coast of Cébaco Island, the Rio Seco Rainforest, Manuel Antonio National Park, and the Curú National Wildlife Refuge. Conclude your journey with an unforgettable cruise through the mighty locks of the Panama Canal to Colón—experiencing an iconic passage that explorers once only dreamed of.



Museum of Biodiversity, Panama City



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My fellow Hoyas,

Travel in the company of alumni and friends from March 1 to 9, 2024 and witness one of the greatest feats of the modern age—the Panama Canal, a stunning example of engineering prowess. This nearly 50 mile passage through the narrow Isthmus of Panama continues to astonish even the most veteran traveler. Embark upon a 9-day, 8-night itinerary that also showcases the pristine rainforests and islands of Costa Rica and Panama.

Cruise aboard the 5 star LE DUMONT D'URVILLE, a sophisticated small ship offering only 92 suites and staterooms, each with a private balcony. Dock in small ports of call inaccessible to larger vessels and enjoy a variety of included excursions led by experienced onboard naturalists.

Tour the stunning and biodiverse Manuel Antonio National Park, where guides will lead a trail walk through an ecosystem of rare species, including the scarlet macaw and fiery-billed aracari. Visit the Rio Seco Rainforest, an off-the-beaten-path destination accessible only by boat for a day of hiking and discovery. Spend a day anchored off the coast of Cébaco Island to enjoy snorkeling in its beautiful reefs with fish, turtles, and other spectacular marine life or a guided walk along the beach.

Conclude your expedition with a specially arranged daylight transit of the Panama Canal to experience the mighty locks that raise and lower ocean-going vessels 85 feet, employing the force of gravity to achieve in mere hours what once involved a three week circumnavigation of South America.

Enhance your journey with the San José Pre-Program or the Panama City Post-Program options. This amazing program will fill up fast. Please contact the Georgetown Travel Society at 866-525-8664 or GeorgetownTravelSociety@Georgetown.edu for more details and to confirm your place today.

Hoya Saxa,

Julie Farr C'88, Parent '19, '21, '24
Executive Director
Georgetown University Alumni Association

SUPERIOR

Our programs are classified in three categories: Value, Superior and Luxury

**To secure your spot, call the Georgetown Travel Society at 866-525-8664
or visit <https://alumni.georgetown.edu/travel-society>**



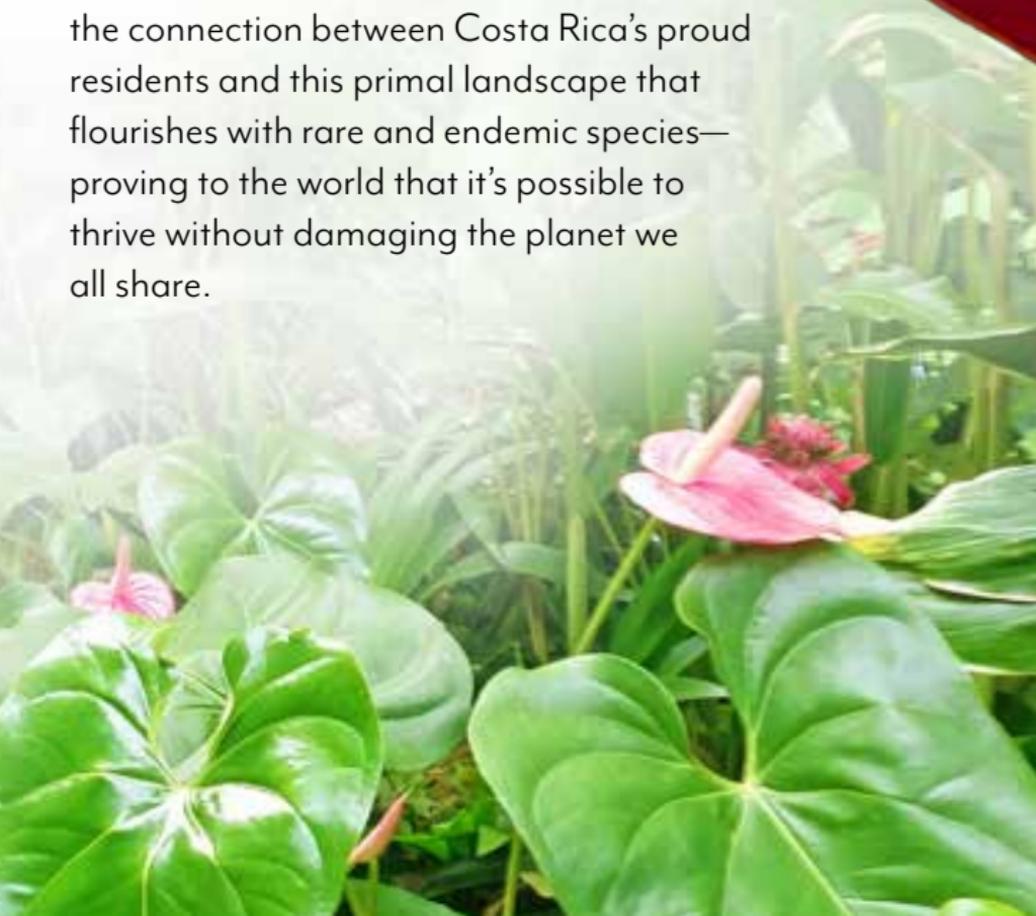
Spider monkey

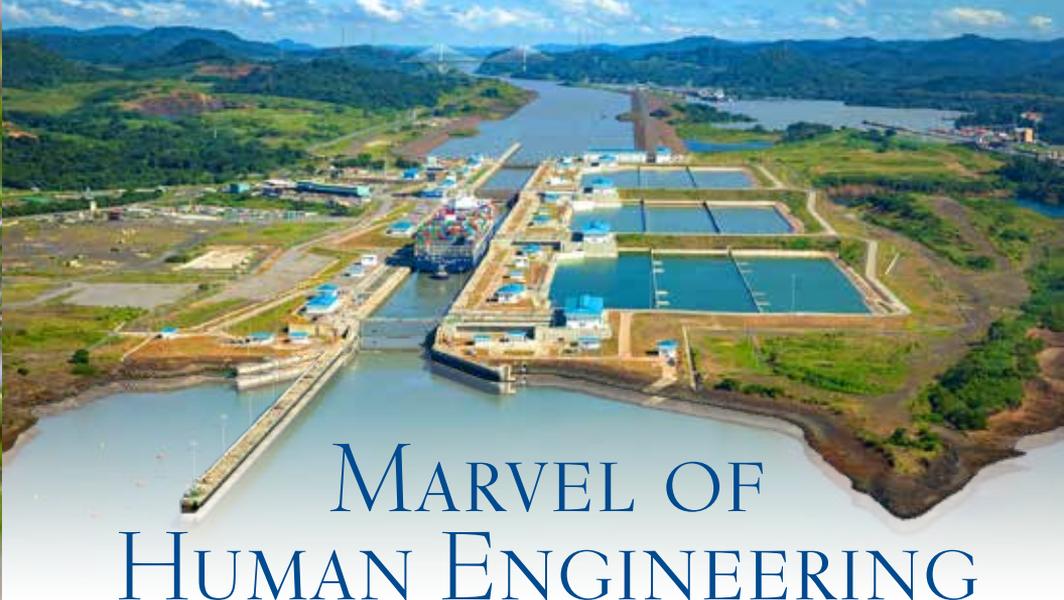
Global Conservation

Famed for its easily accessed park system, Costa Rica represents one of the world's greatest ecotourism destinations. The country's national motto, "¡Pura Vida!" or "pure life," is reflected in its unwavering commitment to environmental preservation.

One of the most biodiverse locations on Earth, Costa Rica's varied habitats and ecosystems preserve a spectacular array of wildlife and unspoiled beauty. More than 25 percent of this captivating country has been designated a national park, wildlife refuge, or protected rainforest.

A nationwide mission to achieve zero net carbon emissions by 2050 has reinforced the connection between Costa Rica's proud residents and this primal landscape that flourishes with rare and endemic species—proving to the world that it's possible to thrive without damaging the planet we all share.





MARVEL OF HUMAN ENGINEERING

Completed in 1914, the Panama Canal is considered one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World by the American Society of Civil Engineers. France's failed attempt to build a canal in the 19th century and implicit U.S. backing of Panama's independence in 1903 created diplomatic conditions favorable to the U.S.-led effort. In 1904, the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty granted exclusive canal rights to the U.S. across the Isthmus of Panama in exchange for \$10 million and an annuity of \$250,000. Under the watchful eye of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, the canal's realization hinged on the successful conversion of the original French sea-level plan to a lock-controlled canal system and crucial health care advances to prevent malaria and yellow fever outbreaks.

This historic engineering feat opened new channels of international trade and allowed ships to travel between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans in a fraction of the time required to circumnavigate South America. Following a \$5.25 billion expansion in 2016, the canal now accommodates more than twice the cargo. It's also seen more than 900,000 vessels (and counting) pass through its locks, experiencing an engineering miracle that was once thought impossible.



INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



9-DAY/8-NIGHT ITINERARY

Depart Home City/ San José, Costa Rica

Day 1

Depart home city for San José. Upon arrival, check into the COSTA RICA MARRIOTT HOTEL HACIENDA BELÉN. Enjoy the evening at leisure.

San José/Puntarenas/ Embark Ship

Day 2

Nestled in the heart of the fertile Valle Central, Costa Rica's dynamic capital city of San José possesses an eclectic mix of museums, landscaped parks, lively cafés, art galleries, and an interesting fusion of architectural styles—including Spanish Colonial, Moorish, and Modernist. Discover the city's unique history and culture on a tour that includes visits to the National Theater, a regal Baroque edifice modeled on Milan's La Scala, and the National Museum. After lunch

at a local restaurant, enjoy a transfer to Puntarenasto embark LE DUMONT D'URVILLE. (B,L,D)

Curú National Wildlife Refuge/Playa Muertos

Day 3

Begin your day with a guided walk in the Curú National Wildlife Refuge—a unique blend of sustainable agriculture, forest management, and wildlife protection that reestablished species like the scarlet macaw and spider monkey. With five distinctive habitats, it is the ideal place to see the intricacies of interdependent ecosystems. Morning is the best time of day to observe an abundance of wildlife. Enjoy lunch on board the ship before setting out for a visit to Playa Muertos beach. Nestled within remote Ballena Bay near the Pochote River, this serene and untouched beach is famous for its pristine white sands, unique rock

lava structures, and tropical rainforest setting. You will have opportunities to swim and snorkel in this protected area's clear waters—home to fascinating marine life such as angelfish, spotted eagle rays, and seahorses. (B,L,R,D)

Quepos for Manuel Antonio National Park

Day 4

Experience an unparalleled diversity of wildlife on a visit to the lush Manuel Antonio National Park—a captivating combination of rainforest, beach, and coral reef. It is home to more than 100 species of mammals, almost 200 species of birds, and various reptiles and amphibians. Naturalist guides will lead an exploration of this protected biodiverse paradise, where you may spot screeching howler monkeys, camouflaged iguanas, arboreal squirrel monkeys, two

Snorkel in the vibrant coral reef of the Gulf of Montijo off Cébaco Island





Casco Antiguo, Panama City



Beach at Manuel Antonio, Costa Rica

and three toed sloths, and capuchin monkeys. You'll also have the option to relax on the beach. (B,L,D)

Rio Seco Rainforest

Day 5

Enjoy an afternoon excursion to Piedras Blancas National Park, an off-the-beaten-path destination that is home to toucans, tapirs, pumas, jaguars, and four species of monkeys. Discover a secluded beach in the Rio Seco Rainforest along the waters of the gorgeous Golfo Dulce or choose to walk through a tropical fruit orchard. You may also explore a network of hiking trails with an expert naturalist guide to see rare wildlife species and learn secrets of this great ecosystem. (B,L,D)

Cébaco Island, Panama

Day 6

This morning you will arrive in the sparkling Gulf of Montijo

to anchor off the coast of seldom-visited Cébaco Island. You may choose to snorkel in these emerald waters, where schools of brilliantly colored fish, giant manta rays, and four different species of turtles swim amid spectacular rock reefs. An alternative option included in your tour is a guided walk along the beach with an expert naturalist. (B,L,D)

Panama City

Day 7

Begin your day with a tour of the nation's capital, Panama City. Later, visit its UNESCO World Heritage designated historic district of Casco Antiguo, a charming neighborhood replete with cobblestone streets and architecturally significant historical edifices, including a 16th century cathedral. (B,L,D)

Panama Canal/Colón

Day 8

Wake up and cruise from the Pacific Ocean to the Caribbean Sea through the historic Panama Canal on a rare daylight transfer. Watch as the mighty locks open and close, ultimately raising and lowering the ship 85 feet—truly an experience to remember. Attend the Captain's Farewell Reception this evening. (B,L,R,D)

Colón/Return to Home City

Day 9

Disembark in Colón and if time permits, visit the Panama Canal Expansion Agua Clara Visitor Center to enjoy panoramic views of the canal's 166-square-mile Gatún Lake and new longer, wider locks. Transfer to Panama City for your return flight home. (B,L,D)



Two-toed sloth



Keel-billed toucans



LE DUMONT D'URVILLE

Join us aboard the exclusively chartered, 5-star LE DUMONT D'URVILLE, where distinctive French sophistication meets innovative nautical design for a new standard of cruising. Each of the 92 5-star staterooms and suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. Grand deluxe suites have a panoramic window and private terrace. Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, private bathroom with shower, and luxury hotel-style amenities.



2024 DEPARTURE DATE: March 1 to 9 (Tour Begins: March 1)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <i>per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes</i>	Early Booking Savings through Nov. 3, 2023	Rate after Nov. 3, 2023
8	Deluxe stateroom with a picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. Deck 3. (limited availability)	\$4,945	\$5,495
7	Prestige stateroom with a picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. Deck 4.	\$5,395	\$5,995
6	Prestige stateroom with expansive sliding glass door, private balcony . Deck 5.	\$6,115	\$6,795
5	Prestige stateroom with expansive sliding glass door, private balcony . Deck 6.	\$6,835	\$7,595
4	Deluxe suite with expansive sliding glass door, private balcony . Deck 3. (limited availability)	\$7,555	\$8,395
3	Deluxe suite with expansive sliding glass door, private balcony . Deck 4, midship. (limited availability)	\$8,275	\$9,195
2	Deluxe suite with expansive sliding glass door, private balcony . Deck 5.	\$9,175	\$10,195
1	Deluxe suite with expansive sliding glass door, private balcony . Deck 6.	\$10,075	\$11,195
Prestige Suite II	Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony , two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. Deck 5. (limited availability)	\$10,975	\$12,195
Prestige Suite I	Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony , two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. Deck 6. (limited availability)	\$11,695	\$12,995
Privilege Suite	Large suite with expansive sliding glass door, larger private balcony , sitting area with sofa. Decks 5 and 6. (limited availability)	\$12,415	\$13,795
Grand Deluxe Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace , full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. Decks 6. (limited availability)	\$13,135	\$14,595
Owner's Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, spacious private terrace with outdoor jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. Deck 5. (limited availability)	\$14,035	\$15,595

Single supplements apply across all categories at 160% of the per person double price.

Port taxes are an additional \$505 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment.

This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

To secure your spot, call the Georgetown Travel Society at 866-525-8664 or visit <https://alumni.georgetown.edu/travel-society>

Gohagan & Company reserves the right to correct errors or omissions and to change any and all fares, fees, promotions, and surcharges at any time.

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PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

Arenal and San José

February 27 to March 2, 2024 (Tour Begins: February 27)

Explore Costa Rica's diverse biospheres, from steamy hot springs to misty cloud forests. In view of towering Arenal Volcano, walk in the lush rainforest along a series of suspended and fixed bridges. Visit an organic chocolate workshop, an award-winning coffee estate, and a traditional artisan town known for intricately hand-painted woodcrafts. Accommodations are for two nights in the deluxe COSTA RICA MARRIOTT HOTEL HACIENDA BELÉN and two nights in the 5-star TABACON THERMAL RESORT & SPA.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$1,425**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$2,030**



POST-PROGRAM OPTION

Panama City

March 9 to 11, 2024 (Tour Ends: March 11)

Continue your journey by exploring Panama City's rich indigenous culture, compelling colonial history and contemporary élan. Visit the UNESCO World Heritage-designated Panama La Vieja—founded in 1519 and later destroyed by privateer Henry Morgan—to see the ruins of the oldest European settlement on the Pacific-American coast. Visit the fascinating Agua Clara Visitor Center for panoramic views of the Panama Canal expansion and cruise the Gatún River to meet indigenous Emberá people. Spend two nights in the ideally located, deluxe BRISTOL PANAMA HOTEL.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: **\$765**

Price per person, based on single occupancy: **\$1,040**

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.

EARLY BOOKING SAVINGS UP TO \$3,120 PER COUPLE



Capuchin monkeys



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