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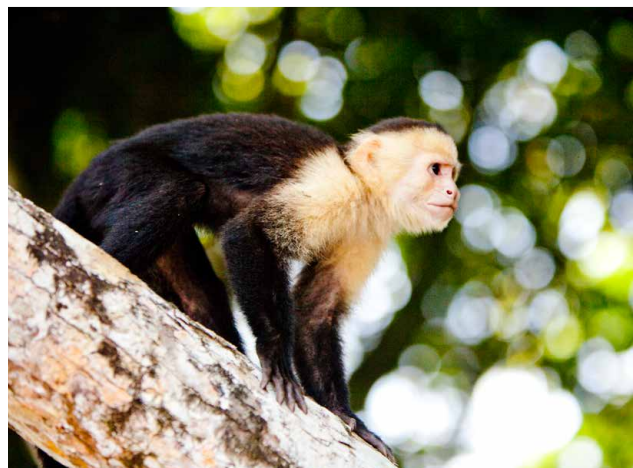
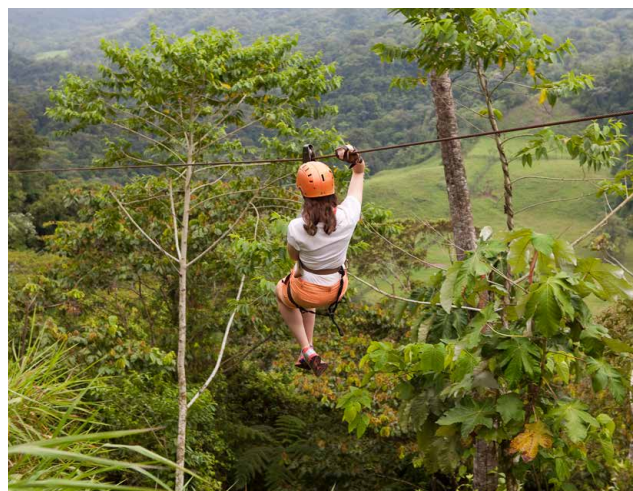
# CONSERVATION IN COSTA RICA

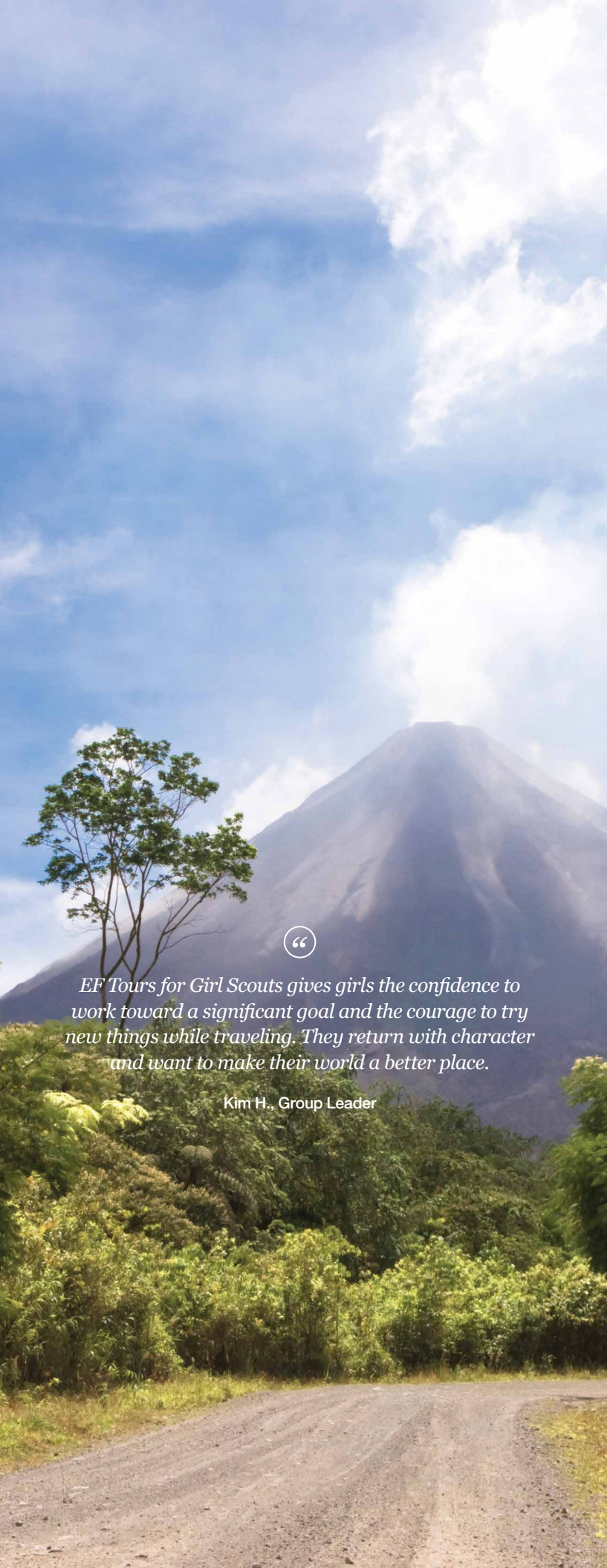
9 days | Costa Rica

In order to protect their home, community members of Palo Seco must continue to replant mangrove trees to keep their coastline stable. This tour offers students a firsthand learning experience into stabilizing ecosystems through the efforts of community farming. They'll also discover the biodiversity of this beautiful country from every angle with visits to hot springs, hiking to La Fortuna Waterfall and more.

### EVERYTHING YOU GET:

-  **Full-time Tour Director**
-  **Sightseeing:** Comprehensive sightseeing of natural attractions
-  **Entrances:** Crocodile farm; Hot springs; Manuel Antonio National Park; Canopy tour; Kayaking; La Fortuna Waterfall; Coffee tour; Folklore evening
-  **Experiential learning:** Cultural activity with local community
-   **All of the details are covered:** Round-trip flights on major carriers; Comfortable motorcoach; 8 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms; 3 meals daily (Days 2-8); Dinner on arrival day; Breakfast on departure day
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*EF Tours for Girl Scouts gives girls the confidence to work toward a significant goal and the courage to try new things while traveling. They return with character and want to make their world a better place.*

Kim H., Group Leader

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#### **DAY 1: FLY TO COSTA RICA**

- Meet your Tour Director at the airport in San José

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#### **DAY 2: SAN JOSÉ | CENTRAL PACIFIC COAST**

- Travel to Playa Palo Seco
- Visit a crocodile farm
- Conservation project activities: Introduction to project; Overview of methodologies and working plan

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#### **DAY 3: CENTRAL PACIFIC COAST**

- Conservation project activities may include: Take a tour of mangrove and protected areas; Collect seeds; Clean and condition selected areas; Measure and demark the working terrain; Select vegetal material to be used
- Visit Manuel Antonio National Park and discover a world of biological diversity. Created in 1972 to preserve the ecosystem's rich forests and idyllic beaches, the park covers almost 1,700 of land and is home to many of Costa Rica's endangered species. Get an up-close look into the lives of white-faced and howler monkeys, two and three toed sloths and iguanas. Then, stretch your legs and wander the park's many well-marked trails.

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#### **DAY 4: CENTRAL PACIFIC COAST**

- Conservation project activities may include: Visit a nursery; Learn planting technique and watering process; Fill encasements with ground material; Plant seeds

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#### **DAY 5: ARENAL REGION**

- Travel to the Arenal region and get ready for an adventure to remember. Behold the perfect conical shape that emerges from the green hills of Alajuela: this is the fascinating Arenal Volcano. Overlooking the San Carlos plain and the Pacific lowlands, this mile-high volcano has been active for the past 7,000 years. You'll see the volcano from a different angle on your kayaking excursion. Not only does the volcano serve as a watershed for the lake, but it also provides thermal energy for the nearby hot springs.
- Visit the hot springs

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#### **DAY 6: ARENAL REGION**

- Enjoy a canopy tour and see the rainforest like never before. Strap into your safety harness and glide from platform to platform through the treetop greenery. As you ride down a zip-line, you'll get a bird's eye view of the breathtaking world around you. If you're lucky, you can spot some of the area's indigenous wildlife, including monkeys, caymans, crocodiles and iguanas. Those who opt not to participate in the canopy tour will enjoy free time in the Arenal region.
- Participate in a cultural activity with the local community

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**DAY 7: ARENAL REGION**

- Enjoy a kayaking trip on Lake Arenal
- Visit La Fortuna Waterfall

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**DAY 8: ARENAL REGION | SAN JOSÉ**

- Return to San José
- Spend your afternoon on a coffee tour and learn how Costa Rica's plantations produce some of the world's best beans. Explore the supply chain of the famous Costa Rican coffee bean, from the fields where it's grown to the cafes where it's brewed, and discover the essential role coffee plays in the country's agriculture and economy.
- Enjoy a folklore evening

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**DAY 9: DEPART FOR HOME**

Itinerary subject to change. For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

**TOP THREE THINGS I WILL SEE, DO, TRY OR EXPLORE**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

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- **All of our educational itineraries feature experiential learning activities** and visits to the best sites.
- **We're completely committed to your safety.** We have 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries around the world, so local EF staff members can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.
- **Your full-time Tour Director** is with your group every step of the way on tour, providing insight about your destinations as well as great local tips.

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