

RCNJ
Center for Student Involvement
Civic and Community Engagement Center
Alternative Break Program
Tuesday, Jan 7, 2025 - Tuesday, Jan 14, 2025

Aranjuez, Costa Rica: Alternative Winter Break with NATUWA

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Tuesday, January 7

MORNING FLIGHT TIME – TBD

AFTERNOON/EARLY EVENING – Lunch and welcome by Rodolfo Orozco Vega, Director, and the Team. Drop luggage in the residential area for the group. Receive a project orientation by Rodolfo - including summary of rules, overview of animals and introduction of project team, tour of property. Dinner and discussion of projects for the week.

Day 2 – Wednesday, January 8

6:00 a.m. – Feed animals in 4 groups. Each group will receive a laminated card explaining the specific diet of each animal they will be with for the day. Students collect dishes, clean them, and prepare the morning meals.

8:00 a.m. – Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – Group will be split into work crews and will work on assigned project(s)

12:00 p.m. – Lunch time

1:00 p.m. – Afternoon feeding

3:00 p.m. – Free time (rest, walk into the village, got to the local pulperia, walk to the river, write in journals, conduct interviews).

6:00 p.m. – Dinner, Enjoy and Relax

Day 3 – Thursday, January 9

6:00 a.m. – Feed animals in 4 groups. Each group will receive a laminated card explaining the specific diet of each animal they will be with for the day. Students collect dishes, clean them, and prepare the morning meals.

8:00 a.m. – Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – Group will be split into work crews and will work on assigned project(s)

12:00 p.m. – Lunch time

1:00 p.m. – Afternoon feeding

3:00 p.m. – Free time (rest, walk into the village, got to the local pulperia, walk to the river, write in journals, conduct interviews).

6:00 p.m. – Dinner, Enjoy and Relax

Day 4 – Friday, January 10

Duration: Full day

Experience the ultimate cultural immersion in Costa Rica with Natuwa and discover the essence of Costa Rican life through authentic and enriching activities. This is a perfect opportunity to interact with the local community and gain a deeper understanding of the culture and traditions of this beautiful country.

Adventure Excursion:

Cultural Experience in Costa Rica with Natuwa.

Description:

The "Cultural Experience in Costa Rica with Natuwa" is a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in Costa Rican life and culture. This full-day tour is designed to provide participants with an authentic and enriching view of local traditions and daily life in Costa Rica.

Included Activities:

- Breakfast at Natuwa – Start the day with a nutritious breakfast at NATUWA.
- Visit to the River and Waterfall: Enjoy a refreshing time at a popular destination among Costa Ricans during the dry season.
- Lunch at a Costa Rican Soda: Savor traditional meals at a local restaurant frequented by locals.
- Visit to the Farmer's Market: Explore the local market.
- Tour of the Central Market: Discover the market where many locals do their daily shopping and learn about the fishing and artisanal economy of the region.
- Afternoon at the beach: Relax on a beach popular among locals and enjoy a spectacular sunset during the dry season.
- Dinner: End the day with dinner in an authentic and welcoming setting.

Day 5 – Saturday, January 11

6:00 a.m. – Feed animals in 4 groups. Each group will receive a laminated card explaining the specific diet of each animal they will be with for the day. Students collect dishes, clean them, and prepare the morning meals.

8:00 a.m. – Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – Group will be split into work crews and will work on assigned project(s)

12:00 p.m. – Lunch time

1:00 p.m. – Afternoon feeding

3:00 p.m. – Free time (rest, walk into the village, go to the local pulperia, walk to the river, write in journals, conduct interviews).

6:00 p.m. – Dinner, Enjoy and Relax

Day 6 - Sunday, January 12

6:00 a.m. – Feed animals in 4 groups. Each group will receive a laminated card explaining the specific diet of each animal they will be with for the day. Students collect dishes, clean them, and prepare the morning meals.

8:00 a.m. – Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – Group will be split into work crews and will work on assigned project(s)

12:00 p.m. – Lunch time

1:00 p.m. – Afternoon feeding

3:00 p.m. – Free time (rest, walk into the village, got to the local pulperia, walk to the river, write in journals, conduct interviews).

6:00 p.m. – Dinner, Enjoy and Relax

Day 7 - Monday, January 13

6:00 a.m. – Feed animals in 4 groups. Each group will receive a laminated card explaining the specific diet of each animal they will be with for the day. Students collect dishes, clean them, and prepare the morning meals.

8:00 a.m. – Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – Group will be split into work crews and will work on assigned project(s)

12:00 p.m. – Lunch time

1:00 p.m. – Afternoon feeding

3:00 p.m. – Free time (rest, walk into the village, got to the local pulperia, walk to the river, write in journals, conduct interviews).

6:00 p.m. – Dinner, Enjoy and Relax

Day 8 - Tuesday, January 14

MORNING FLIGHT TIME – TBD

AFTERNOON/EARLY EVENING – Arrival back to RCNJ!

****Please note that the itinerary is subject to change. We will make every effort to adhere to it as closely as possible, but flexibility is critically important to the overall success of our trip.****