



Costa Rica 2026

CARDINAL DESTINATION COURSE ABROAD



Ecotourism in Costa Rica

 Jeff Anstine

 May 5-19, 2026

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

Learn about Costa Rican people, history, and their political system.

- Take a tour of the Doka Coffee Farm and a walking tour of San Jose
- Enjoy hikes through the stunning Cloud Forest and other national parks
- Experience options for ziplining, kayaking, white-water rafting and other fun adventures!
- San Jose (the capital)
- Monteverde (the rain forest)
- Manuel Antonio (on the coast)

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

- Various Hotels

CARD*260*BL5

Course Description:

Costa Rica is a safe, middle-income, easy to navigate country with a large eco-tourism business. This course explores the relationship between the environment and the economy in Costa Rica. It is a hands-on class where students will learn about (and live) how nature can co-exist with business. There will be visits to coffee farms, cloud forests and national parks. Free time will also be set aside for students to explore activities such as ziplining, kayaking and white-water rafting if they desire.



Enrollment Steps:

To participate in a Cardinal Destination Course Abroad (CDCA), you must enroll in and successfully complete its prerequisite work.

- Contact your student success coach to understand how enrollment in the CDCA will affect your academic plan.
- Register ON MERLIN for the correlating 2-credit CARD*260 course on Merlin in the spring 2026 semester (designated course section listed on the flipside of this flyer). This course encompasses both the required prerequisite work and the travel component in May.

Enrollment Deadline: November 1, 2025

(or before, if course capacity is met)

Center for Global Education (CGE) Registration:

- **November 1, 2025:** Students enrolled in a CDCA will begin the registration process, be charged a non-refundable \$40 registration fee, and prompted to pay the non-refundable \$500 program fee deposit, through the Center for Global Education.
- **January 19, 2026:** Proof of a valid passport is due. *(Current passports must be valid through November 2026 for May term travel, six (6) months past your return travel date.)*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Course and Itinerary Questions

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General CDCA Questions

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**NORTH CENTRAL
COLLEGE 1861**

ESTIMATED COST & PAYMENTS

\$2,230 - \$2,730 based on 20 enrolled students

PRICE BREAK DOWN INCLUDES:

- Airfare & host country transportation estimate: \$1,120
- Program fee estimate: \$1,110 - \$1,610

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals (other than those listed in the itinerary)
- Optional entertainment and excursions
- Excess baggage charges
- Personal items (telephone charges, laundry fees room service, souvenirs, etc.)
- Departure taxes (except U.S.)
- Passport fees

Payment Deadlines:

- **December 12, 2025:**
\$500 non-refundable program fee deposit due to North Central College
- **January 30, 2026:**
\$500 non-refundable airfare deposit due to North Central College
- **April 2026:**
Remaining program fee balance (including airfare) will be billed to your NC Student Account

CDCA Tuition

- All CDCA experiences are worth 2-credits, which fall under the spring semester.
- All participating students will be registered in a 0-credit course in summer session for administrative purposes only. There is no summer tuition course fee.
- Contact the Office of Financial Aid during the fall semester to inquire about financial aid options for Cardinal Destination Courses Abroad.

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