Peninsula Papagayo is one of the most beautiful places in the world—a tropical 1,400-acre playground offering an unparalleled closeness to nature. Imagine 11 miles of coastline, eight miles of bluff edges, seven beaches and one of the last remaining dry forests on the planet. It’s heaven on earth for hikers, surfers, paddleboarders, animal lovers, snorkelers, divers and anyone who feels happiest in the outdoors.

Papagayo Explorers Club welcomes all explorers staying at Peninsula Papagayo to join our expert team for a world of epic eco-adventures into wide-open wonder. We’re here to connect, learn, educate and share in the discovery of the peninsula with you through experiences with purpose. Whether by land or sea. On solo treks or fun-filled family outings. As close as your doorstep, but far beyond your wildest dreams.

So leave it all behind, step into the joy of the moment and explore the riches of paradise. The possibilities are astounding.
YOUR EXPERT GUIDES TO ECO-ADVENTURE

MEET THE TEAM

JHONNY HERNANDEZ MARTÍNEZ
LEAD NATURALIST GUIDE
ORIGIN: Limón, Costa Rica
DOMAIN: Reptiles and amphibians
CLAIMS TO FAME: Conservationist, manager of wildlife refuge, honor medal as a conservationist from Boy Scouts
MAGIC POWER: Interpreting the sounds of the forest
FUN FACT: Wildlife photographer on the side
EPIC MOMENT: Taking care of crocodiles in the reptile farm rescue center
FAVORITE GUANACASTE SPOT: Santa Rica National Park
MOTTO: Nature is life

WALTER MARCINI
OCEAN EXPERT & PERSONAL TRAINER
ORIGIN: San José, Costa Rica
DOMAIN: Ocean and well-being
CLAIMS TO FAME: Red Cross Lifeguarding Instructor, surf and SUP instructor for over 18 years, personal trainer for over 19 years
MAGIC POWER: Empowering people to believe in their inner energy
FUN FACT: Martial arts, Muay Thai and boxing enthusiast
EPIC MOMENT: Rescuing people in the rough sea conditions
FAVORITE GUANACASTE SPOT: Santa Rosa National Park
MOTTO: Doing something for somebody is the chance God gives you to deserve his favor

FABIÁN CASTRO HILLER
LEAD OCEAN GUIDE
ORIGIN: San José, Costa Rica
DOMAIN: Water
CLAIMS TO FAME: Divemaster, former national swim team member, water sports enthusiast, physical-condition addict, HIIT instructor, lifeguard
MAGIC POWER: Keeping it together around huge animals
FUN FACT: Can sleep for days in a row
EPIC MOMENT: Swimming with humpback whales
FAVORITE GUANACASTE SPOT: Playa Avellana
MOTTO: Good vibes only

GABRIEL CHACÓN
MOUNTAIN BIKE EXPERT
ORIGIN: San José, Costa Rica
DOMAIN: Mountain bike and trail builder
CLAIMS TO FAME: Adventure tour guide and trails designer, Costa Rica’s 3rd-place winner of Enduro, climbing Chirripó Peak 12 times
MAGIC POWER: Creating unparalleled experiences for his clients
FUN FACT: Trail running and biking the wild side of Costa Rica
EPIC MOMENT: Seeing a savage jaguar hunting a deer
FAVORITE GUANACASTE SPOT: Rincón de la Vieja Volcano
MOTTO: Improving your skills is my satisfaction

YAJAIRA ESTER BALDONADO MARADIAGA
NATURALIST GUIDE
ORIGIN: Limón, Costa Rica
DOMAIN: Birds of Papagayo
CLAIMS TO FAME: Nature tour guide and environmental planning and management student
MAGIC POWER: Imparting a lifelong passion for nature
FUN FACT: Fitness fanatic who loves visiting Costa Rica’s diversity of amazing places
EPIC MOMENT: Releasing a wounded bird, after caring for it for days, and watching it fly free
FAVORITE GUANACASTE SPOT: Rincón de la Vieja National Park
MOTTO: Be better than you were yesterday

MIGUEL SÁNCHEZ
GENERAL MANAGER
ORIGIN: Barcelona, Spain
DOMAIN: Under the sea
CLAIMS TO FAME: Scuba diver, videographer, dive instructor, global traveler with a taste for the extreme, inspired home chef celebrating his Spanish-Cuban cooking genes
MAGIC POWER: Creating outrageous excursions few people ever experience
Fun fact: Addicted to big-animal ocean encounters
EPIC MOMENT: Rescuing a giant Pacific manta ray entangled in a fishing net while scuba diving
FAVORITE GUANACASTE SPOT: Playa Iguanita with a good swell
MOTTO: Life’s about enjoying the ride

ERSEL AGUILAR VILLALOBOS
OPERATIONS MANAGER
ORIGIN: Alajuela, Costa Rica
DOMAIN: In the jungles, on the rivers
CLAIMS TO FAME: Nature tour guide and designer, TripAdvisor #1 best tours in the area, Ministry of Culture award winner
MAGIC POWER: Connecting people with nature and pura vida
FUN FACT: Creator of YouTube channel Ersel Costa Rica
EPIC MOMENT: Rescued and handled a baby sloth that was lost on the ground; after a hug that stopped the baby sloth’s crying, Ersel gallantly helped find its mother
FAVORITE GUANACASTE SPOT: Bahía Santa Elena
MOTTO: Every day is a great day

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MOTTO: Life’s about enjoying the ride
EVEN MORE WAYS TO EXPLORE

RIGHT HERE IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Calling all nature lovers and biking enthusiasts. Explorers Club has first-rate facilities designed to get you closer to Costa Rica’s nature. It’s all you can imagine and more.

NATURE CENTER

All great explorations have to begin somewhere. Many of ours start at the Nature Center—a basecamp for memorable expeditions and discoveries, past and future. Stop by and meet our team. Explore our natural treasures. Get outfitted with the right gear. Our guides are happy to answer your questions and share insights with explorers of all ages.

BIKE CENTER

If discovery on two wheels is your passion, start your pedal-powered engines at our new Bike Center—your gateway to epic cycling and mountain biking adventures. Choose your ride from top-brand mountain, road and electric-assist bikes for men, women and kids. Then saddle up for miles of scenic trails tracing the peninsula from end to end.

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CAMP JAGUAR

For rates and reservations, call +506 2696.2222 or email explore@peninsulapapagayo.com.

FIND YOUR PASSION

With 1,400 wonder-filled acres in our backyard, there’s no end to the activities you can choose to get out into the pristine nature of the peninsula. These are just a few of our favorites. The possibilities are limited only by your imagination.
**ADVENTURE BY WATER**

**BAY EXPLORATION**
Explore our beautiful adjacent bays by whichever mode you choose: SUP, water bike or outrigger canoe. Go at your own speed, catch sight of dolphins and mantas and experience the amazing nature that’s in and above the water. Our guided trips reward active travelers with a unique and exhilarating way to connect with one of the world’s most spectacular marine environments. You can even snorkel, freedive and swim along the way.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT TO EXPECT</th>
<th>Chance to see different fish, sea turtles, shorebirds and beautiful landscapes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT TO BRING</td>
<td>Long-sleeve rash guard, water shoes, sunscreen lotion, hat, sunglasses with a strap and bottle of water, Camera, dry bags, extra change of clothes and snacks are optional.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DURATION</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS</td>
<td>Age: 10 and up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BIOLUMINESCENCE PADDLE**
An evening paddle on Bahía Culebra or Bahía Huevos can take your breath away, especially during one of the seasonal upwellings in the Golfo de Papagayo. This is when plankton blooms occur and nature’s most delicate creatures—millions and millions of them—drift with the current just beneath the surface. It’s an otherworldly display of dazzling colors and fantastical shapes, including some of the longest living animals on the planet performing an unforgettable underwater ballet known as bioluminescence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT TO EXPECT</th>
<th>Chance to see bioluminescent organisms, different fish, sea turtles and beautiful landscapes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT TO BRING</td>
<td>Long-sleeve rash guard, water shoes and bottle of water. Camera, dry bags, extra change of clothes and snacks are optional.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DURATION</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS</td>
<td>Age: 5 and up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**FREEDIVING**

Humans do have one thing in common with dolphins: a super-powered ability to survive on deep dives. You’ll learn all about this superpower.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**
Humans do have one thing in common with dolphins: a super-powered ability to survive on deep dives. You’ll learn all about this superpower.

**WHAT TO BRING**
Sandals, waterproof camera, shorts, t-shirts, sunglasses, sunblock, rash guard, sun hat, bathing suit and a sense of adventure.

**DURATION**
3 hours

**RESTRICTIONS**
Age: 16 and up

---

**MAGICAL MANGROVE TOUR**

Few experiences are more magical than touring our protected mangrove by canoe or water bike. We begin on Playa Pochota, and then cross the bay to enter the mangrove of Palmares—one of the jewels of the peninsula. Venture bravely into this natural sanctuary, and explore a unique ecosystem of eerie “walking trees” able to survive (and thrive) in salty freshwater, creating a rich refuge for wildlife. Listen for a chorus of shells popping shut, while pods of parrots chatter overhead. This high-tide tour is ideal for nature lovers and families of all ages.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**
Similar to a floating safari with a chance to see different birds, crabs, reptiles and monkeys.

**WHAT TO BRING**
Long-sleeve rash guard, shorts, water shoes, sunscreen lotion, hat, sunglasses with a strap and bottle of water. Camera, dry bags and snacks are optional.

**DURATION**
2 hours

**RESTRICTIONS**
Age: 5 and up (by canoe) / 10 and up (by water bike).
Outriggers (Hawaiian-style canoes) are great equalizers of abilities. The outrigger is a type of canoe featuring one or more lateral support floats, known as outriggers, which are fastened to one or both sides of the main hull.

Immerse in this world apart while exploring the turquoise waters of our surrounding bays in a traditional Hawaiian-style canoe. Get inspired with the energy of your own body as you perfect your stroke, build endurance and experience the wonders of marine life along the peninsula’s dramatic coastline—under the sun or the stars.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT TO BRING</td>
<td>Sandals, waterproof camera, shorts, t-shirts, sunglasses, sunblock, rash guard, sun hat, bathing suit and a sense of adventure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DURATION</td>
<td>2.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS</td>
<td>Age: 5 and up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OUTRIGGER CANOE (DAY OR NIGHT)

Try the latest craze in water sports and see what the buzz is all about. Self-guided and uncharted, it’s a unique and nature-friendly way to explore the Golfo de Papagayo’s tropical gold-sand beaches, turquoise waters and places of extreme natural splendor. The bay’s calm waters are ideal for spotting myriad rays, sea turtles and fascinating fish. It’s so quiet, you can even hear the howlers in the trees. Yes, it’s for everyone—no matter your fitness or experience level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT TO EXPECT</th>
<th>Quiet, sustainable and human-powered, the water bikes provide an easy and fun way to get closer to nature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT TO BRING</td>
<td>Long-sleeve rash guard, comfortable shorts, another set of clothes, water shoes, sunglasses with a strap, sunblock, dry bags, sun hat and a sense of adventure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DURATION</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| RESTRICTIONS   | Age: 10 and up. Height: 5’0”.

WATER BIKE

ADVENTURE BY WATER
### BIRD WATCHING & PHOTOGRAPHY

For bird lovers, the study of nature is one of the most fascinating adventures in the world. Join our resident naturalist with binoculars and telescope at the ready to see some of the 100-plus bird species that call the peninsula home— including trogons, the tiger heron, the crabeater hawk, the guaco, the bobo chizo, the turquoise-browed motmot, the manakin, the lineated woodpecker, the scissor-tail and blue jay. It’s a wonderful opportunity to practice wildlife photography and have fun exploring the avairy world of Peninsula Papagayo.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT TO EXPECT</th>
<th>Parrots, tanagers, woodpeckers, warblers, woodcreepers, hawks, falcons, trogons, motmots, herons, frigate birds and much more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT TO BRING</td>
<td>Comfortable clothes, hat, sunglasses, rubber-soled walking shoes, sunscreen lotion, bug repellent and bottle of water. Camera and snacks are optional.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DURATION</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS</td>
<td>Age: 5 and up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MOUNTAIN BIKING

Peninsula Papagayo’s mangroves, estuaries and centuries-old seasonal forest are a wonderland for mountain biking. Choose from an exciting new collection of Santa Cruz mountain and cross-country bikes, plus new electric-assist off-road bikes by Haibike. The XDURO AllMtn isn’t just a bicycle: it’s a new way of living, a new way of moving and a new way of having fun with friends and family. Escape the confines of pavement, connect with nature and journey out for the ride of your life!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT TO EXPECT</th>
<th>Amazing trails that allow you to submerge into nature and to see birds, monkeys, coatis, stunning ocean views and more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT TO BRING</td>
<td>Comfortable clothes, tennis shoes, sunscreen lotion, hat or cap, bug repellent and bottle of water. Camera and snacks are optional.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DURATION</td>
<td>2 hours (3 hours full trails)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS</td>
<td>Age: 10 and up. Height: 5’2” (regular bikes) / 5’4” (Haibikes).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## NATURE SEMINAR SERIES

Engage in fascinating interactive conversations about this extraordinary biological corridor with resident naturalists and knowledgeable guides, sharing insights on local culture, ecology and natural history. The series seeks to increase awareness of local conservation issues by featuring distinguished scientists from across Costa Rica, speaking on a range of topics related to the way living things impact each other and the environment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT TO EXPECT</th>
<th>Presentation and video on 63” screen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT TO BRING</td>
<td>Your questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DURATION</td>
<td>1 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## NATURE WALK (DAY OR NIGHT)

Embark on a magical nature walk through the peninsula’s tropical dry forest to explore the rich flora, fauna and history of Peninsula Papagayo. Your enthusiast naturalist guide, equipped with technical gear, leads the way. By day, listen to the whispered secrets of big ash trees, plants, lizards, butterflies, birds, insects and monkeys, and learn all about their relationships with the natural order of the universe. By night, discover the nocturnal mystery of the nightlife creatures that come out to play after dark. Listen to the wild orchestra. Look for sleeping birds. Surround yourself in nature’s built-in fairy lights—fireflies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT TO EXPECT</th>
<th>Parrots, parakeets, woodpeckers, butterflies, leafcutter ants, army ants, crabs, iguanas, lizards, monkeys, agoutis, peccaries, deer and more by day. Opossums, bats, porcupines, raccoons, fireflies, toads, snakes, geckos, moths and more by night. A few lucky guests might get to share our guides’ night vision goggles.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT TO BRING</td>
<td>Long pants and t-shirt, rubber-soled walking shoes, bug repellent and bottle of water. Camera and snacks are optional.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DURATION</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS</td>
<td>Age: 5 and up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SAFARI NATURE RIDE (DAY OR NIGHT)
Tour Peninsula Papagayo’s wildlife paradise in the comfort of a golf cart with a knowledgeable naturalist guide. Relax as you explore nature without borders, taking in pristine landscapes and breathtaking views. There’s a good chance you’ll spot monkeys, coatis and splendid birds, like parakeets and woodpeckers, while you’re busy taking pictures. It’s a great experience for kids of all ages who enjoy nature without a lot of walking. Choose an exhilarating day ride or embrace the dark side on a night ride.

WHAT TO EXPECT
Birds like parrots, parakeets and woodpeckers, plus butterflies, leafcutter ants, army ants, crabs, iguanas, lizards, monkeys, agoutis, peccaries, boas and deer

WHAT TO BRING
Comfortable clothes, hat, sunglasses, rubber-soled walking shoes, sunblock, bug repellant and bottle of water. Camera and snacks are optional.

DURATION
2 hours

RESTRICTIONS
Age: 5 and up

WILDERNESS HIKE
Monkeys and parrots and hawks, oh my! You never know what you’ll encounter in the wilderness of Palmares. This large swatch of land is largely untouched, save for a few hidden trails known only to your PEC guide. Our moderate hike leads deep into the forest, where you can witness plants in all shades of green and animals in their natural habitats. Tucked away from civilization, Palmares provides shelter for a dizzying array of wildlife. If you’re lucky (and very quiet), you might even spot a big cat—a rare experience sure to delight families with kids.

WHAT TO EXPECT
Chance to see different birds, like herons, hawks and parrots, plus crabs, reptiles, monkeys and other mammals

WHAT TO BRING
T-shirt, shorts, hiking shoes, sunscreen lotion, hat, sunglasses with a strap and bottle of water. Camera and snacks are optional.

DURATION
2 hours (moderate hiking)

RESTRICTIONS
Age: 7 and up
Our fun-filled explorations are tailored to explorers, ages 12-16, in search of adventure, self-discovery, self-confidence, new friends and a deep connection to our world and its denizens. Pick your favorite days—or come for all three—and join our expert guides for a lifetime of memories. Let the games begin!

2019 SCHEDULE
SCHOOL HOLIDAY WEEKS

PRESIDENT’S DAY
February 18, 19 & 21

SPRING BREAK
March 18, 19 & 21
March 25, 26 & 28

EASTER
April 15, 16 & 18

SUMMER VACATION
All Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays in July & August

THANKSGIVING
November 25, 26 & 28

FESTIVE
December 23, 24 & 26
December 30 & 31, January 1, 2020
MONDAYS, 9AM–3PM  
INTO THE WILD: SURVIVAL  
Be brave, inquisitive—and ready for anything. Explore and identify local flora, fauna and wildlife footprints. Forage for ancestral food supplies. Discover how to make use of our natural resources, while developing your skills in the art of surviving in the wilds of Palmares Estuary.

- Biological field survey, featuring camera trap and wildlife footprints recognition
- Wildlife watching and photography
- Foraging for ancestral food supplies
- Survival medicinal plants ID
- Ancient utensils and rope-making techniques with natural materials

TUESDAYS, 9AM–3PM  
IN THE ZONE: WATER SAFETY  
Get empowered in our aquatic environment by learning how to recognize potential hazardous conditions. Explore a day dedicated to safety, physical fitness, problem solving, lifesaving methods and rescue scenarios.

- Swimming challenges
- Cooperation and lifesaving methods
- Local first aid and CPR certification
- Rescue scenarios

THURSDAYS, 9AM–3PM  
BIKING FOREST ADVENTURE  
It’s all about attitude. Push the boundaries of your comfort zone and embrace new experiences. Visit a protected natural area, discover the daily tasks of Park Rangers and become a guardian of the forest. While you’re here, master cool mountain bike tricks and connect with local culture.

- Visit to protected natural area (Horizontes Experimental Forest)
- Reforestation and conservation activity
- Mountain bike ride
- Mejenga and games
- English/Spanish conversation exchange
For rates and reservations, call +506 2696.2222 or email explore@peninsulapapagayo.com.

www.peninsulapapagayo.com

#peninsulapapagayo #aworldapart #papagayoexplorersclub #campjaguar