

A Taste of Panama: Canal, Rainforest, & Culture



Journey to the “Crossroads of the World” for a comprehensive introduction to Panama’s fascinating history, culture, and natural heritage. Explore both the Pacific and Caribbean sides of the country as you learn about the engineering marvel that is the Panama Canal. Discover its past, present, and future during a partial transit. Meanwhile, you’ll also go beyond the canal and delve deeper into the country’s indigenous heritage, its colonial legacy, and its vital role in shaping the flora and fauna of the Americas as we know them today.

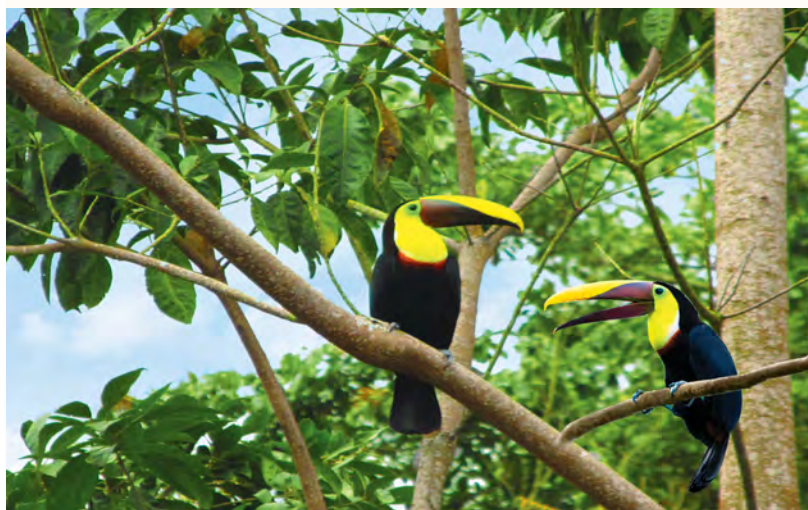
You won’t want to miss this unforgettable learning adventure. We expect our limited space will fill up quickly. Please make your reservation as soon as possible to guarantee your spot!

January 15 - 22, 2021

- Day 1: USA - Panama City**
- Day 2: Panama City**
- Day 3: Panama City**
- Day 4: Colón**
- Day 5: Colón**
- Day 6: Gamboa**
- Day 7: Gamboa**
- Day 8: Depart Panama for USA**

INCLUSIONS:

Accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities listed in itinerary, Private vehicle transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary, Non-alcoholic beverages with meals, Full time guide for duration of program, Tips/gratuities for guide & driver, Carbon offset, Departure tax



Panama Expedition

- Uncover Panama's role as an international trade center and cultural melting pot in the historical district of Casco Viejo.
- Make a partial canal transit, passing under the Bridge of the Americas and Centenario Bridge and viewing the elaborate lock system in action.
- Learn about the geological origins, natural history, and ecological effects of the Panamanian isthmus at the Frank Gehry-designed BioMuseo.
- Kayak on Lake Gatún, a man-made lake 85 feet above sea level.
- Meet members of the indigenous Emberá tribe and learn about their history, traditions, and culture.
- Observe tropical flora and fauna during a hike and aerial tram ride through Soberanía National Park.



Panama Itinerary Highlights

01/15/2021 Panama City (LD) Upon arrival at Tocumen International Airport in Panama City, meet your driver and transfer approximately 45 minutes to the hotel, having lunch en route.

01/16/2021 Panama City (BLD) Isla Taboga beach, tour and have lunch. Return to the hotel in the afternoon. Before heading out for dinner at a local restaurant on the causeway, listen to a lecture given by a local expert, "The Panama Canal: Past, Present, and Future."

01/17/2021 Panama City (BLD) Today explore Lake Bayano Cave. A day's journey to discover rock formations, pools of water, and shafts of light breaking through the opening of the cave to reveal the many bats, frogs, and fish dwelling in its depths.

01/18/2021 Colón (BLD) After an early breakfast, transfer to Flamenco Marina and board a boat to make a partial canal transit, beginning in the Pacific Ocean and heading north.

01/19/2021 Colón (BLD) After breakfast, take a field trip to Fort San Lorenzo, which was constructed in the 1500s during the reign of King Philip II of Spain. On the way back to the hotel, stop at The New Locks Visitor Center to view the new set of locks on the Caribbean side of the Canal.

01/20/2021 Gamboa (BLD) After breakfast, transfer toward Lake Alajuela, with discussions en route about indigenous cultures and their history in Panama. Upon arrival at the Chagres River, board dugout canoes for the journey through the dense jungle.

01/21/2021 Gamboa (BLD) After breakfast, visit Soberanía National Park. Created in 1980, it stands as one of Panama's natural jewels and is one of the country's most accessible tropical rainforests. This afternoon venture almost 2,000 feet above the rainforest floor on Gamboa's Aerial Tram for a unique view of the forest. The tram ends at an observation tower 100 feet high with expansive 360-degree views of Soberanía National Park. Have a farewell dinner at the hotel.

01/22/2021 Depart (B) Early morning transfer to the international airport for the flight to the United States.



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