



# CLASSIC TOUR ML2BB PROGRAM



Welcome to Mawamba Lodge and Tortuguero National Park! We are delighted to have you visit us and would like to offer more information on the daily activities included in your program.

## DAY 1

**6:00-7:00 a.m.**

Departure time from major hotels in San José area. We will travel through highway #32 and drive past the scenic Braulio Carrillo National Park. We will stop for a Costa Rican style breakfast, including the local recipe of “Gallo Pinto”, at Grupo Mawamba’s Río Danta Restaurant in Guápiles at approx. 8:00 a.m. Our journey will continue to the dock at either La Pavona in Guapiles or Caño Blanco in Siquirres (La Pavona is our main port of operation, but depending on weather conditions it might be necessary to change to Caño Blanco).

**11:00 a.m.**

Arrival to the pier and after a chance for restroom use, board Mawamba’s boat for your one hour ride to Tortuguero and Mawamba Lodge (times might vary depending on river’s water level). For the first part of the journey, you’ll be cruising on “La Suerte” River, and then, as you get closer to Tortuguero you will get into the wider Tortuguero river.

**12:15-1:00 p.m.**

Arrival to Mawamba Lodge. Welcome by our manager, and check into your room. Afterwards, meet your tour guide and group at the Restaurant by the pool area for a buffet lunch (lunch available 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.).

**2:30 - 3:00 p.m.**

This afternoon is a great opportunity to visit the Village of Tortuguero along with your guide and group. Through this visit, learn about the ways of

life of the local residents of Tortuguero, a small town of approx. 1300 people. After the visit and some free time, we will return back to the Lodge walking by the beach trail leading to the Lodge (weather permitting). From Mawamba Lodge Mawamba Lodge, one can actually walk to/from town without needing to take a boat. In case you’d rather not walk, please inform your tour guide who will arrange boat transportation back for you.

**7:30 p.m.**

Meet your guide and group at the restaurant for your buffet dinner, served from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

## DAY 2

**Breakfast available from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.**

This morning and a time you will confirm with your naturalist guide (usually around 9.30 a.m.) go on a visit to the “Mawamba Park”, a private facility in our Lodge’s gardens that features two butterfly farms, a frog garden, our bio-digester and river turtles area. The bio-digester is a very important effort in conservation, through which we treat the sewage waters of the Lodge to convert them into a natural source of methane gas to heat up the stoves. Now days, approximately 30% of the gas we use at the Lodge comes from the bio digester. This visit is combined with a walk in the trails at the Lodge.

**12:30 p.m.**

Gather for a buffet lunch at the restaurant by the pool. Lunch is served from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**2:00 p.m. (or at a time agreed with your tour guide)**

Meet for the afternoon canal tour in the Tortuguero National Park. Visit one of the park’s canals by boat and discover with your guide the wonderful biodiversity that resides in this area. We recommend you bring your windbreaker and



poncho. A shower can always be expected in the rainforest! Also, don't forget to bring cash to pay for your National Park fee. Return to the Lodge approx. at 4:15 p.m. for some free time to relax before dinner time. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m at the restaurant by the pool.

## DAY 3

### 7:30 a.m.

Breakfast is served at the Lodge. We kindly ask you to check out of your room around 8:30 a.m., and gather around the reception/souvenir shop area for departure at 9:00 a.m. back to La Pavona, on a return ride from your way in.

### 11:00 a.m.

Arrival to La Pavona, use the restrooms before boarding the bus for the return drive to San José.

### 1:00 p.m.

Stop for lunch at Grupo Mawamba's Río Danta Restaurant in Guápiles. If you are continuing your trip to Arenal, Sarapiquí or Puerto Viejo de Limón, Río Danta is your best connection point.

Those returning to San Jose will arrive between 3:30 - 4:30 p.m., depending on road conditions.

## NOTES

- All times are approximate, variations can be expected depending on weather and road conditions. Always verify with your tour guide the departure time for your activities.
- If you have any dietary restriction, please let us know in advance, as options in Tortuguero are limited.
- The order and logistics of the itinerary may change depending on weather conditions.

- There is very limited space in the bus and boats for luggage. We kindly ask you to pack lightly for a maximum luggage of 25 lb per person.
- Entrance fee to Tortuguero National Park is not included in the package: USD \$15.00 per adult person (as of Nov 1st, 2014). Children 6-11 years old pay \$5.00 USD
- Alcoholic beverages, sodas, cocktails/smoothies or bottled water are not included in the package price.
- During turtle nesting season, dinner time changes to 6:45 p.m., so our visitors can join the available tour.
- What to bring: Poncho, comfortable walking shoes and sandals (flip flops), bathing suit, fast drying cotton clothes, windbreaker/light jacket, hat/cap, sun block, insect repellent, camera/binoculars & items of personal nature.

### Complimentary services:

- WI-FI service in common areas of the Lodge: (Bar, reception, and pool area) WI FI is not available in the rooms although some might get a weak signal, and Mawamba does not have computers available for Internet use.
- Umbrellas for guest use (Ponchos available for sale at the souvenir shop)
- In room safe
- Self-guided walk in Mawamba Lodge garden's (Tour map available in reception)
- Hammocks for beach use (ask for hammocks in reception)

### OPTIONAL TOURS (EXTRA COST)

- Early rise morning boat tour: Wake up early to enjoy the beauty of the rainforest as everything comes to life with the sunrise. Meet your tour guide at 5:45 a.m. for coffee and 6:00 a.m. departure to discover the beauty and wildlife of the rainforest. Return at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast.
- Twilight tour / night hike: In the tropical rainforest. A great opportunity to hear, live and explore the sounds and behavior of the rainforest at nighttime. Guided tour from Mawamba Lodge. Includes: Guide, flashlights, round trip boat transportation from the Lodge to private trail and trail use



- **Katonga Floating Restaurant:** A unique opportunity to dine (or take a sunset tour) on board of the only floating restaurant in Costa Rica (or that we know of), while cruising the Lagoon, on a relaxed, enjoyable atmosphere. Dinner is served on the table, from a menu you choose before boarding. A unique experience
- **Kayaking tour:** Join us on a 2 hour guided kayak tour on the Tortuguero National Park. We will take you on a canal used only for non-motor boats, to quietly explore and discover the wildlife of the National Park.

