

# NICARAGUA ADVENTURE TOUR

## 9 Days/8 Nights



**WILDLAND  
ADVENTURES**

**AUTHENTIC WORLDWIDE  
EXPLORATIONS**

Visit us at [www.wildland.com](http://www.wildland.com)

## Itinerary Overview

Hike, bike, and kayak through the rich cultural history, rural villages, and stunning natural landscapes of Nicaragua's volcanoes, lakes and tropical beaches. Designed for families and active travelers, our Nicaragua Adventure Tour traverses through the picturesque colonial cities of Leon and Granada where we stay in historic boutique hotels, to the luxurious Morgan's Rock Hacienda and Ecolodge in the coastal rainforest overlooking a pristine, white-sand Pacific beach. We kayak in search of wildlife in coastal mangrove lagoons, and through the lovely islets of Granada on Lake Nicaragua amongst local villages with a stop at a local school, then trade paddle for pedal on a cycling tour of Granada. Summit the Cerro Negro Volcano with an option to descend its black cinder slopes on a sand board, hike in Masaya Volcano National Park, and fly on an exhilarating zip line through the cloud forest of Mombacho Volcano. Accompanied by an expert guide, this active Nicaragua tour is designed for as few as two persons and can be modified as a private departure or active Nicaragua honeymoon adventure to suit the interests and style of any traveler.

DAY	DATE	OVERNIGHT	HOTEL	MEALS	HIGHLIGHTS
1		LEON	El Convento	D	Arrive and transfer to hotel
2		LEON	El Convento	BLD	Walking city tour, Isla Juan Venado Nature Reserve by kayak
3		GRANADA	Plaza Colon	BLD	Hike Cerro Negro and Masaya Volcanoes, bat cave
4		GRANADA	Plaza Colon	BLD	Mombacho Volcano and canopy zipline, Catarina and pottery workshop
5		GRANADA	Plaza Colon	BLD	Islet kayaking, biking city tour and chocolate workshop
6		SAN JUAN DEL SUR	Morgan's Rock Ecolodge	BLD	Transfer to San Juan Del Sur Activity of choice
7		SAN JUAN DEL SUR	Morgan's Rock Ecolodge	BLD	Activity of choice
8		SAN JUAN DEL SUR	Morgan's Rock Ecolodge	BLD	Activity of choice
9		DEPARTURE	--	B	Transfer to Managua International Airport

## Itinerary in Detail

### DAY 1: MANAGUA – LEON

Arrive at Managua International Airport and transfer to the nearby colonial city of Leon (1 hr). Overnight at the historic colonial **Hotel El Convento**, a former convent restored as a peaceful and distinctive boutique hotel representing Nicaragua's rich cultural history. **[D]**

**Note:** *You must arrive by 4 pm to Managua on your arrival day to reach Leon. Otherwise we could add an extra night in Managua for an early morning departure to Leon the following morning.*



### DAY 2: WALKING IN LEON AND KAYAKING AT JUAN VENADO

One of the oldest colonial cities in Central America and the intellectual hub of the country, you begin your walking exploration of Leon's beautiful Spanish Colonial architecture ascending eighty-one steps up the cathedral's tower, the largest in Central America, for a dazzling view of the city surrounded by eleven volcanoes, four which are still active. You also walk by several old revolutionary murals from the 80's and visit the Ruben Dario's Museum-House, the most famous Nicaraguan poet. After exploring the city on foot it's a short drive to Isla Juan Venado National Park, an important coastal wetland reserve and protected site where leather-back and olive-ridley sea turtles nest between August and December. Overnight at **Hotel El Convento**. **[BLD]**



### DAY 3: CERRO NEGRO VOLCANO – MASAYA VOLCANO NATIONAL PARK

Depart early to hike up Cerro Negro Volcano. The trail is an hour ascent with a spectacular view from atop. Those looking for excitement can grab a sand board for a thrilling ride down the volcano; others can run downhill, or walk back down the trail. En-route to Granada you stop at the San Jacinto boiling mud holes and then at the Masaya Volcano National Park, encompassing two impressive volcanoes and five formidable craters. Hike among the lava caves and rock formations always on the lookout for wildlife including coyotes, opossum, deer, iguana, monkeys, and bats. Time permitting sometimes it is possible to peak into the crater mouth of the volcano to observe red, glowing lava, and to visit the bat cave where hundreds of bats emerge at dusk. You then continue on to historical Granada. Overnight at **Hotel Plaza Colón** set in an elegant antique colonial house restored to its original style and architecture with courtyards and balconies overlooking Central Park and the Cathedral. **[BLD]**



### DAY 4: GRANADA – MOMBACHO VOLCANO – PUEBLOS BLANCOS POTTERY WORKSHOP

Mombacho Volcano is one of Nicaragua's most impressive volcanoes, rising like a sleeping giant to 4,626 feet. Often enshrouded in mist, you hike through verdant cloud forest rich in hanging moss and epiphytic plants to the Mombacho Canopy Adventure for an exhilarating zip line ride through the forest canopy. Catch your breath and return to Granada for a hearty lunch. The afternoon is free to explore, on your own or with your guide, the narrow cobblestone streets with many cafes, art studios, and artisan shops, or cool off in the hotel swimming pool. There is also the option to visit Pueblos Blancos (white villages) outside of Granada, quaint rural villages where buildings and streets were constructed from volcanic rock, water, and limestone that gave them all a white-washed

color. Here you will have the opportunity to rub shoulders with talented artists whose skills have been passed down through generations and who will be happy to share their talents with you to get your hands muddy on the potter's wheel and learn how to create your own piece. Overnight **Hotel Plaza Colon [BLD]**

#### **DAY 5: GRANADA – KAYAKING, CYCLING AND CHOCOLATE WORKSHOP**

A very short drive from town to the banks of Lake Nicaragua you have a choice to kayak or take an electric-powered boat through the 365 enchanted islets of Granada. This volcanic archipelago, formed 20,000 years ago when Mombacho Volcano blew most of its cone of massive boulders into the lake, is rich in fauna and flora including caiman, turtles, migrating swallows, and a variety of aquatic birds. The San Pablo Fort is an opportunity to learn about colorful stories of marauding pirates attacking the city during the 18th century.



Depending on time and the day of the week, you visit the local La Esperancita School. Here you have an opportunity to interact with children and teachers who commute to school by boat, and to learn how your visit benefits the community. Whether or not the school is in session, there are many ways we can interact with the locals of this fishing community to learn about their daily life. After a lakeside lunch, you return to Granada where you get your helmets and mount bikes to explore the charming cobblestone streets of Granada including the market, Cathedral and the Convent of San Francisco, now a museum with elaborate murals depicting Nicaragua's history in colorful scenes and a vast collection of pre-Columbian statues and pottery. You conclude this day in a chocolate workshop where you learn how to roast, winnow, grind, mix, conch, refine and mold our own piece of chocolate! Overnight at **Hotel Plaza Colon [BLD]**



#### **DAY 6: SAN JUAN DEL SUR – BEACH AND RAINFOREST ACTIVITIES**

Leave the city behind and depart for San Juan del Sur, a tranquil fishing and popular vacation retreat where you wind down on a private tropical Pacific beach in the rainforest. On arrival at the coast, say a fond farewell to your guide who returns to Granada. Overnights at **Morgan's Rock Hacienda & Ecolodge**, a boutique beach-front property with hilltop ocean views offering luxurious accommodations, spa services, and many activities. Morgan's Rock has a long-standing commitment to the education and welfare of the local community. **[BLD]**

#### **DAYS 7 AND 8: SAN JUAN DEL SUR - BEACH AND FOREST ACTIVITIES**

Enjoy two full days relaxing at Morgan's Rock. The spacious, open-air, screened-in luxury cabanas are private and offer king-size beds, comfortable sofa-beds, and large decks with an outdoor rope-swing day bed. Spacious, tiled bathrooms feature two sinks and a natural shower. Bungalows are situated on a hilltop setting and connected to the main lodge, restaurant, and pool area by a hanging foot bridge weaving through the forest canopy. Savor two full days in the rainforest enjoying one onsite activity of choice per day (included). Options include guided nature walks (day and evening), tours of the working hacienda, sunset excursion, horseback riding, opportunities to collect eggs or milk a cow while helping prepare a



traditional Nicaraguan breakfast, and assisting with protection and release of baby sea turtle tours (in season). Other activities available at additional cost include surfing lessons, mountain biking, sea kayaking and fishing. Overnights at **Morgan's Rock Hacienda and Eco-lodge. [BLD]**

#### **DAY 9: DEPART**

Enjoy one more Nicaraguan sunrise before returning home. Transfer to Managua International airport for your international flight home or begin post trip extension. **[B]**

*Note that your flight back home must depart after 1:00 p.m. in order to reach Managua in time for your international departure; otherwise an additional night in Managua or Granada can be arranged to depart the following day at any time.*

#### **END OF SERVICES**

**Actual routes and activities may vary. Local trip coordinators reserve the right to change accommodations to similar quality alternatives.**

#### **PRICING AND DATES:**

For current pricing please click here: [Pricing](#)

For scheduled departure dates please click here: [Dates](#)

Private departures can be arranged. Please ask the Nicaragua program director for more information.

#### **INCLUDED SERVICES**

- All Services as specified in the itinerary above include lodging and accommodations
- Private English-speaking expert bilingual guide from Day 2 to Day 6, local bilingual guides for the Morgan's Rock portion
- Airport-hotel transfers and land transportation
- Meals as specified [B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner]
- Services of in-bound land operator offices for tour operations and Wildland Adventures' travel consultation and pre-departure services

#### **NOT INCLUDED SERVICES**

- Services unless specified otherwise in the itinerary above such as international air
- Airport taxes
- Tips and gratuities
- Optional or suggested services that are on your own
- Insurance of any kind
- Personal expenses
- Extra beverages and alcoholic drinks
- Medical costs and hospitalization and evacuation and any other extra expenses due to unanticipated changes in our itinerary for reasons beyond control
- Tourist card (\$10)
- Meals, souvenirs and other local and personal expenses not specified in the above itinerary are also not included
- Always carry enough cash for the international airport departure taxes (\$42).

## [Accommodations](#)



### **HOTEL EL CONVENTO, LEON**

This historical hotel, in the heart of the historic city of Leon, is a true colonial jewel. San Francisco's Convent was the first convent in Leon. In the 1830's, religious groups were expelled from Nicaragua, so San Francisco's Convent became the Instituto Nacional de Occidente. Now it stands completely refurbished in its original state. All rooms are equipped with air conditioning, cable TV, hot water, international dial tone, and internet access. There is also 24 hour room service, laundry service, and 24 hour surveillance. Their restaurant, El Victoriano, offers international cuisine.



### **HOTEL PLAZA COLON, GRANADA**

The Hotel Plaza Colon is a historical building with colonial design located in the heart of Granada. It was the home of many aristocratic and renowned families of the city, one of which decided to transform the house into a hotel. To do so, they acquired the three adjacent properties, taking special care in keeping the style and architecture of the original house. The current facade of the hotel is the same it had in 1905. Guests can refresh in the swimming pool or lounge at the patio. The comfortable hotel rooms feature air-conditioning, ceiling fans, cable TV, high-speed Wi-Fi, hairdryers, alarm clocks, and minibars.



### **MORGAN'S ROCK HACIENDA & ECOLOGE**

Morgan's Rock Hacienda & Ecolodge provides a peaceful experience in nature. The exotic rainforest surroundings and secluded location bring guests into harmony of body and mind. Guests enjoy the private sandy beach safe for swimming, and daily adventure activities. Morgan's Rock is a working hacienda and an award-winning, sustainable tourism accommodation with a land conservation program, tree nursery, and reforestation projects that extend over 1,800 hectares. Located just 20 minutes north of the popular vacation town of San Juan del Sur, they provide all the amenities one needs to stay at the small resort including pool, spa services, and dining al fresco in the restaurant.

# Booking your Wildland Adventure

## HOW TO RESERVE A TRIP

You can book online using our [Reserve a Trip form](#) or by calling 1-800-345-4453. Your space on a trip is confirmed once we receive your reservation form and initial trip deposit. All travelers must sign and submit a [Release of Liability](#).

Deposit requirements are as follows:\*

- \$700 per person for all trips in Central America, South America, the Middle East, Asia and the Far East, the Mediterranean and North America.
- 20% of land cost for all trips in Africa. This deposit is generally non-refundable.

\*Some trips require additional non-refundable deposits, especially when yachts have been chartered, or if permits to visit archaeological or wildlife sites have been purchased in advance.

## CUSTOM TRAVEL

This trip isn't exactly what you're looking for? We are happy to design a private custom itinerary to accommodate your travel dates, interests and style of accommodations. Call us at 1-800-345-4453, send an email to [info@wildland.com](mailto:info@wildland.com), or use the Ask The Program Director button on the trip itinerary page on our website.

## PAYMENTS, CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS

Full payment of the trip balance is due 90 days prior to departure. If you must cancel before departure, money will be returned less the cancellation fees charged by WA Inc. plus any additional non-refundable cancellation fees and payments already advanced to airlines, hotels and local operators:

Days Prior to Departure: Fee per person

91 or more:	\$300
61-90 days:	Initial deposit amount
31-60 days:	50% of land cost
30 or less:	100% of land cost

## PRE-DEPARTURE SERVICES

Upon receipt of your deposit and completed reservation form, we will send you a comprehensive Pre-departure Dossier. This contains important information to help you prepare including immunizations, visas, trip insurance, packing checklist, reading list, maps, cross-cultural information, optional trip extensions, and more. You will receive a final trip packet including Final Reminders and local contact information in your destination 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

## REFERENCES AND QUESTIONS

Have any questions or concerns? Call us a 1-800-345-4453 or email [info@wildland.com](mailto:info@wildland.com). We're here to help and are happy to provide you with references from previous Wildland travelers.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Wildland Adventures, Inc. has arranged your trip utilizing the travel services of local in-country ground operators who are independent contractors. These local outfitters, lodges, hotels and other suppliers of your travel services will make every effort to conduct this trip as described in the itinerary. It is however possible that due to transportation schedule changes, weather, delays and unforeseeable acts of God, humans or nature, this itinerary may vary from what is described. Participants must assume all risks whether identified in advance or unforeseen. All optional activities are at your own risk. Extra costs due to unexpected changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control are not included. We highly recommend purchasing traveler's insurance for trip delay, trip cancellation, baggage, accident or sickness. Representatives are available for assistance at any time during your trip. If preferred hotels are not available, every attempt will be made to reserve alternative accommodations of similar quality. (If upgrade is necessary, higher rates may apply.) All information and services provided are subject to our [Terms and Conditions](#)