

COSTA RICA & PANAMA - PANAMA CITY EXTENSION



INTRODUCTION

Travel to Panama City on this Chimu Adventure's extension that allows you to see where the Pacific Ocean connects with the Atlantic Ocean thanks to the proficiency of the Panama Canal. You will be in awe of this modern city that has little remaining of its original city as you discover two of the canal locks in Agua Clara and Miraflores. Visit the remaining old quarter (Casco Viejo) to see cobblestone streets, palm trees and colonial buildings as well as eat in its many trendy restaurants and cafes. For a taste of Panama's wilderness, you will also travel to the Panama Rainforest Discovery Centre with a naturalist guide for a day of birdwatching and animal spotting.

On this all-encompassing personalised itinerary, Chimu will provide travel logistics for your travel party for the duration of your journey, plus expert guides for all the major sightseeing as per itinerary. Each night you will stay in superior accommodation, handpicked by our experienced team for their creature comforts, convenient locations, and impeccable service.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Transfer International Airport to Panama City Hote

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not be able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office. Feel free to take advantage of your guide and ask them anything you would like to know about Panama and your itinerary.



TRIP CODE

PATSPSO

DEPARTURE

Daily

DURATION

5 Days

LOCATIONS

Panama




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DAY 1: Panama City

Panama City, Panama’s capital, is possibly the most cosmopolitan capital in Central America. It is a modern city framed by the Pacific Ocean and the man-made Panama Canal. The original city of Panama (Panama Viejo) was destroyed by fire in 1671. The city was rebuilt on a peninsula, 8kms from the original settlement. It is known as Casco Viejo (Old Quarter) and is the historic centre of Panama, with cobble-stoned streets and colonial buildings. The archaeological site of Panama Viejo and the historic district of Panama are both UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The banking district is a lively and vibrant sector of the city.



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DAY 2: Bio-museum & Casco Antiguo Tour

Designed by world-renowned architect Frank Gehry, the Biomuseo is his only work in Latin America and the tropics. The building was designed to tell the story of how the isthmus of Panama rose from the sea, uniting two continents, separating a vast ocean in two, and changing the planet’s biodiversity forever. The Biomuseo’s 4,000 square meters contain eight permanent exhibition galleries designed by Bruce Mau Design. In addition to the main spaces, the museum includes a public atrium, a space for temporary exhibitions, a shop, a cafe, and multiple outdoor exhibits displayed in the botanical park. The permanent exhibition is a combination of art and science that leads the visitor to experience a marvellous phenomenon. From the Biomuseo you can clearly observe the skyline of the modern city, the historic district, Ancon Hill, and the Bridge of the Americas. After you visit the museum, the tour will continue to the Old Quarter (Casco Antiguo). A calm, charming district of narrow streets overlooked by flower-decorated balconies of two and three-story houses. In the “Casco Antiguo” lies French Park, a monument to the French builders who started the Panama Canal. Some superb museums are found in the Old Quarter, including the Canal Museum, which traces Panama's history. After your tour, your guide will transfer you back to your hotel. Tour Includes: Transportation from and to Panama City Hotel, English speaking guide and all entrance fees. This is a shared service.




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DAY 3: Agua Clara & Miraflores Backstage

The Agua Clara Visitor Centre is a place where the Panama Canal has made it clear that both its legacy and its grandeur will continue to bear fruit for the world. With an unparalleled view, this place is waiting for you and all those who want to enjoy a pleasant experience enriched with interesting facts, but especially by being part of the history of the route that unites the world. The centre offers a breathtaking panoramic view to the famous Gatun Lake and the new Agua Clara Locks where cargo ships and other vessels transit daily. After the impressive view, pamper yourself and be captivated by all those things that the Agua Clara Visitor Centre has to offer. At the projection room you can learn about the history and efforts of thousands of men and women that have marked the Canal's first century. Walk through the ecological path, with a variety of plants and species that makes the trail an adventure with great scenery and breathtaking views. The tour will continue back to Panama City, where you will enjoy Miraflores backstage with a professional representative from the Panama Canal Authority, who will take you on an exclusive tour through the four exhibition rooms of the Miraflores Visitor Centre, to discover its operational details up close. Also, you will enjoy a private visit to the movie theatre, where you will be guided through the history of the Panama Canal from its beginnings to the present. As part of this private visit, you will have access to areas where regular customers usually are not allowed to enter, such as canal platforms and control cabins where you can take a picture for a memorable moment. After your visit at Miraflores lock, we continue onto a local restaurant for some lunch (at your own expense.) After the tour you will return back to the hotel. Included: Transport, English speaking guide and all entrance fees. This is a shared tour.




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DAY 4: Rainforest Discovery Centre & Gatun Lake

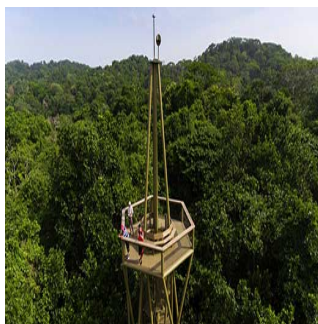
The Panama Rainforest Discovery Centre is located on the famous Pipeline road, one of the most renowned places in the world for bird watching. Together with your naturalist guide you will drive to Gamboa and start walking on the pipeline road to get to the Rainforest Discovery Centre. Start at the visitor centre, observing up to 13 species of hummingbirds that are recorded in our feeders. Continue on the trails observing birds of the undergrowth such as manakins, anteaters and trogons. Head up the 40-meter tower to witness different bird species in the canopy, such as the famous blue cotinga and toucans. Also visiting the viewing platform by the lake to see aquatic birds like wattled jacanas, least grebes, herons and snail kites. You will also be able to observe other animals like monkeys, crocodiles, coatis, and butterflies throughout the journey. After the Discovery centre tour, we will continue to the Gatun Lake Expedition where you will sail on small boats northbound on the canal for approximately 25 minutes. You may get the opportunity to come close to some of the big ships that transit the canal daily. Slowly motor along the forested banks of Gatun Lake, looking for wildlife such as Capuchin Monkeys, the 3-toed sloth, Howler Monkeys and various kinds of Toucans and other bird life. Tour includes: Transportation to and from hotel, English Speaking naturalist tour guide, entrance fees, box lunch and drinking water. This is a shared service.



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DAY 5: Depart Panama City


You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Hotel

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Inclusions	<p>Inclusions Private airport transfers Accommodation with breakfast daily Sightseeing with local English-speaking guide as detailed in itinerary Other meals where stated</p> <p>Exclusions International flights Visa & reciprocity fees Travel insurance Beverages Personal expenses Gratuities for tour guides & drivers Any items not mentioned as included</p>
Difficulty Rating	1 (easy adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	<p>Prices are based on per person, twin share. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.</p>
Price Dependent upon	Seasonality and availability at time of booking.

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SUSTAINABILITY