

The Office of International Programs
presents:

FIRST-YEAR STUDY TOUR IN COSTA RICA



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY MARYLAND

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**MORE THAN READY.
LOYOLA READY.**

OUR PARTNER



Since 1967, WorldStrides has coordinated international travel for over 9 million students.

**Will you be next to travel on a
WorldStrides program???**

LOYOLA WINTER SESSION PROGRAM FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

WHO: First-year LUM students

WHAT: International Study Tour

WHERE: San José, Costa Rica

WHEN: January 3-10, 2025

WHY: To develop international travel skills and engage with a new culture as a global citizen with the support of Loyola peers and OIP staff

HOW: Apply online before 11:59pm on September 19 - no extensions



WHY COSTA RICA?

- Only one hour time difference from the east coast in January
- Opportunity to learn a new culture and language
- Service Learning
- Average temperature in January = 80°F



MEET YOUR OIP LOYOLA PROGRAM LEADERS

Kim Sorlin

Asst. Director



Madison Leadley

Asst. Director



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THE STUDY TOUR INCLUDES:



- ✓ Round-trip airfare to San José from Baltimore
- ✓ Dinner on the night before our flight + transportation to the airport
- ✓ In country transportation
- ✓ Local guides in Costa Rica
- ✓ Double occupancy 3-★ hotel room in Costa Rica (breakfast included)
- ✓ Welcome and Farewell Meals
- ✓ Entrance fees to scheduled Cultural Excursions and Activities
- ✓ Service-Learning Opportunities
- ✓ Some additional meals



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

January 2, 2025:

- Meet your Loyola program leader on campus at Loyola
- Enjoy dinner and program planning activities
- Get a good night's rest



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:



January 3, 2025:

- Depart for the airport (transportation provided)
- Land in San José, Costa Rica
- Meet the WorldStrides team
- Orientation and Survival Spanish Course
- Welcome Dinner

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE



January 4, 2025:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- San José walking tour with local guide
- Lunch on your own*
- Jade Museum with local guide
- Dinner on your own*

**students will be directed to local suggestions for meals that are "on your own" but will pay for these meals out of pocket*

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

January 5, 2026:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Jacó beach
- Optional activities for the afternoon/lunch/dinner



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

January 6, 2025:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Service-Learning #1: NGO food bank
- Lunch on your own
- Artisan Market with Guided Tour
- Dinner on your own
- Optional evening activity TBD



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:



January 7, 2025:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Service-Learning #2: Costa Rica Animal Rescue Center
- Lunch and afternoon tour at Café Britt
- Dinner on your own
- Optional evening activity TBD

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:



January 8, 2025:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Sibu Chocolate Tour (lunch included)
- Service-Learning #3: TBD
- Dinner on your own
- Optional evening activity TBD



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:



January 9, 2025:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- La Paz Waterfall Gardens tour: see butterflies, frogs and rescued animals in the forest
- Lunch - included in the tour
- Farewell Dinner - included

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:



January 10, 2025:

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Return flight to the US
- Transportation back to Loyola campus

WHO SHOULD APPLY?



Students who:

- have a desire to experience a new culture
- want to get to know other first-year LUM students
- may be new to international travel experiences and want to gain travel skills



THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- [Apply online](#) now through **11:59pm on September 19**
- Include 3 references to be contacted by OIP staff
- Participate in an interview with a program director (Madison or Kim)

THE APPLICATION PROCESS



- This program has a maximum capacity of 20 participants
- Our goal is to have a student cohort that mirrors the diverse student demographics of the class of 2028
- All completed applications submitted by **11:59pm on September 19** will be considered
- Final acceptances will be based on your application responses, recommendations and interview
- Acceptance notifications will be sent during the third week of September.

PASSPORTS

Students in this program must have a passport that does not expire before **July 10, 2025**. If you plan to participate in any LUM study abroad program in 2025 and your passport is not valid for at least 6 months past the return date, start the passport renewal process NOW!



PASSPORTS



- The US state department is currently quoting [passport processing times](#) of 6-8 weeks for routine processing (\$130) and 2-3 weeks for expedited processing (additional fee of \$60)
- Visit the [US State Department website](#) for more information on how to apply for a passport



PROGRAM FEES

\$3,400 per student paid directly to Loyola University
Maryland

- Round trip airfare
- Hotel accommodations
- Entrance & activity fees
- Private transportation
- Local guides for duration of the program
- Some group meals

**Students may be eligible for up to \$2,000 reduction in the program fee based on financial need and additional scholarship opportunities are possible for qualifying students, more details will be sent with student acceptance letters.*



ACCEPTED STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

- Participate in all workshops and pre-departure meetings (at least one/month starting in September).
- Remain in good academic and disciplinary standing. Conduct violations may result in dismissal from the program and student liability for any un-recoverable costs paid on their behalf.

FAQS



Q. What are the different types of housing available during the program?

A. Students will share a double occupancy hotel room during the program.

Q. How would this program impact my courses?

A. This program is over the winter break; you will be back on campus before the start of the spring semester.

Q. Are there any costs we should expect that are not covered by the program fee?

A. Students will be responsible for the cost of lunches and some dinners on this program, in addition to any personal spending money for shopping or free-time activities.

Q. Are there any pre-requisites (outside of being a first-year student) to be considered for this program?

A. Students will be considered for this program based on their application responses, interview and references.

Q. Will this itinerary change at all?

A. WorldStrides reserves the flexibility to make changes to an itinerary if necessary. In the case of removing an activity, alternate activities will be substituted.

QUESTIONS



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NEXT STEPS

- Complete the [online application](#) before **11:59pm on Monday, September 19**
- Email questions to: international@loyola.edu

Join our Padlet!



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OUR
WORLD**

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