



LEARN SPANISH & EXPLORE
COSTA RICA!



**ACADEMIA
TICA**

CORONADO (SAN JOSÉ)
& JACÓ BEACH



Instituto Cervantes
Centro Acreditado

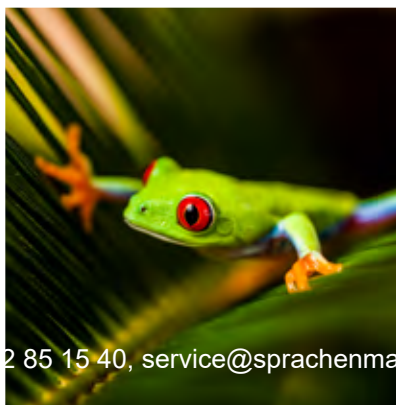


Academia Tica is an accredited Spanish school with 38 years of experience offering two distinctive locations in Costa Rica.

The school is an Instituto Cervantes Accredited Center working with the latest in international standards and methodology. It is also a DELE Exam Center celebrating three annual exam sessions. The school offers volunteering, internship and group programs as well as different activities to combine with Spanish language classes.

Academia Tica's philosophy follows tropical, friendly, cultural, humanist and social guidelines for all its areas of work.

The campuses are two oases for studying, located in very interesting locations: Coronado, an authentic Costa Rican town near the capital city of San José and at the foot of Braulio Carrillo National Park, an important protected rainforest. Jacó Beach, our second location, is the surf mecca of the Central Pacific, attracting visitors for its constant good waves and its amazing surrounding nature.



Course overview

	Course name	Lessons per week	Length	Locations
General Spanish Courses	Intensive	20 group	1-48 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach
	Intensive Plus	20 group + 5 private	1-48 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach
	Super Intensive Plus	20 group + 10 private	1-48 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach
	Private	10, 20, 30	1-48 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach
Special Spanish Courses	Spanish for Specific Purposes	10 minigroup*	1-4 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach
	Intensive Spanish for Specific Purposes	20 group + 10 minigroup*	1-4 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach
	Surf & Spanish**	20 group + 3 surf	1-8 weeks	Jacó Beach
	Intensive Surf & Spanish	10 private + 5 surf	1-8 weeks	Jacó Beach
	Dele Exam Preparation	20 group + 10 DELE minigroup*	1-8 weeks	Coronado
	Dele Exam Practice	10 DELE minigroup*	1-8 weeks	Coronado
	Bildungsurlaub course	20 group + 10 minigroup*	1-2 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach***
Other Programs	Interactive Program	10 group + 5 activities + 2 excursions	1-4 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach
	Volunteering Program	2 weeks of the course of choice + 2 weeks volunteer work (min.)	4-24 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach
	Internship Program	2 weeks of the course of choice + 4 weeks internship work (min.)	6-24 weeks	Coronado & Jacó Beach
	Travelling Classroom	20 group + activities	2 or 4 weeks	Several locations

* "Minigroup" = 1-3 students

** Stand up paddling also available for an extra fee

*** Coronado and Jacó Beach are recognized by: Berlin, Bremen, Hamburg, Hessen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Niedersachsen, Rheinland-Pfalz, Saarland, Schleswig-Holstein

Accommodation overview



Student Residence

Available in **Coronado**
0 km from school
Shared bathrooms (2:1)
Wi-fi, cable tv
Kitchen, laundry



Student Apartments

Available in **Jacó**
0,3 km from school
Shared bathrooms (2:1)
Wi-fi, cable tv
Kitchen, laundry



Home stay

Available in **Coronado & Jacó**
0,5 - 1,5 km from school
Shared or private bathrooms
Breakfast + dinner included



Hotels, Hostels Airbnb's

Available in **Jacó***
0,5 - 1,5 km from school
Wi-fi, cable tv, a/c
Breakfast included

* Available in downtown San José too,
for attending Coronado campus

Where are we?



Right in the middle of America

Our locations: Coronado–San José

The authentic, unspoiled Costa Rican town near the capital city, but also at the foot of one of the most exuberant National Parks in Central America. Coronado is home to an “untouched Cloudforest” and the typical tico experience, still close to the city with easy access to travel solutions that make it a great base for exploring.



Good for learning Spanish because:

- ▶ Clean and relaxing environment: “Best air in San José”
- ▶ Warm, welcoming people & lifestyle
- ▶ Easy access to city & country-wide travel hub
- ▶ Lots of contact time with the language
- ▶ Free access to private sports club
- ▶ Lots of activities such as: visit the city & museums, horseback riding, forest hiking, birding, city nightlife, music festivals, cultural fairs, visit organic farms, white-water rafting

Typical small town on the hills of the Central Valley, close enough to San José city but still far enough to have a different way of life. Being non-touristic, has **lots of opportunities to practice the language in an authentic immersion environment** and to experience the customs and traditions of ticos.

Coronado is the perfect base camp to travel Costa Rica, being located in the center of the country and close to San José (which works as the transportation hub of the country), it allows students to **travel effortlessly and cheap** to both coasts and other famous attractions.



“San José is lots of culture, good food and the best coffee”



“Coronado’s Locos por el Bosque cloudforest”

Coronado is home to one of the most beautiful and unspoiled Cloudforests in Costa Rica, just a short drive uphill from the school and the reason to one of our student's favorite activities for after class. **Academia Tica is a proud sponsor** of the only adventure ecotourism project there: **Locos por el Bosque Private Reserve**. This project is making a great effort for conservation and public awareness of the important biological corridor.



“Visiting waterfalls after class”

Our locations: Jacó Beach

The most important beach town in the Central Pacific coast. Has some of the best waves earning the name: "Costa Rica's surf stadium". It is also a vibrant and interesting community that has attracted nature lovers, chefs, coffee roasters, craft beer brewers and ice-cream artisans.

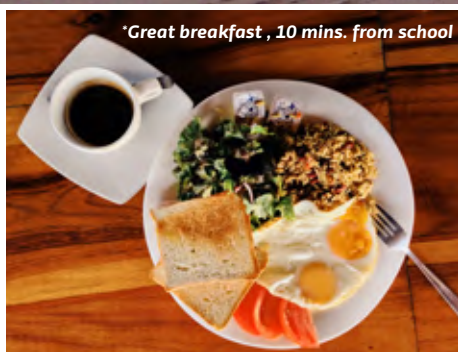
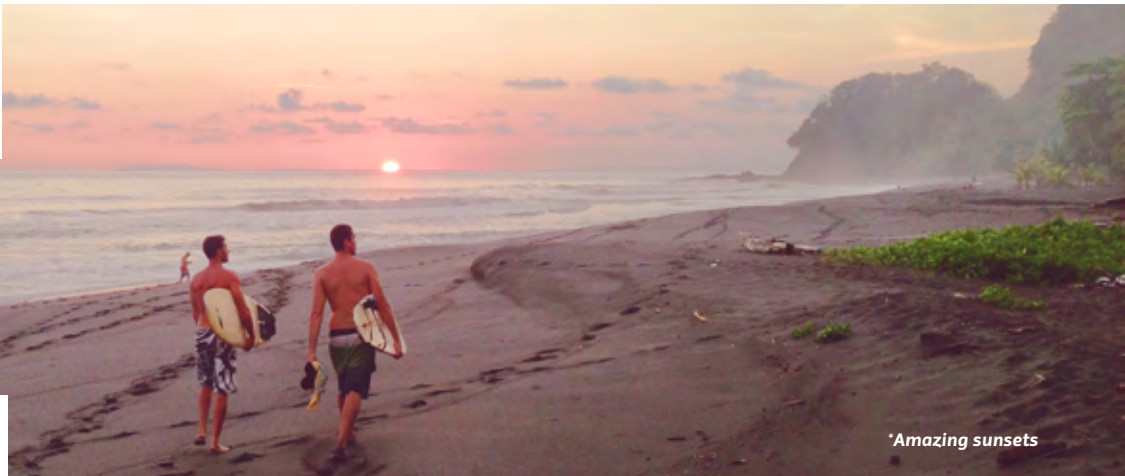
Good for learning Spanish because:

- ▶ It's a beach and surf paradise with a nice laidback lifestyle and people
- ▶ Tourist-friendly, lots of services and attractions
- ▶ Surf & Spanish Programs
- ▶ Pool at the school, bike & surfboard rentals
- ▶ Easy access to famous natural wonders
- ▶ Lots of activities such as: surf lessons and SUP trips, surf tournaments, beach town nightlife, zip-lining, white-water rafting, waterfalls, birding, National Park visits and lots of beaches

The **best beach location** in Costa Rica: the closest to San José city (and airport), close to famous National Parks such as Manuel Antonio and Carara, two wildlife watching hot spots. There are many different beaches within a 20 minute radius: black sand, white sand, small, endless, etc.



Jacó Beach is the **surf capital of Costa Rica**, home to national and international tournaments. Having year-round beginner to advanced surf is the best place to learn for fun or as a serious sport.



This beach is also **traveler friendly** and allows students greater flexibility for travel as well as the most complete infrastructure on both coasts of Costa Rica. Students can travel to San José, to the Nicoya Península in a fun Taxi Boat ride or by public bus or shuttle to any of the other nearby attractions for the weekend.

Many water sports and adventure activities are close by, but also quiet places to relax and just enjoy the sun. The town has developed as an interesting mix of nationalities and interests.

www.sprachenmarkt.de, Tel: +49-711-12 85 15 40, service@sprachenmarkt.de

Why choose Academia Tica?

1. Authority & Recognition

Academia Tica has more than 30 years of experience, is one of the few Instituto Cervantes Accredited Centers and DELE Exam Centers in Central America. The school follows the guidelines of the EN 14804, the European Language Study Norm and international standards proposed by Instituto Cervantes.

2. Our teachers

The school employs only the most experienced and prepared teachers, friendly and motivated. We use weekly surveys from our students and monthly evaluations from external observers to ensure classes are being taught by the best.

3. Our methodology

Academia Tica uses a carefully structured and refined method to make students learn fast and in a fun way: “Fun classes, serious learning”!

4. Learn & Travel

While studying, there is still so much to enjoy after class or during the weekends. In the Tourism Services Desk, students can ask for trip information and book directly at the school at the same prices they'll find online or with tour operators. This saves the student time and money. They can also ask for advice on how to travel on their own at the lowest cost.

5. Our staff and providers

Academia Tica has constant periodic evaluation processes from our students to ensure all our staff and providers comply with excellent service. We have long-lasting relationships with most of them.

6. Local knowledge, local treatment

Academia Tica is owned and run by Costa Ricans and our staff is local from the communities where we work. This ensures that the student has the best information on hand and that is always treated personally and in the best way possible. This makes their learning vacation safe, easy going and fun.

7. Locations

Both our locations (Coronado & Jacó Beach) have safe facilities with big tropical gardens and comfortable classrooms. Our campuses are placed in easy-access locations near tourist attractions and authentic Costa Rican venues, restaurants, cafés, bars, etc.

8. Why not try both?

The school has two very different locations and students can choose to attend both or change between locations smoothly. Each location has its own charm and activities to do nearby.

About Academia Tica

Brief history

Academia Tica is proud to be one of the first Spanish schools in Costa Rica and for sure one of the longest standing in the industry, established in 1986. The campus in Coronado was the first one. In 2006, Jacó Beach opened to the public.

The school is a Costa-Rican run business with finesse for quality. This has been long recognized with an Instituto Cervantes Accredited Center certification, since 2002. Academia Tica is also an official DELE Exam Center since 2013.

All the areas of work within the school have always followed **tropical, friendly, cultural, humanist and social** principles. The school sees the language as the bridge that brings peace and understanding between people.

Methodology

Academia Tica uses the **communicative method** following the guidelines of Instituto Cervantes for Spanish teaching, also based on the standards proposed by the Common European Framework.

Our classes are held in small groups (max. 6 students) and all our teachers are highly-trained native speakers. Classes are fun, dynamic and student-centered. This means that the student does most of the speaking! Instruction is differentiated to meet individual needs. It's an **interactive and fun experience**.

This method is based in oral communication to get the students' conversation skills up quickly. Students learn the underlying theory but not from a grammatical point of view (rules first) but from a **functional** one (**conversation first**). This means that they practice grammar by using it and the teacher explains and expands on what rules are applied.

There are many different **activities** involved in and out of class. Teachers seek opportunities so learners use the language beyond the classroom. This will make learning more **dynamic and useful**.

Students will be learning about Costa Rican, Latin American and Hispanic culture. This has always been an important part of what we teach and it is a **fundamental part of Spanish**, necessary for truly understanding it.

What our students say

"Academia Tica is a highly organized institution with very good teachers. Both schools are totally different but also very good. I loved all the teachers I had here."



Barbara,
Brazil

About Academia Tica

Quality assessment

Quality is a constant process at Academia Tica, and the most important tool is feedback. Academia Tica teachers are internally evaluated by its students every week to ensure that everyone is on the right track. Also, teachers are evaluated externally by periodic standard observations and reports.

Students also evaluate all their other services every week. Everyday, there is staff available for answering questions and solving any situation that may arise.

Academia Tica also participates in periodic evaluations by Instituto Cervantes to ensure that policies and methodologies are the best possible.

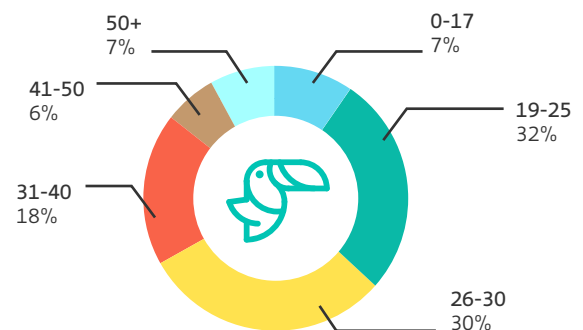
Facilities

- Free Wi-fi
- Emergency support 24/7
- Pool (Jacó Beach campus)
- Computers for student use
- TV & videos
- Big beautiful tropical gardens
- Free parking (Coronado campus)
- Tourism Services Desk
- Books, music and Spanish games
- Lounge area
- Complimentary coffee
- Bikes for rent

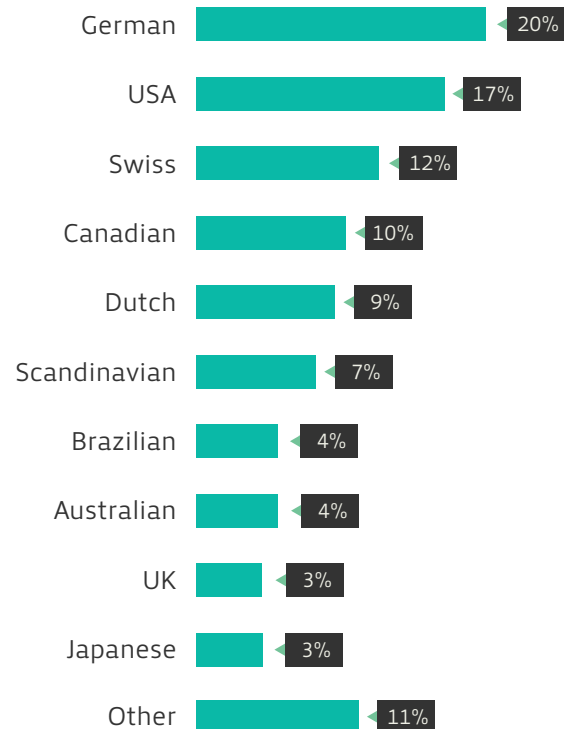
Quick facts

- Distance to cafés: 0.2 - 0.5 km
- Distance to supermarkets: 0.5 - 0.8 km
- Class size: max. 6, avg. 3-4
- Lesson length: 50 min

Age mix



Top 10 Nationalities



Total of nationalities visiting us each year: **37**

Why choose Costa Rica?

1. Nature

Protected areas account for more than 20% of Costa Rica's land. Add the extensive number of private ecotourism projects and you get a lot of places to relax, be amazed about nature and disconnect. Close to both campuses you can find tropical rain and cloudforests, volcanoes, waterfalls, monkeys, birds, turtles, dolphins and even whales when in season. With some luck and patience, you can watch the "dantas" and ocelots in their natural habitat.

2. Safety

Costa Rica is on the top spots for safety in countries where to learn Spanish (that is, Spain and Latin America). This is a safe place to travel and enjoy learning the language.

3. Clearest Spanish

Costa Rican Spanish has one of the clearest accents for this language. This makes learning easier and faster.

4. This is a happy place

Costa Rica ranks as the "happiest country on Earth". There is no doubt that you can feel at home here. The famous Pura Vida ("life is good") is deeply engrained in the way of life of "ticos" (Costa Ricans) and this shows everywhere. When you come to Costa Rica, you get warm, happy, caring people.

5. Easy to travel

You can go coast-to-coast through beautiful landscapes in 6 hours. You can see volcanoes, cultural heritage sites and coffee plantations in a day, then enjoy clear waters of the Caribbean the next and be back for visiting museums, markets and partying a bit in San José on the last. Our students travel to 1 or 2 places of interest every weekend, most use using public transportation which is very cheap.

6. Finding your own adventure

Costa Rica is a famous touristic destination, but there are still so many "off the beaten path" attractions and places to discover on your own. Ask us where to find a new adventure, we'll be glad to help!

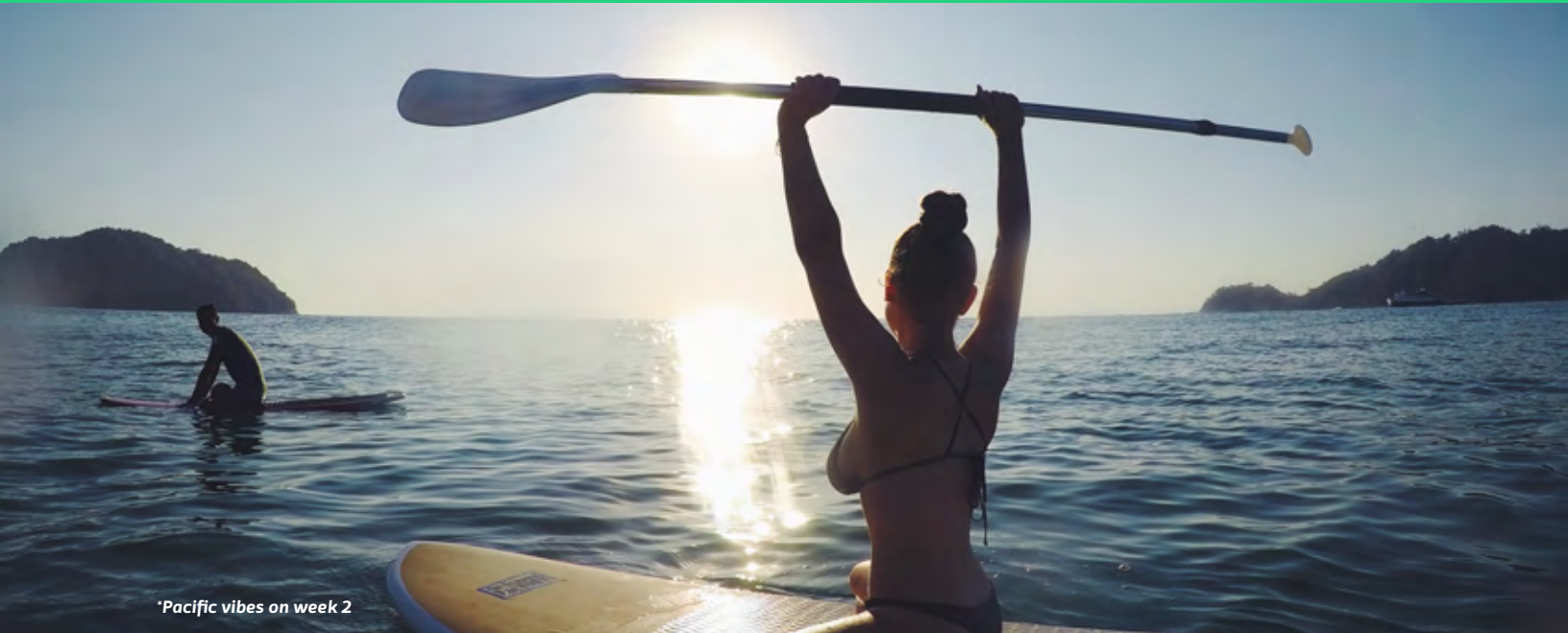
What our students say

"I really liked Costa Rica, I had to travel out during my stay here and when I came back I felt like coming home. I decided to come here because I heard a lot of nice things and I think everything is true!"



Nadine,
Switzerland

Traveling Classroom



**Pacific vibes on week 2*

The most comprehensive travel & learn program for Spanish in Latin America

The Traveling Classroom Program gives students an integral travelling vacation for complementing language learning. The program brings together popular activities and excursions but also local knowledge for an authentic experience that **goes beyond conventional tourism**: nature, leisure, wildlife and Latin American culture. Students will learn Spanish in an intensive program (20 lessons/week) and practice every day in a different situation.

Dates

Typically mid-February and early November, further dates on demand (please check with the school). Also note 2-week and 4-week lengths of program start on the same day.

Who is it for?

The program is aimed at students that want to make most of their limited time in Costa Rica: **learn a lot and travel a lot**. The program can be combined with more weeks of study before or after the program. **We strongly encourage beginners to take a leveling course prior to the beginning of this program**, however, we will have a group for beginners and a group for non-beginners. Academia Tica offers and encourages Skype or phone interviews for those students who want to be placed accurately.



**Meet the locals
(first weekend trip)*

Traveling Classroom

What's included?

- 20 lessons of Spanish per week (in and out of class) + course certificate
- Accommodation in single rooms in home stays (week 1 & 2). Nice, carefully selected 2-star hotels, double/triple room (week 3 & 4)*
- Breakfast every day plus dinner during home stays.
- Transfer in and out from SJO airport to Coronado (start and end location)
- Welcome and farewell dinner
- Tickets and entrance fees to attractions mentioned in the program below (optional activities not included)
- All transportation by private service and public bus
- Program souvenir

* Accommodation upgrades are possible, please let us know if you prefer other types of accommodation or strictly single room.

Important details

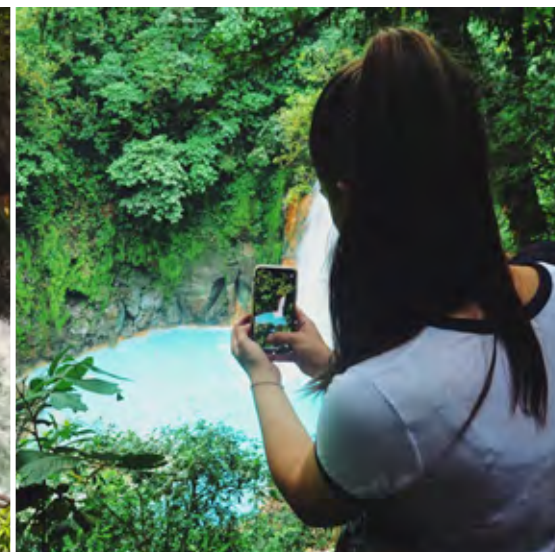
- The program is recommended for students with levels A2/B1 but level variations are possible, **students with lower level are strongly recommended to take a course prior** to the commencement of the program to enjoy the most out of it.
- Changes will be done to the program to maximize participant satisfaction and take advantage of seasonal events (natural and man-made).
- Program arrival day is Sunday, program departure day is Saturday. Classes run Monday to Friday.
- Academia Tica has designed and planned the program to be an authentic, safe, fun and engaging learning travel experience in all aspects, it's not a luxury vacation though B-). **Students should be able and are expected to adapt to new conditions and different situations.**



The chill area of our hotel is our class in week 4



Let Costa Rica be your classroom!
La Paz Waterfalls on week 1



Top biodiversity and impressive sights at Tenorio Volcano National Park week 3

Traveling Classroom

Sample activity overview*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
0 - Arrival day	1 - Coronado/ San José Placement + San José scouting tour	2 - Coronado/ San José Locos por el Bosque: Cloudforest Jungle Adventure	3 - Coronado/ San José Volcano N.P. visit + Cultural tour	4 - Coronado/ San José Organic Farm visit + Costa Rican cooking class	5 - Coronado/ San José Travel to Manuel Antonio Beach	6 - Manuel Antonio Beach Nauyaca Waterfalls Expedition
6 - Manuel Antonio Beach Visit to M.A. National Park + Travel to Jacó Beach	7 - Jacó Beach Surfing class	8 - Jacó Beach Crocodile Mangrove Tour	9 - Jacó Beach Stand Up Paddling or Kayak tour	10 - Jacó Beach Day for optional activities	11 - Jacó Beach Organic Farmer's market visit + Tropical fruit tasting class + Farewell dinner (for TC Discovery)!	12 TC Discovery: Departure day TC Explorer: Travel to Monteverde
13 - Monteverde Longest zip line in Costa Rica + Jungle Night Walk	14 - Monteverde Cane sugar & Coffee tour	15 - Monteverde Arenal Lake boat trip (to La Fortuna)	16 - Arenal/ La Fortuna Rainforest trail hike	17 - Arenal/ La Fortuna La Fortuna Waterfall + Volcanic hot springs	18 - Arenal/ La Fortuna Day for optional activities	19 - Arenal/ La Fortuna Tour to Caño Negro or Río Celeste
20 - Pacuare White-water rafting + Travel to Puerto Viejo	21 - Puerto Viejo Beach Free time to relax	22 - Puerto Viejo Beach Visit to Animal Rescue Center	23 - Puerto Viejo Beach Artisanal organic chocolate making tour	24 - Puerto Viejo Beach Day for optional activities	25 - Puerto Viejo Beach Classes at Cahuita N.P. + Graduation! Farewell dinner (for TC Explorer)!	26 TC Explorer: Departure day

* Please note that final program may change or we may do variations to take advantage of seasonal events, but it will be pretty close to this!

Special programs

Academia Tica offers volunteering projects, internship experiences and customizable group programs around Costa Rica.



Group programs

For more than 15 years, Academia Tica has been providing custom programs for groups. Teachers and leaders can choose from a variety of programs and services that cover everything they need to experience Costa Rican culture & nature. We work with predefined itineraries or tailor made, flexible programs.

Internships

Students that wish to practice their language skills further can opt for a professional internship in many fields such as: tourism, marketing, business admin., health, environmental protection and clean energy production. Perfect for building curriculum, gaining experience or fulfilling academic requirements.



Volunteering

Academia Tica provides a wide range of projects in five categories: nature conservation, turtle protection, animal rescue, social institutions and organic farming. All of these projects provide a great experience to help where it's needed the most. It's a great way to come in contact with nature and people.

About DELE Exams

What is the DELE?

DELE stands for: *Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera* or Diplomas in Spanish as a Foreign Language. These certifications are granted by **Instituto Cervantes** from Spain and students can get the DELE at Academia Tica. The school has been an official DELE Exam Center since 2013.

Why get the DELE?

- Internationally recognized official qualifications
- Permanent validity (do not expire)
- If looking for a job or an education opportunity, this is the best proof of language skills for the curriculum
- Accepted by universities, businesses and government institutions
- International standard of the European Framework of Reference for Languages

2023 DELE Dates & Prices

For registration form and info please check www.academiatica.com/dele

Prices:

- A1 US\$105
- A2 US\$110
- B1 US\$130
- B2 US\$150
- C1 US\$165
- C2 US\$180

Dates:

- **Friday, April 12, 2024**
Levels: A1, A2, B1, B2, C1
Registration ends: Feb. 21
- **Saturday, May 18, 2024**
All levels
Registration ends: Apr. 3
- **Friday, July 12, 2024**
Levels: A2, B1, B2, C1
Registration ends: May 15
- **Saturday, November 23, 2024**
All levels
Registration ends: Oct. 9

Important! ⚠

Students should take the exam at a level where they feel comfortable and know this for sure (not just estimate it). **Zoom meetings can be scheduled to assess the student skills and advise him/her on which DELE to take.** The meeting should take place before the registration ends.

How to prepare for the exam

- 1- Take an Academia Tica DELE course!
We have a great student success rate.
- 2- Practice resources and sample past exams can be found on the official DELE web site at: exámenes.cervantes.es
- 3- We recommend **Edinumen** and **Difusión** publishing houses' DELE books.

In and around: Coronado & Jacó



1. Student graduation in Jacó Beach
2. Academia Tica Coronado building
3. Student graduation in Coronado
4. Academia Tica Jacó building
5. Class in Jacó Beach
6. Preparing for surf in Jacó Beach

7. Coronado Central Park
8. Jacó Beach campus' garden
9. "Chapuzón" after classes in Jacó Beach campus
10. Coronado campus' garden
11. Coffee break chill out in Coronado

Contact



Academia Tica Coronado (San José)
Quinta Toyopán
400m al este del Super La Finca
San Rafael de Coronado, San José,
11102 Costa Rica



Academia Tica Playa Jacó (Pacific coast)
Calle Naciones Unidas # 15
Playa Jacó, Puntarenas, Costa Rica

What our students say

“Teachers have a lot of passion for teaching. They really care about their students and that is what is important. When you see that in a language school, it makes you feel happy!”



Nick,
USA

“I think Academia Tica is a great choice for any level of Spanish. I started at the very basic, bottom level of Spanish and learned a lot. But I also know students that came here with fluent Spanish and have learned a lot as well. They’re very organized and you will have a lot of fun here.”



Ali,
USA