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# THE RIO PERDIDO STORY

## We are adventurers...

...and it is passion for the unknown that has compelled us to extensively explore our beautiful Costa Rica.

Upon first arrival to the Miravalles Canyonlands, we were marveled. As we descended through a one-of-a-kind "dwarf forest", we came to the tip of an elevated peninsula; a rocky bluff formed by two converging canyons, where the cool Rio Blanco meets the hot waters of the Rio Perdido. Already surprised by so much natural beauty occurring in one place, we suddenly noticed the final touch of perfection, embodied by a third affluent, pouring its waters over 100 feet into the magical convergence point.

In so many years of traversing the land... of making it into every little nook... how had we missed this?

In the passing days, we came to find that the vast majority of Bagaces County residents (the locals) had never seen this amazing place. A few old-timers shared their opinions; they explained why these canyons had managed to remain out of the light. There had been a bridge that connected this unique area to the nearby populated zones and the country's federal roadway system. Said bridge had fallen decades back and, because there were already modern, alternate routes to the more important rural spots, the bridge was never rebuilt. Hence, this old route was basically lost.

We continued to explore the land and to our surprise, we found small pieces of shattered ceramic on or just below the surface land. With help from curators affiliated with Costa Rica's National Museum, we were able to classify these pieces as authentic Chorotega artifacts. And so, it became apparent that we were rediscovering an ancient destination that was enjoyed and respected by native civilizations, centuries ago. This amazing canyon, where hot water emanates from under boulders or simply gushes from its rocky walls, was undoubtedly an important gathering place.

It's also interesting to note how the trees growing within these canyons are quite large. These have a year-long source of nutritional, mineralized water, and thus, flaunt heights that are up to 10 times what the dwarf trees growing on the parched soil above can reach. These beautiful, gorge-dwelling trees can be just about as tall as the canyon itself. Because of the high-reaching canopies, during the

wet season, when all of the foliage is dense and green, the serpentine canyon practically disappears from view. Even a bird flying directly above the gorge could miss the camouflaged river. It is, indeed, a lost river... Rio Perdido.

Needless to say, we were inspired by the very unusual setting and thus, we set out on a new project. We devoted years of work to making this natural treasure accessible to visitors in a sustainable way that would never compromise its beauty. We were able to fit all of the key service elements into one main building and three adjacent areas that comprise less than 1% of the total land. Our land planners, engineers, and architects made use of almost all of the existing circulation paths and previously cleared land to prevent further deforestation. We relocated all livestock and domesticated animals and, of course, we put an end to the extraction of fine woods that occurred while the previous owners exploited the land. We also devised a system that injects treated water back into the land. These efforts have allowed for an accelerated reforestation process and a general rebalancing of the local ecosystem. And... all this is wonderfully clear to anyone that has visited Rio Perdido more than once.

It is also worth mentioning that all the wood used for building was farmed under license or has come from fallen sources. We currently have about 500 acres of land under contract with the national forest protection agency and we aim to increase that number as we move forward.

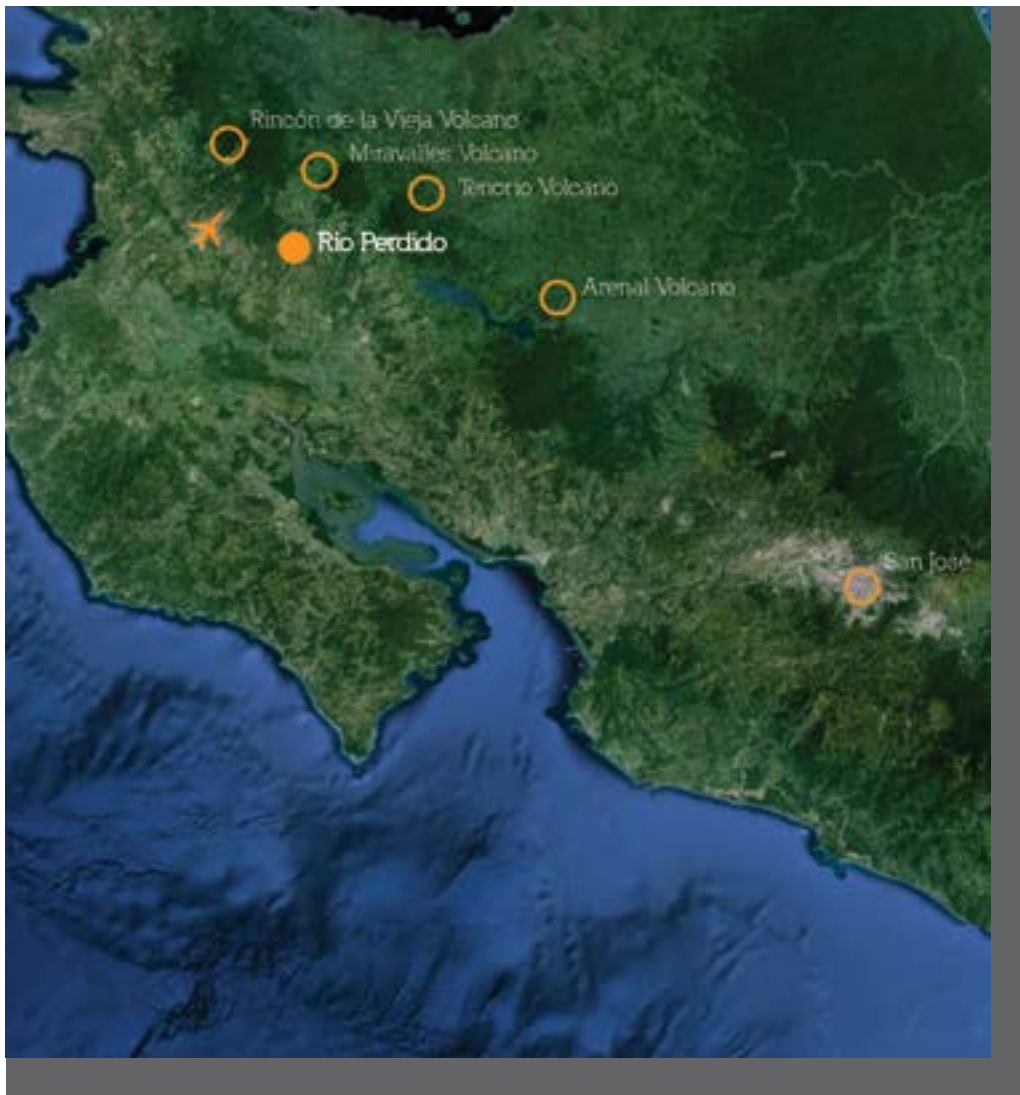
For us, sustainable practices are not bred from image campaigns or from a marketing strategy. Our policies are based on what we consider to be standard obligations, for all humans. This is our way of life. As we continuously learn from our environment, from our neighbors, and from our guests, we passionately reciprocate with what we hope are valuable contributions.

At Rio Perdido, we have created an experience for our visitors; simply by allowing people to get the most out of a beautiful and historic place that was naturally created over time.

# PROPERTY LOCATION

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Rio Perdido is located in Guanacaste, on the **northwestern coast of Costa Rica**. The provinces' extensive coastal zone has led to international recognition. In addition to being pristine, these beaches have been popular surf destinations for many decades. Beyond the sand and sea, Guanacaste is home to exhilarating natural attractions such as the Miravalles Volcano, the Tenorio Volcano and the very active Rincón de la Vieja Volcano. From the top of Rio Perdido's Mesa Norte hiking trail, guests can distinctly see all of Guanacaste's majestic volcanoes. The proximity of Rio Perdido to the Liberia International Airport is another important quality. A one-hour drive gets you to a place that feels like it's a thousand miles from civilization. For those traveling through Bagaces and avoiding connectivity (map apps, such as waze and google maps), brown signs with white text provide direction all the way to the property.



# ACCOMMODATIONS

## EAST BUNGALOWS

(total inventory 20)

The East Bungalows are bright spaces with approximately 42 m<sup>2</sup> (452 ft<sup>2</sup>) of living space. They are situated within a short walk of our greatest treasure, the Rio Perdido. Raised up above the ground like little treehouses, the East Bungalows enjoy ample privacy — they are surrounded by forest and their elevated terraces are ideal for wildlife spotting.

From your terrace hammocks, you can watch howler and white-faced monkeys pass overhead on most days. Along with other wildlife such as agouti, armadillos, coatimundis and birds. From this privileged vantage point, you can expect to spend many hours enjoying the sights and sounds of the jungle. Catch the morning rays through the trees while savouring a freshly brewed cup of coffee. Then in the late afternoon, listen to the rush of the river below.

Inside, a bright and neutral colour palette allows the natural colours of the forest to take center stage. A nod to its minimalist influences, the space is thoughtfully designed with custom-built furniture and clever storage solutions.

The East Bungalows are equipped with High-Speed Wireless Internet, Cable TV, and Air-Conditioning.

Appreciate the full Rio Perdido experience at our best available rate.

**The East Bungalows accommodate up to 2 adults and 1 child, or minor.**



### East Bungalow Amenities:

Two twin beds or a king size bed, upon request

- 42 m<sup>2</sup> (452 ft<sup>2</sup>)
- King-Sized Bed or (2) Twin beds upon request
- Plush Bedding & Pillows
- Additions: Trundle Twin bed
- Air-Conditioning
- Covered Terrace with 2 Hammocks
- Day Sofa
- Coffeemaker with Coffee & Tea
- Mini-Bar
- Luxury organic bath amenities by Aromas, Costa Rica
- Hairdryer
- High Speed Wi-Fi
- Flat Screen Smart TV
- Laptop-Sized Safe
- Two Accessible Bungalows (ADA and Costa Rican Law 7600 regulations)

## CENTER BUNGALOWS

(total inventory 10)

The Center Bungalows are dramatic “nature spaces” with approximately 69sq.m (750sq.ft) of living space. Surrounded by lush forest, they invite you to appreciate complete privacy in nature. The most striking feature—the forest—is projected into the room through sweeping, floor-to-ceiling windows that stretch wall to wall, ensuring that you’ll feel immersed in your surroundings.

The Center Bungalows offer you ample sleeping quarters, including a small entry vestibule, a spacious terrace and a well-appointed bathroom.

Inside, every detail is inspired by nature, while many furniture pieces have been hand-crafted onsite at Rio Perdido. The walls are treated using an ancient Japanese technique that preserves the wood by charring it with fire. The floor is made of locally quarried volcanic rock. The double-sink in the bathroom is a functional work of art, hand-crafted onsite from high-grade metals. The raw steel, pure copper, concrete, and fine hardwoods all point to minimalist design influences that draw from nature’s elements.

The indoor-outdoor shower is an experience in itself. The showers are open-air, double showers that are fed by our springs and rich in mineral content —an experience that will leave you feeling energized by the waters and the pure forest air.



The Center Bungalows also boast a private terrace where you can enjoy in-room dining, wildlife spotting, or simply relax into your lounge chairs and decompress from the day's adventures. The Center Bungalows are equipped with air-conditioning, high-Speed Wireless Internet, and a cinema-Style AV Experience. a high-definition projector, pull-down screen, and soundbar substitute the typical TV set that can be hidden when not in use. Please Note: In-room dining is available when the season and weather permits.

#### Inventory Note:

- Center Bungalow King: 6 Bungalows with 1 King-Sized Bed. Additions: Four ottomans can come together to form an additional King-Sized Bed or (2) Twin Beds
- Center Bungalow Queen: 4 Bungalows with 2 Queen-Sized Beds

**The Center Bungalows accommodate up to 4 people.**

#### Center Bungalow Amenities:

- 69sq.m (750sq.ft)
- Center Bungalow King: (1)
- Plush Bedding & Pillows
- Air-Conditioning
- Terrace with 2 Lounge Chairs
- Coffeemaker with Coffee & Tea
- Mini-Bar
- Luxury organic bath amenities by Aromas, Costa Rica
- Hairdryer
- Large Closet
- Semi-Separate Desk area
- High Speed Wi-Fi



## WEST BUNGALOWS

*Coming soon in 2023!*



## BUNGALOWS FOR DISABLED PERSONS

At Rio Perdido, 2 bungalows have been designed to meet the highest standards for persons with disabilities. Outside, the entrance is step-free. Instead a floating pathway with a light slope ensures you can access the bungalow with ease. Inside, the wider doorways and ample circulation areas ensure you have more than enough space to move freely.

The bathrooms are equipped with handrails adjacent to the toilet and in the shower. While the toilet, sink and other essential elements have been installed at the optimal height if you are a wheelchair user.

Lighting is designed to reduce glare, help you see more easily, and aid in navigation in every corner of the room.

This includes ground track lighting along circulation areas and outdoor pathways. Our emergency lighting design has also been further developed to meet international standards.

Doorway Opening: 1m minimum (3.3 ft.)

Circulation Radius: 1.5m allowance (5 ft.)

Both bungalows fulfill the requirements set forth by the Costa Rican Law 7600 (equal opportunities for persons with disabilities), as well as U.S. hospitality standards.

# DINING



Our talented chefs create inspired recipes with fresh, local ingredients while respecting native culinary traditions. In the kitchen, our executive chef leads a team that includes several true locals, adding an invaluable rural knowhow to the mix. We don't believe in simply ordering supplies from industrialized providers that haul everything for hundreds of miles on a giant truck. We are always searching for local farms with amazing produce and international handling standards. Food should be safe, delicious, and healing. Food should be respected.

Renown and passionate architects have created a special restaurant atmosphere that dissipates the mid-day's heat without the need for air-conditioning or noisy fans. As an important complement to the amazing food, the main restaurant offers panoramic views from almost any point.

There's a place to lounge and a bar that offers international favorites as well as locally inspired cocktails; signature drinks that are crafted by our renown mixologist, and that you will not find elsewhere, at least for now!



# ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCES

## WHITE WATER TUBING

*\*Medium Intensity Adventure*

One of our most popular activities, White Water Tubing at Rio Perdido is a guest favorite. This adventure meanders through over a mile of stunning canyon landscape, narrow rock walls and rolling whitewater. See if you can find the hot water spouts along the way! Or spot the elusive sphiggurus, trogones, tiger herons, Howler and White-Faced monkeys, bats...and even a big cat, if you're lucky.

While most of the course is a mellow float through the canyon, this is no lazy river. There are a few hundred yards of slides and rapids to make for an exciting experience that both adventurous first-timers and families with older children can enjoy.

**Schedule:** Daily, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, and 2:00 PM. Subject to weather, particularly in the Green Season from May to November.

**Approx. Duration:** 1 hour

**Minimum Age:** 12 yrs. or 1.40 m (4'7") tall, and weigh between 36-100 kilograms (80-220 lbs).

**Difficulty Level:** During the Dry Season, Intermediate. During the Rainy Season, Advanced.

**What to Bring:** Closed-toe or sports shoes are mandatory. Bathing suit, sunblock lotion, insect repellent.

**Do Not Bring:** Earrings, Rings, Glasses, Cell Phones and Cameras.

**Note:** This activity may not be suitable for everyone. There is always a chance of making contact with exposed rocks, resulting in bruising or minor cuts. This is more likely to occur in the dry season, when the current slows and the water levels drop.

- 15 Platforms: 6 of them are rock-based, 9 are suspended on the canyon walls
- A Pendulum Cable
- A 50 ft. "Tarzan Swing"
- A 90 ft. Challenge Bridge
- 4 Via Ferratas (climbing routes) with lengths varying from 15 ft. to over 30 ft.
- 5 Ziplines with lengths varying from 260 ft. to over 800 ft.
- A Water Station in the middle of the circuit, so you can quickly refresh and catch your breath!

**Schedule:** Daily, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Difficulty Level:** Intermediate. Suitable for all fitness levels.

**Minimum Age:** 5 yrs. or 1.20 m (3'9")

**What to Bring:** Sunblock lotion, insect repellent, comfortable clothing, closed footwear or sports sandals with heel closure.

**Do Not Bring:** Glasses, cell phones and cameras.



## CANYON ADVENTURE

While Costa Rica has dozens of tours with hundreds of ziplines, Rio Perdido has truly innovated the zipline experience with the Canyon Adventure. Under the guidance of renowned Adventure Designers, Alejo Soto and Jose Manuel Pizarro (3-time Guinness Book of World Record fellow), Rio Perdido has created a zipline sequence that will please and surprise.

The Rio Blanco canyon is the main stage for this cable-based adventure. It is the first sequence in the Americas to substitute steel cables with carbon fibre cables —so that no sound disturbs this incredible setting. The Canyon Adventure includes:

## NIGHT WALK + ZIPLINING

Even after dark, the trails at Rio Perdido come to life. With a flashlight in hand, you'll explore our trail system with an expert guide who'll interpret nightlife in our dry forest. You'll see nocturnal insects and amphibians. Forest fruits and seeds. And almost always a fantastic star-gazing opportunity. Then end the evening with a rush —take an exciting ride on two of our zipline cables, and glide over the trees at night.

**Schedule:** 6:30 pm

**Approx. Duration:** 1.5 hours

**Difficulty Level:** Easy. Suitable for all fitness levels. Minimum height for ziplining is 1.20 m (3'9")

**Minimum Age:** 5 yrs. or 1.20 m (3'9")



# THE TRAILS

## HIKING TRAILS

*\*Rare Ecosystem*

When most people think of Costa Rica, lush rainforest comes to mind. But you'll be amazed to learn that the area surrounding Rio Perdido is one of the rarest ecosystems in the Americas. Two completely different worlds exist here: a lush jungle-like forest within the canyons, in contrast to a rare dwarf forest on the higher rocky grounds. Strike out on our hiking trails by foot, and explore this delicate life system on a sunrise or sunset hike.

You'll traverse across hanging bridges to the top of Yurro cascade. Through the lush river canyon gorges and then to the medicinal spring, where you can pause for a refreshing sip. We offer two hikes culminating in rewarding panoramic views, including the 3 Volcanoes of the Guanacaste Volcanic Range.

We offer a daily, complimentary morning hike with an Expert Guide. You can schedule additional guided hikes to explore the full route, or explore on your own using our GPS generated maps.

**Shortest Hike Length:** 1 km. Relatively flat surfaces

**Longest Hike Length:** 4.5 km

## CARBONATADAS

*\*Medicinal Spring*

This light hike to Carbonatadas at Rio Perdido is a must. The flat trail takes you beyond the Yurro cascade and through the Miravalles dry forest. As you venture inland from the river canyons, the forest becomes more dense—and you'll know you're getting closer to this naturally occurring, carbonated mineral water spring. If you wish, take a sip. Old-time residents consider these waters to have medicinal healing properties.

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Difficulty:** Easy

## VOLCANES

*\*Volcano Viewing Point*

This loop trail begins with a gentle ascent through the dry forest. Then, through the last 250 meters (800 feet), there is a steep climb before reaching the Volcanes plateau and its prized viewpoint—the 3 Volcanoes of the Guanacaste Volcanic Range: Miravalles, Rincón de la Vieja, and Tenorio volcanoes.

When you opt for the sunset hike, the views are just as vast. You'll see the "illuminated domes" of urban centers in the distance and enjoy 360 degrees of virgin nature under the moonlight. No doubt, this is an incredible place to see the stars.

**Duration:** 1 Hour

**Difficulty:** Easy

## LAS TUMBAS

*\*Volcano Viewing Point*

This route is for those of you who love a challenging hike. The Tombs present rocky terrain, a few steep climbs, and a fascinating canvas of eroded volcanic rock formations. You'll begin in the lush canyon forest, but as you climb higher, you'll emerge from the trees and onto the rocky grounds of Rio Perdido's dwarf forest—an other-worldly landscape. The views are even more impressive than those seen from Volcanes.

**Duration:** 1 ½ - 2 Hours

**Difficulty:** Moderate

## RIO PERDIDO BIKE TRAILS AND TRAIL RUNNING

Costa Rica offers a varied trail topography that generally includes dirt, gravel, loose rocks, and some mud. At Rio Perdido, the trail surface is quite different. Most of the terrain features solid rock, making the rides fun, fluid, and a good grip. Many visitors have referred to our trails as "tropical slick rock" and to this specific area as South Moab.

Mountain bike guided experiences go from 1 hour to longer rides, including a sunset or sunrise experience (depending on the season). Advance reservations are required for a guided experience

## RIO BLANCO LOOP

This is the first adventure at the trails of Rio Perdido. This loop is a sample of what can be experienced on the rest of the circuits of the property. The Rio Blanco loop is mostly in the shade with an elevation gain of just 120m, which will allow you to get familiar with the terrain conditions and decide on your next adventure.

**Characteristics:** 90% single track, 75% flat, 90% shade, low technical difficulty, flowing ride

**Schedule:** 6:00 am- 10:00 am & 1:30 pm- 4:30 pm

**Level of difficulty:** Intermediate.

## ROCKS TRAIL ADVENTURE

The private MTB trails at Rio Perdido are located within a unique 600-acre dry forest preserve. This is an even rarer form of tropical dry forest where you will find many unique flora and fauna. On any trip, you can see all kinds of reptiles and mammals. You will surely see beautiful native trees such as the giant espavel, quebracho, guapinol and nance among others.



The trails will take you through the densest parts of a primary forest into the interior of the thermal canyons, and then upwards, to the rocky plateaus of the reserve, which offer impressive views of the Miravalles volcano. It is practically guaranteed that you will see the three main volcanoes of Guanacaste. Whether you choose a short route or go for longer adventures, you will traverse a varied landscape, which always makes for a great experience.

#### ROUTES:

Bosque- 1-1.5 hours

Characteristics: 70% single track, 65% flat, 60%-70% shade, relatively technical, relatively flowing ride

Level of difficulty: Intermediate

Tumbas- 1.5-2 hours

Characteristics: 80% single track, 50% flat, 50%-60% shade, technical, challenging ride

Level of difficulty: Intermediate

Miravalles- 2-3 hours

Characteristics: 65% single track, 40% flat, 40%-50% shade, highly technical, irregular flowing ride

Level of difficulty: Advanced

**Includes:** Guide, bike, helmet, hydration, basic insurance, seat adjustment and instruction

**Appropriate age:** 15+ years old, minimum height 5'5"

**Schedule:** 7:30 am and 3:00 pm (during the dry season) / 8:30 am and 2:00 pm (during the rainy season)

**What to bring:** Sun block and comfortable clothing

**Requirements:** Appropriate sport shoes. Clip in shoes not recommended unless you are an expert.

## EPIC ADVENTURE

An option to share as a couple or family to begin or end a day in Rio Perdido. We will take you on a gentler tour to appreciate the sunrise or sunset from a viewpoint. During the tour, pictures are taken and will end with coffee prepared at the lookout point in the morning or a toast at sunset.

**Duration:** 2 hours

**Includes:** Guide, bike, helmet with LED flashlight, hydration, coffee or sunset toast with bubbly, basic insurance, seat adjustment and instruction

**Appropriate age:** 15 - 65 years old, minimum height 5'5"

**Schedule:** 4:30 am or 4:30 pm (depending on the season)

**Requirements:** Appropriate sport shoes. Clip in shoes not recommended unless you are an expert.

**Level of difficulty:** Intermediate

## SELF-GUIDED ADVENTURE

After experiencing a guided adventure it is possible to go on self-guided routes:

We recommend that you bring: Water, sunblock lotion, insect repellent, closed footwear and comfortable clothing.

**Restrictions:** The Rio Perdido Bike Trails are not recommended for riders without significant mountain biking experience.



# WELLNESS

## RIO PERDIDO THERMAL CANYON & SPRINGS

The Rio Perdido — which means “lost river” — is the heart of our 600-acre private canyon reserve. Over thousands of years, the force of its waters had carved the 160 ft. deep gorge through this landscape. The river’s geothermal waters originate from volcanic activity. Hot water flows from the springs and into the Rio Perdido, creating a completely natural, hot mineral river. It is unlike any other place on the planet.

This stunning natural setting is your invitation to wander and explore the soothing waters. The Rio Perdido is a mile long, and is blessed with dozens of natural pools of varying temperatures —perfect for prolonged bathing. You can easily spend the day exploring one pool to the next, while cool swimming water can be found upstream.

The air here is perfect. And the canyon boasts a very rare and uniquely intact ecosystem of lush, tropical flora and fauna. The canopy reaches upwards of 160 ft. All this —the pristine waters, soaring trees, and the sounds of the forest —make for a peaceful, in-the-moment experience.

If you crave an authentic forest bathing experience, Rio Perdido

to the soothing rhythm of our waters. We offer therapeutic, relaxing, and deep tissue massage performed by our gifted massage therapists. As well as customized facial treatments and manicures and pedicures by our skilled estheticians.

## CLIFF-SIDE YOGA

*\*New Feature*

Our cliff-side Yoga Pods will take your flow to the next level as part of our “Meditation Done Right” initiative. Three pods are nestled into the cliff side, 140 feet above our geothermal river. We offer daily, complimentary yoga classes with our Expert Instructor and a maximum of 12 students. Suspended above the forest canopy, our cliff-side Yoga Pods invite you into a mindful yoga practice with breathtaking views, for a one-of-a-kind experience.



## VOLCANIC MUD BODY-PAINTING

*\*Signature Experience*

Experience the revitalizing powers of Rio Perdido’s signature volcanic mud body paint. This active mud comes from a neighbouring farm at the foot of Miravalles Volcano. Rich in minerals and nutrients, it contains many natural compounds including Sulphur, which is known to purify and brighten the skin.

At Rio Perdido, we’ve dedicated a special hot river pool to experience the volcanic mud body paint for yourself. We invite you to apply the mud to your body, leave on the skin for 10 minutes until it dries, then rinse in the warm waters. This soothing ritual will nourish your skin, leaving you aglow in this stunning natural setting.

## THE SPA

Complement a day of adventuring at Rio Perdido with spa treatments designed to ease muscle tension, refresh the skin, and elevate your sense of well-being. Each of our 4 treatment rooms overlook our Thermal-Mineral Pools, so that you can unwind

## THE THERMAL MINERAL POOLS

At Rio Perdido, even the pools surrounding our hotel are fed by the natural, thermal mineral springs. With three featured pools, we invite you to enjoy the ancient practice of hot and cool water therapy. Alternate between warm to cool to hot waters — eliminate toxins, bring relief to the skin, and replenish your body with essential minerals. All this is made possible by the naturally occurring mineral waters that flow beneath our canyon reserve.







For more information and reservations  
Email: [info@rioperdido.com](mailto:info@rioperdido.com)



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