



# Exploring Panama

Presented by Evergreen Chamber of Commerce

## Day 1: Thursday, April 12, 2012

### Panama City, Panama - Tour Begins

Welcome to Panama, a country of lush rainforests, rich history, diverse wildlife and spectacular coastlines. Your tour begins in cosmopolitan Panama City.

## Day 2: Friday, April 13, 2012

### Panama City

Meet your fellow travelers for a welcome breakfast before embarking on a city tour. **Visit Panama Viejo Visitors' Center and Cathedral Tower, exploring the ruins of the oldest Spanish settlement on the Pacific.** Next, stop at two local markets specializing in fresh produce and seafood for an introduction to the specialty foods of Panama. Continue to Casco Antiguo, the Old Quarter – a UNESCO World Heritage site. A short walking tour down its cobblestoned streets showcases the Plaza de la Independencia, the Presidential Palace, the National Theater and restored colonial churches and monuments. Enjoy lunch at leisure. Tonight, relish Panamanian cuisine at a special welcome dinner with your fellow travelers. *Today Breakfast and Dinner are included.*

## Day 3: Saturday, April 14, 2012

### Panama City

Today you may choose to explore Panama City on your own or board the Pacific Queen for an optional partial transit through the Panama Canal. Enjoy lunch on board and pass through two locks as you revel in a once-in-



**April 12 - April 18, 2012**

### Highlights...

Panama City • Panama Viejo • Casco Antiguo • Local Markets • Miraflores Locks • Gamboa • Salsa Dance Lesson • Smithsonian Galeta Marine Laboratory • Colon Free Zone • Panama Canal Railway •

### 7 Days • 8 Meals:

6 Breakfasts • 2 Dinners

### Per Person Rates\*:

**Double \$2199**

Single \$2599

Triple \$2179

**\*Included in Price:** Round Trip Air from Denver International airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges of \$170 (subject to

a-lifetime chance to see this incredible engineering feat first hand and learn all about its construction and operation. *Today Breakfast is included.*

#### Day 4: Sunday, April 15, 2012

##### Panama City - Gamboa

**Head to Miraflores Locks Visitor Center to watch ships traverse the locks and learn about this engineering marvel's rich past, present and future.** Visit a local handicraft market and peruse artisan souvenirs made by indigenous peoples, including the "mola" embroidery of the Kuna Yala. Ascend to Cerro Ancon's peak for a captivating view of Panama City. Continue to the Gamboa Rainforest Resort – your home for the next three nights. Here your options are many: enjoy the resort's pool and spa, soak in the sights and sounds from the hammock on your balcony, or take an optional aerial tram ride, kayak trip in the Panama Canal, or nighttime safari boat ride. *Today Breakfast is included.*

#### Day 5: Monday, April 16, 2012

##### Gamboa

This morning your guide leads a nature walk through your resort's forest and gardens to view its abundant bird population. A day at leisure provides you with opportunities for many excursions. Perhaps travel to an Emberá indigenous village...board dugout canoes for a scenic ride up the Chagres River to a settlement of Emberá, known as the "Keepers of the Rainforest." You may also choose an optional tour to Gatún Locks and the historic Portobelo Fort, which played a crucial role in the trade routes of Panama's past and the pirate's routes of plunder. **This evening, learn about the tradition of folklore dance in Panama during a private salsa lesson!** *Today Breakfast is included.*

#### Day 6: Tuesday, April 17, 2012

##### Galeta Marine Laboratory-Colon Free Zone-Panama Canal Railway-Gamboa

This morning learn more about Panama's delicate ecosystems at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute's Galeta Marine Laboratory as a staff biologist brings this breathtaking setting to life. Stroll through mangrove boardwalks, spot species of indigenous birds, and learn about the Collette Foundation's support of Galeta's outreach programs for local children. Continue to Colon and enjoy an interesting visit to the Free Zone, the second-largest in the world and the commercial hub of the Americas at the Atlantic gateway to the canal. **At the train station in Colon, climb aboard the historic Panama Canal Railway and relax in elegance as you are whisked past stunning scenery in perfectly restored cars.** Tonight soak up the ambiance at the oceanfront Amador Causeway where you will relish a delicious seafood dinner while enjoying views of the lights of Panama City's skyline sparkling on the water. *Today Breakfast and Dinner are included.*

increase until paid in full), Hotel Transfers.

[Click Here for Details](#)

**\*Not Included in Price:** Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$175 per person.

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## YOUR ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

### DAY 1 - 3

Hotel El Panama, Panama City

### DAY 4 - 6

Gamboa Rainforest Resort,  
Gamboa

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

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## Experience It!

### Panama Canal: Connecting the Atlantic & Pacific

Panama is steeped in history – from early Inca traders and Spanish conquistadors, to the Panama Canal, a modern-day engineering marvel. Completed in 1914, almost 50 miles long and one of the most complex engineering projects ever undertaken, a journey across the Isthmus of Panama takes you through the Gaillard Cut, carved through the Continental Divide. Head to Miraflores Locks Visitor Center to watch ships traverse the locks and learn about this engineering marvel's rich past, present and future.

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[Click here for: Important Reservation Information.](#)

## For more information call

**Susan Hammond**  
**Endless Travel**  
**(303)674-6616**

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### Please Note:

- To complete your vacation, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing Collette airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers

**Day 7: Wednesday, April 18, 2012****Gamboa - Tour Ends**

Your tour ends today.

*Today Breakfast is included.*

will leave at pre-scheduled times.

- Each client is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are traveling to and from.
- Space is limited and will be handled on a first come, first served basis, so book early!
- The highest point of elevation is 654 feet at Ancon Hill. Panama charges an international airport departure tax – the cost of this may be included in your air ticket.
- Smaller buses, which may not be lavatory equipped, may be used on this program. In this case, frequent stops are made during travel periods.
- To truly experience the program and destination, you need to be able to participate in physical activities such as longer walking tours, walking over uneven terrain, climbing stairs and periods of standing. Some of the touring days may be longer, with select included activities occurring later in the evening.
- Passport IS required.