

Art Making in the Rain Forest of Puerto Rico

Prof. Marcos Carvajal Barrios M.Ed

Our rain forest site is in Maricao, a region located 40 miles from the capital of San Juan in the southwestern mountains of Puerto Rico.

Maricao is known for its lush and exotic flora, fauna and people. The small town of Maricao, set amidst the Monte del Estado Forest, is bordered by exquisite tropical landscapes of gardens and ponds and is home to the famous Maricao Fish Hatchery.

Maricao's stone observation tower provides distant views to the Caribbean Sea and the Mona Passage. The region's rain forest, waterfalls, state parks, bird, fish populations, beaches, and towns inhabitants will provide an abundance of subject matter to inspire painting, drawing, take pictures and videos.

The workshop, scheduled program and optional fieldtrips will provide with a unique opportunity for observation, art making and learning about the art and culture of Puerto Rico

Optional fieldtrips to the Camuy River Caves Park, the colonial City of Ponce and Guanica Beach - will be combined with workshops and studio time for art making.

Our rain forest accommodations will be at Hacienda Juanita, a restored 19th century coffee plantation located high in the cool, tropical mountains of Maricao rain forest (1700 ft. above sea level; average temperature of 72). Juanita offers comfortable rooms with private bathrooms, dining-in verandas overlooking the forest, a local arts and crafts store, tennis court, swimming pool and nature trails with a variety of tropical flora and fauna and spectacular bird-watching opportunities.

The arrival and departure nights in the program will be spent in the capital City of San Juan. Time will be available to allow for visiting art galleries, studios, workshops, plazas and the Museum of Fine Arts of Puerto Rico.

Marcos Carvajal, our Program Leader, was an artist in residence for four years at the School of Art Altos de Jajome in Cayey, Puerto Rico, art faculty member at the University of Puerto Rico and a visiting faculty at the Museum School of Fine Art in Boston. In addition, he was program leader for the Painting in the Rain Forest of Puerto Rico Program with the School of the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston.

All levels and abilities are welcomed in photography, video, drawing and painting.

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Monday

Arrival in San Juan International Airport

3pm

Check In at hotel

5pm

Walking tour of Old San Juan

Visit historical architectural colonial sites and 2 plazas.

8:00pm

Welcome dinner (not included)

Tuesday

9:00am

Depart for Maricao Rain Forest
Visit the City of Ponce
Lunch at Pitos on the Beach (not included)

3:00pm

Check-in at Hacienda Juanita
7pm
Dinner (included)
Art Making Information Meeting

Wednesday

Breakfast (included)

9am

Introduction to Art Making in the Rain Forest

12 pm

Lunch (included)
Art making at Hacienda Juanita
Dinner (included)

Thursday

Breakfast (included)

9am

Visit the Town of Maricao and art making at Monte del Estado National Park

1pm

Lunch (included)
Art making at Hacienda Juanita
Dinner (included)

Friday

Breakfast (included)

8am

Transfer to Camuy Caves

1pm

Lunch (included)
Art making at Hacienda Juanita
Dinner (included)

Saturday

Breakfast (included)

8.30am

Art making at Hacienda Juanita, Town of Maricao or Monte del Estado National Park

1pm

Lunch (included)
Review of artwork and closing
Program evaluation

Sunday

9am

Breakfast (included)
Check-out at Hacienda Juanita

12pm

Transfer to San Juan

Lunch (not included)

4pm

Check-in at hotel in San Juan

8pm

Farewell dinner (not included)

Monday

Transfer on your own to San Juan International Airport