

## COSTA RICA TOUR

The University of Colorado men's basketball team visited the country of Costa Rica in August 2021 for a four-game exhibition tour.

Every four years, NCAA basketball teams can take an international tour during the summer months which allows for 10 practices and a handful of exhibition games.

Colorado won all three of its completed games in runaway fashion. A fourth game, and the most competitive, was forced to end early after sophomore Jabari Walker shattered the backboard on a dunk attempt in the second half.

Aside from the four games, Colorado had several excursions during its stay in Costa Rica including La Paz Waterfall Gardens Nature Park, a guided tour of San Jose, a coffee plantation tour and a zip line tour in Los Suenos.

Much as it did four years ago, this trip came at a perfect time for the Buffaloes. Colorado was coming off its third-straight 20-win season in 2020-21, finishing 23-9 overall and advancing to the second round of the 2021 NCAA Tournament, but the roster flipped over to a new era in 2021-22 with the Buffaloes' scholarship roster comprised of two seniors — Evan Battey and Elijah Parquet — no juniors and 10 underclassmen.

Colorado's 2021 class entered the summer ranked No. 11 in the nation by 247Sports. Three players — Quincy Allen, Lawson Lovering and KJ Simpson — are four-star, Top 100 recruits. Colorado Gatorade State Player of the Year Julian Hammond III and Javon Ruffin.

The 2017 class, which featured 1,000-point scorers McKinley Wright IV, D'Shawn Schwartz and Tyler Bey, as well as Battey, took a trip to Italy before their freshman seasons. In 2013, the Buffaloes toured France, Belgium and Holland.

