

## STX ODP Takes on Costa Rica

March 15, 2017

On Saturday, March 11, twenty-five South Texas Youth Soccer (STX) ODP players left to embark on an international trip to Costa Rica. About a year ago, these individual players were selected to the 2016 STX State ODP teams which then followed with an invite to take part in this unforgettable journey with their fellow ODP teammates.



As the players and coaches touched down in Chacarita, Costa Rica, they were quickly greeted by one of Costa Rica's impressive species, the green iguana. After the iguanas helped show our Texans to their rooms, the players quickly found their comfort zone at the local soccer field for a lovely evening session.

Sunday was the first game day in Costa Rica for both the boy's and girl's teams. The girls laced up for a 2 p.m. kickoff against Proyecto Futbol Zona Norte. Boys followed with a 4 p.m. kickoff against Atletico Ramonense and Proyecto Futbol Zona.



Monday was a day of adventure as STX ODP set out to explore the amazing biodiversity of Costa Rica with a tour through Carara National Park. The forest lies in the mountainous transition zone and offers an opportunity to spot an abundance of native wildlife such as sloths, monkeys, frogs and scarlet macaws. Next, STX ODP experienced the thrill of the Vista Los Suenos Canopy Tour. This zip lining adventure took STX ODP through the tree tops to see magnificent views of Herradura Bay and Island, as well as, the Gulf of Nicoya. To top it all off, our players ended the day with an evening training session on the BEACH! Man, what a day in Costa Rica.



Yesterday, the girl's team was able to explore the second largest city in Costa Rica, Alajuela, before heading out for their second international friendly against Roble Juniors FC at 6 p.m. The boy's team departed for Dulce Nombre, Cartago for their second international match-up against Club Sports Cartagines at 3:30 p.m.

Check back to read more about the second half of STX ODP trip in Costa Rica. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook @SouthTexasYouthSoccer, Twitter @stysaorg and Instagram @stysa\_org for more pictures!