

ISSUE 01

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# COSTA RICA

Learn - Innovate - Culture - Travel



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— *Intro*

# Costa Rica for travelers.

## **Welcome to the vibrant world of Costa Rica!**

Nestled in Central America, this enchanting nation beckons travelers, intrigues business professionals, and captivates nature enthusiasts. Join us on a journey through the heart of Costa Rica as we unveil its treasures, both natural and economic.



In these pages, you'll discover a land where dense rainforests harmonize with pristine beaches, where a rich tapestry of history is woven with a commitment to sustainability, and where the Pura Vida spirit infuses every aspect of life. Whether you're an intrepid explorer, a savvy entrepreneur seeking business opportunities, or simply a curious soul, Costa Rica offers something for everyone.

So, fasten your seatbelts and get ready to explore the diverse ecosystems, delve into the annals of Costa Rican history, uncover business prospects, and immerse yourself in the Pura Vida lifestyle. Join us as we embark on a captivating journey through this captivating land of beauty, culture, and promise. Welcome to Costa Rica Unveiled!



— *Map*

# Costa Rica from Above.



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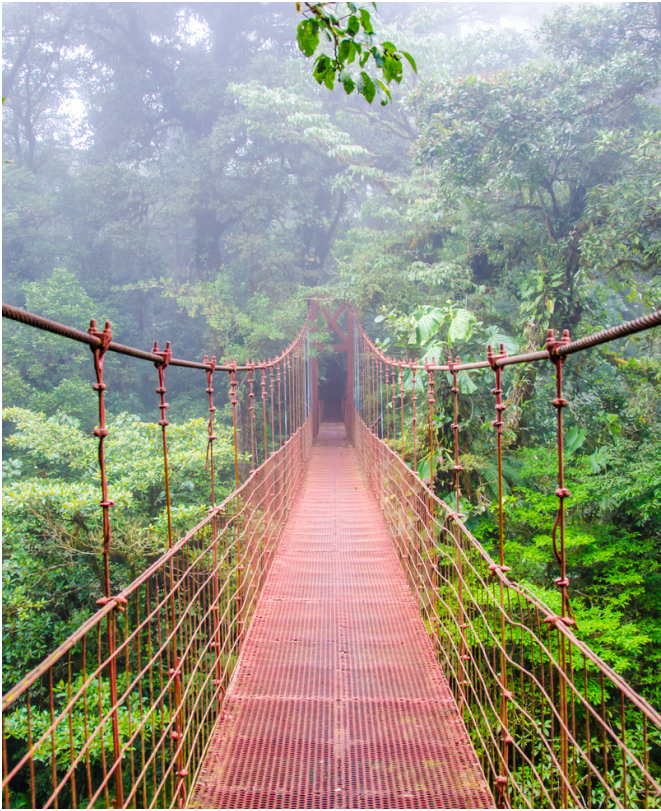
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## — Nature

# Discovering Costa Rica's Natural Beauty

Costa Rica, a natural paradise like no other, is a symphony of biodiversity and breathtaking landscapes. Its rich tapestry of ecosystems, from lush rainforests to serene coastlines, is a testament to the wonders of the natural world. Join us as we take you on a visual odyssey through the stunning landscapes of Costa Rica.

### Costa Rica's Ecological Riches:

- **Dense Rainforests:** Explore the heart of the country's wilderness, where towering trees and exotic flora hide rare wildlife.
- **Pristine Beaches:** Discover the allure of sun-kissed shores and crystal-clear waters along the Pacific and Caribbean coasts.
- **Volcanic Wonders:** Marvel at the volcanic landscapes, where towering peaks and geothermal hot springs create otherworldly vistas.
- **National Parks and Wildlife Reserves:**
- **Manuel Antonio National Park:** Encounter monkeys, sloths, and colorful birds in this coastal gem.
- **Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve:** Explore misty treetop canopies and a diversity of species.
- **Tortuguero National Park:** Witness sea turtles nesting along remote Caribbean beaches.



### Fun Facts About Biodiversity:

- Costa Rica is home to approximately 5% of the world's known biodiversity, despite covering only 0.03% of the Earth's surface.
- Over 900 species of birds and 200 species of mammals call Costa Rica home.
- The country's diverse ecosystems include cloud forests, mangroves, and dry tropical forests.

**As we venture deeper into Costa Rica's lush landscapes, be prepared to be awe-struck by the natural wonders that await at every turn. Costa Rica is a testament to the planet's beauty and resilience, and it beckons explorers from all corners of the globe to witness its ecological marvels firsthand.**



## History Breakdown

# A Glimpse into Costa Rica's History

Costa Rica's captivating history has paved the way for its vibrant present. Join us as we take a quick journey through time:

### Key Milestones:

- **Pre-Columbian Roots:** Indigenous cultures thrived before European arrival.
- **Spanish Colonization:** Costa Rica became a Spanish colony in 1561.
- **Independence:** The nation gained sovereignty in 1821.
- **Peaceful Nation:** Remarkably, Costa Rica abolished its military in 1948.

### Notable Figures:

- **Juan Rafael Mora Porras:** A pivotal president in the nation's history.
- **José Figueres Ferrer:** Leader behind the military abolition.
- **Franklin Chang-Diaz:** The Costa Rican-American astronaut who ventured into space.

### Historical Snapshots:

- Visual glimpses of the past through old photographs and illustrations is prominent throughout Costa Rica.

Costa Rica's past is a story of resilience, democracy, and peace, setting the stage for the vibrant nation you see today.

# History Snapshot

**Pre-Columbian Roots:** Costa Rica's history traces back to its indigenous peoples, including the Chorotega, Huetar, and Bribri tribes. These cultures left an indelible mark on the country's traditions, art, and agriculture long before the arrival of European explorers.

**Spanish Colonization:** In the early 16th century, Spanish conquistadors arrived in Costa Rica. While they faced resistance from indigenous populations, they eventually established Spanish settlements, introducing European influences and Catholicism to the region.

**Independence and Nationhood:** On September 15, 1821, Costa Rica declared its independence from Spanish rule alongside other Central American nations. The following years saw political upheaval and the country's brief union with the Mexican Empire before becoming a fully independent nation in its own right.

**Abolition of the Military:** One of Costa Rica's most unique historical chapters began in 1948 when President José Figueres Ferrer abolished the military after a brief civil war. This extraordinary decision laid the foundation for a peaceful and democratic nation that continues to thrive without a standing army.





# Business Opportunities in Costa Rica

Costa Rica's captivating appeal goes beyond its natural wonders; it's also a hotspot for business opportunities. Here's a quick look at why it's a magnet for professionals:

## **Economic Resilience:**

- Costa Rica boasts a stable and growing economy with solid infrastructure.
- Its reputation for political stability makes it an attractive choice for global investors.

## **Foreign Investments and Key Sectors:**

- Tech giants like Intel and Amazon have found success here, showcasing the country's diverse sectors.
- Key industries, including technology, agriculture, and renewable energy, drive Costa Rica's economy.







## **Success Stories:**

Explore how companies have thrived in Costa Rica, thanks to a skilled workforce and favorable business climate. Witness how innovation and sustainability are embraced, aligning with global business values.

## **Resources for Investors:**

Find essential contacts and resources for those considering Costa Rican investments. Access trade associations, investment guides, and government agencies that provide valuable support.

Whether you're an entrepreneur, investor, or business enthusiast, Costa Rica's business landscape offers a world of opportunities. Discover the potential for growth and success in this harmonious blend of business innovation and natural beauty.





## — *Pura Vida Lifestyle*

Welcome to the heart of Costa Rica's cultural soul, where the "Pura Vida" way of life defines the nation's spirit. In this chapter, we'll immerse ourselves in the essence of Costa Rica's unique cultural identity and explore the art of living in the moment.

### **Understanding Pura Vida:**

- Pura Vida, translating to "pure life" in Spanish, encapsulates the Costa Rican philosophy of embracing simplicity, joy, and gratitude.
- Dive into the mindset that values relationships, well-being, and the appreciation of life's small pleasures.

### **Local Traditions and Festivals:**

- Discover the vibrant tapestry of Costa Rican traditions, from colorful parades to lively fiestas.
- Explore festivals like "Dia de la Independencia" and "Carnival" that showcase the country's rich heritage.

### **The Art of Cuisine:**

- Delight in the flavors of Costa Rican cuisine, known for its freshness and use of local ingredients.
- Savor classic dishes like "gallo pinto" (rice and beans) and tropical fruits like mango and guava.

### **Music and Dance:**

- Experience the rhythm of Costa Rican music, including traditional folk tunes and infectious salsa beats.
- Learn about the captivating dance forms that express the nation's vitality and passion.

### **Living the Pura Vida:**

- Gain insights into how Costa Ricans prioritize well-being and balance in their lives.
- Discover tips for travelers to embrace the Pura Vida lifestyle during their stay.

As we delve into the heart of Costa Rica's cultural identity, you'll find that Pura Vida is more than a phrase—it's a way of life that invites you to slow down, appreciate the beauty around you, and savor the simple joys of existence.



# Sustainable Tourism in Costa Rica

Costa Rica's commitment to preserving its natural treasures is not only admirable but also a beacon for sustainable tourism worldwide. On this page, we explore how Costa Rica has become a leading advocate for eco-conscious travel and how you can be a responsible traveler in this paradise.

## Sustainable Tourism Practices:

- Learn about Costa Rica's dedication to sustainable tourism, which minimizes the environmental impact of travel.
- Discover how eco-friendly practices, such as waste reduction and wildlife conservation, are at the forefront of the country's tourism industry.

## Responsible Travel Tips:

- Find practical tips for being a responsible traveler in Costa Rica, from respecting wildlife to reducing your carbon footprint.
- Learn about eco-friendly accommodations and tours that align with the principles of sustainability.

## Success Stories in Sustainability:

- Explore the success stories of eco-conscious resorts, lodges, and tour operators that have made a significant positive impact.
- Understand how community-based tourism initiatives are helping local communities thrive.

## Preservation Efforts and Organizations:

- Get insights into the conservation efforts in Costa Rica, including reforestation projects and wildlife rehabilitation centers.
- Learn about organizations dedicated to preserving Costa Rica's unique biodiversity and ecosystems.

Costa Rica's dedication to sustainable tourism offers a model for travelers and nations alike. By exploring the country responsibly, you not only enjoy its natural beauty but also contribute to its long-term preservation. Join us as we celebrate the harmonious relationship between travelers and the environment in this remarkable destination.

# COSTA RICA'S ICONIC WILDLIFE

Costa Rica's natural riches extend beyond its landscapes to its captivating wildlife. In this chapter, we delve into the world of Costa Rica's most iconic creatures, inviting you to explore the rainforests, jungles, and coastlines where these remarkable beings call home.

## **The Enigmatic Sloth:**

- Meet the charming sloths of Costa Rica, known for their slow-paced and tranquil lives.
- Discover where to spot these tree-dwelling creatures in their natural habitat.

## **Toucans and Macaws:**

- Marvel at the vibrant colors of toucans and macaws, two of Costa Rica's most visually striking bird species.
- Learn about the diverse birdwatching opportunities throughout the country.

## **Monkeys in the Treetops:**

- Encounter howler monkeys, capuchins, and spider monkeys as they swing through the rainforest canopy.
- Explore the national parks and reserves where these playful primates thrive.

Costa Rica's iconic wildlife is a testament to the country's commitment to biodiversity conservation. Whether you're an avid nature enthusiast or a traveler seeking memorable wildlife encounters, this chapter celebrates the extraordinary creatures that make Costa Rica a must-visit destination for wildlife lovers.



# MUST VISIT DESTINATIONS

Costa Rica is a land of diverse landscapes and adventures waiting to be explored. In this chapter, we unveil the country's top destinations, each offering a unique blend of nature, culture, and adventure. Get ready to embark on unforgettable journeys to these remarkable places.

## 1. Manuel Antonio National Park:

- Discover the lush rainforests and pristine beaches of this iconic park.
- Encounter monkeys, sloths, and exotic bird species on scenic hikes.

## 2. Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve:

- Step into a mystical world where clouds envelop the forest canopy.
- Explore suspended bridges and marvel at rare wildlife and vibrant orchids.

## 3. Arenal Volcano National Park:

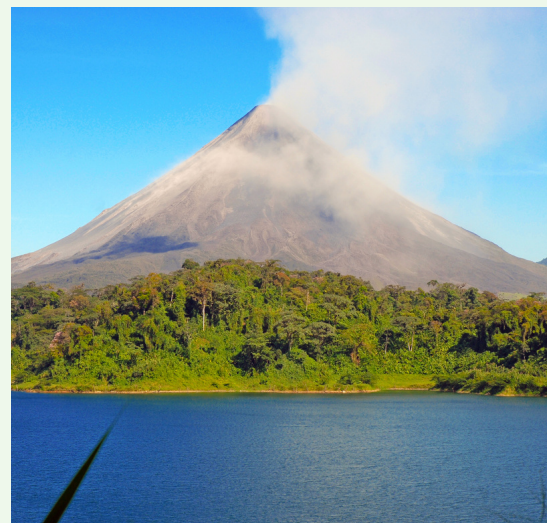
- Witness the towering Arenal Volcano and its surrounding thermal springs.
- Soak in rejuvenating hot springs and enjoy thrilling adventure activities.

## 4. Tortuguero National Park:

- Venture to the remote Caribbean coast to witness sea turtles nesting.
- Explore winding canals teeming with wildlife, including howler monkeys and manatees.

## 5. Corcovado National Park:

- Immerse yourself in the wild beauty of one of the world's most biodiverse regions.
- Trek through dense jungles, pristine beaches, and spot jaguars, tapirs, and scarlet macaws.



# MUST VISIT DESTINATIONS

## 6. San Jose:

- Discover Costa Rica's capital city, home to museums, galleries, and vibrant markets.
- Explore its rich history and culture while indulging in local cuisine and nightlife.

## 7. Osa Peninsula:

- Visit the remote Osa Peninsula for untouched wilderness and secluded beaches.
- Witness incredible marine life and explore the world-renowned Golfo Dulce.

## 8. Nicoya Peninsula:

- Find your paradise in this Pacific coastal gem known for its surf towns and wellness retreats.
- Experience the "Blue Zone" lifestyle, associated with longevity and well-being.

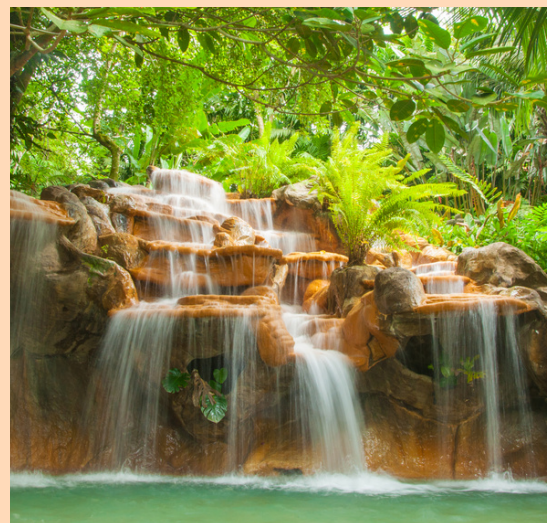
## 9. Guanacaste Province:

- Bask in the sun at beautiful beaches like Tamarindo and Playa Conchal.
- Engage in thrilling water sports and explore nearby national parks.

## 10. Caribbean Coast:

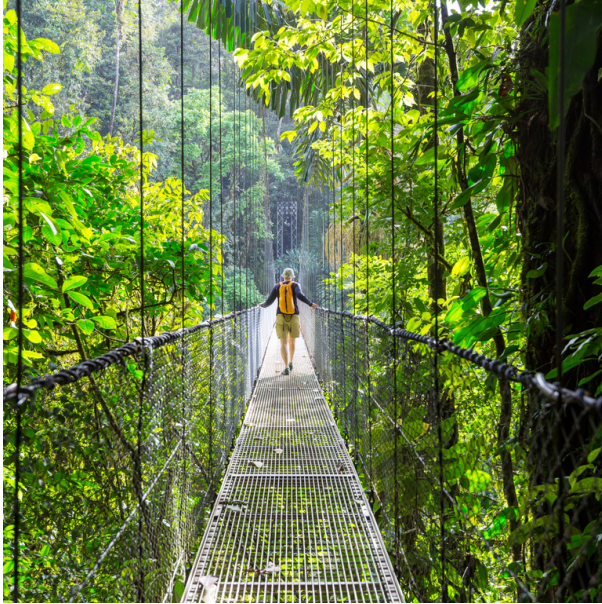
- Dive into the vibrant culture and music of the Caribbean coast.
- Enjoy reggae rhythms, Afro-Caribbean cuisine, and stunning beaches.

Each destination offers a unique slice of Costa Rica's beauty and culture, promising unforgettable memories for travelers of all interests. Whether you seek adventure, relaxation, or cultural immersion, these must-visit places will leave an indelible mark on your Costa Rican journey.



# Traveler's Toolkit

Your journey through Costa Rica has been an immersive experience, but there's still more to discover and resources to help you along the way. In this final chapter, we provide essential information and contacts to ensure you make the most of your Costa Rican adventure.



## Contact Information:

- **Tourist Helpline:** In case of emergencies or travel assistance, note down the tourist helpline number +506 2222-1090.
- **Embassy and Consulate Contacts:** Keep embassy or consulate details handy for consular services.

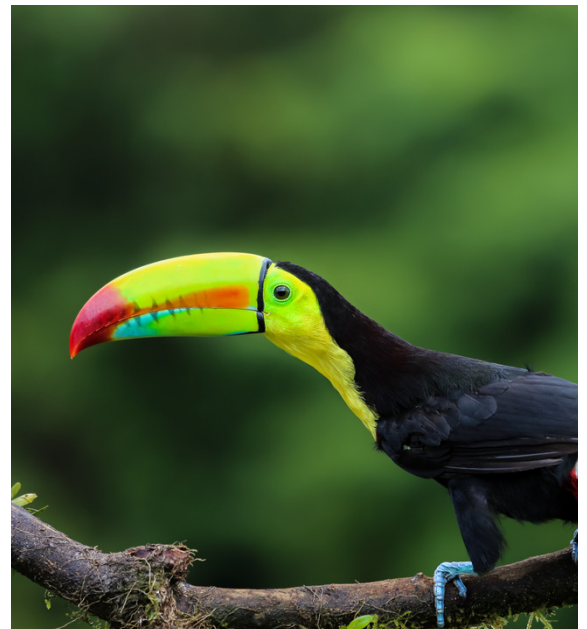
As you prepare to bid farewell to Costa Rica, remember that the memories you've created and the knowledge you've gained will stay with you forever. We hope this traveler's toolkit serves as a valuable resource in your future adventures and endeavors in this remarkable country. Thank you for exploring Costa Rica with us!

## Practical Travel Information:

- **Visa Requirements:** US nationals do not require an entry visa to Costa Rica. However, they must have a current valid passport and a return ticket to exit Costa Rica within 90 days.
- **Currency and Banking:** Learn about the Costa Rican colón, ATMs, and currency exchange.
- **Language:** While Spanish is the official language, English is widely spoken in tourist areas.

## Useful Resources for Business Professionals:

- **Trade Associations:** Connect with industry-specific associations relevant to your business interests.
- **Investment Guides:** Access comprehensive guides on investing in Costa Rica's various sectors.
- **Government Agencies:** Reach out to government agencies for investment inquiries and support.





# ONGO

Please reach out to us about any questions concerning your trip to Costa Rica.

Contact **Savv Exposure** for *Leisure Travel*, **Co Exposure** for *Corporate Travel*, & **ONGO** for *Study Abroad*.

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