

Before Your Arrival



Travel Requirements and Info

Most foreigners, including U.S. and Canadian citizens and Western Europeans, need only to present a valid passport that will not expire within 90 days of entry into the country. Costa Rica requires visas from a few countries, however, so check with the embassy in your country or with a travel agent if you are in doubt.

Climate:

The capital, San José, in the mountainous Central Valley, is at an elevation of over 1,160 meters (3,700 ft.) and maintains an average room temperature year round, though nights can be chilly. As elevation drops toward the coasts, the temperature rises into the balmy 80s and 90s. Unlike temperate zones, Costa Rica has two seasons: a green/rainy season (May- Nov) and a dry season (Dec-April). Temperatures are dictated more by elevation and location than by season, ranging from tropical on the coastal plains to temperate in the interior highlands. Temperatures in the Central Valley average in the low 70's F. (22 C.) year around while coastal temperatures may reach the low 90's F. (33 C.).



Typically, mornings are sunny and afternoons wet during the rainy season, and rain is rare during the dry.

<http://weather.yahoo.com/forecast/CSXX0009.html>

Airports:

Whether arriving from the USA, Canada or Europe, flying to Costa Rica has never been easier! Only two and a half hours from Miami, five hours from Toronto (direct flight), or a ten hour flight from Madrid.

More than a million people travel in Costa Rica every year, and the number is increasing. Most international flights arrive and depart from the Juan Santa María International Airport in Alajuela, a half-hour drive northwest of San José. The Daniel Oduber International Airport in Liberia, near the northern Pacific coast, has handled a growing number of flights for travelers heading directly to Guanacaste's beaches.

Getting from the airport to the hotel...

We strongly suggest taking a cab at the airport. Use an authorized airport taxi (orange). You pay ahead of time, at the booth located outside the Customs area. The cost will be approximately \$15 - \$20 USD to hotels. Also find out if your hotel has a shuttle service as most hotels now do and they usually run every half hour.

Electric Requirements

Costa Rica uses 110V - please remember to bring in you adapters and/or converters



Average Flying Time from Selected Cities to San Jose (in hours)

Amsterdam	13:00 hrs
Atlanta	4:00 hrs
Bogota	2:10 hrs
Buenos Aires	8:50 hrs
Charlotte	4:00 hrs
Chicago	5:15 hrs
Dallas	4:15 hrs
Houston	3:40 hrs
Lima	3:45 hrs
Los Angeles	5:00 hrs
Madrid	10:00 hrs
Mexico City	2:40 hrs
Miami	2:40 hrs
New York	5:00 hrs
San Francisco	7:30 hrs
Santiago	8:00 hrs
Sao Paulo	9:15 hrs
Toronto	5:15 hrs
Washington DC	4:55