

QUICK FACTS & FAQ



Population:	4.1 million
Size:	51,000km ² (19,652 sq.miles)
Language:	Spanish, English widely spoken
Time zone:	U.S. Standard Time (Central America time -6 GMT)
Currency exchange:	The colon, Costa Rica's currency, devalues steadily compared the dollar.
Unemployment rate 2003:	6.7%
Life expectancy:	78.1 years
Literacy rate:	96%
Access to piped water:	95%
Access to telephone service:	92%
Public health services coverage:	90.4% of population
Elections:	Every 4 years with re-election
Army:	Abolished in 1949

1. How is the climate in Costa Rica?

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>

2. What are the entry requirements?

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.

3. How do I get from the airport to the hotel?

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.. Also find out if your hotel as a shuttle service.

4. What type of electricity do you use in Costa Rica?

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

5. How can I make phone calls from Costa Rica? You can call your cell phone provider and have them verify that your phone will work in CR. (it is through AT&T/Cingular) To dial out of Costa Rica you dial "001" first AT&T Corporate Calling Card

http://www.usa.att.com/traveler/access_numbers/country/instructions.jsp?iso2=CR

Your access number for calling from Costa Rica - 0800-0-114-114

6. How is Costarrican dress code?

Business Casual

7. What is the currency in Costa Rica?

Costa Rican currency is colones if you would like you can use dollars as well but not euros.

Currency converter web site - <http://www.xe.com/ucc/>.

Recommended Credit: Cards Visa/MasterCard/ American Express / Travel Card

8. Where can I find information about tours in Costa Rica?

Expediciones Tropicales

506-257-4171

www.expedicionestropicales.com

Costa Rica DMC

506-438-7700

mao@costaricadmc.com

www.costaricadmc.com

Gray Line Tours Costa Rica

506-220-2126 ext 185

shidalgo@graylinecostarica.com

www.graylinecostarica.com

9. Useful phone numbers and links?

HP Forum Park Santa Ana 506-504-4100

HP Ultra Park Barreal de Heredia 506-508-6000

US Embassy Rohrmoser 506-519-2000 <http://usembassy.or.cr/consfaq.html>

10. Are there any immunization requirements to enter into Costa Rica? No there is not immunization requirements to enter into Costa Rica

11. Can I drink the water in Costa Rica? Yes, there is no problem we our water is very pure and clean