



Casa Mono Loco at Del Pacifico



Friendly people and adventure are just the beginning of what awaits visitors to Costa Rica.

Visiting *the* Central Pacific Coast *of* Costa Rica

Known as the birthplace of eco-tourism, Costa Rica's unrivaled wildlife, spectacular forests, towering volcanoes, and palm-fringed beaches make it Latin America's most popular destination. Easily accessible, the San Jose International Airport offers non-stop flights daily to and from major cities around the world, and Quepos (home to Marina Pez Vela) is an 18-minute flight from San Jose.

With a population just over 4 million, 300,000 being Americans, and about the size of Vermont and New Hampshire states combined, Costa Rica has 13 different climate zones. Residents enjoy the country's stable government, low cost of living, temperate year-round climate, first-rate medical services, and high education levels (the country enjoys a 96 % literacy rate).

Costa Ricans, or "Ticos" as they call themselves, are renowned for their gregarious nature. From the Sabanero (cowboy) culture of the Guanacaste Province to the indigenous tribes of the Caribbean lowlands, an interesting variety of sub-cultures exist throughout Costa Rica, creating a unique blend of culture and a very friendly population.

Visiting the Central Pacific Coast

The incredibly varied topography means you can go surfing, hiking, white water rafting, canopy touring, diving, deepwater fishing and snorkeling. For relaxation there are unique golf courses and luxury spas as well as great restaurants.

Costa Rica has it all!

Fishing

The thrill of world-class sport fishing for sailfish and marlin is a highlight in the Central Pacific Coast. Sportfishing Magazine rates this area as one of the top three sport fishing destinations in the world! From Quepos you are only minutes to the best fishing and deep water drop off. You can go after the “Big Fish” such as tuna and sailfish



or cast a line for local fish including dorado, roosterfish and snapper. Visit www.marinapezvela.com for charter or slip purchase information.

White Water Rafting

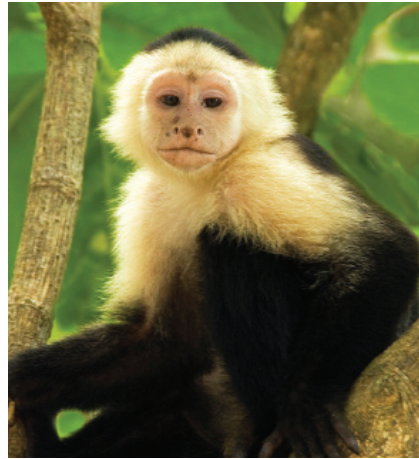
Rated among the best white water rafting spots in the world, Costa Rica is a paddler’s delight. There is something for everyone with rivers ranging from Class II to Class V rapids. The Rios Pacuare, Reventazón, Sarapiquí and Corobici are some of the best places to white water raft in Costa Rica, with the months of June through October being considered as the wildest

and the wettest months of the year.

Contact: Amigos del Rio, Tel: 011 (506) 2 777-0082

Manuel Antonio National Park

Go hiking in the rainforest at this world famous National Park, which is just south of Quepos. Manuel Antonio contains a combination of rain forest, beaches and coral reefs. The beaches



are the most beautiful in the country, lined with lush forest, and excellent snorkeling. The forest is home for sloths, iguanas, the rare squirrel monkeys and millions of colorful little crabs. The varied fauna includes 109 species of mammals and 184 of birds. The park includes 12 little isles just off the coast where you can observe dolphins and, at times, migrating whales. The trail that winds around Punta Cathedral affords some spectacular views. A land bridge forms the spine separating the parks two most popular beaches: Playa Espadilla Sur and Playa Manuel Antonio. Visit: www.manuelantoniopark.com

Bird Watching and Crocodile Tours

Costa Rica is one of the world’s top bird-watching destinations. As you journey through the beautiful Mangrove Swamps in search of Rosette Spoonbills, Scarlet Macaws, Toucans and Egrets, you can also safely observe crocodiles napping lazily on the banks. Contact: tel: 011 506 637 0338 or visit www.junglecrocodilesafari.com.



Golf

Blessed with near perfect weather and luxurious golf resorts, it’s no surprise that Costa Rica has now become a premier golfing destination. Los Sueños Beach & Golf Resort located near the town of Jaco is home to La Iguana, a 18-hole, par-72 championship course (Ted Robinson-designed layout) with a spectacular gallery featuring friendly monkeys and brightly-hued macaws. Contact: tel: (506) 2630-9000 ext 372 or visit: <http://golflaiguana.com>

Horseback Riding

Del Pacifico (30 Minutes form Quepos) is home to an equestrian center and offers instruction as well as daily trail rides. Go horseback riding through the rainforest or try a sunset gallop down the beach with well-trained horses. Contact: Jason Boone at Del Pacifico, tel: 011-506-2778-7086



Canopy Tours

With more than a quarter of Costa Rica covered in rainforests, a canopy tour offers an exhilarating opportunity to soar through the rain forest high above the forest floor and is an ideal way to get a bird's eye view of the forest below without disturbing the wildlife or endangering the trees themselves. Zip across the forests on lines strung



Surfing

Try your hand at surfing on some of the best waves in the world! Costa Rica is a top surf destination for beginners to advanced surfers. Enjoy warm water (no wet suits necessary), consistent year-round surf, easy access to breaks, and over 700 miles of coastline. Next July and August, Playa Hermosa will play host to the Billabong International Surfing Association 2009 World Surfing Games. Contact: Phil McKay, tel: 011 (506) 778-8831

from tree to tree via a safety harness. Get ready for an adrenaline rush! Contact: Chiclets Canopy Tours in Playa Hermosa, tel: 011 506 643 1880 or www.jacowave.com

Where to Stay

Del Pacifico, located 30 miles from Quepos, offers 700 acres of sweeping 360-degree vistas from the mountains to the Pacific Ocean. Del Pacifico is a planned community, carefully designed to weave Costa Rica's cultural heritage and vast natural beauty into your experience. Del Pacifico offers visitors and home-owners beaches, a beautiful

new town center, golf course (to be completed in 2010), a rain forest and shopping, medical offices, restaurants. Del Pacifico is also planning an 80-room boutique hotel for their oceanfront. Contact: tel: 011-506-2778-7086 or visit: www.delpacifico.net.



Visiting Costa Rica by Boat

Visiting boaters can stay in Quepos at Marina Pez Vela or in Jaco at Los Suenos Marina & Resort. There are also many wonderful anchorages found along the coast. Both full-service marinas have customs/immigration on-site to make it easy for visitors to complete the necessary paperwork. Visas are issued on arrival to nationals of most countries. There are no visa requirements for stays of up to 90 days for nationals of the U.S. ❖