

## About the Costa Rica



### Costa Rica Fast Facts

Costa Rica extends majestically from the Pacific Ocean to the Caribbean Sea, and its distance is barely 200 miles. Its land portion occupies only 20 thousand square miles. If you travel throughout the provinces of Costa Rica, it's easy to notice that in no other place you shall find fields with so many variations in their landscape and climate as here. Costa Rica is one of most highly valued tourist destinations in this planet.

This small piece of land includes all of the necessary components to satisfy the taste of thousands of travelers visiting each year.

Costa Rica's territorial division includes 7 provinces, that is: San José, Alajuela, Cartago, Heredia, Guanacaste, Puntarenas and Limón. Together they offer an attractive tourist destination, of almost limitless possibilities, that include extended rainforests, volcanoes, rivers traveling through the mountains, beaches and natural resources safeguarded by an important organization of national parks and forest reserves.



### The Costa Rica at a Glance

**Population:** 4.1 million  
**Size:** 51,000km<sup>2</sup> (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.

**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

**Capital:** San Jose

