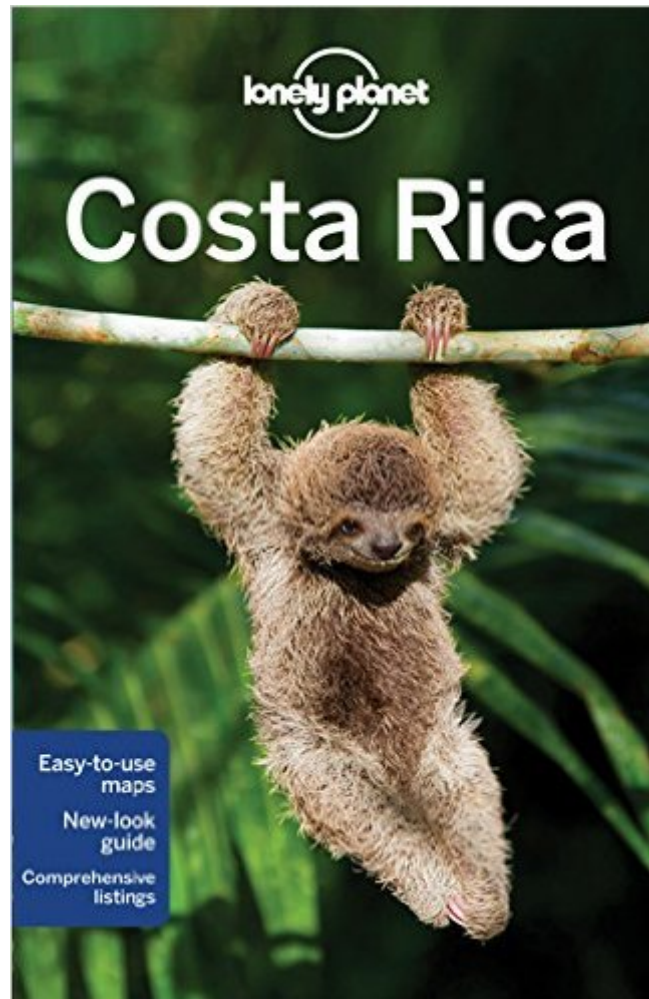


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# Lonely Planet Costa Rica (Travel Guide)



## Synopsis

Lonely Planet: The world's leading travel guide publisher Lonely Planet Costa Rica is your passport to the most relevant, up-to-date advice on what to see and skip, and what hidden discoveries await you. Discover otherworldly vistas and simmering volcanoes, relax on perfect beaches and be ogled by toucans in the wild; all with your trusted travel companion. Get to the heart of Costa Rica and begin your journey now! Inside Lonely Planet's Costa Rica Travel Guide: Full-color maps and images throughout Highlights and itineraries help you tailor your trip to your personal needs and interests Insider tips to save time and money and get around like a local, avoiding crowds and trouble spots Essential info at your fingertips - hours of operation, phone numbers, websites, transit tips, prices Honest reviews for all budgets - eating, sleeping, sight-seeing, going out, shopping, hidden gems that most guidebooks miss Cultural insights give you a richer, more rewarding travel experience - history, landscapes, ecology, wildlife, cuisine, customs/etiquette, surfing, turtles, activities Over 50 color maps Covers San Jose, Central Valley & Highlands, Caribbean Coast, Arenal & Northern Lowlands, Peninsula de Nicoya, Central Pacific Coast, Southern Costa Rica, Peninsula de Osa and more The Perfect Choice: Lonely Planet Costa Rica, our most comprehensive guide to Costa Rica, is perfect for both exploring top sights and taking roads less traveled. Looking for another guide focused on Costa Rica? Check out Lonely Planet's Discover Costa Rica, a photo-rich guide to the country's most popular attractions. Authors: Written and researched by Lonely Planet, Wendy Yanagihara, Gregor Clark and Mara Vorhees. About Lonely Planet: Since 1973, Lonely Planet has become the world's leading travel media company with guidebooks to every destination, an award-winning website, mobile and digital travel products, and a dedicated traveler community. Lonely Planet covers must-see spots but also enables curious travelers to get off beaten paths to understand more of the culture of the places in which they find themselves.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lonely Planet Costa Rica has had its ups and downs over the years with some of the editions (starting around the 7th) suffering from some stale information and some strong opinions about the over-commercialization of Costa Rican tourism that came across as preachy to many readers. Fortunately they're on a strong up with the 11th edition. They've done a great job converting to full color using it to make things clearer and to give a better picture (literally) of what to expect and look for. The maps especially have benefited immensely from the addition of color. The specialty blurb sections (What's New, Itineraries, Eat and Drink Like a Local, Activities Guide, Travel with Children etc) that in previous editions seemed to be tacked on as a sort of lame attempt to appeal to the internet generation's expectations of brightly colored graphic heavy splashes of information have matured into useful and informative short chapters. They've freshened up a lot of descriptions, removed outdated information and brought new things up to the minute (well, as up to the minute as you can be in a print publication with a months long production cycle).

In anticipation of a cruise which I booked which was stopping in Puerto Limon, I got this new Lonely Planet book. I've always found the LP series to be first rate. If there is one "issue" with this book it is that it is heavy - almost a pound and is bulky. I'm not deducting any stars but making you aware. But it's great to make notes from. Each regional chapter segregates info on Where to go, when to go, what to see and how to get around. The print is easy to read and so are the maps. There are no pull-out maps so you might want to either copy them or just tear out the ones you need. There are nice sections on history and even photos identifying wildlife you will see.. I don't use these guides for accommodations - and the listings are limited - but that's the only part of LP guides I don't use. I also like that the books are well bound. Costa Rica is a BIG country and most visitors only go to one part, so there will - of course - be sections that are not relevant to your trip. But the books aren't that pricey and this volume is the most current. Though I was limited on my trip to Puerto Limon, I did find the book helpful and gained some historical and social history background and can highly recommend it - especially if you are planning a long visit there. I hope you found this review both

informative and helpful. Steve Ramm "Anything Phonographic"

I had the 2006 Costa Rica Guide and it was great, but this 11th edition is almost 50 pages shorter and has little of the personal tips that I loved so much in the 2006 edition. I wish that you would have included more personal tips in this book and had less "fluff" I would consider buying the older 2012 edition if it has more of the lonely planet personal information. This one doesn't put itself out there.

I have used LP books in the past with great success. This book is not for independent travelers who want to use public transportation. The maps are lacking in good detail. Towns of the beaten path have no coverage in this book. This book is more suited for the type of traveler that will hire private transportation or book tours.

I bought the ebook and it has good information, but the lack of table of contents renders it completely useless. The maps are not zoomable and are mostly not legible.

Doesn't cover the areas that most interest me. I'm going in Jan. and want to see the mountain regions near Amistad, toward the Panama border. I've seen the Panama side, it's beautiful, I want to see the Costa Rican side. Guess I'm on my own, like usual! There's a whole section on the southern peninsula, Corcovado area. Barely a paragraph on the IMMENSE Amistad area and all the villages in the mountains. I can find better info on the internet for FREE!

I buy a copy of Lonely Planet whenever I go to someplace new that isn't well-traveled. They give great advice on where to stay and eat; how to find low cost living and out of the way adventure. Next to a map, it's the most essential piece of equipment I carry. And the book has maps inside. Worth it.

I found this book to be very helpful while I was in Costa Rica. I considered a few other books before purchasing this one, but I am happy I decided on the Lonely Planet book. There was a ton of helpful information. I especially enjoyed the color maps which were nice to provide an idea of where within the country I was and the section with helpful Spanish words and phrases which is organized very well by topics such as directions, food, etc. I am a vegetarian and I greatly appreciated that the book addressed dietary restrictions in the country and even provided a phrase on how to say that I am a vegetarian. The book also has a lot of info on different geographical regions of the country and things to do within them. I'll admit I didn't use these parts of the book as much (because we had a

set itinerary for the majority of our trip) so I can't provide a ton of info on how accurate/helpful these areas were. We primarily used this part of the book in San Jose where we had some free time and the book helped point us in the right direction of what areas we should check out. Overall, I don't think you can go wrong with this book! We even had people borrowing it from us on the plane!

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