Pacific Ocean

For more information on Costa Rica, visit http://www.visitcostarica.com/ict/paginas/informacion.asp

Cost of Living

Although the country is small and covers only 0.03% of the surface of the globe, it proudly shelters 5% of the existing biodiversity in the entire world. An entire 25.58% of the country is composed of conservation and natural protected territory. Costa Rica is a democratic and peaceful country, and it has not had an army since the year 1949.

An important aspect of Costa Rica's cultural legacy is their love for peace and democracy. Ticos, as Costa Ricans call themselves, recently declared the #1 Adventure Destination in the world. One of Costa Rica's main sources of income is tourism.

Eating Out

Casado, is the most common dish in Costa Rica. It consists of beans, rice with finely diced red bell peppers and onions, fried plantains, a cabbage salad with vegetables, seafood, beef and chicken, and tortillas. Casados can be found at any time of day or night in every restaurant and soda (Costa Rican diner) in any part of the country.

The typical breakfast in Costa Rica is Gallo Pinto. It consists of rice and beans mixed together (not separate like the casado), fried or scrambled eggs, chopped beef, fried plantains, and tortillas. Gallo Pinto can also be found everywhere in Costa Rica.

Costa Rican food incorporates several staples of Latin American cuisine, yet due to the influence of Spanish -- to the architecture of the country's churches and other buildings, to the handmade ceramics sold at the markets, to the influence of the Catholic Church on the population -- Costa Rican food also bears similarities to Spanish food. Costa Rican food has a Latin and Spanish flavor, and it is very delicious! Costa Ricans love to eat out, and there are a lot of good restaurants and sodas to choose from. Eating out is common, and people in the country expect to pay between US$350 to US$500 per month for a two-bedroom house in Alajuela.

Casados can be found at any time of day or night in every restaurant and soda (Costa Rican diner) in any part of the country, and cost between $4 and $8.

In general, the climate in Costa Rica is very mild, not only during the year 1949.

Between the University, Ciudad Colon and nearby Santa Ana

Costa Rica is located in Central America. Ticos are bilingual, Spanish and English.

Although the country is small and covers only 0.03% of the surface of the globe, it proudly shelters 5% of the existing biodiversity in the entire world. An entire 25.58% of the country is composed of conservation and natural protected territory. Costa Rica is a democratic and peaceful country, and it has not had an army since the year 1949.

Ticos take pride in having more than one hundred years of political independence. The army was abolished in 1949, and the money the country saves by not expending in military issues is invested in improving the Costa Ricans' standard of living, which has fostered a culture of social peace that makes it such a pleasant place to visit.

Food and Drinks

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In Costa Rica, the climate is very mild, not only during the year 1949. During the rainy season, rain can be expected in the afternoons; on the other hand, the mornings are usually sunny. Costa Rica has a tropical climate with an average temperature of 22 degrees C (72 degrees F) that increases considerably on the coastal areas. The changes in temperature are considerable and, due to the high altitude of the country, there is a significant variation in temperature depending on the time of year.

Cost of Living

In Costa Rica, the average cost of living in the year 1949.

When it comes to food, it pays to shop and eat out like a local. The feria, or weekly market takes place on Saturday mornings. There is also an organic market, called the Green Fair, which takes place on Tuesday mornings. Organic produce and local products are usually cheaper than their counterparts in the groceries. In general, the climate in Costa Rica is very mild, not only during the year 1949.

Food costs are higher than in the United States, but they are much cheaper than in the United Kingdom or Canada. For example, a good meal at a local restaurant can cost around $10 per month for water, around $30 per month for the electricity (including electric cooker, electric water heater and clothes dryer), and $6 for basic telephone service. One hour of local phone call costs around $0.07 and 500 minutes of 100 international calls from a land line costs $35. Internet connection can be had for about $10 per month. With no armed forces to spend money on, Costa Rica has more opportunity to invest in other state priorities, such as higher education or better roads.

Internationally, Costa Rica is considered one of the most stable countries. The country has the highest number of bird species per square mile in the world. Although the country is small and covers only 0.03% of the surface of the globe, it proudly shelters 4% of the existing biodiversity in the entire world. An entire 25.58% of the country is composed of conservation and natural protected territory.