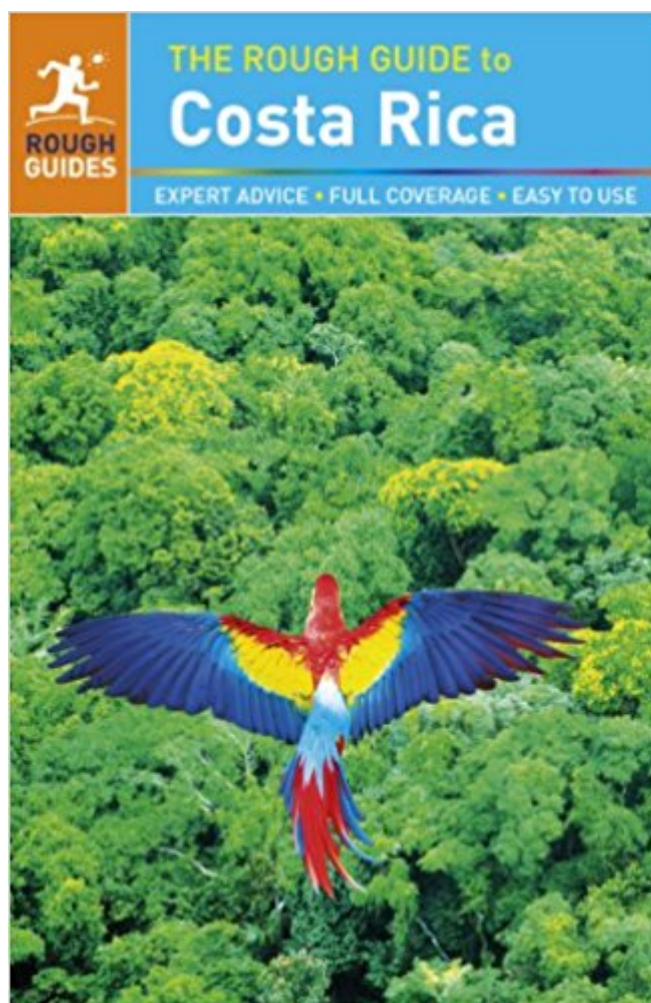




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The Rough Guide To Costa Rica (Rough Guides)



Synopsis

The new Rough Guide to Costa Rica is the definitive travel guide to this incredible country, with expert information on everything from magnificent national parks to lively cultural festivals and wild beaches. An in-depth field guide with stunning color photography explores Costa Rica's incomparable wildlife, and easy-to-use maps, reliable advice on how to get around, and up-to-date reviews of the best hotels, eco-lodges, restaurants, bars, clubs and shops ensure that you won't miss a thing, no matter your budget. Discover Costa Rica's highlights. The Rough Guide to Costa Rica includes detailed practical advice on what to see and do throughout the country, from turtle-watching in Tortuguero to surfing in Santa Teresa, hiking and zip lining through the Monteverde cloud forests to exploring the breathtaking biodiversity of the Osa Peninsula. Make the Most of Your Time on Earth with The Rough Guide to Costa Rica. About Rough Guides: For thirty years, adventurous travelers have turned to Rough Guides for up-to-date and intuitive information from expert authors. With opinionated and lively writing, honest reviews, and a strong cultural background, Rough Guides travel books bring more than two hundred destinations to life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Reliable, readable Rough Guides * Conde Nast Traveller *

This was the most thorough and well organized Costa Rican travel guide that I purchased and was also the only one I referenced during my five-week trip. In addition to the abundance of information on hotels, hostels, regions, national parks, restaurants, etc., the most valuable component of this

guide (for me anyway) were the bus schedules. Every other guide I looked through didn't have nearly as much information about schedules, routes, alternative routes, etc., and this information alone facilitated much more seamless travel days. Although the information wasn't always accurate due to terminals changing names/locations, bus companies discontinuing certain services, etc., the schedules printed in the book sometimes served as a general blueprint for the public transportation system, which was helpful in and of itself.

I'm a week into my stay in Costa Rica, and the guide has been helpful and accurate in general. Navigating the links to various topics is not always easy, though. The most frustrating thing I've found is that the pages at the end (about the last 5% of the ebook) have not properly downloaded. Formatting is scrambled up, and instead of advancing the same page will re-load time after time. That section deals with language and local expressions, so it would be a great help if only it workedW!

This was the best of all of the guide books and I checked out all of them! We used it every day and were really pleased with the recommendations.

rough is the word. outdated too.

up to date phone numbers and addresses, march 2016

very good "routard" guide book. was very helpful for our trop. updated version would be good.

Book was in great condition and a useful guide to Costa Rica

I used this book to plan a last-minute trip to Costa Rica that involved getting around by bus. I didn't look at any other guidebooks for my trip, so I can't compare to other publishers (although in general I prefer Rough Guides to Lonely Planet). Overall the book was pretty helpful - it gave a good overview of the country and what to expect when traveling. I also found its descriptions of places to be pretty accurate, and its recommendations to be generally good. It mentioned that you have to pay a \$29 USD departure tax at the airport in order to leave Costa Rica, and as of February 2015 that is still the case. (Make sure you get to the airport before the departure tax window closes, which was 11 PM in San Jose, or they won't let you leave the country that day.)The reason this book

doesn't get 5 stars like almost every other Rough Guide I've used is because it was sometimes downright wrong when it came to maps and addresses for the handful of cities that we visited or passed through (which were San Jose, Cartago, Orosi, Paraiso, San Isidro de General, Uvita, and Dominical). My biggest complaint is that the street and avenue numbers are wrong for the city of Cartago. (I think they are completely backwards, so that an address that would be in the southeast corner of the city according to the book was actually in the northwest corner of the city in reality). This really messed us up trying to get from one bus stop to another, and we didn't figure it out until the second time through Cartago. The other example I can think of is that it gave the wrong address (off by maybe 10+ blocks) for one of the restaurants it highly recommends in San Isidro de General. (The recommendation itself was dead on, however - the restaurant's ceviche was fantastic, and cheap.) So make sure you ask around and double-check any addresses the book uses, as we didn't have a high success rate in the places we visited. The book did have good general information about bus routes, although you have to make sure to double-check all bus schedules because it seems they can change frequently. (A good, but also not 100% reliable source is www.thebusschedule.com, which the book recommends.) I will give the book credit for being the only one of 4 sources (including our hotel, www.thebusschedule.com, and a Lonely Planet) to have the correct bus departure times from San Isidro de General to Uvita. Bottom line: the book isn't perfect, but it's worth having as long as you know you can't depend on it 100%. I'd give it 3.5 stars.

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