

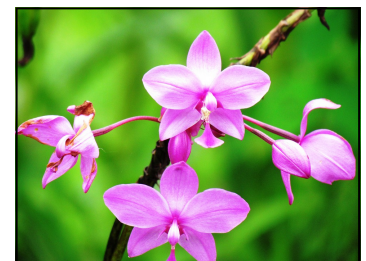
Country Fact File: COSTA RICA



Name of country	República de Costa Rica means "Rich Coast"
Continent	North America
Hemisphere	northern
Borders	Nicaragua and Panama
Capital City	San José
Official language	Spanish
Population	4,586,353 (2011)
Area	51,000 km ²
Currency	Colón
Time Zone	UTC -6
National Anthem	"Noble patria, tu hermosa bandera"
Highest mountain	Cerro Chirripó 3,819 m above sea level
Longest river	San Juan 220 km
National sport	Football



yigüirro
the national bird



guaria morada
the national flower



Other Costa Rica facts

- ◆ Became independent from Spain in 1821
- ◆ Does not have an army
- ◆ 121 volcanic formations, 7 of them active
- ◆ The marimba is the national instrument
- ◆ Contains 5% of the world's biodiversity
- ◆ Over 840 species of bird
- ◆ 52 species of hummingbird
- ◆ Cloud forests on the mountain tops
- ◆ Leading industry is tourism
- ◆ Famous for gourmet coffee beans

Famous Costa Ricans

Franklin Chang Díaz
 Juan Santamaría
 Oscar Arias Sánchez
 Cristián Gamboa
 Claudia Poll