

Surf, Yoga, Adventure Retreat FAQ

Q: Can you tell me more about Costa Rica in General?

A: Costa Rica is a developing country so there are a few things we do here differently than in a more industrialized country.

1. Due to fragile septic systems, when using the restroom, please do not flush toilet paper or any other products other than natural waste. Please dispose of products in the waste basket next to the toilet. Housekeeping will take the trash out daily.
2. Costa Rica is at the forefront of ecotourism and sustainability. Casas Kismet is dedicated to conservation of water and energy. We encourage guests to do simple things like reuse towels and turn off lights and air conditioning when not in use as these simple steps help reduce our carbon footprint in the jungle.
3. Power outages may happen during your stay. We take this as a sign to live the Pura Vida life. That means to take things as they come, slow down, relax, enjoy life and being in nature.

Q: I have heard Costa Rica is one of the most biologically diverse places in the world. What can I expect in my travels to Costa Rica regarding animal life?

A: Costa Rica is one of the most biologically diverse places in the world. If you're looking for adventure, nature, and relaxation, this is the place for you! Bugs, insects and different wildlife including monkeys, iguanas, coatis, as well as many different bird species are a common sight as we are in the middle of nature and the jungle.

Q: I don't like bugs and have a fear of insects, do you think I will still enjoy Costa Rica?

A: If you get scared easily by insects or bugs, this is not the right place for you, and we recommend you find somewhere else to stay. Please remember we built a house in the jungle and part of the culture is to respect all creatures of mother nature as they are vital to the biodiversity of our area.

Q: Do I need to do a currency exchange?

A: Pretty much everywhere you go will accept US Dollars. You will get Colones (Costa Rica money) in change when you use cash. We recommend bringing smaller bills (more 10's and 5's, fewer 20's) for things around town. Excursions will most likely require cash, save your larger bills for these. You will also need cash for any ground transportation, gratuities, and extras onsite.

Q: How much cash should I bring?

A: Nosara tends to be a cash heavy area - there are some places that only accept cash and most transportation services are cash only. There are ATMs but most are not within walking distance and rarely have cash. Even if you can get cash, most machines won't allow more than \$200 withdrawal at a time. We recommend you bring enough cash to cover the following:

- Transportation to and from town - a tuk tuk will run you about \$8 in total (per trip) including tip from Playa Pelada to Nosara. Tuk tuks can seat up to 3 people.
- Extra Excursions (not included in your retreat): average \$75/excursion, some are more, some are less. Half the excursions in the area take cash only - some will accept card but will charge an additional 13% on top of the cost.
- Extras on site such as snacks/smoothies/drinks etc.

- Gratuity to any driver/excursion leader/staff at Casas Kismet (bartender, chef, su-chef, housekeeper, and grounds keeper).
- Gratuity for drivers is usually \$10 per person for airport transportation, \$1 for Tuk Tuks.
- Gratuity for excursions \$5-10 dollars per excursions
- 10% gratuity for staff is customary, we recommend each person tip \$80-\$100 to be divided among the staff.

Q: What airport should I fly into?

A: You will want to fly into Liberia International Airport known as Daniel Oduber Quirós International Airport (LIR).

Q: Is airport transportation included?

A: Transportation is included on day of arrival, November 25th from Liberia airport to Casas Kismet, and day of departure, December 2nd from Casas Kismet to Liberia Airport.

Q: If I plan to come to Costa Rica earlier or stay later is transportation included?

A: No, only transportation listed above is included. We can provide you with transportation companies to contact in regards to your travel.

Q: If my flight is delayed and I arrive a day late will transportation be covered.

A: No, the shuttles will only be running on November 25th and December 2nd

Q: How can I get around town?

A: There are several ways to get around town.

1. Message a tuk tuk for a ride from Casas Kismet to your destination. A tuk tuk is a simple covered vehicle with three wheels and are common taxis in the area that can transport 2-3 people. Tuk tuk prices vary depending on the distance you travel, plan on a ride costing anywhere from \$8-\$20. Use our trusted tuk tuk service by sending them a message on WhatsApp: +506 8775 2161.
2. Rent an ATV or golf cart. There are several rental companies in Nosara including iQuad, Monkey Quads, Nosara Quads, Limo Dan, Tico Tours, and many more that have ATV and Golf cart rentals. Prices depend on vehicle, season, and length of rental.
3. Rent a car in Nosara – Enterprise and Alamo Rental services are in Nosara close to the NOSARA sign and main entrance to Guiones beach.
4. Walk – Casas Kismet is a 10-minute walk to the north entrance of Playa Pelada and the Boca, river mouth, where Rio Nosara and Rio Montana converge and run into the ocean. We are a 20 minute walk to Olga's, La Luna, Il Peperoni, Secret Spot Ice Cream, Sunrise Café, and Rosi's in Pelada. We are a 40-minute walk to the north entrance of Guiones. If you walk we highly recommend bringing water, sunscreen, and a hat to protect from the sun. For those who have unsteady footing we do not recommend walking

Q: Will I be able to wash my clothes?

A: We have laundry service for \$10 per load includes washing, drying, and folding.

Q: Do I need to bring a beach/pool towel?

A: No, beach and pool towels are provided by Casas Kismet

Q: Do I need to bring an adapter for electronics?

A: We have Type A and B outlets - standard American outlets. If traveling from Europe, you will need an adapter

Q: What amenities are on site?

A: All rooms have air conditioning, refrigerator, kitchen or kitchenette, and a coffee maker. Each bathroom is equipped with hair dryer and towels. We have the following products from Raw Botanicals: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, hand & face soap.

Q: How do I keep my valuables safe?

A: In room safes are available at Casas Kismet. Do not take valuables to the beach unless someone can stay with them. Put your passport away in a safe place when you arrive at Casas Kismet. It's a great idea to take a photo of your passport in case of emergency.

Q: Is the water safe to drink?

A: The water is safe to drink in Costa Rica. Casas Kismet has filtered water at the bar if you would like filtered water. The property also has a filtration system, so the tap water is safe to drink as well.

Q: Where is the closest ATM?

A: There are multiple ATMs in the area.

- Banco Popular Nosara: Next to Cafe de Paris at Guiones Main entrance
- Banco de Costa Rica: At the gas station off 160
- Mini Super Delicious: North Guiones by Olivia's Pizza

Q: What is the address of Casas Kismet?

A: 600 meters south of Hotel Lagarta Lodge. Lot 76A, Guanacaste, Nosara, Costa Rica 50206