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WE HOPE THIS GUIDE HELPS YOU ENJOY EVEN MORE OUR MAGICAL PLACE.

In the next pages you will find directions, maps of the most popular places in the Nicoya Peninsula and our favourite spots marked on them. There is everything to enjoy: amazing excursions, exquisite restaurants, and

first class services so you can relax and enjoy your vacation as you never did before.
Enjoy what is in front of you, and let the adventure begin...
Insider team

IN THIS GUIDEMAP YOU WILL FIND...

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ADRENALINE AND PEACE, ALL IN ONE PLACE.

A CONSTANT INVITATION TO EXPLORE AND DISCOVER.

Each hidden corner is a new picturesque postcard.

A single commandment sums it all up: "You shall not get bored". This Peninsula really does have something for everyone. Relaxation, mindfulness, excitement and adventure are all possible in the same place.

The region experiences three seasons: a *dry season* from december to april, characterized by blue skies, hot temperatures, and consistent waves, ideal for tourism. The *green season* from may to augus occasional refreshing rain, specially at night time, but still of skies, hot weather, and great waves. And the *rainy season* is september to november, with tropical rains during the day.







IN THIS MAGAZINE YOU WILL FIND ME SOLUTION TO DURING YOUR STAY IN THESE MORE THE

SOUTH NICOYA PENINSULA



HOW TO GET HERE



X PLANE

You can catch the domestic flight from San José to Cobano Airport which takes about 30 min. From Cobano Airport to Santa Teresa is a 20 min drive, reserve your taxi.

\$240 +/- roundtrip plane + \$40 taxi drive (fits 4 people). We recommend Costa Rica Green Airways & Carmon Air Charters. Check their websites: costaricagreenair.com & carmonair.com



This trip takes about 5 hours: 3.5 hours driving + 1.5 hours by ferry to get into the Santa Teresa/Malpais & Montezuma area. You can rent a car at the airport and get a great deal from

there. Be aware that when you drop off the car in a different location, the price will increase.

\$80 +/-per day (depends on the type of car, company and insurance & season).

⊜ SHUTTLE

There are door-to-door shuttle services you can find at San Jose airport and drop you off at your accommodation on the Nicoya Peninsula. The shuttle leaves you at the ferry, that you will board on your own, and then another shuttle waits for you on the other side to continue on your way to your destination.

\$50 +/- per pax.

🖨 BUS & FERRY 🜲

This is the cheapest but the longest way to get here. From SJO Airport you have to take a taxi to the Villa Bonita Bridge (it's a \$8 ride to a stop next to the main road).

Every day at 6am and 2pm the bus departs from the terminal 7/10 at San Jose and stop by the Villa Bonita spot 20 min after. It will take you to Puntarenas Port, where you hop off the bus, left your backpacks in the bus and walk to the ferry. This ferry takes about 1.5 hours and will cross you through the Gulf of Nicoya to Paguera, where the

bus waits to take you to Santa Teresa & Mal Pais. But if you are heading to Montezuma area, ask the driver to stop at Cóbano, which is a middle point town, to change the bus to your final destination.

Ticket costs \$15 (includes bus & ferry)

More info, schedule & prices:
navieratambor.com & terminal7-10.com

WE CAN HELP YOU BOOKING ALL THESE SERVICES. JUST SCAN!









Ludmila Massage

beach & at home

SCAN & BOOK!





MALPAIS

IS A FISHING VILLAGE LOCATED IN THE SOUTH OF PLAYA CARMEN. THIS IS A QUIET AREA AND HERE ARE MOST OF THE NICEST PLACES TO STAY.

Stop the quad or hop off the motorbike and do yourself a favor by experiencing every corner you can of this laid back area with nature in its purest state!

shielded by geographic features, making it a less touristy destination.

Enjoy the privacy, and take advantage of the reef protected bay for swimming, snorkeling, or spearfishing.

Discover the hidden gem, Playa Suecos, formerly known as "Secret Beach." For a hint of adventure, explore the abandoned Sunset Reef Hotel nearby, featuring graffiti, broken windows, and bat-filled closets. Locals gladly guide you to this secluded spot,

During low tide, a mesmerizing world of tidepools emerges along the beach, marked by flat rocks and crashing waves.

These tidepools, often round or oval.



are deep and teeming with vibrant sea life and colors. All you have to do is get in and enjoy the views and nature. If you want to grab some food at the end of your day in these spectacular beaches, the fishing village has some of the freshest fish around, so consider taking that back for grilling or sashimi.



And if you want to relax even more, you have options for massages and body treatments facing the sea.

DONT MISS:

Katie Anna Holistic Facials & Ludmila Massages (at the beach or at home)



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SKIN & SOUL

CARMEN



YOGA AND WELLNESS TRAVEL ARE PRESENT ACROSS
THE REGION, WITH MANY TOP HOTELS INCLUDING
COMPLIMENTARY CLASSES WITH YOUR NIGHTLY STAY.
SURFING IS AN EXHILARATING WATER ACTIVITY THAT
BLENDS SKILL, STRENGTH, AND A PROFOUND
CONNECTION WITH NATURE.

Riding the waves on a board offers a unique experience of balance and control. Beyond being a great physical workout, surfing fosters patience and adaptability, given the individuality of each wave. Immersing yourself in surf culture can provide a sense of community and a deep appreciation for the ocean, making it a rewarding choice.



PLAYA CARMEN

A preferred spot by many during the summer season, this beach has good

sand bars that break both right and left. A good wave for both long and short boards.



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Costa Rica. Mal País, Santa Teresa 50 meters west from main intersection



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SANTA TERESA

THE NICOYA PENINSULA'S DESIGNATION AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S FIVE BLUE ZONES MAKES SANTA TERESA AN OFF-THE-BEATEN-PATH ESCAPE FROM THE BUZZ OF THE MODERN WORLD.

Fresh seafood and tropical fruits, rich in nutrients, are staples in Nicoycan cuisine, further bolstering the area's reputation as a heaven for wellness.

If you want a fancy beachside experience paired with vibrant nightlife, then staying in Santa Teresa is for you.

The South is more chilled, though, and is perfect for surfing and budget friendly activities.

The main draw of North Santa Teresa is its main street lined with clothing boutiques, surf shops, and many great hars and restaurants

WHERE TO EAT

In Santa Teresa you will find a wide variety of restaurants along its main street that offer all types of food, from fast food to the best ceviche you have ever tried before!

DON'T MISS

La cevicheria: Best seafood in town and great service!

Ranchos Itauna: Beach front restaurant, brazilian food & live djs.

Manzu restaurante: Beachfront restaurant with Costa Rican flavors and recipes.

Tercer ojo: Caribbean craft food made with love. Tarot & Drinks.

LA CEVICHERIA

santa teresa



This was an amazing meal!



Everything was so fresh and delicious! I had a passion fruit juice (amazing) and the Tico ceviche (also amazing). I had the medium spicy, with mahi and shrimp and it was very good. They served it with fried plantains which was the perfect accompaniment. It was so fresh and delicious! Sure you can find cheaper food but I doubt it will be as delicius as this. The service was excellent, super friendly and I discovered that it is owned and employed by Ticos, who I like to support. It was very clean and they played good music. Tomorrow I'll go back for the poke bowl and I have to go back for the ceviche at least one more time. I never write reviews but I liked it so much that I had to. I also really want to try their whole grilled fish!

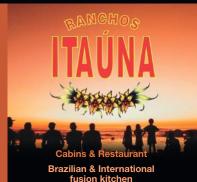
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"Incredible place! If you are in Santa Teresa its a must!"

"I accidentally stumbled upon this beach club and it was such a pleasant surprise! They had two for one cocktails (caipirinhas or gin and soda) 8000 colones and they also had a mini fire show going on.

The seating is comfortable and the vibe is chill, they have a di playing house so it's the perfect ambience for lounging on the beach."



BEACH FRONT | SANTA TERESA



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Discover the modern twist on Costa Rican flavors at Manzú, your beachfront restaurant for an exquisite culinary experience.

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner: 7am - 10 pm Happy Hour: 4:30pm - 6:00pm

Make a reservation and use the code Insider: to enjoy a complimentary free glass of house wine during lunch or dinner.



10: @manzurestaurant



Reserve via WhatsApp



PREFERRED SURF SPOTS

The beaches of Santa Teresa are seen as some of the best surf spots in Costa Rica. There are a variety of world class breaks and the surf is very consistent all year round.

PLAYA HERMOSA

Highly recommended to learn to surf with its sandy shore and perfect white water! Be aware that once in the line up, waves tend to get more tubular and for a higher performance!



This break sits between two reefs and provides waves that are slightly more high performance than the slower waves at Plava Carmen.



SCAN & CHECK!



LA LORA

A favorite among the locals, this beach break is known for their fast and tubular waves. This is a popular spot for surf competitions, and is also a very long beach with lots of peaks.

The lower the tide the bigger the tubes!

IIDECHARI



Santa Teresa Cóbano Playa Carmen Montezuma Mal País Nosara Monteverde





Doctors 24/7 & X-Rays



In case surfing doesn't go well for you, for medical assistance, go to **Lifeguard**. They are located at the intersection of Playa Carmen and also in Santa Teresa North. They will provide you with immediate assistance both on the road and at sea. Also clinical laboratory and medical consultation.



DIVING, SNORKELING & FISHING

Explore the Pacific Ocean and it's wide variety of flora and fauna.

You might see dolphins and around Jul-Aug is whale watching season!

Iguana Divers takes you to discover life under the waves of santa Teresa. Join in for a morning of adventure or

take any PADI course from beginner to professional level. Exciting wildlife, personalized attention and always fun!

Also you can go fishing and immerse yourself in the culture of the local fishermen, while having the opportunity to catch sailfish, marlin, tuna and roosterfish, enjoying an incredible half or full day tour!

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MONTEZUMA

A BOHEMIAN TOWN SITUATED ON THE PACIFIC SIDE OF COSTA RICA, KNOWN FOR SURFING, HATCHING TURTLES AND A PRETTY SPECTACULAR WATERFALL.

Montezuma is a highlight in Costa Rica for many reasons: a place where you could stay for weeks soaking up the sun on the pristine beach and wander the same quiet streets for days without getting bored. Made up of pretty much one street, everything is close to everything else!

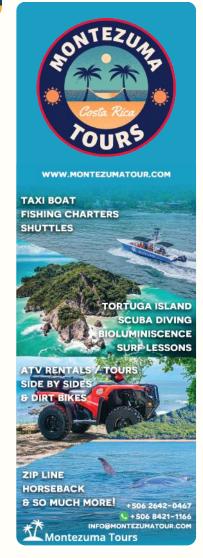


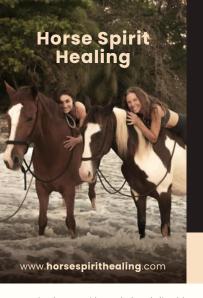
MONTEZUMA FALLS

Every other tourist you meet in Montezuma has either just been to, or is just heading to the waterfall. It is easy to find just check our map! Make sure you wear trainers/sturdy shoes! There are some pretty precarious river crossings, and a few moments where you have to kind of swing yourself over rocks while holding a rope. The waterfall is pretty impressive, and there are several places you can jump in. If you plan on staying a while, pack food and drink. There are no shops once you leave the town and a walk there and back could take up to an hour.

If you are heading south from montezuma, there is a scenic road along the beach to Cabuya and the Cabo Blanco Nature Reserve. Small rivers flow into the sea forming natural pools where you can swim. After 2 km, you reach Playa Las Manchas, a beautiful white sand cove with crystal clear waters that are perfect for diving and swimming.

A little further along comes Playa Los Cedros, one of the best surf spots in Montezuma. A beautiful coastal





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landscape with sandy beach lined by palm trees and almond trees extends to Cabuya. You will see a large concentration of pelicans and seabirds fishing in the sea. A bridge crosses the Lajas River, where you can see egrets, herons and martins. You can walk 3 km upstream to a small waterfall.

Then, on the street, shortly after the Lajas River, you can see an impressive natural monument: the **Higuerón de Cabuya**, a huge matapalo. It is the largest matapalo in Costa Rica.

Of the attractions of Cabuya, the small **Cemetery Island** (Isla de Cabuya) stands out, it's about 100 meters from the coast. In pre-columbian times the island was used as a burial place, and to this day, funerals are held here. You can walk to the island in low tide, check the tides cause once it comes up you won't be able to walk back.



BIOLUMI-NESCENCE

WHAT IS IT REALLY?

Bioluminescence is a light created by living organisms through a chemical reaction, biological light. Some have probably all seen it in some form on land as fireflies or glow worms.

Jellyfish, fish, certain invertebrates and algae (a certain kind of plankton) are the main creatures that can produce bioluminescence. It occurs in many different areas at certain times but it is not steady. The Gulf of Nicoya has it but there is a small area close to the Paquera ferry landing where it is prominent all year! It is the bio bay of Central America

A nighttime kayaking tour in the Gulf of Nicoya is an incredible experience. The ocean lights up with bioluminescence, giving the appearance of millions of shiny stars.

TOURS? WE HIGHLY
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TORTUGA ISLAND

This island is located on the Nicova Peninsula Gulf of Costa Rica. This is a one day & all inclusive activity tour.

The tour starts by taking you on a boat ride along the coast with breathtaking views of the pacific ocean on the right and the beautiful landscape of the Nicova Peninsula on the left, most of the time you'll be able to see dolphins, manta rays, turtles, If you are lucky, you can even enjoy watching humpback & pilot whales, especially from July to October.



Once you get to the island, you'll enjoy snorkel at the rock reef. After this amazing experience, drinks and fruits will be waiting at the white sand beach while lunch is getting ready.

"WHEN YOU WANT SOMETHING, ALL THE UNIVERSE CONSPIRES IN HELPING YOU TO ACHIEVE IT"

PAULO

THANK YOU

We want to thank you for reading this little guide book, hope you like it, we did it with love and desire.

We would also like to thank to our sponsors for their contributions, and for accompanying us for so many years.

Finally, thanks to everyone who was part and worked hard to make this magazine possible. The Insider team

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