



## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR VISIT

The trip you have booked with us includes the transportation from San José to Tortuguero. In order to arrange your departure from the city, we need to know where you will be staying at in San José the day prior to your tour to organize your pick up location.

Note that our tour departs very early between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. (depending on your location) so you must be in the city the day before departing. The definite pick up time will depend on the logistics of the day. We will make sure to reconfirm the time directly to your hotel's front desk the day prior to the tour, but you can always call us to reconfirm.

Our offices are open from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and until noon on Saturdays. After office hours reach us at our mobile phone number +(506) 8854-6155. If, on the other hand, you will meet us at Río Danta Restaurant in Guápiles, you must be there at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast or 8:45 a.m. to leave.

### WHAT TO BRING?

Luggage is limited to 25 lb. (12 kg.) per person, please pack accordingly. Please bring some cash, there are no banks in Tortuguero and services like park Fee and turtle tours must be paid in cash. There is an ATM in town, in case you need more cash. We recommend fast drying/light cotton clothes, bathing suit for swimming pool use, comfortable walking shoes, a pair of flip flops or sandals, flashlight, raincoat, hat or cap and sunblock. If coming during turtle nesting season (July to October) and if you join us on the optional evening tour, you must bring black colored clothing (to avoid reflection on turtles) and closed shoes. At the Lodge, we accept US dollars, colones and Euros.

### MAWAMBA LODGE

Is located in the heartland of the Rainforest where sudden showers can be expected anytime of the year. We recommend you bring a raincoat or poncho and have it readily available during your hike or boat tours. Our souvenir shop also has raincoats for sale. Umbrellas are available for guests' use at the Lodge. If

you would like a hammock to enjoy in the beach area, please request it in reception.

Has a unique and strategic location on a sand bar in between the Tortuguero Canals and the Caribbean Ocean. We are, thus, a beachfront and river front property. Although this is not a swimming beach (due to riptides), it is a wonderful opportunity for beach strolling, resting on a hammock or walking to town. (Also don't forget that turtles hatch between September and early December, so a walk on the beach at that time of the year is a great chance to spot them).

### MOSQUITOES

A frequent question! Remember we are in the rainforest, and that means some mosquitoes, critters and bugs; but, because of our proximity to the ocean, there are less mosquitoes here than in other similar





nearby areas. We recommend wearing insect repellent during your hikes in the forest, during your time at the beach, and in the late afternoons. If you're allergic, please consult your doctor before traveling to Costa Rica. Our souvenir shop usually has repellent for sale in case you don't bring yours.

All of our rooms are non-smoking and it is not permitted to smoke during any of the tours, on the bus nor on the boats. Costa Rican smoking law, forbids smoking in public areas.

## TURTLE NESTING SEASON

### (JULY TO OCTOBER)

Is a special time of the year for all of us. We will happily send you the information on how to enjoy the season responsibly, please consult. Don't forget that two months after the turtles nest, we begin to observe the turtle hatching at the beach. This happens, consequently, between July and early December. If you visit us in September or October, you will have a probability of observing both nesting and hatching.

## FACILITIES

Among the Lodge facilities we offer: complimentary wi-fi service in the public areas of the Lodge (reception, bar and pool & whirlpool area). Complimentary in-room safe, restaurant, auto guided garden trail (map available in reception), optional (extra cost) tour service (kayaking, early morning boat tours, massages, sunset tours, and night hikes). Unlimited visits to Mawamba Park's butterfly, trails and frog gardens (guided visit included in 2 night tour). Limited numbers of hair dryers and appliance adapters available in reception for guest use.

Mawamba Lodge strives to offer a nature-oriented vacation where visitors will truly enjoy the magic of the rainforest. Because of this, our rooms don't offer TV nor telephone. To maintain the balances in this fragile eco-touristic region, our rooms don't offer A/C but ceiling fans, and the room windows are not glass by nets to allow airflow and avoid mosquitoes and bugs. In our pursuit to make the less negative impact in the

ecosystem through our operation, we have developed an sustainable program that includes waste sorting and treatment, electric and water plans as well as an extended community service plans (It is important to note that approximately 90% of the local community works in the touristic industry), among other actions.

## INTERESTING FACTS

### WEATHER

Tropical Rainforest weather, warm and humid with frequent showers. The Caribbean Coast weather is different from what you will find on the Pacific side. In the Caribbean, the driest months are April, May, September and October.

### PUBLIC SERVICES

Tortuguero is a small village that can be easily reached walking by the beach trail from Mawamba Lodge (Mawamba Lodge is the closest Lodge to town and you don't depend on a boat to get there). There are limited public services available in the area, but you will find convenience stores and souvenir shops. There is no Bank service in town, but there is an ATM machine available. Please bring some cash to pay services like National Park fee and turtle optional tour.

### NATIONAL PARK ENTRANCE FEE

Every visitor must pay the Park's admission fee of \$ 15 USD per adult and \$ 5.00 USD per child aged 6 to 12. Children 5 or younger do not pay park fee. The pass is good for a day; those staying 3 or more nights will have to pay a new ticket for each day.

### WILDLIFE

There is much more to Tortuguero than the turtles that visit from July to September. Tortuguero is an evergreen and lush year round destination, a tropical sanctuary for more than 300 different species of birds



(including toucans and macaws) and natural habitat for an amazing array of wildlife, including 3 out of the 4 species of monkeys in Costa Rica, crocodiles, caimans, basilisks and iguanas, among many others.

Tortuguero is one of the most important nesting sites for sea turtles on the Western Hemisphere. Out of the 7 World sea turtle species, 4 nest in Tortuguero.

Leatherbacks, Hawksbill, Loggerhead and Green Turtle have chosen Tortuguero as their nesting grounds. The first 3 species are in high danger of extinction and because it is so hard to spot them, we don't offer guides tours to observe them. Green Sea Turtles, are also in danger of extinction, but still come in larger numbers to our coast, allowing visitors to participate in the Green Sea Turtle tour (in season).



**TROGÓN LODGE**  
SAN GERARDO DE DOTA

**CAFÉ KAHAWA**  
SAN GERARDO DE DOTA

**KIWANDA MAJI**  
RINCÓN DE LA VIEJA

**CASA 41**  
ESCAZÚ

**RÍO DANTA REST.**  
GUÁPILES