



## USEFUL LINKS

### 1. Publications to assist foreign investors and business people:

[Setting up a business in Costa Rica](#)  
[Investor's Manual](#)  
[Free Trade Zone Regime in Costa Rica](#)  
[Exports, Imports and Services Directory](#)  
[Taxation](#)  
[Labor Regulations](#)  
[Immigration Procedures for Companies](#)  
[Tariff rates](#) (in Spanish)

### 2. Costa Rican Government institutions:

[Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica](#)  
[Ministry of Foreign Trade](#) (Spanish only)  
[Ministry of Economy, Industry, and Commerce](#) (Spanish only)  
[Ministry of Finance](#) (Spanish only)  
[Ministry of Agriculture](#) (Spanish only)  
[Central Bank](#) (Spanish only)  
[Financial System Regulator \(SUGEF\)](#) (Spanish only)  
[Ministry of Environment, Energy and Telecommunications \(MINAET\)](#) (Spanish only)  
[Ministry of Education](#) (Spanish only)  
[Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy](#) (Spanish only)  
[Ministry of Science and Technology](#) (Spanish only)  
[Office of Immigration](#)  
[Official site of the President of Costa Rica](#) (Spanish only)  
[Costa Rican Statistics and Census Bureau](#) (Spanish only)  
[National Registry](#) (Spanish only)  
[Government procurement](#) (Spanish only)

### 3. Costa Rican Chambers and Private Sector Associations

[Chamber of Industry](#) (Spanish only)  
[Chamber of the Food Industry](#) (Spanish only)  
[Chamber of Information Technology and Communications](#)  
[Costa Rican Textile Chamber](#)



[Chamber of Commerce](#) (Spanish only)

[American Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Costa Rican Union of Private Sector Enterprises](#) (Spanish only)

[Chamber of Foreign Trade and Representatives of Foreign Firms](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Coffee Institute \(ICAFFE\)](#)

[National Banana Corporation \(CORBANA\)](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Sugar Association \(LAICA\)](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Chamber of Realtors](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Chamber of Construction](#) (Spanish only)

#### **4. Highly regarded universities:**

[College of Agriculture of the Humid Tropical Region \(EARTH\)](#)

[Tropical Agriculture Research & Training Center \(CATIE\)](#)

[Biodiversity Institute](#)

[University for Peace \(Sponsored by the United Nations\)](#)

#### **5. Medical Tourism,**

<http://www.medicaltourismofcostarica.com/>

<http://costaricamd.org/>

#### **6. Architecture and Landscape Guide:**

[Architectural & Landscape Guide](#)

[http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/obraspublicasyvivienda/estaticas/sites/consejeria/areas/arquitectura/fomento/guias\\_arquitectura/adjuntos\\_ga/Costa\\_Rica\\_Mapa.pdf](http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/obraspublicasyvivienda/estaticas/sites/consejeria/areas/arquitectura/fomento/guias_arquitectura/adjuntos_ga/Costa_Rica_Mapa.pdf)

#### **7. COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS**

[Visit the website of the Costa Rican Government-Gobierno Facil](#)

#### **8. Costa Rican public entities.**

[Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Judicial Power](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Electoral Tribunal \(TSE\)](#) (Spanish only)

[Office of the President](#) (Spanish only)

[Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) (Spanish only)

[Ministry of Justice and Peace](#) (Spanish only)



[Public Registry](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Public Security](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Foreign Trade](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Economy, Industry, and Commerce](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Finance](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Customs Authority](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Environment, Energy and Telecommunications \(MINAET\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[National System of Areas of Conservation](#) *(Spanish only)*

[National Environmental Technical Secretariat \(SETENA\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[National Commission for Biodiversity Management \(CONAGEBIO\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[National Trust of Forestry Financing \(FONAFIFO\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Phytosanitary Service](#) *(Spanish only)*

[National Service of Animal Health \(SENASA\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Health](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Public Education](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Science and Technology](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Transport and Public Works](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Labor and Social Security](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Culture and Youth](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Housing](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Social Welfare and Family](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Ministry of Decentralization and Local Development](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Department of Migration and Foreigners](#)

[National Children's Trust \(PANI\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[National Institute of Women](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Costa Rican Comptroller](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Costa Rican Office of the Attorney General](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Office of the Ombudsman](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Link to complete list of Autonomous Government Institutions](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Link to complete list of Semi-autonomous Government Institutions](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Link to complete list of State Enterprises](#) *(Spanish only)*



## 9. PUBLIC UTILITIES

### [Public Services Regulatory Authority \(ARESEP\)](#)

Regulates water services; electric power and fuel distribution; telecommunications; public transport (buses, taxis, trains and coasting), maritime services, air and postal services.

## 10. Water

[Water and Sewage \(AyA\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[National Service of Groundwater irrigation and drainage](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Water Department of the Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Telecommunications](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Costa Rican Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture \(INCOPESCA\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

## 11. Electricity and Energy

[Energy Sectorial Unit of the Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Telecommunications](#) *(Spanish only)*

[National Power and Light Company](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Costa Rican Institute of Electricity \(ICE\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Costa Rican Petroleum Refinery \(RECOPE\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

## 12. Telecommunications

[Telecommunications Regulator \(SUTEL\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Vice Ministry of Telecommunications](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Costa Rican Electricity and Telecommunications Institute \(ICE\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Radiográfica Costarricense S.A. \(RACSA\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

## 13. Transport

[Ministry of Transport and Public Works](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Costa Rican Institute of Railways \(INCOFER\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Costa Rican Institute of Pacific Ports \(INCOP\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Atlantic Port Authority \(JAPDEVA\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

## 14. EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

[Universidad de Costa Rica](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Universidad Estatal a Distancia](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Universidad Nacional](#) *(Spanish only)*

[Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica](#) *(Spanish only)*

[National Council for Scientific and Technological Research \(CONICIT\)](#) *(Spanish only)*

[College of Agriculture of the Humid Tropical Region \(EARTH\)](#)

[Tropical Agricultural Research and Training Center \(CATIE\)](#)

[Biodiversity Institute \(INBio\)](#)



[University for Peace](#) (sponsored by the United Nations)

[List of universities voluntarily accredited before the National Council of Accreditation of Higher Education \(SINAES\)](#) (Spanish only)

[INCAE Business School](#)

## 15. TOURISM

[Costa Rican Tourism Board \(ICT\)](#)

[National Chamber of Tourism \(CANATUR\)](#)

## 16. HEALTH

[Ministry of Health](#) (Spanish only)

[Health institutions](#) (Spanish only)

[Caja Costarricense del Seguro Social](#) (Public health insurance system) (Spanish only)

[Council for the International Promotion of Costa Rican Medicine \(PROMED\)](#)

## 17. BANKING SECTOR

[Central Bank of Costa Rica](#) (Spanish only)

[Financial System Regulator \(SUGEF\)](#) (Spanish only)

[Pensions Regulator](#) (Spanish Only)

[Securities Regulator](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Banking Association](#) (Spanish only)

[Chamber of Banks and Financial Institutions of Costa Rica](#) (Spanish only)

[Banco Crédito Agrícola de Cartago](#) (Spanish only)

[Banco de Costa Rica](#)

[Banco Nacional de Costa Rica](#) (Spanish only)

## 18. INSURANCE SECTOR

[Insurance Regulator \(SUGESE\)](#) (Spanish only)

[National Institute of Insurance \(INS\)](#) (Spanish only)

## 19. BUSINESS

[Costa Rican Foreign Trade Corporation \(PROCOMER\)](#)

[Costa Rican Investment Promotion Agency \(CINDE\)](#)

[U.S. Commercial Service in Costa Rica](#)

[Chamber of Industry of Costa Rica](#) (Spanish only)

[Chamber of the Food Industry](#) (Spanish only)



[Chamber of Information Technology and Communications](#)

[Costa Rican Textile Chamber](#)

[Chamber of Commerce of Costa Rica](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican-American Chamber of Commerce \(AMCHAM\)](#)

[Costa Rican Union of Private Sector Enterprises](#) (Spanish only)

[Chamber of Foreign Trade and Representatives of Foreign Firms](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Coffee Institute \(ICAFFE\)](#)

[National Banana Corporation \(CORBANA\)](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Sugar Association \(LAICA\)](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Chamber of Realtors](#) (Spanish only)

[Costa Rican Chamber of Construction](#) (Spanish only)

## 20. INQUIRIES

[National Registry](#) (Spanish only)

[Civil Registry](#) (Spanish only)

[Legal files](#) (Spanish only)

[Directory of Exporters, Importers and Services](#)

[Inquiries related to Costa Rican tariffs and duties](#) (Spanish only)

[Inquiries related to Costa Rican duties on cars and other vehicles](#) (Spanish only)

[Government procurement](#) (Spanish only)

[Agriculture Sector Information System](#) (Spanish only)

## 21. NEWSPAPERS

[La Nación](#) (Spanish only)

[La Prensa Libre](#) (Spanish only)

[La República](#) (Spanish only)

[Diario Extra](#) (Spanish only)

[Al Día](#) (Spanish only)

[El Financiero](#) (Spanish only)

[Tico Times](#)

## 22. OTHER

[CRUSA Foundation for cooperation](#)

[Association of Residents of Costa Rica](#)