

# *La Carrera*

## *Costa Rica*



# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

Luxury touring rally in the natural paradise of Costa Rica.  
Classic cars on site - to choose from.

10/11 days.

1,468 km in a classic car, optional additional 400 km by plane and 32 km by boat.

More beach. More rainforest. More adventure.

With river crossings - if desired.

Our guarantee: 100% south of boredom.



Waterfall Rio Celeste



# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Short & to the point

- > This is not a sports rally - zero competition
- > 10 days, easily extendable to 11 or 12 days
- > Classic vehicles from us - in rally trim, of course, but comfortable
- > Maximum safety: Costa Rica is a very safe travel destination
- > Classic support vehicle with personal rally guide - always with you 24/7
- > Relaxed schedules and comfortable speeds
- > Sufficient time to visit the country and its sights
- > Plenty of time for socializing with old and new friends
- > We use the best hotels and lodges that Costa Rica has to offer
- > You don't need any special equipment, map work or licenses
- > No night rides
- > No visa requirement or proof of vaccination (valid for almost all countries)
- > No river crossings (...only sometimes, for those who like...)
- > Small groups for a relaxed, friendly atmosphere
- > Your vehicle can stay at home. So no transportation costs and/or problems

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

How about a touring rally where you can leave your classic car at home and simply choose one of our classic cars?

Rallying made easy.  
Choose a classic, arrive & drive.

A luxurious rally tour in the natural paradise of Costa Rica? By classic car, plane and boat.

A handful of tropical countries bordered by the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean - and perfect for a classic car rally - with unique natural experiences, past foreign cultures, a long colonial history and an incredible diversity of flora and fauna - that's Central America.

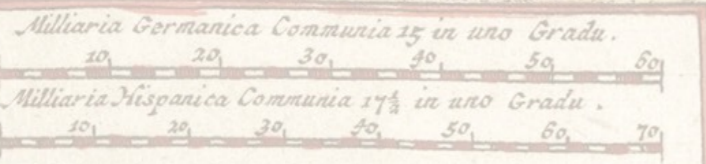
Experience steaming volcanoes, cloud and rainforests, bubbling volcanoes, hot springs, high plateaus, rugged coastlines, picture-book beaches & thundering waterfalls... ..and all this garnished with over 8% of all species on earth!

Welcome to Costa Rica!

What could be more valuable than enjoying unforgettable moments, pure relaxation, adventure and nature - in a totally relaxed, luxurious atmosphere?



Kapok tree (Ceiba) on the Osa Peninsula



# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Pura Vida! - Pure life!

Equis Oldtimer Rallye-Reisen works exclusively with the best hotels and lodges in Central America.

We have put together a fantastic route, a lot of experience and last but not least: Excellent classic rally oldtimers and youngtimers that you will love.

So: choose your classic, arrive and drive.

You can leave your vehicle in its garage. But of course - if you still want to bring your classic car - you're welcome.

Throughout the Touring Rally, you will be accompanied by your personal rally leader in a service vehicle. The main focus is clearly on luxury with relaxed schedules, comfortable speeds, plenty of time for sightseeing and socializing with old and new friends. And all this in the best hotels and lodges that Costa Rica has to offer.

You don't need any special equipment. No tricky map work, no night driving, no competition licenses, helmets or special suits.

Due to the climatic conditions in Central America, the Costa Rica Rally can be driven perfectly from December to September.

As a touring rally vacation, it differs fundamentally from 'normal' rallies and is usually limited to 4 vehicles (plus service vehicle).



Small harbor town on the Pacific, Puntarenas

By the way, this minimum group size allows us to offer the rally trip on various dates between December and September. So you can choose a date that fits perfectly into your schedule.

### A frank word about our accommodation:

We always work with the best hotels and lodges in each destination area.

And we don't just pay attention to stars when making our selection, but also to size, location, character, style, charm, ambience, service and, of course, the quality of the cuisine.

Our preference is clearly for small, fine boutique hotels and lodges. The hotel links listed below are clickable so that you can see our accommodation for yourself.





# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## La Carrera. And it's flexible!

La Carrera Costa Rica is divided into three/four parts:

- o **3 days Equis:** Arrival, rest day and flight rally (Póas and Arenal volcanoes, Lake Arenal, Monteverde, Gulf of Nicoya, Islas San Lucas and Tortuga, Puntarenas and back), Northern Cordillera, Zapote farmers market, Sanatorio Durán, Irazú volcano, Lake Cachi, Orosi
- o **5 days south, Osa Kunken Lodge:** Sirpe, 'Jungle Ferry', Drake Bay, Golfo Dulce, boat trip / dolphin tour Islas Mogos, Golfito, San Vito, Rio Grande, Uvita, Parrita, Rio Candelaria
- o **2 days Equis:** Choose from: Waterfall Gardens, La Marta or coastal tour Puntarenas and Santiago, BBQ in the evening
- o **Extension day/s Equis optional**

As you can see, we **only move twice**. So you can travel light. There is almost no need for lengthy check-in and check-out or luggage storage.

And if you don't want to travel one day... no problem, we'll be back. **Maximum flexibility.**

Our personal hideaway Equis I with a view over the entire central valley and the lively capital San José is the perfect starting point for La Carrera Costa Rica.

View here: [Equis I - For your eyes only](#)

**Incidentally, the following distances and driving times are purely approximate at a comfortable touring speed and do not include time for stops at places of interest, refueling stops and meals.**



Jungle ferry in Sierpe



**FLIGHT ROUTE  
OPTION  
AIRE & AGUA**

**LA CARRERA  
COSTA RICA**

**BOAT ROUTE  
OPTION  
AIRE & AGUA**



# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Day 1 - Friday

Juan Santamaría Airport (SJO) - San José - Equis I (30 minutes)

Individual arrival at Equis I, our small private hideaway and rally base, approx. 30 minutes' drive from Juan Santamaria International Airport.

Check-in is possible from 6 am [sic!] by prior arrangement.

After moving into your apartment, relax by the pool with a view over the high valley, San José and the volcanoes of the North Cordillera and get to know your fellow rally participants over a cocktail.

Address: Equis I, Calle Lajas, Calle Nuñez, última casa, Aserri.  
Telephones: 8872-1111 and 8873-1111.



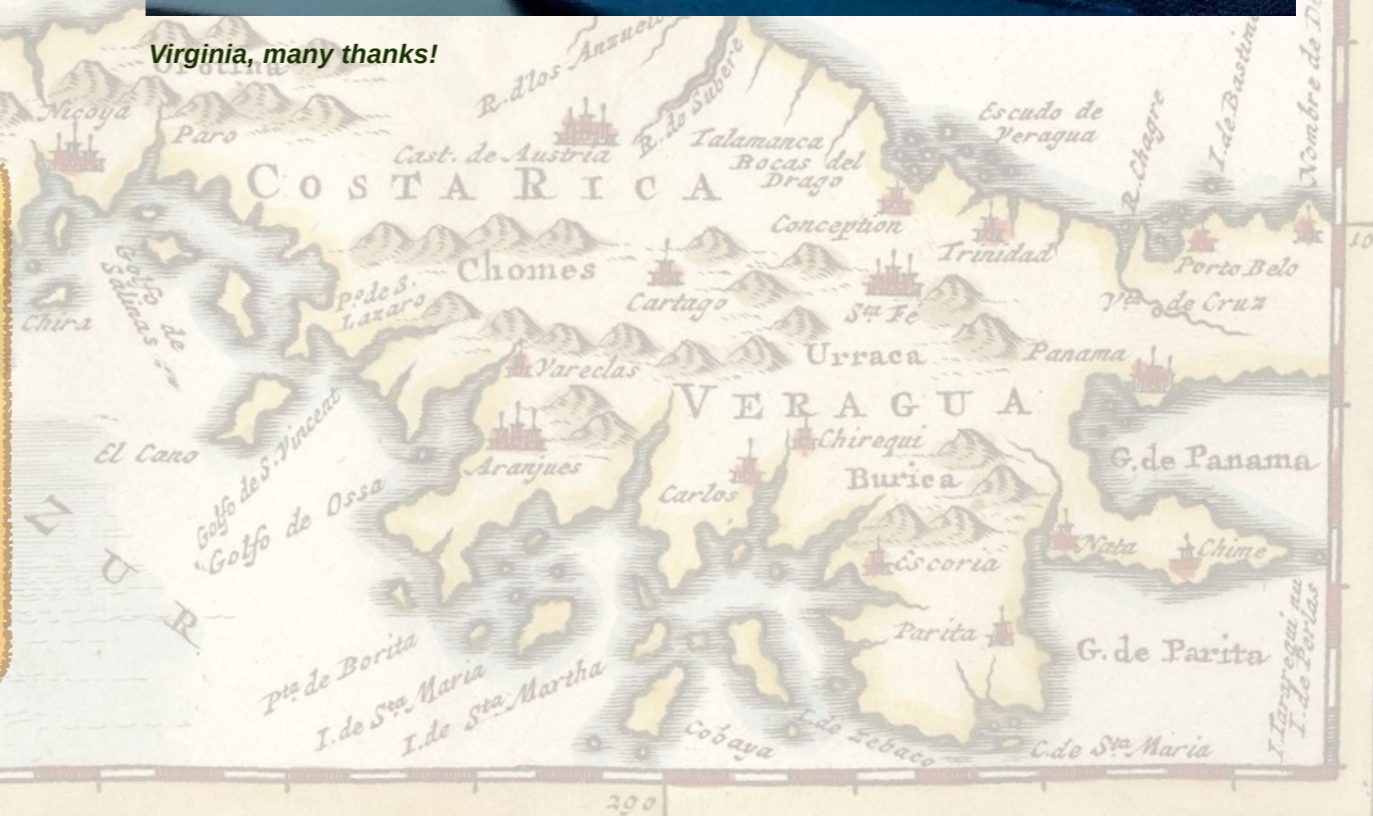
Navigation to us:

Zoom into the QR code and have the cab driver scan it.

Alternatively, search for "Equis Heliopuerto" or "Equis Helipad" in Waze. The taxi drivers in Costa Rica all use Waze, Google Maps is relatively inaccurate in Central and South America.



Virginia, many thanks!





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If the weather cooperates, one can dine well between the rainforest and the beach. Kunken Lodge, Osa.

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## The evening options

- A) Dinner at Equis I - (included in the rally journey price and our recommendation) or
- B) Nice restaurants in the surrounding area:
- I) **Ram Luna**, 10 min., international, traditional, with panoramic views over the entire high valley: [See details](#)
  - II) **Grano de Oro**, 20min., international, Colonial-style hotel in the heart of San José: [See details](#)
  - III) **Park Café**, 30min., fantastic, water is more expensive here than wine: [See details](#)
  - IV) **Hacienda Salitrillos**, 5min., typical Costa Rican cuisine, pleasant ambience with classic cars: [See details](#)
  - V) **Antologías**, 5min., very nice open-air bar and restaurant with great vintage cars: [See details](#)
  - VI) **El Dorado**, 25min., absolutely authentic, fantastic cuisine from China by prior arrangement: [See details](#)

Please ask us about the restaurants, we will be happy to pass on our experience to you.



No night rides. Exceptions confirm the rule.

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Day 2 - Saturday

Relaxation day to combat jet lag

Several options, which can also be combined.

Relax by the pool, explore San José and/or take a short trip to the old airport and then continue with a big round trip in a private plane.

Today you have several options for spending the day and recovering from jet lag.

For example, you can take a **pool day at Equis I, relax and enjoy the view of the Central Valley.**

Or you can take a trip to the **surrounding area.**

The many **sights, museums and theaters** make **San José** the ideal destination for culture lovers. Marvel at the gold treasures of the Diquís culture in the **Museo del Oro Precolombino** or the world's largest collection of Central American jade in the **Museo de Jade.**

Architecture enthusiasts will be delighted by the numerous well-preserved Spanish colonial-style buildings. A good example is the **Teatro Nacional** de Costa Rica, which impresses not only with its imposing façade but also with its magnificent interior.

Or **combine a pool day with an exploration of San José** - the possibilities are endless.



The uncomplicated way of changing vehicles.

For the more adventurous, we have prepared the **air & water option, 'Aire & Agua'**.

After breakfast - around 8:00 a.m. - we set off on a short drive to **San José's old airport "Tobias Bolaños"**. There we change to a **plane chartered just for us. For a round trip** that would otherwise take us four days with our classic cars.

**'Aire & Agua'** covers the following regions of Costa Rica:

- Barva, Póas and Arenal volcanoes
- Lake Arenal
- Monteverde
- Gulf of Nicoya
- Isla San Lucas prison island
- Isla de Cedros and Isla Alcatraz
- Isla Tortuga - the dream island
- Puntarenas or Tarcoles
- Santiago

We return to Equis I shortly before midday with enough time for the pool, snacks, lunch and cocktails.

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

Our pilot loops around some of the sights - such as the Póas volcano - and flies very close.

With this active, smoking and steaming volcano, you actually have the impression of 'being there'. A spectacle that you don't get if you just stand on the edge of the crater.

Small airplanes with experienced pilots have their advantages!

In good weather, we have fantastic views of the Central Cordillera and the Caribbean lowlands.

[Details Volcano Poás](#)



Póas volcano: main crater and crater lake.

## Allow us a frank word:

Even though you can read in every travel guide that the areas around the Arenal Volcano with Lake Arenal and Monteverde are beautiful, we have excluded them from our rally and offer the 'Aire & Agua' option instead.

We would like to briefly explain the 'why':

The areas are great, no question about it. But since 2020, La Fortuna (main town Arenal) and Santa Elena (Monteverde) have been completely overrun.

The former charm has been lost. Even the few top hotels are noisy, annoying and surprise guests every year with poor service...

And hotel ratings are faked there. On a grand scale. Many of the oh-so-great 'top hotels' then turn out to be complete rivets when visited on site.

No problem? If you like Ballermann and Benidorm (Spain), you're definitely in good hands there.

But we don't do that to our customers or ourselves!

## Consequence:

We are happy to show you the beautiful sights and areas, up close and personal from our plane.

And we leave the hotels with mediocre service and the two overcrowded places under us.



Those who ride along must glue themselves.

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# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Day 3 - Sunday

**San José - Cartago - Irazú Volcano - Durán Sanatorium - Lake of Cachi - Ruins of Ujarras - Orosi**  
146 km / 3:15 hours

If not already done the day before, we start with the introduction and takeover of your classic. Then it's off we go!

We leave the Equis I **very early** in the morning and head out for breakfast. Traditionally at the **largest farmers' market** in San José.

Here you can enjoy what is definitely the best "Gallo Pinto" in Costa Rica. You will discover unknown fruits, vegetables and plants at the market. A treat for lovers of good food.

Afterwards we start a **tour through San José**. In our vehicles, of course. Without much traffic, by the way - thanks to Sunday and our early start.

We see the old **steam locomotives of the 'Pacífico'**, churches and cathedrals, the Central Park, the National Theater, the 'Barrio Chino' (China Town), the National and Art Museum and the old "Mercado Central". We continue on the **Paseo Colón** and circle the **Parque Sabana** with the **Costa Rican National Stadium**.

We then drive through the **old capital Cartago** into the mountains of the Northern Cordillera.



Volcano Irazú, at 3,430m above sea level.

We ascend to around 3,400m (11,200 ft.) and visit **Irazú (National Park)**, the **highest volcano in Costa Rica**.

Short hike through the lunar landscape of the primeval crater to the viewpoint. We look at various craters and the green crater lake. The view from up here is absolutely spectacular, on a clear day you can see the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean at the same time.

**Small champagne brunch** to emphasize the view.

Important: It's sometimes very cold up here, so don't forget a warm sweater or sweatshirt.

And a good pair of sunglasses.

After visiting Irazú, we drive down into the **mountains of Tierra Blanca** to the **old Durán Sanatorium**, a mysterious clinic complex from 1918, founded by Doctor Carlos Durán.

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

Thousands of ghost hunters have already seen it haunted here - maybe we'll see a ghost or two too...

[Report on the sanatorium](#)

Curious: A good friend of ours, professional photographer and highly intelligent, swears that he took a photo of his son at the Durán Sanatorium. And instead has a bright cloud on the otherwise perfect photo...

Never mind. After the scare, we continue through small villages - preferably with a ghost, of course - and reach the **Ruins of Ujarrás**.

A brief visit to the old church ruins dating back to 1575 and then we continue with a tour around the **Lake of Cachí**.

The idyllic valley around Lake Cachí is known as the '**Green Valley**' and was settled by Spanish colonists as early as 1490. Apart from Orosí, there is hardly any international tourism here. So it is still an insider tip.

The **best salmon trout** in Costa Rica is served in **Cachí**. If you like, you can catch a fish in a pond next to a restaurant. It is then prepared by the waiter and cooked to order.

A delicious affair in idyllic surroundings.

With a full stomach, we then visit the **oldest colonial church in Costa Rica** in **Orosí**, with an adjoining museum and small monastery. It dates back to 1743 and is still in use. Absolutely worth seeing.



Arenal volcano - but it gets even closer.

In the afternoon we return to our base, the Equis, and can end the day by the pool or in the main house.

**A small dinner in the evening. As always.**

**And discussions about thumbs. As always.**

**We always count. The ,likes'.**

All of Central America loves classic cars. And shows it! Thumbs up, shouting, honking, taking photos. All that scores a point. For civilians.

Double points for thumbs-up or photos of police officers. Don't believe it? Then take a look at the photos on our website.

Incidentally, the record number is **15 ,likes' per day**.





The mountains of Monteverde. The Gulf of Nicoya in the background.

Vygeroerd te LEYDEN door PIETER VANDER AA met Privilegie .

2 de Cortes Vervolg



280 Cloud forest near San Vito, southern Costa Rica.

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# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Day 4 - Monday

Los Santos – Cerro de la Muerte - San Isidro - Uvita - Golfo Dulce - Kunken Lodge  
275 km / 5:00 hours

After breakfast at Equis, we head to the Pacific on the Osa Peninsula. Just under 300 km - but beautiful and quite easy to drive, especially the coastal road to the south. We can easily adapt this route, which we discuss in advance.

We set off on an unforgettable road with fantastic panoramas towards the saints, the **'Los Santos'**, as the area at the foot of the Cerro is known. **San Marcos, San Gabriel, San Pablo, San Andrés**, these are the names of the small villages - and the saints.

Wonderful views, past huge coffee fincas. **Tarrazú, the world-famous coffee**, is grown here and if you like, you can stock up on this great coffee in a small store.

Now it's time for the mountain.

Many years ago, the next stage would have been terrifying. We pass the **'Cerro de la Muerte'**, the **'Mountain of Death'**.

Centuries ago, mountain hikers regularly froze to death near the summit - they simply weren't prepared for the temperatures prevailing at over 3,000 meters.



San Vito, southern Costa Rica

So: it gets fresh up here for about 30 minutes. **Don't forget a sweater or light jacket.**

We pass through no less than six different climate zones, right up to the Páramo. This is found at an altitude of around 2,500m.

The **Cerro de la Muerte** itself is 3,491m high, but we "only" climb up to 3,345m. And if the weather cooperates, spectacular views are guaranteed.

At the top of the Cerro, we pass the **Los Quetzales National Park**, where you can observe the birds of the gods in the cloud forest of the Cerro.

We don't do this, however, but stop at the old coffee mill **'Trapiche de Nayo'** for a small snack.

Fantastic views in a very traditional setting.

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

After our snack, we continue our descent towards **San Isidro**, where we can see the foothills of the **Cordillera de Talamanca**. In good weather, we can also see **Cerro Chirripó**, the highest mountain in Costa Rica at 3,820 meters. It is also the highest point between Guatemala and the South American Andes.

In San Isidro, the route continues west **towards the Pacific**. Over the next 30 kilometers to the coast, nature changes in spectacular fashion. From temperate to tropical.

Once we reach the coast, we continue for an hour along the picturesque **Pacific coast via Uvita to Chacarita**. The Pacific is always on our right.

We then turn right off the **Panamericana onto the Osa Peninsula**.

The Península de Osa is home to a unique natural environment with the largest contiguous lowland rainforest in the world. Many rare tree species, over 120 reptile species, over 380 bird species and more than 160 different mammal species can be found here. A biodiversity that is second to none, a natural spectacle of the first order - and a paradise for every nature lover.

The **Corcovado National Park** on Osa was declared a biosphere reserve by the UN, precisely because of its enormous biodiversity. Jaguars, pumas, tapirs, monkeys - anything can cross the road here.

We arrive in the early afternoon. At the **Golfo Dulce**, the Sweet Gulf.



Bahia Equis II, Golfo Dulce.

Welcome to the **Kunken Lodge**, located directly on the beach: [www.kunkenboutiquehotel.com](http://www.kunkenboutiquehotel.com)

A lodge that is even more beautiful in reality than in the photos on the internet. Incidentally, this is the lodge that we used for the Mercedes Benz Classic Magazine report.

'Pure tropics' with a dream view of the glistening Golfo Dulce.

The first part of the rally trip is complete, and now we usually talk about cars and Costa Rica. Over a hot or cold drink. Or two.

## Our opinion of the Kunken Lodge:

The lodge is not a boutique hotel in the conventional sense, but rather a - very luxurious - property in the lowland rainforest.

Relaxed atmosphere, absolute tranquillity, magnificent nature and located directly on the Golfo Dulce.

You don't need an alarm clock here in the morning. You will (usually) be woken up by howler monkeys or toucans.



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Primary forest with overstory, Osa Peninsula, southern Costa Rica. In the background the Golfo Dulce.

*Vytgeroerd te LEYDEN door PIETER VANDER AA met Privilegie .*

*2<sup>de</sup> Cortes Vervolg*

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

Day 5 - Tuesday

Drake Bay - Halbinsel Osa – Sirpe - Golfo Dulce  
86 km / 3:30 hours

Only 86 km today?

The author of these lines knows what you're thinking. But we need time for these few kilometers. Time to enjoy. Time to take photos. Time for a fantastic track in the **largest lowland rainforest on earth**.

Let's start by leaving our lodge quite early. So we set off at around 8:00 am. On a fairly good jungle road to **Drake Bay**, the bay where **Sir Francis Drake** had his 'Golden Hind' overhauled in March 1579.

We drive around the bay once, possibly with a coffee, and then reach the **Rio Drake**. We have to pass the little river - without a bridge.

Depending on the time of travel and the time of day (sic!), even in our SL and 911 this is no problem. If the water is too high, there are still two alternatives.

So no, **no worries!**

Nobody needs to drive through rivers! We also offer a comfortable alternative.

But for those who want to, you're welcome.

Into the water!



Equis I, Pool & Rancho



Construction work on the Panamericana - and applied pragmatism.

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

The region around the Golfo Dulce consists of mountain, cloud and palm forests, but there are also alluvial plains, swamp forests and mangrove swamps.

The **Península de Osa** is still very pristine. There are only a few roads so far and we can say goodbye to them for the next 50 kilometers.

The **Drake Bay-Sirpe-Jungle-Track**. Not marked on any Google map and beautiful.

Adventure is guaranteed. Fascination too. And sometimes we might even come across an old gold prospector. No joke, gold is still panned informally in the streams here.

On the first 30 kilometers in the jungle, we cross a few more streams, will probably see some shy animals and take a break at **Doña Zenzi's place**.

Doña Zenzi runs a small... ..'restaurant' in a jungle clearing - in the middle of squawking macaws and screeching toucans.

There is homemade bread and cake, coffee and a few cold drinks.

**We guarantee you:** A cold beer has never tasted so good!

And the author of these lines is willing to bet a crate of Dom Pérignon that we won't come across a policeman in this place...



One of the five waterfalls in La Paz Park.

We continue on our **jungle track towards Sirpe**.

Mind you: towards Sirpe - not to Sirpe. We are still reserving the ferry adventure for ourselves.

We turn off before Rio Sirpe. Onto **another jungle track** in the direction of the lodge.

Can just under 20 kilometers mean over an hour's drive? Yes, this track is already very well developed and we are rewarded with fantastic **panoramic views**, far beyond the rainforest and the Pacific Ocean.

We arrive back at the **Kunken Lodge** in the early afternoon. With an excursion you will never forget.

And one that will spark evening-long conversations. Just like now.

**Guaranteed.**

Milliaria Hispanica Communia 17 $\frac{1}{2}$  in uno Gradu .

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280 Playing in the rainforest, Osa Peninsula, southern Costa Rica.

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Vygeroerd te LEYDEN door PIETER VANDER AA met Privilegie .

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2 de Cortes Vervolg



# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Day 6 - Wednesday

Golfo Dulce – La Gamba - Piedras Blancas National Park -  
Golfito – San Vito – Rio Grande  
265 km / 4:45 hours

Today we have an exceptionally beautiful and easy route ahead of us.

We drive north around the **Golfo Dulce** - magnificent views - then a short stretch on the **Panamericana**, touch two national parks and reserves, drive through the **Piedras Blancas National Park** on a jungle track - and then enter the **Bay of Golfito**.

In the coastal town of **Golfito**, we continue north, back onto the Panamericana until just before the border with Panama. Before the border, we turn left into the mountains towards **San Vito**. A route with magnificent views.

If the weather is suitable, we can also take an alternative adventure route to San Vito. Almost untrodden and incredibly beautiful.

However, there is a rather unusual 'bridge'... but we will discuss this in advance at the Kunken Lodge.

The area around San Vito boasts beautiful **cloud forests** and the views sweep across the entire lowlands as far as the Pacific and Panama.



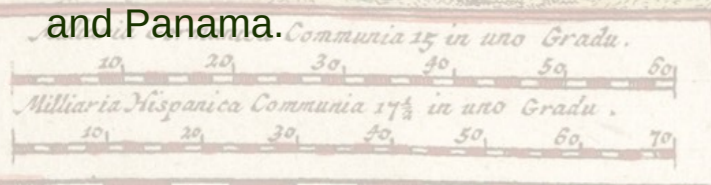
Osa, on the way to the Golfo Dulce.

Anyone who claims that the cloud forests in Monteverde are the most fascinating in Costa Rica is very much mistaken! And has never seen the **cloud forests southwest of San Vito**... ..pristine and without tourists.

After San Vito, we drive an incredibly beautiful route through the **Cordillera de Talamanca** and once again see the 3,820m high **Cerro Chirripó**, the highest mountain in Costa Rica, looming before us.

We follow the superlatives and cross the longest river in Costa Rica, the **Rio Grande**. We continue along its valley to Palmar and from there back to **Kunken Lodge**.

The route? Easy to drive and fantastically beautiful. Period.





# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Day 7 - Thursday

Day at leisure:

**Kunken Lodge, rainforest, beach or boat tour on the Golfo**

On this day you have a wealth of options for your leisure activities:

- Relax by the pool, in the lodge or on the private beach \*\*\*
- Explore the rainforest on the lodge's tracks \*\*\*
- Kayaks, snorkeling equipment and paddle-surfs are available to you free of charge \*\*\*
- Deep-sea fishing - on the Golfo or in the Pacific
- Jet ski tour, possibly combined with snorkeling

When booked the **Aire & Agua option**:

-> **Boat tour on the Golfo Dulce.** Destination: the Mogos Islands. You have a 90% chance of seeing dolphins, and with some luck humpback whales, flying fish, rays and sea turtles.

Wine, water and fruit will accompany us.

We could also make a short detour to the old gold mining town of **Puerto Jiménez**, where you can usually spot monkeys, toucans and macaws, which sometimes like to 'hide' right above our guests.



Beach at Kunken Lodge, Golfo Dulce

### Our recommendation:

The possibilities on this day are really varied.

The activities marked with three asterisks \*\*\* are:

- a) free of charge and
- b) really recommended.

Incidentally, we can **interchange all the activities** that depart from Kunken Lodge. This means that we can adapt them perfectly to the weather and your wishes.

Your ideas are best discussed and realized directly on site at the Kunken Lodge.



28 If one likes, one can cross some rivers on Osa

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280 | One of our service vehicles. Mountains around San Vito, southern Costa Rica. | 285

Vuygeroerd te LEYDEN door PIETER VANDER AA met Privilegie .

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Day 8 - Friday

Osa - Uvita - Dominical - Parrita - Rio Candelaria - San Ignacio - Equis I  
234 km / 4:20 hours

We're sure you remember: We saved the **Jungle Ferry ride**. For today.

After breakfast we leave the **Golfo Dulce** on the **jungle track to Sirpe**. After about an hour we reach the **Rio Sirpe**. If our ferryman is unpunctual - and he almost always is - we wait a little and then take his 'ferry' across this very river. The ferry is quite... ..special and a great motif for your photo album.

On the other side of the river we find ourselves in the tiny smuggling **village of Sierpe**.

We'll have a coffee in a small restaurant on the Rio Sierpe, mostly surrounded by red macaws, which crack the almonds in the almond trees along the river.

Then we continue on the **coastal road along the Pacific Ocean**. Past **Uvita**, **Dominical** and **Quepos** until shortly before **Parrita**.

Please forget the Manuel Antonio National Park. Beautiful - but hordes of tourists. Always and everywhere. If you like Ballermann and Benidorm, well, you'd be in good hands there.



Our ferry across the Rio Sierpe.

Shortly before Parrita, we drive through a palm oil plantation before entering the **Pacific Cordillera**.

Only 60 kilometers to Equis I, but it takes us two hours. And that's a good thing, because the route (50% gravel - 50% asphalt) is a bit challenging but incredibly beautiful.

We first drive along the **Rio Parrita** and then along the **Rio Candelaria**, with luck we see a few crocodiles. Boas and green iguanas are also often seen here.

A dream route, you will be thrilled.

In the early afternoon, we look down on the entire **Central Valley** from an altitude of over 2000 m and reach our **Equis** again.

Time for a sundowner by the pool. If it's warm enough.

Time for a sundowner by the fireplace. If it's cool enough.

We are frugal and adapt...!



280 | 285 | 290  
Brunch on the Irazú volcano. 3,430m above sea level. Quite refreshing up here. Advantage: the champagne stays cold for longer.

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Day 9 - Saturday

To choose: 1st North Cordillera and Waterfall Gardens, 2nd Puntarenas coastal tour or 3rd Refugio La Marta  
Between 126 and 286 km

Yesterday evening we chose together.  
Our destination for today.

### Destinations for today:

1. The **Northern Cordillera** - we wind our way past **coffee plantations** into the **Caribbean Lowlands** to **Waterfall Gardens**. There is no shortage of things to see and do at Waterfall Gardens: the **five magnificent waterfalls of La Paz**, butterfly, big cat and bird houses, reptile, monkey and hummingbird gardens, the old 'Casita Típica', an old Costa Rican farmhouse, are just some of the things you need to see. <https://waterfallgardens.com/>
2. **Coastal tour to Puntarenas**. We take the old 'Número 1' - now no longer much used - the **Panamericana** to Puntarenas on the **Pacific Coast**. After a tour through **Puntarenas to the jetty** to Nicoya, we return to the coastal mountains via **Santiago, Tarbacia and Palmichal**. A dream route with magnificent views.
3. **An insider tip** because it is relatively unknown. The **La Marta Wildlife Refuge** is incredibly beautiful and interesting. A great tour, only two hours away. **Fantastic nature**, short and long **hiking trails, hanging bridges**, natural **swimming pools in the jungle river** and a **coffee finca** from the last century. Absolutely worth seeing! <https://lamarta.org/>



Ruins of Ujarrás

No matter which destination we have chosen, we will reach our Equis I again in the early afternoon with time to prepare for our farewell dinner together.

But before that, the golden rule applies: Relax. Relax.

At the **farewell dinner or barbecue in the early evening**, we celebrate what we have experienced together.

It will be a worthy conclusion to an unforgettable adventure in Costa Rica.

Guaranteed!

### Extension days

La Carrera Costa Rica is a 10-day rally journey and can easily be extended to 11 - and by arrangement also to 12 days. Of course, it can also be booked with excursions.



# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

Day 10 - Sunday

Equis I

All good things come to an end. Today marks the end of 'La Carrera Costa Rica' through this fascinating little country in Central America.

But before you leave, please relax by the pool.



Pool area - Equis I

INCLUSIVE PACKAGE - Our services	EIGENES Fahrzeug	UNSER Fahrzeug
Welcome dinner	✓	✓
9/10 nights in Equis I and/or in Costa Rica's best hotels & lodges	✓	✓
All breakfasts and breakfast buffets	✓	✓
Equis Residence: All breakfasts, lunches and dinners, snacks & soft drinks	✓	✓
Escort vehicle (usually Range Rover Classic or Mercedes G Wagon)	✓	✓
Multilingual rally guide (DE-EN-ES)	✓	✓
Replacement vehicle - if necessary	By arrangement	✓
Fantastic routes & sightseeing	✓	✓
Classic rally vehicle (car or motorcycle)	✓	✓
Full vehicle insurance, deductible \$1,800 US (Porsche 911 \$5,000 US)		✓
All entrance and event fees, national parks etc. Fuel (petrol/diesel) is <u>not</u> included)		✓
Aire & Agua: round trips by private charter plane and by boat to tour the Golfo Dulce	Optional	Optional
Rally license plates, numbers and stickers	✓	✓
Medical care in an emergency	✓	✓
Radio equipment and flashlights	✓	✓
Extensive vehicle cleaning at the end of the rally		✓
Farewell dinner or barbecue	✓	✓

# LA CARRERA COSTA RICA

## Some details

**Absolutely not necessary** - but nice:

For navigation in Costa Rica, we recommend the easy-to-use app 'OSMAnd', which you can download for free for your iPhone and/or Android from the App or Google Play Store.

The paid version is **not required**.

After starting the app, you can download several maps for free.

Costa Rica should of course be included.

OSMAnd **navigates offline**, very precisely and conveniently, so that:

- a) you **always know where you are**,
- b) there are **no costs** for data volume or roaming,
- c) you are informed about special points of interest (POI's).

For OSMAnd and Garmin devices, we are happy to provide you with the daily tours as .gpx files.

Please ask us about this.

As already mentioned, **navigation is not necessary**.

If you ride without, that is absolutely no problem.



*Golfito pier, with the Piedras Blancas National Park in the background.*

We hope that our travel program appeals to you, should you have any questions:

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Calls Europe: 15:00 - 01:00 CET/MEZ UTC

Calls Americas: 08:00 - 17:00 CST

Status: April 10, 2024

Program valid from September 01, 2024. Subject to change without notice.

The historical map used here as a background was drawn in 1706, the original can be found in Equis I.



Equis Rallies SA., Costa Rica

[www.rally-rally.com](http://www.rally-rally.com)



285  
285  
Wherever the old cars appear, photos are taken. Costa Ricans love classics.

Vygeroerd te LEYDEN door PIETER VANDER AA met Privilegie .