



**VERGEL DE PUNTA MALA, OSA, COSTA RICA**



Vergel de Punta Mala, November 2010

Dear tour operator,

To help you book **Rio Tico Safari Lodge**, enclosed information about our:

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The **Rio Tico Safari Lodge** offers your clients a home base to discover the South Pacific of Costa Rica. We ensure that they will have an unforgettable time.

Best Regards,

Cees van Vliet  
Miranda Kouwijzer

**General Management**  
**Rio Tico Safari Lodge**



## **Accommodation**

### ***Unite yourself with nature at the Rio Tico Safari Lodge***

The Rio Tico Safari Lodge is a luxurious but affordable tent lodge. The nine Safari Tent Bungalows are located in tropical surroundings on wooden platforms, each with a terrace and reclining chairs. Relax and enjoy the sights and sounds of the river and rainforest. The design of the tents, imported from South Africa, let you experience the surrounding natural environment in its purest form. The smell and sounds of the rainforest will enter your tent, but the insects will stay outside. All the roomy tents are very comfortable with private bathrooms and hot water. Four tents have King-sized beds and five tents have a combination of a Queen-sized bed and a single bed.

The Rio Tico Safari Lodge also has three hotel rooms. One hotel room has a Queen-size bed, spacious terrace and view of the river. The second hotel room has two single beds connected with a shared bathroom; ideal for families. The third hotel room is on the first floor and has a beautiful view of the river. This room has a Queen-size bed, a private bathroom and a spacious terrace.

Find yourself relaxing in a hammock in the tropical garden of the Rio Tico Safari Lodge or taking a refreshing dip in the river's natural pools!

The Rio Tico Safari Lodge restaurant serves sumptuous breakfasts; tasty lunches are also available.



## **Surroundings**

### ***Discover the pure life in Vergel de Punta Mala!***

The Rio Tico Safari Lodge is located in Vergel de Punta Mala on the Southern Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, the Costa Ballena. Here virgin rainforest meet pristine palm fronted beaches. Six kilometres from the beach, on the shores of a crystal-clear river surrounded by mountainous rainforest, you can find our small Costa Rican community of Vergel de Punta Mala. In Vergel de Punta Mala you can enjoy the rich biological diversity of Costa Rica; if you are lucky, you will see many different bird species, coatis, anteaters, brightly coloured poison dart frogs and monkeys. Our combination of mountains, rainforest and rivers has created amazing waterfalls; a photographers dream. Our small community sees few tourists, giving you ample opportunities to experience our local Tico hospitality. We are the perfect place to discover what the pure live, *pura vida*, means.

In nearby Bahía Ballena between August and October and again from December to April, humpback whales migrate here to mate and to give birth. In addition, dolphins are regularly seen in this area. For these reasons, this area of the Costa Ballena is now protected and has become the Marino Ballena National Park. Also, from August to December, Olive Ridley and Hawksbill sea turtles come to lay their eggs on the local beaches of the Costa Ballena. Below the surface of the water you can also admire many brightly colored tropical fish. From the beaches to the sea, an abundance of wildlife awaits you.

To the south of Vergel de Punta Mala is the Osa peninsula and the renowned Corcovado National Park. Many visitors find it to be the most beautiful park in Costa Rica and according to National Geographic, contains the most intense biodiversity in the world. All four species of monkeys of Costa Rica live here in significant numbers. Other types of wildlife include anteaters, coatis, raccoons, numerous snakes, wild peccary, scarlet macaws, crocodiles, puma, jaguar, ocelot and tapir. Corcovado may be the last intact tropical rainforest in the Americas.

Besides all the natural beauty and diversity of wildlife that Costa Rica has to offer, you can familiarize yourself with the traditions of the ancestors of Costa Rica's indigenous people; the Boruca. To the south east of Vegel de Punta Mala is a small indigenous village and community of the Boruca Indians. The descendants of the Boruca Indians still hand carve traditional wooden masks. On their looms, the Boruca women continue to weave complicated designs with natural dyed yarns.



## **Activities and Tours**

### ***Relaxation, nature and culture***

There are a wide variety of activities to do in and around the Rio Tico Safari Lodge. Explore the mountainous rainforest on foot. Another way to appreciate our unique area is on a horseback ride through the mountains or on the deserted beaches. At the end of an active day you can refresh yourself in a stunning waterfall nearby the Rio Tico Safari Lodge.

From August till October and from mid December till April you have an excellent opportunity to see humpback whales and dolphins in the nearby Marino Ballena National Park. The humpback whales come to this bay to give birth and let their young feed for a few months before making the arduous trip north. You can also explore the underwater world snorkelling or diving or make an exciting trip with a sea kayak along the rocky coastline. And don't forget, nearby Sierpe, it is the center for exploring the largest mangrove estuary left in the Americas. On day trips in the river canals, visitors often see several species of birds, monkeys, caiman and even tree boa constrictors.

From the Rio Tico Safari Lodge you can make a day trip, or take several days to explore Corcovado National Park. This is one of most the ecologically undisturbed areas of Costa Rica and one of the few places in the world where one has a real chance to see a tapir in the wild. In addition, the four different Costa Rican monkey species are often seen here as well as scarlet macaws, toucans, anteaters, coatis, racoons, deer, wild boars, snakes, crocodiles and countless bird species.

Besides all the exotic nature that Costa Rica has to offer, you may also enjoy learning the traditions of the local indigenous tribe, the Borucas. The Borucas still practice the art forms of their ancestors which can be experienced during an interactive tour to the Boruca village. The Boruca are happy to show you how they craft their traditional wooden masks, make their colored thread with natural dyes and the process of weaving on their looms.



 **Rio Tico Safari Lodge 2012 Rack Rates**

<b>Safari Tent Bungalows</b>	<b>Green season 1 May – 15 December 2012</b>	<b>High season 16 December 2011 – 30 April 2012</b>
Single occupancy	US\$ 40- per night	US\$ 42- per night
Double occupancy	US\$ 45- per night	US\$ 53- per night
Triple occupancy	US\$ 55- per night	US\$ 68- per night
Children 5 – 12 years*	US\$ 8- per night	US\$ 8- per night
Children < 4 year*	Free	Free
Breakfast	US\$ 7- per person	US\$ 7- per person

\* If the Safari Tent Bungalow is shared with a minimum of one adult.

All prices are per tent per night and including 13 % taxes. Breakfast is not included.

<b>Rooms</b>	<b>Green season 1 May – 15 December 2012</b>	<b>High season 16 December 2011 – 30 April 2012</b>
Single occupancy	US\$ 45- per night	US\$ 48- per night
Double occupancy	US\$ 55- per night	US\$ 58- per night
Two adjoining rooms for family of 4 persons	US\$ 70- per night	US\$ 80- per night
Children 5 – 12 years*	US\$ 8- per night	US\$ 8- per night
Children < 4 year*	Free	Free
Breakfast	US\$ 7- per person	US\$ 7- per person

\* If the room is shared with a minimum of one adult.

All prices are per room per night including 13 % taxes. Breakfast is not included.

**All prices are 20 % commissionable.**

**Ask for our special group rates for groups of more than 7 passengers.**



## **Policies**

### *Guide & driver*

For guide and driver we offer a room CPL, breakfast included.

### *Children*

Children under 4 years do not pay for lodging

Children under 12 years pay the supplement of a triple (US\$ 8-)



Reservations can be send by electronic mail: **info@riotico.com**

A deposit has to be made 7 days before arrival date of your clients (FIT/Group) at our bank account in Costa Rica:

Name of the bank: Banco Nacional de Costa Rica

Name of the account: Tangara Tours S.A.

Number of the Dollar account: 200-02-195-000097-1

Please send the deposit slip by mail to our reservation office: **info@riotico.com**



### *Cancellation policy:*

All cancellations have to be made 7 days upon arrival or a full charge will be applied.



### *Address information:*

Rio Tico Safari Lodge, 200 metros al norte del restaurante El Pavon,

Vergel de Punta Mala – OSA, Costa Rica

38 km South of Dominical on the coastal road

Tel. (506) 8996 7935

P.O. Box 71, Ciudad Cortes – Osa, Costa Rica

info@riotico.com - [www.riotico.com](http://www.riotico.com)



## **Address and How to get there**

### ***Getting to the Rio Tico Safari Lodge, Costa Rica***

The Rio Tico Safari Lodge is located in Vergel de Punta Mala on the Southern Pacific coast of Costa Rica. There are several transport options to choose from: driving a rental, taking a local bus, taking a private shuttle bus or taking a short domestic flight.

#### **Own transport from San José**

From San José you drive to the Pacific coast on the autopista from San José till Caldera (nr. 27). You will leave the autopista 27 at the exit Jacó and drive south following the coastline. You will pass Jacó, Quepos, Dominical and Uvita. There are some beautiful views of the Costa Ballena coastline on the right side of the road and on the other side the rainforest. After approximately thirty minutes, you will pass the village of Ojochal. Three kilometres south of Ojochal you'll see two yellow bus stops on both sides of the road. Here you turn left and you follow the signs to the Rio Tico Safari Lodge. This unpaved road is accessible by a two-wheel-drive-car throughout the year. After ten minutes you will arrive at the Rio Tico Safari Lodge in Vergel de Punta Mala.

#### **Public transport**

From San José TRACOPA buses leave several times a day to the southern part of Costa Rica. The buses that will follow the coast road will pass Uvita. Ask in advance, because there are also buses which follow the Interamericana. If you need transport from Uvita to the Rio Tico Safari Lodge in Vergel de Punta Mala, please contact us. Also, a private company, Easyride, has a hotel to hotel shuttle service within Costa Rica. Please contact us if we can assist with making any reservations.

#### **Domestic flight**

SANSA airlines and NatureAir have one daily domestic flight each from San José to Palmar Sur. This short forty-five minute flight with the Central and Southern Pacific coastline on your right and a 10,000 foot plus mountain range to your left is simply gorgeous. Transport from the Palmar Sur airstrip to the Rio Tico Safari Lodge can be arranged with advance notice.