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Have you dreamed of retiring or living in the Garden of Eden?



Depending on your country of origin, you can remain in Costa Rica with a tourist visa for up to three months. With a driver's license from your home country and your passport, you can legally drive. During this time, try to

get a feel for what day-to-day life will be like -- learn first-hand that a different culture means different responses to given situations. Explore the country, and try to experience the different micro-climates (approx. 7) to help make your choice of where to live so that you will be satisfied and comfortable.

What is it like to live here? Only your own experience can answer that, since it is different for every person. But some basic information may help you in your investigation. Foreign residents and tourists can own a house and



property in Costa Rica, and there are houses, condos and apartments available for rent in most areas of the country. Rental prices vary from US300. And up, depending on your choice of location and type of house. Location also dictates the house prices, whether buying or building. The closer to San Jose (ie. Escazu, Santa Ana, San Pedro) the higher the price. At the present time, if you own a house and car and have no debts, a couple can live comfortably on US1,500-2,500 per month depending on your lifestyle. Personal services (ie. Maid, gardener, beauty parlor, etc.) are very reasonable, and many foreigners take advantage and enjoy using these services more than before living here.

Costa Rica is a beautiful and peaceful country. The army was abolished in 1948, and the people, in general, are kind and warmhearted. The weather is warm and the sun shines almost 365 days a year, with a pace of life that is more relaxed than in North America.

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June Edition

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Can I live well?

A couple can live well on 1200 per month, and live in luxury for 2000. Couples with husband and wife both receiving good pensions can live even better. Remember, two in Costa Rica, can often live as cheaply as one. Any way you look at it, you will enjoy a higher standard of living in Costa Rica and get more for your money. Consider that the average Costa Rican earns only 300-450 a month. Costa Ricans earning under 500 monthly are considered to be lower class; those earning from 500 to 2000 are part of the middle class with anyone making more than 2,000 being upper class. So, you can see a foreigners with a decent income can have comfortable lifestyle if they so desire.



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