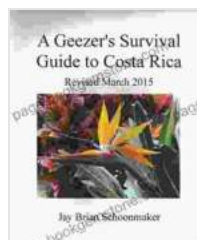


# The Geezer's Survival Guide to Living in Costa Rica: Everything You Need to Know Before You Go



## A Geezer's Survival Guide to Costa Rica

by Jay Brian Schoonmaker

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

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Thinking about retiring in Costa Rica? You're not alone. Costa Rica has been a popular retirement destination for Americans for decades, and for good reason. It's a beautiful country with a warm climate, friendly people, and a relatively low cost of living.

But before you pack your bags and head to the beach, there are a few things you should know about living in Costa Rica as a retiree.

### **The Cost of Living in Costa Rica**

The cost of living in Costa Rica varies depending on where you live and your lifestyle. But in general, it's much cheaper than living in the United States. Here's a breakdown of some of the basic costs:

- Rent: \$300-\$600 per month for a one-bedroom apartment in a mid-sized city
- Utilities: \$100-\$200 per month for electricity, water, and gas
- Food: \$200-\$300 per month for groceries
- Transportation: \$50-\$100 per month for public transportation or a used car
- Healthcare: \$100-\$200 per month for private health insurance

Of course, your actual costs will vary depending on your individual needs and preferences. But overall, you can expect to live comfortably in Costa Rica on a budget of \$1,500-\$2,000 per month.

## **Housing in Costa Rica**

There are a variety of housing options available in Costa Rica, from apartments and condos to houses and villas. The type of housing you choose will depend on your budget and lifestyle.

If you're on a tight budget, you can find apartments and condos for rent for \$300-\$600 per month. These units are typically small and basic, but they're a good option for those who are just starting out.

If you have a larger budget, you can find houses and villas for rent for \$1,000-\$2,000 per month. These units are typically more spacious and luxurious, and they often come with amenities such as pools and gardens.

No matter what your budget, you're sure to find a place to live in Costa Rica that meets your needs.

## **Healthcare in Costa Rica**

The healthcare system in Costa Rica is a mix of public and private healthcare. The public healthcare system is available to all Costa Rican citizens and residents, and it provides basic healthcare services for free. The private healthcare system is available to everyone, and it offers a wider range of services, including specialized care and private hospitals.

The quality of healthcare in Costa Rica is generally good. The public healthcare system is basic, but it's adequate for most people's needs. The private healthcare system is more expensive, but it offers a higher level of care.

If you're planning on retiring in Costa Rica, it's a good idea to purchase private health insurance. This will ensure that you have access to the best possible healthcare, should you need it.

## **The Pros and Cons of Living in Costa Rica**

There are many pros and cons to living in Costa Rica. Here are a few of the most important things to consider:

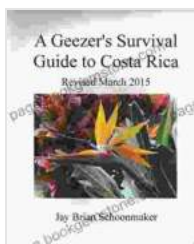
### **Pros:**

- Beautiful country with a warm climate and friendly people
- Relatively low cost of living
- Good healthcare system
- Visa-friendly country for retirees

### **Cons:**

- Can be difficult to learn Spanish
- Limited job opportunities for retirees
- Crime can be a problem in some areas
- Hurricane season can be dangerous

Costa Rica is a beautiful country with a lot to offer retirees. But before you make the move, it's important to do your research and make sure that it's the right decision for you. If you're prepared for the challenges and you're willing to embrace the culture, then you're sure to enjoy your retirement in Costa Rica.



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