

## Costa Rica, Golf of Nicoya

### Area

This location is truly unique. Close to the village of Paquera, in the Gulf of Nicoya, hidden in the jungle and yet close to the sea. There are three accommodation options here:

**El Yayo:** The large wooden house where you will be staying has three large rooms and is located on the edge of a hill at the edge of the jungle. There are two rooms on the first floor and one room on the ground floor. The rooms are large enough for two to three people and have hot water in the shared shower facilities. There is also a kitchen for enthusiasts with a refrigerator and stove. Furthermore, all rooms are equipped with fans.

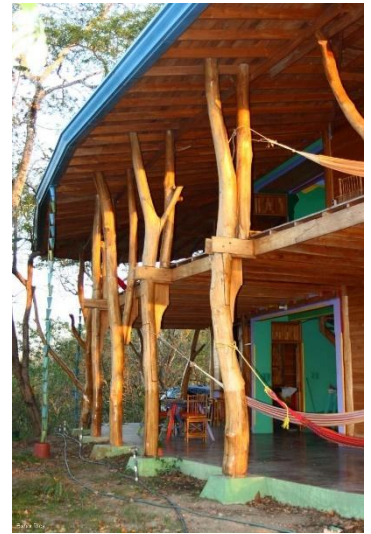
**The Island:** On top of the island opposite the location is a spacious house with a small pool that can accommodate up to 6 people. There is a bedroom with a bunk bed and a single bed, a bedroom with two double beds and a separate bed in the living room. There is a large open American kitchen which is fully equipped. There is also air conditioning, which makes staying here attractive and comfortable.

To get to the house, you need to pay a small fee to the local supervisor for each trip by motorboat. You can cook for yourself in this accommodation and order groceries, which will be done for you, or you can eat in the central community room on the other bank. Dinner and breakfast can also be cooked for you if you wish. This can be arranged jointly.

**El Bambu:** is a small accommodation for up to 2 people. There is a bedroom with a double bed, a separate shower, a small kitchen and a terrace. It is not large but is a great place to stay for a couple.

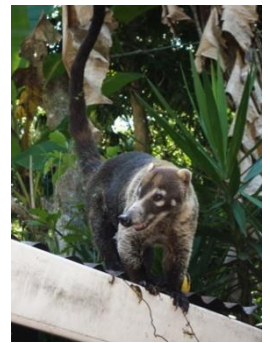
Next to the rooms is a communal area where meals are also served. A variety of vegetables, fruit, fish and meat are offered, so you will want for nothing. From El Yayo, it is about 250 steps to this area and the private beach, which is surrounded by palm trees in a lush garden. Meals are also served in the communal area, and after a great day of fishing, you can relax in a hammock or rocking chair. The necessary facilities are also available here, and if you wish, you can book an evening kayak trip to, for example, the beaches that glow at night (bioluminescence); very beautiful! The gardens and bay are home to many birds, amphibians and monkeys; groups of howler monkeys roam the area, which you will soon hear. There are still more monkeys than people in this area. The nature here is so beautiful that the nearby Isla Tortuga was used as a filming location for Jurassic Park.

Next to the rooms there is a community room where all the meals are served. There is a large variety of vegetables, fruit, fish and meat on offer and you will enjoy the brilliant hospitality.





From your room El Yayo it is about 250 steps to the private beach which is surrounded by palm trees in an exuberant garden. There are still more monkeys here than people in this area. It is a perfect place to experience the most exciting fishing adventures in peace and quiet. It is a magnificent and special location on the peninsula of Nicoya without (unnecessary) luxury but with the ingredients for an experience you will remember for the rest of your life. Nature is so beautiful here that on the nearby Isla Tortuga the background film shots for Jurassic Park were taken.



The Gulf of Nicoya borders directly on the Pacific Ocean and it is here where the oxygen-rich sea currents meet each other and make large quantities and species of fish feel at home. The tidal difference here can reach up to 3 metres so the current is actually strong all the time. This means that large quantities of fish are present. During our stay in the "rain period" of October we caught a lot of large fish for three days at a time. In total we caught more than 15 different species and there are many more but our time was too short.



Besides fishing it is also possible to organise extra trips to, for example an active volcano, jungle trips, wild water rafting, horseback riding, snorkelling, diving, SUP tours, golf, etc. You can also rent a kayak and make guided tours or rent a snorkel and be amazed by the beauty that nature has to offer. Off the coast are manta rays with a diameter of 5 meters (!) seen. Furthermore there are whales, sea turtles, frigate birds, pelicans and so on.

The nature you find yourself in is overwhelming. The most species we know here only from the zoo. Here they are in your backyard! Howler monkeys, nasua, parrots, toucans, land crabs, big toads, etc. It is therefore important that you are not afraid of animals when visiting this location. And for the smaller species such as geckos and insects, they can also be on or in your room! Strangely enough there are practically no mosquitoes to be found here. Only at the beginning of the rainy season in September there are sporadically a few to be found.



## Fishing

The fishing here is of an exceptional level. Throughout the year large and many fish are caught here. It's a location for potential new world records. During our stay we caught a lot of jack crevales, which gave fantastic sport. One of them went over the 15 kilo marker. In other words: this location has potential for world records and so at least have the IGFA app on your mobile to check the world records. Another important additional advantage is that there are no other sport fishing boats operating in the region, so the fishing pressure is low.



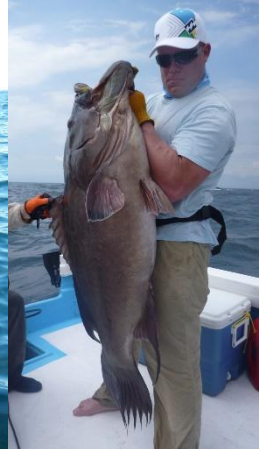
The different species of fish you can catch depend on the season, but only the most important species are listed below. Other species also present but not in the overview are the different groupers, snappers, trevally's, bonefish, needlefish, tuna, sierra mackerel, oxeye tarpon, 2 species barracuda's, corvina, ladyfish, jewfish, moray eels and so on. The local fishermen with their lines have already caught specimens of groupers up to 180 kilos, rays of 100 kilos but also giant sharks.

At about 60 minutes sailing you are also directly in the off shore area where you fish for dorado, wahoo, marlin, sailfish etc. The sailfish are generally caught around 100 lbs and are bigger rather than smaller. This fishing takes place using (large) lures and other lures which are all included with the fishing.



The fishing is based on catch & release. Only by way of exception or damage to the fish, a fish might end up on the bbq.

It goes without saying that it is also possible for fly fishermen to take their equipment with them and chase the great diversity of fish.





### Material

Inshore fishing is done with live bait or with poppers, crankbaits and/or lures. For fishing with live bait it is best to use a short rod of 20 to 30 lbs. (up to 2.10 metres) in combination with a reel with at least 300 meters of line. The line may be mono but also braided line with a leader of about 1.5 meters mono from 100 lbs mono is used and usually a circle hook size 5/0. The baitfish is attached to the circle hook with a short line through the eye sockets and slowly trawled about 40 meters behind the boat or presented by means of lead on the bottom. In case of a strike you count to 5 and then slowly start to retrieve the line and important, do NOT strike as you are fishing with a circle hook. This hook only hooks itself if you do not strike.

For popper fishing it is advisable to use a longer rod of about 2.70 meters with a strong reel. The rod must have a minimum casting weight of 200 grams to be able to cast the used lure far. It's wise to spool the reel with strong braided line of 50 to 60 lbs and to use a leader of 1 meter nylon of 100 lbs. The most important reason for this is that if you get a hard strike on the popper or other lure you need to have the drag properly closed to keep the fish out of the rocks.



Use strong materials like proper split rings and hooks. Do not go for cheap as that does have an effect on the quality. These fish will hammer down on your material and will surely make some damage.





Besides the poppers we also used jerk baits, swim baits, crankbaits, bucktail jigs, shads, etc. The fish are not very picky but all the more aggressive. Attention: Make sure that the treble hooks and splittings of all lures meet these extreme conditions and sizes of fish. Especially take jigs with you. The butterfly jigs or also speed jigs (100 - 200 grams) are a welcome addition to the various fishing possibilities. There are several spots where you can jig at depths between 40 and 100 meters and where you can find groupers, snappers but also jewfish (up to 400 lbs +).

At this location there are two boats that can be used. These need to be booked in advance.

The Mono Congo is 8.5 metres long and has a 150 hp 4 stroke engine that brings you comfortably to the desired location. It is a walk around type, fully equipped for fishing and can accommodate up to four anglers and has a lookout to make it easier to track shoals of fish. For 2 to 3 people this is a perfect fishing boat.



The second boat is the Conquistador and is also equipped with all necessities and meets safety standards. With two times 250 HP Evinrude ETEC engines you are quickly at your destination. With about 10 metres, this boat offers just a little more space than the Mono Congo and can easily accommodate 4 to 5 people. Both boats are equipped with GPS, fishfinder, marine radio.

If you do not have the necessary rods and other equipment, that is no problem. These are also on board from 20 to 80 lbs. Terminal tackle for trawling is also available and also the lures for popping and jigging as well as swivels, hooks and the like are already on the spot in case you don't want to bring your own.

But what could be nicer than catching that one fish with your own equipment / poppers / jigs?



## Season / Weather

The season for fishing here is endless. Depending on the season, you can catch a wide variety of species here. Costa Rica has a rainy season in September and October where it usually rains hard for one hour in the evening. This does not detract from the fishing. In fact, because of the dirt washed away from the mountains and rivers, the fishing is very good and there is a lot of bait in that period.

INSHORE SPECIES		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	OFF-SHORE SPECIES													
Jack Crevalle														Black Marlin													
Cubera Snapper														Blue Marlin													
Rooster Fish														Striped Marlin													
Pacific Black Snook														Sailfish													
Spanish Mackerel														Dorado													
														Yellow Fin Tuna													
														Wahoo													
SPECIES		Best			Good			Fair						SPECIES	Best			Good			Fair						

The dry season is from November to May and then the daytime temperature is around 32 ° C.

It is not strictly necessary for this location to be vaccinated. However, always check with your local GP or hospital. Your passport must be valid for this trip for another 6 months after returning to your hometown and a visa is not required.

## Travel & Price

Depending on the available flights, the trip goes to San Jose in Costa Rica. Upon arrival you will be picked up by a private taxi. In order to catch the last ferry of the day in Puntarenas around 8 pm you have to leave San Jose at the latest around 5pm. If you arrive later than 5 pm you will first spend the night in San Jose where we will arrange the transfer to a small and comfortable hotel on the edge of San Jose..





The ride from San Jose is with a reserved taxi to Puntarenas (about 2 to 2.5 hours) and goes through the impressive jungle of Costa Rica. In Puntarenas you get on the ferry to Paquera where you will be picked up by the owners Thomas & Vigdis. The journey to the lodge then takes only 20 minutes.

The cost of the trip is determined by the number of persons and the length of stay. Assuming a stay of 7 days with 5 days of fishing based on three persons, the cost of this trip is approximately € 2.500,- per person.

Excluded is the flight to San Jose and other additional costs are extra drinks, tips for staff and \$ 30,- departure tax pp to be paid in San Jose. This can be done with VISA card or cash.

**Tips:**

People in Costa Rica are not rich and in daily life and in dealing with tourists, tipping is normal.

We strongly advise you to take the opportunity in addition to fishing and include a few extra days in the program to at least give your poor arms some rest and undertake an excursion in the region.

Please let us know and ask us for assistance. This trip can be tailor made according to your wishes.



Would you like to enquire about the availability of this location or would you like an offer, please contact us:

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