

# TRAVEL LOGISTICS, COVID, AND PLANNING YOUR TRIP

We are so honored that you're joining us for an immersive experience in nature, community, and beautiful medicine in Costa Rica!

As you prepare, please **thoroughly read** this document and the other documents attached to your registration email. They contain important information to help you make the most out of your experience, including recommendations for diet, medications, resources, and holistic preparation.

We look forward to healing with you!  $\heartsuit$ 

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## **Summary of Travel Requirements**

- ✓ Traveler's medical insurance
- ✓ Return ticket/proof of onward travel within allowable tourist stay (usually 90 days)
- ✓ Valid passport for duration of stay, (and for some countries up to 3 months beyond arrival date), & visa if necessary (see here or here)
- ✓ For origin countries with risk of yellow fever, proof of yellow fever vaccine (see here)
- ✓ Complete Soltara arrival information form (sent via email 2 weeks before your retreat)
- ✓ Bring remaining balance in like-new, USD bills (if applicable)

## **Entry & Travel Requirements**

<u>Traveler's Medical insurance</u> covering the dates of your travel. \*Health insurance in your home country is not sufficient\*

- We suggest a traveler's medical insurance plan that covers all possible medical expenses and accommodations in case of COVID-19 infection.
  - The following agencies cover COVID-19 infection and related expenses:
    - National Insurance Institute (INS Instituto Nacional Seguros),
    - Sagicor
    - We do not read and approve insurance plans. If you are unsure if you have an appropriate plan, please see the above links or contact your insurance company directly.

#### **Proof of Onward Travel**

Costa Rica also requires a return ticket or proof of onward travel within the tourist visa limit (90 days for most countries, check <u>here</u> to be sure).

#### (Origin countries with risk of yellow fever) Yellow Fever Vaccine

If you are traveling from some countries, including Peru, you will also need to show proof of yellow fever vaccination. Please see the <u>Visiting Costa Rica Entry Requirements</u> page for more information.

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### **Group Shuttle: Arriving and Departing from Your Retreat**

To catch our shuttle to Soltara at The Sanctuary, in Montezuma, Costa Rica, book your flight to the Liberia Airport (LIR).

- Arriving: We offer free group pickup on Day 1 of your retreat at 11:00 am from the Hilton Garden Inn Guanacaste Airport, 15 minutes from LIR Airport
  - If you plan to fly in on Day 1, your flight must land by 8 AM on Day 1 for enough time for customs (could take up to 2 hours) to get to the Hilton for the 11:00 AM meet-up
  - We highly recommend arriving the day before, to ensure smooth arrival
- Departing: Dropoff, after your retreat, is on the last day at the Hilton Garden Inn, at 2:30 pm
  - Check out will be 10:30 am on the last day you may depart directly from the retreat in separate transportation (separate cost), or if you will be flying out or staying in Liberia after, you can ride with our shuttle back to the hotel and a take a taxi from there
  - We \*highly\* recommend departing at least 1 day after your retreat ends, but if you must depart the same day, plan to depart after 5:30 pm, or you may miss your flight if we have delays traveling back to Liberia

## On Your Own: Getting to and from Soltara

- If you are coming from elsewhere in Costa Rica or do not wish to travel with the group, you can arrive to <a href="Soltara at The Sanctuary">Soltara at The Sanctuary</a> near Montezuma on your own, please arrive between 3:30 and 4:00 pm, and let us know at <a href="Letgo@soltara.co">Letgo@soltara.co</a> so we can be sure to let you in the gate when you arrive!
- If you need a taxi or private transport from your destination **to** Soltara at The Sanctuary for your retreat, **you may book one** here, this site has great deals and reliable transfers.
- If you need transport **after your retreat** to your next destination, we recommend booking with Montezuma Travels, they know where Soltara is located to pick you up.

- o To reserve, use any of the following communication channels:
  - Email: info@montezumatravels.net
  - WhatsApp: +506 8814-1370 with Stiven
  - Signal: +506 8814-1370 with Stiven
- Cancellations made with at least 24 hours' notice of scheduled arrival/departure won't incur a charge
- Cancellations made with less than 12 hours are non-refundable and any balance due will be charged to credit card provided or have to be pay in cash to any of the representatives
- There are no refunds and payment will be made in full for no shows



## Staying in Liberia Before/After

### **Recommended Choice: Hilton Garden Inn Guanacaste Airport**

Located 15 min from the Liberia International Airport and offers a complimentary airport shuttle and free Wi-Fi.

Web | LINK

**Phone # | +**506 2690 8888

**Address |** Ruta 21 Frente al Aeropuerto Inter Daniel Oduber, Liberia, Costa Rica

**Check-In |** 3:00 pm **Check-Out |** 12:00 pm

#### Average Pricing (may vary)

- 2 Double Beds From \$128 USD / night
- 1 King Bed From \$128 USD / night
- 1 King Bed Junior Suite From \$152 USD / night

1 King Bed 1 Bedroom Suite - From \$169 USD / night



# PACKING

The weather in Costa Rica is tropical! Temperatures can reach up to 25 - 30 C (80 - 90 F) with high humidity. You'll want to wear light and breathable clothing that can get wet and dirty if needed. We recommend you bring some light and loose, long-sleeved shirts and long pants to help protect against sun and occasional mosquitos. The following list covers everything to ensure your journey is as pleasurable as possible!

- Digital and printed copies of your travel insurance
- Sun hat/scarf/bandana to cover head (important for after last ceremony/arcana)
- Red Flashlight(s) (Important! <u>LED RED LIGHT</u> for ceremonies see <u>here</u> for example/to purchase)
- Reusable water bottle
- Lighter(s) (for Mapacho, a sacred jungle tobacco sometimes smoked in ceremony)
- Hand sanitizer (for travel provided by Soltara while on retreat)
- Sneakers/walking shoes
- Sandals or flip-flops
- 2-3 pairs swimming gear
- 1 pair loose fitting, breathable pants
- 1-2 loose fitting, breathable long-sleeved shirts
- Casual/active hot weather attire (enough for 7 days, laundry service available on request)
- 1 Warm sweatshirt (just in case)
- 1 Rain jacket or poncho (May through December rainy season)
- Insect repellant (natural only, please no DEET)
- Sunscreen (30+ SPF Recommended) the sun is **very strong** here!
- Personal watch (so you don't have to use your phone for the time)
- Small first-aid kit for scrapes, cuts and bug bites
- Toiletries
- Power adaptor if necessary (our plugs are the same as USA/Canada Type A/B)
- Necessary medications (that have been approved during intake process please consult with a facilitator before taking any while on your retreat)
- Spanish/English Dictionary
- Notebook / Journal & pens
- Passport + 2 photocopies of passport
- Money belt/passport wallet
- Bank card with "Plus" or "Visa/MC/AMEX" logo
- Credit card with cash withdrawal option
- Travel/medical insurance information
- **USD \$300-\$1000** (for souvenirs, Shipibo market, meals when not at Soltara, etc. large Shipibo tapestries can cost \$500+ USD depending on size and design)
- Remaining balance due for retreat (if applicable) in crisp, like-new USD bills (no tears please, thank you for your understanding!)
- Notify financial institution of travel plans

We look forward to journeying with you!

