

# Costa Rica

By Jake and Adam

The area of Costa Rica is 19,730 square miles. Compared to Vermont, that is 10,615 square miles. The highest point in Costa Rica is Chirripo Grande. It is 12,530 feet. The bordering countries of Costa Rica are Nicaragua and Panama. It has coastlines on the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. The temperature is 72 degrees in the mountains and 81 degrees on the coastline.



The population of Costa Rica is 3,900,000 people. The most popular sport is soccer but basketball and baseball are popular too.

## Palo Verde National Park



Costa Rica has a National Park; it's called Palo Verde National Park. The Arenal Volcano erupted in July 1968. It recently erupted in September 2003. When it erupts it sends hot rocks and lava tumbling down its side. Costa Rica is within the region called the Ring of Fire. Volcanoes, earthquakes and floods occur there.



The Arenal Volcano at 12:00 Midnight

## The People

Farmers wear vests and hats. Citizens wear T-shirts and shorts. Costa Ricans are the most educated people in Latin America.



## History

In 1502, Christopher Columbus came to Costa Rica. Sixty years later, the Spanish arrived and made the native Indians slaves who soon ran away or were killed by getting sick, starving and warfare. But in the 1600's, the Spanish lost interest in the country.



Christopher Columbus

# Costa Rica



San Jose is the capital of Costa Rica. In San Jose there is lots of pollution because of vehicles. 87 % of Costa Ricans have Spanish descent. Some working people have jobs like marketing, writing books, putting cement in the streets and designing clothing. Farmers plant crops like corn, rice, sugarcane and coffee beans.



Harvesting Sugar Cane

## Flowers and Animals

Costa Rica is a good place to grow plants and crops.



Orchid Flower

In Costa Rica, horses are very determined; they will travel through water to get their owners to where they need to go. Leaf cutter ants are common in Costa Rica. They can carry something ten times their weight. Red eyed tree frogs live in the rainforests of Costa Rica. People believe that they use their bright red eyes to surprise attackers. Popular trees are cedar, ebony, palm and mahogany trees. There are also 1,000 kinds of orchids, a flower that is native to Costa Rica.

Animals that are common to Costa Rica are flamingos, pumas, jaguars, quetzals, coatis and three toed sloths.



Flamingo



Coatis