









INSTITUTO NICARAGÜENSE DE TURISMO

Nicaragua Única...Original!

NICARAGUA

TOURISM GUIDE

NICARAGUA

a country to discover!



Cascada La Bujona

Visiting and returning to Nicaragua will be a truly unique experience for you.

The beauty, natural and cultural variety of our country in the center of the Americas, are combined with the hospitality of its people and with a history that excites and inspires. This is a land with a great cultural, multicultural and multilingual wealth that opens a new path where solidarity and safety flourish. That's why smiles will always be present and warm handshakes are the entry door to generous, brave, and loyal hearts that will give your memories unforgettable colors.

Nicaragua is the safest country in the whole region. Nicaraguans are people you can count on, living in a land that offers a lot more to discover than any other. Active volcanoes, hundreds of islands among the calm waters of a huge lake, overflowing rivers that are born from the biggest and most vivid forests of the region, waterfalls, imposing canyons, white and gold sanded beaches, colonial cities; villages of fishermen, artisans, artists, doctors of natural medicine, heroism and optimism of the people that like to converse, sing, dance, and laugh with the authentic warmth of the people that know how to make friends.

The "Sun of lit golds" * of Nicaragua awaits you to caress your skin, our people await you to nourish unforgettable friendships.

* From the poem "Allá lejos" ("There far"), written by the Nicaraguan Rubén Darío.



Jicaro canyon, Matagalpa

Sun and Beach

The majestic Pacific Ocean and the paradisaical Caribbean Sea offer us a diversity of beautiful beaches of all colors, bays, and cliffs, perfect for rest and relaxations, but if you're into adventure, you must know that Nicaragua has one of the top 5 beaches to surf, come and try it out.



Bahía de San Juan del Sur



Toro Huaco, baile tradicional

a country that lives its traditions at heart

Nicaragua is the perfect place to enjoy the colliding of two worlds. It counts with a variety of patron saint festivals that are cultural expressions, where you can observe the religious faith, a mixture of indigenous manifestations prior and post the conquest era. As well as colonial buildings, petroglyphs, and the ruins, heritage of our ancestors, they have an unforgettable story to tell. It is also a land of artists, musicians, and poets that leave in their canvases and poems, narrations of its unexplored forests, protected natural reserves, islands formed by volcanoes. It Lakes the size of other countries. Volcanoes that allow you to climb up to their crater, rivers, and two oceans, will make your trip to Nicaragua a unique experience.

Nature



Masaya Volcano

A country that allows your heart to enjoy nature in its maximum expression.

We have 3 biosphere reserves, Bosawas, Indío Maíz, and the Ometepe Island, each one of them is different, enchanting, and magical. You can also visit the almost 80 protected areas distributed throughout the country.

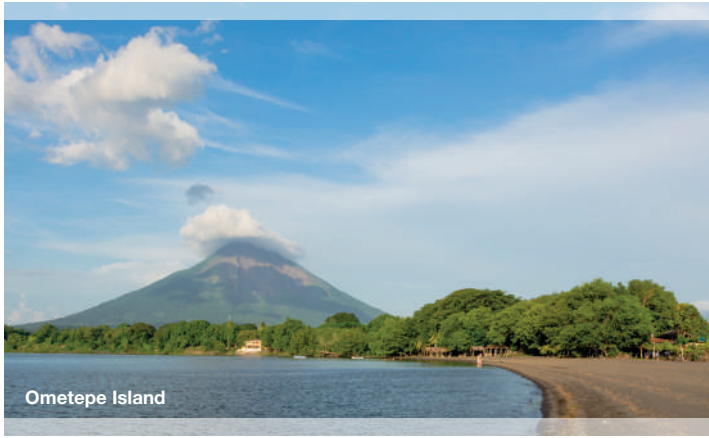
Some destinations are part of Centroamérica Verde — Green Central America— (Environmental Certifications), in them, you can enjoy ecotourism of quality, comfort, safety, authentically natural and compromised with conservation and human development. Among them are the Mombacho Volcano Natural Reserve, Masaya Volcano National Park, and Wildlife Reserve of Los Guatusos.

Ometepe Island

BIOSPHERE RESERVE

The biggest island in the world with two volcanoes in the middle of a sweet water lake attracts more visitors' year after year, Definitely a fascinating natural wonder. This island, of exuberant beauty, rich in history and of kind people, is composed of two imposing conic volcanoes, the Concepción (1,610 m.a.s.l.) and Maderas (1,394 m.a.s.l.).

It has a lot to offer to those who visit, beautiful beaches, interpretive trials, archeology, museums and a lot of history, diverse species of animals



Ometepe Island

North Region

Among the touristic offer of this beautiful region of the country, you can opt for a stroll through the farms that compose it. The farms are between 800 and 1200 meters above sea level and allow the visitor to learn a little more about the cultivation and grain process of coffee that has given Nicaragua so much international recognition.

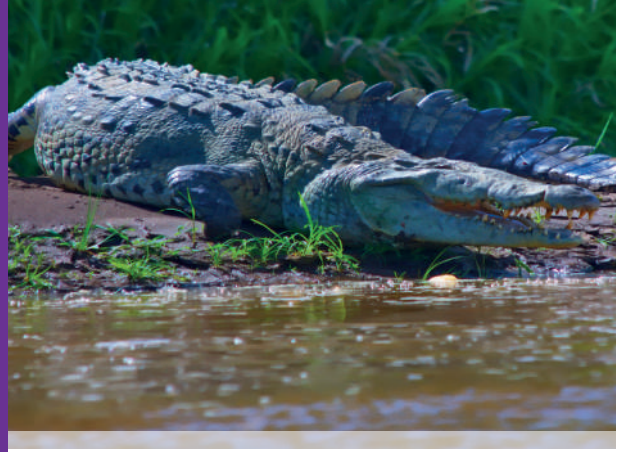
Rural community tourism is another activity of the region in which the visitor will have the opportunity to learn of the customs and traditions of the locals.

If what you prefer is to learn about history, this place is perfect due to it was in this region where a lot of historical and political events of our country occurred, it was in the north of Nicaragua where the General of Free Men, Augusto C. Sandino, launched his heroic battle in defense of national sovereignty. Another very important aspect to mention is that this is the birth of the Prince of the Castilian Letters, Rubén Darío, his birth home in Ciudad Darío, Matagalpa, offers a little museum in which all aspects of the childhood and life of the poet are exposed.



Ecoalbergue La Fundadora, Jinotega

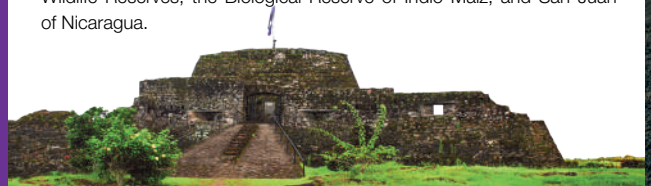




San Juan River

This destination is a paradise of water since it is surrounded by the great Cocibolca lake and the San Juan of Nicaragua River. This place of exuberant wildlife is as of today Biosphere Reserve and has plenty of mysterious places that are still to be discovered since it was the scene for several historic events through the years, it was a transit route, where there once was the presence of pirates and conquers of powerful kingdoms that were seeking treasures in our lands.

Its chronicles tell stories about how wondered they were with this paradise, passing by the Solentiname archipelago, with its dreamy scenery, original handcrafts made of driftwood, and spectacular primitive paintings. The San Juan River Department possesses many places of interest such as San Carlos, the port of fishermen, Natural Wildlife Reserves, the Biological Reserve of Indío Maíz, and San Juan of Nicaragua.



Adventure

Nicaragua offers the most peaceful and relaxing terrestrial destinations and places, maritime, river flows, and lacustrine scenery that any visitor can aspire to see. But if you love strong emotions, you can also find a wide fan of opportunities whose limits are dictated by your imaginations, on a scale that goes from mild to extreme.

Among these adventures, we can mention sandboarding on an active volcano, canopy, kayak, sun and beach, surfing, turtle nesting observation, sailing, hikes, trekking, rappel, and sport fishing.



Sandboarding in Cerro Negro Volcano


Typical gastronomy, Güirilas

Gastronomy

Nicaragua is characterized by its delicious gastronomy based in its majority on corn, which has been a heritage generation after generation since the precolonial period. Many visitors are delighted with dishes like the güirila (unprocessed corn tortilla) and nacatamal (meat and cornmeal tamale), drinks like the pinol or the tiste (both corn-based), and with delicious desserts like the rosquillas (corn bisquits) or cosa de horno (corn and flour pastries), definitely a delight among our ancestral and unique culinary art.

The varied gastronomy of Nicaragua goes in hand with its pluricultural since in the Nicaraguan Caribbean Coast there are delicious dishes prepared based on yuca (Cassava) and coconut, when it comes to cooking seafood, the Caribbean Coast has its special touch that mixes in with the kindness and contagious smiles of its people.

Granada and Leon

Charming colonial cities and of the oldest of the American Continent, founded in the XVI century, today they are national historic icons.

Varied architecture stands out that goes from baroque up to neoclassic, a product of a cultural combination, that reminds us of a stately time.


Granada City


Leon City



Blufields, R.A.C.C.S.

Caribbean Coast

Multiethnic, multilingual, and pluricultural, this region is filled with indescribably beautiful destinations. Wonderful and fascinating are its two autonomous regions.

Its Caribbean scenery insights us to relax in white sand beaches listening to some reggae or calypso music. Corn Island and its delicious crab soup, Pearl Lagoon and its authentic lobster in coconut sauce, Bilwi and its exquisite shrimp cocktail, Bluefields, and its MayPole festivities; enter in the Biosphere Reserve of Bosawás, this is some of the temptations that we leave to your imagination.



Corn Island, R.A.C.C.S.



Cayos Perlas, R.A.C.C.S.

Internal Transport

Bus terminal from Managua to the departments

Roberto Huembes Market Terminal

Buses with destination to: Masaya, Masaya Volcano, Catarina Viewpoint, Granada, Rivas, San Jorge (Ometepe), San Juan del Sur, Peñas Blancas (Border of Nicaragua with Costa Rica)

Israel Lewites Market Terminal

Buses with destination to: León, Carazo, Diriamba, Corinto, Chinandega, El Guasaule (Border of Nicaragua with Honduras), Montelimar, Masachapa and Pochomil beaches.

Mayoreo Market Terminal

Buses with destination to: Boaco, Chontales, El Rama, San Carlos, Nueva Guinea, Matagalpa, Jinotega, Esteli, Somoto, the north border to las Manos and El Espino (Border of Nicaragua with Honduras)

Microbus Terminal (in front of UCA or Centroameric University)

Buses with destination to: Masaya, Granada, Masatepe, Jinotepe, Diriamba.

FOR ASSITANCE AND MORE INFORMATION:

INTUR Center for Touristic Information:

+505 2254-5191 Ext: 168



Nicaragua´s handicraft

Festivity Calendar

January

18th Commemoration of the birth of Rubén Darío.
* Patron Saint Festivities of Saint Sebastian and run across of Saint Sebastian, Saint Marc and Santiago, Diriamba, Carazo.

February

Second Week: International Poetry Festival in Granada.

March

* Acts honoring Father Odorico de Andrea, Jinotega.

April

* Celebration of Holly Week in Nicaragua
* Pilgrimage wagons in Rivas
* Stations of the Cross in the Granada islets
* Passionary Carpets in Leon
* Saint Lazarus commemoration in Masaya

May

May 1st: International Labor Day
Month of May: Maypole festivities in Bluefields
May 8th: Celebration of the Virgin of Assumption, in Chontales

June

* Patron Saint Festivities honoring Saint John the Baptist in San Juan del Sur, Rivas.

June 26th, National Tree Day.

July

* Commemoration of the Virgin of Carmel, patron of the fishermen in San Juan del Sur, Rivas.

July 17th, National Happiness Day.
July 19th, Anniversary of the Sandinista Popular Revolution.

August

August 1st and 10th, Santo Domingo Patronal Saint parties and equine parade in Managua
August 14th: "Gritería chiquita", in León
August 27th and 28th: Emancipation from Slavery festivities in Corn Island.

September

September 14th and 15th, Anniversary of the Nicaraguan Independence.
* Patron Saint Festivals in honor of Saint Jerome Doctor, Masaya.

October

October 21st: "Toro Venado" of Masaya
Last Friday of October: "Agüizotes" Festival, Masaya

November

* Commemoration of the Garifuna people in Orinoco, South Caribbean

December

December 5th, Serenade to the Virgin of the throne in Chinandega
December 7th: Washing of the Silver in Chinandega
December 7th: National Shouting or "Gritería" to the Virgin of Conception

Useful Facts

Credit Cards and Travelers Checks

Credit cards are accepted and used in a numerous amount of establishments and banks all over the country and travelers checks can only be exchanged in some banks. There are ATM's available in the airport, the majority of tourism destinations and malls.

Currency Exchange

The most frequent is the exchange from American Dollars to Cordoba's and vice versa. The official exchange rate can be consulted in the web page: www.bcn.gob.ni. The American Dollar is commonly accepted throughout the whole country.

Internal Transportation

There is a wide offer of rent a cars, taxis, touristic operators and buses. La Costeña provides local flight services.

Work Schedule

Shopping Malls are usually open every day till 8:00 p.m. without closing at lunchtime. The government offices are open to the public from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The bank service times are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday and Saturdays until 12:30 noon.

Shopping Malls

You can do your shopping with all the safety and tranquility in any of the Shopping Malls located in Managua, like Metrocentro, Plaza Inter, Managua Shopping Center, Galerías Santo Domingo, Multicentro Las Américas, Multicentro Las Brisas. Shopping for souvenirs and typical crafts from the country can be purchased in any of the popular markets and crafts sale points of each city.

Restaurants

There is a variety of restaurants that offer delicious local and international cuisine. Also, a variety of coffee, meats and organically produced and awarded worldwide rum that can easily be found in establishments all over the country.

Hotels

In Nicaragua the hotel industry offer is wide, from international hotel chains, known for the personalized service they offer, lovely gardens and comfortable rooms.



Laguna La Bruja

NICARAGUAN TOURISM BOARD

Nicaragua

Única...Original!

Hotel Crowne Plaza one block south,
one block west. Postal mail 5088
Managua, Nicaragua.

/visitnicaragua /inturnicaragua

www.visitanicaragua.com | www.visitnicaragua.us

www.mapanicaragua.com

