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For cities in other countries, see *Costa Rica*,  
*Sinaloa* and *Costa Rica, Mato Grosso do Sul*.  
For the plant genus *Costarica*, see its synonym  
*Sicyos*.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

## Costa Rica

**Costa Rica**, officially the **Republic of Costa Rica** (Spanish: *Costa Rica* or *República de Costa Rica*, pronounced [reˈpuβlika ðe ˈkosta ˈrika]) is a country in Central America, bordered by Nicaragua to the north, Panama to the east and south, the Pacific Ocean to the west and south and the Caribbean Sea to the east.

Costa Rica, which translates literally as "Rich Coast", constitutionally abolished its army permanently in 1949. Expenditure on the police corps is about US\$17.99 per person. Costa Rica has consistently been among the top Latin American countries in terms of the Human Development Index, and ranked 54th in the world in 2007. The country is ranked 3rd in the world, and 1st among the Americas, in terms of the 2010 Environmental Performance Index.

In 2007 the Costa Rican government announced plans for Costa Rica to become the first carbon neutral country by 2021. According to the New Economics Foundation, Costa Rica ranks first in the Happy Planet Index and is the "greenest" country in the world.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Costa\\_Rica](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Costa_Rica)