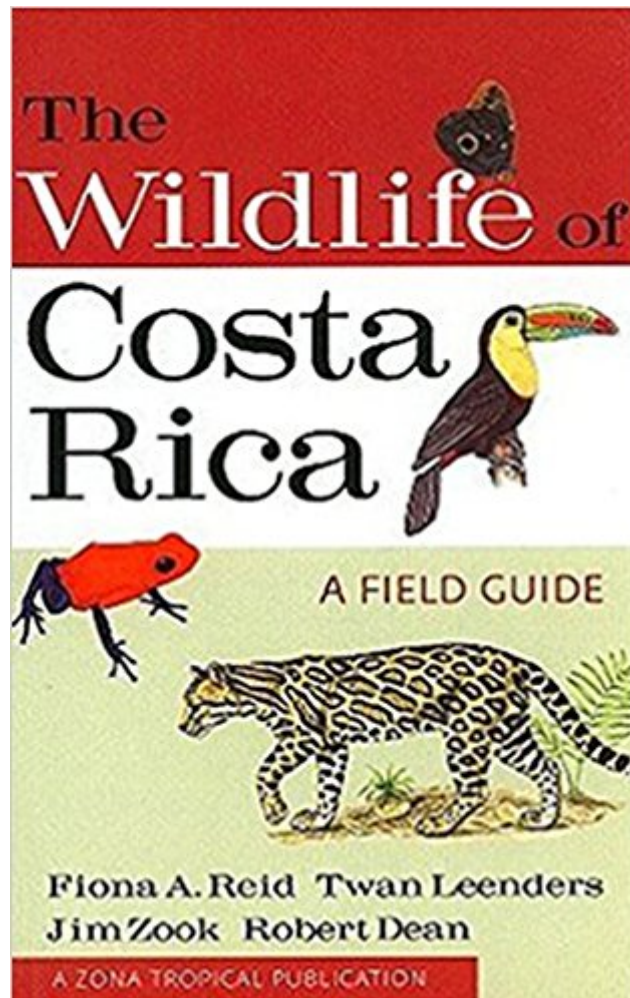




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# The Wildlife Of Costa Rica: A Field Guide (Zona Tropical Publications)



## Synopsis

This full-color field guide is an indispensable companion to the most popular neotropical ecotourism destination: Costa Rica. Featuring all the mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and arthropods that one is likely to see on a trip to the rainforest (as well as those secretive creatures such as the jaguar that are difficult to glimpse), *The Wildlife of Costa Rica* is the guide to have when encountering trogons, tapirs, and tarantulas. In addition to providing details for identifying animals along with interesting facts about their natural history, this guide offers tips for seeing them in the wild. Costa Rica, a peaceful nation with many and diverse animal species, is one of the best places in the world for wildlife watching and nature study. It has an excellent system of national parks and reserves, a wide choice of ecolodges, and many professionally trained tourist guides. It is possible to leave the capital city of San José and, just a few hours later, visit a high-elevation cloud forest, dense rainforest, savanna-like plain, or coastal habitat, each with a unique collection of animal species. This new lightweight field guide provides nature enthusiasts visiting Costa Rica with the best introduction to the country's amazing diversity of wildlife. It is the first general field guide to Costa Rica to combine the most sought-after features: treatment of all major phyla in the country; coverage of the animals most likely and most desirable to be seen; more than 600 detailed illustrations integrated with the text (the preferred method of animal identification in the wild); full species accounts including ID points, range and habitat, size, and behaviors; a wealth of natural history information, including more than 20 photographic natural history features; and tips for seeing animals.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Featuring a good selection of common and/or interesting species, *The Wildlife of Costa Rica* is the most authoritative and most useful general guide to its subject. It will attract every ecotourist visiting Costa Rica. This dream team knows its stuff, and the illustrations are stunning." — Cagan H. Sekercioglu, Stanford University

Twan Leenders is President of the Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History in Jamestown, New York. He is coauthor of *The Wildlife of Costa Rica: A Field Guide*, also from Cornell, and author of *A Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica*. Robert Dean is an avid birder and natural history illustrator. He is the illustrator of *Birds of Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao: A Site and Field Guide*, *The Birds of Costa Rica: A Field Guide*, *The Birds of Panama: A Field Guide*, and *The Wildlife of Costa Rica: A Field Guide*, all from Cornell.

We chose this book as a single volume to take with us on a month long trip to Costa Rica. The drawings were accurate and helped us identify a lot of wildlife, however we often saw birds and mammals that were not listed in the book. It covered the most common wildlife from mammals to insects and would be a great guide for a short trip to Costa Rica. However, if you are planning an extended stay or planning on spending a lot of time looking for wildlife, I would suggest investing in individual books for different wildlife types: mammals, birds and reptiles, insects and butterflies, and even one for plants. We wished we had the extra information at our fingertips despite the extra weight and bulk. The overall format was great, we just wished for a more comprehensive guide.

This is really good book - I wanted to find a field guide resource for the various animal species, but had a hard time finding books that extended beyond birds. This one has really nice illustrations and descriptions for the "casual" observer. It's not completely comprehensive (if it were it'd have to be a million pages long), but it was a great size and, overall, perfect for us. I was amazed at how many of these animals we saw! (It was nice to learn their names and a bit more about them.) I will say that I am still looking for a cool plant ID book, as there were so many SUPER cool plants that we saw and had no idea what they were.

Had most of the birds and animals that we encountered on our trip and lots of useful information. True, many other animals were not included in this guide, but this was not supposed to be a comprehensive guide anyway. They also make different versions including one specifically for birds, mammals and plants. We also encountered a tour guide who said he knew the author and the author apparently lives in Costa Rica and gives amazing talks. That just made this book all the more respectable in my eyes!

we took this book with us to our 12 day costa rica trip. Some of the guides were using this series too, like "The Birds of Costa Rica". Very useful. The graphic illustration comes in handy when you are on the road and just wanna know what to look for.

The authors claim this book does not cover all the wildlife in Costa Rica, but even though it was limited, I found it very useful for the time I spent in Costa Rica. I supplemented this book with a couple of laminated foldout guides for a quick reference to the birds and wildlife that I purchased in stores in Cost Rica. The coverage of mammals, reptiles and amphibians was enough for my use. To cover the birds alone you would need a book at least three times as thick. As for most of my purchases from , I received this book in a very short time with no problems.

A good book if you have limited space to take a Field Guide with you and if you are only moderately interested in learning about the wildlife of Costa Rica. One book cannot do justice to covering all of the magnificent wildlife in Costa Rica unfortunately. It is smaller than the Birds of Costa Rica Field Guide.

I purchased this prior to taking a nature cruise along the Pacific coast of Costa Rica and Panama. It was perfect! Each day I photographed birds etc. and at the end of the day, I was able to identify most of them using this book. I highly recommend this book for anyone truly interested in identifying birds, reptiles etc. commonly seen in this area.

I found this book to be an excellent guide during my recent trip to the Osa peninsula of Costa Rica. Though not a complete index of the amazing diversity of Costa Rica, it has very good descriptions and illustrations of the species included. A good size to keep in your pack, it was indispensable during my trip.

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