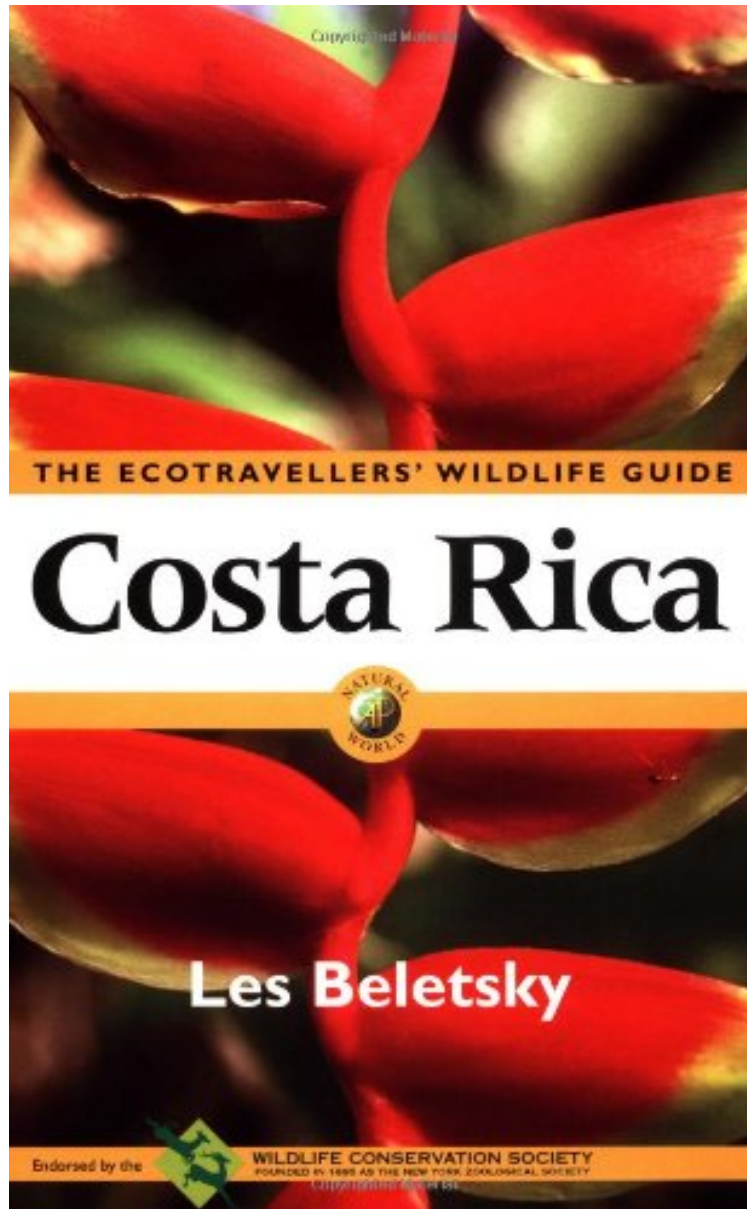


(Mobile ebook) Costa Rica: The Ecotraveller's Wildlife Guide (Ecotravellers Wildlife Guides)

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Les Beletsky

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Les Beletsky : Costa Rica: The Ecotraveller's Wildlife Guide (Ecotravellers Wildlife Guides) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Costa Rica: The Ecotraveller's Wildlife Guide (Ecotravellers Wildlife Guides):

16 of 17 people found the following review helpful. A Beginner's GuideBy TJIf you really consider yourself to be an "ecotraveller" then you will be greatly disappointed by the limited information provided in the book. The attractive title "Ecotravellers Wildlife Guide" had me sold. Unfortunately this book is not for ecotravellers, but for the novice wildlife observer. This book is very elementary and is very limited in the variation of species of birds and reptiles listed. As for the mammals, the book was sufficient. I just returned from my trip to Costa Rica 3 days ago and I had more than one of my wildlife tour guides criticize this book for its lack of information. It was so frustrating to see gorgeous birds and lizards everywhere and not be able to find hardly any of them within the book. Costa Rica has 1600 species of birds, so it is understandable that many birds would go unmentioned. Unfortunately, this book does not even scratch the surface of the diversity of birds found in this amazing country. While on my trip I was fortunate enough to be able to borrow a book from my tour guide so that I could go out bird-watching. The book I borrowed was fabulous and it was called "A Guide to the Birds of Costa Rica" by F. Gary Stiles Alexander F. Skutch. (highly recommended) I hope this information is helpful and best of luck on your trip!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent pictures, not-so-great organization of themBy Liz in WAOur copy was used, so some of the colors were faded, but we knew that going in so that's not why I only gave it three stars. It's just not set up to be used as a field guide. We spent much too much time thumbing through it to find out what it was we were looking at. It worked well for the children to look at and wonder about, though. It's okay. We left it at the condo we rented so the next renter can look at it.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The best natural guidebook for Costa RicaBy R BennettBest guide for the traveler to Costa Rica I have found. Outstanding coverage, illustrations and advice for those who self guide their way through this remarkable, richly diverse region of Central America.

With Costa Rica: The Ecotravelers Wildlife Guide, Les Beletsky provides the tourist to Central America with an invaluable handbook to natural history, ecology, and wildlife habitats. The readable, informative text along with photos and drawings will help the ecotourist to identify animals encountered on their visit. Also included are lists of wildlife reserves and other ecologically significant sites with up-to-date conservation techniques in Costa Rica. It is the only book that gives the reader a mix of natural history, ecology, conservation, species identification and site guide all in one volume. Key Features* The only guide to Costa Rica to combine general ecological information with basic species identification* Readable, informative text* Plates of species with photos of typical habitats and drawings of common plants* Lists of Reserves and sites to visit* Up-to-date text on conservation in Costa Rica

.com As ecotourism booms, it's only natural that eco-themed guidebooks would boom alongside it. The Ecotravellers' Wildlife Guides series, endorsed by the Wildlife Conservation Society and researched by professional biologists, is one of the more credible brands to have surfaced in the swelling ecotravel ranks. The series provides an encyclopedic introduction to Central America's flora and fauna, as well as a friendly primer on the principles of ecotourism. These rich ecological contexts are accompanied by hundreds of pictures and photographs. Miraculously, the guides deliver solid science without growing stilted or boring--as evinced by sections with such titles as "Avian Mating Systems and Birds That Cheat" and "Frugivory: Animals That Eat Fruit and the Trees That Want Them To." The one element in surprisingly short supply is ecologically sound travel tips, from general do's and don'ts to a list of ecologically responsible tour operators and other eco-friendly establishments in Costa Rica. This is somewhat discouraging--learning how to travel responsibly is as important as knowing what you're going to see. Though the book isn't quite a one-stop information source for the ecologically minded, it's an excellent guide to the natural wonders that make Costa Rica such a rewarding destination. --Andrew Nieland "This book is a very fine purchase. ...this is a must for the first time visitor to Costa Rica, a good buy for visitors to central America and entertaining reading for newcomers to natural history study." Roy John in THE CANADIAN FIELD-NATURALIST (March 2000)"a well-illustrated and comprehensive travel book to accompany you... It contains information about the most frequently encountered animals of Costa Rica and a guide to the best way of seeing them. ...There is information about the current conservation status of many species and general conservation throughout Costa Rica; making this an interesting read rather than just a travel book." Nicola Lace in ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND INFORMATION (September 1999)"...for anyone planning to travel to this easily accessible country, I would recommend it highly... The plates and illustrations are very good, and the text both readable and informative." NORTH AMERICAN BIRD BANDER (July/September 1999)"The illustrations are superb, the text simple and direct... If you go, take this book." BIRDS (Summer 1999)"The information this superb book provides about Costa Rica's land vertebrates will enhance the enjoyment of the tropics by environmentally conscious readers who travel to those areas. This is the perfect field book for the general tourist who has an interest in exploring tropical environs." William R. Teska in SCIENCE BOOKS AND FILMS (June 1999)"There are so many bad guides on the market trying to do what this book does so simply and so well. ...few are written with the same authority and attention to detail that wildlife biologist and zoology lecturer Les Beletsky has brought to bear in this volume. ...It could be the best (money) you spend all trip." Nick Baker in BBC WILDLIFE (June 1999)"I certainly would recommend this book to anyone travelling to Costa Rica, whether serious birder or general naturalist." Paul Donald in BTO NEWS (May/June 1999)"The information this superb book provides about

Costa Rica's land vertebrates will enhance the enjoyment of the tropics by environmentally conscious readers who travel to those areas. ...This is the perfect field book for the general tourist who has an interest in exploring tropical environs..."William R. Teska, Furman University, in *SCIENCE BOOKS AND FILMS* (May/June 1999)"...designed for the traveler who has an all-round interest in natural history but doesn't want to be weighed down by half-a-dozen field guides. ...These are books I would certainly want to read before a visit..."Gordon Hamlett in *BIRDWATCHING* (May 1999)"You could empty a forest's worth of trees, what with all the books being printed about Costa Rica. Pity that so few guides so fully focus on the country's ecological treasures as this one does. ...About half of its 426 slick pages are devoted to identification plates, those colorful drawings that, for instance, help you differentiate between the mealy parrot and the red-lored parrot. Joining the multitude of bird species are equally fine drawings of reptiles, monkeys, and wild cats."Toni Stroud in *CHICAGO TRIBUNE* (1999)"This book is exactly what you want to be reading on a plane headed for Costa Rica for the first time."THE CONDOR (1999)"...any visitor to Costa Rica should find this an attractive and useful guide."Ray Waters in *HABITAT* (1999)"The text is accurate and well-researched. ...This excellent book can be thoroughly recommended to those eco-travellers who have yet to indulge themselves in Costa Rica's wildlife, or for those who already have most of the comprehensive field guides, but for whom this book covers some previously poorly covered subjects, such as amphibians and reptiles and ecotourism in Costa Rica. If you have not yet had the pleasure of visiting Costa Rica, buying this book may well persuade you to go."Nick Smith in *IBIS* (1999)"This book is likely to be very useful to first-time visitors to Costa Rica, both casual tourists and scientists contemplating serious research on tropical organisms."COPEIA (1999)"Without doubt those travelling to Costa Rica who are interested in wildlife, other than just that which flies, will find The Ecotraveller's Wildlife Guide to Costa Rica by Les Beletsky is a must. ...As an introduction to the wildlife of Costa Rica it is an excellent guide for those on package holidays with set destinations and is likely to be the only guide that is needed. ...Without doubt it is the best wildlife guide covering this Central American country."Dave Coles in *AGRICULTURAL MAGAZINE* (1998)"...this convenient field guide-sized book is absolutely packed with information for the visitor. This book provides excellent background and field information for a trip to Costa Rica and is strongly recommended."Steve Gantlett in *BIRDING WORLD* (1998)From the Back CoverMost travellers to Costa Rica want to experience its lush tropical forests and catch glimpses of exotic wildlife; toucans and parrots, hummingbirds and hawks, monkeys and big cats, frogs and toads, crocodiles, and (yes) snakes. Here is all the information you will need to find, identify and learn about Costa Rica's magnificent wildlife. The author, himself a wildlife biologist and experienced ecotraveller, visited national parks, reserves, and other ecological sites, discussed wildlife with local and international experts and veteran tour leaders, and then selected, for new color illustrations, nearly 350 of Costa Rica's most common amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals--the species you are actually likely to see. Also pictured are some animals of special biological significance--for instance, some highly endangered species. Easy-to-carry, entertainingly written, beautifully illustrated--you will want to have this book as a constant companion on your journey.* Identification, distribution, and conservation information on Costa Rica's frequently spotted animals* Up-to-date information on the ecology, behavior, and conservation of the families of animals to which the pictured species belong* Information on habitats and on the most common plants you will encounter* Brief descriptions of Costa Rica's most frequently visited parks and reserves* Information on ecotourism in general and on conservation in Costa Rica