

From Monteverde to Liberia

Total Driving Time: 4 hours

Type of Vehicle: Best done in a 4x4 vehicle or a vehicle that is high off the ground. You will want plenty of clearance to navigate the gravel roads.

Recommended time of day to drive: It's best to do this drive by daylight with at least two hours to spare.

Fuel: As a general rule, it's best to refuel any time you are down to half a tank, but on this route there are many gas stations along the way.

Recommended stop en route: Immediately before the bridge over the Corobici River, there is a restaurant called Rincon Corobici, this is a great place to grab a bite to eat, use the restrooms and stretch your legs. Note that in Costa Rica, if there is a sign that says what river you are crossing, it is located on the right side of the entrance to the bridge. As with all stops in Costa Rica, DO NOT leave your vehicle unattended. Take turns using the facilities and never leave your vehicle alone. Put all of your belongings in the trunk and out of sight. Vehicles are routinely broken into at road side restaurants.

Driving Recommendations: Highway 1 is an important route for large trucks. Be extremely vigilant, especially when passing. Note that in Costa Rica it is not uncommon for drivers of buses, trucks and smaller vehicles to pass on blind curves or places that have a double yellow line. Heading from Monteverde to Highway 1 you will encounter narrow, winding gravel roads that have cliffs on the left hand side. It's important to anticipate that there will be fast moving vehicles and trucks coming up the mountain. You will want to be especially vigilant on the curves and stay as far right as is safe.

Driving Instructions

1. Turn left at the Monteverde Lodge entrance heading down the hill, bear left when you get to the cross roads to Santa Elena and continue down the mountain.

2. When you arrive at the paved road take the immediate left following the sign to Sardinal. **Driving Time:** 1.15 hours

3. When you get to the town of Sardinal, you will come to a soccer field on the right, take the next right hand turn. This will take you all the way to Highway #1 which is the Pan-American Highway and the Rancho Grande Gas Station.

Driving Time: 30 minutes

4. Once at the highway, **turn right** you are now on Highway #1 headed towards Liberia.

5. If you are headed towards Malpais, Santa Teresa, Nicoya, Tamarindo, Flamingo or Conchal you will want to watch for the signs to the Puente de la Amistad or Puente

Taiwan. You will make a left hand turn at an intersection where there is a restaurant on the left with a huge statute of a white Brahma Bull; this statue is in front of the Tres Hermanas Restaurant. Follow this road for 82KM until you come to the end of the road here you turn right to go to Islita, Nicoya, Tamarindo, Flamingo or Conchal. If you are headed to Santa Teresa or Malpais, you will turn left.

6. From this point, follow the directions provided by your hotel for the rest of your journey.

OR

7. If you are headed towards Liberia, stay on Highway #1 until you reach the main intersection of Liberia, there is a Burger King on the left hand corner, follow your driving instructions to your next destination. Total Distance: Ranch Grande Gas Station - Liberia Intersection 70KM