



COSTA DULCE

COSTA RICA TO NICARAGUA BORDER-CROSSING GUIDE

Pre-Flight Guidelines

Before heading to Costa Dulce, make sure to take the following preparatory steps:

- Download your proof of Onward Travel, either your return flight ticket or proof of transit to Nicaragua. When passing Customs at the airport you can tell them you are "en transito" and show these items as proof.
- Download this Border Crossing Guide on your phone so you can pull it up if you are without data (you likely will be without data or wifi at the border).
- Have at least \$14 to \$35 in small bills (\$1's, \$5's, and \$10's) to cross the border, as change may not always be available when paying to cross the border. We've outlined both the mandatory and optional border crossing fees below, though these fees are subject to change so we advise you have some spare bills.
- If you have any questions, we recommend you join the Facebook Group [Nicaragua Flight / Travel Info Group](#), and search for relevant keywords.



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Nicaraguan Taxi

After exiting the customs office, walk across the lot to the final passport checkpoint located at the end of the wall on the left-hand side. Your driver will meet you here and help you to the car. Enjoy the rest of the drive to Costa Dulce!

**Your driver may be able to meet you in the customs office or just outside, if not stay by the officer at this checkpoint until your driver shows up.*

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Nicaragua Customs

To enter the building - pay a **\$1 tax** to the person at the door. Then join the line and proceed to the first open window where you'll officially enter Nicaragua and pay a **\$13 entry fee** and get your passport stamp. You'll then scan your bags and exit the building.

**TIP: Use small bills if you have them.*

Customs officer will sometimes ask for the hotel information:

Hospedaje Costa Dulce
Km 14 carretera Ostional,
San Juan del sur
Propietaria: Patricia Jimenez
Contacto: 8277-8009

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Checkpoint

Have your passport ready to show to the Nicaraguan officers here, you'll see them along the wall to the left of a blue building in the center of the street.

TIP: You will see guys with handcarts that will offer to help you with your bags - these guys can be helpful in getting you through the customs office as well. If you're overwhelmed or want help with your bags, it's well worth tipping them **\$5-\$10 for the help they provide.*

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Border Drop Off

After exiting the Costa Rica customs office, your driver may be able to take you further, but it's likely you'll walk the rest of the way. Follow the sidewalk north towards Nicaragua, after about a 5 minute walk you'll come to a small shack with 1-2 Costa Rican officers that will check your passport to ensure you exited Costa Rica and have the proper passport stamps.

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Costa Rica Customs

The Costa Rican driver will stop here and direct you to the customs office. You'll need a credit card to pay an **\$8 tax** at the machines at back of the building before getting in line to go through customs. They will often ask for proof of return travel (ie, your flight home)

**TIP: If you prefer to use cash, pay the people on the street outside \$10 cash instead of using the machine*