

Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge – Luxury Eco-Lodge in Costa Rica

Description

An in-depth review of our stay at the Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge in Nosara, Costa Rica

"True hospitality consists of giving the best of yourself to your guests." Eleanor Roosevelt

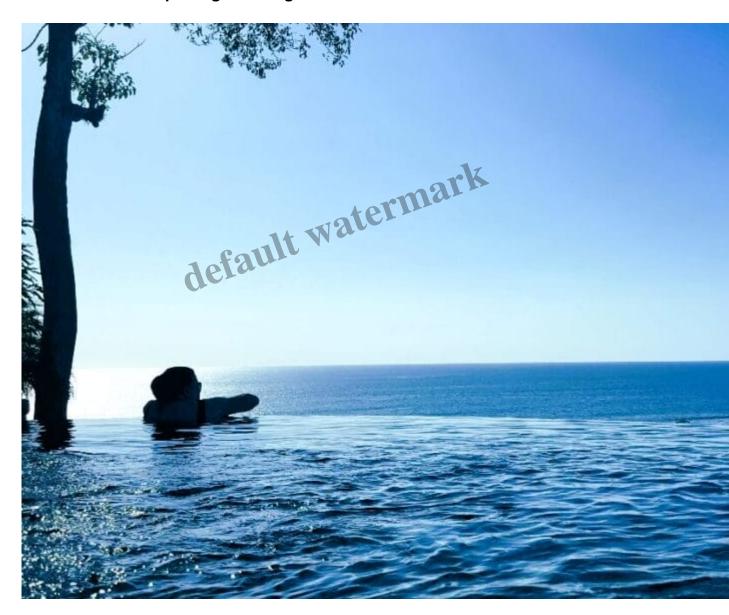


Lagarta Lodge in Nosara, Costa Rica, offers a luxurious and eco-conscious retreat in one of the most beautiful regions of the country. With its stunning views, commitment to sustainability, and range of amenities and activities, the lodge provides an unforgettable experience for travelers seeking both

relaxation and adventure. Whether you're looking to explore the rich biodiversity of the area or simply unwind in a tropical paradise, Lagarta Lodge is the perfect destination.

In February 2023, I visited the lodge with my sister in Costa Rica. It was our first trip to Costa Rica, and we were enthralled by the beauty of this Central American country. Our time there included time in San Jose, La Fortuna, and Nosara. Though all the hotels we stayed at were very nice, Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge blew us away. If we could have another night or two, it would have been heaven. It was such a great experience, and it earned us a place as one of the best hotels we have ever stayed at.

A Bit About Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge

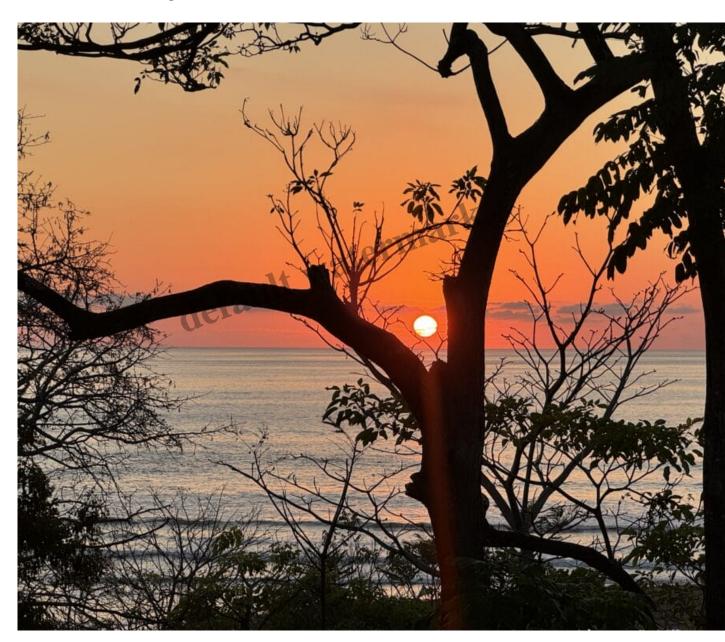


Lagarta Lodge's history reflects a deep commitment to combining luxury with environmental stewardship. Initially under the ownership of the Nair family, the lodge has become a model for sustainable tourism, blending exceptional hospitality with a strong dedication to conservation and community support. The lodge's ongoing efforts to preserve the natural beauty of Nosara and its dedication to providing a unique and enriching experience for guests underscore its status as a premier

destination in Costa Rica.

In later years, <u>Lagarta Lodge</u> was acquired by prominent hospitality industry figures Franz and Maria Schmid, Swiss owners. The Schmid family, known for investing in sustainable and luxury properties around the world, brought a fresh perspective to Lagarta Lodge, with a strong focus on continuing and enhancing the lodge's commitment to environmental stewardship and high-quality service.

Improvements done with thought and care



At the front desk, there is a book that shows the before-and-after photos of this new ownership. I was in awe of the transformation, which is a complete redesign of the property. Clearly, they had a vision, as it is hard to even wrap your head around the work they have done. Franz has a track record of transforming luxury properties with a focus on sustainability and guest experience. Maria's expertise in eco-tourism and community development brings a wealth of knowledge in integrating environmental practices with high-end hospitality. Their combined talents have made Lagarta Lodge a truly

remarkable destination.

The new owners have expanded the lodge's sustainability efforts, including upgrades to energy-efficient technologies, enhanced waste management systems, and further investments in local conservation projects. The lodge has introduced new amenities and services, including revamped wellness offerings, expanded dining options, and enhanced guest experiences, such as curated local excursions and cultural activities. Even more importantly, they have strengthened the lodge's connections with the local community, supporting new local businesses and cultural programs.

Growth ongoing



The lodge plans to add new suites and private villas to provide more diverse and luxurious accommodation options. These new units will offer even more stunning views of the Pacific Ocean and surrounding landscapes, with an emphasis on integrating local materials and design elements.

With these enhancements, Lagarta Lodge is poised to offer an even more exceptional and immersive experience for its guests, solidifying its position as a premier destination in Costa Rica.

Hotel Boutique Lagarata Lodge Facts

Number of rooms: 36 rooms (26 Junior Suites and 10 Suites)

Ratings: Booking.com 9.2/10 Expedia 9.8/10 Trip Advisor 5/5 Google 4.7/5

Named in the Conde Nast Reader's Choice Awards as one of the Top 20 Best Resorts in Central Amercia in 2023

Check-in Time: 2:00 p.m.

Check-out time: 11:00 a.m.



Location: <u>Lagarta Lodge</u> is located in Nosara, on the Nicoya Peninsula in Costa Rica. Nestled between the jungle and the beach, it offers stunning views of the Pacific Ocean and easy access to both natural beauty and local attractions.

Opening Date: Lagarta Lodge reopened in December 2016 after an extensive renovation. The original lodge has been a beloved destination for many years, with the new upgrades enhancing its appeal and comfort.

Architecture: Lagarta Lodge features a blend of contemporary and traditional Costa Rican architecture designed to harmonize with its natural surroundings. The lodge incorporates sustainable materials, open-air structures, and large windows to maximize natural light and showcase panoramic views of the jungle and ocean.

Accommodations: Lagarta Lodge offers luxurious and eco-friendly accommodation, with spacious rooms and suites, elegant decor, and modern amenities. Each room features large windows or private terraces, allowing guests to immerse themselves in the stunning natural beauty of the surrounding jungle and ocean.

Click here to visit the official home page of the Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge



Contact the lodge directly for any specific inquiries or special arrangements regarding pets.

Facilities and Services: Lagarta Lodge offers a range of facilities and services designed to enhance guests' experiences. The lodge features two infinity pools with breathtaking views of the surrounding landscape, providing a perfect spot to relax and unwind. The on-site restaurant and bar serve a delightful selection of local and international cuisine, complemented by a variety of drinks. Guests can also indulge in the wellness center, which offers massages, facials, and other treatments to rejuvenate the body and mind.

For those seeking adventure, Lagarta Lodge provides guided tours and activities, including nature walks, bird watching, and kayaking excursions. Yoga classes and a fitness area are available for guests looking to maintain their wellness routines.

Accessibility: Lagarta Lodge is committed to providing a comfortable experience for all guests, including those with disabilities. The lodge features handicap-accessible rooms and facilities designed to accommodate guests with mobility challenges. However, due to its natural hillside location, not all areas may be easily accessible. It is recommended that you contact the lodge directly to discuss specific accessibility needs and ensure a suitable arrangement.



Vibe: The vibe at Lagarta Lodge is serene and rejuvenating, offering a perfect blend of luxury and nature. Guests can enjoy a peaceful atmosphere surrounded by lush jungle and stunning ocean views, making it an ideal retreat for relaxation and tranquility. The lodge's emphasis on sustainable practices and eco-friendly design further enhances the connection to nature, providing a harmonious and refreshing escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge Description

Lagarta Lodge offers an exceptional retreat nestled in the heart of Costa Rica's Nicoya Peninsula, blending luxury with natural beauty. The lodge's contemporary yet eco-friendly design features spacious rooms and suites with panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean and surrounding jungle. With two stunning infinity pools, a serene spa, and an on-site restaurant serving both local and international cuisine, guests can enjoy a perfect balance of relaxation and indulgence.



The lodge's commitment to sustainability is evident throughout the property, from its use of eco-friendly materials to its emphasis on preserving the natural environment. Guests can engage in a variety of activities, including guided nature tours, yoga sessions, and kayaking, or simply unwind in the tranquil setting. The attentive concierge services ensure that every need is met, allowing visitors to fully immerse themselves in the beauty and serenity of their surroundings.

Clientele

The clientele at <u>Lagarta Lodge</u> tends to be discerning travelers seeking a blend of luxury, nature, and sustainability. Guests often include couples on romantic getaways, nature enthusiasts, and ecoconscious travelers looking for a tranquil retreat in a beautiful setting. The lodge attracts those who appreciate high-end amenities and personalized service, as well as those interested in wellness and outdoor activities. The serene atmosphere and eco-friendly ethos appeal to individuals and couples who value both comfort and environmental responsibility. The property is family-friendly, with a kids' pool and a kid's menu at the restaurant, but during our stay, we only saw one family.

Rooms

The rooms at Lagarta Lodge are elegantly designed to offer a luxurious and immersive experience in nature. Each spacious room features large windows or private terraces with stunning views of the Pacific Ocean or lush jungle, blending modern elegance with natural elements. Guests enjoy high-quality amenities, including plush bedding, stylish furnishings, and upscale bathroom fixtures, with some rooms offering outdoor showers or plunge pools to enhance the connection to the surrounding landscape. The emphasis on natural light and open spaces creates a serene and inviting atmosphere,

ensuring a comfortable and rejuvenating stay.

Dining and Drink



At <u>Lagarta Lodge</u>, dining options are designed to offer a delightful culinary experience in a stunning setting. The on-site restaurant serves a menu that highlights both local Costa Rican flavors and international cuisine, using fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Guests can enjoy their meals while taking in panoramic views of the ocean and jungle, creating a memorable dining experience. We had several meals at the restaurant, and they were excellent. The breakfast was delicious.

The bar at Lagarta Lodge offers a selection of refreshing cocktails, fine wines, and local beverages, perfect for unwinding after a day of activities or simply enjoying the serene environment. They had an amazing Mezcal cocktail! Whether dining or sipping a drink, guests can relax and savor their surroundings in a stylish and comfortable atmosphere.

Transportation and Parking



The lodge is not easy to reach as it is not near any of the country's large airports. However, there is a regional airport in Nosara that is well connected to the international traffic routes. The regional airline Sansa ensures the air transfer between San José and Nosara and between Liberia and Nosara. Complimentary shuttle services are often available from local small airports or trips to nearby attractions.

In our case, we used Daytrip private car service to take us from La Fortuna to Nosara and then Nosare back to the capital city, San Jose. The last 20 km to the resort is a gravel road that got pretty rough in some places. We were glad we had a driver, but rental cars could have handled it, too. The drive from Liberia is 2 1/2 hours and from Sam Jose 4-5 hours. For those driving themselves, the lodge offers secure on-site parking to ensure a hassle-free experience.

<u>Lagarta Lodge</u> provides various transportation options to enhance guests' convenience. If needed, the lodge can assist with arranging local transportation, such as taxis, rental cars, or Tuk-Tuks. The location's serene, natural setting and the lodge's emphasis on comfort ensure that all transportation needs are met smoothly and efficiently.

Click here to visit the official home page of the Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge

Map of Nosara, Costa Rica

• Lagarta Lodge

Address: Lagarta Lodge Playa Lagarta, Nosara, Guanacaste, Costa Rica

Phone: +506 2682 1199

Website: Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge Home Page



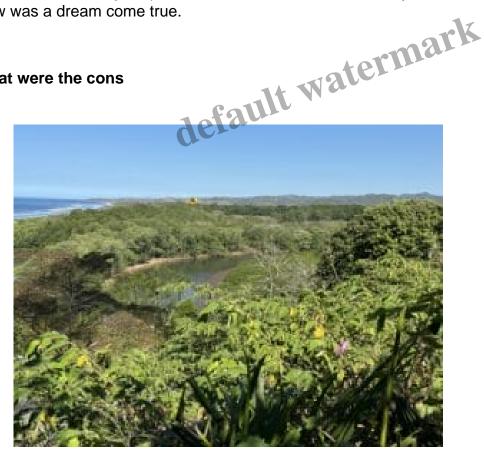
At Lagarta Lodge, we were captivated by the stunning blend of luxury and natural beauty that defined our stay. The infinity pools offered breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean and surrounding jungle, providing a perfect spot for relaxation. It was short of perfection to just stare out at the views from the edge of the pool. The spacious rooms, with their large windows and private terraces, allowed us to fully immerse ourselves in the serene landscape while enjoying modern, elegant amenities. The thoughtful design and eco-friendly practices of the lodge enhanced our experience, creating a harmonious connection with nature.

We also cherished the exceptional dining experience at the on-site restaurant. The attentive staff and personalized service added a special touch, and the food was delicious. It doesn't hurt to have a stunning sunset while sipping on cocktails.

I did enjoy some spa treatments at the on-site spa. What a beautiful facility that accents the beauty of the setting. I highly recommend a visit.

Honestly, the grounds and the views are what captivated us the most. Oh, the sunsets were incredible. To be able to sit on your patio hammock, listen to the monkeys and birds in the trees, and gaze at the view was a dream come true.

What were the cons



While Lagarta Lodge offers a luxurious and serene escape, some downsides include its potentially challenging accessibility for guests with mobility issues due to its hillside location. The drive to the lodge involves rough, unpaved roads that may require a more rugged vehicle, especially during the rainy season. Additionally, the remote setting, while tranquil, can mean a longer distance from local shops, restaurants, and other amenities, necessitating more planning for excursions and daily needs. For those who use fitness centers during their hotel stays, this property does not have one.

Booking your stay at the Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge

We suggest booking the hotel in three ways: at the two booking sites below or directly with the hotel. Check them all for the best price. Look closely at the various packages offered. If you have points or credit to use at Expedia, Booking.com, or wish to work directly with the property, choose that route to keep the cost down.

BOOK NOW

Transparency

As a rule, we do not let properties know we are travel bloggers, and I did not in this case. During our stay, I did not let the hotel know that I was a travel blogger until check-out just to explain why I was taking so many photos of the lobby.

Things to do at the property and nearby



1. Wellness and Relaxation

Spa Treatments: The lodge's wellness center offers a range of spa treatments, including massages,

facials, and body scrubs. Treatments use natural and locally sourced ingredients.

Yoga and Meditation: Guests can participate in daily yoga classes and meditation sessions held in serene outdoor pavilions or dedicated indoor spaces.

Infinity Pools: The lodge features two infinity pools with stunning views of the ocean and surrounding landscapes, perfect for relaxation and swimming.

2. Adventure and Outdoor Activities

Guided Nature Hikes: Explore the Reserva Biológica Lagarta with guided hikes that showcase the region's rich biodiversity, including native plants, birds, and wildlife.

Wildlife Watching: The nature reserve offers opportunities for wildlife observation, including spotting howler monkeys, exotic birds, and other local fauna. You can enter the reserve right from the hotel property.



Boat tours: Glide through the rivers Rio Nosara and Rio Montaña. The guide will show you the mangroves and fascinating animals of the region. Thanks to the numerous bird species, you can see them on the silent electric boats on the rivers. With a bit of luck, you might even see a crocodile. We did a boat tour and loved our experience, but make sure to bring sunscreen!

Kayaking and Stand-Up Paddleboarding: Enjoy water activities on the Nosara River and nearby beaches, with equipment available for kayaking and stand-up paddleboarding. *At the time of our visit, paddleboarding was discouraged as crocodiles were in the Nosara River. You will see people paddleboarding, but they tend to be locals.

Horseback Riding: Experience the scenic landscapes of Nosara on horseback, with guided tours that take you through lush forests and along beautiful trails.



3. Cultural and Educational Experiences

Local Tours: The lodge offers tours to nearby attractions, including the charming village of Nosara, local markets, and cultural sites.

Cooking Classes: Participate in cooking classes that focus on Costa Rican cuisine, learning to prepare traditional dishes with fresh, local ingredients.

Art and Craft Workshops: Engage in workshops with local artisans, exploring traditional crafts and artistic techniques.

4. Beach and Water Activities



Beach Access: The beaches Pelada, Guiones, Nosara, and Ostional are protected and within walking distance of the hotel. They are ideal for swimming, surfing, and relaxing in the ocean. It is about a 15 minute walk to the beach closest to the hotel, during our walk we came across a large group of monkey playing in the trees. There are set times the hotel shuttle drops off and picks up at the beaches. One of the largest sea turtle nesting sites in the world is about 25 minutes by car from the hotel.

Surf Lessons: Take surf lessons on the nearby beaches, guided by experienced instructors who provide personalized instruction for all skill levels. default

5. Recreational Facilities



vatermark

Bike riding: We will take advantage of the rural roads and trails in the area by taking a trip on the healthiest, most fun, and most sustainable means of transport in the world.

Beach sports: Whether it's football or another sport

- the beach is the place where you can let off some steam.

6. Eco and Conservation Activities

Conservation Programs: Participate in conservation programs and educational initiatives that support the lodge's commitment to protecting the local environment and wildlife.

Volunteer Opportunities: Engage in volunteer activities that contribute to local community projects and environmental conservation efforts.

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Final thoughts



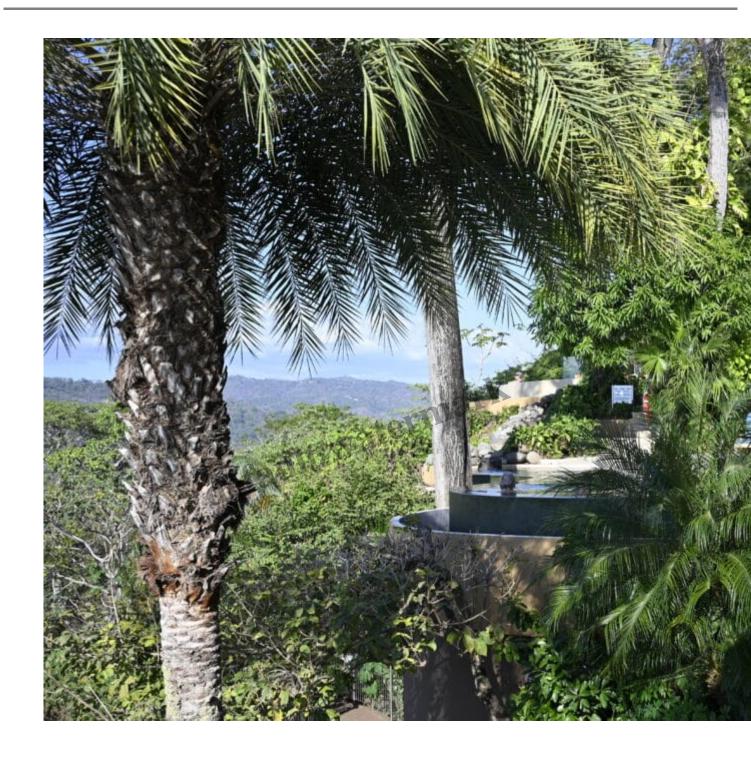
<u>Lagarta Lodge</u> offers a diverse range of activities that cater to various interests, from relaxation and wellness to adventure and cultural experiences. The property is gorgeous, and after several days, we were still in awe of the views and grounds. Often, Eco-lodges can be rough around the edges, but Lagarta Lodge breaks the norm.

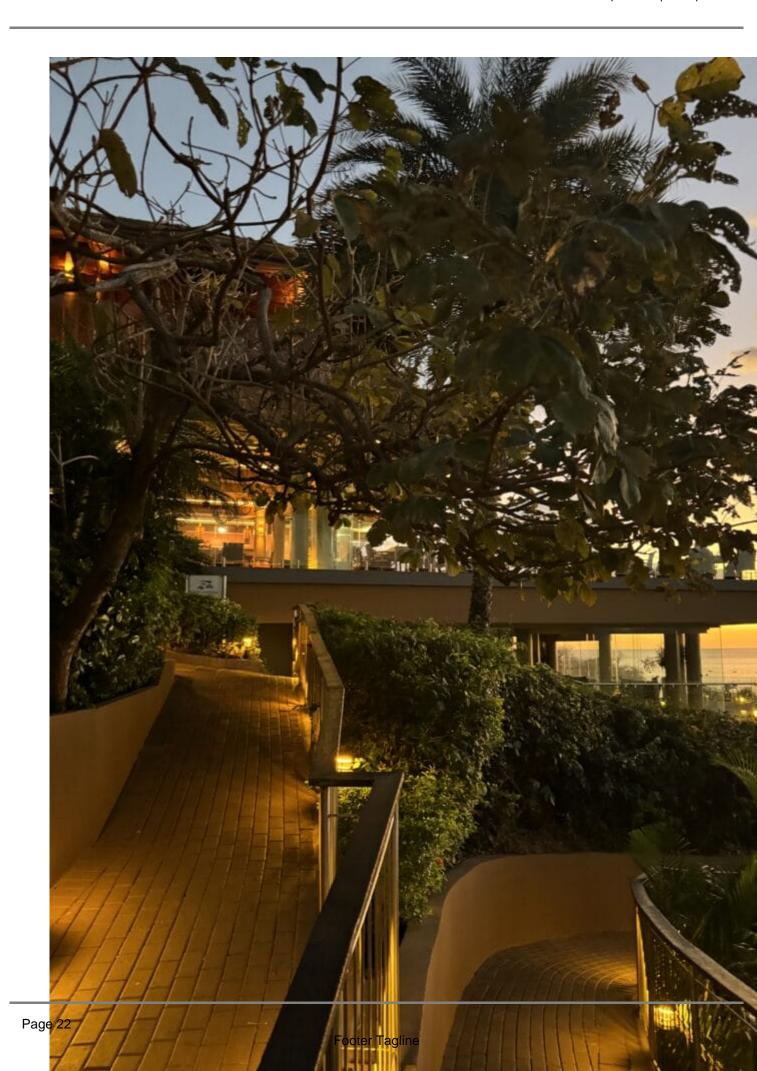
Lagarta Lodge provides opportunities for all types of travelers to enjoy and engage with their surroundings while in the lap of luxury. Whether indulging in a relaxing spa treatment, exploring the natural beauty of Costa Rica, immersing yourself in local culture, participating in guided tours, or simply enjoying the tranquility of the surroundings, Lagarta Lodge provides a perfect retreat. It exceeded our expectations on all levels.

Heading to Costa Rica? Click the links below to check out accommodation prices throughout the country.

Photo Gallery of the Hotel Boutique Lagarta Lodge







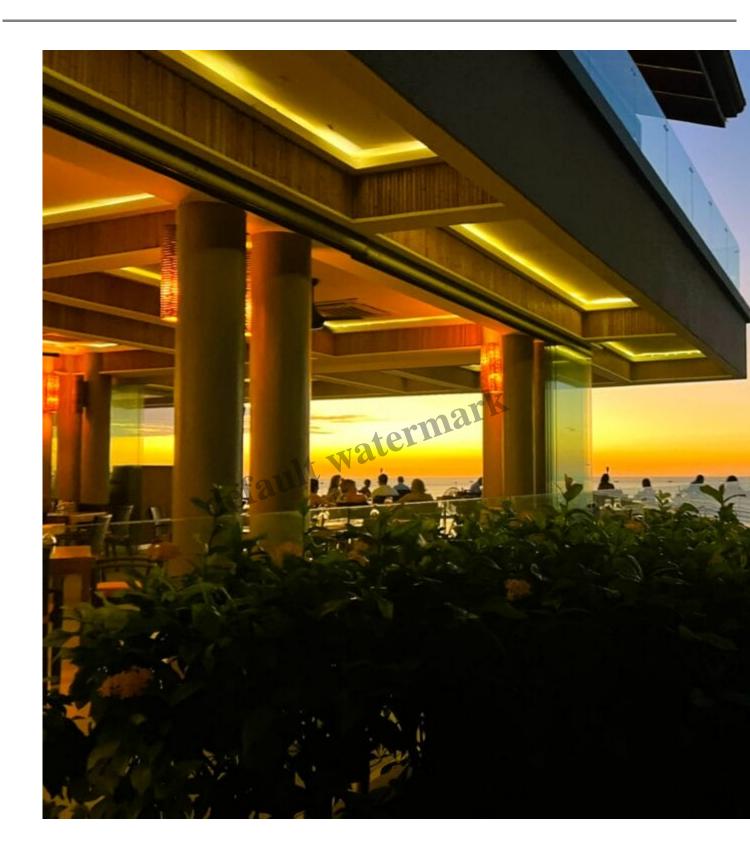








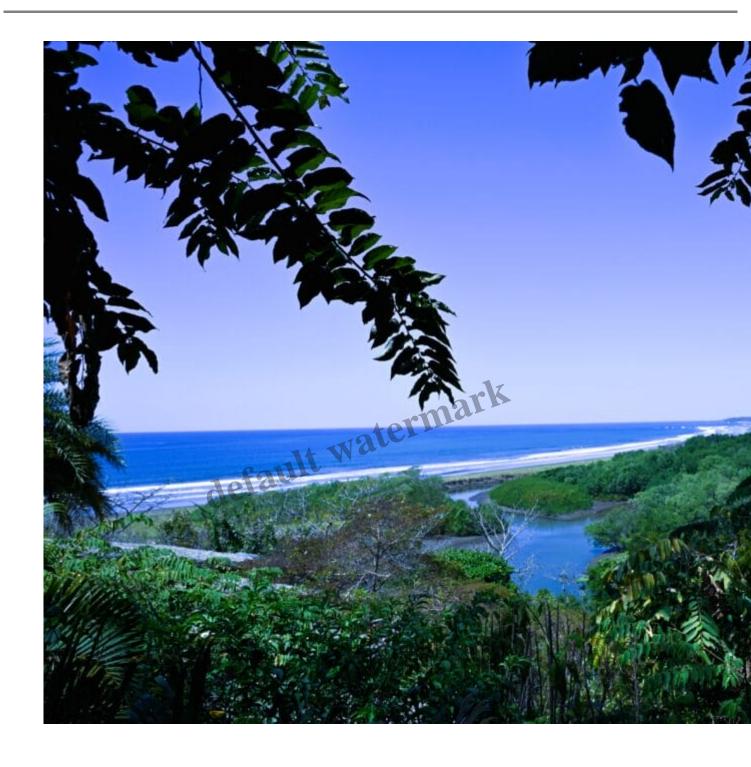


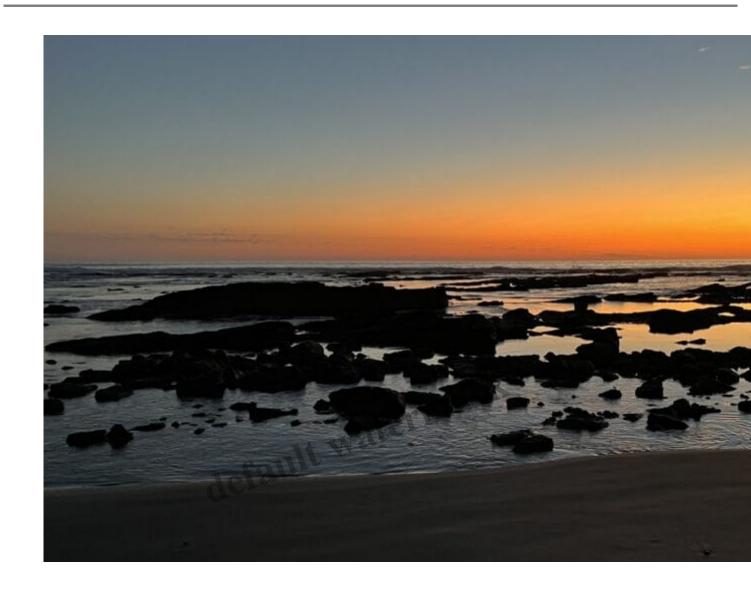








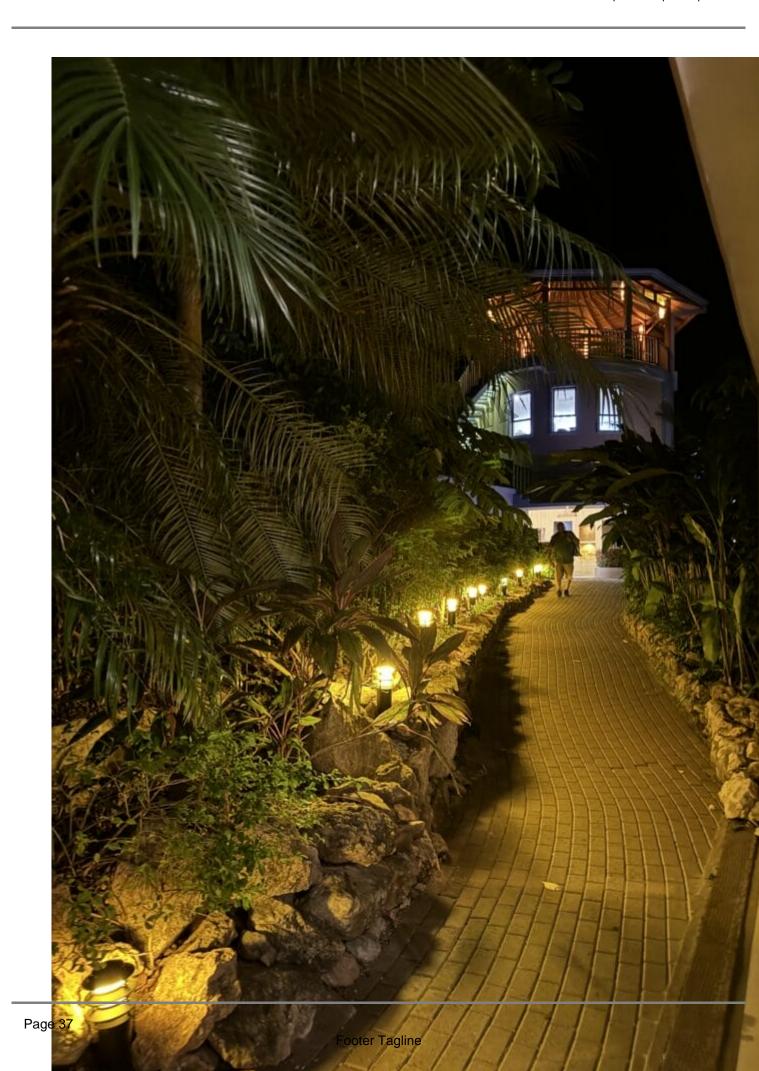




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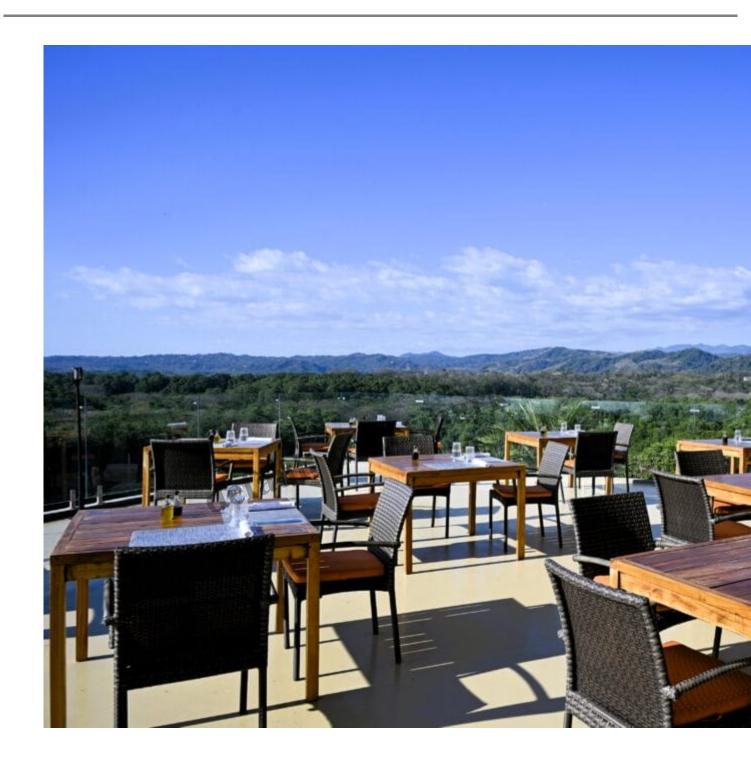


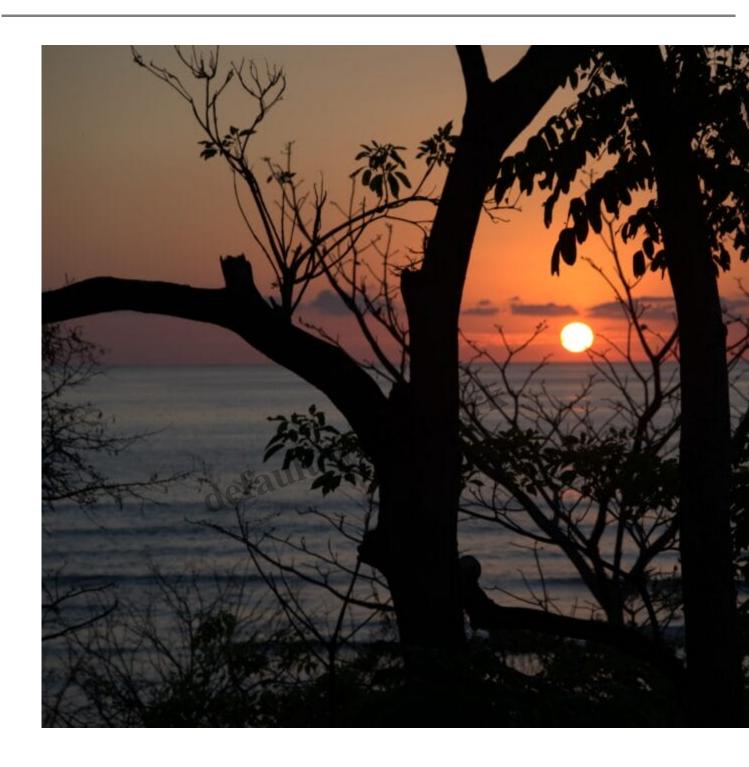




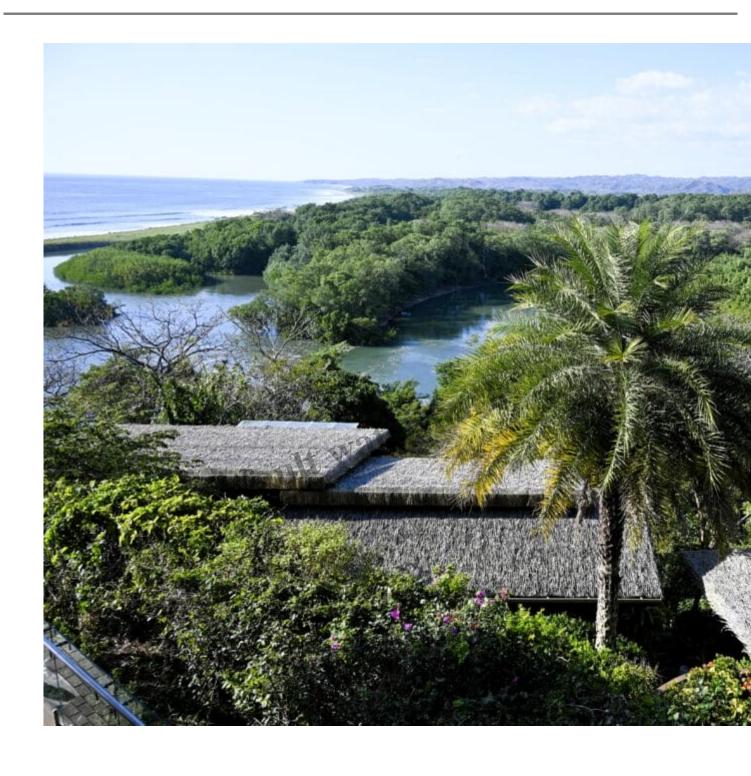




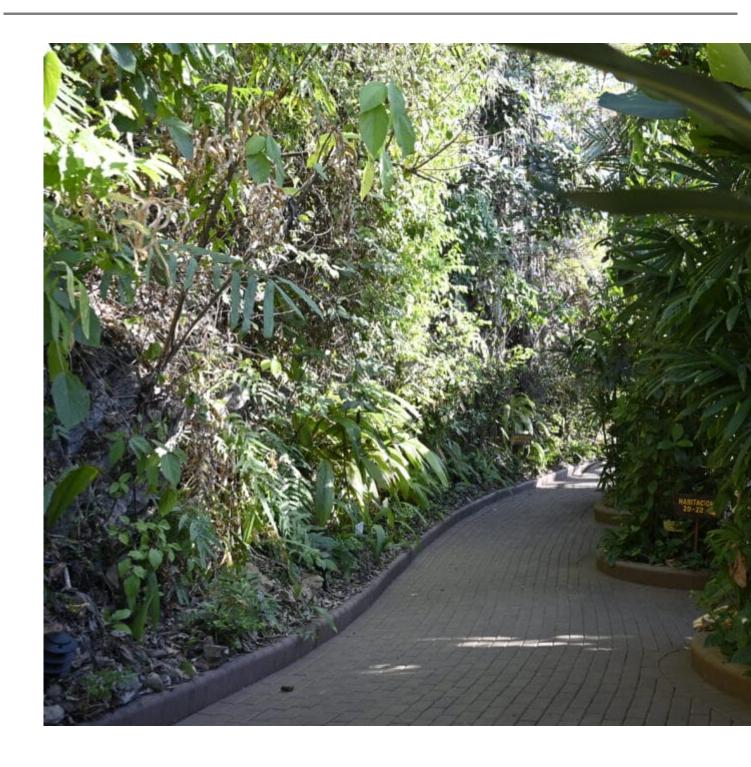




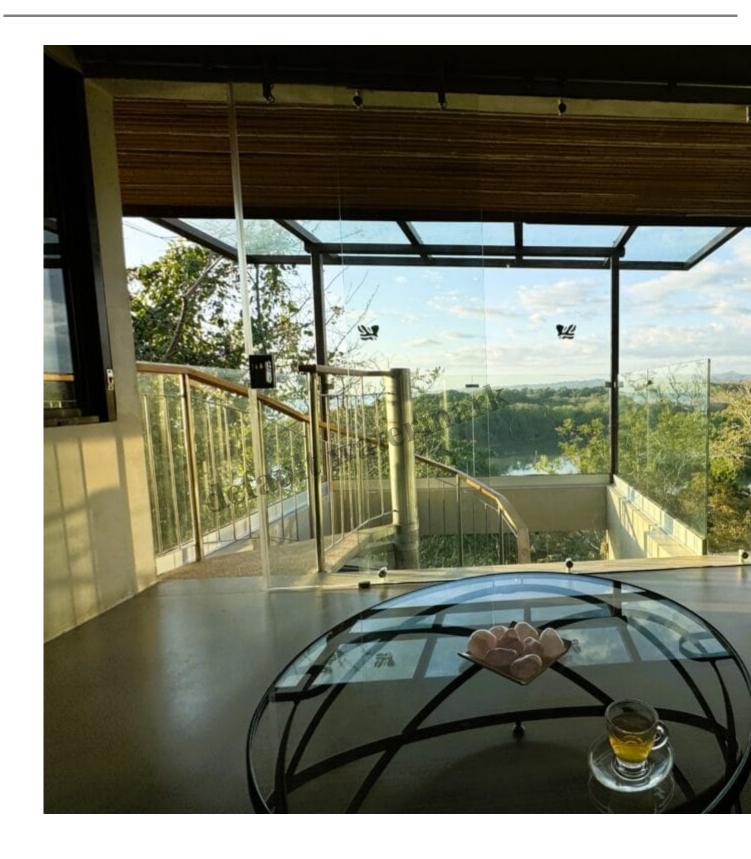


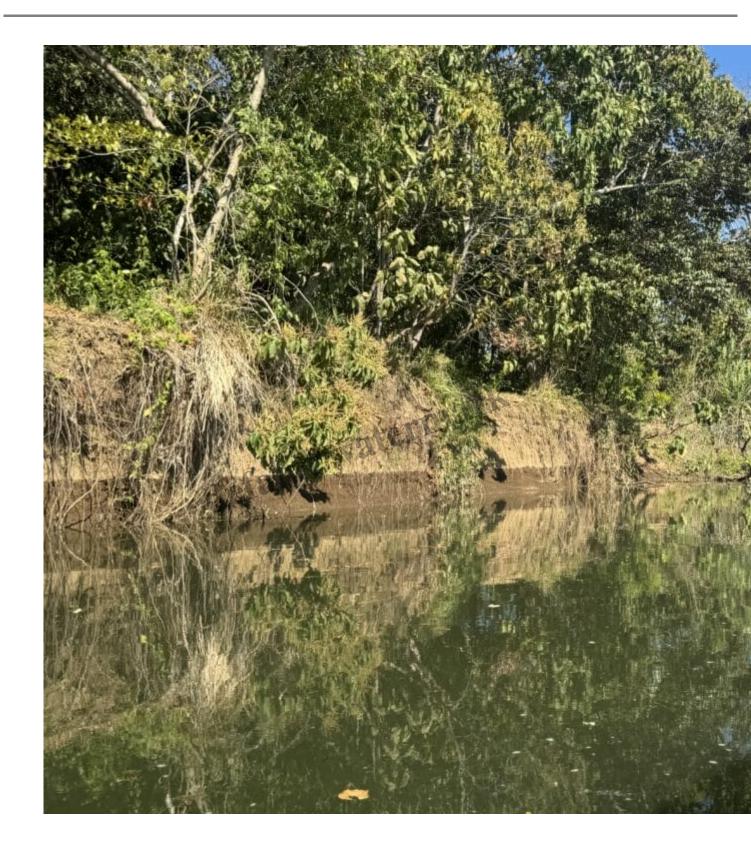










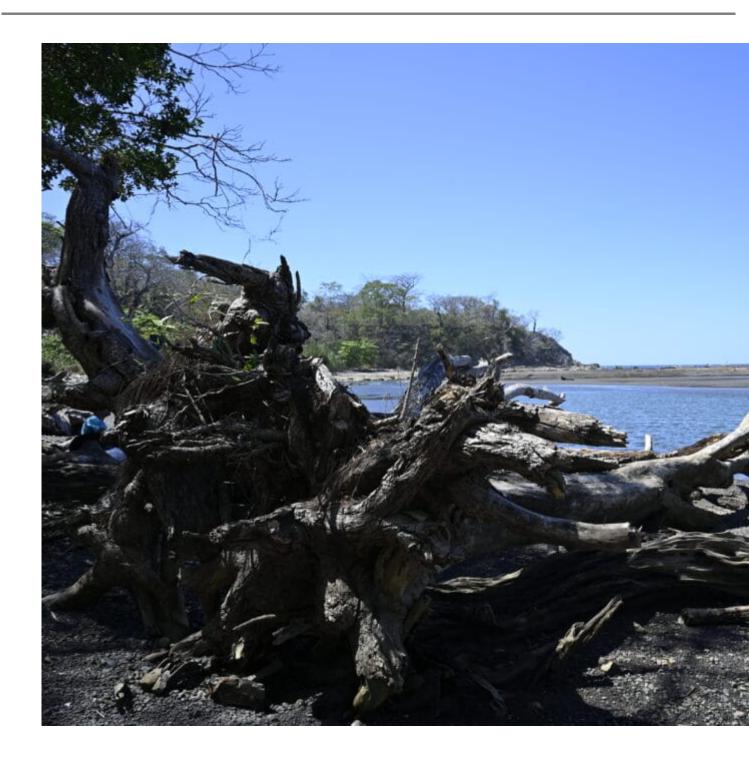




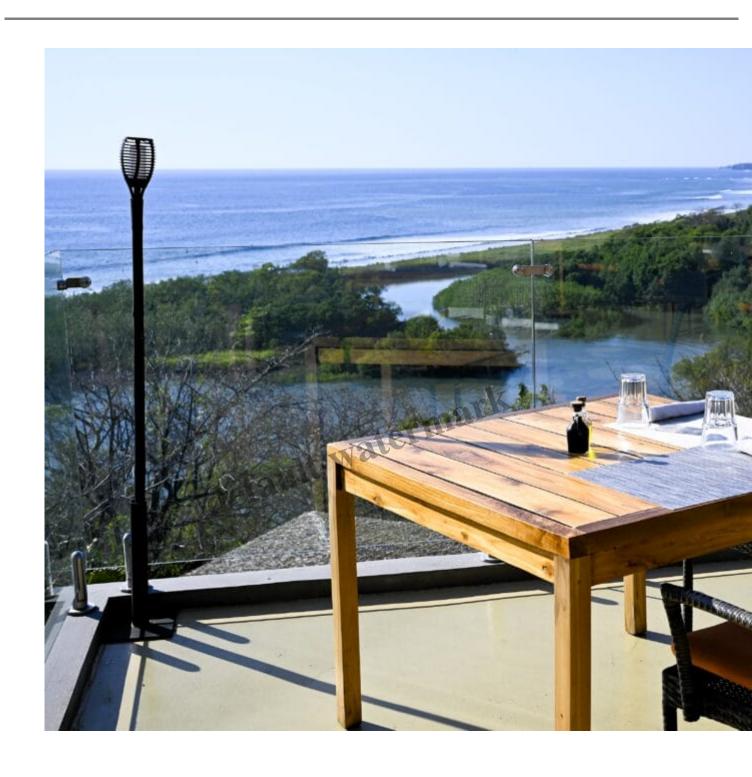












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