

EVERETT POTTER'S TRAVEL REPORT

[Adventure](#) / [Culture](#) / [Discoveries](#) / [Gear](#) / [Getaways](#) / [Knife & Fork](#)

[Home](#) » [Adventure](#) » [Savoring Slow Travel at the Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge](#)

ADVENTURE

Savoring Slow Travel at the Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge

 / [July 8, 2018](#) / [0](#) / [74](#)



The Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge infinity pool overlooks the Sarapiquí River, far below.

SEARCH

Search ...

SEARCH



[Hiking Vorarlberg and Tirol](#)

[July 8, 2018](#) / [0](#)



[Savoring Slow Travel at the Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge](#)

[July 8, 2018](#) / [0](#)



[Anita Stewart's Canada File: Scaramouche Restaurant & The Glen Tavern](#)

[July 8, 2018](#) / [0](#)



[Beyond the Stand-Up Paddleboard: The Hi Life 11.0](#)

[June 28, 2018](#) / [0](#)



[First Restaurant 'Instagram Table' In U.S. Opens](#)

[June 19, 2018](#) / [0](#)



[Beautiful Beaches at the End of the Earth: Exploring Portugal's Rota Vicentina](#)

[June 18, 2018](#) / [0](#)

by Geri Bain

Stepping into the open-air, high-ceiling lobby at the Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge, I got my first glimpse of Costa Rican wildlife before even checking in. Built in the circular architectural style of the pre-Columbian people of the area, the lobby is home to a few dozen small bats. They darted around but never at low enough altitudes to see how cute they were. I walked out to the hotel restaurant overlooking the Sarapiquí River, where the reality of how far I'd come hit. Costa Rica is a visual feast, with wildly colored plants and flowers punctuating the thick foliage. We were only about 50 kilometers from the San Jose airport but the sights and sounds were a world apart.



Rooms feature indigenous and colonial decor.

After a friendly check-in, I followed a garden path to my room in a separate thatch roof building with four units. The high roofs allow for good air circulation, important since most rooms have ceiling fans and are not air-conditioned. While there is Wi-Fi in the lobby, restaurant, bar, and pool area, rooms have no TV or Wi-Fi. Here, the focus is on nature, and rightly so. Each evening brought a symphony of sounds, constantly teasing with hints at the unseen, such as the occasional brazen outbursts from howler monkeys and I fell asleep to the sound of crickets chirping in a slow soothing rhythm that felt like the forest itself was inhaling and exhaling.



HAWAII, WHICH IS HEAVEN IN PARADISE

June 17, 2018 / 0



Fly Fishing with Mollie Fitzgerald & Frontiers International Travel

June 17, 2018 / 0

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Email Address

SUBSCRIBE

RECENT COMMENTS

So honored to have been a producer for both restaurants for so many years. Congratulations Sal, Matthias, Jamie and all!



Mary Ellen Grueneberg
on Anita Stewart's Canada File: River Café and Deane House, Calgary

Thanks Anne! I wish I was there right now on that screen porch.



everett
on Early Summer in Castine, Maine

I have always loved the way you write, Everett. You transport us into your stories... I feel summer coming now, and want to be in Castine on either side of...



Anne Hersley
on Early Summer in Castine, Maine

[Adventure](#) / [Culture](#) / [Discoveries](#) / [Gear](#) / [Getaways](#) / [Knife & Fork](#)

Wi-Fi. Here, the focus is on nature, and rightly so. Each evening brought a symphony of sounds, constantly teasing with hints at the unseen, such as the occasional brazen outbursts from howler monkeys and I fell asleep to the sound of crickets chirping in a slow soothing rhythm that felt like the forest itself was inhaling and exhaling.



Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge Restaurant, where generous buffets focus on local specialties.

The open-air restaurant served buffets featuring local produce, from yummy fried plantains and fresh juices and fruits to a choice of beans, veggies and grilled meats. The service was always friendly and efficient but my favorite part was watching the colorful hummingbirds, butterflies and other birds flutter and fly in and out of the tropical foliage. This is a place where slowing down pays off. Take the time to gaze deeply in any direction and colorful flowers and creatures are likely to come into focus. One morning, I took my coffee to the pool as the sun was rising and a toucan emerged to splash in the pool's mini-waterfall. One tip: Bring a flashlight. Walking back at night, I could be sure I wasn't stepping on any stray creatures, and shining my light into the foliage for a few minutes, I spotted a colorful frog.



Anne Hersley
on Early Summer in Castine, Maine

[...] Win an adventure trip in the Balkans [...]



Travel Contests: Week of May 30, 2018 - JohnnyJet.com
on Win an Adventure Trip to the Balkans with BikeHike Adventures!

Nice job and well worth the trip. A must see if looking for an alternative to the most popular destinations. A truly authentic northern Italy experience



Simon
on Piemonte's Secrets Uncovered



Trails through the tropical rainforest wind past cocoa trees (pictured here).

Adjacent to the Lodge is a nature center offering a variety of nature tours. These include self-guided and guided day and night walks where participants may spot howler monkeys, and, since this is a prime birding area, some of Costa Rica's hundreds of bird species. There are also rare and colorful frogs, such as the red-eyed tree frog, iguanas, sloths and many other tropical creatures. Specialized programs here focus on bats, where you can actually hold and feed them, as well as birds, snakes and a pre-Colombian archeological site and museum were under restoration during my visit.



The tour included tasting chocolate in every stage of production.