

HOW TO GET TO ARACARI GARDEN HOSTEL

Our hostel is located on the south side of the soccer field. From the main dock (yellow n°2+3 in the map) take the main path to the right. After few meters you will see the souvenir shop Enchú's (yellow n°6). Take the path before the shop to the left. Following the way straight on you will arrive directly to the entrance of our hostel (red n°1).



AND HOW TO GET TO TORTUGUERO?

Please find below descriptions how to get to Tortuguero from:

- San José
- Puerto Viejo/Cahuita/Manzanillo
- La Fortuna

From other destinations as for example the pacific coast, Monteverde, etc. you generally must travel via San José (unless you hire a private shuttle). So, we recommend checking the best option to get to San José at your departure destination and then follow the description from San José.

Important to know before travelling:

- To get the last bus to La Pavona you should arrive in Cariari before 15:00h. If you arrive later, there are no more connections to La Pavona and you must stay overnight in Cariari, before continuing your journey the next day. There is no accommodation option at La Pavona.
- If you travel by car make sure to be at La Pavona around 16.00h, to get the last boat!
- Do not leave your luggage or personal belongings in the overhead compartments inside the bus and do not leave your luggage unattended at the bus terminals. There are no muggings, but unfortunately there are persons taking advantage of unguarded moments.

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FROM SAN JOSÉ:

A) BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

1. From San José to Cariari (by bus): Buses from San José to Cariari depart from the Terminal Gran Caribe (or Terminal Caribeños). The trip takes about two hours. Cariari is the last stop.
Departure times: 06:30h, 09:00h, 10:30h, 13:00h (Later departures will not get you to Cariari on time to catch the last bus to La Pavona).
Tickets: Tickets are available for about \$3, 50 / ₡1600 at the counter inside the terminal.
If you miss the direct bus to Cariari, there is the possibility to take a bus to Guapiles (departing from the same terminal) and in Guapiles another bus to Cariari.
2. From Cariari to La Pavona (by bus): The buses to La Pavona wait at the Cariari bus terminal. Look as well for buses stopping outside the terminal, sometimes the bus to La Pavona stops in front. The trip takes about one hour. La Pavona is the last stop.
Departure times: 05:00h, 09:00h, 11:30h, 15:00h
Tickets: The tickets are purchased on the bus. The driver comes through to take the money. The ticket costs about \$2,20 / ₡1100.
3. From La Pavona to Tortuguero (by boat): Boats to Tortuguero depart from La Pavona several times per day. The departures of the boats are coordinated with the arrivals of the buses. The boat trip takes between 45 minutes and two hours, depending on the water level of the river. But do not worry. The trip is wonderful. Tortuguero is the last stop.
Departure times: 07:00h, 11:00h, 13:00h, 16:30h
Tickets: Tickets can be purchased directly in the boats. The ticket costs between \$5-10/₡3.000-5.000 per person.

B) BY CAR

1. From San José to Cariari: Take the road 32 from San José to Guapiles. In Guapiles follow the road 32 until you get to the petrol station Santa Clara. Turn left. After 8.1 km driving north turn left at the crossway. Follow the train tracks for another 0.7 km and once getting to the main street turn right. After 10.4 km you arrive at Cariari.
2. From Cariari to La Pavona: Follow the road passing through Cariari. After 7.1 km you reach a crossway. Turn right in direction to Campo Dos. Follow the signs to Campo Dos and Cuatro Esquinas. Follow the road to Cuatro Esquinas. After 8.9 km you get to the village Palacios. After the small grocery store Abast Palacio (on the right-hand side) turn left. The way to the Tortuguero National Park is now indicated by signs. Follow the street for 5.7 km until getting to a building with old parking slots. Turn left and follow the road until getting to la Pavona (the road ends here). There are 24h guarded parking facilities in La Pavona. The price per day is about \$10.
4. From La Pavona to Tortuguero (boat): Boats to Tortuguero depart from La Pavona several times per day. The departures of the boats are coordinated with the arrivals of the buses. The boat trip takes between 45 minutes and two hours, depending on the water level of the river. But do not worry. The trip is wonderful. Tortuguero is the last stop.
Departure times: 07:00h, 11:00h, 13:00h, 16:30h
Tickets: Tickets can be purchased directly in the boats. The ticket costs between \$5-10/₡3.000-5.000 per person.

C) BY PLANE

The airline Sansa and Aerobell operate flights to Tortuguero from San José. For prices and timetables please consult the home page www.airline-sansa.com or aerbell.com. The airport of Tortuguero is about 10 minutes away from the center of the village. A taxi (boat) to the village costs about \$12/person.

D) SHUTTLE FROM SAN JOSÉ

Several companies offer shuttles from San José (mostly from the city center, not directly from the airport) to Tortuguero for \$55-60 per person per way. The transfer includes generally pick-up at the hotel and transfer by minibus and boat. If you need help with the reservation, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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FROM PUERTO VIEJO/CAHUITA/LIMÓN

A) BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION VIA LA PAVONA (by bus and boat via La Pavona):

1. Take a bus from Puerto Viejo/Cahuita/Manzanillo to Limón (duration 1-2 hours)
2. Take a bus from Limón to Guapiles (duration 1,5-2 hours without traffic jam)
3. Take a bus from Guapiles to Cariari (duration aprox. 45 minutes)
4. By bus Cariari to La Pavona: The buses to La Pavona wait at the Cariari bus terminal. Look as well for buses stopping outside the terminal, sometimes the bus to La Pavona stops in front. The trip takes about one hour. La Pavona is the last stop.

Departure times: 05:00h, 09:00h, 11:30h, 15:00h

Tickets: The tickets are purchased on the bus. The driver comes through to take the money. The ticket costs about \$2,20 / ₡1100.

5. By boat from La Pavona to Tortuguero: Boats to Tortuguero depart from La Pavona several times per day. The departures of the boats are coordinated with the arrivals of the buses. The boat trip takes between 45 minutes and two hours, depending on the water level of the river. But do not worry. The trip is wonderful. Tortuguero is the last stop.

Departure times: 07:00h, 11:00h, 13:00h, 16:30h

Tickets: Tickets can be purchased directly in the boats. The ticket costs between \$5-10/₡3.000-5.000 per person.

The total travel time is about 8-10 hours and it costs around \$16-17 per Person.

B) TRAVEL VIA MOIN (by bus + taxi or shuttle and boat via Moin):

1. a) Take a bus from Puerto Viejo/Cahuita to Limón – the last bus to get on time to Moin leaves at 7.30h from Puerto Viejo and then take a taxi from Limón to Moin \$7-10

There are also buses from the center of Limón to the harbor of Moin, the journey takes about 30 minutes and is operated by the company Tracasa, but they only leave once every hour – to be on time at Moin you have to take the bus at 8.30h, which means leaving Puerto Viejo/Cahuita at 5.30h/6.00h.

b) Take a shuttle with pick up at your hotel in Puerto Viejo/Cahuita/Manzanillo to Moin (\$20-\$35 p.p. depending on the departure point)

2. At the harbor of Moin, there are boats to Tortuguero nearly daily at 10.00h. The trip takes about 3,5- four hours. The boats from Moin to Tortuguero costs \$35 per person and it is recommendable to reserve one day in advance to assure availability.

C) SHUTTLE (via La PAVONA)

Shuttle options offer pick up at your hotel and bring you by car/minivan to La Pavona and then by boat from La Pavona to Tortuguero. This option takes normally about 5, 5 hours including the boat and costs around \$75 per person (a minimum of 2 persons is required).

C) BY CAR

There is no direct road connecting Limón and Tortuguero. If you are travelling by car you have two options:

1. Leave your car at a guarded parking in Limón and go by boat (bus/taxi and boat) via Moin as described above.
2. Drive via Siquirres, Guapiles and Cariari to La Pavona. At La Pavona you can leave your car at the guarded parking (\$10/night) and take the boat to Tortuguero. The boat trip takes between 45 minutes and two hours, depending on the water level of the river.

Departure times: 07:00h, 11:00h, 13:00h, 16:30h

Tickets: Tickets can be purchased directly in the boats. The ticket costs between \$5-10/₡3.000-5.000 per person.

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FROM LA FORTUNA

A) BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

a. **Vía San José** (Duration 10-12 hours including waiting times)

1. From La Fortuna to San José (4 hours): Take the first bus leaving in the morning.
2. By taxi to the Terminal Caribeños: We recommend to take a taxi to get from the arrival terminal to the Terminal Caribeño.
3. From San José to Cariari (by bus): Buses from San José to Cariari depart from the Terminal Gran Caribe (or Terminal Caribeños). The trip takes about two hours. Cariari is the last stop.
Departure times: 06:30h, 09:00h, 10:30h, 13:00h (Later departures will not get you to Cariari on time to catch the last bus to La Pavona).
Tickets: Tickets are available for about \$3, 50 / ₡1600 at the counter inside the terminal. If you miss the direct bus to Cariari, there is the possibility to take a bus to Guapiles (departing from the same terminal) and in Guapiles another bus to Cariari.
4. From Cariari to La Pavona (by bus): The buses to La Pavona wait at the Cariari bus terminal. Look as well for buses stopping outside the terminal, sometimes the bus to La Pavona stops in front. The trip takes about one hour. La Pavona is the last stop.
Departure times: 05:00h, 09:00h, 11:30h, 15:00h
Tickets: The tickets are purchased on the bus. The driver comes through to take the money. The ticket costs about \$2,20 / ₡1100.
5. From La Pavona to Tortuguero (by boat): Boats to Tortuguero depart from La Pavona several times per day. The departures of the boats are coordinated with the arrivals of the buses. The boat trip takes between 45 minutes and two hours, depending on the water level of the river. But do not worry. The trip is wonderful. Tortuguero is the last stop.
Departure times: 07:00h, 11:00h, 13:00h, 16:30h
Tickets: Tickets can be purchased directly in the boats. The ticket costs between \$5-10/₡3.000-5.000 per person.

b. **Vía Ciudad Quesada, Sarapiquí and Guapiles** (Duration 10-12 hours incl. waiting times)

You can do this option as well in two parts, staying overnight in Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí or Guapiles.

1. By bus from La Fortuna to Ciudad Quesada (about 1,5 hours). Take the earliest one if you like to travel in one day.
2. By bus from Ciudad Quesada to Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí (2 hours)
3. By bus from Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí to Guapiles (1,5 hours)
4. By bus from Guapiles to Cariari (about 45 minutes)
5. From Cariari to La Pavona (by bus): The buses to La Pavona wait at the Cariari bus terminal, look as well for buses stopping outside the terminal. Sometimes the bus to La Pavona stops in front. The trip takes about one hour. La Pavona is the last stop.
Departure times: 05:00h, 09:00h, 11:30h, 15:00h
Tickets: The tickets are purchased on the bus. The driver comes through to take the money. The ticket costs about \$2,20 / ₡1100.
6. From La Pavona to Tortuguero (by boat): Boats to Tortuguero depart from La Pavona several times per day. The departures of the boats are coordinated with the arrivals of the buses. The boat trip takes between 45 minutes and two hours, depending on the water level of the river. But do not worry. The trip is wonderful. Tortuguero is the last stop.
Departure times: 07:00h, 11:00h, 13:00h, 16:30h
Tickets: Tickets can be purchased directly in the boats. The ticket costs between \$5-10/₡3.000-5.000 per person.

B) BY CAR

Travelling by car you should count with 5-6 hours travel time from La Fortuna to Tortuguero including the boat trip.

Leaving La Fortuna drive first direction Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí, then from Puerto Viejo de Sarapiquí direction Guapiles and from Guapiles direction to Cariari. Follow the road passing through Cariari. After 7.1 km you reach a crossway. Turn right in direction to Campo Dos. Follow the signs to Campo Dos and Cuatro Esquinas. Follow the road to Cuatro Esquinas. After 8.9 km you get to the village Palacios. After the small grocery store Abast Palacio (on the right-hand side) turn left. Follow the street for 5.7 km until getting to a building with old parking slots. Turn left and

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follow the road until getting to la Pavona (the road ends here). There are 24h guarded parking facilities in La Pavona. The price per day is about \$10.

From La Pavona boats depart to Tortuguero several times per day. The departures of the boats are coordinated with the arrivals of the buses. The boat trip takes between 45 minutes and two hours, depending on the water level of the river. But do not worry. The trip is wonderful. Tortuguero is the last stop.

Departure times: 07:00h, 11:00h, 13:00h, 16:30h

Tickets: Tickets can be purchased directly in the boats. The ticket costs between \$5-10/€3.000-5.000 per person.

C) BY PLANE

The airline Sansa operates flights from La Fortuna to Tortuguero. For prices and timetables please consult the home page www.airline-sansa.com. The airport in Tortuguero is about 10 minutes away from the center of the village. A taxi (boat) to the village costs about \$10/person.

D) BY SHUTTLE

Several companies offer shuttles from La Fortuna to Tortuguero for \$55-60 per person per way and it takes normally around 5-6 hours. The transfers include generally pick-up at the hotel (in the center of La Fortuna) and transfer by minibus and boat. For pickups from hotels outside of the city center there can be a supplement. If you need help with the reservation, please do not hesitate to contact us.