

Costa Rica was one of the first ecotourism success stories. At one time Costa Rica had the highest rate of deforestation in all of Latin America. However, since ecotourism, there has been a dramatic reduction in deforestation. Costa Rica is now the world's top ecotourism destination. Now, more than a quarter of Costa Rica's land is protected from development. Amazingly, this small country of five million people has about three million visitors per year.