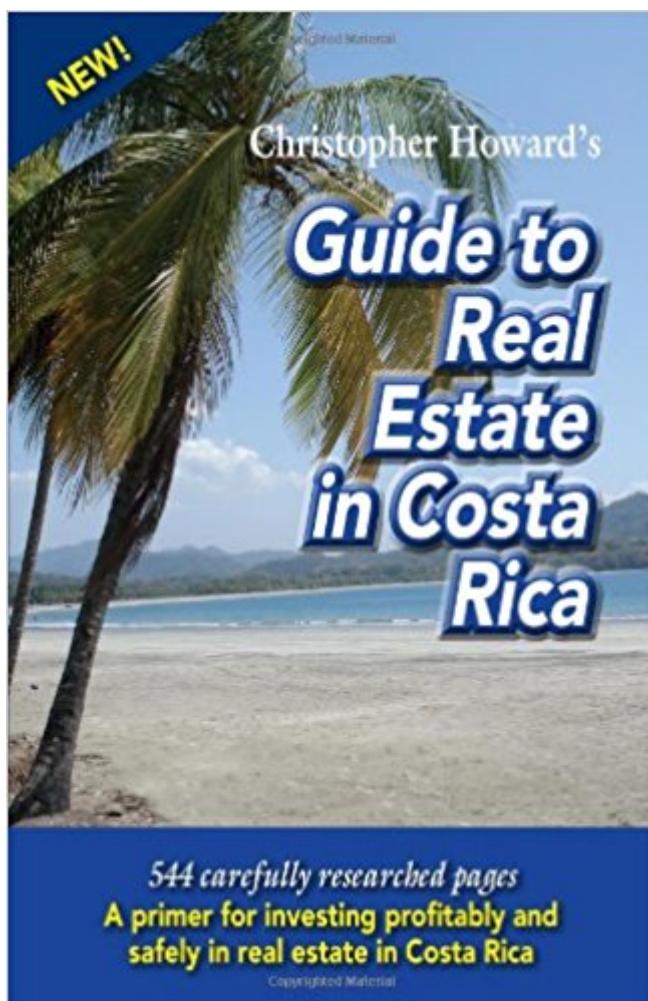


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# Christopher Howard's Guide To Real Estate In Costa Rica



## **Synopsis**

This 544-page guidebook was written under the auspices of Christopher Howard, Costa Rica's MOST read AUTHORITY on living, retirement and investment in the country. Mr. Howard has channeled over 30 years of first-hand experience and knowledge into this guide. It was published to educate readers about how to invest SAFELY and PROFITABLY in Costa Rica's attractive real estate market. In 2010 this book was a candidate for the prestigious Benjamin Franklin Award for publishing excellence.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

If you have any questions about buying, renting or building property in Costa Rica, Christopher Howard's Guide to Real Estate in Costa Rica will help. All sixteen chapters of the book are useful. The detailed advice seems to derive from the point of view of the experts. It is evident Howard, Krupp and Whipp have observed and experienced the process of property ownership in Costa Rica, and that the book was crafted to pass along their wisdom. --Adam Williams, Tico Times Real Estate Supplement Feb 26, 2010The most comprehensive guide to buying real estate in Costa Rica and, indeed, in any Latin American country. --Peronet Depeignes, former economic correspondent, Fortune MagazineMr. Howard could be the Buddha of Costa Rica real estate. You don t have to be enlightened to see how much work and wisdom have gone into this book. --- Perry Garfinkel, longtime New York Times contributor

In order to create an accurate guidebook of this scope and magnitude it was necessary to select

writers with experience in the fields of economics, real estate, newspaper reporting, and photojournalism. Many candidates were interviewed but the two below proved by far to be the most qualified for this three year project. Lindsay Whipp Lindsay Whipp is British and has been living overseas since she left university in the UK. After completing her masters in Tokyo in gender and development studies she worked for Bloomberg in Tokyo for five years writing about the auto industry and then the economy. In 2006 she moved to Costa Rica and worked briefly as a freelance journalist before teaming up with Christopher Howard and Zona Tropical to research, write and take photographs for this book. She has since moved back to Tokyo where she is a correspondent for the Financial Times. Peter Krupa Peter Krupa is a professional journalist who is fluent in Spanish and has spent four years living and working in Costa Rica. In his time covering real estate for local English weekly the Tico Times, he heard it all, and wrote on everything from title insurance, to beach front scams, to new developments attractive to retirees. Peter has traveled extensively in Costa Rica and Nicaragua, and in addition to writing about real estate he himself has gone through the process of purchasing a home in Costa Rica. Along with his work on this book, Peter covers the Panamanian economy for the Economist Intelligence Unit, and has worked as the Costa Rica editor for Central America Today.

My wife and I are just starting to look at and evaluate Costa Rica for a possible relocation. This book is the most informative and helpful source I have found on the subject of real estate and investing in Costa Rica. The author knows his subject and has done an excellent job with content and presentation. It was an easy read and chock full of great tips and suggestions, including many do's and don'ts for anyone considering buying property in Costa Rica. I highly recommend this book as an addition to your library on Costa Rica.

I am so glad I read this guide. So objective, realistic, particularly regarding Security and Buying. It explains why a "Gated Community" is... gated!, the real estate uncertainty "get an attorney", the squatters, the roads condition limiting your travel, the coastal equatorial climate. Yes it is a beautiful country (nature is never disappointing), it makes seductive photos. "A nice place to visit but.." Do get this book and the waterproof map, it's worth \$30/40, I forgot the price.

Full of very good information

You must read this book before buying Costa Rica real estate. It's not perfect, though. It repeats

some text from at least one other of his books and does serve in part as self-promotion for the author's real estate tours.

Excellent treatise on the in's and outs of buying or selling Real Estate in Costa Rica. This book could help save you money and avoid possible fraudulent operators. Please read before any property transaction in Costa Rica. I refer to the book frequently. Jim Holley

This book wasn't formatted properly on a Kindle. None of the tables show up correctly or the table of contents. It looks like they did a copy and paste in Word. Terrible.

This is a wonderfully well organized book. It also has a nice balance of factual information coupled with advice based on the author's 30 years in Costa Rica. The introduction does a great job of summarizing the significant aspects of Costa Rica geography (very diverse - warm ocean, rain forests, mountains, volcanoes, little change in temperature summer to winter), government (also see Thomas Friedman's article in the NY Times "No Drill, Baby, Drill" => 95 percent of its energy from renewables), society (gentle except when behind the wheel), and economics (Yup, Intel is there but so are many large, protected nature areas). A section on the legalities is followed by detailed information on each of the very different zones offered by this diverse country. All this is followed by more nuts and bolts information on how to look, buy / build, finance, evaluate brokers (the country has no broker licensing requirements, and many other important areas. If you are new to Costa Rica, and considering buying property this book offers comprehensive coverage, for others it may be more of an encyclopedia. We have been to Costa Rica a dozen times and love it. A few of our trips have been for medical. We were delighted that the private hospitals (CIMA -etc) had state-of-the-art equipment and thoroughly trained staff. Another delightful read is "Costa Rica The Last Country the Gods Made" by Kim Parsons. This book starts with the creation of the continent and continues through the evolution of people and other species. Our favorite guide book is by the Lonely Planet, and Mr. Howard also has a well done book on retirement in Costa Rica (our goal). Enjoy and good luck.

This is not just an "overview" about Real Estate in Costa Rica, but is a comprehensive, fair & balanced and an essential tool for anyone considering real estate in Costa Rica. Christopher has combined his wisdom with two excellent authors to deliver a guide that is clear, concise and an encyclopedia of information regarding the culture, govt., legal system, architecture, real estate

regions, etc. There are 18 Chapters of extensive information, honest information, helpful information regarding not only real estate but law, culture, government, finance, crime, investment potential, property ownership as a foreigner, hiring local help and a resource/reference section that is a wealth of information. This guide is a must for anyone considering a future in Costa Rica. The information here is clear and easy to read. The practical and common sense information is quite helpful to understanding how to purchase real estate in another country other than your own. This book is a necessary investment to your future of owning property in Costa Rica. As realtors in the USA we urge you to purchase this guide!! The "GUIDE to Real Estate in Costa Rica" is chock full of great information. Accolades to Christopher Howard, Lindsay Whipp and Peter Krupa !! We appreciate your labor of love.

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