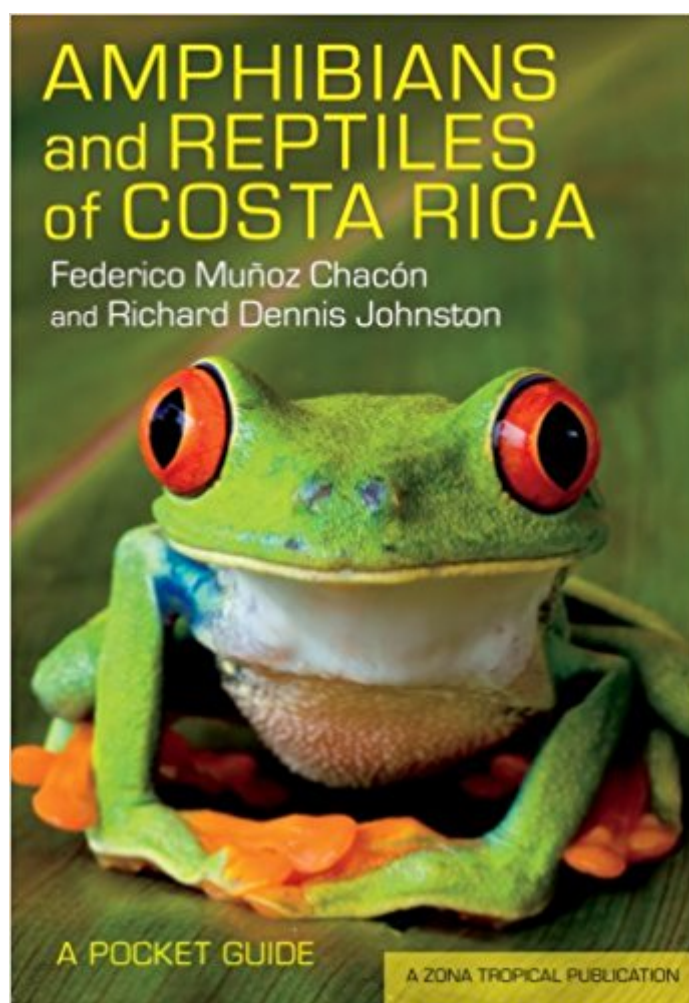


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Amphibians And Reptiles Of Costa Rica: A Pocket Guide (Zona Tropical Publications)



Synopsis

Costa Rica is a remarkable place for amphibians and reptiles. Known for its biological diversity, conservation priorities, and extensive protected lands, this small country contains 418 herpetological species including the dangerous Fer-de-Lance and Black-headed Bushmaster, the beloved sea turtles, and numerous dink, foam, glass, and rain frogs. Additional species are thought to be nearing extinction while others have been introduced only recently. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica* is the perfect introductory guide to this diverse herpetofauna in a format that makes it easy to carry into the field. The focus is on identification with entries for all species in the country, including scientific and English common names, as well as the older names for the many species that have been recently reclassified. Key ID marks are noted as well as adult sizes. Range maps identify the region(s) where species are known to be present. Color photographs and drawings are provided for over 80 percent of the species, representing those that are most likely to be encountered. Designed with ease of use in mind, this guide will be a great aid to the observer in identifying the specimen at hand.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The text is concise, and the authors do a good job of covering the diversity of chameleons with interesting and easy-to-read descriptions and explanations." *The Quarterly Review of Biology* (March 2014)

Federico Muñoz Chacón is a Costa Rican research biologist and science educator. He has dedicated his life to studying the reptiles and amphibians of Costa Rica and to promoting ecological awareness. He lives in Monteverde, Costa Rica, where he owns and operates the biological reserve Terra Viva. Richard Dennis Johnston is a biochemist who serves on the advisory board of the International Herpetological Symposium. Johnston has been studying and photographing reptiles and amphibians for more than 45 years.

If you are going to Costa Rica and have interest in these animals you should take this book. It has many good photos and your chances of making an ID with this guide are better than with any other book on the subject I have seen. It's very light and you won't even know you have it until you need it. But keep in mind that it does not cover everything in every color phase that you will see--most of the time you are lucky just to get pretty close to an ID. Many species are so visually similar that a locally experienced herpetologist will not be able to make an on sight identification. (Based on many trips to Costa Rica.)

I like this guide, but there are a few issues. The map is broken down into several areas, so it only shows you the general area of the country where you can find each species. The pictures aren't the best and some are too dark to see identifying features, although it does list the identifying marks.

An excellent book. It is small enough to carry in the field, and allowed me to identify nearly all the reptiles and amphibians that I encountered on my recent trip to Costa Rica. In many cases it contains photos of male, female, and juveniles to aid in identification which is quite helpful. I have no complaints about this book, and highly recommend it.

Excellent guide for English-speakers new to lower Central America. Good photos and descriptions of the animals, their habits, and their habitats.

This field guide is great for taking into the field. It is small and very portable. The only drawback is that the species do not all have images and the written information is only about appearance. The range map is appreciated, but notes on habits and habitat would be appreciated.

It's the perfect size for carrying into the field and the photos are pretty great for identifying things. The range map seems relatively accurate as well.

Great travel guide. Read it on the way to Costa Rica!

Great field guide

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