

MUSEO NACIONAL DE COSTA RICA



GENERAL INFORMATION |

ENGLISH



We welcome you to the National Museum of Costa Rica, an institution that has been committed to the study and dissemination of the country's history, archeology and natural history since 1887. The building that houses the museum is the former Bellavista Military Barracks, where the national army was abolished in 1948.

GARDENS

The Museum's gardens reflect the diversity of ecosystems in the Central Valley. During your visit you can walk through a butterfly garden and see several pre- Columbian stone spheres in different green areas.



HISTORY OF COSTA RICA (XVI-XXI centuries)

Permanent exhibition

It shows the main economic, political, social and cultural facts of Costa Rica, from the time of Spanish contact and conquest of the national territory to the present day.





PRE-COLUMBIAN HISTORY

This room is temporarily closed for remodeling. Currently, it is being used to host temporary exhibits. Find a virtual tour with explanatory videos of the ancient pre-Columbian hall in the following link:

<https://bit.ly/3vxdwSd>

STONE MEMOIRES: monumentality in Costa Rica's pre-Columbian sculptures



TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

The National Museum has several areas for temporary exhibitions of an artistic, documentary and historical nature, including the following:

Commanders' Houses

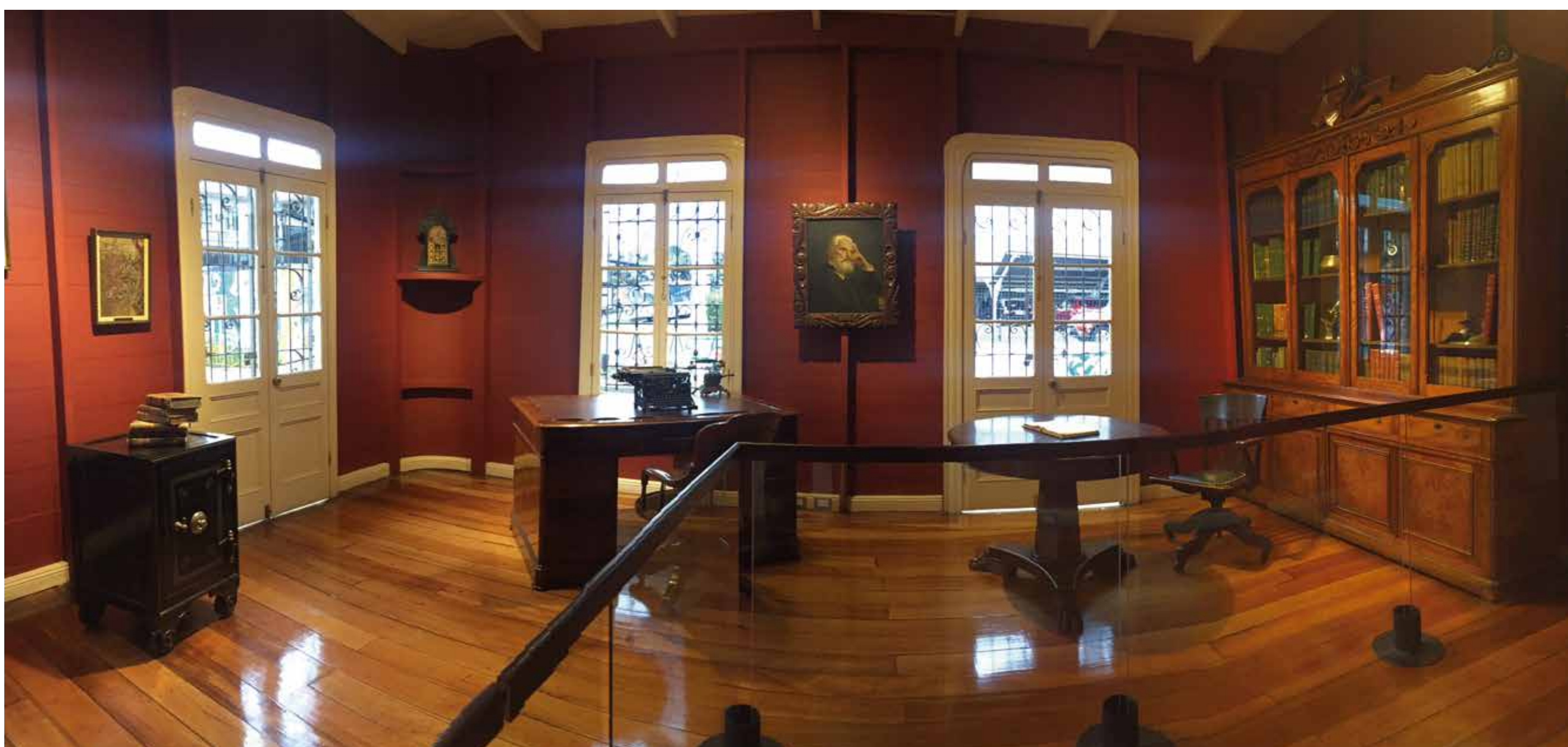
These houses, built between the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, were the residence of the first and second commanders of the Bellavista Barracks.

Dungeons

These are the old cells of the Bellavista Barracks. Graffiti of the prisoners from the 1940s stands out on the walls. You can also see the areas of the showers, toilets and the inside of the tower.

South Room

This space housed the sleeping quarters of the sergeants of the Bellavista Barracks.





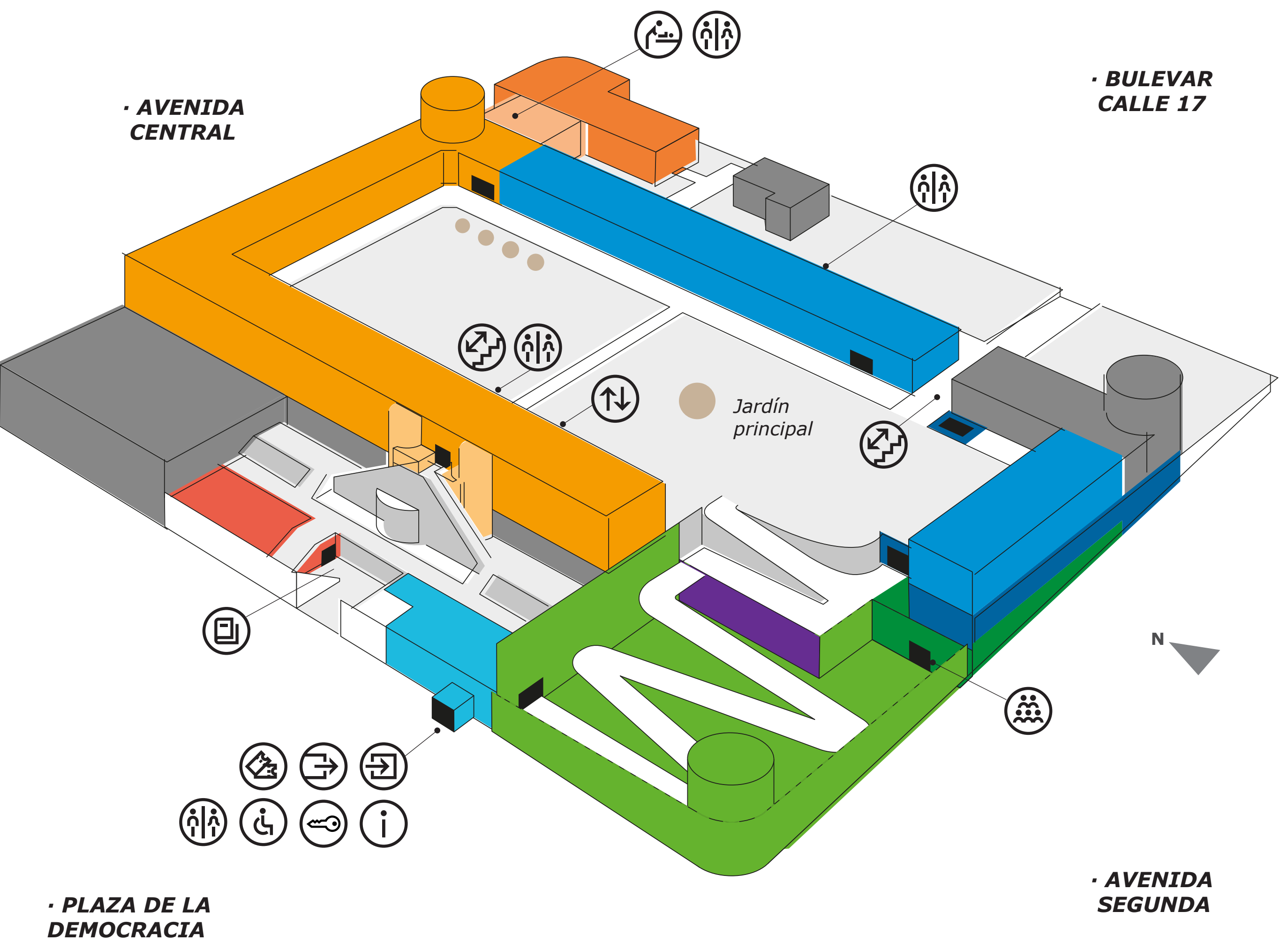
The temporary exhibition "**MANGROVES: BARRIER AND FREEDOM**", by Costa Rican artist Maricel Alvarado and curated by researcher Flor Gallardo, is presented in the Dungeons hall.

The exhibition of **52 artworks**, including sculptures, paintings in glass and drawings in acrylic and graphite, seeks to bring visibility to the mangroves from a different perspective, through the artist's point of view.

This exhibition highlights the importance of Costa Rican mangroves, such as those of Térraba-Sierpe and Tivives. These ecosystems are fundamental for sustainability and development, not only for the families living in their surroundings, but also because of their role in the protection of biodiversity.

This exhibition will be on display until September 2022.




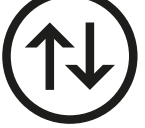









DISTRIBUTION

- Box office
- Butterfly Garden
- Auditorium
- Dungeons
- Temporary Exhibit Hall
- Pre-Columbian History Room
- Baby changing station and restrooms
- Commanders' Houses
- Costa Rican History Room (XVI-XXI centuries)
- Library
- Wall where the symbolic blow of the abolition of the army was struck.
- Offices
- Pre-Columbian spheres

SYMBOLOLOGY

-  Entry
-  Exit
-  Ticket Office
-  Cloakroom
-  Elevator
-  Stairs
-  Auditorium
-  Restrooms
-  Baby changing station
-  Information
-  Library

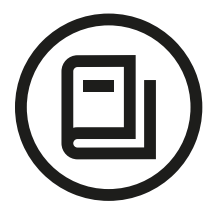
OUR SERVICES



Wifi: The building has free Internet access from the visitors' network.



Accessibility: The building has ramps and an elevator that provides access to one of the restroom areas. In addition, a wheelchair can be requested at the ticket office, if needed.



Library: Information unit specialized in History, Anthropology and Natural History, with emphasis on the Museum's research areas.

Hours: Tuesday to Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Online library:

<http://biblioteca.museocostarica.go.cr>






Guided tours: Visits for organized groups, student groups and senior citizens by appointment. Inquiries through the email: visitas@museocostarica.go.cr

Activities: You can get more information about our activities on social networks or the museum's newsletter.





HOUSE RULES

-  No smoking.
-  No weapons or dangerous objects.
-  No flash photography.
-  No eating or drinking in the exhibition rooms.
-  No pets allowed.

OPENING HOURS

Tuesday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sundays 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESS / LOCATION

Between Central and Second Avenue, Plaza de la Democracia, San José, Costa Rica.

TELEPHONE: (506) 2211-5700

E-mail:

informacion@museocostarica.go.cr

WEB SITES

Institutional activities, collections and news:

www.museocostarica.go.cr

World Heritage chiefdom settlements with stone spheres:

<http://www.diquis.go.cr>

Natural history databases:

<http://biodiversidad.museocostarica.go.cr>

Archaeological databases:

<http://origenes.museocostarica.go.cr>

Virtual library:

<http://biblioteca.museocostarica.go.cr>

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