Animals and plants seen in Costa Rica: Cielo Lodge, Golfito

August 2021

Agouti - small rodent-like brown animal

Anoli - small grey lizard

Armadillo (rumored)

Aphelandra - big bush with red- pink flower clusters

Azul de mata - plant leaves make blue dye, justicia tinctoria

Balsa tree - Ochroma piramidale

Bamboo, green and yellow

Banana plant

Basilisk lizard - medium sized, runs on back legs (Jesus Christ lizard - walks on water)

Begonia - low plant, black flowers

Boobie - brown boobie sea bird

Bromeliad - epiphyte plant - on living tree trunks

Cecropia - tree favored by ants, sloths and toucans, hollow pioneer tree

Cicada - large, loud insect

Cilantro coyote- herb

Citronella- herb

Coati mundi - related to raccoon, male is brown, female has white striped tail

Coleus - low plant family, patterned pink/purple leaves

Cormorant - neotropical cormorant, fishing bird

Crocodile - lives in seawater or brackish water

Croto family of purple or green/yellow plants

Costus - flowering bush - red drum shaped showers with white blooms

Dolphins (bottle nose)

Eliconia - low flowering plant, tiered red and yellow blossoms, upright and hanging

Ferns - low and small tree, single stem and branched

Flying fish

Frigate bird - large, black, split tail

Frogs:

- Craugastor noblei (dark green with black spots)
- Green-brown
- red eyed green
- Green and red poison dart frog (granular)
- Bullfrog large, loud

Garlic vine

Ginger plants

- decorative
- alpine purpurata
- red ginger
- torch ginger
- beehive ginger

Golden orb web spider

Grasses, branched, low fescue, Bermuda, fountain types, many others

Heliotrope- flowering reed

Herons and egrets

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- green
- Blue
- Snowy egret

Hot lips plant, "hooker lips," Miconia afinnis

Hibiscus - red, yellow, orange flowered bush

Humpback whales

lbis - pink shore bird

Iguana - large black, green lizards - forest and shore

Impatiens - low flowering shrub

Katydid - large all-green insect

Lantana - flowering plant variant

Leaf cutter ants

Lemon grass - herb

Lightning bugs - fireflies

Lizards, see: Basilisk, Anoli, Iguana, Whiptail

Macaw- bird (rumored)

Malina - Gmelina Arboria - blond wood

Mangroves - trees

Marantacia - flowering bush, white bunches on a long green stem

Mariolas - small yellow bees that do not sting

Melastomataceae- small tree with black berries, "black mouth" or "lingua de vaca" - favorite

monkey food - Miconia afinnis

Morpho - vibrant blue butterfly

Mushrooms, fungi, lichens, vast variety

Oregano Cubano - wild herb

Ornate hawk eagle, hunts monkeys

Osprey - fish eagle bird

Palms - coconut, oil nut, walking / cashapona tree palm

Possum - green tree possum

Pelican - big brown fishing bird, nests in tall trees

Philodendron - big split leaves plant

Purple Heart - red/purple wood, tree

Rattlesnake plant - calathea crotalifera

Red Feather - low red-leaved plant / small tree, cordyline family

Roadside hawk - small bird

Roseate spoonbill - pink shore bird

Sea almond tree

Sloth - Three toed, green fur, lives slowly in trees

Snakes:

- Blunt headed tree snake brown and very thin
- Others (rumored)

Spider lily - white flowered water plant

Spotted grey dolphin

Squirrel monkey - tufted tail

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Star fruit- bush with yellow fruit

Tabacon- no-stem big leaf plant

Teak tree - leaves make red dye

Tiger crab - small, red claws, lives in mangroves

Tarantula spider - large, black, lives in ground

Toucan bird (rumored)

Turmeric - root that makes yellow dye

Turkey vulture, big black bird

Verbenaceae - bush with sprays of white flower stems and dark green leaves

Water lily plant - purple upright (like hyacinth)

Whip tail lizard, Central American whip tail (juvenile)