



## **GETTING TO BLUE SPIRIT COSTA RICA**

### **FLYING IN & OUT OF COSTA RICA**

**Blue Spirit is located in Nosara, Guanacaste, on the Northern Pacific Coast of Costa Rica.** Depending on which Costa Rican airport you choose to arrive through, there are different options available for your travel onwards to Blue Spirit.

**The two international airports in Costa Rica are: Liberia International Airport (LIR) and San Jose International Airport (SJO).** Both airports have frequent flights to and from all over the United States and Canada.

**We recommend you fly into LIBERIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (LIR), as it is substantially closer to Blue Spirit and only a 2-hour scenic drive.** Blue Spirit runs group shuttles on Saturdays from and to Liberia Airport.

Current round-trip airfares from the New York City area to LIBERIA have averaged \$450-\$650 (including non-stop flights on Saturdays on Continental from Newark, NJ). Fares from the west coast are slightly higher.

Flying to **SAN JOSE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (SJO)** is also an option as sometimes flights from the US or Canada to SAN JOSE are less expensive or more direct than flying into Liberia. Getting to Blue Spirit from San Jose by ground transportation however is more costly and takes 4 ½ hours. An alternative is a short plane flight from San Jose to the **domestic AIRPORT in NOSARA** (the local airport is only 15 minutes from Blue Spirit).

**DEPARTURE TAX:** Each departing passenger must pay a **\$26** departure tax at either San Jose or Liberia airport before exiting Costa Rica. It can be paid in cash (US dollars or Costa Rican Colones), or by credit card.

### **TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN AIRPORTS AND BLUE SPIRIT**

#### **From Liberia International Airport (LIR) to Blue Spirit - a 2 hour drive**

**Blue Spirit Shuttle:** BLUE SPIRIT runs group shuttles from/to Liberia on **Saturdays**. You can make advanced reservations for group shuttle services. For further details, read below about "Blue Spirit Shuttle".

**Rental Car:** You may reserve your own rental car to drive from Liberia to Blue Spirit. However, a car is not needed during your stay with us. We recommend online bookings with <http://www.toyotarent.com/> or [www.natcar.com](http://www.natcar.com), as these car rental agencies allow one-way rentals for you to drop off your vehicle in

Nosara. The cost of a one-day rental car with drop off in Nosara is usually around \$100.

**Taxi:** If you prefer to travel on your own, there are always taxis available at Liberia airport that will take you to Blue Spirit in Nosara for approximately \$110-130.

### **From San Jose International Airport (SJO) to Blue Spirit – a 4-5 hour drive**

**Rental Car:** You may reserve your own rental car to drive from San Jose to Blue Spirit. However, a car is not needed during your stay with us. We recommend online bookings with <http://www.toyotarent.com/> or [www.natcar.com](http://www.natcar.com) as these car rental agencies allow one-way rentals for you to drop off your vehicle in Nosara. The cost of a one-day rental car with drop off in Nosara is usually around \$100.

**Taxi:** There are always taxis available at the airport in San Jose that will take you to Blue Spirit in Nosara for approximately \$200-220.

**Flying to Nosara:** You can also take a 40-minute flight from San Jose to the domestic Nosara Airport, and then a 15-minute taxi ride to Blue Spirit.

Flight schedules from San Jose to Nosara usually require arriving the day before, staying overnight in San Jose and then taking a morning flight.

There are two airlines with daily flights to and from Nosara. For schedules, fares, and bookings visit [www.natureair.com](http://www.natureair.com) or [www.flysansa.com](http://www.flysansa.com). Both airlines may impose luggage restrictions. To avoid excess baggage fees at the airport read the information on their websites carefully.

Please note that it's common for Sansa Airlines to change or cancel their scheduled flights when the weather conditions are considered precarious for their propeller planes (too windy, i.e.).

Nature Air is much more reliable regarding their flight schedule. It does require however that you take a 20-minute taxi ride (\$20) to transfer from the San Jose International Airport to the Domestic Pavas Airport for Nature Air's San Jose arrivals and departures.

Once you arrive at Nosara Airport, there are always taxis waiting that can bring you to Blue Spirit. The trip costs \$20 per taxi.

For homebound flights on either airline out of Nosara we recommend that you plan ample connection time and give yourself at least 4 hours to make your departing international flight.

## **RESERVATIONS for Blue Spirit Group Shuttle**

**Blue Spirit Group Shuttles Are Available From/To Liberia (LIR) Only On \*\*Saturdays.**

*\*\* (Please ask if you need us to make individual arrangements for you for other arrival and departure dates. Different rates apply.)*

Please complete and send us the following SHUTTLE RESERVATION FORM(S) as soon as you know your flight itinerary: [shuttle@bluespiritcostarica.com](mailto:shuttle@bluespiritcostarica.com)

### **Shuttle Reservation - Arriving at LIBERIA Airport (LIR)**

- 1. First Name:**
- 2. Last Name:**
- 3. Your Email contact:**
- 4. Name of your Program or Group-Leader:**
- 5. Arrival Date:**
- 6. Arrival Time:**
- 7. Airline & Flight #:**

There are several shuttles to Blue Spirit from LIBERIA Airport on Saturdays. The cost is \$50 per person, payable in cash or by credit card at Blue Spirit reception.

It is a two-hour drive to Blue Spirit from LIBERIA Airport.

According to the arrival times of all major airlines flying into LIBERIA we have grouped our shuttle pick ups between 12 PM and 4 PM for the flights arriving at midday and early afternoon, and between 8 PM and 9:30 PM for all flights arriving in the evening. This means that if your flight is arriving in any of the two time periods, a Blue Spirit driver will be waiting for you outside of the ARRIVALS terminal (only 1 exit).

It usually takes around 45 minutes to retrieve your baggage and pass through Immigration. Look for a dispatcher/driver with either a BLUE SPIRIT sign or a sign with your last name.

**YES, I plan to take a shuttle leaving from Liberia between 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM.**

**YES, I plan to take a shuttle leaving from Liberia between 8:00 PM and 9:30 PM.**

## FAQ's

### What do I do, if my flight is delayed?

If you are still in the US/Canada or Europe and miss a connecting flight or received notice that your flight's departure to Costa Rica has been delayed, please call Blue Spirit's US phone number: **+1.646.833.3410** and we will re-arrange your shuttle pick up time.

If you are already in the air and your arrival time is much later than scheduled, depending on how many passengers are already waiting in the van from previous flights, it is very possible the driver will wait for your late arrival. If you arrive late and your shuttle has already departed, you can take the next shuttle.

### What do I do if, I can't find the driver or a Blue Spirit shuttle?

If you can't find a Blue Spirit driver or shuttle please call our reception phone: **2656.8300 or 2656.8228** (*these phone numbers can only be dialed from within Costa Rica*).

We will assist you in either finding the driver or bringing you to Blue Spirit with a taxi. Please do NOT hire your own taxi before you have spoken to Blue Spirit Reception and have notified us about your change of plans.

### If my flight arrives at 12:00 PM do I have to wait until others arrive at 4:00 PM?

No. Shuttles will leave with groups. You will likely only have to wait a maximum of 45 minutes before departing.

**This completes your ARRIVAL INFORMATION**

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## Shuttle Reservation - Departing to LIBERIA Airport (LIR)

1. First Name:
2. Last Name:
3. Your Email contact:
4. Name of your Program or Group-Leader:
5. Departure Date:
6. Departure Time:
7. Airline & Flight #:

From Blue Spirit It is a two-hour drive to LIBERIA.

There are several shuttles from Blue Spirit to LIBERIA Airport on Saturdays. The cost is \$50 per person, payable in cash or by credit card at Blue Spirit reception.

Blue Spirit Shuttles to LIBERIA leave at **3:00 AM, 4:00 AM, 9:00 AM, or 10:00 AM.**

You should plan to be at the airport 2 hours before your flight's departure time.

Once you arrive at the airport and before you can check in for your flight, you need to pay the \$26 Airport Departure Taxes.

**YES, I plan to take the shuttle to Liberia leaving at 3:00 AM arriving at 5:00 AM**

**YES, I plan to take the shuttle to Liberia leaving at 4:00 AM arriving at 6:00 AM**

**YES, I plan to take the shuttle to Liberia leaving at 9:00 AM arriving at 11:00 AM**

**YES, I like to take the shuttle to Liberia leaving at 10:00 AM arriving at 12:00 PM**

**This completes your DEPARTURE INFORMATION**

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Please send your SHUTTLE FORM(s) to [shuttle@bluespiritcostarica.com](mailto:shuttle@bluespiritcostarica.com)

*(Simply attach this entire document to your E-mail)*

***We will confirm your shuttle reservations via email. If you haven't heard back from us within 3 business days, it is very likely that we haven't received your e-mail. Please contact then your group's organizer for assistance!***