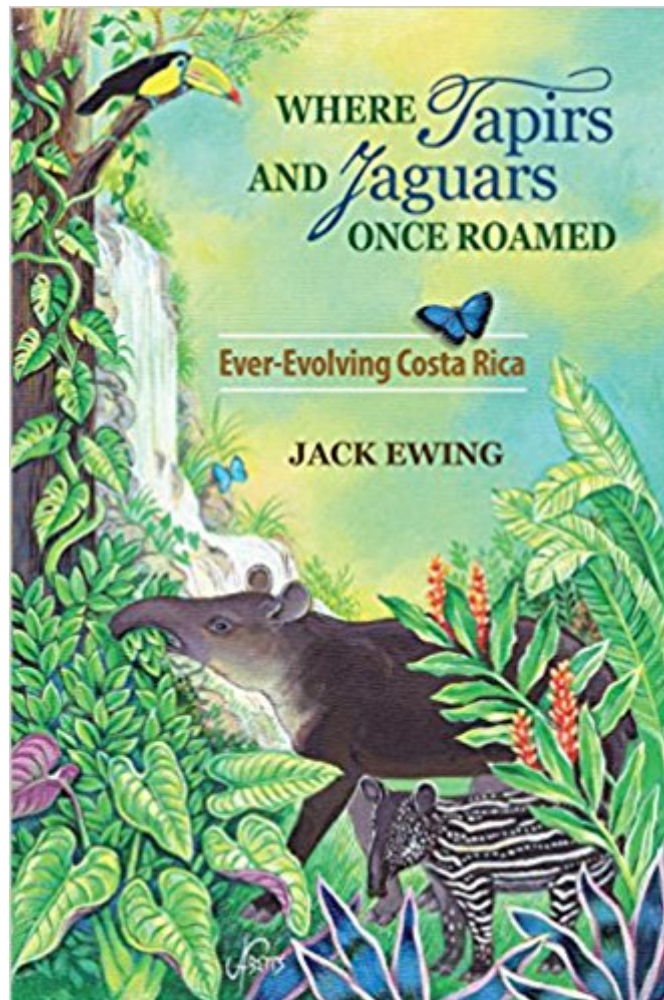




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Where Tapirs And Jaguars Once Roamed: Ever-Evolving Costa Rica



Synopsis

Look beyond Costa Rica's natural beauty and you'll discover a tumultuous yet fascinating history. Join author Jack Ewing in his newest title, *Where Tapirs and Jaguars Once Roamed: Ever-Evolving Costa Rica*, as he explores the origins and development of the south-central Pacific coast and recounts his 45-year journey from cattle rancher to conservationist. Now, thanks in large part to his efforts at Hacienda Baru National Wildlife Refuge and with the Path of the Tapir Biological Corridor, we may one day see jaguars and tapirs return to the area.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Already an accomplished writer of wildlife stories and riveting tales of pioneer survival in this remote part of Costa Rica, Jack Ewing extends his range in this new collection. With his talent for storytelling, combined with careful research, Jack brings human prehistory to life in tales of an imagined, but believable, tribe of tapir hunters. Not satisfied with the distant human past, he reaches even further back, to breathe life into the very stones that formed Costa Rica, serving up geological history in meaty but easy-to-swallow bites. For Jack's many fans, the stories recalling episodes of his 45-year, personal evolution from cattle rancher, to emerging naturalist and conservationist, to renowned environmentalist will be equally enlightening and entertaining. This book will appeal to all ages and a wide range of readers -- tourists, naturalists, environmentalists, natural history students, local history buffs and anyone who has had the pleasure of experiencing the natural Costa Rica that Jack has worked so hard to foster and protect. --Dorothy MacKinnon, travel writer, *Fodor's Guide to Costa Rica*, *Insight Guide to Costa Rica*, *Tico Times*
Where Tapirs & Jaguars Once Roamed

transports the reader into Costa Rica with an intimacy born from the author's life there and with a vividness that would be difficult to match even seeing it for yourself. We are in our third decade of exploring and mapping Costa Rica and delighted to Jack's insightful tales uncovering the idiosyncrasies that are so familiar to anyone who has spent time there. These stories also revealed surprising discoveries on nearly every page and after reading them we felt we knew the people, history and culture in a unique new way. The book unwinds Costa Rica's lifeline -- starting millions of years ago with geology, and paleoecology, moving ahead with historical fiction vignettes based on archaeological and anthropological evidence of the first indigenous peoples, presenting the last century through narratives gleaned from conversations with early settlers and their descendants and completing the story with his experience as a driving force in the country's evolution from an economy based on clear cutting forests for ranching and farming to a world leader in ecological awareness and conservation. It is fascinating and personal, never dry or academic, yet by the end there's no denying it's a thoroughly educational read. Whether for background in advance of a visit or for something apropos and entertaining to read in a hammock between adventures while on vacation there's no better choice. --Ray & Sue Krueger Koplin, Toucan Maps Inc.

Captivating! Never has a history lesson been so entertaining and informative. Jack's interpretations and factual account of the formation of Costa Rica flows beautifully into the stories of everyday life. Giving us glimpses of the early years of the south-central Pacific coast and what was to become Hacienda Baru National Wildlife Refuge. Laced with his passion for the rainforest and its wildlife every story paints a vivid picture of how life was and where it is now. 'Progress' for this area hasn't been the building of high rise hotels with manicured lawns and not a monkey in sight. Fortunately, for us it has progressed with the reforestation of the rainforest and the return of abundant wildlife with a healthy eco system. Because of Jack Ewing and people like him we are sure to see the return of the tapir and jaguar to this extraordinary biological corridor, keeping this part of Costa Rica truly the 'rich coast' as it was meant to be. Where the Tapirs and Jaguars once Roamed is a must read for those who love Costa Rica and those yet to discover this beautiful country. --Pat Cheek, Quepolandia

The cattle business may have brought Jack Ewing to Costa Rica, but his love of nature kept him there. In 1970 Jack and his wife and young daughter ventured to Costa Rica for a 4-month job. They never left. Although life in the jungle with few modern conveniences was a far cry from his native Colorado roots, his ever-growing fascination with the rainforest soon prompted his transformation into environmentalist and naturalist. Hacienda BarÃfÂ° National Wildlife Refuge - a former cattle ranch and now a well-known ecotourism destination on the southwest coast of Costa

Rica - was the result of Jack's decades of dedication to forest ecology. His expertise on biological corridor projects is much sought after, and he is currently president of two environmental organizations, ASANA (Association of Friends of Nature) and FUNDANTA (Foundation for the Path of the Tapir Biological Corridor). A natural-born storyteller, Jack's articles have appeared regularly in Costa Rican publications, and he often speaks to environmental, student and ecological traveler groups. His years of living in the rainforest have rendered a multitude of personal experiences, many of which are recounted in his first book, *Monkeys Are Made of Chocolate*.

Just finished reading this amazing book by Jack Ewing. I laughed, I cried, I learned, I wanted to return to Hacienda Baru where I had visited in 2015. What a journey Jack and his wife and children have taken in Costa Rica. How they have evolved from ranching to eco-tourism and preserving the bio-diversity of their little corner of the world is a remarkable story. Jack's tales are outstanding, but one of my favorite quotes is from his son Chris who said "My greatest take-away from being raised in rural Costa Rica is the ability to find the positive when events do not unfold according to plan, an attitude embraced by few Americans when their plans unravel." A must read that I will be reading over and over again. Thanks Jack Ewing for your writing and your important work in Costa Rica.

Loved this book. The easy to read essays gave an amazing look into the evolution of conservation in Costa Rica. The reader learns about the importance of the wildlife that lives there as well as the culture of the people living in the area. I read this book and *Monkeys are Made of Chocolate* after briefly meeting Jack Ewing at Hacienda Baru this spring. I can't wait to return next year with a group of college students to spend more time in the area, now having the knowledge of its history. Parts of this book will be required reading and discussion material for my study abroad course.

Like his earlier "*Monkeys are Made of Chocolate*", Ewing describes nature in Costa Rica, its turbulent history, and the ongoing efforts to preserve and, where possible, restore it. Political and economic realities are addressed. This is a **MUST-OWN** reference for anyone working in conservation and sustainable economies today.

Very informative of Costa Rica's Central Pacific Coast's history and conservation efforts. Makes me want to visit Hacienda Baru! I enjoyed the personal stories about real people.

I am most impressed by Jack Ewing's ability to tell stories about the animals and vegetation that

should be interesting to the general public and then, in layman's terms, reveal how the animals and plants fit a niche in the functioning of the ecosystem.

Great history about the southern zone of Costa Rica and one of my favorite surf spots...Dominical. I highly recommend this book,

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