

Subject: Que Pasa Grecia Update #7, July 2025

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Date: 7/3/2025, 8:42 AM

Que Pasa Grecia

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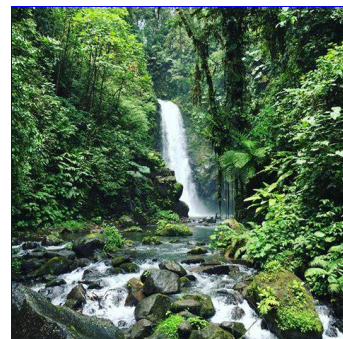
¿Qué Pasa?



Que Pasa Grecia Update #7 July 2025

What's New in *Que Pasa Grecia*

Since our last update, we've updated **homes for sale** in Atenas. A **DeVillbis Oxygenator** is a new 'for sale' addition. There's a "**Meet & Greet**" potluck on 5 July at Sol de Justicia Church in Grecia. **Soulful Journey CR** will be playing 60s and 70s hits at Beer Designers in Grecia, also on 5 July. We've got a restaurant recommendation for **Madrid Olé**, specializing in the cuisine of Madrid at its new location in Naranjo. And a **new mobile veterinarian** is servicing the



Grecia area, English Spoken! Check it all out on [QPG](#).

Miscellaneous

New Corporation (Sociedad) Requirement – For those of you with an active or inactive corporation (Sociedad) here, Costa Rica has found a new way to spend your money. By 1 January, 2026, you will be required to have filed a dedicated corporation email address for communication with the government in Costa Rica. This new email address can, and probably should, be your personal email address so you will not miss announcements from La Hacienda. It will be will need to be notarized by a lawyer and added to the Registro Nacional (national registry). If you fail to register it by that date, you will be subject to a fine and all business and sale transactions of the corporation will be prohibited.

Poás Volcano – the volcano is still active with magma 5-10 meters from the surface, but expulsion of ash appears to have abated significantly from its most-recent activity. Watch for official government warnings.

Passport Update – Our arrived in just a couple of weeks, but contrary to the website info/instructions, we received a number of confusing email communications including a notice that we had to provide more information before the passport could be sent through Correos, then that the passport was unable to be delivered, before the arrival of the new passport (we received both new and old passports together contrary to instructions). (We finally determined that what the embassy wanted was a proof of payment copy for the Correos package deal included in the passport package initially sent to the embassy.) When all was complete and passport received, we began to receive multiple emails that the passport would be arriving soon after it had already been delivered, which our Sarchi Correos postman said to ignore. They don't make it easy, but try not to panic and allow the system time to straighten itself out.

Diseases and Airborne Viruses – In 2025 in Costa Rica, there have been 15 COVID deaths. The new COVID variant, being called "razorblade throat COVID" is spreading here and in the U.S. CAJA has announced that it has 700,000 doses of the COVID vaccine available here. However, your editor has inquired about its availability in the area, and been unable locate any venue where there is any supply. We'll try to keep you posted if and when we locate any.

New C.R. Coin Update – as of 1 July, the old brass alloy 500-colones coins, **and, surprise, the large brass 50-**

Que Pasa offers articles on local places to go, helpful how-to's, and general observations of life in the Grecia/Sarchi area.

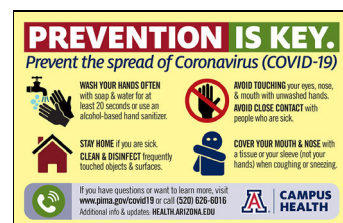
Click on the photo to visit our site!



Our favorite new restaurant -
Madrid Olé in Naranjo



DeVilbiss 5-liter Oxygen Concentrator



Our newest import - the latest variant of COVID.

colones coins, are also no longer accepted. They will need to be taken a bank to be deposited or exchanged for one of the new bi-metal coins. The rollout on this has not been consistent, check with your bank for their advice on how to exchange these 2 denominations.

Coffee Tours – I am assured that the team from Espiritu Santo coffee tour will begin in the very near future giving tours and offering a special quality coffee blend for sale at **Beneficio La Eva** coffee processing facility in Sarchi Norte. So, soon you will be to take visitors on a nearby coffee tour and experience a new tour for yourself.

Costa Rica Civics 101

For everyone new to Costa Rica or who has lived here for some time but is not as well informed as they would like to be, following here is your basic civics lesson for the month. We are headed toward a discussion of cantons but want to set the table with a brief background on Costa Rica's national government and its provinces. Thanks to Brad Ross for his input.

The National Government

Costa Rica is a wonderfully organized little country covering an area of only 19,730 square miles, about the size of the state of West Virginia, and a population of just over 5 million, less than 2/3 of the population of New York City. The overall national governance is a federal democracy with a president, currently Rodrigo Chaves, two vice presidents, and a unicameral national chamber of 57 deputies, the "*Asamblea Legislativa*." The president, V.P.s and deputies come from one of 15 or more political parties, and are elected every four years. (The next national federal election will be in early 2026.) In the case of the president, he/she cannot be re-elected for a consecutive term and must stand down for eight years before considering running again. (Yes, "she" is included here as Costa Rica has recently had a woman president, Laura Chincilla, from 2010 to 2014, who prior to that also served as a vice president.) The president represents Costa Rica internationally and oversees any number of national ministries and agencies. There is also a tiered court system, criminal and civil at both the national and local level, as well as a national constitutional court and local family courts. Due to Costa Rica once being part of the Spanish empire headquartered in Mexico, the legal system is based on the Napoleonic Code, which has distinct differences to the Imperial British law that forms the basis for the U.S. and Canadian legal systems. [For a deep dive on this topic, [check](#)



Time to collect your old 500 coins and exchange them at the bank for the new coin! Also applies to 50 colon pieces. Check with your bank for days and times when they accept coinage.

Medicina veterinaria a domicilio en Grecia y atención de emergencias.
Veterinarian at home in Grecia and surroundings, emergency attention.

Dr. Ricardo Quiros Oviedo
Medico veterinario CPMV 2781
Universidad Nacional.
Especialista en vigilancia epidemiológica.
English-Spanish.

Algunos Servicios

- Consulta veterinaria a domicilio.
- Consulta nutricional y dietas alternativas.
- Medicina preventiva (Vacunas y desparasitaciones).
- Manejo de pacientes geriátricos y enfermedades crónicas.
- Exámenes de laboratorio.
- Inyecciones medicas.
- Trámites de exportación.
- Atención de emergencias según disponibilidad en Grecia o alrededores.
- Limpieza dental.
- Consultas y cirugías ortopédicas.
- Castraciones en machos y hembras.
- Cirugías especializadas en tejidos blandos.

Contacto
83432729 @Happytailshomevet

Happy Tails
and the

**New mobile vet in Grecia -
Dr. Ricardo Quiros, Happy
Tails! English spoken!**

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[out this article](#) from Lawshun.]

Provinces

Costa Rica is divided into seven provinces: San Jose, Alajuela, Heredia, Punteranas, Guanacaste, Cartago, and Limon, but there are no provincial governments. However, one of the ways that keeps everything running smoothly is that the provinces subdivide into cantons. Currently, there are 84 cantons. Cantons are a unique and charming system that reflects both Costa Rica's Spanish-colonial roots and its modern democratic spirit.

Here is the current number of cantons in each province: San José 20; Alajuela 16; Cartago 8; Heredia 10; Puntarenas 11; Guanacaste 13; and Limón 6.

There'll be more about cantons in the next *QuePasaGrecia* update.

Little Summer & Rainfall to Date

Costa Rica kids will be out of school for the "little summer" two-week break, but the C.R. weather service says there will be no break in the rain this year. The San José GAM vehicular license plate restrictions will be waived from 7 July to 18 July.

Since we are publishing this issue after the end of the month, it's time to catch up on annual rainfall since 1 January to date for El Cajon de Grecia and San Juan de Sarchi. Thanks to Irina and Tom.

El Cajon de Grecia (Irina)

May: 68.3 cms; 26.9 in.

June: 68.9 cms; 27.1 in.

YTD: 172.9 cms; 68.1 in.

San Juan de Sarchi (Tom)

May: 66.0 cms; 26.0 in.

June: 57.4 cms; 22.6 in.

YTD: 172.9 cms; 51.4 in.

Note to Readers: The following section, **U.S. Government Changes Impacting Expats**, is accurate at the time of writing, but may contain information, conclusions, and/or suggestions with which some readers may disagree, cause discomfort, or find objectionable. For those individuals, we recommend that you finish your *Que Pasa Grecia* update reading here and skip to the Costa Rican saying. For the rest of our readers, we hope you find value in reading the section below.

U.S. Government Changes Impacting Expats

Immigration – SCOTUS is allowing the U.S. to deport immigrants to countries that are not their home nation, and

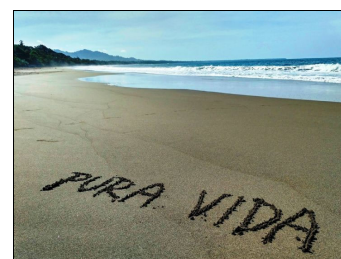
Highlighting **DUO**, a CR non-profit dedicated to education and assistance in suicide prevention. They offer a monthly donation option, making it easy to support their vital work. [Click here to read about](#) their services.



[Caribe Sinfónico asks for your support!](#)



Your bank will NEVER call asking for your private information. Neither will Social Security or the IRS.



was believed that Secretary Noem was here to pressure Costa Rica to accept more immigrants. However, the country's high court, Sala IV, ruled that the government must release the immigrants it had previously received from the U.S. and could not detain and incarcerate any future immigrants from other countries.

Social Security – If you need to contact the SSA, first attempt to call the U.S. Embassy U.S. Citizen Services (2519-2000), which promises to assist.

Tariffs, Retirement Savings, and the Cost of Living – This hasn't gotten much ink lately, but the regime has had words with Canada and increased tariffs may result, which could impact some prices we see here in C.R. There are plenty of U.S. threats, but tariff talks with Chinese seem to be going nowhere at the moment. So, whether there will be price changes to Chinese products from tariffs is still to be seen. Increases in prices on sites such as Amazon that resell and ship products made in foreign nations to us in Costa Rica is still expected. In the meantime, U.S. businesses and the stock markets await the pending 90-day deadline for trade deals to be implemented or new tariffs to be imposed. The stock markets just hit all-time highs last week and the markets so far are apparently little effected by tariffs, interest rates, the proposed federal budget for 2026 fiscal year, and other economic conditions. However, so far this year, the U.S. dollar has lost 10% in value, which is bound to adversely impact the exchange rate with the C.R. colon and our how far our dollar will go in Costa Rica.

Pending U.N. Financial Crisis – No alien sugar daddy has stepped forward to save the U.N. and it faces a large deficit, primarily from U.S. cuts to its funding, including major cuts already announced for assisting Costa Rica's immigrant population.

"Poco a poco, se anda lejos"

Literal translation: Little by little, one goes far.

English equivalent: Taking life slowly makes
achievements a reality.

Thank you, Isabel Arguello, for your continuing
contributions.

Check your quinientos and old 50's.

D. Davis, editor

Diane Cooner, webmaster

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