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Costa Rica - Destination Paradise



Wandering minstrel Mariachi band serenades the guests on the beach. Clarita's on Jaco Beach is where many of the Poker Refugees gather.



Cute little guy selling jewelry.



A restaurant in the mountains.

Costa Rica A Haven For Online Poker Refugees

April 15th, 2011 was dubbed Black Friday by the online poker community because on that day it was deemed unlawful to play and receive money for on-line gambling, and the sites stopped offering real money to their customers in the United States. So what do the professional online poker players do so they can continue to play and earn big money? They go to Costa Rica where it is not illegal. I recently took a trip to Jaco (pronounced Hako) Beach and met some of the poker refugees.

A strikingly beautiful woman I met there told me that her husband makes so much money playing online poker that she quit her job. "J" is a graduate of the Harvard Law School who now spends her time waiting on her husband who plays 9 hours straight each day. If he gets up to use the bathroom or for any reason, he loses his place in line, so he cannot move from his computer. His Harvard graduate lawyer wife waits on him hand, foot and bedpan.

Let me tell you, if you have to leave the country to work for several months



there are a lot worse places than Jaco Beach, Costa Rica. The country is all one beautiful rainforest with spectacular virtually untouched beaches. The people are friendly, food and drinks are quite reasonable and everything is clean and fresh.

There is even a large population of English-speaking residents there so language is not a problem. Internet and electricity are cheap but gas for your car is \$6.50 a gallon. A taxi ride across town was 600 colones or about \$1.20, so you really don't need a vehicle. An average hotel room is \$60 a night on the beach. Medical and dental services are a great savings over those in the U.S.

If you are interested in making a trip there contact Ellen Broussard who is the Jaco representative for the Poker Refugees, her email is ellen@pokerrefugees.com.



The famous Beatle Bar.



Ride a horse on the beach.



What a view!