

Southwest Airlines Celebrates 10 Years of Serving Costa Rica

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DALLAS & SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA—March 12, 2025—Southwest Airlines Co. (NYSE: LUV) is celebrating a decade of serving Central America by commemorating the tenth anniversary of its first flights to San José, Costa Rica. Southwest, which carries more air travelers nonstop in the United States than any other airline, first landed at Juan Santamaría International Airport (SJO) in March 2015. Later that year, Southwest began serving the Guanacaste region of Costa Rica in November 2015 through Daniel Oduber Quirós International Airport (LIR). With year-round service at both international airports in Costa Rica, Southwest has invested in a continual partnership that connects travelers with what is important in their lives through friendly, reliable, affordable air travel. Learn more about Southwest Airlines and book travel now at Southwest.com.

“Southwest is celebrating 10 years of connecting our Heart with Ticos and with visitors who seek all that Costa Rica has to offer,” said Adam Decaire, Southwest Airlines Senior Vice President of Network Planning and Network Operations Control. “Our newest route connects San José and Orlando daily, alongside other nonstop travel options to Baltimore/Washington, Houston (Hobby), and Denver, all places where Southwest offers hundreds of connecting flights to dozens of additional cities in the U.S.”

Southwest Airlines is known for warm Customer Service and amazing People who deliver great Hospitality to all Southwest Customers, a strong network with the most nonstop travel options flights within the U.S., and a loyalty program that offers real value to Rapid Rewards members.

“On behalf of the Costa Rican Tourism Board, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Southwest Airlines on 10 consecutive years of operations in Costa Rica. We are especially proud to recall that in 2015, Southwest chose our country as its first international destination. We deeply appreciate the trust placed in Costa Rica and Southwest’s invaluable support in strengthening air connectivity with the United States, our leading tourism market. Through this partnership, we have welcomed thousands of travelers eager to experience Costa Rica’s natural beauty and unique offerings. We reaffirm our commitment to nurturing this connection for years to come, ensuring that every future passenger continues to enjoy the essence of Pura Vida and the warmth of our people,” said William Rodríguez, Minister of Tourism of Costa Rica.

"We celebrate alongside Southwest Airlines this significant decade of connection with Costa Rica, a milestone that reflects the value of strategic alliances in strengthening the country's air connectivity. The Juan Santamaría International Airport has witnessed the growth of this operation, which in 10 years has transported 688,412 passengers, promoting cultural and commercial exchange between both nations and bringing thousands of people closer to memorable experiences in Costa Rica. At AERIS, we reaffirm our commitment to continue driving the development of air connectivity, ensuring every airline and passenger a true 'Pura Vida' experience," stated Ricardo Hernández, Executive Director of AERIS.

The United States is the main source market for tourists visiting Costa Rica. According to data from the Costa Rican Tourism Board, 1,587,138 American tourists arrived in Costa Rica by air in 2024, reflecting a 10.9% growth compared to the previous period. In January of this year, 150,027 travelers from the United States entered the country by the same means.

ABOUT SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO.

[Southwest Airlines Co.](#) operates one of the world's most admired and awarded airlines, offering its one-of-a-kind value and Hospitality at 121 airports across 12 countries. Southwest took flight in 1971 to democratize the sky through friendly, reliable, and low-cost air travel and now carries more air travelers flying nonstop within the United States than any other airline¹. By empowering its more than 72,000² People to deliver unparalleled Hospitality, the maverick airline cherishes a passionate loyalty among more than 134 million Customers carried in 2025. Southwest leverages a unique legacy and mission to serve communities around the world including harnessing the power of its People and Purpose to put communities at the Heart of its success. Learn more by visiting Southwest.com/citizenship.

1. Based on U.S. Dept. of Transportation quarterly Airline Origin & Destination Survey as of Q4 2025
2. Fulltime-equivalent active Employees as of Dec. 31, 2025

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