



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Nicaragua - Granada

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Managua
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish
- ✓ **Sq km:** 531
- ✓ **Population:** ± 116,000
- ✓ **Currency:** Cordobas / Dollars
- ✓ **Country code:** +505
- ✓ **Visa:** Fore some countries, [check here!](#)
- ✓ **Alarm codes:** 118
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A / Hep-B / Typhoid / Yellow fever / DTP / Malaria prevention



History Recap Over 1 Drink

1522: Country named after Indian chief Nicarao (by Gonzalez). '24: Granada/León founded by Cordoba. 1821: Independent from Spain. '23: United Provinces of Central America independent from Mexico / '38: fully independent. '55: William Walker in Granada →'56: Battle of Rivas/San Jacinto→'57: Walker pres.: Slavery/ planned canal →'57: defeated by Costa Rican army, executed. 1900: US/UK signed Hay-Pauncefote Treaty: canal rights (expired in '71). '09: US invasion. '12: Civil War (Managua destroyed). '27: Pres. Diaz allows US intervention →Sandino's 5-year war against US occupation / Moncada pres. '31: Earthquake Managua (12000 death). '36: Begin Somoza family presidents. '41: Enters WWII. 49: Friendship treaty Costa Rica (borders). '61: Sandinista front against US-backed dictatorship Somoza's→ '78 attacked/captured León: Somoza starts bombing, tortures/killings. '79: Pres resigned, Sandinista government. '80: Contra rebellion US (financed by drug money). '81: Indigenous Miskitos search autonomy & join Contra rebellion. '84: Ortega pres. '87: Failed US-Nica peace negotiation. '87: Brunei helps Contra. '88: Hurricanes start. '90: Chamorro pres. (non-Sandinista). '97: Aleman pres. '02: Ortega again pres. '04: Free trade pact US CAFTA. '06: Nica wants to build canal (rights: China).

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dry												
Wet												
Best												
Budget												

Climate: Tropical savannah.

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ Walk from Parque Central over the Calzada all the way to the Cocibolca (Nicaragua) Lake for the best landmarks.
- ☺ Churches: The big yellow Catedral, Iglesia La Merced (climb the top for \$1, nice views!), Guadalupe & San Francisco.
- ☺ Free theatre & culture @ [Casa de Los Tres Mundos](#).
- ☺ Visit the market to get to the core of true Nicaraguan culture... watch your bag though!

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 Visit a local school in the slums with [La Esperanza](#).
- 👍 Wine tasting @ [Ciudad Lounge](#) (Friday).
- 👍 Surrounding nature: HIGHLIGHT Volcán Mombacho (if you can, walk yourself and spot the monkey tribes) / Volcán Masaya / Laguna Apoyo.
- 👍 Tours: Zipline / Pueblos Blancos / Isletas / Zapatera / Chocoyero. (Every agency offers the same).

Tourist Trap Alert

⊖ If you plan on climbing Volcán Mombacho, CLIMB. The bus is overpriced and you'll miss the many monkey tribes hanging out in the trees.

Nights Best Spent

- ◆ Head to Calle La Calzada for the best Nightlife. Beautiful: El Tercer Ojo.
- ◆ Loco Saturdays, party island.

... Seated Down

- ◆ [Casa de Los Tres Mundos](#), next to Central Park.

Festivals

- ⊙ Holy week: Religion, Apr.
- ⊙ The Assumption: Aug-15.
- ⊙ Independence festivities: 14-15-Sept.

Knowledge I'm Taking

Home

- 📖 Hable español: [Casa Nica](#).
- 📖 Dance like a Latino: [Cafe de La Musica](#) (salsa).
- 📖 Learn how to help others: [La Esperanza](#).

Mama Said

- ☠ Watch your bag, buy a lock. Smartphones are popular. Pickpockets work the centre.
- ☠ Locals don't walk around at night, not even the smallest distances. With a reason.
- ☠ Be careful with taxi's →

Next?

- In Nicaragua: Masaya, Managua, Volcán Mombacho, the coast, Ometepe.
- International destinations closeby: Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador.

Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Lucy's Hostel, +50589736599, Parque Central (opposed to Managua bus terminal).
- ❖ Hostel La Mexicana, +50588679205, Calle Real Xalteva 507.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [house-sitting](#)! Also check [WorkAwav](#).

Budget Bites

- ⌘ Markets: Down Calle Atravesada or Calle Vega.
- ⌘ Cheaper supermarket: Palí (next to market).
- ⌘ Nicaragua's streetfood: Nacatamales, (corn dough with meat), tortilla, corn, vigoron (yuca/pork/salad), baho (yuca/beef/plantain /salad), gallo pinto (rice & beans), quesillo (tortilla with melted cheese & pineapple), tajadas (deep-fried plantain chips), hamburger, hot dog.

Have a coffee at Café De Las Sonrisas and support careers of the deaf. Get the Granada Discounts Map for many discounts in restaurants & hotels.

Free-Riding?

- Within the touristic centre, everything is walkable. At night it's NOT safe though (robberies).
- Every destination has its own bus stop in Granada. Check [this map](#) or any other hardcopy you can pick up for more clarity.
- Biking is perfectly possible here. Free bike rental at Leo Tours (Calle La Calzada) if you book any tour.
- Twice a week a ferry goes to Isla de Ometepe... However, it's faster and a bit more comfortable to go via Rivas, San Jorge harbour and take a ferry to Moyogalpa (place on Ometepe).
- Taxi's are quite pricy compared to buses and take your precautions. Foreigner = money, which can attract robbers. Use only the official, red cabs.

Tip: Download the free Triposo Nicaragua app for an offline map, offline guide & more. Load Google Maps when you have wifi and leave it open. you will still be able to use it offline.

The Earth
Becomes My Throne