

OSA BIODIVERSITY CENTER CHECKLIST



Documents

- Photocopy of passport
- Travel/medical insurance
- Academic credit documentation if applicable

Clothing

Pack for hot weather and dirty conditions. Lightweight and fast-drying articles are best. Don't bring denim. It NEVER dries in tropical humidity.

- Field clothes
- Camp clothes (shorts and t-shirts are fine)
- Plenty of socks / underwear
- Swim suit
- Sunglasses / hat
- Rain gear

Footwear

- Hiking shoes or boots – comfortable and broken in
- Rubber Boots are REQUIRED for trails—remember these offer greater protection against snakebites. If you don't want to lug these home, we gladly accept donations.
- Flip-flops, sneakers or sandals for around camp. Crocs are great
- Optional Closed-toed beach shoes that can get wet. Again, Crocs are a favorite

Gear

- Watch
- Headlamp (red light compulsory when working with turtles)
- Sunblock
- Insect repellent
- Water bottle or Camelbak type hydration system
- Day pack for hikes

Personal


- Toiletries (biodegradable soaps, shampoos and other products)

- First aid kit including cortisone/Benadryl for insect bites
- Garbage bag / tote for storing dirty laundry
- Ziploc bags for storing any electronic equipment you bring
- Lightweight sleeping bag or sheets, sleeping pad, camping pillow and towel when staying on camping platforms at Cerro Osa

Finances

- \$26.00 for the Costa Rican airport departure tax
- Spending money, dollars accepted everywhere on the Osa
- Debit and credit card – Visa is more widely accepted than MasterCard

Optional

- Binoculars
- Compass
- Plug convertor/120 volts 
- Leatherman/Swiss army knife
- Field guides of interest
- A book or two for lazy afternoons
- Camera
- Portable music player
- Laptops – remember we limit internet use

Do not bring

Personal items that require an AC power supply such as hairdryers and electric razors, as the draw is too much for our renewable energy systems (rechargeable items like camera batteries are fine).

Please be aware that storage and security are not guaranteed.

Donations

OBC rates are subsidized and do not cover the full station operations, maintenance and land stewardship costs. As such, we will happily accept donations of bedding, towels, rubber boots and reference books for the station library. If you are willing to help in this way, please buy 100% cotton individual/single/twin bedding.