

Condos Offer Comforts of Home

By Amanda Roberson

Tico Times Staff

If you're thinking of buying property in Costa Rica or just want to feel at home while on an extended vacation, condos offer a convenient and comfortable option. Poolside relaxing, beach access, stylish decor and fully equipped kitchens are among the benefits they provide. Condos also give you the flexibility to stay for a short or long period of time, a smart choice for those who are considering buying property but want to think it over while staying in the country.

Hacienda Pinilla, a development south of Tamarindo in the northwestern province of Guanacaste, boasts four beaches on 4,500 acres, two pools, a fitness center, tennis courts, horseback riding and the longest golf course in the country at 7,264 yards, according to Carolina Ramírez, Hacienda Pinilla marketing manager.

All the luxuries of a hotel, including room service, a bar and lounge area and restaurants, are available on the grounds.

Two- and three-bedroom condos are available for sale or rent, and all come complete with stylish furniture, a fully equipped kitchen, air conditioning, Internet connection and cable TV. That means adding decorations and personal touches is the only work owners or renters will have upon moving in.

Because of the property's size, beaches



Photo courtesy of Hacienda Pinilla

Hacienda Living: Comfort and elegance make Hacienda Pinilla's villas in Guanacaste very livable.

must be accessed by car; transportation around the grounds is provided for those who don't have their own vehicle. Transfers from the Liberia airport are also available.

Palma Real Villas are among Hacienda Pinilla's hot condos - so hot, in fact, that they're all sold, but they make an appealing option for rental. The villas are near two of the property's beaches, Mansita and Bonita, close to the golf course, next to the beach club and a few minutes from the stable. The master plan includes five buildings with six villas each, a swimming pool, fitness room, garage parking areas and a gazebo. Both two- and three-bedroom units are available; some have views of both the golf course and Pacific Ocean.

Rental prices vary according to the time of year, with different rates for peak weeks around Christmas and Easter, the dry season and the rainy season. Rates are available by the day, week or month.

Though the Palma Real Villas are all sold, more condos are being built at Hacienda Pinilla that will be up for sale. For information on sale or rental prices, visit www.haciendapinilla.com or call 680-3000.

Nativa Resort is a beautiful property with luxurious condos waiting to be purchased. Just 45 minutes from San José on the road to the central Pacific coast beach town of Jacó, Nativa promises "an exclusive lifestyle in the serenity of nature," with the ocean, rivers, jungle and forest at your doorstep.

The property is still under construction, but apartments are for sale, and in some cases have already been bought up (no rentals are available).

The Vistas Apartments community, which

consists of three six-floor buildings, includes amenities such as an infinity pool, garden terraces, ample parking and panoramic ocean views.

The Las Brisas Apartments are condominium homes offering both ocean and jungle views. The buildings are under construction and will have four buildings with units between 1,851-1,870 square feet, completely furnished and with terraces and balconies.

In addition to enjoying being surrounded by nature, those who own property at Nativa can take advantage of Las Monas Clubhouse, which will feature a lounge and bar area, Italian restaurant and pool.

For prices and information, call 625-8054 or visit www.nativaresort.com.

For those who prefer mountains to beaches, and quaint simplicity over super luxury, **La Condesa Hotel and Villas**, in Heredia, north of San José, provides tranquility, nature and options for long-term stays.

La Condesa offers large, three-bedroom, two-bathroom villas, medium-sized villas with two bedrooms and one bathroom and small, one-bedroom villas. All include a fully equipped kitchen, breakfast area and living area with a TV.

Guests at La Condesa can enjoy all the hotel has to offer, including a pool, hot tub, sauna, miniature golf course and secure parking. Trails flanking out from La Condesa's grounds treat hikers to great views of the Central Valley, and cable-bridge tours are available.

La Condesa offers special rates for stays of more than a week, on a case-by-case basis. For information, call 267-6000 or visit www.hotellacondesa.com. ■



Photo courtesy of Nativa Resort

Exclusive Lifestyle: Nativa Resort, on the road to Jacó.

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