

## Driving from Caño Blanco to San Jose

**Which dock we use depends on the water level of the rivers. This depends on the rains, and can change even at the last moment. You should be sure to call our operations department in order to determine which dock is in operation on your travel day. Those phone numbers are below.**

Office hours (5:30am ~ 8:00pm)

Tel. [\(+506\) 2257-0766](tel:+50622570766)

Tel. [\(+506\) 2521-6099](tel:+50625216099)

After hours, Operations Staff

Mobile. [\(+506\) 8707-5212](tel:+50687075212)

Director of Operations & Lodges, Diego  
Blanco

Mob. [\(+506\) 8879-3821](tel:+50688793821)

By far the easiest way to get to Tortuguero is to have us take you there. Talk to your travel planner about arranging transportation or buy a complete package that includes round trip transportation, lodging, excursions and meals. If you are interested in booking a complete package, please click here, [Complete Packages](#) or look on [www.tortugalodge.com](http://www.tortugalodge.com) .

If you are driving on your own to the La Pavona dock en route to Tortuguero, driving instructions are below. Even with these directions, there is a good chance you will get lost if you do not have a GPS. By far the best is EZ Find. There are no addresses in Costa Rica. The GPS operates by points of interest. Go to the Points of Interest on the menu and put in where you want to go. For example, “La Pavona”.

Driving instructions are below, please print them out and after you’ve used them, let us know how it went. We’d love to make it easier for the next guest to follow these instructions.

**Note:** Road signs and directions in Costa Rica go by kilometers and not miles. One kilometer is just over half a mile. Some benchmarks for doing quick and dirty conversions are below:

1 km = 0.6 mi

3 km = 1.8 mi

5 km = 3 mi

10 km = 6 mi

## **From Caño Blanco to San Jose**

**Total Driving Time:** 3-4 hours depending on traffic

**Type of Vehicle:** Best done in a 4x4 vehicle

**Recommended Time to Drive:** Complete this drive in daylight, leaving Caño Blanco no later than 2pm.

**Fuel:** Leave San Jose with a full tank, there are several places where you will be able to fill up on the next leg of your trip.

### **Recommended Stop en Route:**

**Driving Recommendations:** You will be driving on a highway that is one of the major points of transit for heavy trucks going back and forth from the Limon dock. Drive carefully and expect large trucks to be traveling at high speed either in oncoming lanes or behind you. If it is raining heavily before you begin to cross the mountain, call us before hand to make sure the road is open.

### **Driving Instructions:**

1. Leaving the Caño Blanco dock, drive 10.2 KMS passing a school and the Tropical Garden on the way.
2. You will come to a pronounced curve in the road, **Stay Right**.
3. Drive 7.1 KMS you will pass three schools; here you will have entered the banana plantations.
4. Continue for 3.6KMS at the end of this stretch you will come to the Del Monte airstrip and a bridge without railing.
5. **Turn Left** for 0.5 KMS, until you come to another intersection; here there will be a white sign that says Siquirres, **Stay Left** for 0.8KMS until you get to a banana packing plant.
6. Continue on this road for 4.2KMS until you come to another intersection, keep going straight ahead for 0.6KMS and you will see the San Alberto airstrip on your right.
7. Drive 2.7KMS and you will come to another intersection where you **Continue Left**, at this point the banana plantations and the gravel road end and the asphalt road begins.
8. Take the asphalt road on the **Left** for 1.5 KMS and you will come to the El Cocal School.

9. Continue for 3.5 KMS and you will arrive at a business on the right, the Almacen Jerusalem, **Turn Right** for 0.1 KMS and cross the railroad tracks.
10. **Turn Left** 0.1 KMS and then **Turn Right** for 0.3KMS and you will come to a T in the road.
11. You will see the Siquirres cemetery ahead of you.
12. **Turn Right** 0.1 KMS and then **Turn Left** 0.2 KMS and you will have arrive at route 32, the main highway connecting San Jose with the Caribbean coast. On your right is the Caribbean Dish, a restaurant that is a good place to use the restrooms and get a snack. **Total Distance: 35.5KMS, Total Driving Time: 1.40 hours.**
13. **Turn Right** onto route 32; follow the green signs to Guapiles or San Jose
14. Drive 2 KMS an you will pass the bridge over the Reventazon River, continue for 10.8 KMS, on the left hand side of the road you will see a gas station, Gasolinera Pocora. This is the first opportunity to refuel after turning onto route 32.
15. Stay on this road without ever leaving this route for 82.2KMS. Signs will let you know the distance from your location to San Jose. You will arrive at a four-way intersection before entering the city of San Jose. Follow directions to your hotel from here.