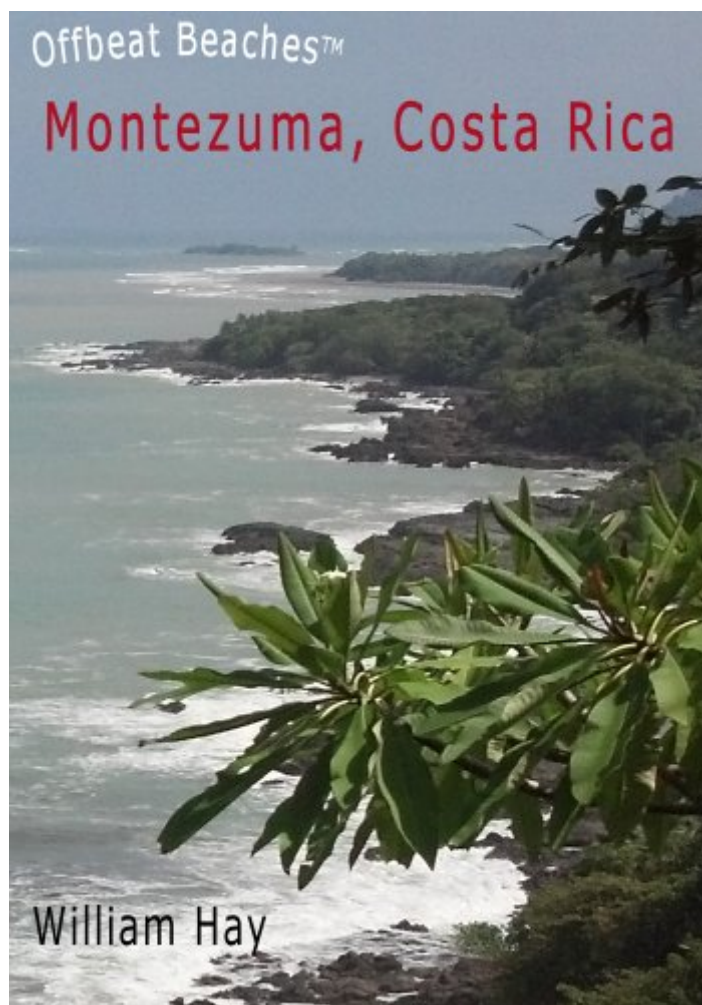


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Montezuma, Costa Rica (Offbeat Beaches Book 1)



Synopsis

The small town of Montezuma, Costa Rica lies on the southeastern coast of the Nicoya Peninsula, which juts out from the mainland like an arm hanging out of a car window as it cruises through the Caribbean. The town itself has been labeled "a retreat" and a village. It is unique among many of the communities of Costa Rica for having a special ambiance. Although small in size, the town attracts many visitors and also serves as home to the annual Costa Rican International Film Festival. Although it is now known as Montezuma, the original name of the community was Monteczuma. During the growth and development, the name changed. Several years ago, when local law enforcement rarely ventured into the town, visitors and locals referred to it as "Montefuma" in reference to the large amount of marijuana being consumed by people residing there. The reputation of the town has improved in terms of the smoking scene, although some of the locally available shirts continue playing on the reputation they once had. When I was there, some of the shops had shirts on display with a logo similar to the famous Rolling Stones logo, except that these contained the phrase "Montezuma Stones" and some stickers festooned with the "Montefuma" name. Although the reputation is changing, the community remains a surf-oriented beach community with the laid back atmosphere that comes with it. If there is any kind of dress code in the community, it is beach attire. While other communities in Costa Rica dress to block out much of the tropical sun, people in Montezuma welcome it. The east facing town lies at the water's edge at the base of a hill ridge that makes up the Nicoya Peninsula. The road leading down from the ridge to the town twists and turns through the tropical jungles filled with wildlife. Montezuma's location at the conjunction of the Gulf of Nicoya and the Pacific Ocean makes it a spot with frequent surf action. There is even a surf school in the community if you have never ridden a wave before or if you want to brush up. The waves are often large enough to ride without being large enough to be intimidating. The challenge with surfing in the Montezuma area is the frequency of rocky areas along the shoreline interspersed with the sandy beaches. The town continues its reputation as a popular party spot for young people. Although the town is small in size, it contains numerous restaurants, hotels, rentals and several bars. The nightlife draws visitors to beachside bars where the parties often spill out onto the street with dancing and drinking. On some nights, there are fire dancing exhibitions in the street that add to the party atmosphere of Montezuma. There is a constant stream of people throughout the day through the small community. Transportation is available through water taxis and buses to the capitol of San Jose or the other beachside community of Jaco. Four wheelers are a frequent site in the town as a favorite mode of transportation. There are also frequently horses going through the

town as they are either taking visitors out for a tour or returning from one. The constant movement of four wheelers, horses and people amidst the tropical backdrop of the beach side town makes for a lively, yet laid back setting for travel. Scroll up and click the Buy button to start reading right away!

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