



Dinner

at Brisa Azul

HALF portions available

FIRST COURSES



Costa Rican Ceviche

A cold, sour lemon-cooked fish combined with sweet peppers, onions and cilantro, a *tico* favorite specialty. Served with crisped tortilla wedges.

Costa Rican Sweet Potato Salad

A combination of Costa Rican roots, tubers and rhizomes, with tomatoes, cucumber and avocado. A light dish prepared with fresh herb vinaigrette.

MAIN COURSES

Tico Barbequed Pork Ribs

Tender pork ribs basted and served with a blackberry (*mora*)-tamarind barbeque sauce. Accompanied by rice and a crisp chayote-mango slaw.

Mora is Central America's highland-grown blackberry. **Tamarind**, a rainforest tree, produces sticky, pulp-covered sweet-sour seeds underpinning tropical sauces. **Malanga** and **Tiquisque** are ground surface corms (rhizomes) within the Araceae family (see the elephant ear plants in our gardens). The corms are starchy and nutritional.

Osa Bouillabaisse

The Lapa Rios signature plate made from homemade red snapper stock, freshly hand squeezed coconut milk, and laden with a simmering array of shellfish, shrimp, red snapper and vegetable chunks. Delicious.

Chancletas or Sandals

A local white cheese and chopped spinach stuffed chayote. Served with white rice and tangy papaya-vegetable salad.

Chayote is a large pear-shaped gourd, summer squash-like in flavor. It is native to Central America and a favorite meal addition. The vine rambles along garden trellises for meters, producing hundreds of ½ kilo size fruit.



DESSERTS

Coconut-Chocolate Pudding

Creamy coconut pudding atop a smooth chocolate base with ginger cookie crust.

Cajetas de Coco

Cajetas are a traditional dessert in Costa Rica, made with condensed milk and shaved coconut.

Tonight's **appetizer** is fried *yuca* with *chimichurri*, a favorite Latin American relish combining parsley, garlic and oil; garlic balance varies, locally determined.

Dinner rolls made with Central American-endemic *tiquizque*, a rhizome better known worldwide as *taro root*. Food scientists suspect the corm or rhizome (swollen underground stem) was spread westward across the Pacific via Peruvians using balsa rafts.