



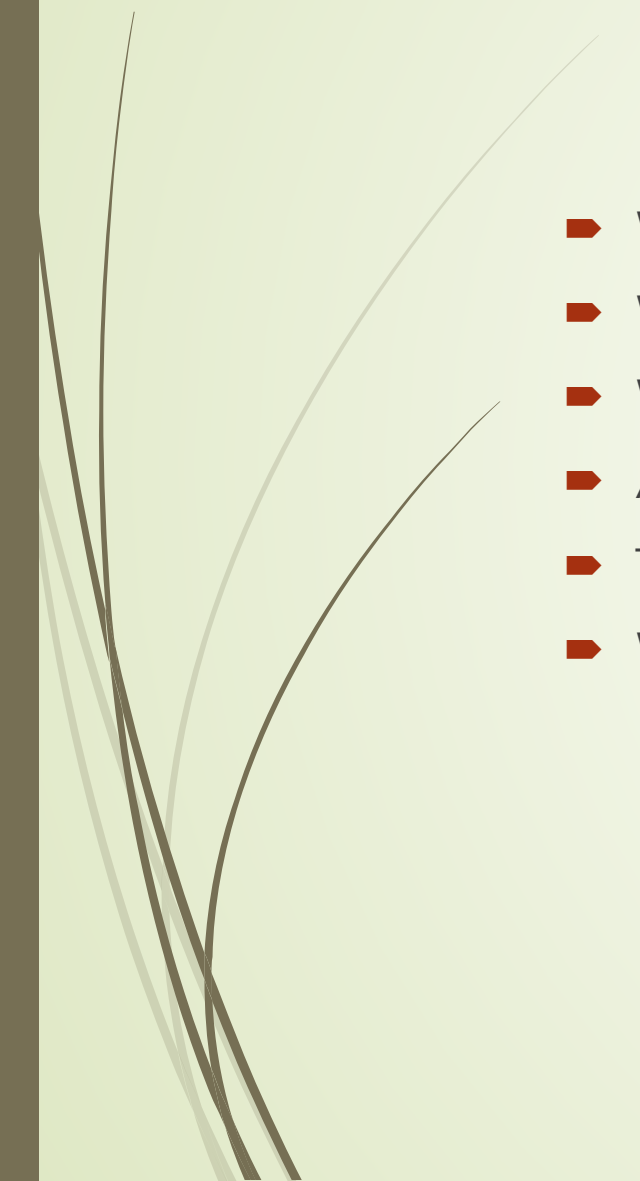
So Much to Love About Panamá

Live and Invest In Panamá Virtual Conference

January 14, 2021



What We'll Talk About Today

- Who we are
 - Why we chose Panamá
 - What we love about Panamá
 - Advice for overseas living
 - Traveling to Panamá with a pet
 - Why we aren't in Panamá now
- 

Who Are We & Why Are We Here?



- ▶ Bob McClenahan, retired engineer, & Heather McClenahan, writer
- ▶ When Bob retired, we planned to spend 3 years traveling the world to determine where we might want to retire permanently or semi-permanently
- ▶ We attended a Live & Invest Overseas Conference in Las Vegas in 2018 and learned a significant amount of information about many countries that had caught our attention, including Panamá, Belize, the Dominican Republic, and several European countries, as well
- ▶ We started this odyssey in Panamá on Nov. 1, 2019 and lived there until June 2020, returning on a humanitarian flight arranged by the U.S. Embassy while the international airport remained closed
- ▶ We traveled with our 13-year-old, 65-pound Siberian Husky, Tiki

Why Start in Panamá?

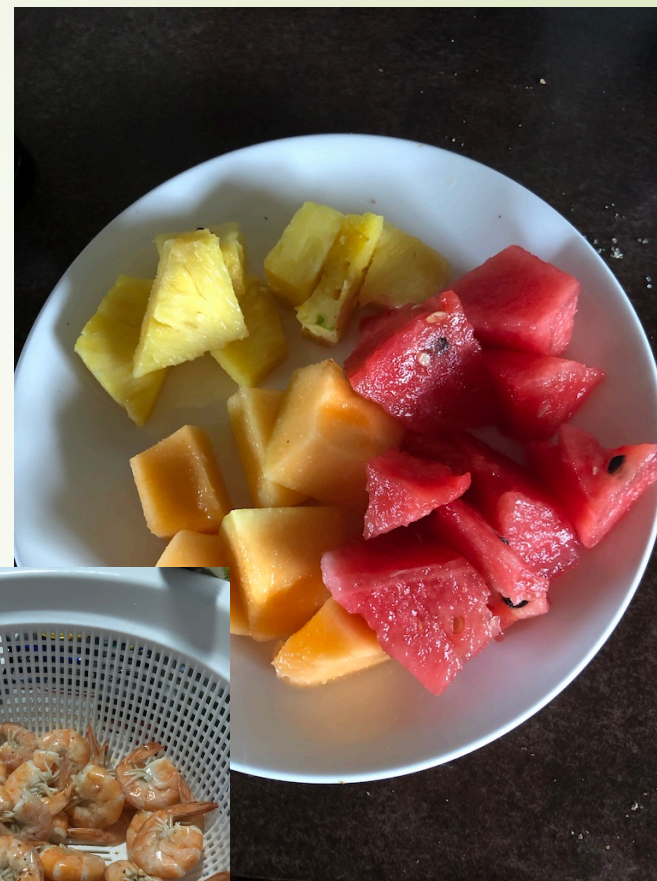
- U.S. dollar is currency
- Easy to get to and easy to travel around
- Decent infrastructure
- Nice people
- English spoken fairly widely
- So much to see and do
- Easy path to residency
- We had visited twice before and liked it, so we wanted to see and explore more



So Much To Love About Panamá: Things To Do in the City



So Much to Love about Panamá: Great Food to Eat



So Much to Love About Panamá Wonderful People

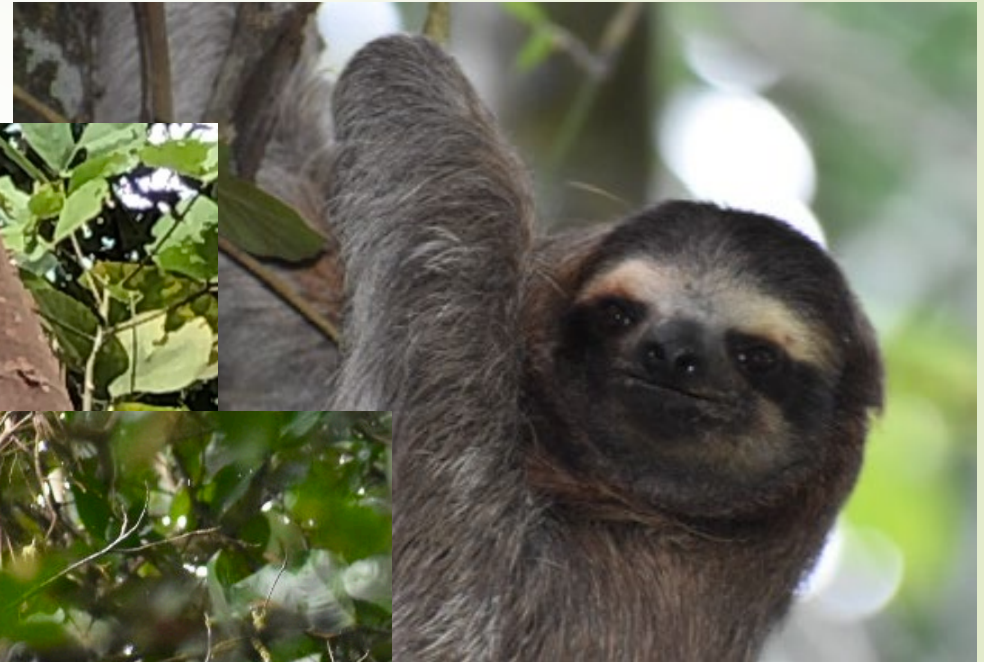


So Much To Love About Panamá:

Places to Explore



So Much To Love About Panamá: Wildlife Watching



So Much To Love About Panamá: Good Infrastructure



So Much to Love About Panamá: It's for the Birds

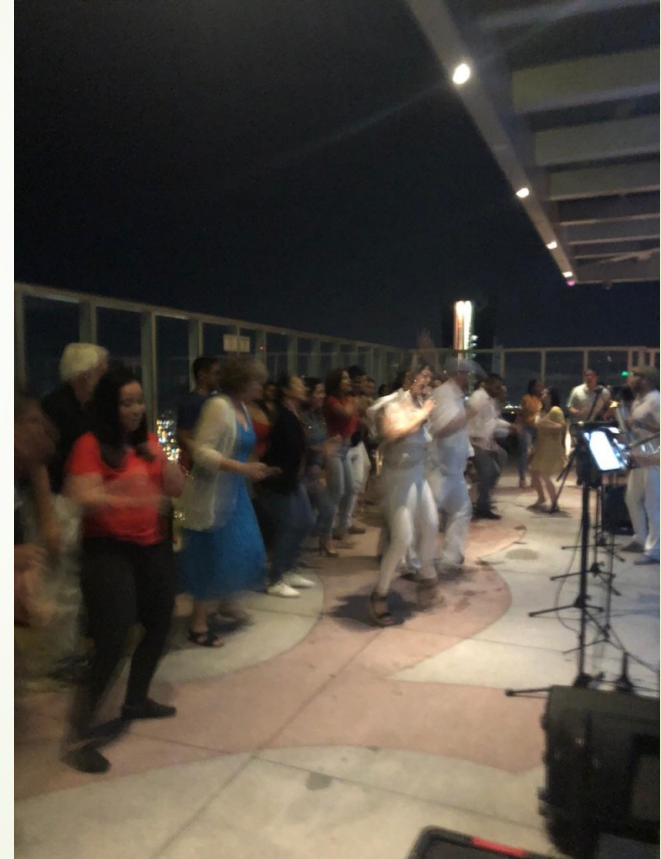


So Much to Love About Panamá: Beauty Everywhere You Look



Don't Stay in the Same Rut; Try New ...Everything


- Learn the language
- Explore (walk around, ride mass transit)
- Plan to rent a place for six months (short-term rental)
- Try new foods
- Learn about the culture
- Join local social media groups
- Meet people, both expats and natives
- Dance!



Traveling With a Pet in Panamá

- Don't believe everything you read on the internet!
- Check with the official Panamanian embassy website for the latest information
- Use a professional pet shipper
- Remember not all vets speak English
- The Central American jungle has icky things that suburban American dogs just don't usually come into contact with
- Pet grooming, even for a husky, in Panamá City, is inexpensive
- Traveling with a pet is a great way to meet people!





In Spite of All That: Why We (Probably) Won't Live in Panamá

- ▶ Panamanian government had been very “live and let live,” one aspect of Panamá we found to be attractive
- ▶ COVID-19 lock downs were some of the most restrictive in the world, including eight weeks of dry laws
- ▶ Corruption, which may, or many not, affect ex-pats (such as huge fines for breaking lockdown rules)
- ▶ The government is looking at changing the Friendly Nations Visa
- ▶ It wasn't expensive, but it wasn't as cheap as we thought it might be
 - ▶ Part of it was not understanding all the rules (short-term rental, liability insurance on the rental car)
- ▶ We still have other places we want to explore like Costa Rica and Belize

So Much to Love About Panamá



- Questions?
- For more specific information, check out my blog at www.Heathers6WAdventures.com/blog or see articles I've written for Live & Invest Overseas