

THE INSIDER'S GUIDE FROM YOUR JACO BEACH CHEF

How to Plan an Awesome Bachelor Party in Jacó Beach

Villas, party boats, sport fishing, epic feasts and the wildest nightlife on Costa Rica's Central Pacific — everything the best man needs to throw a trip the groom will never forget



www.jacobeachchef.com

Welcome, Best Man

You have been handed the greatest honor and the greatest burden in a groom's whole crew: **planning the bachelor party**. Get it right and you are a legend forever. This little guide is here to make sure you do — in Jacó, Costa Rica, the best beach town on the Central Pacific for a group of guys looking to raise a little hell before the wedding. I'm Chef Bill'ardee, your Jaco Beach Chef, and I have fed and helped plan more of these trips than I can count. What follows is everything I have learned: where to stay, what to do on the water and in the jungle, where to party, and how to feed a hungry crew like royalty without blowing the budget. Let's build something unforgettable. — Chef Bill'ardee

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Why Jacó Is the Ultimate Bachelor Party Town



So the boys are getting the band back together for one last blow-out before the wedding, and someone finally said the magic word: **Costa Rica**. Smart move. And of all the country's beach towns, none is better built for a bachelor party than **Jacó** — the Central Pacific's most famous party beach, just about 90 minutes from the San José airport.

Jacó hits the rare trifecta: it is easy to get to, it has everything a big group of guys wants within a few square miles, and it is still affordable enough that ten or fifteen of you can live like kings for a fraction of what a weekend in Vegas or Miami would cost. Golden-sand beaches, world-class sport fishing, party catamarans, ATV jungle rides, surf breaks, casinos, and a main strip that does not sleep — all wrapped in that unmistakable *pura vida* energy.

What makes it perfect for a group of guys

- **One home base, everything walkable or a short Uber away.** Rent one big villa and you never have to herd cats between hotels.
- **Adventure by day, party by night.** Offshore fishing or a booze-cruise catamaran in the morning, then the strip after dark.
- **Your dollar goes far.** Villas, boats, food and drinks all cost less than the U.S. equivalent — leaving more in the kitty for the fun stuff.

- **It is genuinely beautiful.** Scarlet macaws overhead, monkeys in the trees, and a sunset over the Pacific every single night.

The one thing that separates a legendary trip from a stressful one is planning. That is exactly what this guide is for. I have cooked for hundreds of these groups over the years right here in Jacó, and I have watched what works and what turns into a headache. Follow the chapters ahead and you will have the whole weekend dialed in. Learn more any time at www.jacobeachchef.com.

Planning Ahead — Dates, Group Size & Getting There

When to go

Costa Rica has two seasons. The **dry season (roughly mid-December through April)** is peak — sunny, hot, and the surest bet for boat days, but also the busiest and priciest, so book villas and boats early. The **green season (May through November)** trades a few afternoon showers for lower prices, thinner crowds and lush jungle. Mornings in the green season are usually bright and clear, which is perfect — you fish or cruise early and let the rain roll through while you nap off lunch.

How many guys, and how long

The sweet spot for a Jacó bachelor party is **8 to 16 guys over 3 to 4 nights**. That is big enough to charter a whole boat and fill a villa, small enough to actually make decisions. A classic long weekend looks like: arrive Thursday, big days Friday and Saturday, recover and fly out Sunday or Monday.

Which airport

Fly into **San José (airport code SJO, Juan Santamaría International)**. It is the closest major airport to Jacó — about a 90-minute to two-hour drive over the mountains and down to the coast. Do **not** book Liberia (LIR); it is up in the far northwest and a four-hour-plus drive away. For a group, the easiest move is a pre-arranged private shuttle or van straight from the SJO curb to your villa door.

Getting around town

Once you are in Jacó, you barely need to move. **Uber works well** and is cheap, and most of the strip is walkable. For the airport run and any group outings, a booked van beats trying to split everyone across cars. Rent one central villa and the logistics take care of themselves.

“Book the villa and the boat first. Everything else in Jacó you can arrange once you land.”

The Home Base — Renting a Big Group Villa



The single best decision you will make is renting **one large villa or beachfront condo for the whole crew** instead of scattering everyone across hotel rooms. It is cheaper per head, it keeps the group together, and it gives you a private headquarters where the party never has to end at last call.

Good news: **these are exactly the homes I help my guests rent.** The villas and condos pictured here are real properties from our lineup — you can browse the whole collection, with dozens of photos of each, right on my site.

[→ Browse the villas we rent](#)

[→ Browse the beachfront condos we rent](#)

What to look for

- **Enough beds for everyone** — look for places that sleep 8, 10, 12 or more, with a mix of bedrooms so nobody is fighting over the couch.
- **A private pool.** Non-negotiable for a bachelor party. It is where half the trip happens — daytime hangs, music, and a place to cool off between adventures.

- **A big kitchen and dining space.** This is where your private chef sets up and where the group eats together. Ocean-view terraces are a huge bonus.
- **Central location.** Close to the beach and a short ride to the strip means less time in cars, more time having fun.
- **Air conditioning in the bedrooms.** Jacó is hot and humid — everyone sleeps better with AC.



A few of the Casa VIP villas and beachfront condos we rent to groups in Jacó.

Book as early as you can, especially for dry-season weekends, because the best big villas go first. Tell me your group size and budget and I will match you to the right property — then set up the food and the rest of the weekend around it. Start here: [the villas we rent](#) and [the condos we rent](#).

“One villa, one pool, one crew. That is the whole formula.”

Feed the Crew — Your Private Jaco Beach Chef



Here is the secret weapon that turns a good bachelor trip into an unforgettable one, and it is the part I know best because it is what I do: **hire a private chef to cook for the group right in your villa**. Hi — I'm Chef Bill'ardee, your Jaco Beach Chef, and I have been feeding groups exactly like yours for years.

Why a private chef is a no-brainer for a group

- **No wrangling a hungover crew into a restaurant.** The food comes to you, on your schedule, by the pool.
- **It is cheaper than it sounds.** Split among a big group, a chef-cooked feast often costs less per person than a sit-down restaurant — and it is a hundred times more fun.
- **Custom menus.** Fresh-caught seafood, whole roasted pig, filet mignon, lobster, burgers for the crowd, big breakfasts to kill the hangover — you tell me what the groom loves and I build the menu around it.
- **I handle everything.** Shopping, prep, cooking, and cleanup. You just show up hungry.

Group favorites

For bachelor parties I get asked most for the **Hawaiian-style whole pig roast** (pictured above — it is a showstopper), **fresh seafood and lobster feasts**, **filet mignon villa dinners**, and a proper **American-style**

big breakfast the morning after to bring everyone back to life. I also stock the villa's bar and fridge before you arrive if you want to walk in to a fully loaded kitchen.

You can see full menus, dozens of real dishes, and photos on my site, and when you are ready just message me on WhatsApp at +506 6079 6435 and we will build the perfect food plan for your group.

→ [See my full menus & dishes](#)

→ [Book your private chef](#)

“Great food is the glue of a great trip. Let me handle it so you can enjoy it.”

On the Water — Party Boats & Catamaran Cruises

No Jacó bachelor party is complete without a day on the Pacific. The classic move is chartering a **private catamaran or party boat** for the whole group — half a day of cruising the coast, anchoring in a hidden cove, snorkeling, swimming, and yes, a cooler full of cold drinks and a sound system.

What a boat day looks like

- Cruise the coastline past jungle-backed beaches and rocky islands.
- Anchor in a calm bay to swim, snorkel and jump off the boat.
- Music, drinks and lunch on board — many charters include food and an open bar.
- Keep an eye out for dolphins, sea turtles and, in season, whales.
- Time it right and you finish with a sunset cruise back into the marina.

Private charters are the way to go for a group — you get the whole boat and captain to yourselves, so the vibe is exactly what your crew wants. **These are tours we sell**, so I can book the boat for you and connect you with reliable local captains. See the party boats and every other tour we offer on my site.

→ [See the party boats & tours we sell](#)

The Big One — Offshore Sport Fishing

Jacó sits on some of the best **sport fishing water on the planet**. If there is an angler in the group — and there usually is — a half- or full-day offshore charter is a bucket-list experience and one of the highlights of the whole trip.

What you can catch

- **Offshore:** sailfish, marlin, mahi-mahi (dorado), tuna and wahoo.
- **Inshore:** roosterfish, snapper, jack and more — great for a shorter, closer trip.
- Peak billfish action is generally the December–April dry season, but there is good fishing year-round.

Charters come fully rigged with rods, tackle, bait, licenses and an experienced crew — you just bring sunscreen and a cooler. We sell these sport-fishing trips too, so I can line up the boat and crew for your dates. And here is the best part for a group with a private chef: **bring your catch back and I will cook it for dinner that night** — fresh mahi or tuna you reeled in that morning, served up at the villa. It does not get more *pura vida* than that.

→ [See the sport-fishing charters we sell](#)

Land Adventures — ATVs, Ziplines, Waterfalls & Surf



When you want to get the blood pumping on dry land, the jungle around Jacó delivers. These are the day-time adrenaline hits that make great group photos and even better stories — and **every one of them is a tour we sell**, so I can book the whole crew in with one message.

The classics

- **ATV / UTV jungle tours** — tear through rivers, mud and mountain trails to hidden waterfalls.
- **Ziplining and canopy tours** — fly through the treetops over the rainforest.
- **Surf lessons** — Jacó's beach break is one of the best places in the country to learn; nothing humbles a groom like his first wipeout.
- **Waterfall canyoning & rappelling, horseback rides on the beach, jet skis and river rafting** for the truly ambitious.



Ziplining and surf lessons — two of the many Jacó tours we can book for your group.

Most of these are half-day trips, so you can pair a morning of adventure with an afternoon by the pool and a chef-cooked dinner. Browse the full list of tours we sell and pick your crew's favorites — I will handle the booking.

→ [**See all the tours we sell**](#)

Jacó After Dark — Bars, Clubs & Casinos



When the sun goes down, Jacó turns on. The nightlife runs the length of the main strip, **Avenida Pastor Díaz**, and it is all within easy walking or a quick Uber of each other — which makes bar-hopping with a big group refreshingly simple.

The lineup

- **Beach and sunset bars** to start the night with cold beers and an ocean view.
- **Sports bars and casual pubs** for cheap drinks, games and easy group hangs.
- **Late-night clubs** on the strip that keep going into the early hours.
- **Casinos** for a little blackjack and poker if the groom is feeling lucky.
- **Live music and karaoke spots** when the crew wants to make some noise.

A pro tip for the best man: start the evening with dinner at the villa (your chef has you covered), pre-game by the pool, then roll into town later. You will save a fortune versus buying every round out, and everyone paces themselves better. Keep an eye on the groom, look out for each other, and always Uber home.

“Dinner at the villa, drinks on the strip, and a plan to get everyone home safe.”

Stock the Villa — Groceries, Bar & Essentials

Walking into a villa that is already stocked with cold beer, mixers, snacks and breakfast supplies sets the whole tone. Do not make your first move in Costa Rica a chaotic grocery run with fifteen hungover guys.

Where to shop

- **Full-size supermarkets** right on the main strip for everything you need — meat, produce, drinks and household basics.
- **Big-box warehouse stores** a short drive away in nearby Herradura for bulk buys when the group is large.
- **Local *ferias* (farmers' markets)** for incredible fresh fruit, seafood and produce at great prices.

The easy button

Here is where I save you the trouble entirely: **I offer a grocery and bar stocking service.** Send me your list before you land — beer, liquor, mixers, snacks, breakfast, whatever the crew wants — and I will have the villa fully stocked and the fridge cold when you walk in the door. Combine it with a welcome-night dinner and your trip starts on a high note. Details at www.jacobeachchef.com or just message me at +506 6079 6435.

The 4-Day Bachelor Party Blueprint

Not sure how to piece it all together? Here is a battle-tested long-weekend template. Mix and match to fit your crew — the point is to balance adventure, downtime and nightlife so nobody burns out on day one.

Day 1 — Thursday: Arrive & Settle In

Fly into SJO, private van to Jacó, check into the villa (already stocked and cold, because you planned ahead). Ease in with a pool session and a welcome-night feast at the villa, then a mellow first look at the strip.

Day 2 — Friday: On the Water

Big day. Charter the catamaran or the fishing boat in the morning — swim, drink, and reel in dinner. Back to the villa to clean up, your chef cooks the day's catch (or a seafood feast), then hit the clubs downtown.

Day 3 — Saturday: Adventure & the Main Event

Morning ATV or zipline tour to blow out the cobwebs, afternoon recovery by the pool. Saturday night is the blow-out: the whole-pig roast or filet-mignon dinner at the villa, then a full night out on the strip — casino, clubs, the works.

Day 4 — Sunday: Recover & Depart

A big American-style chef breakfast to resurrect the crew, one last swim, pack up, and the van back to SJO. Everyone flies home a hero — especially the best man who pulled it off.

Best-Man Playbook — Tips, Budget & Etiquette

Money & logistics

- **Collect a kitty up front.** Get everyone to pay their share into one pot before the trip — villa, boat, chef and van are all easier to book with money in hand.
- **Book the big three early:** villa, boat, and chef. These sell out and anchor the whole trip.
- **Use a group chat** for planning and a shared expense app to keep the money drama-free.
- **Bring U.S. dollars** — they are widely accepted — plus a card, and grab some local colón for small stuff.

Stay smart & safe

- Drink water and wear sunscreen — the tropical sun and the bar tab are both stronger than they look.
- Always Uber or use a booked driver at night; never drive after drinking.
- Keep the group together and look out for the groom — that is the whole job.
- Respect the locals and the *pura vida* pace. A friendly, laid-back crew gets treated well everywhere in Jacó.

The one thing that ties it all together

Food and drink are the backbone of every great trip — the feasts everyone remembers, the breakfast that saves the morning, the stocked villa that starts it all right. That is exactly what I am here for. As your Jaco Beach Chef, I will handle the meals, the stocking, and point you toward the villas and boats, so you can focus on giving the groom the send-off he deserves.

Whenever you are ready to start planning, reach out. I would love to be part of the crew that pulls off the best bachelor party Jacó has ever seen. Learn more at www.jacobeachchef.com.

Let's Plan It Together

You bring the crew — I'll bring the feast. As your private **Jaco Beach Chef**, I cook fresh, local, affordable meals right at your villa, stock your bar and kitchen before you arrive, and help you line up the villa, the boat and the whole weekend. Breakfasts to kill the hangover, seafood and pig-roast feasts, filet mignon dinners — whatever gives the groom the send-off he deserves. Message me and let's start planning the best bachelor party Jacó has ever seen.

→ [Browse the villas & condos we rent](#)

→ [See all the tours we sell](#)

→ [Book your private chef](#)

Book on WhatsApp: +506 6079 6435

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