Route 1

Manglares de la Jina wildlife reserve: protected area, Dominican Republic.

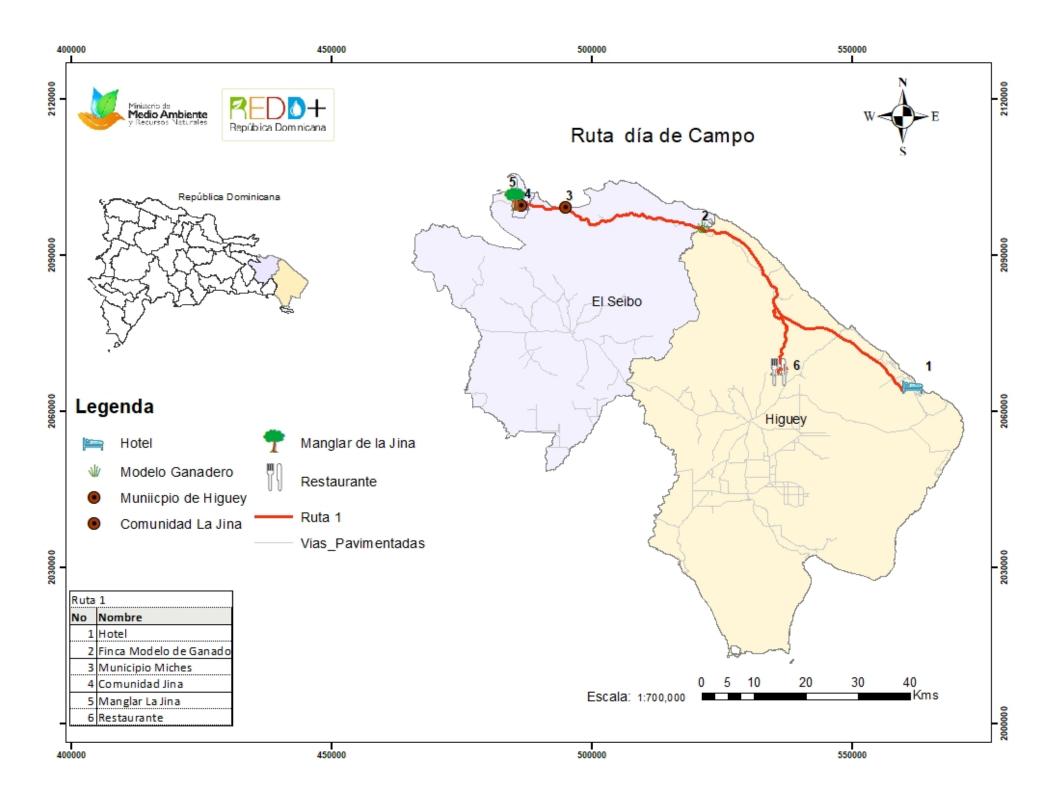
Manglar de la Jina (Jina Mangrove) is one of the largest mangrove forests on the country's northern coast. It covers an area of approximately 53 km² and extends along more than 29 km of coastline. The reserve is home to red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*) and white mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*), as well as small numbers of black mangrove (*Avicennia germinans*) and dragon blood tree (*Pterocarpus oficinalis*). Some black olive trees (*Bucida buceras*) may also be found. Species occurring further inland include sea grapes (*Coccoloba uvifera*), fan palms (*Sabal umbraculifera*), noni (*Morinda citrifolia*), Tanzania guinea grass (*Panicum maximum*) and coconut (*Cocos nucifera*). The reserve provides habitat for a large variety of native, endemic and migratory birds, as well as families of manatees which browse up and down the coastline.



Hacienda Rodríguez

Owner: Gertrudis Rodríguez (Papín)

This ranch has been in operation for over 35 years rearing Zebu and Brown Swiss cattle for beef and dairy. It covers an area of 50.3 hectares. Introduction of native timber and fruit trees, grass for hay, sugar cane and improved grasses has driven a 20% increase in overall yield, and the ranch has become a model for livestock production in this part of the country. Tree species present include the monkey pod tree (Samanea saman), royal palm (Roystonea espaniola), mango (mangifera sp.), West Indian locust tree (Hymenaea courbaril) and quick stick (Gliricidia sepium). A number of grasses have also been introduced, namely Tanzania guinea grass (Panicum maximum), signal grass (Brachiaria decumbens), African star grass (Cynodon plectostachyus), elephant grass (Pennisetum purpureum), green panic grass (Megathyrsus maximus) and natural grass.



Route 2 Rancho Viva

Owner: Evarista Caraballo

This ranch is located in La Enea, near to the city of Higüey, the capital of La Altagracia province. It covers an area of 50.3 hectares and has been in operation for 80 years. Holstein, Brown Swiss and Brahman cattle are reared on a semifield basis, and a silvopastoral system is used involving the monkey pod tree (Samanea saman), bay cedar (Guazuma ulmifolia), Cuban mahogany (Swietenia mahagoni), white prickly ash (Zanthoxylum martinicense) and quick stick (Gliricidia sepium). Ground cover consists of Tanzania guinea grass (Panicum maximum), signal grass (Brachiaria decumbens), palisade grass (Brachiaria brizantha), African star grass (Cynodon plectostachyus), creeping signal grass (Brachiaria humidicola), elephant grass (Pennisetum purpureum) and natural grass. An additional source of protein is provided by white popinac (Leucaena leucocephala), Japanese sunflower (Tithonia diversifolia) and white mulberry (Morus alba).



Shade-grown cocoa agroforestry plantation

Owner: Bertilio Marte

This plantation is located in the community of Caciquillo in the province of El Seibo and covers an area of 2 hectares. It operates an innovative model involving a gradual move from traditional planting of cacao to high-yield cacao clones planted in a 3 x 3-meter pattern. It is estimated that once these plants reach maturity, current yields will have doubled. The model uses native shade and fruit trees including mountain immortelle (*Erythrina poeppigiana*), mango (*Mangifera indica*), mamey sapote (*Pouteria sapota*), avocado (*Persea americana*), Hispaniola royal palm (*Roystonea hispaniola*), soursop (*Annona muricata*), orange (*Citrus sp.*) and breadfruit (*Artocarpus sp.*). Banana (*Musa sp.*), ginger (*Zingiber officinale*), American taro (*Xanthosoma sagittifolium*) and yam (*Dioscorea sp.*) are also present. The estate is certified by UTZ (organic), BCS (ecological) and FLO (fair trade).





