

CASEM

By: Sophie



What is CASEM?

CASEM is an acronym that stands for *Cooperativa de Artesanas de Santa Elena y Monteverde* (Cooperative of Artesans of Sta. Elena and Monteverde). The cooperative has over 100 members. They sell handmade souvenirs and art.

CASEM is one of the buildings in a green area that is a sort of community center with other stores. In the afternoon and on free days, the area is full of kids.



For kids

CASEM has a plentiful forest, which kids love to play in. There is a clearing in the forest, where the remains of a wooden shelter lies next to a pile of glass. There are also many good climbing trees in the forest.

There is also a big lawn where kids play many games.

There are statues of animals which apparently came from an adventure park that was closing. They are fun to climb and sit on.

There are stores there that sell yummy foods and treats.

There are picnic tables where kids can trade pokemon cards.

Many people bring their cute dogs and you can pet them.



For grown-ups

CASEM is a center for parents and guardians alike. There is a restaurant called “La cuchara de la abuela” which sells traditional Costa Rican food.

There is a coffee shop with working spaces. It has really good coffee (according to my dad) and yummy treats (according to me).

There is a little grocery store called whole foods, though it has nothing to do with the one in the united states. It sells home-made peanut butter, yogurt, bread, tortillas produce, and other things like icecream and platanillos!

It is a good place to let your kids run loose while you talk with other grownups!

What I like about CASEM

CASEM is a cool place. I really like it there. Even if my friends always do pokemon card trading, it's never boring.

My favorite treats to get at CASEM:

- Mentos
- Platanillos (fried green plantain chips with salt and lime)
- Super Cono (ice cream cone)
- Croissant (plain and nutella)
- Brownies
- Batidos (smoothies: banana and banana-mango are my favorites!)

