



## Ceremonial Table

**Date**  
ca. 800-1550

**Primary Maker**  
Gran Chiriquí

**Medium**  
volcanic stone

### Description

This rather small size of this unusual table made of volcanic stone suggests it was probably used for ceremonial practices. On the top and either side of the table are two zoomorphic figures, mixtures between crocodile and feline forms. The combination of two animals is a characteristic motif in ancient Panamanian cultures, and overall an important motif in indigenous mythology. The bottom of the table is decorated with snakes wrapped around a tree. In Panamá today, small bowls and tablets are used for healing or religious rituals, usually associated with herbs, leaves, and cacao, and this table may once have served a similar purpose.

### Dimensions

Overall: 4 7/8 x 10 7/8 x 6 7/8 in. (12.4 x 27.6 x 17.5 cm)