



Puerto Rico at a Glance

The All Star Facts

Puerto Rico ★
THE ALL STAR ISLAND

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Old San Juan

Welcome to Puerto Rico!

Geography

Puerto Rico is located in the center of the Caribbean, 1,000 miles (1,609.34 km) southeast of Miami. The Island is 110 miles long and 35 miles wide.

Population

3.5 million; 395,326 in in the San Juan metro area.

Major Cities

San Juan, the capital city is a unique juxtaposition of old and new with modern business structures and services as well as traditional Puerto Rican and colonial Spanish flavors in Old San Juan. Puerto Rico's second largest city, Ponce, is approximately just 1 hour from San Juan by car.

Airports

San Juan's Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport (SJU) is among the largest in the U.S., welcoming more than 8.7 million passengers each year and is located 20 minutes away from the Condado and Isla Verde areas. Other major airports on the Island include Rafael Hernández Airport in Aguadilla (BQN) and Mercedita International Airport in Ponce (PSE).

Airlines

Most major hubs including Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Miami, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. offer daily non-stop service to San Juan. Puerto Rico offers direct service to: U.S., Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. Airlines offering daily service to Puerto Rico include: American, Delta, JetBlue, Southwest, Spirit, US Airways, United, and WestJet. Europe: Air Europa, Norwegian, Condor; Latin America: Avianca, Copa Airlines, and Caribbean: LIAT, Seaborne, Cape Air among others.

CUSTOMS | PASSPORT

Requirements

Puerto Rico is a Commonwealth of the United States, and **U.S. citizens do not need passports to visit the Island**. Visitors of other nationalities must have passports, and Visa requirements are the same as the USA. When leaving Puerto Rico to return to the U.S. mainland, checked luggage will be inspected for agricultural purposes. International travelers who are seeking to travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) are now subject to enhanced security requirements and will be required to pay an administrative fee. All eligible travelers who wish to travel to the U.S. under the Visa Waiver Program must apply for authorization and then pay the fee at: <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/>. If you have any questions or if during your visit you have any situation regarding your passport or any of your customs documentation, you may contact the Puerto Rico Department of State at 787-722-2121.

Castillo San Felipe del Morro amazing view



A photograph of a small waterfall in a tropical setting. The water is white and frothy as it falls over dark, moss-covered rocks. The surrounding area is filled with vibrant green foliage, including ferns and other tropical plants. The scene is captured in a way that emphasizes the natural beauty and humidity of the environment.

El Yunque Waterfall

Language

Both Spanish and English are the island's official languages.

Climate

Year-round tropical climate with average temperatures range between 70°F to 86°F.

Currency

U.S. Dollar and major credit cards (VISA, Master Card, American Express), are accepted.

Banks

Local banks have branches with ATMs that connect to U.S. networks. Mostly, bank hours are Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Currency exchange is readily available at the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport at the Banco Popular located in terminal B.

Electricity

U.S. Standards, 120 Volts AC.

Driving

Vehicle traffic drives on the right-hand side of the road; distance markers are in kilometers; gas sold by the liter; speed measured in miles.

Ground Transportation

Taxis, buses and rental cars offer visitors convenient ground transportation anywhere in the Island. Taxis range from \$17 to \$20 in the tourist area (Condado, San Juan, Miramar, Santurce and Isla Verde). All major US car rental companies have branches in the LMM airport area.

Communications

Cellphone service is widely available throughout the Island with most major U.S. carriers. Area codes: 787, 939; Information: 411; Emergency: 911

Medical Care

Emergency and other medical care is readily available throughout San Juan and other regions of the Island. Most U.S. insurance policies are accepted. If you're an international visitor, it's advisable to take out travel insurance to cover any potential medical costs. Major hospitals in San Juan: Presbyterian Hospital, Centro Médico, Auxilio Mutuo Hospital and Pavia Hospital.

Emergencies

Dial **9-1-1**, Local Police Department **(787) 343-2020**, Fire Department **(787) 722-1120**, Municipal Hospital Ambulance Service **(787) 766-2222**, State Medical Assistance Service **(787) 754-2550**



Folkloric Music

Yoga at the Lagoon, Condado



Postal Services

U.S. Postal Service, plus international courier services are available with companies such as Fed Ex and UPS, among others.

Accommodations

Both hotels; Sheraton Puerto Rico Hotel & Casino and The Caribe Hilton are conveniently located within 15-20 minutes from the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport , The Sheraton Puerto Rico Hotel is located at the Puerto Rico Convention Center District and The Caribe Hilton Hotel is just a few minutes drive, from the Convention District.

Tipping

At restaurants, nightclubs and hotel dining rooms, 15% of the bill is considered an appropriate tip.

Clothing

Lightweight summer clothes are appropriate. During the day, business meetings are conducted in business attire, or business casual when indicated.

Nightlife

Puerto Rico offers a vibrant nightlife. Nighttime and cultural activities include casinos and nightclubs. The city of San Juan offers an active nightlife experience with a vast variety of bars and restaurants in the Condado, Old San Juan, Santurce & Miramar areas.

Shopping

No matter where you are, there's always a shopping mall within reach. There are over 20 shopping malls in the Metropolitan area. There are also unique shopping districts, from luxury designers in Condado, to handmade artisan goods in Old San Juan. No matter what ends up in your bags, you're guaranteed to have a world-class shopping experience.

Top shopping destinations in Puerto Rico include: Plaza Las Américas, biggest mall in the Caribbean, The Mall of San Juan, Puerto Rico's first luxury shopping center, Puerto Rico Premium Outlets which offers an abundant selection of over 90 world famous brands and The Outlet Mall, located less than 30 minutes away from San Juan offer a wide variety of renowned brands in more than 73 stores.

Casino Chips





Talla de Santos (Arts & Crafts)

As a Cosmopolitan Convention Site, San Juan Puerto Rico offers:

Unique Locations:

From Convention Center hotels and waterfront resorts to postcard-perfect properties in Old San Juan, there's a comfortable place for every budget and no shortage of accommodations. Also, Puerto Rico offers over 15,000 guests rooms and more than 1.2 million sq. ft. of meeting space.

Communications Access:

Puerto Rico offers Internet access comparable to the US mainland. Hotels offer plug-in Ethernet access or Wi-Fi —or, more likely, both. The Puerto Rico Convention Center provides meeting rooms and ballrooms equipped with both Ethernet and Wi-Fi connectivity. It also offers a Business Center which assists business guests and attendees by providing computer and typewriter rental, printing, secretarial services, copying, fax transmission and receipt, package shipping, office products, and other services to ensure a successful event.

Exciting Nightlife:

The vibrant nightlife in San Juan embraces trendy and cosmopolitan bars along the city. Lounges, dance clubs, restaurants and cafes are everywhere in the metropolitan areas like Old San Juan, Miramar, Condado, Santurce and Isla Verde. Salsa has definitely made Puerto Rico famous in the world of international music and what could be better to enjoy it live while you are here. Pack your dancing shoes and experience the music as locals do.

Dining

Puerto Rico offers some of the finest dining in the Caribbean, visitors can delight on Puerto Rican Specialties such as:

- **Tostones** (Fried Plantain)
- **Mofongo** (Fried Plantain mashed and stuffed with either chicken, sea food or meat)
- **Mamposteano** (Rice and beans altogether)
- **Alcapurrias** (Ground beef filled, fried fritters made from a mixture of grated taro root and green bananas.

Or simply enjoy the Island's renowned "fusion cuisine" in any of our many top-rated restaurants.

Gastronomy





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