

THINGS TO SEE

- 1 El Morro** The oldest Spanish fort in the New World and a protected UNESCO World Heritage Site. 🗺️
- 2 Fort San Cristóbal** This UNESCO World Heritage Site is one of the largest fortifications in the New World. 🗺️
- 3 La Fortaleza** Built to defend the harbor of San Juan, today it is the official residence of the Governor of Puerto Rico. 🗺️
- 4 Cuartel de Ballaja** Former military barracks now a museum containing Caribbean and European artifacts. 🗺️
- 5 Fortín de San Jerónimo** A small fort located in the entrance to what is known today as the Condado Lagoon.
- 6 Casa del Libro** A restored 18th-century townhouse that now houses a museum containing over 5,000 manuscripts.

- 7 Museo de Arte** A state-of-the-art showcase for the island's rich cultural heritage.
- 8 The Teatro Tapia** Built in 1832, this is one of the oldest theaters in the Western Hemisphere.
- 9 El Catedral de San Juan Bautista** Contains the tomb of the Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León. 🗺️
- 10 San Jose Church** Located in Old San Juan, this church is one of the earliest surviving examples of 16th-century Gothic architecture. 🗺️
- 11 La Puerto de San Juan** The only remaining entrance to the old city. 🗺️
- 12 Casa Blanca** This mansion, built in 1521, was home to Ponce de León and has been converted to a National Historic Museum. 🗺️

EAT

- 13 Barrachina's** Home of the famous piña colada, specializing in Puerto Rican cuisine.
- 14 BLT Steak** French chef Laurent Tourondel reinvents the American steakhouse.
- 15 Pikayo** Puerto Rican fusion cuisine at its finest.
- 16 Parrot Club** A bistro and bar blends traditional Puerto Rican food with Spanish and Taino influences.
- 17 Ramiro's** Serves Spanish food with New World infusions in an elegant atmosphere.
- 18 Wet Bar** An ultra-chic drinking spot that is located on the 11th floor of San Juan's finest boutique hotel, overlooking the Isla Verde coast.





From Your Location Team

Founded in 1521 by Ponce de León, San Juan is the oldest city in U.S. territory. Surrounding the entrance to San Juan harbor sits the “Old City,” the historic core of this multifaceted city. Considered the Gibraltar of the West Indies, this area was once a walled city surrounded by multiple forts to protect access to the Spanish Main. As a military foothold the city endured many attacks by the Dutch and British, some of which proved partially successful. In fact, in 1596 the British took over Puerto Rico for 65 days. The population of San Juan continued to grow within the city walls until the late 19th century, when the island of Puerto Rico was ceded to the U.S. at the conclusion of the Spanish-American War. Despite every effort to the contrary, many of these fortifications remain intact, giving the impression of traveling back in time as you explore its many plazas, churches and gardens. Moreover, Puerto Rico may be a part of the U.S., but its music, culture and cuisine are a unique fusion of indigenous Taino culture with European and African influences. Modern-day San Juan encompasses a vast metropolis complete with several unique neighborhoods, which allows access to Spanish fiestas, African music and architecture reminiscent of Buenos Aires or Seville, all within one city.

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19 Ficus Café A modern, open-air café that is a favorite with Sanjuaneros.

20 Casa Dante A family-run restaurant that serves up several variations of mofongo, a fried plantain dish.

21 Verde Mesa Vegetarian and pescatarian restaurant.

22 Ali Baba Restaurant Serves Middle Eastern cuisine.

SHOP

A Diamonds International
#1 recommendation for diamonds.

B Effy Jewelry Colored diamond and gemstone specialists.

C Milano Diamond Gallery
Manufacturer of fine diamond and gemstone jewelry.

D Del Sol World's largest retailer of color-changing clothing.

E Cariloha Where everything is made of luxuriously soft bamboo.

F Blue Diamond Luxury Luxury has a new address and it is 250 Fortaleza Street.

G Blue Diamond (two locations) Hearts on fire, Mark Henry Alexandrite and Philip Stein boutique.

H Pandora Old San Juan just got a little more charming.

I A Touch of Gold Guaranteed value for your dollar.

J Tropical Treasures Memories of the Caribbean - flora and fauna.

K The Butterfly People Stunning one-of-a-kind butterfly art.

L Barrachina Restaurant – Souvenir Shop
International and Puerto Rican cuisine.

GET OUT OF TOWN

El Yunque National Forest The only rain forest that belongs to the U.S. Forest Service. 🌳

Casa Bacardi Visitor Center A distillery museum with a multimedia presentation. 🎧

Caguas Botanical Gardens Celebrate the tropical flora of Puerto Rico with a slice of history.

Cabezas de San Juan Natural Reserve
Includes ecosystems such as mangrove forests, rocky shores and a luminescent lagoon that glows with flagellates. 🌊

🌊 Our award-winning shore excursions provide convenient access to these sights. See the Journeys Ashore™ order form for a description of offerings, or ask your Journeys Ashore Manager.

ESSENTIALS

Currency
U.S. dollar (USD)

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