



Welcome to
PUERTO RICO

Sailing & Watersports



Adjuntas	AD/4	Canóvanas	AB/9	Florida	AB/5	La Parguera	AE/2	Naguabo	AC/11	San Lorenzo	AD/9
Aguada	AB/1	Carolina	AB/9	Guánica	AE/3	Lajas	AE/2	Naranjito	AC/7	San Sebastián	AC/2
Aguadilla	AB/1	Cataño	AB/8	Guayama	AE/8	Las Marías	AC/3	Ocean Park	BC/11	Santa Isabel	AE/6
Aguas Buenas	AC/8	Cayey	AD/8	Guayama	AE/4	Las Piedras	AC/2	Orocovis	AC/6	Santurce	BE/9
Aibonito	AD/7	Cayey	AD/11	Guaynabo	AB/8	Loiza	AD/10	Patillas	AE/9	Toa Alta	AB/7
Añasco	AC/1	Cidra	AC/6	Guarabo	AC/9	Loiza	AB/10	Peñuelas	AE/4	Toa Baja	AB/7
Arecibo	AB/4	Cidra	AD/8	Hatillo	AB/3	Luquillo	AB/11	Ponce	AE/5	Trujillo Alto	AB/9
Arroyo	AE/8	Coamo	AD/7	Hormigueros	AD/1	Manatí	AB/6	Quebradillas	AE/3	Utuado	AC/4
Barceloneta	AB/5	Coamo	AD/7	Humacao	AD/10	Maricao	AD/2	Rincón	AC/1	Vega Alta	AB/7
Barranquitas	AD/7	Condado	BA/7	Humacao	AA/2	Maunabo	AE/10	Rio Grande	AB/10	Vega Baja	AB/6
Bayamón	AB/8	Corozal	AC/7	Isabela	BC/14	Mayagüez	AD/1	Sabana Grande	AD/3	Viejo San Juan	CA/1
Boquerón	AE/1	Culebra	AC/13	Isla Verde	AC/5	Miramar	BC/6	Salinas	AE/7	Vieques	AD/13
Cabo Rojo	AD/1	Dorado	AB/7	Jayuya	AD/1	Moca	AB/2	San Germán	AD/2	Villaalba	AD/6
Caguas	AC/9	El Combate	AE/1	Joyuda	AE/6	Mona	AD/1	San Juan	AB/8	Yabucoa	AE/10
Camuy	AB/3	Fajardo	AC/11	Juana Díaz	AC/9	Morovis	AC/6	San Juan Metro	AB/8	Yauco	AE/3

QUICK FACTS

Information

Banking and Currency

Puerto Rico is a Commonwealth of the US and uses the US dollar. Most major US banks have branches here. Banking hours are 8:30-2:30 (though some have extended hours). Credit cards & travelers checks are widely accepted. Automatic teller machines are easy to find.

Electricity

A modern electrical grid following US standards: 110 volt AC.

Emergencies: Dial 911

Events

Puerto Rico has a long history of cultural events built around the Patron Saint Festival in each municipality. In addition, a number of world-class events as well as local celebrations are held throughout the year.

Ferry Service

Ferries run between Old San Juan and Cataño, Cataño and Hato Rey, Fajardo and Culebra, Fajardo and Vieques, Vieques and Culebra. Check the area directories for the schedules.

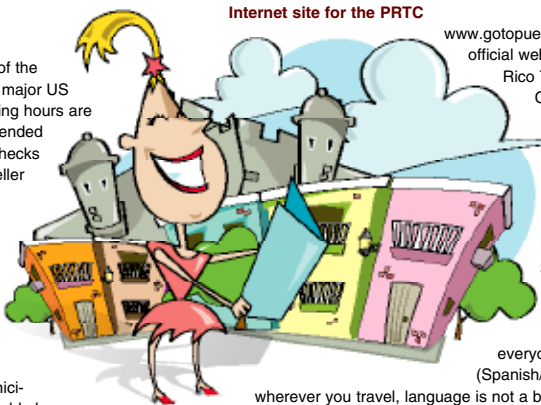
Immigration

There are no passports or visas required for US citizens. For citizens of other countries, call your local US Embassy to determine entry requirements.

Information Centers & Brochures

800-866-7827

Call toll free for bilingual information and free brochures. Check this planner or the website for the list of the PRTC offices world-wide. Daily 8am-midnight.



Internet site for the PRTC

www.gotopuertorico.com is the official website of the Puerto Rico Tourism Company.

Check for special offers and more information on Puerto Rico.

Languages: Spanish & English

Puerto Rico is a Spanish-speaking country. In the major tourist areas most everyone is bilingual (Spanish/English). However,

wherever you travel, language is not a barrier.

Population

The population of Puerto Rico is 3.5 million with 1.4 million living in the San Juan Metropolitan Area.

Puerto Rico Tourism Company

787-721-2400

The Puerto Rico Tourism Company (PRTC) is the official government agency responsible for promoting travel and tourism to Puerto Rico.

Special-Needs Travelers

All the hotels have facilities for travelers with special needs. Some operators, such as tour operators, offer unique services for the special-needs traveler (which are part of their description). The Sea Without Barriers area of Luquillo Beach is designed for use by those with special needs and seniors.

Taxes and Tipping

A hotel tax is added to your bill. The tax for hotels with casinos: 11%. Paradores: 7%, all other accommodations: 9%. The standard tip is 15%. Sales Tax purchases 7%.

Telephone Service (Area 787 & 939)

A modern, reliable US-style telephone service. Numbers with area code 800, 888, 877 or 866 are toll free from Puerto Rico or the US. Most hotel systems are compatible with dial-up modems. Some properties have high-speed Internet connections. Puerto Rico has area codes: 787 and 939. To call outside San Juan Metro from the metro area, dial 1, the area code and then the number.

Time of Day

787-728-9595

Atlantic Standard Time (AST): the same as Eastern Standard Time (EST) +1 hour. Daylight savings time is not observed. May to October: AST = EST, November to April: AST = EST+1.

Tours and Trolleys

Quite often, you will be able to arrange a free tour of local attractions and sights through the mayor's office or tourism office of the local municipality. This is particularly true of the smaller communities on the Island. You will also find that a number of the municipalities offer a trolley service (either scheduled or by appointment) that will take you by all the local attractions and sights. If you want to get the inside story from locals, this is a good place to start.

Weather

787-253-4586

Puerto Rico enjoys an average temperature of 82°F (28°C) from November to May. The average beach temperatures are 80°F in summer and 76°F in the winter. The mountains tend to be 20° colder in the winter. Call this number for current weather report.

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Sailing and Watersports

BY: STAFF AUG-SEP 2006



FRAZIER NIVENS

Sailing and Snorkeling

When most Puerto Ricans think of sailing and snorkeling, they think of the northeastern town of Fajardo. Fajardo is nicknamed the boating capital of Puerto Rico, and from here to Humacao you find several modern marinas and thousands of privately owned boats. Among them are excursion boats -- large sailing or powered catamarans as well as smaller single-hulled sailboats. These boats take passengers on day long sailing and snorkeling trips to beautiful offshore cays. The faster powerboats can provide day-trips to Vieques and Culebra islands as well.

Fajardo's operations provide the easiest and most inexpensive way to get out on the water. Many operators arrange round-trip transportation from your hotel in San Juan. The boats typically leave the docks in Fajardo by 10am and sail to the cays where conditions are best that day. Passengers slip on snorkeling gear (provided at no extra charge) and enter the world of clear, calm waters, coral rocks, sea fans and colorful fish. Of course, if you want, you can merely stroll on the beach. Most operators provide a buffet lunch.

Outside of Fajardo, virtually every seaside town that has tourism has sailboat or powerboat operators that can get you on the water. Check at your hotel.

Kayaking

For those who want a serene, up-close and environmentally friendly way to view tropical waters, there is no better craft than a kayak. Several operators specialize in providing kayak rentals and/or excursions. The most popular

sites include the mangrove channels along La Parguera and Salinas, the bioluminescent bays in Vieques and La Parguera, various nature reserves and even a couple of mountain lakes. In addition to kayak operators, a number of the nature/adventure groups include kayak trips as part of their offerings.

However you enjoy the waters of Puerto Rico – by powerboat or paddle boat, sailboat or kayak – your adventure is sure to create lifelong memories.



FRAZIER NIVENS

Sailing & Watersports

SPONSORS

Caribbean School of Aquatics 787-728-6606
Fajardo (AC/11) www.saildiveparty.com Sail, dive, snorkel or fish: 49 passenger Fun Cat sailing catamaran, 30 passenger powerboat Innovation or 6 passenger Airborne sailing sloop. Lunch, transportation & equipment provided. Both Villa Marina & San Juan Marina

Castillo Tours & Watersports 787-791-6195
Fajardo (AC/11) www.castillotours.com Catamaran sailing & snorkeling, gear, instruction, lunch, pina coladas. Deep-sea fishing: blue marlin, wahoo, tuna, mahi-mahi on 48' Hatteras. Sightseeing: Bio Bay, Hiking, Rainforest, Old City, Caves, Ponce, Bacardi. 2413 Laurel St., Punta las Marias

East Island Excursions 787-860-3434
Fajardo (AC/11) www.eastwindcats.com 62' "East Wind" catamaran - glass-bottom windows, water slide - sailing to deserted islands for beachcombing & snorkeling. Also private charters for up to 78. "Island Flyer" - high speed power catamarans - Culebra snorkeling or Vieques bio-bay. Puerto Del Rey Marina

Erin Go Bragh Sailing & Snorkeling Charters
787-860-4401
Fajardo (AC/11) www.egbc.net 50' Sailing Ketch, owner-operated for day sails, overnight biobay trips and longer term-charters to Spanish, US & BVIs, snorkeling and fishing. Also available for romantic, sunset and full-moon dinner cruises offering the best meals available. Puerto Del Rey Marina, Slip 1204

Salty Dreams 787-717-6378
Fajardo (AC/11) www.saltydreams.com 46 foot Catamaran, "Salty Dogs" will take you to Icacos Lobos or Palominos for a stroll on unspoiled beaches or snorkeling in pristine waters. Villa Marina

San Juan Waterfun 787-637-4510
Río Grande (AB/10) www.waterfun-pr.com A complete watersports center, with parasailing, banana boat rides, jet ski or kayak rentals, water ski or kneeboards. Paradise Resort; ESJ Towers, el San Juan Hotel-Isla Verde

San Juan Waterfun 787-643-4510
San Juan Metro (AB/8) www.waterfun-pr.com Offering parasailing, banana boat rides, wave runners, hobie cat and jet ski, kayak, water ski and knee board rentals. ESJ Towers, Isla Verde

Sunset Snuba 787-354-0999
Luquillo (AB/11) www.sunsetsnuba.com A concept for those who want the diving experience without the heavy gear, air is supplied from a raft floating above. Dives up to 20 feet will have you feeling like you are in a well stocked fish tank. 259 Calle Carreta

Traveler Catamaran / Fajardo Tours 787-863-2821
Fajardo (AC/11) www.travelerpr.com Sail on a 54' catamaran for snorkeling, lunch included. Also offering sunset cruises, charters and fishing on a 36' boat. Chartered trips to Vieques and Culebra.

Travesías Isleñas Yaureibo 787-741-7558
Vieques (AD/13) www.vieques-tours.com Kayak excursions in the Vieques Bioluminescent Bay. 102 Hucar St. Bo. Esperanza

Yokahú Kayak Trips 787-604-7375
Fajardo (AC/11) www.yokahukayaks.com Kayak eco-adventure tours in kayaks to the bioluminescent bay and lagoon, with licensed guides and equipment included. Rt 987 Km 6.2 Int

OTHERS

Aqua Frenzy Kayaks 787-741-0913
71 Rubi St, Vieques (AD/13)

Aquatica - Sea Doo Tour (Jet Ski Tour)
787-531-3593
San Juan Bay Marina, PDA 8 Fernández Juncos Ave, San Juan Metro (AB/8)

Catamaran Spread Eagle 787-887-8821
Villa Marina, Fajardo (AC/11)

Enchanted Island Eco Tours 787-888-2887
Rd 191 Km 1.7 Río Grande, Río Grande (AB/10)

Island Adventures 787-741-0720
Rt 996 Km 4.5, Puerto Real, Vieques (AD/13)

Island Kayaking Adventure 787-462-7204
P.O. Box 180, Fajardo (AC/11)

Kayaking Puerto Rico 787-435-1665
Ave. De los Reyes #30, Río Grande (AB/10)

Sailing & Watersports

La Paseadora 787-850-7881
Dock, Húcares Beach, Naguabo (AC/11)

WoW!! Surfing School 787-955-6059
Islaverde (pine grove), San Juan Metro (AB/8)

Recommended by
Fodor's
Guide & Diving
Magazines

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