

# **BOQUERON RENTAL**

*in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico*

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*Your Piece of Paradise*



## **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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**Carlo Nunez Cell Phone: (631) 714-0978**

**Our Home Phone: (631) 581-2337**

**Our Web Sites: [www.bqueronrental.com](http://www.bqueronrental.com)**

**[www.caborojorental.com](http://www.caborojorental.com)**



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## Boqueron Vacation Rental

### Description of Rental / Pictures of this Rental

This rental has 7 rooms, 4 bedrooms sleeps 8 to 10 people comfortably, 2 full bathrooms, a large fenced in property, an 8 person Jacuzzi, views of surrounding mountains and views of the Caribbean Sea. The house is equipped with plenty of bath towels, linens, iron & ironing board, hairdryer, utensils, pots, pans, glasses, dishes, microwave, toaster oven, coffee maker, TV/DVD/CD player, washer and a dryer.



## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

We have compiled a list of traditional events that are celebrated year-round in our area. For driving instructions and date confirmations, we recommend that you consult with someone at the tourism office. Below is a list of telephone numbers of each town's Tourism Offices. Have fun!

### **TOURISM OFFICES for Towns in the South West**

Puerto Rico Tourism	(787) 890-3315
Isabela Tourism Office	(787) 830-5105
San Sebastian Tourism Office	(787) 896-2300
Las Marias Mayor's Office	(787) 827-2280
Aguadilla Tourism Office	(787) 891-1005
Moca Tourism Office	(787) 877-3390
Aguada Tourism Office	(787) 868-6242
Rincón Tourism Office	(787) 823-5024
Añasco Tourism Office	(787) 826-3100
Mayagüez Tourism Office	(787) 833-1650
Hormigueros Tourism Office	(787) 849-2515
Cabo Rojo Mayor's Office	(787) 851-1025
San German Tourism Office	(787) 892-3790

### **EVENTS TAKING PLACE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

#### **January**

Three King's Day Traditional gift giving day.	Island Wide
Patron Saint Festival	San Sebastián
Festival Los Reyes	Las Marias
Patron Saint Festival	Añasco
Patron Saint Festival (or early February)	Mayagüez

#### **February**

Coffee Harvest Festival	Maricao
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#### **March**

Festival de la China Dulce: (An Orange Festival, recipes, arts & crafts)	Las Marias
Joyuda Triathlon (International)	Cabo Rojo

#### **April**

Kite Festival	Aguadilla
Festival Volantín (Kite Festival, music and handcrafts)	Mayagüez
Carving Competition	Hormigueros

**EVENTS TAKING PLACE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**—Continued**May**

Festival del Tejido Exhibits of Island knitting: (Exhibits of needlecraft, local food, drinks and Music)	Isabela
Crash Boat Summer Festival	Aguadilla
Summer Festival	Aguadilla

**June**

Patron Saint Festival	Isabela
Festival Mundillo: (Premier festival for the famous Moca Lace)	Moca
Trialo Rincoeño (Intl Triathlon)	Rincón
Patron Saint Festival	Maricao
National Mango Fiesta	Mayagüez

**July**

Antique Toy Festival	Isabela
Classic & Antique Auto Show	Isabela
Hammock Festival: (Hammock weaving, local food and music)	San Sebastián
Novena a la Virgen del Carmen Rosado: (Begins July 8 in honor of patroness of fishermen, procession to the sea July 13)	Aguadilla
Patron Saint Festival (or early August)	San German

**August**

Patron Saint Festival	Rincón
Añasco Triathlon	Añasco

**September**

Patron Saint Festival	Moca
Patron Saint Festival (late Sept. or early October)	Aguada
Patron Saint Festival	Hormigueros
Patron Saint Festival	Cabo Rojo

**October**

Yuca Festival	Isabela
Festival del Chipe (Clam festival unique to Añasco)	Añasco
Intl Light Tackle Tournament	Cabo Rojo

**November**

Partron Saint Festival	Aguadilla
Discovery of Puerto Rico Day Parade	Aguada

**December**

Patron Saint Festival	Las Marías
Carnaval Aguadillano	Aguadilla

## HISTORY OF PUERTO RICO / CABO ROJO

Christopher Columbus discovered the Island of **Puerto Rico** in November 1493, during his second voyage. His first landing was in the western region, to search for water. Upon landing he baptized the Island "Isla de San Juan Bautista." In 1508 Juan Ponce de León decided to explore and colonize the Island.



Ponce de León's earliest expeditions included the area of Guánica. Led by Cristóbal de Sotomayor, he founded a village called "La Villa del Sotomayor." After fierce attacks by the Taíno Indians, the village was moved and renamed San Germán in honor of the second wife of King Ferdinand of Spain. The first rum factory was established in this region and from here the first Paso Fino horses were sent to Perú. Some of Puerto Rico's key historical figures come from **Cabo Rojo** and surrounding municipalities. Dr. Eugenio María de Hostos from Mayagüez is considered one of the great educators of this hemisphere. Segundo Ruiz Belvis, from Hormigueros, fought to free slaves on the Island. Dr. Ramón Emeterio Betances, from Cabo Rojo, was the leader of "El Grito de Lares," an armed rebellion against Spain in 1868.

At the turn of the century José de Diego, a lawyer from Aguadilla promoting independence, came to be known as "El Caballero de La Raza." Also from Aguadilla is Rafael Hernández, considered to be one of Latin America's most important composers. This is just a small sample of talented leaders and artists from Porta del Sol who helped shape 500 years of Puerto Rico's history.



**Cabo Rojo** was founded on December 17, 1771 by Nicolas Ramirez de Arellano and Miguel de Muesas. It is said that Cabo Rojo obtained its name from the considerable amount of minerals found in its coast that made the waters look reddish. **Cabo** is the Spanish word for **Tip** and analogous to the English word **Cape** in this context. The word **rojo**, translates to **red**. According to legend, the name was given by Christopher Columbus himself, although this is highly unlikely. The first church, founded in 1783, was called San Jose. The present-day main catholic church is called San Miguel Arcangel, located in the town's square.

## **PLACES TO VISIT IN SOUTHWEST PUERTO RICO**

What should you do while in this tropical wonderland? Well, you could start by soaking up the sun on one of the several fantastic beaches in Cabo Rojo. Perhaps the idea of spending a day on a small, uninhabited island appeals to you? Then you can take a boat ride out to Isla Ratones. Another Island, reachable by boat, is the Isla Mona - a wildlife sanctuary where you can view the many bird and animal species up close. But don't forget your snorkeling gear at home, because the coral reef at Isla Mona is amazing to see! Apart from these activities, you can mountain bike, hike, play golf or go fishing. When the sun starts to get low in the sky, you may want to make your way to one of the many fine restaurants where you can enjoy a fine meal of fresh fish while you watch the spectacular display of color in the sky as the sun goes to sleep beyond the horizon. Cabo Rojo is truly a holiday maker's paradise.

### **Boqueron Beach**

Boqueron beach is excellent for swimming. Admission is \$1.00 and parking is \$2.00 (available parking space for hundreds of cars, camping, changing rooms).  
How to get there: Take Road 100 then to Road 101 into Boquerón. Cabo Rojo  
(787) 851-1900

**Boqueron Forest Reserve** Cabo Rojo (787) 724-3647

**Buye Beach** Located just north of the village of Boquerón on route 307 at Km 4.8. Cabo Rojo

### **Cabo Rojo Lighthouse ("El Faro")**

The Cabo Rojo Lighthouse located on Route 303, was built in 1881 over limestone cliffs that drop 200 feet into the sea. It is also known as "Faro de Los Morillos". This old lighthouse was automated and electrically charged in 1967. Rt 301 Km 11.5.  
Cabo Rojo (787) 851-1025



### **Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge**

Located along the coastal plain of southwestern Puerto Rico, the Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge, a subtropical dry forest, has a visitor's center and interpretive displays as well as bird-watching trails. An interpretive trail totaling 2 miles passes through the refuge and approximately 12 miles of hiking trails are available for bird watching, photography and wildlife observation. Some 50 bird species occur in and around the refuge, including the endangered yellow-shouldered blackbird. No camping allowed.  
Open Mon-Fri from 7:00am to 4:00pm.

### **How to Get There**

Take Route 100, at the end of Route 100, turn left onto Route 101. Drive .8 miles, Then turn right onto Route 310. Drive approximately 3 miles and look for the sign to the entrance of the refuge on left. Route 301 Km 5.1, Box 510 Cabo Rojo  
(787) 851-7258

## **PLACES TO VISIT IN SOUTHWEST PUERTO RICO**—Continued

**Combate Beach** Rt 3301 in the Combate area Cabo Rojo

### **Isla Ratones**

A small island reached from a roadside dock. In just a short boat ride you can visit this tiny island right off Joyuda, Cabo Rojo. Open Tuesday-Sunday 9am-5pm. Cabo Rojo (787) 851-1025

**Joyuda Beach** Cabo Rojo

### **Museo de Los Proceres**

The museum includes a sculpture exhibition of national leaders, an Indian Culture gallery, exhibits of Puerto Rican contemporary artists, a collection of paintings and a theater for plays and conferences. Free admission. Open Monday-Saturday 8am - 4:30pm. Located at: Rt. 312 Km 0.4 Cabo Rojo (787) 255-1580



**Phosphorescent Bay** Cabo Rojo

**Punta Arenas Beach** Cabo Rojo

### **Punta Guaniquilla Reserve**

This 388-acre reserve protects a diverse landscape that includes an arid promontory, a dry forest, palm and mangrove fringes, unique limestone formations in two lagoons, a cave system, cacti, and swamp areas. The tract is notable as the habitat of the endangered West Indian Whistling Duck, the Ruddy Duck, and the Caribbean Coot. The site is also recognized as a migratory bird sanctuary and an important wintering ground for shore birds. Cabo Rojo

**Punta Real Beach** Cabo Rojo

**Scenic Route Through Mountains** East of the city of Mayagüez are one of the most scenic mountains in Puerto Rico. A drive through these green mountains, heading to the town of 'Las Marias', is a '**must do**' for the vacationer. Care must be taken however. The roads are narrow and windy. Take a video camera along, stop every once and while, and capture the beauty. The people that live in these hills are very friendly and always ready to help. Knowledge of Spanish is necessary in order to meet and speak with them however.



**Whale Watching** Humpback whales may be seen in the winter from the observation park at the Rincón Lighthouse. The peek season is February, though the whales have been spotted from late December through late March. Just ask around the marina or the Lighthouse. In peak season, you may see them a few hundred meters off the Lighthouse.

## **HORSE BACK RIDING**

Puerto Ricans have always had a special love of horses. The gentle tradition of breeding and showing Paso Fino horses has been maintained for generations and important horse shows are held each year. On weekends you will often encounter large groups of families and friends riding together through the country towns. You may even find a horse grazing next to a downtown shopping center!

You can go horseback riding along a beautiful beach, follow a trail through a tropical rain forest or amble through a coffee plantation high in the mountains. A half dozen or so ranches rent horses by the hour and offer guided tours and classes for beginners.



**Tropical Trail Rides**, Isabela  
703 Belt Road, Suite 117, Ramey, Aguadilla  
Phone: (787) 872-9256  
Website: <http://home.coqui.net/barker>  
E-mail: [barker@coqui.net](mailto:barker@coqui.net)



**Villa del Mar Hau**, Isabela  
Rd. 466, Km. 8.9,  
Interior Playa, Montones,  
Isabela  
Phone: (787) 872-2045  
Website: [www.villahau.com](http://www.villahau.com)  
E-mail: [villahau@prtc.net](mailto:villahau@prtc.net)

## **BOATING / FISHING TOURS**

If you love fishing, you will fall in love with Cabo Rojo. Cabo Rojo is a fishing village and half of the fish consumed on the island comes from Cabo Rojo. There are several charters and certified captains that will be happy to take you into the ocean for many different Caribbean fish including the fun to catch Tarpon which there are plenty in Cabo Rojo to keep you having fun bringing them into your boat.



### **TOUR GUIDES, in Cabo Rojo, Porta del Sol coast and offshore islands**

Discover Cabo Rojo's wonders with great tour guides that will show you the best of Cabo Rojo and nearby areas. Visit Isla Ratones, go fishing, find the best snorkeling and scuba diving spots and explore the off-shore islands near Cabo Rojo. There is so much to do and see

in Cabo Rojo, let friendly professionals show you around, so the only thing you will have to do is explore, have fun and enjoy the sights.

### **ADVENTURES TOURMARINE**

USCG Captain Elick Hernandez  
Road 102 Joyuda Beach  
Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico  
Phone / Fax (787) 255-2525 Capt.  
Cell (787) 375-2625

### **LIGHT TACKLE ADVENTURES**

Capt. Francisco Rosario  
(787) 849-1430  
Mobil (787) 547-7380  
Email: franwy@isla.net  
[www.lighttackleadventure.8k.com](http://www.lighttackleadventure.8k.com)  
Address: Poblado de Boqueron  
Cabo Rojo PO.Box 355  
Hormigueros PR 00660  
Cabo Rojo, PR 00623



## **CANOEING & KAYAKING**

Canoeing and kayaking are sports that are relatively new to Puerto Rico, although the island's first Indian settlers probably arrived in a dugout canoe a few thousand years ago. In the past decade, kayaking has taken off. A kayak or canoe is a marvelous way to sightsee or bird watch on the island's many man-made lakes, or on its countless coastal inlets, coves and bays. There are many places you can rent a kayak, join an excursion or take classes. So enjoy your trip! Some of the most popular sites for kayaking include:

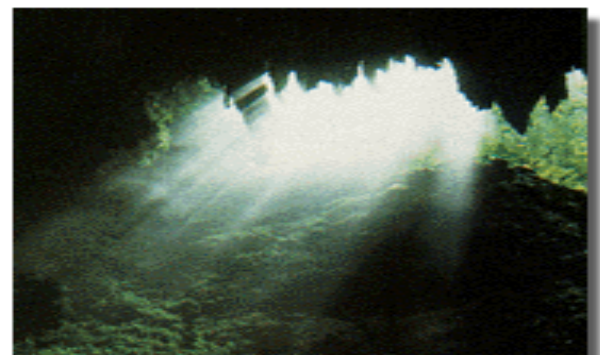
**Boquerón, Cabo Rojo** -This fisherman community is known for its wonderful beaches and colorful sunsets. Scuba, snorkeling, windsurfing and kayaking are found everywhere.

**Ballena Bay**—Bordering the Guánica Tropical Dry Forest, a United Nations designated International Biosphere Reserve. Punta Ballena Reserve is included in the Biosphere Reserve for its coastal ecosystem. It contains mangrove forest, manatees, nesting sites for turtles and crested toads. There are offshore cays to kayak and snorkel.



**La Parguera, Lajas** - Local boat/kayak rentals, deep sea-fishing charters, diving, snorkeling and windsurfing operators make any adventure easy in this fisherman community. Do not miss a boat or kayak trip at night in the Bioluminescent Bay at La Parguera.

**RIO CAMUY CAVE PARK** -This incredible 268-acre park is the site of the great subterranean caverns carved out by the Camuy River over one million years ago. The impeccably maintained trails gently descend 200 feet through a fern filled ravine to the yawning, cathedral-like caverns. The caves are home to a unique species of fish that is totally blind. To visit this pristine site is to be transported to another, hidden world. Rio Camuy Cave Park is the third-largest cave system in the world. Sixteen entranced have been found and 11 kilometers (7 miles) of passages explored so far. One special attraction is the *Cueva Clara*, which measures 695 feet (210m) in length. The park is equipped with picnic areas, walking trails, food facilities, and exhibition hall and a souvenir shop, making it the perfect place to spend a day. Reservations are essential, as this place is understandably popular. Open Wednesdays through Sundays and holidays; 8am to 4pm. For information call: (787) 898-3100 or (787) 783-0568



## **GOLF COURSES**

### **Punta Borinquen Golf and Country Club**

#### **Aguadilla**

Opened in 1940 this course is situated in the former Ramey Air Force Base. Has the honors to be the course played by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Soft spike policy. Designed by Fred Garbin. Mainly an open course overlooking the ocean, few trees but the wind is a challenge. This 18-hole course is one of the best maintained and breeziest on the island. This course' fees are relatively inexpensive, which makes the course very accessible. There are two courses:

The Ocean Course was designed by George & Tom Fazio. This classic course is a local favorite and has 18 holes. The River Course is a challenging course with winding fairways and has 18 holes for the golf connoisseur.

Holes: 18  
Yardage: 6889/6314/4908  
Par: 72/72/72  
Rating: 71.5/70.5/71.0  
Slope: 130/124/119



Address: Golf Road,  
Ramey Base,  
Aguadilla County, 00604  
Telephone:  
(787) 890-2987  
or (787) 890-1196

**GOLF COURSES** - continued

**Club Deportivo del Oeste GOLF**

**Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico**

Design by Jack Bender, opened in 1965 and expanded to an 18 hole in 2003.

This golf course is located on a hilly terrain along Puerto Rico's west coast, with panoramic views. It has an extremely challenging first hole and golfers find themselves in a downhill or uphill lie almost all the time.

Signature Hole: # 3:

340 yards, par 4 with water in front of green

Course Architect : Jack Bender

Course Yardage: Blue 6316

White 5978 Red 4458

Par: 70/70/69

Slope: 130 / 125 /115

Course Rating: 70.6 / 69.1 / 66.5

Number of Holes : 18



Address: Road 102,  
Km. 1.0, Joyuda Beach sector,  
Cabo Rojo 00623

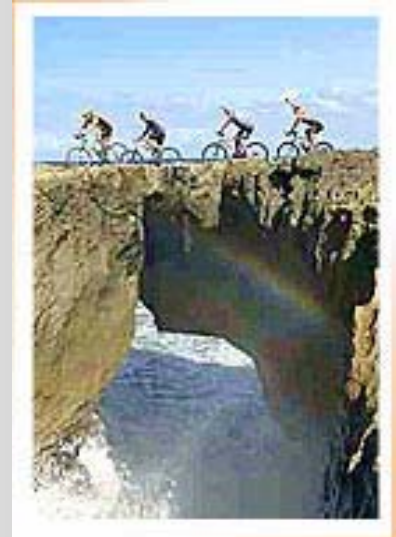


The Club Deportivo golf course is part of a private club but it is open to the public from 7am - 5pm daily.  
(787) 851-8880  
Golf Shop  
(787) 254-3748

## **BOQUERON BIKE & HIKE TRAILS**

You will find everything for everyone, from beginners to advanced. There are more than 100 miles of bike and hike trails in the southwestern corner of Puerto Rico. In Cabo Rojo, Lajas and Guanica, incredible scenery, beautiful beaches, single tracks, dirt roads, back roads, beach trails, extreme down hills, old railroad tracks, salt flats, rock gardens, irrigation canals and more. They offer organized rides every Sunday. Simply the best MTB trails in Puerto Rico

The Wheel Shop (787) 255-0095, in Cabo Rojo rent mountain bikes for \$20.00 a day. Adventure Tours' Hilda Morales can arrange guided biking, hiking, kayaking, and bird-watching trips. Half-day bike tours are \$78.00 per person; half-day kayaking tours are \$63.00 per person; and a full-day combination runs \$107.00



**Boquerón, Cabo Rojo** - While biking in the Boqueron Forest Bird Refuge you will find more than 60 species of both local and rare migratory birds at this wonderful bird refuge. During the winter month's mangrove canary, osprey, and a number of duck species migrate here.

**Susua Forest** - During your biking in State Forest at Susúa, in Sabana Grande, a dry forest with recreational areas, a river, 40 tent sites and showers, you can also camp. Great location from which to visit the south west. It is known for its

carbonate and serpentine rocks and it features mountain biking trails, bird watching, interpretative signs and hiking.

**Guánica Dry Forest** - This is a United Nations designated International Biosphere Reserve where you can experience great biking. This forest showcases a historic lighthouse, a lookout tower and 700 types of plants and trees.

It has the richest population of birds on the Island (136 different species), a lignum vitae tree that is over 1,000 years old, 14 hiking trails, several beaches and offshore cays where you can kayak and snorkel. You can also visit Fuerte Caprón and Cuevas de Sal.



**DINING**

Dining here on the South West Coast of Puerto Rico, you'll find a delicious mix of Caribbean, Spanish and African influences...otherwise known the world over as "Comida Criolla". We have gathered together a list of wonderful restaurants in our area. Savor Island favorites such as "Mofongo", stewed chicken, rice and beans and of course the South West Coast is where all Puerto



Ricans come for seafood! Before you go, call the restaurant of your choice for driving instructions!



**Restaurants in Cabo Rojo**

<b>Agua Al Cuello</b>	Seafood / Steaks	(787) 254-1212
<b>Luby's Restaurant</b>	International / Puerto Rican	(787) 851-8800
<b>Parada Los Flamboyanes</b>	Puerto Rican	(787) 255-3765
<b>Puerto Angelino</b>	Seafood / Puerto Rican	(787) 254-2358
<b>Perichi's</b>	Seafood / Puerto Rican	(787) 851-3131
<b>Tino's Restaurant</b>	Seafood / Puerto Rican	(787) 851-2976
<b>Island View</b>	Seafood	(787) 851-9264
<b>El Bohío</b>	Seafood / Steaks	(787) 851-2755
<b>El Caribe</b>	Cuban cuisine	(787) 255-2085

Experience the **Finest Sea Food Restaurant** in Cabo Rojo, make your reservation at:

**Restaurante Acosta**

Carr 102km 10 Punta Arena, Cabo Rojo, PR  
(787) 254-5761

**NIGHT LIFE**

**Cabo Rojo Nightlife**

**El Poblado** is a very popular place that is only 10 minutes from the house. Located in Boqueron, El Poblado is a continuous celebration. In addition to several annual festivals, the town has countless bars, music clubs. Outdoor concerts are a local specialty. Also located in El Poblado, you will find the best traditional Puerto Rican Cuisine at **Roberto's**.



**NIGHT LIFE** - continued

**Mayaguez Nightlife**

**Mayagúez Resort & Casino**

Rte 104, Mayaguez, PR

**10,800 square-foot casino, Live Shows**

Phone: (787) 832-3030

**Holiday Inn Mayaguez**

Rte 2, Km 149.9, Mayaguez, PR

**Full-Service Casino, Live Shows**

Phone: (787) 833-1100



**Holly's Lounge**

2701 Rte 2, Km 149.9, Mayaguez, PR

Located inside the Holiday Inn

**Bands and DJ's, Spicy Latin Rhythms**

Phone: (787) 833-1100

**Rincón Nightlife**

**Landing**

Rte 413, Km 4.7, Rincon, PR

**Hot Nightspot, Ocean Views and Live Bands**

Phone: (787) 823-3112

**Tropico Jazz**

Rte 429, Playa Córcega, Rincon, PR

**Restaurant & Bar, great Jazz Music**

Phone: (787) 823-4922

**Calypso**

Rte. 413, at Maria's Beach, Rincón, PR

**On Weekends Calypso often has Latin or Rock-and-Roll Bands**

Phone: (787) 823 4151



## **SCUBA**

The Western part of the Island has 8 underwater spots with tropical flora and fauna that outclass the most beautiful aquarium. The waters off Puerto Rico's sandy tropical shores are a diver's paradise. The average ocean temperature is 81°F and underwater visibility averages 60 to 75 feet. Offshore it is easily 100 feet or more! While experienced divers might prefer boat diving, there are countless sites especially on the northeast coast near Aguadilla and Isabela for world class shore diving. In Porta del Sol, you will find two off the coast islands, which are national wildlife reserves and scuba diving sanctuaries. Desecheo Island, off Rincón, offers great diving sites of undisturbed coral formations, variety of reef fish, angels, jacks and sharks. The other one is Mona Island, 50 miles west of Mayagüez. Considered by many the Galápagos of the Caribbean, this cavernous island has underwater fallen boulders that create crevices and tunnels with abundant marine life. Crevices walls plummet 90 degrees into the abysmal depths of the Mona passage, the second deepest tunnel in the world. La Parguera in Lajas is another exciting diving site with its Parguera Wall, which drops 120 feet and then disappears. Black Coral is abundant among other species such as large deep-sea fish, dolphins, mahi-mahi, wahoo, blue marlin and tuna. You can find just about every underwater scenario in Puerto Rico – The shallow reefs near Mayagüez are perfect for snorkeling and, if you are a beginner, many dive shops offer scuba classes and snorkeling instruction. Divers on the north shore have been surprised by sea horses that look like chess knights, and find arrow crabs, parrot fish and octopus among the endless schools of sergeant majors and other colorful reef fish.

### **Scuba Diving Tour Operators**

#### **Aquatica Underwater Adventures, Aguadilla**

Diving trips and PADI & SSI full or referral certifications, all dives have an in water dive master or dive instructor. Nitrox is available, also providing fishing excursions and snorkeling on Cabo Rojo reefs and ledges. Equipment rental, repairs, tours & certifications are available. Lunch and refreshments are provided in the excursions. Dive Sites: Cabo Rojo, Isabela Caverns, Aguadilla, West Wall Trips and Desecheo Island  
Rd 110 Km 10 Gate 5 Ramey, Aguadilla  
Phone: (787) 890-6071 Fax: (787) 860-9001  
Website: [www.aquatica.cjb.net](http://www.aquatica.cjb.net)  
Email: [aquatica@caribe.net](mailto:aquatica@caribe.net)  
Hours: Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm. Sunday 9am-3pm.



**Scuba Diving Tour Operators** - continued

**Paradise Scuba & Snorkeling Center, Lajas: La Parguera**

Offering diving and snorkeling trips, including equipment and the dive master always on board. Instruction and PADI certification offered from basic to advanced and dive master level. Nitrox available upon request. Lunch (including delicious empanaditas) and refreshments are included. First Aid classes also provided. Accepting referrals from other dive shops to complete a diving course in Puerto Rico. Also, offering service to the Bioluminescent Bay, where tiny organisms light up at night upon contact, making the water glow. Dive Sites: La Parguera (Wall Diving) and 14 different sites around the southwest from Guánica to the Cabo Rojo lighthouse.

Rt. 304, Km. 3.2 - Hostal Casa Blanca Bldg.,  
La Parguera, Lajas  
Phone: (787) 899-7611  
Fax: (787) 899-7611  
Email: [paradisesclubapr@yahoo.com](mailto:paradisesclubapr@yahoo.com)



**Dive Copamarina, Guánica**

Diving trips, also offering PADI certification, dive and specialty courses offered. Nitrox is available. Equipment rental is available, including dive computers and wet suits. They offer wall diving, night diving and snorkeling trips. Two tank morning dive. Also, kayaking, pedal boating, two person catamaran & hobby cat. Dive Sites: A total of 14 sites around Guánica & La Parguera (Wall Diving)

Rt 333 Km 6.5, Guánica  
Phone: (800) 468-4553  
Phone: (787) 821-0505  
Fax: (787) 821-0070  
Website: [www.copamarina.com](http://www.copamarina.com)  
Email: [info@copamarina.com](mailto:info@copamarina.com)  
Hours: Daily 9am-6pm.

**Scuba Diving Tour Operators - continued**

**Parguera Divers, Lajas: La Parguera**

They have a full range of services that include training, instruction, certification NAUI and PADI from basic to dive master. First aid classes are also provided. All dives are guided and the crew carries tanks on/off the boat. There are two dives per day and night dives are available upon request. Snorkeling trips are also provided in the afternoon with a maximum of 20 passengers. Also offering group trips at night to the Bioluminescent Bay, where tiny organisms make the water glow at night upon contact. Equipment for diving and snorkeling is available for rental and lunch is provided. Check web site for packages. Dive Sites: La Parguera Wall Diving (over 25 sites)

Rd 304 Km 3.3, La Parguera, Lajas

Phone: (787) 899-4171

Fax: (787) 899-6023

Website: [www.pargueradivers.com](http://www.pargueradivers.com)

Email: [dive@pargueradivers.com](mailto:dive@pargueradivers.com)



**Oceans Unlimited, Rincón**

PADI facility offering diving tours and classes (Discover Scuba, Open Water to Dive Master, First Aid, CPR and 13 specialty classes) in a 48 feet vessel, Pelican. Also offering snorkeling, whale-watching, fishing and private parties tours. Charters to Mona Island are also provided for diving, snorkeling and camping. Transportation, all necessary equipment and meals are included in all their services. Nitrox available. Equipment available for rent - it is not provided in our charter pricing (additional charge). Rd 115 Km. 12.2, Rincón  
Phone: (787) 823-2340  
Fax: (787) 823-2370



**La Cueva Submarina, Isabela**

Diving trips around 6 different routes around the Isabela Caverns. Specializing in women and children. SSI, IANTD, ANDI, SDI, TDI Certifications from basic to instructor. Nitrox available. Snorkeling trips also available. Dive Sites: Isabela Caverns with 6 different routes.  
Rt. 466 Km. 6.3, Playa Jobos, Isabela  
Phone: (787) 872-1390 Fax: (787) 872-1390  
Website: [www.lacuevasubmarina.net](http://www.lacuevasubmarina.net)  
Email: [techdiving@coqui.net](mailto:techdiving@coqui.net)

## **WINDSURFING / SURFING PARADISE**

Surfing, windsurfing, kite boarding and other wave sailing sports happen year round, thanks to the trade winds. Surfers call Puerto Rico "The Maui of the Atlantic" and their favorite destination is the windy northwest coast, around the towns of Isabela and Rincón in Porta del Sol. Some of the best winter surfing can be experienced in Rincón, whose name translates to "corner." Known for world-class surfing, Rincón was the site of the 1968 World Surfing Championship and hosts several annual competitions. Visitors and local surfers come together to catch a wave. For more information, please contact the Surfing Association of P.R. at [www.apspr.net](http://www.apspr.net) or (787) 872-2490.



### **Other Surfing Spots**

Crash Boat, **Aguadilla**  
Gas Chamber, **Aguadilla**  
Surfer Beach, **Aguadilla**  
Wilderness, **Aguadilla**  
Golondrinas, **Isabela**  
Jobos Beach, **Isabela**  
Montones, **Isabela**  
Middles, **Isabela**

Secret Spot, **Isabela**  
Shacks Beach, **Isabela**  
Shore Island, **Isabela**  
Domes, **Rincón**  
Indicator, **Rincón**  
Marias, **Rincón**  
Sandy Beach, **Rincón**  
Tres Palmas, **Rincón**



## **ESCAPE TO GILLIGAN'S ISLAND**

**Gilligan's Island** in Guanica is a great swimming and snorkeling excursion. The private ferry takes you from the dock just beyond the Copamarina Hotel to the dock on Gilligan's Island for a few dollars. You will find clear water and white sand with a cool current running through, the mangrove canals. It is a wonderful place to spend a few hours.

Guanica Ferry to Gilligan's Island.

To right of the dock is the, constantly running ferry boat (last trip back 5 PM) Try to come back at four.....bugs come out around 4:30 or so. Not a long ride. The boats to the left of the dock belong to the various fishermen of the area. On the Island there are little Bohios where you can picnic and hang your hammock. There is plenty of shade amongst the mangroves on the white sand.



Waiting on the dock on Gilligan's Island for the next ferry back. There is no way to convey by looking at these photos how clear, cool and heavenly the waters are here. Crowded on weekends but you can always push on further and find your own quiet spot! The snorkeling around the mangrove roots and on the reefs is super! Bring snorkeling equipment to Gilligan's Island! Incidentally, there are no facilities here!

## **SHOPPING**

In almost all cities there are regional commercial centers. Retail stores like: Sears, Wal-Mart, Kmart and JC Penny. Anchor shopping centers and malls alongside locally owned shops and island chain stores. Don't forget that Puerto Rico is a large producer of rum, with many different types ranging from light rums for mixing drinks to dark brandy-type rums. Hand made cigars can still be found in most of these towns. A wide variety of imported goods from all over the world are available. Local "artesanas" include wooden carvings, musical instruments, lace, ceramic, hammocks, masks and basket-work.

**Craft Shops**-For information about island crafts and visits to island artisans contact:

**Fomento Crafts Program** (787) 758-4747 Ext. 2291

**Puerto Rico Tourism Company artisan office** (787) 721-2400 Ext. 2201, 2080

**Institute of Puerto Rican Culture Popular Arts Center** (787) 722-0621

### **Shopping Malls / Shopping Centers**

#### **Aguadilla Shopping Mall**

Rt 2 Km 126.5. #36 Aguadilla, PR (787) 882-0014 or 787-891-1570

75 Stores

#### **Mayaguez Mall**

Rte 2, South of City, Mayaguez, PR · 787-834-2760

This thoroughly modern mall is one of the largest on Puerto Rico. There is a bookstore, clothing boutiques, a bank branch and a supermarket, as well as eight cinemas.

### **Food Shopping and Shopping for Daily Necessities**

#### **Cabo Rojo Plaza Shopping Center** (787) 851-2460 • (787) 851-2475

Road # 100 KM 7.2 Int.

This center has the Pueblo Supermarket, privately owned Boutiques, Furniture Stores, Blockbuster Video, Pitusa Dept., ect. Next door to this shopping center, on Road 100 you will also find the Mr. Special Supermarket.

**Boqueron Village (El Poblado)** - The village is quaint, colorful and lively. It is a gloriously unplanned combination of food stands, souvenir shops, open-air cantinas, dive shops, and fishmongers.

#### **La Plaza de Cabo Rojo (town Square)**

The Plaza is the center of history, the home of the "fiestas patronales", music and traditions. You can taste traditional "dulces" (candy) of Puerto Rico, shop at boutiques, relax and chat with the locals while you enjoy a "cafe con leche" (cappuccino). Don't leave town without trying a *piragua*, a typical refreshing desert made of shaved ice and delicious syrups in a variety of tropical fruit flavors.

## **HOSPITALS**

### **Cabo Rojo & Surrounding Towns**

#### **Hospital Metropolitano de Cabo Rojo**

Cabo Rojo, P.R.

Phone. (787) 851-2025

#### **Hospital La Concepción**

San Germán, P.R. 00683

Phone. (787) 892-1860

#### **Hospital El Buen Samaritano**

Aguadilla, P.R. 00605

Phone. (787) 819-0800

### **Emergency Number**

In Puerto Rico in the case of an emergency (police, ambulance or fire), call 911.



### **Other Help lines and**

#### **Agencies:**

**Emergency Services: 911 Police: (787) 343-2020**

**Ambulance: (787) 343-2222**



**Fire Department: (787) 343-2330**

**U.S. Coast Guard: (787) 729-6770**

#### **Other important numbers:**

**American Red Cross Blood Bank:  
(787) 759-7979**

#### **Puerto Rico Poison Center:**

The Puerto Rico Poison Center is the only poison center affiliated with the American Association of Poison Control Centers in the Antilles. They have 6 poison information

specialist who bring medical consults 24 hours a day.

### **Emergency Phone Numbers for Poison Control:**

(800) 222-1222 [Island wide]

(787) 726-5674 [San Juan Metro]

(787) 641-1934 [TTY]

## **CUSTOMS & IMMIGRATION**

There are no passports or visas necessary for United States citizens, which mean that US citizens can travel freely in and out of the island without going through immigration or customs. For additional information, contact your local U.S. embassy or call the Puerto Rico State Department at (787) 722-2121. At the airports in Puerto Rico, your luggage will be inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to make sure you are not carrying prohibited fruits and plants to the mainland. Travelers carrying undeclared prohibited items will be fined on the spot. Articles from Vietnam, North Korea, Kampuchea or Cuba, illegal publications, lottery tickets, chocolate liqueurs or pre-Columbian artifacts may not be brought into the country. Passing through customs should be routine and quick. If you are taking prescription drugs, make sure you have a copy of the prescription with you; otherwise you could be held up. If you want a copy of what is and is not permitted back on the mainland, contact the U.S. Agriculture Department at (787) 253-4505 or (787) 263-4506.

## **Embassies & Consulates**

Because Puerto Rico is part of the United States, there is no U.S. embassy or consulate. The United States controls immigration and emigration. Puerto Rico Tourism Company Offices The Puerto Rican Tourism Company operates offices around the island (listed on page 5 of your catalog)

## **Daylight Savings – Time Difference**

Atlantic Standard Time (AST) (EST +1; GMT -4) all year around, which means that the island does not observe Daylight Savings (one hour later than Eastern Standard Time (EST) from October to April, and the same as Eastern Daylight Savings Time from the first Sunday in April to the last Sunday in October). For the exact time of day call: 787-728-9595.

## **Air Transportation**

Puerto Rico airports handle domestic, US and international flights to and from the Island on a daily basis. There are a total of 30 airports in Puerto Rico including Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport (SJU) and Rafael Hernández Aguadilla BQN (787) 891-2286

**Travel Time Reference:** From Puerto Rico (by air) to

New York 3½ hours, Los Angeles 8 hours, Miami 2½ hours, Atlanta 3 ¼ hours, Washington, DC 3 ½ hours, Chicago and Dallas 4 ½ hours, Toronto 4 ¼ hours, Europe 8 hours, Madrid 7 ¾ hours, Paris 10 hours, Brussels 10 ¼ hours, London 12 hours

## **Currency**

Puerto Rico is a commonwealth of the US and uses the dollar. The US dollar is often referred to as the “peso”.

## **Currency Exchange**

Currency Exchange can be arranged through many institutions in Puerto Rico, including:

**Banco Popular**: Foreign currency exchange: any branch. (787) 723-0077.

**Caribbean Foreign Exchange**: Old San Juan. (787) 722-8222.

**Thomas Cook Foreign Exchange**: International Airport at Isla Verde. (787) 791-1960 or (787) 791-2233.

**Popular Center Building**: Hato Rey (787) 754-2228.

**Scotia Bank of Puerto Rico**: Canadian exchange only. Any branch. (787) 758-8989.

**Western Union**: Cable money transfer. All Pueblo supermarkets (800) 325-4046. Banking hours are 9am to 3:30pm.

## **Credit Cards**

All major credit cards are widely accepted: American Express, Visa, Diner’s Club, Discovery, Master Card and other Bank credit cards.

## **Relative Costs - Meals**

Budget meal: US \$3.00-\$15.00

Moderate restaurant meal: US \$15.00-\$30.00

Top-end restaurant meal: US \$30.00 and Up

## **Taxes & Tips**

Local tax is included in all purchases. There is a 9% hotel tax in a non-casino hotel and a 11% hotel with casino. Tipping is much the same as in the States. In hotels, major restaurants and nightclubs services charges are usually included. However, many inexpensive restaurants do not add service charge. If it isn’t, tip between 15% and 20%.

## **Business Hours**

Most commercial businesses operate from 8:30am or 9am to 5pm Monday - Friday. Government offices are open 8:30am to 4:30pm. Banking hours are 9:30am to 3:30pm. Department stores and malls are generally open Monday - Thursday and Saturday from 8am to 6pm On Friday, stores have a long day: 8am to 9pm. Many stores also open on Sunday from 11am to 5pm.

### **Driving**

Driving is on the right-hand side of the road. All the same rules as any part of the United States, except that the signs are in Spanish, the distance markers in kilometers and the gas sold in liters. Car Rental Agencies are located around the island. They Include:

AAA, Afro, Avis, Budget, Charlie, Discount, Hertz, L & M, National, Popular Leasing, Target, Thrifty, and Vias. Rates might be a little higher than U.S. For Car Rental or Limousine Services listings consult EPR Business Search.

### **Water & Sewage**

Puerto Rico's water quality is subject to the same regulated EPA standards that apply on the U.S. mainland. A private company, Professional Services Group, manages and operates PRASA's system. Tap water is considered safe to drink. Milk is pasteurized and dairy products are safe for consumption. Local meat, poultry, seafood, fruit and vegetables are generally considered safe to eat.

### **Electricity**

The general rule in Puerto Rico is United Standards 110 and 120 volts AC, and the outlets take the same two-prong plugs found in the United States.

### **Postal Service**

Puerto Rico is part of the U.S. postal system (USPS) and has the same mail rates (25¢ for a postcard, 39¢ for a first-class letter) and service as provided on the U.S. mainland. Post offices in every city offer Express Mail next-day service to the U.S. mainland and Puerto Rico. In addition, express services are offered by FedEx, UPS, Emery, RPS, and DHL.

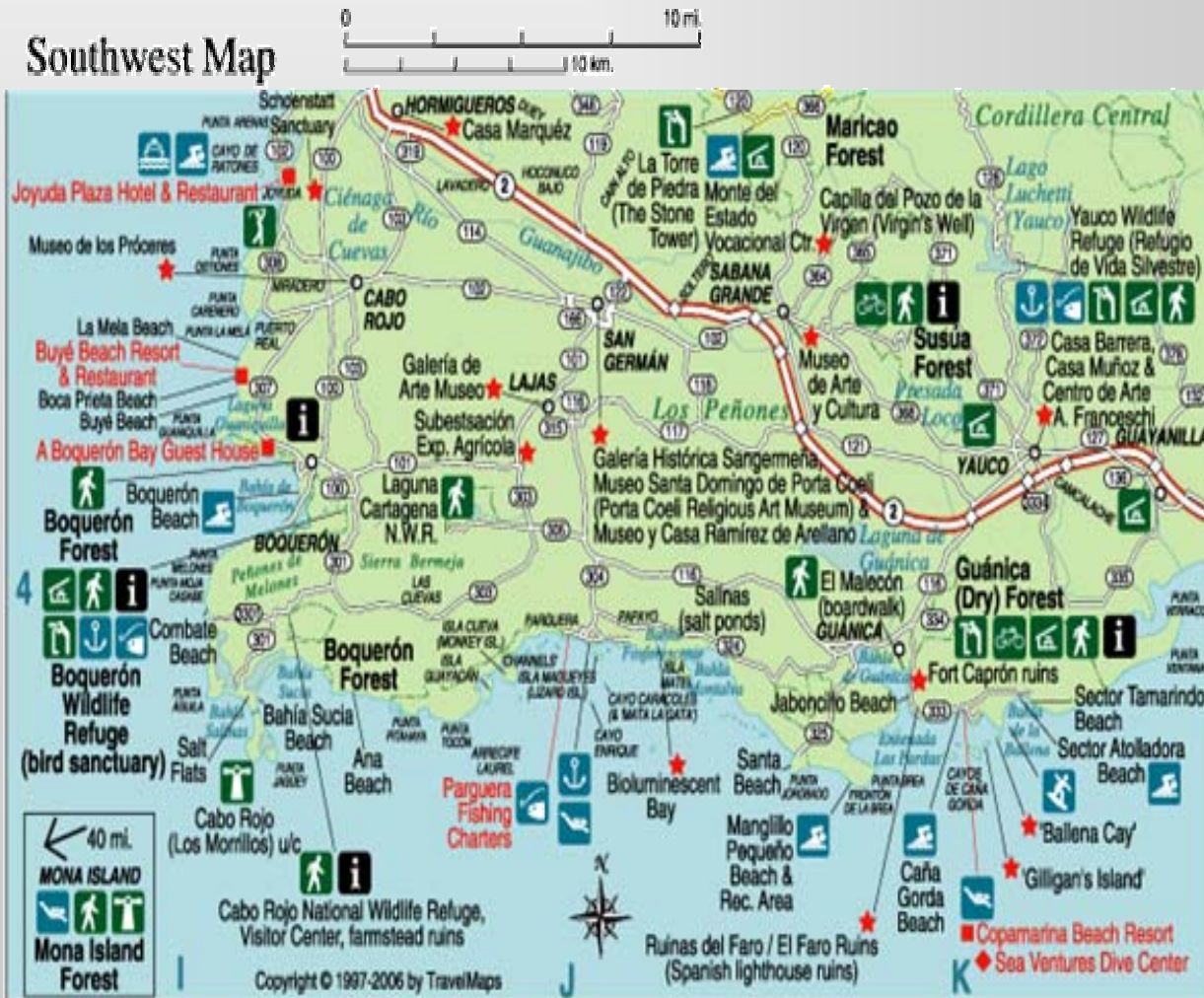
### **Liquor Laws**

You must be 18 years old to purchase liquor in stores or buy drinks in hotels, bars, and restaurants. A municipal statute forbids alcohol consumption on the streets of many cities, like San Juan. It is illegal to operate a motor vehicle at or above a .08 blood alcohol level. Health and Medical Facilities and Health standards in Puerto Rico are generally comparable with those of the United States, its medical facilities are among the finest in the Caribbean

### **Casinos**

They are located in many hotels around the Island. Proper dressing should be observed by men and women. People under 18 are not allowed.

**Southwest Puerto Rico Map:** A. Ramírez de Arellano & Rosell Museum (Museo de Arte y Casa de Estudio), Bahía Sucia, Ballena Beach, Bioluminescent (phosphorescent) bay, Boca Prieta Beach, Boquerón, Boquerón Forest, Boquerón Forest Refugio de Aves (bird refuge), Buyé Beach, Cabo Rojo, Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge, Visitor Center, farmstead ruins, Caña Gorda, Capilla del Pozo de la Virgen (Virgin's Well), Galería Histórica Sangermeña, Casa Barrera, Casa Muñoz & Centro de Arte A. Franceschi, Museo Santa Domingo de Porta Coeli (Porta Coeli Religious Art Museum) & Museo y Casa Ramírez de Arellano, Gilligan's Island, Guánica, Guánica Forest, Visitor Center, Guayanilla, Hormigueros, Jaboncillo, La Mela Beach, La Parguera, La Torre de Piedra (The Stone Tower), Lago Luchetti, Laguna Joyuda, Lajas, Manglillos Beach and Rec. Area, Maricao Forest, Monte del Estado, Porta Coeli Religious Art Museum (Museo de Arte Religioso), Ruinas del Faro / El Faro Ruins (Spanish lighthouse ruins), Sabana Grande, San Germán, Santa Beach, Schoenstatt Sanctuary, Sector Atolladora Beach, Sector Tamarindo Beach, Subestación Exp. Agrícola Susúa Forest, Tamarindo, Yauco, Yauco Wildlife Refuge (Refugio de Vida Silvestre).



**Northwest Puerto Rico Map:** Aguada, Aguadilla, Añasco, Antigua Castillos Meléndez, Central Plata (old sugar factory), Crash boat (Playuelas), Desecheo National Wildlife Refuge, El Parterre Park, El Mirador de la Bahía, Gas Chambers, Isabela, Jobos Beach, Juan A. Rivera Zoo (Zoológico de Puerto Rico), 'La Ponderosa' Spanish lighthouse ruins, Las Cataratas (waterfall), Mayagüez, Middles, Moca, Mundillo Museum of Puerto Rico, Parque de los Próceres, Poso Jacinto (blow hole), Puente Histórico de Hierro (Historic Iron Bridge), Residencia de M.L. Rodríguez de Negrón, Rincón, Sueños do los Niños Park (Parque de Diversiones El Castillo), Surfers Beach, Table Rock, Túnel de Guajataca (railway tunnel ruins), U.P.R. Mayagüez Campus: Planetarium, Tropical Agriculture Research Station, Villa Pesquera Beach (Playa Sardina), Wilderness Surfing.

