

# San Juan

Photo: Dennis van de Water/Shutterstock.com



Gary Ives/Shutterstock.com

San Juan is the vibrant, cosmopolitan capital of the island of Puerto Rico. Encompassing hundreds of years of history, the city blends Spanish-era historic sites, such as the San Felipe del Morro fortress, with modern entertainment and fashionable shopping districts. More than a million people call San Juan home, while hundreds of thousands of tourists call it their favorite place to vacation each year.



Sean Pavone/Shutterstock.com



Sean Pavone/Shutterstock.com

# QUIZ

*What Type of Traveller  
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## Top 5



### Old San Juan

This charming old part of town is a great place to explore restored building...



### San Felipe del Morro Fortress

Known as El Morro, this fortress was designed to protect the city from attac...



### La Fortaleza

This magnificent mansion is the home and office of the governor of Puerto Ri...



### Capilla del Cristo

This small chapel is the embodiment of a centuries-old urban legend. It is s...



### San Juan Cathedral

This grand centuries-old Catholic church evolved from a wood structure into ...



## THE CITY



James Willamor / Flickr (image cropped)

San Juan is a bustling metropolis that has evolved from its nearly 500 year-old colonial roots to become one of the most important cities in the Americas. Spanish colonists, who called it Ciudad Puerto Rico (or “Rich Port City”), founded the 77 square-mile city in 1521.

The city is divided into neighborhoods such as Old San Juan, Puerta de Tierra, Miramar, Santurce and Río Piedras, where most of the cultural attractions are concentrated. The Condado and Ocean Park neighborhoods are ideal destinations for beach lovers, who can enjoy their spectacular turquoise-blue waters and white, sandy shores. The two neighborhoods are also known for their world-class hotels and late-night entertainment.

At the heart of the city is Old San Juan, a magnificent 47 square-mile islet that is connected to the rest of the town via two bridges. The walled city is host to Spanish-era architectural sites, such as La Fortaleza, the oldest executive mansion in continuous use in the Americas. In the area, you will also find residential neighborhoods, historic forts like San Felipe del Morro and Fuerte San Cristóbal, and inviting public plazas. Tours of the historic sites are available all day, every day, and offered in both Spanish and English.

Visitors who don't just come in search of history are often attracted by the bustling nightlife and shopping. It is said that the arrival of some of the world's most fashionable designers - Gucci, Louis Vuitton and Salvatore Ferragamo - has transformed Ashford Avenue (in the Condado district) into a mini replica of Miami's South Beach. And speaking of shopping, San Juan is also home to the Caribbean's largest shopping center, Plaza Las Américas.

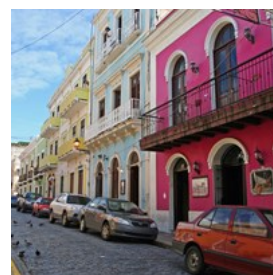
## DO & SEE



Maridav/Shutterstock.com

San Juan's perfect mix of old and new sets the stage for an unforgettable trip. The starting point should be Old San Juan, where walking is the norm, but free trolleys are available to take visitors from one site to the next. Nobody who visits the island should leave without seeing the forts, the churches and the cobblestone streets of Old San Juan.

### Old San Juan



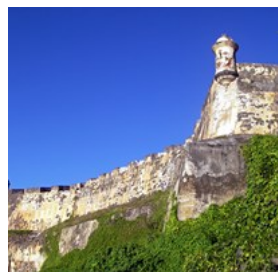
This charming old part of town is a great place to explore restored buildings from the 16th- and 17th-century Spanish colonial period. Walk through the narrow cobblestone streets and enjoy a lively and colorful area full of history,

culture and personality.

Photo: Lori Froeb/Shutterstock.com

Address: Old San Juan, San Juan

### San Felipe del Morro Fortress



Known as El Morro, this fortress was designed to protect the city from attacks by sea. In 1983, the United Nations

declared the imposing fort a World Heritage Site. Today, it is an interesting museum that offers great views, and it is open for visitors to enjoy and explore.

Photo: Bryan Busovicki/Shutterstock.com

Address: 501 Calle Norzagaray, San Juan

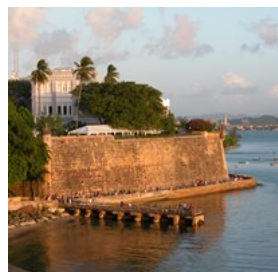
Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm

Phone: +1 787 729 6777

Internet: [www.nps.gov/saju](http://www.nps.gov/saju)

Email: [saju\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:saju_superintendent@nps.gov)

### La Fortaleza



This magnificent mansion is the home and office of the governor of Puerto Rico and the governor's family. It has been in continuous use since it

was built in 1540. The structure is also known as the Palacio de Santa Catalina (Saint Catalina's Palace) as it integrates a chapel in keeping with the highly Catholic culture.

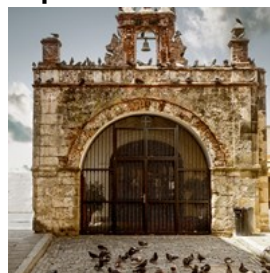
Photo: Guaraguao / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 63 Calle Fortaleza, San Juan

Internet: [whc.unesco.org/en/list/266](http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/266)

More Info: End of La Fortaleza Street in Old San Juan

### Capilla del Cristo



This small chapel is the embodiment of a centuries-old urban legend. It is said that the cliff-side abbey was built after an unknown horse rider galloped up the Old San Juan street and fell off the edge. It has been restored several times but still proudly shows signs of its age.

Photo: mikolajn/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle del Cristo, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 628 6099

Internet: [www.capilladelcristo.org](http://www.capilladelcristo.org)

Email: [info@capilladelcristo.org](mailto:info@capilladelcristo.org)

More Info: End of Cristo Street in Old San Juan

### San Juan Cathedral



This grand centuries-old Catholic church evolved from a wood structure into the medieval cathedral that is standing today. It is among the oldest churches in the Caribbean, at almost 500 years. The church also houses the marble tomb of the great explorer Ponce de León.

Photo: jiawangkun/Shutterstock.com

Address: 153 Calle Crisantemo, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 722 0861

Internet: [www.sanjuanciadadpatria.com/en/](http://www.sanjuanciadadpatria.com/en/)

### Plaza de la Rogativa



This small square is home to one of the most emblematic sites in Old San Juan. It is a "must-see" landmark located just a couple blocks from the Cathedral, and the site of the famous bronze statue La Rogativa, made by

Lindsay Daen. The statue represents a bishop and his companions who helped frighten away the British troops during the 1797 attack on the city by carrying torches and chanting.

Photo: Felix Lipov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Caleta Las Monjas, San Juan

Internet: [www.sanjuanpuertorico.com/plaza-de-la-rogativa-ol-d-san-juan-puerto-rico/](http://www.sanjuanpuertorico.com/plaza-de-la-rogativa-ol-d-san-juan-puerto-rico/)

### Museo de las Americas



The museum, which was built in 1992, hosts permanent exhibits exploring New World art and its African heritage, as well as indigenous and archaeological artifacts. It also hosts exhibits by local artists, creative workshops and other events for the community.

Photo: rj lerich/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Norzagaray, San Juan

Opening hours: Tue-Fri 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12pm-5pm

Phone: +1 787 724 5052

Internet: [www.museolasamericas.org](http://www.museolasamericas.org)

Email: [correo.mla@museolasamericas.org](mailto:correo.mla@museolasamericas.org)

More Info: Inside El Cuartel de Ballajá

### Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico



The Puerto Rico Museum of Art, which boasts more than ten exhibit halls, includes permanent collections and a compilation of Puerto Rican art from the 17th century to the present. There is also a lovely garden with a pond where you can relax and engage in some people-watching.

Photo: Hannamariah/Shutterstock.com

Address: 299 Ave De Diego, San Juan

Opening hours: Wed 10am-8pm, Thu-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-6pm

Phone: +1 787 977 6277

Internet: [www.mapr.org](http://www.mapr.org)

Email: [info@mapr.org](mailto:info@mapr.org)

### Playa Condado

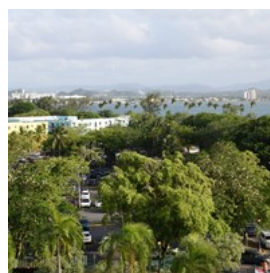


This is a beach with splashes of graffiti, games of volleyball and plenty of Atlantic surf. Playa Condado is the most popular beach in the city with smooth and clean sand and warm water. But be aware, there can be some pretty rough waves, so be careful.

Photo: Tomas Fano / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Playa de Condado, San Juan

### Parque de las Palomas



Parque de las Palomas is a courtyard on top of the city wall, with great views of Bahía de San Juan and the criss-crossing water traffic that includes Brobdingnagian cruise ships. The park gets its name ("Park of the Pigeons") from the hundreds of pigeons that call the park home.

Photo: Todd Van Hoosear / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Calle Tetuan, San Juan

### Playa Isla Verde



Playa Isla Verde is known as the Copacabana of Puerto Rico. Tanned bodies and beach bums flexing their muscles around the volleyball net can be spotted all over the place. The lovely sandy beach also has numerous restaurants, bars

and shops to keep you fed, busy and happy.

Photo: Israel Pabon/Shutterstock.com

Address: Carolina, San Juan

### Playa Ocean Park



Playa Ocean Park is a marvellous coast with a dreamy sand beach which is lined with different restaurants and shops. Make yourself

comfortable and enjoy a relaxed day in the sun. It is also a great place to snorkel, surf, kayak or long boards, among many other activities.

Photo: EpicStockMedia/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle General Patton San Juan, San Juan

### Arecibo Observatory



The Arecibo Observatory was the world's largest radar radio telescope for over 60 years, until in 2016 a larger one was constructed in China. It

was operated by the National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center of Cornell University for many years, and today makes for a great visit for science enthusiasts.

Photo: Ed Ivanushkin / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Route 625 Bo. Esperanza, Arecibo

Opening hours: Daily 9am-4pm

Phone: +1 787 878 2612

Internet: [www.naic.edu](http://www.naic.edu)

Email: [info@naic.edu](mailto:info@naic.edu)

### San Juan Botanical Garden



San Juan Botanical Garden has more than 200 species of tropical and subtropical vegetation, and it is the Universidad de Puerto Rico's main attraction. Stroll around the lotus lagoon, walk along the bamboo promenade and admire the orchid and palm gardens.

Photo: Alan Kotok / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Jardin Botanico UPR, San Juan

Internet: [www.upr.edu/jardin-botanico/](http://www.upr.edu/jardin-botanico/)

### Paseo de la Princesa



Built in honor of the Spanish princess of Asturias, this street has a broad pedestrian walkway full with flowers, trees and benches as well as historic buildings, restaurant and cafes. You will find this lovely place on the southern side of the Old San Juan.

Photo: Connie Ma / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Paseo de la Princesa, San Juan

### Casa Bacardí



The Bacardí family built a small rum distillery here in the 1950s. Today it's the world's largest, capable of producing more than 20 million

cases a year. A basic tour of the visitor center includes one free drink, or you can opt for a mixology class or rum tasting.

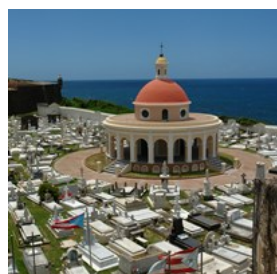
Photo: 31774 / Pixabay.com

Address: Carretera 165, Cataño, Puerto Rico

Internet: [www.visitcasabacardi.com](http://www.visitcasabacardi.com)

Email: [info@visitcasabacardi.com](mailto:info@visitcasabacardi.com)

### Santa María Magdalena de Pazzis Cemetery

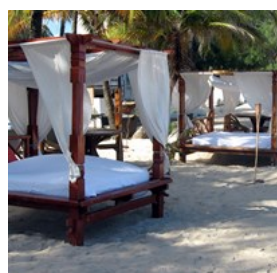


One of Old San Juan's remarkable cemeteries, Santa María Magdalena de Pazzis provides a peaceful respite from the bustle of the city and it has a beautiful location overlooking the ocean. There are amazing sculptures and architecture to explore, and many famous people are buried here.

Photo: [cogito ergo imago / Flickr](#) (image cropped)

Address: Calle Norzagaray, San Juan

### Balneario de Carolina



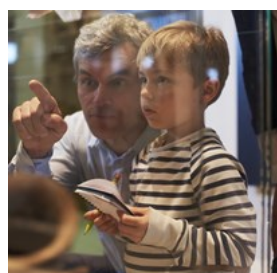
Carolina Beach is the perfect beach for a family vacation, where both tourists and locals can spend a marvellous day. In the summer months it

is especially popular among locals. Restrooms and shower facilities are provided here. Also a small water park can be found off the 2nd parking lot.

Photo: [Alan Kotok / Flickr](#) (image cropped)

Address: Ave. Los Gobernadores, San Juan

### Casa Blanca Museum



This mansion, built in 1521, was designed to protect governor Ponce de León, who, ironically, never lived there. The Spanish militia seized the house in 1779. Almost 100 years later, the U.S. military took it over and kept it until 1966, after which it was transformed into a museum.

Photo: [Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: 1 Cll San Sebastian, San Juan

Opening hours: Wed-Sun 8am-4pm

Phone: +1 787-725-1454

### DINING



[vxla / Flickr](#) (image cropped)

Puerto Rican cuisine is a mix of local and international flavors that pleases most palates. Rice, root vegetables and proteins are staple items on all menus, from casual eateries to the most exclusive dining. The city also offers an eclectic mix of fine international dining and innovative fusion cuisine.

### 311 (Trois Cent Onze)



This elegant French restaurant in the heart of Old San Juan offers authentic French cuisine complimented by an excellent wine selection.

The dishes are refined, delicate and full of flavor, and include vegan and vegetarian options and a selection of fine desserts.

Photo: [Minerva Studio/Shutterstock.com](#)

Address: 311 Calle Fortaleza, Old San Juan

Opening hours: Mon-Thu 6pm-10pm, Fri-Sat 6pm-10:30pm

Phone: +1 787 725 7959

Internet: [www.311restaurantpr.com](http://www.311restaurantpr.com)

### Restaurante Raíces



For an authentic dining and cultural experience, this is probably the best place to go in San Juan. The menu features local delicacies, such as mofongo, tostones and the traditional rice with green beans, among many others. The restaurant has an indoor dining room as well as a sidewalk eating area.

Photo: zoryanchik/Shutterstock.com

Address: 315 Recinto Sur, Old San Juan

Opening hours: Mon-Wed 11am-8pm, Thu-Sat 11am-10pm, Sun 12pm-9pm

Phone: +1 787 289 2121

Internet: [www.restauranteraires.com](http://www.restauranteraires.com)

Email: [info@restauranteraires.com](mailto:info@restauranteraires.com)

### Restaurant Barrachina



Known as the birthplace of the tropical piña colada drink in 1963, Barrachina offers a varied menu of genuine Puerto Rican food, from appetizers to entrées. It also happens to be a perfect place for events and celebrations, such as weddings, rehearsal dinners and many more.

Photo: Alessandro Cai / Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)

Address: 104 Fortaleza St, Viejo San Juan

Opening hours: Mon-Tue, Thu-Sun 11am-10pm, Fri-Sat 11am-11pm, Wed 11am-5pm

Phone: +1 787 725 7912

Internet: [www.barrachina.com](http://www.barrachina.com)

Email: [barrachina@prtc.net](mailto:barrachina@prtc.net)

More Info: Old San Juan

### Restaurant Casita Blanca



Located just off the beaten path, this family-owned and operated restaurant is a favorite among island artists, politicians and tourists. Its Puerto Rican fare - including the native plantain treat “mofongo” - is well worth the trip. And don't forget to ask for the house drink, called “chichaíto.”

Photo: nito/Shutterstock.com

Address: 351 Calle Tapia, San Juan

Opening hours: Mon-Thu 11:30am-4pm, Fri 11:30am-8pm, Sat 11:30am-9pm, Sun 11:30am-5pm

Phone: +1 787 726 5501

Email: [lacasitablancapr@gmail.com](mailto:lacasitablancapr@gmail.com)

### El Hamburger



If you're in the mood for a big, juicy burger, stay away from the fast-food restaurants, and hit this place instead. El Hamburger offers fast service, a great open-air atmosphere and even better prices. Try different types of cheese on your paddy, including Swiss, American or blue, and be sure to add bacon.

Photo: Steve Reed/Shutterstock.com

Address: 402 Muñoz Rivera Ave., Puerta de Tierra, San Juan

Opening hours: Sun-Thu 11:30am-1am, Fri-Sat 12pm-4am

Phone: +1 787 721 4269

### La Mallorquina



This eatery was established in 1848, which makes it the oldest still-functioning restaurant in “the New World”. The house

specialty is the “asopao,” a thick, savory, rice-based Puerto Rican soup that is cooked either with chicken or seafood. A must try for those who would like to experience something new.

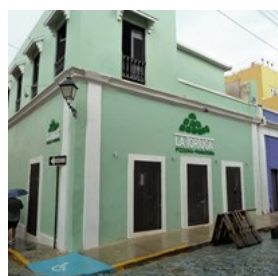
Photo: Fanfo/Shutterstock.com

Address: 207 San Justo St., San Juan

Phone: +1 787 722 3261

More Info: Old San Juan

### La Tortuga



La Tortuga is one of very few places that open early in the morning. It is a great place for breakfast or snacks. Drop by and try out their huge calzone or the different pizzas, which are all delicious.

Photo: MPD01605 / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 116 Calle San Sebastian, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 725 1062

Internet: [pizzeriaspr.com/san-juan/la-tortuga-san-juan.html](http://pizzeriaspr.com/san-juan/la-tortuga-san-juan.html)

### El Patio De Sam



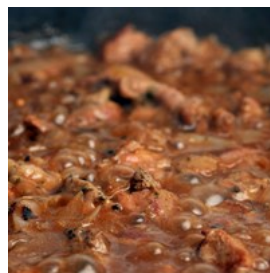
A great selection of more than 30 beers, including the locally brewed Medalla, makes this a popular "come as you are" spot, whether at the end of the workweek or after a long day of sightseeing. The menu consists mostly of American and Puerto Rican fare.

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com

Address: 102 Calle San Sebastian, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 723 1149

### El Jibarito



The menus are handwritten and the tables wobble, but sanjuaneros have favored this casual, no-frills, family-run restaurant – tucked away on a quiet cobbled street – for years. The bistec encebollado, goat fricassee, and shredded beef stew are among the specialties on the menu of typical Puerto Rican comida criolla dishes. The tiny back porch is filled with plants, and the dining room is filled with fanciful depictions of life on the street outside.

Photo: Denis Tabler/Shutterstock.com

Address: 280 Calle Sol, San Juan

Opening hours: Daily 10am-9pm

Phone: +1 787 725 8375

### Parrot Club



Parrot Club offers a wide range of Latin classics for its guests. Laid back atmosphere, friendly staff and beautiful Caribbean decor are just a few things that you'll experience when dining here.

Photo: cogito ergo imago / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 363 Calle Fortaleza, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 725 7370

Internet: [www.parrotclubpr.com](http://www.parrotclubpr.com)

Email: [jcristal@oofrestaurants.com](mailto:jcristal@oofrestaurants.com)

### Marmalade Restaurant & Wine Bar



Marmalade Restaurant & Wine Bar is a great venue for all of those who are looking for a fancy lounge-style bar. Grab your friends and visit this



place for some of the best meals and drinks in the area.

Photo: Andrey Bayda/Shutterstock.com

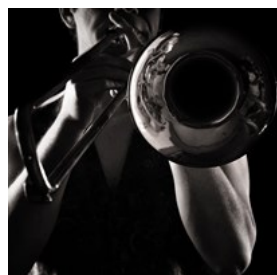
Address: 317 Calle Fortaleza, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 724 3969

Internet: [www.marmaladepr.com](http://www.marmaladepr.com)

Email: [peter@marmaladepr.com](mailto:peter@marmaladepr.com)

### Carli's Fine Bistro & Piano



Carli's Fine Bistro & Piano is a place with an atmosphere built around music. The bistro is owned by Carli, a musician who makes sure

that whether you spend your time indoors or outdoors, your dining experience will be high-quality. From the menu you can find tasty dishes like Caribbean tapas, pasta dishes, fish and steak.

Photo: Tamara Kulikova/Shutterstock.com

Address: Plazoleta Rafael Carrión, Calle Recinto Sur and Calle San Justo, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 725 4927

Internet: [www.carlisworld.com](http://www.carlisworld.com)

Email: [carlimoonoz@gmail.com](mailto:carlimoonoz@gmail.com)

### Verde Mesa



With punched tin ceilings, mason jar light fixtures, and eclectic decor inspired by Versailles' Petit Trianon, this vegetarian restaurant

focuses on pleasing all senses. Stop by and have a great time.

Photo: David Stuart Productions/Shutterstock.com

Address: 107 Calle Tetuán, at Calle San José, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 390 4662

Email: [verdemesa@gmail.com](mailto:verdemesa@gmail.com)

### La Cucina di Ivo



A pretty courtyard just steps from the cathedral has been transformed into this traditional trattoria. The kitchen turns out specialities of

the chef's native city of Milan. The menu offers mouth-watering Italian dishes like risotto, pasta, meat and fish dishes.

Photo: Rikard Stadler/Shutterstock.com

Address: 356 Calle Fortaleza, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 729 7070

Internet: [www.lacucinadiivo.com](http://www.lacucinadiivo.com)

Email: [lacucinadiivo@gmail.com](mailto:lacucinadiivo@gmail.com)

### Istanbul Restaurant



As the name indicates, this is a Turkish restaurant serving mouth-watering dishes like mixed grill, shish kebab, Anatolian

casserole and other yummy delicacies. The food is always freshly made and the staff are attentive and friendly.

Photo: Arnob Alam / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 325 Recinto Sur, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 722 5057

Internet: [www.istanbulturkishrestaurant.com](http://www.istanbulturkishrestaurant.com)

## CAFES



Jaime Olmo (image cropped)

San Juan is blessed with year-round tropical weather, so don't be surprised when you see sidewalks peppered with umbrella-covered tables and chairs, allowing visitors to enjoy the outdoors over a cup of hot coffee and dessert. Most restaurants that offer outside seating also have air-conditioned dining for extra comfort.

### Cafe Manolín Old San Juan



Café Manolín is a 60-year-old institution in the district of Old San Juan. The cafe offers a complete menu of moderately-priced

breakfast staples and lunch specialties. Ordering dessert and freshly brewed coffee in typical Puerto Rican fashion is an absolute must.

Photo: Barbara Dudzinska/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 251 San Justo St., Viejo San Juan  
Phone: +1 787 723 9743  
Internet: [www.cafemanolinoldsanjuan.com](http://www.cafemanolinoldsanjuan.com)  
Email: [cafemanolin@gmail.com](mailto:cafemanolin@gmail.com)  
More Info: Old San Juan

### Cafe Cuatro Sombras



Cafe Cuatro Sombras has excellent coffee, there's no doubt about that. The coffee beans they use are 100% arabica, straight from the mountains of Yauco. Apart from the great coffee, the service is also friendly and efficient so stop by and have a great time while sipping on your favorite coffee.

Photo: Shaiith/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 259 Calle Recinto Sur, San Juan  
Phone: +1 787 724 9955  
Internet: [www.cuatrosombras.com](http://www.cuatrosombras.com)

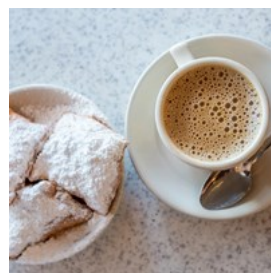
### St. Germain Bistro & Cafe



The interior of this cafe is inviting, and customers will certainly experience its feel-good ambiance when sitting inside, sipping on a cup of hot chocolate. Stop by and make your stay a whole experience by trying out some of the nicest coffees on the menu.

Photo: YKTR/Shutterstock.com  
Address: 156 Calle Sol, San Juan  
Phone: +1 787 725 5830  
Internet: [www.stgermainpr.com](http://www.stgermainpr.com)  
Email: [info@stgermainpr.com](mailto:info@stgermainpr.com)

### Cafeteria Mallorca



This old-fashioned diner offers its guests the special Mallorca, which is a sweet pastry that's buttered, grilled, and then sprinkled with powdered sugar. If you are not up for sweets now, stop by for breakfast and have a lovely time with your friends and family.

Photo: f11photo/Shutterstock.com

Address: 300 Calle San Francisco, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 724 4607

## BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Michael Byrne/Shutterstock.com

When the sun goes down, San Juan's vibrant nightlife awakens. Any excuse is good enough to go out, especially when it comes to dancing. If you are into merengue, salsa, hip-hop or disco, you can expect great live music and plenty of dancing in a variety of settings.

### Club BRAVA & Ultra Lounge



Club BRAVA is a place where you can start your evening off in an energetic fashion, dancing until your feet hurt. Once you've reached the stage where you need to catch your breath and get some refreshments, then you can head upstairs to the Ultra Lounge.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Address: 6063 Isla Verde Ave. Carolina, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 791 2781

Internet: [www.bravapr.com](http://www.bravapr.com)

Email: [info@bravamgmt.com](mailto:info@bravamgmt.com)

### El Batey



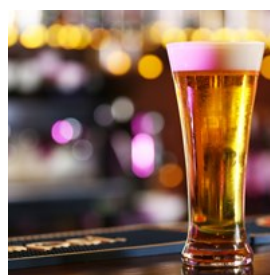
Cool, crusty and unashamedly divey, El Batey is a cavernous drinking joint whose walls are covered in graffiti, and the low-key lighting and undeniably good vibes will have you groping in your pockets for spare change to light up the suitably retro jukebox.

Photo: Jorge Gonzalez/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 101 Calle del Cristo, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 725 1787

### La Taberna Lúpulo



This beautiful old corner bar has been updated with Puerto Rico's best selection of microbrews. The line-up on the 30 taps is ever-changing and includes some of America's best and most unusual brews. La Taberna Lúpulo is the place to go for beer-lovers.

Photo: Africa Studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: 150 San Sebastián, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 721 3772

Internet: [www.latabernalupulo.com](http://www.latabernalupulo.com)

Email: [latabernalupulo@gmail.com](mailto:latabernalupulo@gmail.com)

### Los 3 Cuernos

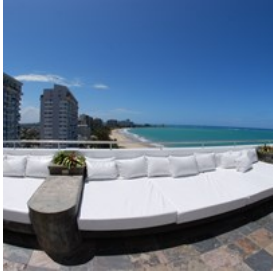


The draw at Los 3 Cuernos is the flavored chichaíto, an inexpensive Puerto Rican favorite of rum and anise liquor. It's tasty, sweet and decidedly strong, and you have a choice of 25 flavors, including passion fruit, coconut and ginger.

Photo: Fotos593/Shutterstock.com

Address: 359 Calle San Francisco, San Juan

### Mist



Mist offers stylish rooftop partying at its best. Enjoy their delicious cocktails and unique "socializers" menu while relaxing in one of the lounge areas.

The fresh ocean air and the amazing panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean just make the experience much more delightful.

Photo: Jose/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 2 Tartak, Isla Verde, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 728 3666

Internet: [www.waterbeachhotel.com](http://www.waterbeachhotel.com)

More Info: Located at Water & Beach Club Hotel

### Circo Bar



The Circo Bar is San Juan's most popular gay dance club. You can come for drag shows, drinking, go-go boys and plenty of dancing. There is not a lot

of room in the venue itself, but you will definitely find great energy across its two floors and multiple bars.

Photo: ericbarns/Pixabay.com

Address: 650 Condado, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 517 6667

### La Factoría



The "La Factoría" describes itself as a Craft Cocktail Bar with great music in Old San Juan. You will find DJs, acoustic guitar players, sing-a-long

sets, amazing cocktails and tapas for when you

need a bite to eat to keep you going. It is one of the city's premier local music performance venues.

Photo: Minerva Studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: 148 Calle San Sebastian, San Juan

Opening hours: Tue-Sun 6pm-4am

Phone: +1 787 412 4251

Email: [factorialasanse@gmail.com](mailto:factorialasanse@gmail.com)

### Club Kronos



One of the most popular clubs in San Juan, Club Kronos has a lot to offer. Are you planning on going out this weekend? On Fridays and

Saturdays, this place awaits you with different themed nights. Salsa, hip hop, reggaeton and even electronic music are all among their repertoire.

Photo: Nykonchuk Oleksii/Shutterstock.com

Address: 192 Segarra St, Sector bechara, San Juan

Opening hours: Firday & Saturday 10.00pm - 05.00am

Phone: +1 787 647 235

## SHOPPING



*dp Photography/Shutterstock.com*

San Juan is a mecca for great shopping. Though not a duty-free zone, good deals can be found in the Old City - especially on gold, arts and crafts and clothes. Old San Juan also offers a mix of local shops and designer outlets. Outside the

walls of the Old City, you will find even more places to spend your hard-earned dollars. The Condado area, for example, is quickly becoming the town's upscale fashion district. Designers such as Louis Vuitton and Salvatore Ferragamo have set up stores along Ashford Avenue in Condado, giving trendy shoppers first dibs on their latest creations.

### Plaza Las Americas



Excellent shopping and great deals can be found in any one of the 300 stores inside Plaza Las Américas, the Caribbean's largest mall.

The sprawling 2.1 million-square-foot shopping center will definitely take more than one day to explore. Aéropostale, Gap, A/X Armani Exchange, Chico's, Tous and Tommy Hilfiger are some of the shops that more than 26 million visitors hit every year.

Photo: cogito ergo imago / Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 525 Roosevelt Ave, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 767 5202

Internet: [www.plazalasamericas.net](http://www.plazalasamericas.net)

### Ole Curiosidades



Ole Curiosidades is a beloved old-school hat shop with a wonderful and varied selection of custom-fit creations and truly authentic Panama

hats. The friendly staff will be happy to help you to pick out the shape, color and right hatband for you to get.

Photo: italianestro/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle de La Fortaleza 105, San Juan

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-6.30pm

Phone: +1 787 724 2445

### Galeria Exodo



This beautiful gallery features pieces created by some of Puerto Rico's best contemporary artists, including, among many others, Emanuel

Torres. Galeria Exodo offers accessible, original and affordable works of art for everyone, making them a great souvenir.

Photo: Kuznetcov\_Konstantin/Shutterstock.com

Address: 200 Calle del Cristo, San Juan

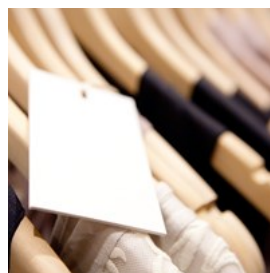
Opening hours: Daily 11am-7pm

Phone: +1 787 725 4252

Internet: [www.galeriaexodo.com](http://www.galeriaexodo.com)

Email: [galeriaexodo@gmail.com](mailto:galeriaexodo@gmail.com)

### Abitto



Located in the heart of Condado's fashion district, Abitto offers world-renowned couture for both men and women. Fashion brands such as

John Galliano, Versace, Alexander McQueen, YS can be found here. Abitto also provides beautiful accessories like bags, wallets, shoes and belts.

Photo: FiledIMAGE/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1124 Ashford Avenue, San Juan

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10.30am-6pm

Phone: +1 787 724 0303

### Plaza Carolina



Plaza Carolina houses American standards such as JC Penney, Best Buy, Forever 21 and Sears among its 240 shops.

Plaza Carolina is the second biggest shopping center in Puerto Rico, so will be sure to find what you are looking for.

There are many dining options to choose from, as well.

Photo: Aaron Amat/Shutterstock.com

Address: Avenida Jesús M. Fragoso, Carolina

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9am-9pm, Sun 11am-6pm

Phone: +1 787 768 0514

Internet: [www.simon.com/mall/plaza-carolina](http://www.simon.com/mall/plaza-carolina)

### The Mall of San Juan



This state-of-the-art, two-level mall features shops like Nordstrom and Saks Fifth Avenue.

Besides shopping, there are exquisite dining and entertainment options as well as a children's play area. Other stores you will find here include: Victoria's Secret, Tory Burch, Versace, H&M, lululemon athletica, Louis Vuitton, LUSH, Jimmy Choo, Pandora, Zara, Pottery Barn, and more.

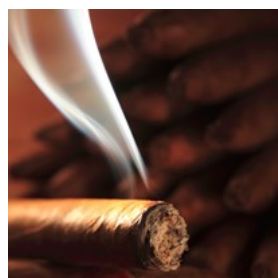
Photo: Andresr/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1000 The Mall of San Juan Blvd, San Juan

Phone: +1 787 759 6310

Internet: [www.themallofsanjuan.com](http://www.themallofsanjuan.com)

### The Cigar House



Situated in the historic district of Old San Juan, The Cigar House features the largest and most varied selection of cigars in the entire Caribbean.

The shop offers a great variety of cigars and a comfy lounge with a full bar in which to enjoy your purchases.

Photo: Shulevskyy Volodymyr/Shutterstock.com

Address: 257 Fortaleza Street, San Juan

Opening hours: Sun - Thu: 10am - 9pm, Fri - Sat: 10am - 11pm

Phone: +1 787 685 6512

Internet: [www.thecigarhousepr.com](http://www.thecigarhousepr.com)

### Spicy Caribbee



Spicy Caribbee opened its doors in June 1988 and has since established itself firmly in the city. It is a charming little spice shop with a friendly

and helpful staff. Besides spices, you will also find tropical jams, tea, chocolate, Puerto Rican coffee and fragrances.

Photo: MaraZe/Shutterstock.com

Address: 154 Calle Cristo, San Juan

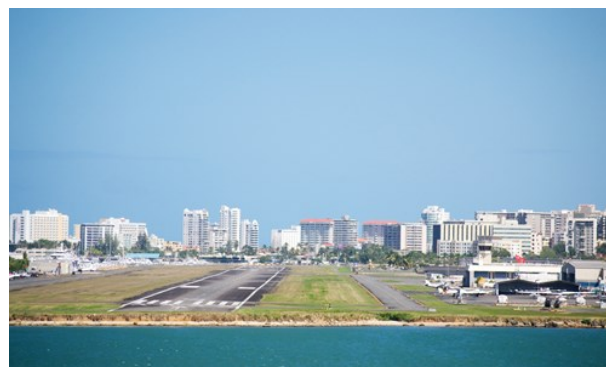
Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 10am - 6pm, Sun: 11am - 5pm

Phone: +1 787 725 4690

Internet: [www.spicycaribbee.com](http://www.spicycaribbee.com)

Email: [spicy@caribe.net](mailto:spicy@caribe.net)

### TOURIST INFORMATION



*nathanmac87 (image cropped)*

The Puerto Rico Tourism Company's "Que Pasa!" free magazine is a great tool for tourists. The magazine is available in most hotel lobbies and at La Casita in Old San Juan. The publication includes tricks and tips for getting around San Juan, as well as the rest of the island.

### Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport



San Juan is mainly served by the Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport, which is located about three miles (five kilometers) southeast of

San Juan. Upon arriving, visitors are offered several ways of getting to the city:

Shuttles are provided by most large hotels, as well as by private companies, and taxis and car rental companies can be found at all terminals. The local AMA buses run from the airport to the city, departing from the departures level at terminals A and D.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport

Phone: +1 787 253 2329

Internet: [www.aerpuertosju.com/en/](http://www.aerpuertosju.com/en/)

### Time Zone



San Juan is in the Atlantic time zone, and all times are reflected in Atlantic time.

Photo: Marek Polakovic

### Public Transport



Getting around in San Juan is an adventure, especially since drivers can be quite aggressive and tend to drive fast.

Distance is measured both in miles and kilometers.

For the most part, getting around San Juan is

rather easy, provided that the traffic is light. There are peak times, especially in the morning and early afternoon when traffic jams are the norm.

### Autoridad Metropolitana de Autobuses:

There is a public bus system in place, which is quite affordable. The bus system operates 30 routes along the San Juan area and several other municipalities. Unfortunately, the buses are not always on time so you need to have plenty of time to use them. Buses run from 4:30am to 10pm, Monday to Friday and from 5:30am to 10pm on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Internet: [www.dtop.gov.pr](http://www.dtop.gov.pr)

### Taxi



At the airport, visitors are greeted by a fleet of white tourist cabs, which offer fixed fares on specific routes. There are metered taxis available

outside the established zones, with standard fees that vary according to distance, number of passengers, number of pieces of luggage and the duration of the trip.

### Puerto Rico Tourist Taxi

+1 787 969 3260

[www.cabspr.com](http://www.cabspr.com)

### Astro Taxi

+1 787 727 8888

### AA American Taxi, Inc.

+1 787 982 3466

### Cooperativa de Servicio Capetillo Taxi

+1 787 758 7000 / +1 787 758 7004

Cooperativa Rochdale Radio Taxi  
+1 787 721 1900

Photo: ArrivalGuides

### Post Office



Puerto Rico uses the U.S. Postal Service, which operates numerous branches throughout the San Juan area. Stamps are available at

pharmacies and retailers in the tourist district. Post Office business hours are normally Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm and - depending on the location - on Saturdays from 8am to 12pm.

Photo: Andy Fuchs

### Pharmacy



The good thing about being in the San Juan area is that there will always be a pharmacy that is open 24 hours, and normally very

conveniently-located. Drugstores such as Walgreens sell over-the-counter medication and will usually dispatch prescription drugs rather quickly.

Urgent medical and dental care are also available at several area hospitals and clinics, including the Ashford Presbyterian Hospital in the Condado area, and smaller neighborhood treatment facilities.

Photo: Gemma Garner

### Telephone



Country code: +1 Area code: 787

Photo: Jardson Almeida

### Electricity



120V AC, 60Hz

Photo: Stirling Tschan

### Population

1 million

### Currency

US Dollar, \$ 1 = 100 cents

### Opening hours

Most businesses are open Monday through Saturday from 9am to 9pm and 11am to 5pm on Sundays. Restaurants, stores and entertainment venues in San Juan's tourist districts are allowed to operate 24 hours a day.

### Newspapers

El Nuevo Día  
Primera Hora  
El Vocero  
Puerto Rico Daily Sun (the only English-language daily publication)  
Que Pasa (information guide for visitors)  
Bienvenidos (information guide for visitors)

### Emergency numbers

911

### Tourist information

La Casita, Puerto Rico Tourism Company  
Address: Plaza Dársena, Old San Juan

Opening hours:

Monday through Wednesday from 8.30am to 8pm, Thursday and Friday until 5.30 pm, Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 8pm

Phone: +1 787 722 1709





Avenida Fernandez Juncos	D2	Calle Gen Pershing	B2	Calle San Augustin	D2
Avenida Muñoz Rivera	C1 D1	Calle Harding	B2	Calle San Francisco	B1 B2
Avenida Ponce de León	C1 D2	Calle Lucila Silva	B1	Calle San José	B1 B2
Avenida Tiburico Reyes	A1 B1	Calle Luna	B1	Calle San Justo	B1
Calle Allen	C2	Calle Marina	C2	Calle San Miguel	B1
Calle Bajada Matadero	B1	Calle Matias Ledesma	D2	Calle San Sebastian	B1
Calle Comercio	B2	Calle Norzagaray	B1	Calle Sol	B1
Calle Contreras	C2	Calle O'Donell	B1 B2	Calle Sur	D2
Calle Cruz	B1	Calle Padre Hoff	D2	Calle Tadeo Rivera	D2
Calle de Muelle	C2	Calle Pelayo	D2	Calle Tamarindo	B1
Calle del Cristo	A1 A2 B2	Calle Presidio	B2	Calle Tanca	B1 B2
Calle del Morro	A1	Calle Puntillo	B2	Calle Tetuan	B2
Calle del Toro	B1	Calle Recinto Sur	B2	Calle Valdez	D2
Calle del Tren	C2 D2	Calle Rubio	B2	Paseo de Covadonga	C1
Calle Fortaleza	B2	Calle San Andreas	D2	Paseo de la Princesa	B2
Calle Gambaro	B1 B2				