



Photo: Max Bosio - www.maxbosio.com



In his first trip to the stupendous region, Christopher Columbus noted the silver-tipped appearance of the area's prominent mountain. As "plata" is Spanish for "silver," Columbus christened it "Monte de Plata," and the city became known as Puerto de Plata. Since then it is referred to by its abbreviated name—and it continues to draw curious and adventurous visitors. Luring vacationers much as it had Columbus, Puerto Plata is one of the Dominican Republic's most renowned cities. Lending to a bright culture of friendly people and recreational activities, Puerto Plata will exceed even your wildest and greatest of expectations.

Ronald Saunders





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Top 5

27 Charcos

A real tropical adventure! These waterfall tours will excite even the adrenaline junkies out there.

Ocean World Adventure Park, Mar...

Ocean World Adventure Park as something for the whole family. Whether swimming with sea creatures or playing a hand of blackja...

Mount Isabel de Torres

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Amber Museum

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Fortaleza de San Felipe

Find cultural and historical interest at Fort San Felipe. Just around the bend from great dining!



Destination: Puerto Plata Publishing date: 2014-04-20

THE CITY



Photo: Tino Rossini

Welcome to Puerto Plata, a Caribbean city soaked with sun and culture. The streets of this vibrant city come to life with warmth and character. Stroll downtown to meet the amiable Dominican people and have a cold beer and you're sure to be smiling soon.

Unwind on the northern shore, taking in white sand beaches overlooking crystal clear waters, or plan an adventure to the top of 2,600 foot Mount Isabel de Torres.

After a long day at play, enjoy a romantic dinner for two over fresh caught seafood and a glass of red wine. Falling asleep to the rolling waves reminds you that it begins all over again come morning.

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Destination: Puerto Plata Publishing date: 2014-04-20

DO & SEE



Photo: Rob

Unwind on the beach, or adventure in the water or the top of the mountain. There is enough to do in Puerto Plata to make a perfect vacation. See below.

27 Charcos

A real tropical adventure! These waterfall tours will excite even the adrenaline junkies out there.

Address: Carretera Navarrete, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Internet: www.27charcos.com

Ocean World Adventure Park, Marina, and Casino

Ocean World Adventure Park as something for the whole family. Whether swimming with sea creatures or playing a hand of blackjack is your bid, you're sure to find your happy place.

Address: Calle principal # 3 Cofresi, Puerto Plata 57000, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 9am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 291 1111 Internet: www.oceanworld.net Email: reservation@ocean-world.info

Mount Isabel de Torres

There are many ways to explore Mount Isabel de Torres and plenty of reward for making it to the top! Check out the cable car if you're not into hiking.

Address: Puerto Plata, 57000 Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 970 0501 Internet: www.puertoplatadiscovery.com/mount-isabel-de-torres.html

Amber Museum

For you natural science buffs or Jurassic Park lovers, see how amber is really formed! The museum possesses the very famous Amber that was seen in the box office hit "Jurassic Park."

Address: 61 Duarte Street, Playa Dorada, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 9am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 586 2848 Internet: www.ambermuseum.com

Fortaleza de San Felipe

Find cultural and historical interest at Fort San Felipe. Just around the bend from great dining!

Address: Bahía de Puerto Plata, Puerto Plata, 57000 Opening hours: Daily: 11am - 7pm Internet: www.cultura.gov.do/dependencias/museos/museofortalezasanfelipe.htm

Playa Grande

The dramatic Playa Grande is widely considered to be one of the top beaches in the world. Craggy cliffs, crystalline blue sea, and plenty of space makes the beach a must-stop.

Address: Carretera Río San Juan–Cabrera, Km 12, Río San Juan Internet: www.playagrande.com

Cofresí Beach

Cofresí Beach has a long stretch of golden sand that's perfect for swimming and surfing. Locals mainly use the public area on Sundays.

Address: Calle Pincipal, Cofresí, 57000

La Casa de Cultura

Drop by here when you're strolling through the park. An art gallery has revolving exhibits that will help you understand how much talent there is in this country. You may even wish to buy from a budding artist. This Victorian building also has workshops for those talented in dance

and music.

Address: Parque Central, Calle Separación, Puerto Plata, 57000 Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 12pm, 3pm - 5pm Phone: +1 809 261 2731

Ocean World Adventure Park

The multimillion-dollar Ocean World Adventure Park has marine and wildlife interactive programs. Take advantage of the dolphin and sea lion shows, encounters, a double-dolphin swim, a tropical reef aquarium, stingrays, shark tanks, a rain forest, and a Tiger Grotto inhabited by Bengal tigers.

Address: Calle Principal 3, Cofresi, Puerto Plata 57000 Opening hours: Tuesday - Sunday: 9am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 291 1000 Internet: www.oceanworld.net

Playa Dorada

Playa Dorada is covered with soft sand, reefs for snorkeling, swimming, and more. Take to windsurfing, waterskiing, and fishing as well!

Address: Urbanizacion Atlántica, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Internet: www.playadorada.com.do

Gri Gri Lagoon

For those seeking snorkeling, head an hour and a half away to Playa Grande. Here you'll find the Gri Gri Iagoon, perfect for snorkeling. A colorful historical story of one shipwreck is the Concepción, too!

Address: Rio San Juan, Dominican Republic

Playa Dorada Golf Course

Playa Dorada is home to the famous Robert Trent Jones Golf Course! Located in the Playa Dorada Resort Complex in Puerto Plata, the course is situated among 14 hotels to provide for easy accessibility.It's listed as one of the top 100 golf courses in the world!

Address: Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Phone: +1 809 320 4262 Internet: www.playadoradagolf.com Email: info@playadoradagolf.com

DINING



Photo: Kullez

Whether you want local cuisine or something different there are excellent choices in Puerto Plata to satisfy your palate. Naturally, local cuisine takes precedence. See below!

Las Palmas Italian Restaurant

A charming little steakhouse off the beaten path. Featuring Italian favorites and healthy portions of barbecue surrounded by gardens.

Address: Avenida Luis Ginebra No. 47, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

La Parrillada Steak House

A signature restaurant that repeat visitors rave over. Come here for some of the best steaks on the island. Be sure to get a reservation during high season!

Address: Avenida Manolo Tavares Justo, Puerto Plata Opening hours: Tuesday - Sunday: 12pm - 11pm Phone: +1 809 586 1401 Internet: www.laparrilladasteakhouse.com Email: joanne@laparrilladasteakhouse.com

Green Jack Restaurant

A must try for those new to Puerto Plata! The menu is unique and the service impeccable.

Address: Playa Dorada, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Sunday - Thursday: 10am - 12pm. Friday - Saturday: 10am - 2am. Phone: 809-320-3800

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Internet: www.bluejacktar.com

Moomtaz

Best Indian food in Puerto Plata! A unique and authentic experience for those who love the cuisine or want to try something new. Beware of the spice for those less tolerant.

Address: Cofresi Palm Resort, Puerto Plata Phone: +1 809 970 7777

Lucía

Lucia's menu is comprehensive and contemporary. The setting is as artistic as a gallery—befitting its location within Casa Colonial, a refined boutique hotel. Picture orchids galore, crisp white linens, and attentive waiters in white guayabera shirts. Guests love the one-of-a-kind appetizers, like the Tris-Viche, a ceviche of Chilean sea bass, tuna, and lobster. A main course headliner is the Duck Connection-a grilled breast, crispy leg confit, and foie gras served with rum-mango sauce and mashed pumpkin. Carnivores with more basic tastes can order an Angus filet. The molten chocolate volcano with vanilla ice cream is the dessert you want. When the digestif cart is rolled over, be daring with a Brunello grappa or the local Brugal Unico rum, and look out to the orchids clinging to the trees and the tropical mangrove garden. It's the good life at Lucía.

Address: Casa Colonial, Playa Dorada, 57000 Opening hours: Daily: 6:30pm - 10:30pm Phone: +1 809 320 3232 Internet: www.casacolonialhotel.com/cuisine.html

Castle Club

Doug Beers prepares creative lunches and dinners for guests. Well-orchestrated dinners consist of canapés, carrot-ginger soup, Thai salad, grouper with a ginger–passion fruit sauce, fiesta rice, cold lemon soufflé, coffee, and more!

Address: Mocha Road, Puerto Plata 57000 Phone: +1 809 357 8334 Internet: www.castleclubonline.com Email: 1castleclub@gmail.com

Natura Restaurant at Natura Cabana

IThe freshest of seafood, sounds of the waves crashing on coral rock, and a menu that changes with the seasons makes Natura Restaurant a prominent venue. The vegetables and herbs used are farmed at Natura's organic garden.

Address: Natura Cabana, Perla Marina Cabarete, 57000 Phone: +1 809 571 1507 Internet: www.naturacabana.com/restaurants/restaurants.htm Email: info@naturacabana.com

Miró Tapas y Paella

Take a table on the sand and listen to the jazz with your meals at Miró. They sponsor trendy music events, too.

Address: Cabarete Beach, Cabarete, 57000 Phone: +1 809 853 6848

Casa Veintiuno

Casa Veintiuno serves International cuisine with due accolades! Enjoy a wonderful dinner on the beach.

Address: 5 1, Sosúa, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Wednesday - Sunday: 6pm - 10pm Phone: +1 809 342 8089 Internet: www.casaveintiuno.com Email: veinti-uno@casaveintiuno.com

Le Papillon

Whether on business or enjoying a romantic getaway, Le Papillon is the perfect night out. The setting is comfortable and inviting, with cute seaside decor.

Address: Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Phone: +1 809 970 7640 Internet: www.lepapillon-puertoplata.com Email: lepapillontomas@hotmail.com

Cariatides

Cariatides is an international restaurant with Italian specialties. Dine on an open terrace or in an air

conditioned room.

Address: Carretera Luperon Km 3 1/2, 12345 San Felipe de Puerto Plata Opening hours: Daily: 11am - 11pm Phone: +1 809 320 1410 Internet: es-la.facebook.com/CariatidesBamboo

Restaurant El Manguito

The elegant Restaurant El Manguito is Dominican with specialties of seafood, lobster, soup, pastas, shrimps, goat, steaks, and more. For nearly three decades, El Manguito has impressed with fine wines and fine dishes.

Address: Carretera PP, Sosua, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 11am - 11pm Phone: +1 809 586 4392

CAFES



Photo: Juanan Ruiz

Sea breezes and white sands are made that much more fun with an espresso or cup of coffee. Afternoon fare at cafes comes second only to breakfast! See below for tasty options.

Hemingways Café

Hemingway's is a great pub to cool off on a warm Caribbean day. Friendly service with all manner of sporting events televised, you'll be sure to feel right at home. Try the hot wings!

Address: Playa Dorada Plaza, Playa Dorada, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 12pm - 2am Phone: +1 809 320 2230

Cabarete Coffee Company

Cabarete Coffee Company works alongside local suppliers to provide affordable, healthy, fast-food options and free delivery! Enjoy a menu of organic fresh roasted coffee and hot chocolate from local cacao!

Address: Main Street, Cabarete, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 7am - 3pm Phone: +1 809 571 0919 Internet: www.cabaretecoffeecompany.com Email: info@cabaretecoffeecompany.com

Kite Club Café

Kite Club Café is located on Kite Beach in Cabarete. Come for brunch or lunch with wraps, organic salads, fresh fruit smoothies, and homemade iced tea.

Address: Kite Beach, Cabarete, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 8am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 678 6485 Internet: www.kiteclubcafe.com Email: info@kiteclubcafe.com

Front Loop Cabarete

A wading pool and red lounging sofas bring people back time and time again to the local favorite. Front Loop Cabarete delights with fresh fruit, yogurt, granola, eggs, bacon, potatoes, and more.

Address: Playa Cabarete, 57000 Cabarete Phone: +1 809 571 0848 Internet: www.cns-cabarete.com Email: cns.cabarete@gmail.com

Alegria Café Lounge

Alegria is a Dutch-owned, family cafe bar! They serve fresh and original produce, along with bagel specialties.

Address: Cabarete, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 8am - 2pm Phone: +1 809 630 1002 Internet: www.facebook.com/AlegriaCafeLoungeCabarete

VacaBar

VacaBar is a relaxed venue serving breakfast, burgers,

sandwiches, vegetarian options, and Caribbean dishes. Come for their Happy Hour and chill on their bean bags!

Address: Hotel Agualina, Cabarete, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 9am - 6:30pm. Sunday: 9am - 2pm. Phone: +1 809 889 1198 Internet: www.facebook.com/vacabarcabarete Email: vacabarcabarete@gmail.com

Verena's Cafe

Verena is a German cafe serving locals and visitors alike. Try their delicious homemade cakes, all made fresh daily!

Address: Playa Chiquita, Sosua, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Sunday - Monday: 2pm - 6pm Phone: +1 809 571 3027

Terraza-Bar Gri-Gri

Terraza-Bar Gri-Gri has a raised terrace area and unobstructed views of the beach. Locals recommend a plate of platano with a beer.

Address: Sosua Beach, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

Infiniti Blu

The onsite patisserie at Infiniti Blu provides fresh baked European breads, cakes, and pastries! Join them for breakfast, brunch, lunch, and dinner.

Address: Playa Imbert, Calle Alejo Martinez Sosua, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 9am - 5pm Phone: +1 809 571 2717 Internet: www.infiniti-blu.com

Belgium Bakery

For excellent pastries and coffee, head over to Belgium Bakery! It's especially good for breakfast.

Address: Calle Principal, Cabarete, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 7am - 7pm Phone: +1 829 571 8198 Internet: www.belgiumbakery.com

La cocina de Gladys

At La cocina de Gladys, enjoy breakfast in the morning and

a nice buffet for lunch. Have your choice of meat, fish, and salads.This Dominican restaurant is located in the center of Puerto Plata.

Address: Calle Beller, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Phone: +1 829 434 9537

Caliche

Caliche offers a large choice of sandwiches, pizza, pastry, cakes for events, empanadas, and tacos: all for great prices! Also look into their flan and pudding, and dine on the terrace.

Address: 10008, 100009 San Felipe de Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 7am - 11pm Phone: +1 809 970 2084 Internet: es-la.facebook.com/pages/Caliche-pasteleria-artesanal/140152 892725124 Email: calichereposteria@hotmail.com

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Photo: Tricia

The fun doesn't stop when the sunsets in Puerto Plata. There are dancing clubs, as well as bars. See below!

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Coco Bongo

Looking to dance the night away? Find your way to Coco Bongo for a party Caribbean style. Thursday is the night when the costumes come out!

Address: Playa Dorada, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

Big Lee's Beach Bar

Big Lee's Beach Bar is one of the best places to unwind. Great, low-key atmosphere, cold beer, good food, and friends.

Address: Casetta #8 on the Malecon, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Phone: +1 829 868 0017 Internet: www.bigleesbeachbar.com Email: info@bigleesbeachbar.com

Bravissimo at Ocean World

The Las Vegas-style show Bravissimo at Ocean World is a spectacle of dancing and singing. Unlimited beer and rum is provided as part of the couples package.

Address: Calle Principal 3, Cofresí, 57000 Phone: +1 809 291 1000 Internet: www.oceanworld.net/bravissimo_show.php

Dream Casino Malecon

Dream Casino is small but is replete with all the popular table games and slot machines. Its dance club, Pure, adds another level of excitement!

Address: 367 Av. George Washington, Santo Domingo, 10205 Phone: +1 809 221 6666

Ocean World Casino

Ocean World Casino is housed entirely in one spacious, circular room. Enjoy Texas Hold 'Em, slots, roulette, and blackjack.

Address: Calle Principal 3, Cofresi, Puerto Plata 57000 Phone: +1 809 291 0001 Internet: www.oceanworldcasinos.com Email: info@oceanworldcasino.com

Lighthouse Lounge & Disco

The best party in Puerto Plata starts with at the Lighthouse! A 360 degree Ocean View complements a lounge and disco that plays live DJ sets of the best in music. Dance the night away!

Address: #3 Calle Principal, Playa Cofresi, Puerto Plata Opening hours: Wednesday - Saturday: 9pm - Sunrise Phone: +1 809 291 1111 Internet: www.oceanworld.net/lighthouse_lounge_disco.php

Merengue Festival

Merengue is a rhythmic mix from African and Caribbean origins, and to celebrate, the Merengue Festival is held every October! Enjoy a combination of live merengue, open-air food stalls, and dancers!

Senor Rock

Senor Rock is an American restaurant playing live music in Playa Dorada every night. They serve specialties of steak, seafood, pizza, burgers, fajitas, chicken, wings, and more!

Address: Playa Dorada Plaza, Puerto Plata Opening hours: Daily: 10am - Closing Phone: +1 809 320 2259

Onno's Bar

Onno's Bar is a serious party place! Expect wall-to-wall and back-to-back crowds since Puerto Plata's youth thrive on electronica.

Address: Cabarete Beach, Calle Principal, Cabarete, 57000 Opening hours: Monday & Tuesday: 5pm - 3am. Wednesday - Sunday: 9am - 3am. Phone: +1 809 571 0461

Destination: Puerto Plata Publishing date: 2014-04-20

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Internet: www.onnosbar.com/cabarete Email: cabarete@onnosbar.com

LAX

LAX is Cabarete's nightlife hub. The perennially popular open-air bar features DJ sets and actually yummy food!

Address: Cabarete Beach, Cabarete, 57000 Phone: +1 809 745 8800

Mares Restaurant & Lounge

The Mares offers al fresco dining overlooking the pool, as well as indoor dining. Appetizers are tasty and of generous portions, with delights like the beet salad and plantain sushi roll!

Address: Puerto Plata 57000, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Tuesday - Sunday: 6pm - Closing Phone: +1 809 261 3330 Internet: www.maresrestaurant.com

The Octopus Bar & Grill – Ocean World

Overlooking the Ocean World Marina, The Octopus Bar & Grill specializes on light and grilled snacks. They serve a variety of premium drinks and refreshing cocktails.

Address: Calle Principal # 3 Cofresi, 57000 San Felipe de Puerto Plata Phone: +1 809 291 2000

SHOPPING



Photo: Bianca Natalina

While visiting Puerto Plata the best way to find great shopping is to head off of resort property. Numerous bazaar-like hubs are scattered about the city. If you're feeling adventurous, just take a stroll, bargains are never far off. Just remember to haggle to get the best deals!

Calle Beller

Calle Beller is a popular shopping street for those seeking costume jewelry and souvenirs is. Funky gifts are abound, such as the local "mamajuana" (Dominican herbal liqueur)!

Address: Puerto Plata, 57000

Playa Dorada Shopping Centre

Stores at the shopping centre offer everything from cigars, rum, coffee, snacks, and herbal remedies, to ceramics, trinkets, flip flops and suntan lotion, fine jewelry, American clothing brands, Oscar de la Renta tops, and Gottex bathing suits!

Address: Urbanizacion Atlántica, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 8am - 9pm Phone: +1 809 320 2000

Mercado

Mercado at Puerto Plata sells everything. Find both Dominican and Haitian art, handicrafts, souvenir T-shirts, and luscious fruits and vegetables.

Address: Avenida Isabel de Torres & Calle 2, Puerto Plata Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 8am - 5pm

Plaza Turisol Complex

Plaza Turisol Complex is the largest shopping center on the north coast with 80 different outlets. Make this your first stop to get an idea of the merchandise available in Puerto Plata.The most upscale and tasteful merchandise is found at Turisol Complex.

Address: Urbanizacion Atlántica, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

Plaza Isabela

Plaza Isabela lies in Playa Dorada near the entrance to the Playa Dorada Hotel complex. Here, you'll discover a collection of small specialty shops with inventory that has Spanish undertones.

Address: Plaza Isabela, Puerto Plata, 57000

Fifi Jewelry and Cigar Store

Fifi is your store for diamond jewelry, gold jewelry, color gemstone jewelry, rings, earrings, necklaces, pendants, bracelets, chains, and more. Not to mention, they handroll all cigars and cigaras onsite!

Address: C/12 De Julio A. Esq. Separación #41 1809, San Felipe de Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: 9am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 261 3278 Internet: www.facebook.com/JewelryinPuertoPlata Email: danilsa@live.com

Estrella Avenida

Articles of genuine leather are what you'll find at Estrella Avenida. Enjoy a selection of bags, small leather, belts, sandals, beachwear, children's accessories, and more!

Address: Puerto Plata 00000, Dominican Republic Phone: +1 829 720 5911

Amber Shop

Amber Shop gives you the chance to purchase some of the Dominican Republic's famed semiprecious stones. Necklaces, bracelets, and pendants all contain beautiful stones and vibrant colors! Address: Playa Dorada Plaza, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

Harrison's Fine Caribbean Jewelers

Harrison's Fine Caribbean Jewelers Harrison's offers souvenirs and a variety of jewelry. Pop-culture icons like Madonna and Michael Jackson have been seen wearing their products!

Address: Carretera Luperon, KM 3 1/2 Plaza Isabela Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Phone: +1 809 586 3933 Internet: www.harrisons.com/app/en/frontpage.aspx Email: Customerservice@harrisons.com

Inspirations

Inspirations beckons with unique tropical clothing. Find swimwear, sundresses, tropical capri pants, sleepwear, and sandals. They also offer gifts like Taíno-made coasters and wooden boxes with primitive drawings etched on metal!

Address: Calle Principal 1, Cabarete, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

Collector's Corner Gallery & Gift Shop

Collector's Corner Gallery & Gift Shop is the place to find that perfect souvenir. Expect a variety of gifts and souvenirs that are almost entirely made of amber.

Address: Calle Duarte at Av. 30 de Marzo, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

La Canoa Gift Shop

La Canoa Gift Shop offers local handicrafts, Haitian paintings, amber, and larimar. You can also watch the jewelry being made onsite!

Address: Beller 18, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

ACCOMMODATIONS



Photo: Lucas Cantor

The Dominican Republic is home to a berth of resorts to meet any price range. Experience Puerto Plata in style and luxury with any of these awe-inspiring properties. See below!

Casa Colonial Beach & Spa

Searching for that perfect romantic trip with your special someone? The Casa Colonial is one of the premiere beach resorts in Puerto Plata. Expect all the 5-star comforts and amenities from this resort, designed by architect Sara Garcia.

Address: Playa Dorada, Puerto Plata, 57000 Opening hours: Daily: (Check-in): 3pm, (Check-out): 1pm Phone: +1 809 320 3232 Internet: www.casacolonialhotel.com Email: generalmanager@vhhr.com

Blue JackTar

Blue JackTar Hotel, Condos & Villas is located 15 minutes from the International Airport Gregorio Luperon and 3 miles from Puerto Plata! The property was redesigned as a family-oriented, multi- product property. Now enjoy wonderful views of the Isabel de Torres Mountain from the 74 renovated guestrooms. Also enjoy a vicinity to the world-renowned Robert Trent Jones 18 holes Playa Dorada golf course!

Address: Playa Dorada, DO-000, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: (Check-in): 3pm, (Check-out): 12pm Phone: +1 809 320 3800 Internet: www.bluejacktar.com Email: bluejacktarhotel@bluejacktar.com

Iberostar Costa Dorada

The dazzling Iberostar Costa Dorada features a sprawling lobby, curvaceous pool with a Roman pillar-encircled Jacuzzi, and an onsite buffet! Guestrooms boast light tropical looks, while the ocean-view junior suites have desks and flat-screen TVs. Enjoy a vicinity to Puerto Plata and all its Dominican flair.

Address: Playa Costa Dorada, Km 4, Puerto Plata 57000 Opening hours: Daily: (Check-in): 3pm, (Check-out): 12pm Phone: +1 809 320 1000 Internet: www.iberostar.com/en/hotels/puerto-plata/iberostar-costa-dorada

Gran Ventana Beach Resort

The all-inclusive Gran Ventana Beach Resort is a favorite of English-speaking families and upscale clientele. Couples prefer the larger guestrooms, which surround the active pool scene. And the Victorian-style wedding gazebo is popular for nuptials.

Address: Playa Dorada, 57000 Opening hours: Daily: (Check-in): 3pm, (Check-out): 1pm Phone: +1 809 320 2111 Internet: www.granventanahotel.com

Blue Bay Villas Doradas

A great spa and wonderful beachfront views and access set Blue Bay Villas Doradas apart from the rest. Enjoy both yoga and golf classes as a guest, as well as the adults-only atmosphere. Dine on à la carte Asian and seafood restaurants, as well as the international buffet.

Address: Playa Dorada, 57000 Opening hours: Daily: (Check-in): 3pm, (Check-out): 12pm Phone: +1 809 320 3000 Internet: www.bluebayresorts.com/en/hotel-bluebay-villas-doradas.html

Jasmine Spa and Wellness Holistic Health

Jasmine Spa and Wellness is the Dominican Republic's mind, body, and soul get-away. The 8-bed facility provides customized wellness programs for families, small groups, and individuals. Feel free and rejuvenated on 40 acres of lush rainforest in the Cordillera Septentrional region.

Address: Km 24, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Phone: +1 829 252 5272 Internet: www.jasmine-spa-wellness.com

Presidential Suites - Puerto Plata Lifestyle

The hilltop enclave of the Presidential Suites offer apartment-style, 2-bedroom suites. Guests bask in the modern furnishings of black leather chairs, cherry wood, and bedroom Jacuzzis!

Address: 1 Paradise Drive, Cofresí, 57000 Phone: +1 809 970 7777 Internet: lifestyleholidaysvc.com/accommodations-2/presidential-suites/ puerto-plata-2

Barceló Puerto Plata

The old-world feel, gaslights, and Spanish tile work of Barceló makes it the flagship accommodation of Playa Dorada. Have breakfast in the enclave before indulging in the hotel's long stretch of golden beach.

Address: Playa Dorada, 57000 Opening hours: Daily: (Check-in): 11pm, (Check-out): 13pm Phone: +1 809 320 5084 Internet: www.barcelo.com/BarceloHotels/en_US/hotels/Dominican-Rep ublic/Puerto-Plata/hotel-barcelo-puerto-plata/general-description.aspx

Tubagua Plantation Eco-Village

The 12-acre mountaintop property of the Tubagua Plantation Eco-Village is positioned some 1,000 feet above sea level. This provides an almost exclusive contact with nature from the rustic, palapa-style accommodations.

Address: Km 19, Route 25, Tubagua, 57000 Phone: +1 809 696 6932 Internet: www.tubagua.com

ClubHotel Riu Merengue

Enjoy a family getaway in this affordable yet luxurious haven. The staff quality and entertainment options stand out here at the Riu. The resort is located on the beach in Maimon Bay, offering complimentary sun loungers on the

beach!

Address: Bahia de Maimón, Puerto Plata

Opening hours: Daily: (Check-in): 3pm, (Check-out): 12pm Phone: +1 866 599 6674

Internet: www.riu.com/en/Paises/dominican-republic/puerto-plata/clubh otel-riu-merengue/index.jsp?utm_source=TRIPADVISOR&utm_medium= TEXTLINK_BUSINESSLISTING&utm_content=HOTEL&utm_campaign=B USINESSLISTING&src=tripadvisor_businesslisting_tr_bl_bl_bl

Lifestyle Holidays Vacation Club

Villas with private pools, amazing onsite chefs, and stunning VIP suites pamper guests of Lifestyle Holidays Vacation Club. Also enjoy the onsite bar and lounge, fitness center, complimentary breakfasts, Wi-Fi access, complimentary parking, and more!

Address: Corfresi Beach #2, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Phone: +1 809 970 7777 Internet: www.lifestyleholidaysvc.com

Be Live Grand Marien

The Be Live Grand Marien Hotel is an exclusive all-inclusive hotel in Puerto Plata. The 5-star hotel is especially designed for those seeking a private, intimate experience. Pools, gardens, terraces, and the marvelous Costa Dorada beach are yours with a stay at Grand Marien.

Address: Costa Dorada Beach, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Opening hours: Daily: (Check-in): 3pm, (Check-out): 12pm Phone: +1 809 320 1515 Internet: www.belivehotels.com/hotel/EN/ficha_hotel/grand_marien/de scripcion.jsp



ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Photo: Lucas Cantor

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Airport

Gregorio Luperón International Airport

A mere 20 minutes from the heart of Puerto Plata, Gregorio Luperón International Airport is your gateway to paradise. Hop a taxi or a shuttle to your resort to begin your Caribbean dream!

Time Zone

Puerto Plata is located in the Atlantic Standard time zone, and all times are reflected in Atlantic time.

Public Transport

Puerto Plata has the standard fare of transportation. Taxis are great, but always be sure to negotiate a price before getting into the vehicle. For solo adventurers or couples, moto-taxis are a cheaper means of travel and a bit of fun to boot.

Post

Post Office

Address: 12 de Julio Castillitos, Puerto Plata Phone: +1 809 586 4545

Hospital

Centro Médico Bournigal (CMB) Calle Antera Mota S/N Apartado Postal No. 25 Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic +1 809 586 2342

Pharmacy

Farmacia Popular Calle Beller 27 Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic +1 809 586 1515

Dentist

Dr. Freddy Leppe, Calle Durate, +1 809 586 6666

Telephone Country code: +1

Area codes in Puerto Plata: 809, 829

Electricity

Electricity is 110 volts AC, 60 Hz with American style two-pin plugs.

Population 286,558

Currency Dominican peso.

Internet www.godominicanrepublic.com

Newspapers Diario El Caribe Listín Diario Gringo Times Dominican Today

Emergency numbers 911 or 112

Tourist information Ministry of Tourism Calle Cayetano Germosen Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic +1 809 221 4660 godominicanrepublic.com