

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN PUERTO RICO

7 days | San Juan | Ponce



Day 1: San Juan

- Arrive in San Juan
- Explore Puerto Rican culture on your Tour Director-led walking tour of San Juan

Day 2: Old San Juan

- Take an Old San Juan Architecture Tour led by a licensed, local architect
 - Explore Old San Juan, a 500-year old walled city that harbors blue cobblestone streets, Spanish patios, and frescoed chapels
- Visit one of San Juan's local museums, Museo de las Americas or Museo de Historia, Antropología y Arte
- Participate in a workshop with a local theater company and learn how they tell stories of Puerto Rico through their art

Day 3: San Juan | Ponce

- Participate in an educational program at Hacienda 8A
- Visit the Museo de la Música Puertorriqueña (Museum of Puerto Rican Music)
- Walking tour of Ponce
- Cooking class

EXPERIENCE DAILY LIFE IN PUERTO RICO

Habla español in Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory nestled in the heart of the Caribbean. This diverse island is a mix of Spanish, Taíno, and African influences that blend to create a vibrant culture. Experience daily life in Puerto Rico; learn traditional dances, taste typical snacks, and pick up common Spanish phrases. Here, you'll experience life as a local, and maybe sound like one, too.



MOFONGO: A TASTE OF PUERTO RICO

Discover Puerto Rico on a plate. This flavorful dish—featuring mashed green plantains mixed with garlic and crispy pork rinds—is often served with a delicious broth or stuffed with meats and seafood. Blending African, Taíno, and Spanish flavors, mofongo showcases the island’s vibrant culinary heritage and makes for a savory, satisfying bite.



Day 4: Ponce

- Visit the Museo Castillo Serrallés and learn about sugar cane’s important role in Puerto Rico’s economy
- Take a guided sightseeing tour with a Ponce local
 - Get an inside look at daily life in Ponce
 - Try out local Puerto Rican phrases
 - Understand Puerto Rican culture and society as it compares to the U.S.
- Take a boat tour of the bioluminescent bay

Day 5: Ponce | Loíza | San Juan

- Tour a coffee plantation and see how coffee beans are harvested and processed
- Visit the northern town of Loíza and see how African culture has influenced the island
 - Visit the Maria de la Cruz Cave, and see evidence of pre-Columbian Taíno people
 - Sample local foods and browse artisan stands
 - Explore an art gallery of local artists
- Dive deeper into the culture through bomba, a dance rooted in Puerto Rico’s history of African slavery.

Day 6: San Juan

- Visit El Morro, the oldest Spanish fortification in the Caribbean and a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Visit Castillo San Cristóbal
- Experience daily life in Puerto Rico at a local beach

Day 7: San Juan | Return home

- See San Juan’s vibrant street art culture with a street art walking tour
- Depart for home

Itinerary subject to change. For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

BOMBA: AN ODE TO OLD PUERTO RICO

Follow the footsteps of Puerto Rican history with a bomba dance class. The drum-heavy music is one of the oldest music traditions on the island and serves as an anthem of sorts for Puerto Rico’s African and Taíno roots. During the lesson, you’ll learn how to step in time with the Afro-Puerto Rican dance tradition and get a two-for-one lesson on culture and history, all while enjoying the white sand beaches of San Juan.



Your experience includes

- Round-trip and on-tour transportation
- 6 nights hotel accommodations
- Full-time Tour Director
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours

- Visits to special attractions
- Overnight security at your hotel
- Illness and Accident Coverage
- Travel ID badges and backpacks
- All gratuities

Options

- Lunches
- Earned credit for Group Leaders and students