

# 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

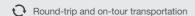
Itinerary subject to change. For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

#### **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  $traditions \ on \ the \ is land \ and \ serves \ as \ an \ an them \ of \ sorts for \ Puerto \ Rico's \ African \ and \ Taino \ roots. \ During \ the \ lesson, \ you'll$ 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



6 nights hotel accommodations

Full-time Tour Director

Breakfast and dinner daily

Comprehensive sightseeing tours

Visits to special attractions



Illness and Accident Coverage



Travel ID badges and backpacks



# **Options**

- Lunches
- · Earned credit for Group Leaders and students