



Photo: Valentin Valkov/Shutterstock.com



Punta Cana is located in the easternmost region of the Dominican Republic. The name of the stunning resort originates from cane palms common in the area. Punta Cana has been popular as a holiday resort destination among tourists for decades, and no wonder: travelers can enjoy white sandy beaches fringed with palm trees and crystal clear waters washing over the 32 km long coastline of the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean.

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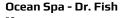
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# THE CITY



Vlad G/Shutterstock.com

Whether you're looking for a second honeymoon, a family vacation or just some fun in the sun, Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic has everything to become your perfect getaway. As the heart of tourism in the DR, Punta Cana is a place where one is never too far from white sand beaches and something to do or see.

Punta Cana is one of the Caribbean's premiere golf retreats, featuring dozens of courses, some of which were designed by the world's most renowned PGA pros. After 18 holes, find refuge in one of Punta Cana's many casinos for a beverage and a hand of cards.

Families will love natural attractions bursting with distilled beauty of the Caribbean. Head South to explore Indigenous Eyes Ecological Park or the natural spring Hoyo Azul. With all of the great sights and spots near your resort, it can be easy to miss out on everything the Dominican Republic has to offer. Take some time to get lost in the culture and enjoy hand-rolled cigars, flavorful rum, and locally grown coffee.

## LA ROMANA



mikolajn/Shutterstock.com

La Romana is home to the impressive Casa de Campo resort, which happens to also contain one of the settlement's primary tourist attractions – a model village designed to imitate those of 16th-century Europe, containing a colossal amphitheater, archaeology museum, and offering some of the best views over the iconic Rio Chavon valley. Beaches, active pursuits on land and water, and the region's most diverse array of dining establishments are some of La Romana's major draws. Catalina Island (just off the coast) makes for an excellent half-day trip.

## Altos de Chavon



Altos de Chavon is, perhaps, a rather unlikely attraction for the Dominican Republic – it is a recreation of a 16th-century

Mediterranean village (adjacent to the Casa de Campo resort), complete with dining, shopping and entertainment. There is an on-site Grecian-style amphitheater that plays host to major performances and concerts, and views over Rio Chavon from here are spectacular, too.

Photo: Andrii\_K/Shutterstock.com Address: Casa de Campo Resort and Villas, La Romana Phone: +1 809 523 5318 Internet: www.casadecampo.com.do/altos-de-chavon

### **Rio Chavon**



Internalized in multiple motion pictures, the Rio Chavon and its surrounding valley are a definitive must-see. Take a cruise or join a guided

Rio Chavon Jungle tour with one of the many local companies offering the service, or take in the area in its entirety from atop Altos de Chavon.

Photo: haveseen/Shutterstock.com

### Cueva de las Maravillas National Park



Approximately 800 meters below the ground lie the ancient las Maravillas caves, whose age is estimated to be somewhere around

100,000 years. The caves are now open to the public, and an option of taking the elevator back up exists for those not thrilled about the upwards climb. See stalactite and stalagmite formations, wall pictographs, and even local fauna (iguanas).

#### Photo: BorisVetshev/Shutterstock.com

Address: San Pedro de Macoris, KM 16, Autovia Del Este, La Romana

Opening hours: 9am - 5:15pm Tues - Sun Phone: +1 809 951 9009 Internet: www.cuevadelasmaravillas.com

#### **Minitas Beach**



The Casa de Campo Resort's very own beach is accessible to non-guests for a fee which grants visitors access to the

well-maintained premises. Activities available

range from water sports (kayaking, paddle boarding, windsurfing, etc.) to bike rental.

Photo: Borphy/Shutterstock.com Address: La Romana Phone: +1 809 951 1500 Internet: www.casadecampo.com.do/things-to-do/beaches

#### Shish Kabab



La Romana's unlikely dining scene champion is Shish Kabab, a Middle Eastern restaurant serving a wide array of delectable dishes of world

cuisine (with an emphasis on Lebanese and local Dominican fare). Vegetarian and vegan options available.

Photo: Christina J Hauri/Shutterstock.com Address: 32 Calle Castillo Marquez, La Romana Opening hours: 9:30am - 11pm Tue - Sun Phone: +1 809 556 2737

#### Dom Ham



Carlos Pichardo serves excellent grilled meats and burgers at his very own Dom Ham, a breezy restaurant (doubling as bar) with a laid-back

atmosphere, regular live music performances, and an incredible beer list that features labels from all over the world.

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com Address: Altagracia & Benito Moncion Streets, La Romana Opening hours: 5pm - 12am Phone: +1 809 550 9220

### **Restaurant Lucas**



The undisputed best Italian cuisine in La Romana is served at family-run Restaurant Lucas, a quaint location with in- and outdoor

seating available. Pasta is made fresh in-house, and a wide assortment of Italian dishes is on offer, including seafood such as lobster.

#### Photo: Elena Yakusheva/Shutterstock.com

Address: Los Robles 9. Buena Vista Norte, La Romana Opening hours: 5:30pm - 11.30pm Tue - Sat, 11.30am -11.30pm Sun Phone: +1 809 550 3401

## Panaderia Trigo de Oro



The charming, centrally located Trigo de Oro is a delightful French-style cafe and bakery serving a wide selection of snacks and dessert, making it an

all-around good choice any time of day. Serves delectable croissants and pastries, and sandwiches for those who choose to opt for savory.

Photo: ampersandphoto/Shutterstock.com Address: 9 Calle Eugenio A. Miranda, La Romana Opening hours: 7am - 10pm Mon - Sat, 7am - 2.30pm Sun Phone: +1 809 550 5650

### Onno's Bar



At the heart of the Altos de Chavon historical site, this chain-restaurant opened 24/7 is one of the unmissable places of Dominican nightlife. This

atmospheric location is one that serves great pizzas and tapas by day, and turns into a relaxed,

low-key hang out lounge after dinner hours are over. A wide selection of drinks and cocktails grace the menu, making it an easy pick for an evening out in La Romana. Happy hours from 6pm to 8pm and special evenings organized every week also makes this bar a very dynamic one on the island.

Photo: Yellowj/Shutterstock.com Address: Carretera A Chavon, La Romana Opening hours: 24/7 Phone: +1 809 523 2868 Internet: www.onnosbar.com More Info: Altos De Chavon, in front of the Amphitheatre

### Multiplaza



The Multiplaza shopping center contains over 80 stores and boutiques, a varied food court (with international and local fast food eateries

represented), essentials such as pharmacies and banks, a modern 7-screen cinema with a frequently updated movie list, and a gym.

Photo: wavebreakmedia/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida 14 de Junio, La Romana Opening hours: 8am - 10pm Phone: +1 809 556 4446 Internet: www.multiplaza.com.do/romana Email: info@multiplaza.com.do

# DO & SEE



Cedric Weber/Shutterstock.com

Although the main attraction of Punta Cana is its luxurious beaches and world-renowned golf courses, this tropical paradise offers plenty of activities and sights on land and at sea. The caressing sun will allow you to spend some idle days of pure sunbathing, whereas the most adventurous can look for an adrenaline-boost on a zip-line or by doing thrilling water-sports .

Discover unspoiled nature and mingle with the locals, sample some flavored rum, experience the mild light of the sun rising, dance intensively and behold at the spectacle of this Caribbean gem.

### **Scape Park**



Going on an expedition in the Iguabonita Cave, zip-lining from the Farallon Cliff or discovering the renowned natural spring waters of

Hoyo Hazul, or even heading to the natural theme park of Scape Park, are all options that offer a wide range of cultural and adventurous activities for everyone. Apart from having close encounters with parrots and monkeys, you can also simply enjoy the Caribbean sun and relax on the white sandy beach of Juanillo. Many options and different tours are available as well free transportation from most hotels of Punta Cana and some restaurants.

Photo: Ammit Jack/Shutterstock.com Address: Cap Cana, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 469 7484 Internet: www.scapepark.com Email: contact@scapepark.com

## Ocean Spa - Dr. Fish



If you want to pamper yourself on a well-deserved afternoon of relaxation, try the Ocean Spa. You will board a boat to spend an

entire afternoon on, where you'll be able to take advantage of bio-pilates classes, a personalized massage and a fish pedicure. Fresh beverages and snacks are also provided.

Photo: Olga Meffista/Shutterstock.com Address: Calle Mare, Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 9am - 9pm Mon - Sat Phone: +1 829 452 7463 Internet: www.oceanadventures-puntacana.com/dr-fish-ocean -spa-punta-cana Email: web.reservation@oceanadventures-puntacana.com

## Flintstones Buggy Adventure



If you are looking for a new way to explore the landscapes of the Dominican Republic, how about trying to ride the dunes of Bavaro in an

eco-friendly buggy across off-road paths. Along the 10-kilometer trail, you will have the chance to discover the beauty of the Dominican countryside, with its colorful vegetation and hill formations. A visit to the Fantasy Cave is included as well as a stop to try local coffee and

chocolate. The tour ends with a visit to Bedrock city, caves characterized by stalactites and stalagmites. A guide will supervise small groups of people willing to experience the less traveled roads of the island.

Photo: Matej Kastelic/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Papo Abeja, El Ejecutivo, Bavaro, Punta Cana

Opening hours: 8am - 6pm Phone: +1 849 754 6487 Internet: www.flintstonesbuggyadventure.com Email: info@flintstonesbuggyadventure.com

# Outback Adventures - Outback Safari



Tired of the beach? You can see the outback of Punta Cana aboard an open-air truck suited for tourists. The guides will give you insights into the

traditional way of life in the Dominican Republic, but you will also have the opportunity to meet with locals in person, discover the cocoa and coffee farms, as well as rural schools. It will also be the occasion for you to sample cane sugar and delicious fresh fruit, as well as see wild animals. The tour will also stop at a shop that sells rum, cigars, cocoa... at local prices. It is the opportunity to learn more about the Dominican culture, history and customs while admiring the tropical countryside. Drinks and snacks are included and guests are picked up and dropped off at their hotels.

Address: Carretera Veron-Bavaro Km 2.1, Punta Cana Opening hours: Guests will be picked up from their hotels. 9am - 2pm

Phone: +1 809 455 2877

Internet: www.outbackadventuresdr.com

Email: info@outbackadventuresdr.com

More Info: You can bring educational and recreational supplies that the company will give to the schools

#### encountered

### **Monkey Land by Runners Adventures**



As the name suggests, this tour introduces you to quirky local inhabitants - monkeys - but also grants insight into local lifestyles. You will first

have the opportunity to learn how coconut oil is produced at the Casa del Coco, as well as try some local specialties like exotic fruit or roasted coffee. Then, you will have the time to admire and play with the friendly squirrel monkeys - the monkeys are harmless and often initiate contact with humans. On the way to meet them, the open truck will guide you through Higuey and offer you the chance to admire the mountain and a typical Dominican house. Drinks are included and guests are picked up and dropped off from their hotels.

Photo: Dave Hann/Shutterstock.com Address: KM 2 Carretera Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: Guests will be picked up from their hotels. 7am - 7pm Phone: +1 809 455 1135 Internet: www.runnersadventures.com/monkeyland/monkeyla nd-punta-cana Email: contact@bavarorunners.com

#### **El Tour Caribe**



This company offers several marine tours for you to take time for yourself and relax aboard a luxury boat. You can choose between different

activities such as Saona Dive and Snorkel, Punta Cana Scuba Diving, Catalina Island Adventure, Saona Speedboat and Catamaran. All the tours are well organized and the guides take care of the visitors with meals and drinks included.

Photo: Filipe Frazao/Shutterstock.com

Pick-ups and drop-offs are made at your hotel.

Photo: Jukkis/Shutterstock.com Address: Playa Turquesa, Avenida Alemania, Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am - 4pm Mon - Fri, 8am - 1pm Sat Phone: +1 809 251 6543 Internet: www.eltourcaribe.com Email: Tours@ElTourCaribe.com

## Bávaro Beach



Among the numerous beaches that Punta Cana is famous for, Bávaro Beach is probably one of the most popular ones for tourists who come to

sunbathe on deck chairs or take a dip in the turquoise blue sea. If you don't feel like spending all day at the beach, you still have a variety of activities at your disposal: from entertainment at casinos and watching live shows, to water activities like scuba diving, snorkeling or sailing. Lifeguards will be there to ensure security.

Photo: AeroPictures/Shutterstock.com Address: Bávaro Beach, Punta Cana

## Macao Surf Camp



The Macao beach is probably the best spot of the Dominican Republic to surf. Whether you are a beginner who always dreamed of experiencing

surfing or you have advanced skills in riding the waves, everyone is welcome reagrdless. In small groups, the instructors will help you master proper technique, first on the beach for the less advanced ones, and then directly in the water. There is a possibility to have the lessons taught in Spanish, English, Russian or Italian. Drinks and snacks are provided. Photo: EpicStockMedia/Shutterstock.com Address: Macao Beach, La Altagracia, Punta Cana Opening hours: Guests will be picked up from their hotels. 6am - 5pm Phone: +1 809 430 9017 Internet: www.macaosurfcamp.com Email: macaosurfcamp@gmail.com

## HorsePlay Punta Cana



If you are looking for a different way to explore the lush vegetation of the Dominican Republic, consider riding a horse and discovering the

outback of the island. On your way, a stop will be made for you to learn more about the local cultural life by tasting some fresh cocoa and trying your hand at rolling your own cigars. You'll have a choice of several different tours but you will always finish your ride with a zip line across the forest.

Photo: Angelo D'Amico/Shutterstock.com Address: Carretera Higuey, Punta Cana Opening hours: Guests will be picked up from their hotels. 8am - 4pm Phone: +1 829 956 6580 Internet: www.horseplaypuntacana.com Email: info@horseplayniagara.com

## **Indigenous Eyes Ecological Park**



Indigenous Eyes Ecological Park is a private protected area owned and operated by Puntacana Ecological Foundation. About 1,500

acres of reserve await you in this tropical wonderland. Explore the several lagoons in the shape of an eye and take a dip in some of them. After, pay a visit to the zoo or the iguana habitat to have a complete experience of the fauna and the flora of the Dominican Republic. There is a possibility to visit with a guide or independently.

Photo: Fominayaphoto/Shutterstock.com Address: Ecological Reserve, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am - 5pm Phone: +1 809 959 9221 Email: fpgc@puntacana.com

## Isla Catalina



The Isla Catalina is just a ferry ride away from Dominican Republic's mainland, providing a personal luxury getaway or a diving or snorkeling

trip to some of the best reefs of the region. Away from the bustling sites of Punta Cana and La Romana, it is the ideal spot to enjoy the beautiful sandy beaches for those in search of peace.

Photo: lakov Kalinin/Shutterstock.com Address: Catalina Island, Punta Cana

### Punta Blanca Golf Club



Besides the idyllic settings of clear blue waters and white sandy beaches, the Dominican Republic is also renowned for its golf courses. One

of the more popular ones is the Punta Blanca Golf Club, designed by the famous player and golf course designer Nick Price. You have the opportunity to work your swing among luxuriant vegetation, natural wetland areas, lakes and rolling hills. Drinks and snacks are included.

Photo: Gorilla Golf Blog/Flick.com(image cropped) Address: Carretera Arena Gorda Macao Bávaro, Punta Blanca Opening hours: 7am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 468 4734 Internet: www.punta-blanca.com/en Email: teetimes@punta-blanca.com

### Punta Cana Fishing



Punta Cana offers great fishing opportunities with over seven months of bill fish season. Fishing off the East Coast is regarded as one of the

top five of the world's best bill-fish areas. Blue marlin and sailfish are among some of the fish that you can expect to catch. The Marina is also a famous spot for fishing tournaments and has become a popular destination among those who enjoy fishing and breaking records. Among all the different fishing charters and tours in the Marina Bay, Mike's Marina Fishing Charters offers a large choice of boats for shared or private fishing charters as well as participation in national and international sport fishing tournaments.

Photo: project1photography/Shutterstock.com Address: Cap Cana, Punta Cana Opening hours: 6am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 729 5164 Internet: www.mikes-marina.com/home Email: bookmikesmarina@gmail.com

### Playa Juanillo



The long stretch of sandy coastline is Punta Cana's claim to fame. Powdery white sand is fringed by coquettish coconut palms. Located away from the

popular Bavaro, Playa Juanillo has kept its original allure, and much of it still appears to be untouched by man. In a calm and low-key location, with its only one restaurant, it's the perfect place for relaxing on the sunbeds while admiring the sunset.

Photo: Ilyas Kalimullin/Shutterstock.com

Address: Playa Juanillo, Punta Cana

### **Dolphin Island Park**



Swimming with dolphins is a dream for many looking to share an intense moment of tenderness with the animals. Here at Dolphin

Island you will also have the possibility to interact with other animals such as sea lions, sharks and stingrays and make this moment an unforgettable and unique one. Different activities are proposed in order for you to come close to these amazing aquatic animals in their natural habitat. Snorkeling with sharks and jet boat rides are also offered during the tours.

Photo: eZeePics/Shutterstock.com Address: Dolpin Island Park, Punta Cana Opening hours: 9am - 5:30pm Phone: +1 809 221 9444 Internet: www.dolphinislandpark.com Email: infodip@grupointerparks.com

#### Manatí Park Bavaro



The Manatí Park Bavaro theme park offers a getaway for the whole family, invited to discover and learn more about the Caribbean fauna and

flora. The largest animal collection of the country hosts more than 150 species of animals and plants and visitors will even have the opportunity to come into close contact with some of them, suh as parrots, iguanas or dolphins. Four animal shows are performed daily as well as a ritual show of the ancestral Taino culture, a step into Dominican history and traditions.

Photo: Vadim Petrakov/Shutterstock.com Address: Carretera Manatí, Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 9am - 5pm Phone: +1 809 221 9444 Internet: www.manatipark.com Email: infompk@grupointerparks.com

## Jesus Maestro Parish



The stunning Jesus Maestro Parish welcomes everyone who may want to attend mass in a different Catholic country or simply visit the church.

The architecture is quite unique, with a crisp white exterior and domed roof. Check the hours to attend the masses that are held in Spanish most of the time, but some translations and gospels in English are arranged for the tourists.

Photo: Maleo/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Francia casi esquina Avenida Alemania, Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am Mon - Sat, 7pm Wed, 7:15pm Sat, 10am / 7:30pm Sun Phone: +1 809 468 1458 Internet: www.parroquiajesusmaestrobavaro.org Email: jesusmaestrobavaro@hotmail.com

# DINING



Maciej Czekajewski/Shutterstock.com

Punta Cana is home to some of the best Caribbean and international cuisine in the world. Celebrity chefs and local staples make eating in Bávaro and Punta Cana a dreamy breeze. Indulge on seafood specialties at the seafront, or sample some Mediterranean cuisine in the hectic downtown.

### Wacamole



After having tried typical Dominican food, try exploring different flavors from Central America and the Caribbean. At Wacamole, you will find

authentic Mexican specialties like the world-famous tacos and fajitas, but also dishes inspired by local produce like seafood. In this open-air taqueria, different kinds of pub food are served in a relaxed environment, usually with live music. Accompany your meal with some tequila shots and fruit cocktails to have a complete Mexican dining experience.

Photo: gowithstock/Shutterstock.com

Address: Los Corales, Avenida Alemania y Calle Aruba, Punta Cana Opening hours: 12pm - 12am

Phone: +1 829 750 1777

### Little John



On the tiny outdoor terrace of Little John restaurant you can enjoy a great view of the sea while grabbing a quick bite. Classic bar food like

pizzas and burgers are served as well as some local specialties of sea food to satisfy everyone. Enjoy your meal in this open-air restaurant on the beach and relax with a fresh cocktail in hand.

Photo: grafvision/Shutterstock.com Address: Playa Juanillo, Cap Cana, Punta Cana Opening hours: 9am - 6:30pm Phone: +1 809 469 7727

### Passion by Martin Berasategui



Winner of 7 Michelin stars, Passion at Paradisus Palma Real is one of the most recognized restaurants in Punta Cana. Martin

Berasategui, a celebrated Spanish chef, developed fine courses for diners in search of delicacies and new flavors. Enjoy a romantic and elegant atmosphere with incredible Spanish tapas or succulent fish dishes. A once in a lifetime dining experience. Due to its reputation and long waiting times, book beforehand and do not forget to dress appropriately.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com Address: Paradisus Palma Real, Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 6:30pm - 10pm Phone: +1 809 285 3513 Internet: www.melia.com/en/hotels/dominican-republic/punta -cana/paradisus-palma-real-golf-and-spa-resort/passion-by-ma rtin-berasategui.htm Email: paradisus.palma.real@melia.com More Info: At Paradisus Palma Real Golf & Spa Resort

## The Jellyfish Restaurant



A standing favorite in Bávaro, Jellyfish is a meld of natural ingredients all culminating in a comfortable beach setting. Specialized in

fresh fish from local fishermen and shellfish dishes, it brings forward the finest flavors of the Dominican Republic. Topped with a lounge offering a splendid view of the beach, Jellyfish is perfect for family outings or date nights. There is also a special service which organizes weddings and events.

Photo: Wasant/Shutterstock.com Address: Playa Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 11am - 11pm Phone: +1 809 840 7684 Internet: www.jellyfishrestaurant.com Email: info@jellyfishrestaurant.com

## **Blue Marlin**



Dine beneath a palapa-shaded table on a pier overlooking the Caribbean's gentle waters with a very pleasant view over the ocean. The

restaurant's small fleet of fishing boats traverses the waters for fresh fish, which are in turn served to you daily. A variety of seafood dishes are on offer along with traditional Dominican specialties.

Photo: Anna Jedynak/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Zona Hotelera, Sanctuary Cap Cana, Punta Cana Opening hours: 12:30pm - 4pm, 6pm - 10pm Phone: +1 809 562 9191 Internet: www.sanctuarycapcana.com/restaurants-bars Email: reservations@sanctuarycapcana.com More Info: At Sanctuary Cap Cana

# Playa Blanca Restaurant



The gorgeously casual ambiance of Playa Blanca is not to be underestimated, as guests are invited to taste fresh seafood while

enjoying sweeping views of the white sand

beach. The restaurant serves fresh local seafood as well as a variety of meat or fish dishes which can be accompanied by a freshly made fruit cocktail.

Photo: Esperanza Gaffo/Shutterstock.com Address: Puntacana Resort & Club, Punta Cana Opening hours: 12pm - 5pm, 6pm - 10:30pm Phone: +1 809 959 2714 Internet: www.puntacana.com/dining/restaurants Email: playablanca@puntacana.com More Info: At Puntacana Resort & Club

### La Yola



The AAA Three Diamond Award-winning La Yola was named for the yola, or the small, local fishing boats from which their expert seafood is caught.

The menu is a fusion of Mediterranean and Caribbean influences served in a space modeled after a fisherman's boat and perched right on the sea with magnificent views of the ocean. Cocktails or other drinks can be savored, especially during the happy hours from 5pm to 7pm.

Photo: Ekaterina Smirnova/Shutterstock.com Address: Puntacana Resort & Club, Punta Cana Opening hours: 12pm - 3pm, 6:30pm - 10:30pm Phone: +1 809 959 2262 Internet: www.puntacana.com/dining/restaurants Email: ayblayola@puntacana.com More Info: At Puntacana Resort & Club

# Bamboo at Tortuga Bay



Dine at the AAA Four Diamond Award-winning Bamboo Restaurant and experience local cooking with an influence from Mediterranean flavors.

Nestled at the exclusive Tortuga Bay, the setting was designed by the renowned

Dominican-American fashion designer Oscar de la Renta who conceived this snug and elegant atmosphere. On the menu are fresh vegetables from organic gardens, Lion Fish dishes (one of the restaurant's specialties), and a large cold and hot dish buffet for breakfast.

Photo: Shebeko/Shutterstock.com Address: Puntacana Resort & Club, Punta Cana Opening hours: Daily 12-4pm, 7-11pm Phone: +1 809 959 8229 Internet: www.puntacana.com/dining/restaurants Email: bamboo@puntacana.com More Info: At Puntacana Resort & Club

## Hard Rock Cafe Punta Cana



The Hard Rock Cafe, one of the favorites among tourists, is conveniently located in the Palma Real Shopping Village, an upscale mall in Bávaro.

Enjoy its signature authentic rock atmosphere and great American fare influenced by the location and the regional cuisine. Stop by and enjoy a yummy meal or a refreshing cocktail while listening to some live music or just relax in the outdoor patio.

Photo: LazarSG/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Turistico del Este esquina, Carretera Juanillo, Punta Cana Opening hours: 12pm - 2am Phone: +1 809 784 4090 Internet: www.hardrock.com/cafes/punta-cana Email: info@hardrock.com.do

## Agave



Agave is the ultimate Mexican dining experience at the Excellence Resort. Enjoy the buffet-style venue and a wide variety of

authentic Mexican and Tex-Mex dishes like burritos and fajitas, whether you like you food spicy or mild.

Photo: svariophoto/Shutterstock.com Address: Excellence Resort, Playas Uvero Alto, Punta Cana Opening hours: 6pm - 10:30pm Phone: +1 800 051 6244 Internet: www.excellenceresorts.com/resorts/excellence-punt a-cana/dining/agave More Info: At Excellence Resort

## CAFES



Ruslan Guzov/Shutterstock.com

Search the downtown and areas surrounding shopping havens to discover some unique diners and dives. Many cafes function as regular restaurants as well, serving aromatic coffee and delicious nibbles - the close proximity to the sea and the Caribbean backdrop will give you the chance to have an extraordinary breakfast experience.

### Las Leñas



For those looking for a place to have a snack, the old bakery of Las Leñas, one of the first in the Bavaro area, offers different kinds of pastries

and breads for breakfast or brunch, as well as savory dishes like sandwiches and tortillas. With natural juices and aromatic coffee, it's an authentic local meeting place excellent for a refreshing break at this now well-known Dominican cafe.

Photo: Juli112/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Espana, Gran Plaza Friusa #1, Bavaro, Punta Cana

Opening hours: 7am - 9pm Phone: +1 809 552 6776 Email: laslenascafe@gmail.com More Info: At Gran Plaza FRIUSA Shopping Center

#### Kat's Corner



Kat's Corner is an open-air bar that serves breakfast meals like scrambled eggs with bacon and potato pancakes, but also

Mexican specialties with its burrito breakfast and other kinds of quesadillas and nachos. You can come at any time of day to enjoy fast food dishes with fresh juices or fruit cocktails. Live acoustic music is put on weekly.

Photo: cobraphotography/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Alemania, Esquina Calle Aruba, Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am - 12am Phone: +1 829 907 6819

## **JOY Nutritional Popsicle**



JOY Nutritional Popsicle is a nice and cozy place to have breakfast, sweet or savory, or both lunch and dinner, as the menu teems with salads,

burgers and sandwiches. A lot of vegetarian and vegan options are available, and they serve fresh natural juices and smoothies. Take a look at the ice cream card and finish your meal with the restaurant's specialty, a popsicle.

#### Photo: Di Studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: Los Corales H1, La Altagracia, Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am - 11pm Phone: +1 849 915 3914

#### Huracán Café



The thatched-roofed palapa is the signature of Huracán Café. Enjoy a meal on the wooden deck in the sand with a wonderful view of the

ocean or relax on a deck chair with a mojito or caipirinha in the hand. The menu features delicious pastas and other Italian dishes. Weddings and special occasions are another specialty of the restaurant.

Photo: Cristi Kerekes/Shutterstock.com Address: Calle Mare, Los Corales, Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 9am - 11pm Phone: +1 829 533 1300 Internet: www.huracancafe.do Email: info@huracancafe.do

### **Brot Bagel Shop**



For bagel and sandwich lovers, Brot Bagel offers a large choice of breakfast meals. Between two shopping sessions at Galerias de Punta Cana,

take a break and enjoy fresh or hot beverages along with breakfast burritos, salads and wraps. Multiple sweet or savory options for a complete breakfast.

Photo: Iryna Melnyk/Shutterstock.com Address: Galerias de Punta Cana, Local 31, Punta Cana Opening hours: 7am - 10pm Mon - Sat, 8am - 5pm Sun Phone: +1 809 959 2007

# **BARS & NIGHTLIFE**



DisobeyArt/Shutterstock.com

Punta Cana livens up the hot Caribbean nights with its wealth of bars and clubs. The "fiesta" atmosphere shrouds the easternmost point of the Dominican Republic all year round, where the party stops when the sun rises and the pungent scent of rum and cigars pervades the air.

Soak up the sun by day and soak up the fun by night, Punta Cana is a one-of-a-kind experience.

### Imagine Punta Cana



If you are looking for a different way of partying and clubing, consider descending into a cave and dancing all night in this one of a kind setting.

In this place built in the remains of a castle, be prepared to experience a unique party you can only have in Punta Cana. Several packages are proposed for parties with different music styles, and even Spring Break parties.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Address: Antiguo Cruce, Carretera Coco Loco a Friusa, Punta Cana

Opening hours: 11pm - 3am Thur - Sun Phone: +1 829 838 5346 Internet: www.imaginepuntacana.com/en Email: social@imaginepuntacana.com

#### Hard Rock Casino



Hard Rock Casino offers you more than a simple gambling experience. Indeed, in this incredible 45,000-square-foot setting, you will find more

than 40 table games and 400 other kinds of roulettes and slots. Whether you are a confirmed poker player, an amateur of blackjack, craps and baccarat or just looking for a nice place to chill out at the bar, everyone can enjoy this casino in their own way.

Photo: Fer Gregory/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Turístico del Este, Km.28 No.74, Punta Cana Opening hours: 24/7 Phone: +1 817 567 7516 Internet: www.hardrockhotelpuntacana.com/casino.htm More Info: At Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana

#### **Drink Point**



For a night of drinking and dancing with locals on any day of the week, Drink Point is one of the most reputed nightclubs in Punta Cana to head to

for the purpose. To the sound of traditional Caribbean and Latin music, such as bachata and merengue, you can experience a true Dominican dance night and drink local cocktails or rums.

Photo: bbernard/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Espana, Punta Cana Opening hours: 10pm - 4am Phone: +1 809 552 0920

#### Mangu Disco



Mangu Disco is located at the Hotel Occidental Grand Punta Cana. This two-floor club booms with all kind of music styles, from electronic to

merengue and bachata, salsa and even rock and Reggae. If you don't feel like dancing, the bar also features a big screen where you can watch soccer, football, baseball, boxing, racing and more. Locals and tourists mix together to enjoy the music and dance all night long.

Photo: mauro\_grigollo/Shutterstock.com Address: Hotel Occidental Grand Punta Cana, Punta Cana Opening hours: 11pm - 7am Phone: +1 809 221 8787 More Info: At Hotel Occidental Grand Punta Cana

## **ORO Nightclub**



ORO is Hard Rock's answer to the Punta Cana nightclubs. With guest shows by some of the top performers of today, theme nights and local

and international DJs, you will experience Caribbean nightlife at its most vibrant. The setting of about 14,000 square feet with its two levels features intelligent show lighting and a unique LED wall which makes the show performances all the more impressive.

#### Pacha (RIU Resort Disco)



The Punta Cana installment of this internationally celebrated chain attracts both locals and visitors in near-equal proportion. Music played

includes styles enjoyed locally alongside international top hits.

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com

Address: Carretera El Macao, Playa Arena Gorda, Punta Cana Opening hours: Thu-Tue 11pm-4am Phone: +1 809 221 7575

#### Areito Disco



Located in the luxurious Caribe Club Princess, Areito Disco is decorated in an indigenous theme with aboriginal elements. Live shows and events

are organized frequently but you can simply come to enjoy a freshly mmixed cocktail and dance all night long.

Photo: Kondor83/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Italia, Playas de Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 11pm - 5am Phone: +1 809 687 7788 More Info: At Caribe Club Princess

Photo: glazok90/Shutterstock.com Address: Boulevard Turístico del Este, Km.28 No.74, Punta Cana Opening hours: 11pm - 4am Tue - Sat Phone: +1 809 731 0080 Internet: www.oronightclub.com Email: reservations@oronightclub.com More Info: At Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana

## SHOPPING



Maciej Czekajewski/Shutterstock.com

Shopping in Punta Cana is as simple as not leaving your resort so sometimes there is even no need to hit the street. You're likely to find some great deals within walking distance and, although international brand shops are not that frequent, it won't be that much of a challenge to come across souvenir shops, local crafts, rum or cigar shops.

## Palma Real Shopping Village



This is the premiere shopping destination in Punta Cana that is a must for you if you happen to be into substantial shopping sprees. Between

two sunbathing sessions on the beach, you can come here to refresh by looking around clothing shops and other kind of boutiques or even grabbing a bite at one of the village's restaurants.

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Alemania 57, Punta Cana Opening hours: 10am - 10pm Phone: +1 809 552 8725 Email: info@palmarealsv.com

#### Plaza Bávaro



Go out and mingle with the locals at Plaza Bávaro. Wander around the shops, search for bargains or get souvenirs to bring home, such as

cigars or crafts from local shops, and truly experience where everyday Dominicans do their shopping.

Photo: Maciej Czekajewski/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Espana, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am - 8pm

## **Don Lucas Cigars**



Come and visit the Don Lucas Cigars shop and discover the Dominican tradition of cigar making. This brand is very popular in the area and

by visiting its factory, you will have the chance to learn about the history of different types of cigars and find out more about the flagship product of the Dominican Republic.

Photo: Silver30/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Barceló, Punta Cana Opening hours: 9am - 6pm Phone: +1 809 466 1212 Internet: www.donlucascigars.com.do Email: donlucascigars@hotmail.com

## Galerias at Puntacana Village



The Galerias at Puntacana Village reside within the blossoming shopping, dining, and residential complex of Puntacana Resort & Club.

After a day full of discovery and new experiences on the island, stroll around this place and relax

by doing some window shopping. A large choice of restaurants offers you a refreshing break and a playground is available for families.

## Photo: Itsra Sanprasert/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boulevard Primero de Noviembre, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am - 2am Phone: +1 809 959 7325 Internet: www.puntacanavillage.com Email: realestatevillage@puntacana.com More Info: At Puntacana Resort & Club

## ChocoMuseo Punta Cana



If you want to discover true Dominican flavors and taste the finest chocolates from Central and South Americas, you will have the opportunity

at this one of the kind museum. Here you can learn more about the history of this renowned chocolate, but what makes this visit special is that you have the chance to make your own chocolate from the beans of Dominican cacao in the chocolate workshop. Besides, a visit to the chocolate factory and museum is totally free.

Photo: David Boyer/Flick.com(image cropped) Address: Avenida Barceló, Km. 5, Punta Cana Opening hours: 9am - 7pm Phone: +1 809 466 1022 Internet: www.chocomuseo.com Email: PuntaCana@ChocoMuseo.com More Info: At Mundo Autentico

### Plaza Uvero Alto



Don't except brand name shops in the Plaza Uvero Alto shopping center because this place is recognized for its handcraft shops filled

with regional paintings, ceramics and other handmade souvenir items. The local

shopkeepers, who only speak Spanish, showcase their products in beautiful colorful kiosks which make this shopping area a really interesting one.

Photo: Maciej Czekajewski/Shutterstock.com Address: Carretera Uvero Alto, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am - 6pm Phone: +1 829 613 1297

## Harrison's Fine Caribbean Jewelers



Step into Harrison's Fine Caribbean Jewelers and discover the Dominican tradition of jewelry in one of the largest jewelry shop chains on the island.

You will find a unique collection of rings, earrings and necklaces including a large selection of larimar and amber pieces, as well as diamonds and other gems.

Photo: Ekaterina Pokrovsky/Shutterstock.com Address: Plaza Palma Real Shopping Village, Punta Cana Opening hours: 10am - 10pm Phone: +1 809 586 3933 Internet: www.harrisons.com Email: customerservice@harrisons.com More Info: At Palm Real Shopping Village

## La Perla Dominicana



La Perla Dominicana's cigars are entirely hand-rolled and made from the finest tobacco plants. Harvested on plantations from the top

production areas for Dominican tobaccos, their cigars are an exclusive souvenir from the Dominican Republic. You can discover how cigars are produced during the factory tour which includes a guided tasting experience; at the end, you will have the possibility to purchase the cigars, but also a variety of local rums, spices, and coffees.

Photo: tataev\_foto/Shutterstock.com Address: Plaza Victoriana, Local 121, Bavaro, Punta Cana Opening hours: 10am - 7pm Phone: +1 809 804 6704 Email: laperladom@gmail.com More Info: At Bavaro Shopping Center

## Museo del Artesano



Located in the San Juan Shopping Center, Museo del Artesano is a complete souvenir shop. Find multitudes of gifts at great prices and of good

quality. It's a must if you're looking for either common souvenirs like T-shirts and hats or more authentic local ones such as Dominican ceramics or cigars.

Photo: Maciej Czekajewski/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Barceló, Punta Cana Opening hours: 12pm - 11pm Phone: +1 809 266 3335 More Info: At San Juan Shopping Center

## San Juan Shopping Center



San Juan Shopping Center, located close to Downtown Punta Cana, has a large choice of stores of both national and international brands.

Popular for tourists as much as locals, it contains designer shops, local traders, a grocery supermarket, and restaurants.

Photo: fizkes/Shutterstock.com Address: Avenida Barceló, Punta Cana Opening hours: 9am - 12am Phone: +1 809 466 6000 Internet: www.sanjuanshoppingcenter.com/?lang=en Email: info@sanjuanshoppingcenter.com

# **TOURIST INFORMATION**



Ted Murphy/Flick.com (image cropped)

## Punta Cana International Airport (PUJ)



Punta Cana International Airport (PUJ) is located in the heart of Punta Cana, only a short shuttle ride from your final destination. Taxis and

buses are available at the airport and many resorts supply their guests with personal or group shuttle services.

Photo: Juan Garces Address: Aeropuerto Internacional Punta Cana, Carretera Higüey, Punta Cana Phone: +1 809 959 2376 Internet: www.puntacanainternationalairport.com Email: customerservice@puntacana.com

## Passport / Visa



The Dominican Republic allows nationals from eight countries to enter without a visa or a tourist entry tax (previously known as a tourist card,

amounting to US\$10). These eight countries are Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Israel, Japan, Peru, South Korea and Uruguay. Residents of the United Kingdom and those holding a valid visa to enter Canada, the United States or any European Union country do not require a tourist visa (tourist card) to enter the Dominican Republic. The tourist entry tax of US\$10 should be included in the price of the flight ticket. Nationals who aren't in possession of a valid visa for Canada, the United States or any European Union country must obtain a tourist visa which must be done in person at the Dominican Consulate nearest to their place of residence.

Nationals from 95 countries can enter the Dominican Republic by paying the tourism entry tax of US\$10 which should be already included in the air fare. Alternatively, the tourist card can be obtained at the airport upon arrival at Punta Cana International Airport. Check out the list of the 95 countries.

The tourist cards are valid for 30 days from the date of entry. You can apply for a tourist card at a consulate near you, online (www.dgii.gov.do/Paginas/inicio.aspx) or at the airport upon arrival.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

#### **Best Time to Visit**



There are two distinct tourist high seasons in the Dominican Republic: the summer months of July and August, mostly for northern-hemisphere

travelers, and winter season between December and late February, when the Dominican climate is at its best. But since the weather is warm all year round, trips can be organized at any time of the year. During the summer, temperatures fluctuate from 25 °C to 28 °C and the weather is very hot and humid. The best time to visit the Dominican Republic is therefore during the dry season, from November to April, since the climate is drier but still warm.

Regarding water temperature, it rarely falls below 27 °C.

The Dominican Republic is also in the center of the Caribbean hurricane belt and can be hit by storms especially during the hurricane season in August and September.

If you are planning a trip to the Dominican Republic during the high summer season, and especially if you're heading to Punta Cana, expect higher hotel and resort prices and crowded beaches.

Whale-watching runs from around mid-January to mid-March.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

### Time Zone



Punta Cana is located in the Atlantic Standard time zone, and all times are reflected in Atlantic time.

Photo: Marek Polakovic

### **Public Transport**



The public bus system covers both Punta Cana and Bavaro and is low cost, but navigating it can get tricky. Bus stops are not clearly marked and

you can hail a minibus (Guacas) anywhere, that's why it is recommended to tell the driver in advance where you want to get off.

Tickets can be purchased on board.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Taxi



Taxis and shuttles are commonplace and can be found almost everywhere you want to travel to. Don't forget that many attractions will provide

free transit if you call ahead or get your resort's travel desk to book for you.

Taxi services in Punta Cana are safe and common, but make sure to set a price before taking a ride. You can book a taxi at hubs at the airport and at most resorts, shopping venues, and attractions. They have fixed rates, which are displayed on a white board in the outer arrival's hall.

# Photo: ArrivalGuides Address: Taxi Bavaro Punta Cana, Avenida España, Punta

Cana Opening hours: 24/7 Phone: +1 809 552 0617 Internet: www.taxibavaropuntacana.com.do Email: info@taxibavaropuntacana.com.do

### Post



A post office is located at Punta Cana Airport, selling postcards and stamps. Dominica Republic's postal service is not renowned for its

efficiency, and post can take a few months to reach its destination.

Photo: Andy Fuchs

Address: Punta Cana International Airport, Punta Cana Phone: +1 809 959 2376 Internet: www.puntacanainternationalairport.com Email: customerservice@puntacana.com

## Pharmacy



Three are several pharmacies in Punta Cana. Pharmacia Estrella: Plaza Estrella Bavaro, Avenida España, Punta Cana +1 809 552 0344,

8am - 11pm

Pharma 360: Primer Nivel 106, Punta Cana +1 809 455 1708, 8am - 12am

Farmacia: Plaza San Juan Shopping Center, Avenida Barceló, Punta Cana +1 809 933 4444, 8am - 10pm

Photo: Gemma Garner

Address: Plaza Estrella Bavaro, Avenida Espana, Punta Cana Opening hours: 8am - 11pm Phone: +1 809 552 0344

## Telephone



Photo: Jardson Almeida

## Electricity



120 volts, 60 Hz American style two-pin plugs

Country codes: +1 809,

+1 829, +1 849

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population 100,023

**Currency** Dominican Peso

### Newspapers

Diario El Caribe Listín Diario Diario Libre El Nacional Dominican Today (in English)

Emergency numbers 911 or 112

#### **Tourist information**

Everything Punta Cana Gemal Longe 3, ap 51 Cocotal, Bávaro Punta Cana 23000

+1 849 763 9881