



FACTS

Río San Juan

Dominican Republic occupies the eastern two-thirds of the island of Hispaniola, which it shares with the Republic of Haiti, and is the second largest country in the Caribbean, comprising an area of 19,292 square miles (49,967 square kilometers). The country has a population of more than 10.5 million and enjoys sunny tropical weather year-round. The average year-round temperatures are 77° to 88° F (25° to 31 C°). The cooler season is November through April, while it is warmest from May through October.

TIME: The local time zone is Eastern Caribbean Time (GMT -0400). Dominican Republic does not observe daylight savings time.

CAPITAL CITY: Dominican Republic's historic and sophisticated capital city, Santo Domingo, is the oldest city of the New World and its Colonial City was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1990.

LANGUAGE: Spanish is the official language; however, you'll be surprised by the fact that the majority of employees in hotels and tourist destinations speak relatively good English, French, German and Italian.

CURRENCY: The Dominican peso (RD\$) is the official currency.

GETTING HERE: Dominican Republic currently has eight international airports throughout the country, including: Punta Cana International Airport (PUJ), La Romana International Airport (LRM), Gregorio Luperón International Airport (POP) in Puerto Plata, El Cibao International Airport (STI) in Santiago, Las Americas International Airport (SDQ) in Santo Domingo, and El Catey International Airport (AZS) in Samaná. Maritime ports that regularly receive cruise ships include Santo Domingo Port (Don Diego and Sans Souci terminals), La Romana (East and West docks, Isla Catalina and Casa de Campo Marina), Puerto Plata (Amber Cove), and Samaná Bay facilities.

DOCUMENTATION: Most visitors arriving in the Dominican Republic—including those from the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, the European Union, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Mexico, many South American countries and Central America (see the full list of countries on our website)—only need a passport with a minimum validity equivalent to the duration of their stay to enter the country. The cost of the 30-day tourist card, paid separately in the past, is now included in the airline ticket for all visitors.

VISAS: Any person, regardless of their nationality, can visit Dominican Republic if they are a legal resident of, or if they have one of the following valid visas in their passport: United States, Canada, United Kingdom or Schengen. Travelers who do not have a passport or visa from countries listed above will need to apply for a visa. To issue a visa, the passport needs to have a validity of at least six (6) months. If you need to apply for a tourist visa, please visit this website to find your Dominican consulate abroad: www.consuladord.com

ELECTRICITY: Operates at 110 Volts/60 Hertz, the same as North America. If needed, adapter plugs are available at most hotels.

TAXES: Dominican hotels and restaurants collect 28 percent of their published prices (18 percent sales tax + 10 percent service charges).

MEDICAL PRECAUTIONS: Because of the strength of the Caribbean sun and the climatic conditions of the area, it is recommended that vacationers always wear sunscreen and mosquito repellent when outdoors, and drink water throughout the day to avoid dehydration. Only bottled water is advised. For emergencies, contact 9-1-1, our National Care System for Emergency and Safety. <https://911.gob.do>

DRINKING AGE: The legal drinking age in the country is 18 years old.

HOTELS: For information about Dominican Republic hotels, visit: www.GoDominicanRepublic.com/en/hotels, and the Association of Hotels and Tourism: www.asonahores.com

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