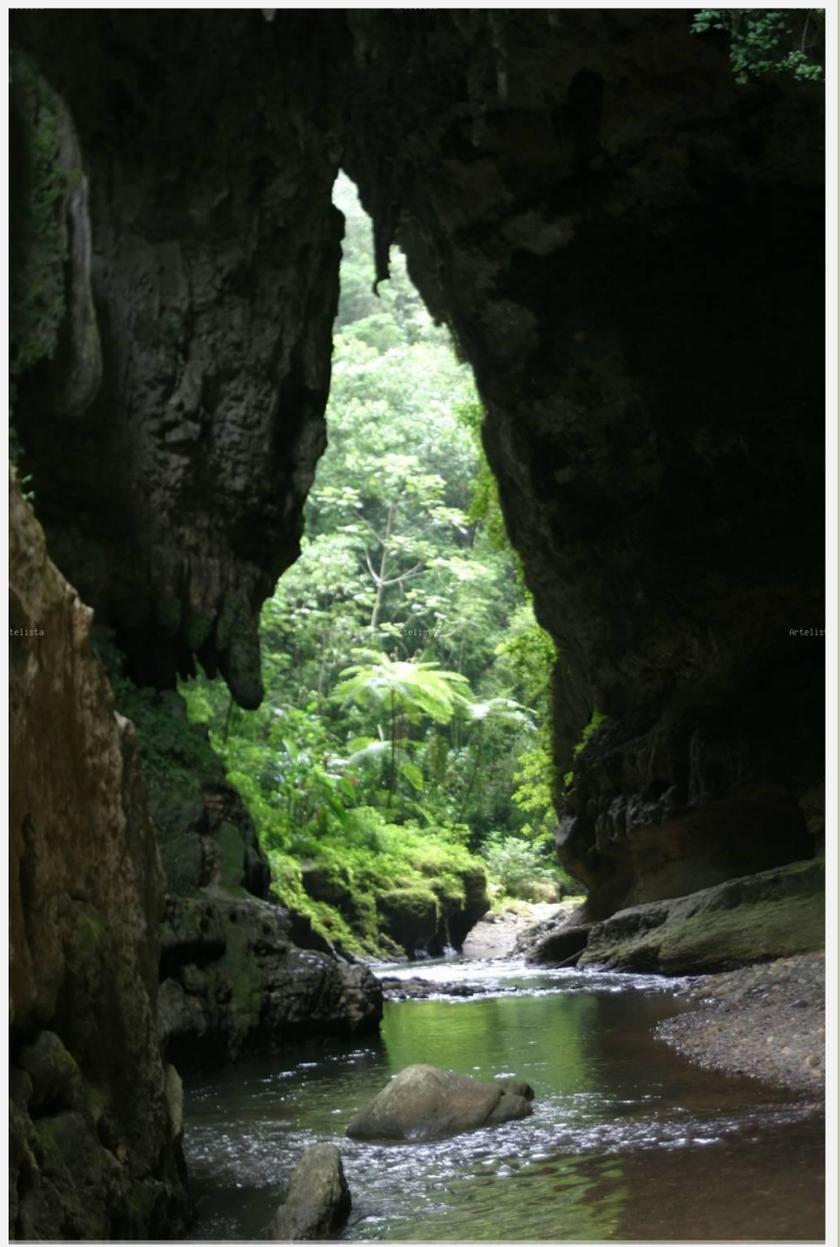




# PUERTO RICO'S GREEN DESTINATIONS

## S U S T A I N A B L E T O U R I S M

In Puerto Rico, we strive to make sure our industry brings a positive impact to locals, tourists, and the environment. That's why the All-Star Island became the first island in the Caribbean to develop its own Green Certifications Program, which certifies that all our endorsed tourism facilities and activities meet sustainable principles. These facilities and activities will offer you a travel experience like no other, combining a sense of contact and bonding with our island's world-class natural resources.







# PUERTO RICO'S GREEN DESTINATIONS

A J O U R N E Y , A N E X P E R I E N C E



Imagine a destination where you can enjoy and learn about outstanding natural and cultural richness, while protecting the environment and improving the wellbeing of local communities.

Puerto Rico has the resources and the potential to develop the sustainable tourism sector as it possesses a wide variety of natural and cultural attractions. This is why the Puerto Rico Tourism Company has developed the guidelines to establish the bases for the development of ecotourism and sustainable tourism in the Island. These are important tools for the proper development and management of these new tourism approach that will position Puerto Rico at a new level in this market segment.

The Green Certifications Program is the first government sponsored program developed in and for the Caribbean. The certification guidelines are a first because they were created taking into account local, environmental, and infrastructure conditions.



# SUSTAINABLE TOURISM FACILITIES PROGRAM



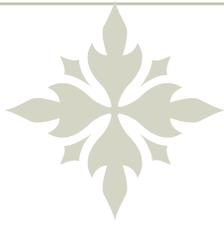
A place to stay is a key component of any journey.

Puerto Rico offers several lodges that ensure sustainable practices on all operational areas, including energy efficiency, water conservation, appropriate disposal of waste products, indoor air quality, landscaping practices, recycling programs, established environmental policies, local community involvement, green fleet of vehicles, reduction of toxic and hazardous substances, and many others.



Under this program, the Puerto Rico Tourism Company collaborates with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Puerto Rico Solid Waste Management Authority through a formal Memorandum of Understanding, establishing a collective effort to advance sustainable development and operation of hospitality facilities in Puerto Rico.





# GREEN HOTELS



## LA JAMACA

Surrounded by rich well-maintained gardens and centered by striking picture perfect swimming pool and hammocks, make you feel inside an oasis of peace and tranquility protected from the rush and noise of big cities.

**Location:** La Parguera, Lajas

**Phone:** (787) 899-6162

**Website:** [www.lajamacapr.com](http://www.lajamacapr.com)

**Classification:** Basic Sustainable Tourism Facility  
Guest House



## CASA SOL B&B

Casa Sol provides its guests with the experience of staying in a restored colonial style 18th century building. This B&B has five uniquely decorated rooms, all with antiques, carefully restored furniture, and artwork crafted by local artists.

**Location:** Old San Juan

**Phone:** (787) 980-9700 / (787) 399-0105

**Website:** [www.casasolbnb.com](http://www.casasolbnb.com)

**Classification:** Basic Sustainable Tourism Facility  
Bed and Breakfast



## THE RITZ CARLTON SAN JUAN

A beautiful beach front hotel, in the designated Isla Verde Coral Reef Marine Reserve, which supports environmental conservation efforts and local communities.

**Location:** San Juan

**Phone:** (787) 253-1700

**Website:** [www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/SanJuan/](http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/SanJuan/)

**Classification:** Basic Sustainable Tourism Facility  
Resort





# GREEN HOTELS



## PARADOR TURTLE BAY INN

First solar-powered guesthouse in the southwest region of Puerto Rico. It supplies 90% of its energy needs. We welcome *Tertelin*, a marine turtle, that will show everyone how to live a better quality life.

**Location:** La Parguera, Lajas

**Phone:** (787) 899-6633

**Website:** [www.turtlebayinn.com](http://www.turtlebayinn.com)

**Classification:** Basic Sustainable Tourism Facility  
Parador



## HIX ISLAND HOUSE

Here you will have an intense experience with nature in total privacy and tranquility. Casa Solaris is completely powered by solar energy, and by the trade winds of the Caribbean.

**Location:** Vieques

**Phone:** (787) 741-2302

**Website:** [www.hixislandhouse.com](http://www.hixislandhouse.com)

**Classification:** Basic Sustainable Tourism Facility  
Guest House



# AGROTOURISM

Puerto Rico has an ideal climate, topography, hydrology, soil diversity, and geology. This agricultural diversity gives tourists a unique opportunity to experience and to taste a wide range of fruits, local produce, and local cuisine. Agrotourism lets you go behind the scenes to experience how the island's culture and traditions are shaped by our harvest.



For instance, you can see first-hand how world-renowned Puerto Rican coffee gets made in one of these *haciendas*.



Agrotourism in Puerto Rico includes growing produce such as banana plantations, fruit trees, vegetables, coffee *haciendas*, livestock, aquaculture, hydroponics, fishing, and organic food.



Agrotourism represents an additional income to the existing agricultural activity. The program proposes two categories: basic and ecological.





# AGROTOURISM

## HACIENDA MUÑOZ

Learn the work of a coffee farmer while enjoying the harmony with nature, in an entertaining way, with family, or friends. You will experience the origins of Puerto Rican coffee from the tour at the crop fields of Hacienda Muñoz, to the preparation of a delicious cup of coffee in the Doppio Coffee Bar.

**Location:** San Lorenzo  
**Agro-experience:** Coffee  
**Phone:** (787) 736-8427  
**Website:** <http://cafehaciendamunoz.com/>  
**Classification:** Basic



## CAFÉ NATIVO

A tour will provide a visit to a coffee replanting area where you will have the opportunity to learn conservation practices. During the tour, you can go bird watching and also watch native trees. The farm uses solar panels that supply 80% of the energy needed to run the entire farm operation.

**Location:** Jayuya  
**Agro-experience:** Coffee  
**Phone:** (787) 315-7881  
**Website:** [www.facebook.com/cafenativojayuya](http://www.facebook.com/cafenativojayuya)  
**Classification:** Basic



## CAFÉ LUCERO

In Café Lucero, coffee beans are hand planted by Puerto Rican workers who implement the highest standards to guarantee its quality. During the tour, the visitor will enjoy the process from ground preparation through the planting process, until it reaches packing of the final product.

**Location:** Ponce  
**Agro-experience:** Coffee  
**Phone:** (787) 848-8387  
**Website:** [www.cafelucero.com](http://www.cafelucero.com)  
**Classification:** Basic



# AGROTOURISM

## HACIENDA DON CARMELO

Hacienda Don Carmelo provides the visitor a wonderfully charming and fine equestrian show. The Hacienda also provides the visitor the opportunity of a lifetime of learning about horse breeding and about the island's cultural heritage in general. Definitely, this is a lovely experience not to be missed.

**Location:** Vega Baja

**Agro-experience:** Equestrian

**Phone:** (787) 774-7978

**Website:** [www.haciendadoncarmelopr.com](http://www.haciendadoncarmelopr.com)

**Classification:** Basic



## HACIENDA TRES ÁNGELES

A visit to Tres Ángeles offers you the opportunity to learn and participate in a variety of activities, such as cultivating coffee beans, the bean selecting process, and the ecofriendly technology to process coffee beans in the *Beneficiado*.

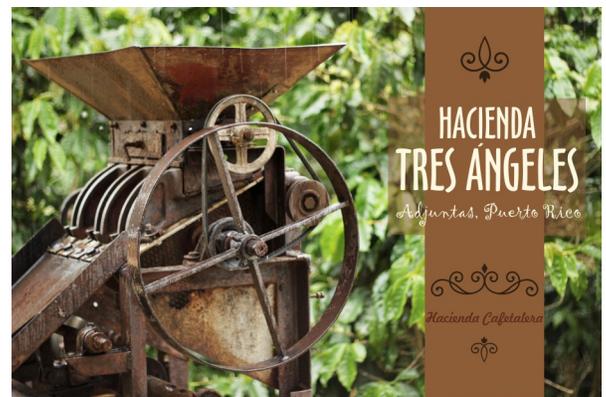
**Location:** Adjuntas

**Agro-experience:** Coffee

**Phone:** (787) 360-0019

**Website:** [www.haciendatresangeles.com](http://www.haciendatresangeles.com)

**Classification:** Basic



## QUESOS VACA NEGRA

Offers you an extraordinary experience which includes learning the process of cheese and yogurt making, while offering an opportunity to taste a variety of them. Participate in making your own cheese; and personalize it with spices and your name.

**Location:** Hatillo

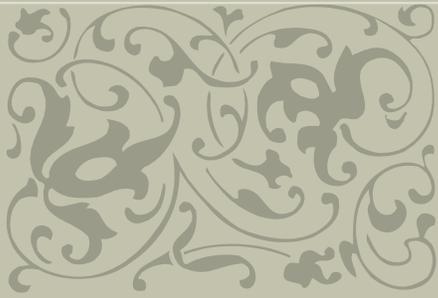
**Agro-experience:** Cheese and Yogurt

**Phone:** (787) 262-5656

**Website:** [www.quesosvacanegra.com](http://www.quesosvacanegra.com)

**Classification:** Basic





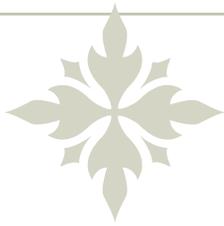
# ECOTOURISM

The purpose of the Ecotourism Program is to broaden the ecotourism offer, ensuring the quality and standards of the ecotourism industry, while satisfying the expectations of the visitor, taking into account local realities and peculiarities; and therefore, promoting a sense of place and authenticity.



The ecotourism program is not only focused on tour operators, but also on community based initiatives in order to enhance their wellbeing as healthy places to visit, live, and invest. Puerto Rico might seem like a small island, but it offers six different ecosystems. From dry forests to rainforests, you can experience different natural scenarios such as coastal plains, karst systems with caves and caverns, wetlands, mangrove forests, salt plains, coral reefs, and more. Coupled with our culture and our people, Puerto Rico's biodiversity will charm every ecotourism enthusiast.





# ECOTOURISM



## AVENTURA CUEVA VENTANA

Cueva Ventana Tour is a unique ecologically oriented experience. A 20 minute hike, of medium to medium low intensity, will take you to discover a live cave that will lead you to witness the most exhilarating, beautiful, stunning, panoramic view of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.

**Location:** Arecibo  
**Eco-experience:** Cave tour  
**Phone:** (787) 322-3554  
**Website:** <http://cuevaventanapr.com>  
**Classification:** Basic



## BATEY ZIPLINE ADVENTURES

The unique setting on the Tanamá River, with breathtaking views of the karst landscape, welcome you as we start an interpretative hike along trails full of lush green scenery. An amazing hanging bridge over the river, exciting zip lines, rappelling, and a magnificent underground river cave await you.

**Location:** Utuado  
**Eco-experience:** hiking, Zipline, kayaks, caves  
**Phone:** (787) 484-3860  
**Website:** [www.bateydelcemi.com](http://www.bateydelcemi.com)  
**Classification:** Basic



## BLACK BEARD SPORTS

Black Beard Sports offers guided exploration of the Bioluminescent Bay. It also offers a 5 Star PADI Dive Center. As a tour operator, it offers hiking, biking, small boat sailing, snorkeling, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding (SUP), bio-bay, and scuba diving. Their activities reach out through education as well as sports and recreation.

**Location:** Vieques  
**Eco-experience:** scuba diving, snorkeling, biking  
**Phone:** (787) 741-1892  
**Website:** [www.blackbeardsports.com](http://www.blackbeardsports.com)  
**Classification:** Basic





# ECOTOURISM



## WATER SPORTS AND ECOTOURS

Watersports and Ecotours focus in the interpretation of aquatic and terrestrial paths in the Humacao Nature Reserve. It provides the experience of exploring and learning through the tranquility of the water of several coastal lagoons, wetlands, mangroves and Pterocarpus forests that harbor a diversity of native and migratory birds in a protected area.



**Localización:** Humacao

**Eco-experiencia:** Kayak, botes de pedal, tablas de remo, senderismo

**Teléfono:** (787) 852-6058

**Página de Internet:** [www.inecoh.com](http://www.inecoh.com)

**Classification:** Basic



## RENT THE BICYCLE

On Rent the Bicycle, you will find a very unique way of touring. Visitors will energize themselves, have fun, and learn while they ride their bicycles. Instead of just getting to a destination, you can actually experience the route.



**Location:** San Juan

**Eco-experience:** biking

**Phone:** (787) 602-9696 / (787) 661-2728

**Website:** [www.rentthebicycle.com](http://www.rentthebicycle.com)

**Classification:** Basic



## PURE ADVENTURE



As our guest, you become a Pure Adventurer, because the beaches we visit, the lagoons that we kayak, the bioluminescent waters that we explore and the seas where we snorkel and dive are all pristine, relatively untouched environments.

**Location:** Ceiba

**Eco-experience:** Snorkeling, scuba diving, kayaking, bird watching, bio bay tours.

**Phone:** (787) 202-6551

**Website:** [www.pureadventurepr.com/](http://www.pureadventurepr.com/)

**Classification:** Basic





# COMMUNITY BASED TOURISM



## EFRAIN ARCHILLA DIEZ, HUMACAO NATURAL RESERVE

The Humacao Community Ecotourism Initiative is a group of entrepreneurs who joined efforts for the economic development of the community of the coastal area of Humacao. This group is trained and has the necessary skills to carry out passive activities in the Reserve because of their understanding and commitment with the environment. In the Reserve, the natural ecosystem motivates you to explore several coastal lagoons, wetlands, and forests that harbor a diversity of native and migratory birds. As you arrive, you will be welcomed by local entrepreneurs who will guide you through a learning adventure. You can also enjoy local food, and join an arts and crafts workshop using raw materials from the forest.

**Location:** Humacao

**Eco-experience:** Kayak, pedal boats, paddle boats, hiking, interpretative tours, sightseeing.

**Phone:** (787) 852-6058

**Website:** <http://www.reservanaturalhumacao.com/>



## PUNTA TUNA, MAUNABO NATURAL RESERVE

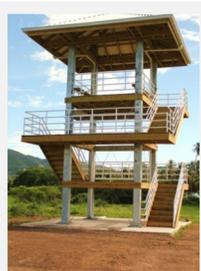
Located in the southeast region of Puerto Rico, Punta Tuna Nature Reserve is a scenic coastal wetland area with immense ecological diversity. This is one of nature’s best kept secrets which is sustained by the warmth and leadership of the local community. The community organization *Comité Pro Desarrollo de Maunabo* is a committee that has a co-management agreement with the Department of Natural & Environmental Resources for the sustainable use and ecosystems protection of the wetland. Punta Tuna has the first and only interpretive trail adapted for blind people which also has been customized for physically impaired people. Interpretative tours in which you can walk through and watch coconut palm trees, mangroves, and brackish lagoons to find a sea turtle nesting beach are coordinated by the committee. But there is yet more to do around this beautiful place! The committee has a complete calendar scheduled with educational, environmental, and recreational activities for the community as well as for all visitors. From bird watching to stargazing... allow yourself to live an authentic experience in this kept treasure!

**Location:** Maunabo

**Eco-experience:** Walking, interpretative tours, observation tower, lighthouse.

**Phone:** 787-861-0387

**Website:** <http://comiteprodesarrollomaunabo.com/>





**EL CANTAR DEL BOSQUE DE RIO ABAJO—RIO ABAJO STATE FOREST**

“El Cantar del Bosque Río Abajo” is a nonprofit community organization characterized by its commitment to the management, conservation and sustainable development of the *Río Abajo* Forest. The majesty of the forest is reflected in the wide variety of wildlife, diverse vegetation which includes gigantic mahogany trees, complex systems of caves, archaeological and historical resources, as well as rivers and reservoirs in its periphery. This forest is classified as subtropical wet forest and subtropical moist forest. In addition, the forest is used for the Puerto Rican Parrot Recovery Project, an endangered species. This forest is the gateway to a unique experience in contact with nature and our indigenous ancestors. The Forest has a several trails, paths, camping area, which invite you to explore and discover the magic within.

**Location:** Utuado, Arecibo

**Eco-experience:** Trails, interpretative tours, bird watch, sightseeing.

**Phone:** (787) 645-2190



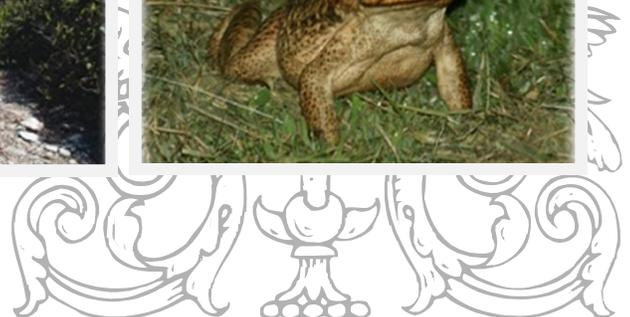
**GUANICA DRY FOREST NATIONAL & BIOSPHERE RESERVE**

Located in the southwest corner of the Island, the Guánica State Forest is unique in Puerto Rico. Due to its ecological importance, it has been designated as a United Nations International Biosphere Reserve in recognition of the efforts to conserve natural processes and resources in the forest. The purpose of this initiative is to train community members as environmental interpreters to undertake ecotourism as a community based project in the forest. The development of the ecotourism initiative will generate an income to re-invest in the co-management of the forest and will benefit the community, therefore solving some of the great challenges that the forest reserve has. Furthermore, this project will help reinforce the sense of ownership of the communities near *Bosque Seco*. The creation of community alliances focused on ecotourism have the potential of helping to work with existing challenges and to significantly contribute to

**Location:** Guánica

**Eco-experience:** Trails, interpretative tours, bird watch, sightseeing.

**Phone:** 787-508-2475





# COMMUNITY BASED TOURISM



## ESTAMPAS AGRO ECOTURÍSTICAS DE PUERTO RICO

*Estampas* is a non profit, non governmental, community based organization since 2005. Residents of Rio Hondo community came together to rescue and conserve the last and high ecological value remaining undeveloped land in the neighborhood with the help of the municipality and the US Forest Service. The community promotes the conservation of the environment in two ways: ecotourism and agrotourism. In these 68 acre property, natural, educational, and ecological aspects of it come together in a comprehensive and very committed way. You can become a part of it by crossing the forest through its picturesque paths, involving yourself with the learning of the history and the natural richness of the place. Once the tour is finished, you can enjoy products made by the community.

**Location:** Mayaguez

**Eco-experience:** Trails, interpretative tours, bird watch, sightseeing.

**Phone:** (787) 391-6106



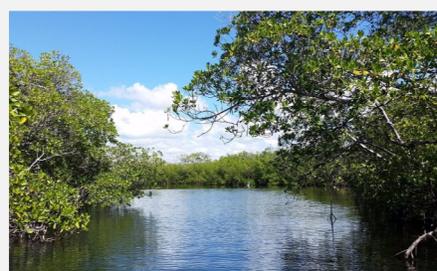
## JOBOS BAY NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE

*Jobos Bay* is a semi-enclosed water body located in Aguirre along the southeast coast of the island between the municipalities of Guayama and Salinas. It is the second largest estuarine area in Puerto Rico. It presents a diversity of marine and land ecosystems, among which dry forests, mangrove swamps and forests, salty lagoons, barrier reefs, patch reefs, cays, small islets, and sea grass meadows, among others are highlighted. Therefore, this is an area with an extensive and diverse ecology in which birds, dolphins, diverse fish species, crustaceans, mollusks, and some endangered species, such as the manatee can be found. The bay was designated in 1981 as the Jobos Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (JBNERR) by the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**Location:** Aguirre, Salinas

**Eco-experience:** Trails, interpretative tours, bird watch, sightseeing.

**Phone:** (787) 853-4617





PUERTO RICO'S  
GREEN DESTINATION  
S U S T A I N A B L E T O U R I S M

Sustainable Tourism Division  
Planning and Development Office  
Puerto Rico Tourism Company

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San Juan, PR 00902-3960

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