

General Orientation

Apartment 5

Thank you for choosing us for your trip! We look forward to meeting you and below is some information about your stay.

Security

In general Old San Juan areas are safe and you will see many police in all areas. However, it is a large city and we always recommend guests keep their eyes open and lock doors, car doors, etc.

Old San Juan: We do not recommend guests go in the secluded La Perla section which is along the north road of Old San Juan, even though it appears quite charming from above.

Puerta de Tierra (east of Old San Juan): This is no man's land and we don't recommend touring on foot south of Ponce de Leon avenue after early evening and only visiting the beach and park areas during daylight. Escambron beach is a European certified Blue Flag beach and tourists visit during the day but it is a secluded area and we don't recommend visiting at night.

Quiet Hours

While the apartment is more or less secluded, we ask guests to keep music at a considerate level after 11pm if using the outdoor patio.

Doors and Entrances

You will see the three red doors upon your arrival. Your entrance door is the red door on the right. See website ottoschick.org/welcome.html for photo of front of building.

Keys

When you arrive you need to open the mail slot on the red door to the right. You will see a string hanging down. Pull the string and the key holder will come to you with three keys on it. One with the round head will open the upper deadbolt and that is usually the only thing that will be locked at your arrival. The second key will open the doorknob. The last triangular shaped key is for the lock on the patio door. The key will be placed on the string shortly before the agreed arrival time.

Smoking

Smoking is prohibited inside the apartment but permitted on the outdoor patio.

Sand

If returning from the beach please thoroughly rinse yourself, towels, surfboards, chairs, coolers and snorkel gear at patio hose area to minimize sand inside.

Trash

There is a green dumpster at the corner of San Justo Street and Sol Street, about 30 feet up the hill. You can deposit trash bags there at any time.

Cable TV Channels

We use DirectTV which has a large number of channels, some local but mainly from the USA.

Food

We recommend guests put most food in the refrigerator, even potato chips and snacks. Ants can be aggressive and will come under doors and through windows. Even crumbs can attract them.

Parking

There is street parking available for free. We recommend the following loop to find parking:

Go up Norzagaray then left on SAN JUSTO Street.

(At Green Trash Dumpster & Mailbox)

If no spot go LEFT on Luna Street (bottom of hill)

If no spot turn LEFT up ODonnell Street. (2nd LEFT)

LEFT on Sol Street.

LEFT on SAN JOSE St (2nd Str after SAN JUSTO)

LEFT on Luna.

Then make this loop until you find parking:

Luna, ODonnell, Sol, San Jose. At busy times you may need to make the loop several times.

Weekend afternoons or Friday/Saturday nights, you may get frustrated with parking. There is the Cochera Parking Garage on Calle Luna. \$5 from 5pm to 8am. \$4/hour during the day. Tell them you are a resident for the \$5 overnight rate.

Supermarkets (1 in the area)

Supermax. Open til 12midnight but starts closing at 11:45pm. Has all basics plus wine, beer, etc. Plaza de Armas.

Puerto Rico Drug Store, Plaza de Armas.

Walgreens also at Plaza de Armas.

Groceries (Included)

We provide the following items for your stay:

- Bathroom handwash liquid (at least 1/2 full)
- 3 rolls of toilet paper
- One inch thick stack of napkins
- At least 1/2 roll of paper towels
- Dish detergent (at least 1/2 full bottle)
- Laundry Detergent (Special Type for Washer)

Groceries (Not Included)

- Food, Bottled Water
- Shampoo, Conditioner

Any food, beverages, spices or condiments left in apartment is not provided by Owner and is for guests to freely use but at their own risk.

Bathroom, Bedroom & General Supplies

We provide sheets, blankets, pillows, two beach towels, and a kitchen dish towel. We do not provide bathroom washcloths or hand towels due to too many being used for other purposes.

Hot Water

We use instant electric hot water heaters. Hot water takes about 10 seconds to reach the kitchen sink.

Internet Access

Free, high speed wireless internet:
Router: otto5 Password: ottorouter5

Occupany

Occupancy limit in each apartment is 6 persons unless discussed in advance.

Sports, Fishing

Tarpon/snook fishing, Armando or Karim.
787 644 1444. Fish around Moscoso Bridge, airport area. Typical 5-25 lbs, up to 150lb. Incl water, sodas. 4 hr tour; \$325/2pers. \$375/3per, \$425/4per.

Sports, Horseback Riding

Pintos R Us in Rincon has several brilliant tours. Trails, oceanside, sunsets, and 5 days/month full moon night rides. \$60/2hr tour. \$75/full moon tour. Also half day/full day. Call Cindy, 787 361 3639.

Sports, Tennis

Park Barbosa in Ocean Park has 4 tennis courts. They charge \$6/hr for singles, \$8/hr doubles. Open 7 days, hours vary. No reservations, just go and sign up. Recently renovated, immaculate courts.

Specific Orientation Apartment 5

Sheets, Sofabed. Sheets will be in the bedroom closet.

CD / DVD Player. There is a DVD player.

Laundry Room. There is a brand new low energy washer and dryer for your exclusive use.

Laundry Detergent. There is a container of the detergent in the closet. YOU CANNOT USE NORMAL LAUNDRY DETERGENT IN THIS MACHINE.

Checkout. Please turn off AC, fans, lights. Lock apartment door behind you and throw the key into the mail slot so it falls onto the floor inside.

Air Conditioning. The bedroom has its own AC unit, and the living/kitchen has another AC unit. We have provided an accordeon window in the bedroom and an accordeon door at the top of the stairs to seal the apartment. Keep these both closed for maximum cooling in the apartment, because the cool air will flow down the stairwell unless you close these accordeons.

Our Recommendations for Puerto Rico

El Yunque Rainforest and Lunch/Sunset at El Conquistador Hotel. 1 day trip. Nice combination. I recommend La Mina Falls path. Very tropical waterfall and pond at the bottom. Bring swim trunks to dip in the pond/waterfall. 30 minute moderate hike each way.

El Conquistador. Las Croabas, near Fajardo, a beautiful hotel, tropical pools overlooking the ocean. A highlight of your trip. Eat lunch at the outdoor balcony cafe (low priced), get some sun and a sunset. We don't recommend the expensive restaurants in Conquistador. Go to Fogon, below.

Pasion por el Fogon Restaurant. Fajardo. A great restaurant on the East Coast. Seafood & local food. Near the Marina, 5 min to Conquistador hotel. 787-863-3502
www.pasionporelfogon.net

Pinones Bike, Jogging and Walking Path. Boardwalk along the ocean. Brilliant views. Fresh fruit shake stand, nice swimming and mangrove swamps. Bike rentals. Some parts dirty. Stop at "The Reef" for a cold drink with the best view of San Juan. Soleil Restaurant very popular. Waterfront Rest. beautiful. Most locals have their fun and leave Pinones by 5pm.

Lago Dos Bocas. Beautiful lake, stunning scenery. Go to Rancho Marina restaurant, sit by the lake.

Water Sports/Parasailing. San Juan area. A great way to experience the ocean. Kayaks, Hobie-Cat, Banana boat, jet-ski. 8 minutes from the apartment. waterfun-pr.com

Beginner's Surfing, San Juan. Never tried it? A five minute drive away you can make the most of your caribbean vacation and try something new. Call Velauno 787 982 0543 (rentals, info) Or call Ricardo at 787-637-8363.

Fajardo Catamaran Trip. About \$69 each. Like 10am - 4pm. Spectacular boat ride to a small

island for snorkeling, sunshine. Various sun decks. Mask, snorkel, fins included. Juices, drinks, beer, pina coladas, lunch included. One of our top recommendations.

www.saltydreams.com (Salty Dog) 787 717 6378
www.travelerpr.com (Traveler Cat) 787 863 2821
www.saildiveparty.com (Fun Cat) 787 383 5700

Salt Flats and Crescent Bay, Cabo Rojo. Visit interesting salt flats, moon like rock formations, a beautiful crescent shaped bay with wonderful smooth Caribbean water, and see the lighthouse with breathtaking views over high ocean cliffs.

Caves, Camuy Area near Arcibo. Definitely worth the trip.

Hacienda Buena Vista, Adjuntas, north of Ponce. Historic coffee plantation. Specific tour hours, 787-722-5882, 787-722-5834

Snorkeling, Crash Boat area, Aquadilla. This is a favorite for snorkeling in the northwest coast.

Swimming, Surfing, and Sunset at Rincon, Punta Area. In Rincon the water is strong and refreshing and has the reputation of surfers paradise. For experts and beginners. The area of Punta is largely undeveloped with a few great, decently priced restaurants right on the ocean. The stars at night are the most brilliant I have ever seen. (check cloud situation)

Horseback Riding.
haciendacarabalipr.com, Luquillo
pintosrus.com (Rincon, ocean) 787 361 3639
tropicaltrailrides.com Isabela, ocean 787 872 9256
ranchobuenavistapr.com Humacao, ocean
haciendamadrigalpr.com (Cidra, mountains)

Bacardi Rum Factory. Nice display of the history of the company. Catano area.

Ron del Barrilito Rum Factory. Known as the best rum from Puerto Rico, this is a smaller, family owned company.

Walking Tour of Old San Juan

There are three main parking garages. Two are on the south side of Old San Juan, and one is very close to El Morro. All 3 are clean and safe.

Parking Garage near El Morro. On the way to Old San Juan pass the Capitol building. About 30 seconds later the road splits 3 ways. Turn right up the hill and follow that road straight along the coast.

WARNING: Along this road you will see a colorful community located down between the road and the ocean. It is called La Perla and after you pass some domino tables on the ocean side you will see a street exiting down to the right. Do not go down there. You occasionally hear of incidents since it is very isolated. Pass La Perla entrance and keep driving straight.

Go up the hill then begin a descent. See the small plaza with fountain on the left.

Directly across is a driveway down on your right side. This is the entrance to a convenient, clean and inexpensive underground parking garage. It is central to El Morro and the rest of Old San Juan.

With exception of La Perla you will find Old San Juan usually safe and full of police.

These are our priority OSJ recommendations:

1. Tour El Morro and Cemetery.
(we generally recommend skipping the visit to Fort Cristobal; much smaller and less impressive than El Morro)
2. Visit La Casa Blanca (near El Morro) Ask directions, since its not shown on many maps but is nice and worth the trip. Tropical gardens and old tropical trees. Closes 5pm.
3. Visit Galeria Inn. Private guest house but one of the most interesting structures in Old San Juan. San Justo Street, top of the hill.
4. Walk to Cathedral (After the cathedral there are many good restaurants right nearby. Good time for a mid-day lunch break)
5. El Convento. Even if you decide not to eat there you should walk through. An old convent with a spectacular tropical courtyard. Small chapel. Excellent wine/tapas patio above

courtyard or sit at ground level for a great pina colada.

Exiting the Cathedral, walk down Caleta San Juan, the tree covered cobblestone street toward the city gate (two streets go down; its the left one). There is a small Spanish tapas restaurant about 75 feet down the street on the left side. Many cats on this street and charming little spanish style houses. One of the most charming streets in OSJ.

6. At bottom of street, turn right up the hill. See Statue of Rogativa with a great view of the bay.
7. Come back down the hill, go thru City Gate
8. Walk along the Bay toward the fountain.
9. Walk along Paseo de la Princesa (a beautiful outdoor coffe shop/restaurant there)
10. Walk up to Capilla del Cristo
11. Visit Plaza de Armas
(have a cafe con leche at the small round building, my favorite in the area)
12. Souvenir shopping: The most popular areas are along Calle Cristo and Calle Fortaleza

Old San Juan, Recommended Restaurants

Calle Cristo (near the Cathedral)

- . El Convento (tapas/wine bar restaurant in a beautiful tropical setting)
- . Ostra Cosa Restaurant, Calle Cristo 154 (near Convento, outdoor garden)
- . Cafe Bohemio (Next to El Convento), excellent food
- . St Germain Cafe, Sol Street, great lunches
- . Puerto Rico Cafe, Plaza de Colon, typical food
- . Cafe Cultura, Plaza de Colon, great coffee
- . Bodega Chic, Cristo Street, great food
- . Dragonfly. Pricey, alittle cramped and a bit loud but excellent food.
- . Tantra (try the Mojitos, Caipairinhas). Some nights belly dancing show. Exotic decor.
- . Aqua Viva
(many restaurants along South Fortaleza street)

Old San Juan (Recommendations)

Parrot Club. Nice latin and seafood, great tropical decor, fun atmosphere, often live music. 363 Forteleza. 787-725-7370

La Bombonera. Famous diner. All sorts of Puerto Rican food. Famous for the mallorca pastry. Tried it toasted smothered with butter. 259 Calle San Francisco, 787-722-0658

Cafe Berlin. 407 San Francisco St. Good cafe, good food, deserts.

Nice Flamenco. Divino Bocado. Great place for some tapas, sangria, and flamenco dancing. 252 Calle Cruz, 787-725-6507

Spanish Tapas and Wine Bar. El Convento Wine Patio. Beautiful large, tropical patio with great ambience. Great day or night.

Nice Belly Dancing Show and Good Arabic Food. Makarios. Near Starbucks.

Great Latin Food and Neat Ambiance. Baru. 150 Calle San Sebastian, 787-977-7107, weekends dancing.

Condado (Recommendations)

Best Cuban Food. Ropa Vieja. Ropa Vieja is a Cuban specialty shredded beef and well worth trying. Restaurant has great food and wine, valet parking.

Best Paella. Antonios in Condado makes an excellent paella, spanish style (~\$40), feeds two. Nice seafood. 1406 Magdalena. 787 723 7567.

Best Puerto Rican Food. Ajili Mojili. Traditional food, nice seafood, good drinks, pleasant ambience. Not too expensive. 1006 Ashford Ave, 787 725 9195

Indian / Thai Food. Wonderful food, easy parking, indoors / outdoor patio under large trees. **Bangkok Bombay.** 58 Caribe St. 787-721-1470.

Best Place for a Drink on the Ocean at Night. Caribe Hilton. Get a drink inside then wander out to the rear patio and pier. Watch the moonlight set over the ocean. Grab a lounge chair and soak in the breezes. Excellent.

Salsa Dancing. The Marriott in Condado has salsa most nights of the week.

Greek Food. Fleria, 1754 Loiza, 787 268 0010

Pinones Beach (Recommendations)

Bring your swim outfits.

A little off the beaten path, Pinones has a newly renovated bike and walking path along the ocean. Some of the best views in San Juan area. Less clean than many areas of San Juan, but some beautiful things to do:

Bike/Walking path. Rent-A-Bike 787 602 9696

Pinones Beach. At the end of the Pinones strip is a wonderful beach area. Protected by a reef, the waters are smooth and safe. Great for kids.

Best View of San Juan. At "**The Reef**", there is a deck out over the beach with one of the best views of the whole city of San Juan. After crossing the Congrejo bridge into Pinones, take the first left up a small hill. Continue up and around. Area is sometimes a little dirty but the view is amazing.

Waterfront Restaurant. Great mofongo (famous PR food made from plantains). Excellent seafood, a little hard to find, but a brilliant view right on the ocean.

Soleil Restaurant. Right on the ocean, Soleil has nice appetizers, meals, and dancing several nights a week.

Fruit and Fruit Shakes. Near Soleil Restaurant, is a green/red/black shack that makes Natural Fruit Shakes. You pick the fruits.

Rental Car Companies

NOTE: Charlie, AAA and VIAS often have good rates.

Company	Phone	Office Hours	Location	Minutes	Free
				From	Airport
				Airport	Shuttle ?
AAA	787 726 7350	Mon-Sat, 8am-6pm, Closed Sunday	Isla Verde Avenue	5	Yes
Avis	787 253 5925	24/7	Airport	0	n/a
Budget	787 791 0600	24/7	Airport	0	n/a
Charlie	787 728 2418	24/7	Isla Verde Avenue	5	Yes
Dollar	787 791 5500		Marginal Los Angeles	5	
Hertz	787 791 0840	24/7	Airport	0	n/a
L & M	787 791 1160		Airport	0	n/a
Quality	787 791 6350		Isla Verde Avenue	5	
Thrifty	787 253 2525		Airport	0	n/a
VIAS	787 791 4120	Rents 24/7, But Shuttle Hours Limited	Isla Verde Avenue	3	8am to 5pm