

Puerto Rico



Presented by
Minnesota Landscape
ARBORETUM

Puerto Rico—Gardens of Paradise **December 3 - 9, 2009**

Air, Hotel & Tour Package

From \$2,400 per person, double occupancy

Price is based on double occupancy. Single supplement from \$675.00 per person. Non-members of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum add \$100 to tour price or become a member of the Landscape Arboretum at \$35.00 for a single and \$55.00 for a dual membership.

In Puerto Rico you will find exotic hideaways, miles of white, sandy beaches, mountains, rainforests, and a host of other natural wonders. In addition to the amazing landscapes, you will find yourself surrounded by warm and friendly people.

Our tour to Puerto Rico will focus on the lush, tropical flora and fauna of this island paradise. You will also have the opportunity to tour the outlying areas of the island as well as experience the charm and history of the old quarter of San Juan.

We will be visiting Puerto Rico's many highlights. Puerto Rico has the only tropical rainforest in the United States — El Yunque. We will visit unique gardens that blend the Puerto Rican culture with nature and tropical agriculture. We will explore the historic center of San Juan as well as visit the historic Galeria Inn, which boasts a spectacular botanical garden and art gallery. In addition we will have the opportunity to drive from the north side of the island to the south side to visit the quaint town of Ponce and the Castle Serralles which overlooks the town. You will have a day at leisure to visit new sites of interest to you or explore in more depth sites you have already seen. The trip will end with a very special gala dinner at a mansion outside of San Juan.

Don't miss this fantastic, warm-weather, tropical trip! This will be a great opportunity to relax before the holiday rush and even pick up some unique and special gifts! Sign up today to ensure your place on this marvelous tour!

Call the Experts—Macy's Travel
Toll Free 800-533-0324
Monday-Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

www.macystravel.com



Our own unique travel experiences that offer exceptional value, quality and attention to detail. Only from Macy's Travel.



About Our Hotel Sheraton Old San Juan



The Sheraton Old San Juan is a delightfully captivating, upscale hotel in the heart of picturesque Old San Juan, a city as rich in history as it is in culture. A completely unique location highlights spectacular views of the bay and puts you mere cobbles-

stones away from 16th century Spanish fortresses, fascinating museums, art galleries, restaurants and world-class shopping. From its Spanish-colonial architecture to its comforting in-room amenities, the Sheraton Old San Juan Hotel offers guests the perfect blend of Old World charm and New World elegance. Unlimited use of the Health Club/Fitness Center, recreational facilities, and in-room coffee are included.

About the Galeria Inn San Juan

The Galeria is the private residence of well-known local artist, Jan D'Esopo and her husband Manuco Gandía, who is also the teacher of the Puerto Rico Olympic Equestrian Team. The home was built in the 1600s, and is the oldest residential structure in Old San Juan. Its brick patios, antique arches, ausubo beams, sculptured fountains and nineteen glorious gardens are among the Inn's charming details. Here you'll be warmly greeted by your hosts, have a tour of the galleries and their spectacular gardens, and enjoy a welcome reception at one of San Juan's finest venues.



About El Yunque

Thanks to receiving 100 billion gallons of rain per year, the El Yunque rainforest is able to sustain some 250 species of trees, 50 types of ferns and as many as 20 varieties of wild orchids. In addition to the flora, El Yunque is also home to an array of Puerto Rican wildlife.

El Yunque has been nominated to be one of the 7 natural wonders of the world.

About the Caguas Botanical & Cultural Garden

This park is designed to illustrate the relationships between the Puerto Rican culture, nature and tropical agriculture. It is located in the small city of Caguas, just 30 minutes from San Juan, and consists of 60 acres on the grounds of an abandoned sugar mill. Here you will see many traditional structures (some overrun with plants, making them a thing of beauty) as well as a number of endangered trees, a butterfly garden, and unique Caribbean flowers.



About Ponce and Serralles Castle

Ponce is a quaint town on the Southside of the island. We will visit it's beautiful, traditional plaza, world class museum, and the Serralles Castle which overlooks Ponce. This impeccably preserved Spanish Revival castle will bring us back to the elegant 1920's. The estate includes exquisitely landscaped terraces and gardens for us to wander about.





Travel Itinerary

Thursday, December 3

R

Morning departure from Minneapolis/St. Paul for San Juan, Puerto Rico. Upon arrival you'll transfer to the **Sheraton Old San Juan Hotel**, located in the Old Quarter of San Juan. After checking in at the hotel, you will have time to relax before walking to the Galeria Inn San Juan for a delightful evening of gardens, art, great appetizers and drinks. Return to the hotel afterward. Dinner is on your own this evening.

Friday, December 4

B

This morning we will visit the Botanical Garden of the University of San Juan. The garden includes several themed collections of tropical and subtropical plants, as well as a fine collection of modern sculptures by renowned artists of Puerto Rico and Hispanic America. The garden is a living laboratory for informal instruction in all aspects of the native flora and other plants.

We will then return to our hotel. You will have two hours to relax, have lunch, and get ready for our walking tour of Old San Juan.

Our walk along the picturesque cobblestone streets, patios, hanging balconies, plazas and chapels of Old San Juan will show us the marriage of the past and the present. We will marvel at the colorful colonial buildings and centuries-old fortresses while enjoying the tropical breezes of the Atlantic Ocean. We will explore the World Heritage sites of Fort El Morro and the Fort of San Cristobal. Along with historic cathedrals, plazas and museums. After this tour you can explore on your own the shops, boutiques and art galleries that have made this historic area their home.

We will return to our hotel, where the balance of the day is at leisure. Dinner is on your own tonight.

Saturday, December 5

B L

Today we journey to the El Yunque Rainforest where we'll spend time touring the rainforest and visit the El Portal Visitor's Center. After lunch we will have a nature hike. The guided hike is a low-impact, half-hour walk where hikers will be able to take a closer look at the various types of flora and fauna and see some of the local birds. You'll enter the Palo Colorado Forest on your hike, one of the four distinct forests in the rainforest.

Afterwards, we'll return to San Juan, where the balance of the day is at leisure. Tonight you can venture out on your own to enjoy some of the nightlife in the historic city. Dinner is on your own.

Sunday, December 6

B L

This morning we will depart for the Botanical and Cultural Garden in the small city of Caguas. Here we will visit many areas of the garden, which will allow us to understand the interaction between the Puerto Rican culture, nature and tropical agriculture.

We will enjoy lunch in the town of Caguas and have time to explore this city.

Afterwards, we will return to our hotel where you will have the balance of the day and the evening to enjoy Puerto Rico with your new found friends. Dinner is on your own.

Monday, December 7

B

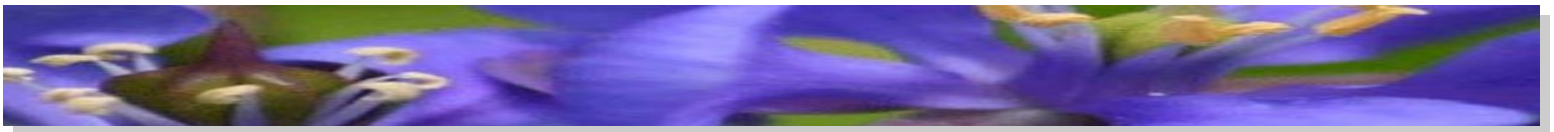
This morning we will depart to cross the island from north to south and visit the town of Ponce and Serralles Castle. We will visit the quaint Plaza and the world class Ponce Museum. You will have time for lunch and shopping while in Ponce. We will then visit the grounds and interior of the baronial estate called Serralles Castle. Dinner will be on your own.

R = RECEPTION

B = BREAKFAST

L = LUNCH

D = DINNER



Tuesday, December 8

B D

Today you will have at leisure to shop, revisit sites you have seen, or to see new sites. Peter Olin and I will assist you with ideas and making arrangements. But, don't get too tired as we have an exciting gala dinner planned for our last night in Puerto Rico.

Wednesday, December 9

B

This morning you have at leisure to enjoy Old San Juan. We will depart for the airport at about 1:30 PM so we can catch our 4:00 PM flight home

B = Breakfast D = Dinner

Not a Member? You can still Join us!!

Non-members will need to add \$100 per person to the tour price. To qualify for the Arboretum member's price, each traveler must be a member of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Please contact the Arboretum at 952-443-1440 for information on membership.

What's Included:

- Roundtrip airfare between Minneapolis-St. Paul and San Juan
- Six nights hotel accommodation at the Sheraton Old San Juan Hotel
- Breakfast daily
- Two lunches
- Welcome reception
- Gala Dinner
- Sightseeing and transfers as indicated in itinerary
- Hotel taxes, fees, and service charges
- A contribution to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
- Expert host throughout the tour

What's Not Included in the tour:

- Any airline imposed fees for checked pieces of luggage
- Optional sightseeing activities
- Meals not included in itinerary
- Travel insurance
- Any other items not specifically mentioned as included in the itinerary
- Airline taxes and fuel surcharges



How to Book Your Trip
Contact Robin Fox at Macy's Travel
800-533-0324 toll free
612-375-2881
Monday– Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM



Presented by
Minnesota Landscape
ARBORETUM

In 2009, the Arboretum will offer a wide variety of destination tours. We will visit countries we have not visited in a while, explore more of the World's fabulous gardens and meet some of the people who created those gardens. Come along and explore!

Chile	October 27 - November 4, 2009
Miami/Key West	February 18 - February 24, 2010
Charleston/Savanna	March 23 - March 30, 2010



Our own unique travel experiences that offer exceptional value, quality and attention to detail. Only from Macy's Travel.