



## Culture Dominicana.

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**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | 5DAYS / 4NIGHTS**

Route: Round-trip from and to Punta Cana

Type of tour: Sun & Beach, Culture

## TOUR OVERVIEW

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Highlights of this tour include Higuëy - hometown of the famous landmark La Basílica; the Cathedral of Virgin of La Altagracia, Santo Domingo - the oldest city of America; Jarabacoa, the Dominican Alps; Santiago - the second biggest city of the Dominican Republic with a visit to the 70-meter high Restoration Monument; the famous Aurora cigar manufacturing factory; chairlift up the mountain's Isabel de Torres peak about 1,000 meters high; the peninsula of Samaná; passing by the impressive scenery of the North Coast; a visit to the National Park Los Haitises and to Cayo Levantado, also known as 'Bacardi Island'.

## DAY BY DAY

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### DAY 1 | PUNTA CANA – HIGÜEY – LA ROMANA – SANTO DOMINGO

Early Morning we depart to Higuëy, hometown of the famous landmark La Basílica - the Cathedral of Virgin of La Altagracia, the most important religious monument for the Dominicans. The current basilica was inaugurated on January 21, 1971. We continue the journey passing by endless sugarcane plantations up to the art village of Altos de Chavón, a copy of a 17<sup>th</sup>-century Mediterranean village. This village of stone, iron and wood is shelter to hundreds of art students attracted by the magic of this place, full of gardens of exuberant vegetation, romantic walks and balconies with wonderful sights, all which provides tonnes of inspiration for their own creations. Museums, art schools, Roman amphitheatre, fountains... Every corner of this beautiful place is ideal, and there will never be enough time to take all the pictures it deserves. From here we move to Santo Domingo, the oldest city of the Americas, but on the way we make a stop to visit Cueva de Las Maravillas. This place, as stated on its name, is a marvellous underground cave. Once in Santo Domingo, we do a photo stop at the famous Faro a Colon (the Columbus Lighthouse) and continue our route to the Columbus Palace, the Museum of the Royal Houses and the National Pantheon we will take a city tour by the Colonial Zone, visiting Ozama Fortress, the Cathedral, have lunch in a typical restaurant.

- **Overnight in Santo Domingo on a full-board basis.**



### DAY 2 | SANTO DOMINGO – JARABACOA

After breakfast at the hotel, we take a last glimpse of the old city and see a panoramic view of the Presidential Palace. While heading toward Jarabacoa (The Dominican Alps), we'll pass by the Bonao Valley, one of the main agricultural areas of the country. Along the way we take a break for an optional lunch and will arrive in the afternoon in Jarabacoa. A visit to the Cascades is included. Other outdoor activities are optional and can be arranged directly.

- **Overnight in Jarabacoa on a half-board basis.**

### DAY 3 | JARABACOA – PUERTO PLATA

After breakfast we leave towards La Vega for a visit to La Vega Vieja and the Church of Santo Cerro. Legend says that the Virgin Mary appeared to beg for peace during a fight between the Spaniards and the natives. The journey is continued through Santiago, the second biggest city of the Dominican Republic with a visit to the 70-meter high Restoration Monument located on a hill overseeing the entire city. We also get to visit the famous Aurora cigar manufacturing factory. It is then time for leisure and an optional lunch, before we head to Puerto Plata, the touristic town on the north coast of the island where we will spend the night.

- **Overnight in Puerto Plata on a half-board basis.**

### DAY 4 | PUERTO PLATA – CABARETE – SAMANA

After breakfast, we visit the chairlift up the Isabel de Torres mountain peak about 1,000 meters high, where we will have a panoramic view across the city and appreciate the beautiful botanical garden that this beautiful mountain has. We continue towards the peninsula of Samaná, passing by the impressive scenery of the north coast. Afternoon arrival at

Samaná for check in at La Tambora hotel. Afternoon off to stroll around the town or otherwise. Lunch is included in Cabarete and dinner in Samaná.

- **Overnight in Samaná on a full-board basis.**

## **DAY 5 | SAMANA – SABANA DE LA MAR – PUNTA CANA**

After breakfast, depart to Santa Barbara de Samaná to board a boat to visit the National Park Los Haitises and continue on the way to Cayo Levantado also known as ‘Bacardi Island’. Enjoy a precious morning at this beautiful island and enjoy a delicious lunch. Return to Samaná to board the bus from where we will be transferred back to Punta Cana, our last stop before our return home.

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### **END OF SERVICES**

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#### **INCLUDED**

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##### **TOUR GUIDE:**

- English-speaking tour guide from day one to five (until Sabana de la Mar)

##### **ACCOMMODATION:**

- Overnights in middle class hotels, as per programme, or similar category

##### **MEALS:**

- As specified in programme

##### **TRANSPORT:**

- Land transportation in air conditioned, first-quality buses starting and ending at hotels in the areas of Uvero Alto, Punta Cana, Cabeza de Toro, from day 1-5, as per programme

##### **ENTRANCE FEES AND ACTIVITIES:**

- All entries into monuments as per programme, portages taxes and service charges

#### **NOT INCLUDED**

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- Drinks with meals, unless included by restaurant
- Airport taxes for domestic and international flights
- Tips and gratuities
- Optional activities and tours
- Anything not mentioned but not limited to what is stated under “included”