

Spotlight on Punta del Este



HISTORY

Punta del Este is compared many times to Saint Tropez for its glamorous vacation setting and list of famous visitors. Its history dates back to the 16th century when Europeans set foot in this area. However, the colonization of the area actually began around the city of Maldonado at the end of the 18th century due to Portuguese expansionism.

The Charrúa Indians put up a fierce fight and the battles for the territory continued, later including the the British. In 1825 the independent Uruguayan territory was declared "free from any and all foreign powers." This set the stage for the development of the country.

At the beginning of the 19th century, Punta del Este was a vast semi-inhabited region only visited by sailors and fishermen. Today this coastal town attracts close to 300,000 visitors each year. Tourism to Punta del Este and other resort towns along the coast now contribute around a quarter of Uruguay's total economy.

DOCKING

The ship docks at the Cruise Ship Terminal in Punta del Este.

SHORE EXCURSIONS

Please check your tour voucher for the correct meeting time and location for your tour. Your cruise line representative will direct you to your transportation.

SHOPPING

Souvenirs from Punta del Este include leather goods, sportswear, and handmade and distinctive locally produced goods.

STORE HOURS

Store hours vary considerably from winter to summer, and many stores do not open until the evening after most of their potential customers leave the beach.

EMERGENCY

In case of an emergency, dial 911 for police.

GUARANTEE

Shop with confidence, knowing that all merchants on this map have been carefully selected and each offers a 30-day guarantee to cruise line guests. This guarantee ensures buyers that all recommended merchants will repair or replace any unsatisfactory item, excluding buyer's negligence, buyer's remorse and lost or stolen merchandise. For purposes of determining quality and value of jewelry related to a buyer's complaint, only appraisals secured by a buyer from independent graduate gemologists, not affiliated with any retail jeweler, will be acceptable. Please inquire about individual store return policies before finalizing any purchase.

the guarantee. If you become aware of a problem during the cruise, please contact the Shopping Guide onboard for immediate assistance. If a problem arises after the cruise but within 30 days of the purchase date, contact the Customer Relations Department at Onboard Media, 1691 Michigan Ave. Suite 600, Miami Beach 33139, Phone: (800) 396-2999, Fax: (305) 673-2741, Email: shoppingissues@onboard.com, Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5:30 pm EST (Eastern Standard Time)

Please send a letter and include the name of the ship, cruise date, store name and merchandise problem. Also enclose a copy of the sales receipt and any relevant documents relating to the sale. Onboard Media will contact the recommended store on your behalf for repair or replacement, and you will be notified accordingly.

The port shopping program is operated by Onboard Media; Inc. Participating merchants have paid an advertising fee to Onboard Media for inclusion in this program. Onboard Media handles all customer relations claims relating to



PUNTA DEL ESTE

PORT & SHOPPING MAP

English



CAPITAL

Montevideo is the capital of Uruguay.

SIZE

Punta del Este and its surrounding towns have over 30 miles of waterfront, stretching along both coasts.

LOCATION

Punta del Este is located at the southern tip of Uruguay.

POPULATION

Approximately 10,500 people live in Punta del Este.

LANGUAGE

Spanish is the official language of Uruguay.

CURRENCY

The Uruguayan peso is the official currency of Uruguay.

TIME ZONE

Punta del Este is on Standard Time (UTC -3)

TOURIST INFORMATION

The Tourist Information Center is located at Parada 1 near Calle 21. It is open daily from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm.

PLACES TO SEE

EL FARO DE PUNTA DEL ESTE

This lighthouse was built by Tomás Libarena in 1860. Its beautiful crystal prisms were brought from France.

CASA DEL PUEBLO

Once the home of celebrated Uruguayan artist Carlos Paez Vilaro, this eye-catching seaside Mediterranean style structure is today a modern art museum.

LA MANO

This giant concrete hand sculpture rises out of the sands of the Atlantic across from the bus station. It was created by the Chilean artist, Mario Irrarazabal, and was inaugurated in 1981.

NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA CANDELARIA

This church is a beautiful sky-blue-and-white Victorian structure located at the corner of Calle 12 or Virazon and Calle 5 El Faro. Inside, you'll find high white arches and yellow walls punctuated by simple golden stained-glass crosses in the windows.

Tune in to Shopping Channel 22

