

APOGEE ADVENTURES

2024 Caribbean Service: Puerto Rico

Summarized Itinerary

Trip Begins: San Juan, Puerto Rico
Trip Ends: San Juan, Puerto Rico

Day 1: Our group will meet at the San Juan International Airport this afternoon. Once everyone has arrived, we will transfer by van to our quiet accommodations on the beach near the vibrant town of Luquillo on Puerto Rico's northeast coast. We will spend the afternoon getting to know one another and talking about the trip to come.

Days 2-3: We will spend our first couple of mornings volunteering in the Luquillo area, focusing on service projects in nearby Northeast Ecological Corridor Nature Reserve. Our afternoons will be spent exploring the area: we'll hike in El Yunque National Forest and will take another afternoon for a snorkel tour off the coast of Luquillo with professional guides. After our action packed days, we'll take the evening to relax on the beach, watching the sun disappear to the west as we play games, prepare dinner, and continue to bond as a group.

Days 4-7: On Day 4, we'll break "camp" and transit into the rainforest of central Puerto Rico, high above the town of Utuado. Over the next couple of days, we will work on projects in the Utuado area – principally, clearing trails in the lush Tanama Valley and volunteering at a local community center that provides aid to rural farmers. In the afternoons, we will get to explore some of Puerto Rico's richest historical and cultural sites, including the site home to some of the Caribbean's oldest artifacts and petroglyphs.

Days 8-10: After a few days of good work in the central hills, we'll pack up again and head to the southwest corner of the island. We'll settle in to our lodgings near the small town of Boquerón and get ready for our next volunteer project: volunteering with the Surfrider Foundation (an organization that spearheads conservation efforts along Puerto Rico's west coast). In addition to our good work with the folks at Surfrider, we'll also spend a morning riding the waves with our professional instructors in Rincon, one of the Caribbean's hottest surfing destinations. We'll take the afternoons to enjoy nearby beautiful beaches in Boquerón and explore the nearby National Wildlife Refuge's spectacular coastal trails.

Days 11 & 12: On our last full day as a group, we'll set out for the colonial hub of Old San Juan, where we'll explore the 500 year-old walls and cobblestoned streets of the historic center and enjoy our last afternoon together. Tonight, we'll cap off our trip with a traditional Puerto Rican meal out on the town to celebrate our accomplishments. We'll spend our final night together steps away from the ocean before transiting to the airport for flights home and one more jados!

Please note that all itineraries are subject to change.

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