

Ruta Panorámica

Route Guide

SANTIAGO - LA CUMBRE - PUERTO PLATA

RD\$ 20.



Explore The Panormamic Highway...

...enjoy

- Amber Mines • Spectacular views
- Country cuisine • Eco lodge

...discover

- Zipline • Cascading
- Cycling • Hiking • Swimming holes • Horseback Riding • Off-Road



...shop for

- Fresh cheese and yogurts
- Exotic plants • Organic fruits and vegetables • Fresh free-range meats
- Homemade sweets • Amber • Souvenirs • Rustic furniture



...from ocean to mountains, enjoy 30 kms of Pure Nature!



Mt. Isabel de Torres National Park



Puerto Plata

Airport

Sosúa

Montellano Gran Parada



Camú



Tubagua

El Capá

Yásica

Sonador

Lajas

Pedro García

Arenoso



El Llano

La Cumbre

Gurabo



Santiago

From ocean to mountains, enjoy 30 kms of Pure Nature!

30 km

- A** Navigating with this guide is as easy as "ABC"
- B** Items in the guide are ordered from A to Q related with marker signs on the highway installed every 2 kms
- C**

From Puerto Plata to La Cumbre, follow A to Q

From La Cumbre to Gran Parada follow Q to A

From Gran Parada to La Cumbre the Panoramic Highway climbs to 2200 feet above sea level, crossing the Septentrional Mountain Range and connecting the north coast with the Cibao Valley. This route is classified as a Protected Highway by the Ministry of Environment

Take it slowly, have more fun!

Road Conditions: This asphalted highway currently has some 50 rough patches of 10 to 70 meters in length. The road is currently being

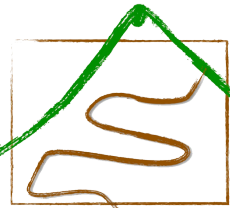
repared in the direction Santiago - Puerto Plata. 4WD is not required; any car can navigate this

road except low-clearance vehicles such as sports cars. Our recommendation: you'll get more out of your sightseeing experience if you drive at 35-45 kph



Diseño y Producción: Tim Hall Asociados / timhall.net

**Puerto Plata
La Cumbre
Santiago**



Ruta Panorámica



ROUTE GUIDE

TOURS & GROUP ACTIVITIES

Contact us for Private Guides,
Tours and Group Activities

- VIP Tour of the Panoramic Highway
- Amber Mines Tour
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- Horseback Riding
- Countryside parties, pork roasts, etc

Tel. 809 696-6932

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spectacular

From ocean to mountains: panoramic view of the town of Montellano and the vast sugarcane plantations that surround it, photographed from the Panormamic Route



Montellano

The town of Montellano sits on the northern end of the Panoramic Route on the edge of Camú River between Puerto Plata International Airport and the Playa Dorada resort complex. Montellano's heritage lies in the sugar industry that drove the economy of the Caribbean for centuries. However there has not been a harvest since 2004 due largely to American influences on the sugar industry. As this community awaits a new era of industry, Montellano exists as a bustling residential center inhabited largely by hotel and tourism personnel. A drive down main street takes you

through an authentically 'non-tourist' community and past the relics of a more sugary past.

Navigating from Puerto Plata

A - Gran Parada Junction Km 0

The Panoramic Highway begins here, 12 kms east of Puerto Plata. A military post here controls the passage of heavy vehicles, prohibited on this highway. **Area Services:** corner stores, bars, bus stop, propane station. Try a taste of Dominican-style charcoal roasted chicken. **Historical note:** site of a car accident that took the life of Austrian pop star Falco of *Rock Me Amadeus* and *Der Kommissar* fame.

C - Camú Km 4

The residents of Camú enjoy the swimming holes and cascades that feed the Camú River. This area is popular for hiking, horseback riding and off-roading.



adrenaline

Off-roading in the wilderness around Camú

D - La 'U' Km 6

Local Services: Popea's coco & fruit stand • El Paraiso Butcher shop • Yubelki's Bar • Main entrance to **Tubagua Plantation Eco Lodge**



comfort in the countryside

TUBAGUA PLANTATION ECO LODGE
809 696-6932 • WWW.TUBAGUA.COM

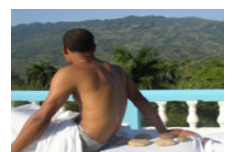
E - Tubagua Km 8

At the **Palo Blanco Junction:** corner stores, street food kiosks, Antonio's Provision Warehouse and more.

At **Plaza Tubagua:** a comfort station with snacks, meals and ice cold beer, picnic tables. Open daily 8am-8pm

F - Tubagua Km 10

Jasmine Spa & Wellness Center. Holistic center offering massage and organic meals.



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G - Yásica Km 12



Yásica

The Municipal District of Yásica Arriba covers the highway from Tubagua to La Cumbre, where you find some of the most abundant and valuable amber deposits in the world, especially of the very rare blue amber.

The town sits on the confluence of several important rivers that flow into the Yásica River and down to the coast east of Cabarete at Sabaneta de Yásica. Stop and enjoy the popular swimming holes and lively community life

Local services: local yogurt and cheese • police station • pharmacy • gasoline • tire repair • internet • propane gas station • bus stop to Santiago

Junctions: to La Batata and Brison



H - Yásica Km 14

Junctions: Yasiquita, El Mango, La Ebra

Yásica
Zipline Center



I Km 16



Fruit stands all along the Panoramic Highway offer fresh organic produce from local farmers' plots

J - Sonador Km 18



rustic art...

At Alex's studio: massive oak furniture handmade from branches and stumps

K - Sonador Km 20

Junction: Gurabito de Yaroa
Immaculada Nursery



exotic

Discover hundreds of species of exotic tropical flowers at roadside nurseries



L - Lajas Km 22



"Something for the blind man!" he cries when you drive by; your visit will help support the many golden agers who live along the highway...



96:1

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

Name

Gregorio Luperon Tourist Highway Signage

Objectives

- Brand and integrate Gregorio Luperon Tourist Highway as "The Santiago-Puerto Plata Panoramic Route" and promote it as a viable tourism/travel option in the Dominican Republic
- Re-stimulate traffic on the highway and promote its appeal as "30 kms of Pure Nature!"
- Inform travelers of the natural and cultural resources of the highway, including the amber mines of La Cumbre, the coffee traditions of Pedro García and the heritage of sugar cane in Montellano; the panoramic vistas of the Cordillera Septentrional mountain range and the culture of rural Dominican life;
- Promote the organic and natural production of local fruits vegetables and exotic plants
- Promote the use of renewable materials in the production of artisan products
- Promote local products such as amber jewelry, rustic furniture and local value-added foods
- Promote excursions and activities such as hiking, cascading, horseback riding, cycling, zipline, etc.

Participation in this multi-faceted project is open to all stakeholders and interested parties.

Contact:

Tel: 809 696-6932

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TURISOPP



umpc VYP
Unidad Municipal Patrimonio Comunitario
VILLA MONTELLANO • YASICA ARRIBA
PEDRO GARCÍA • INF: 809 696-6932

M - Lajas

Km 24

Pedro García



A short detour at the crossroad to Pedro García leads you to a little town hidden in green valleys, crisscrossed by pristine rivers and streams; this community may well be the country's tidiest town. In the slopes surrounding Pedro García are born many of the rivers that feed fresh water to the north coast. Organic coffee plantations abound in the mountains, grown organically - not in keeping with any trend, rather through generations of tradition. Pedro García is a beautiful destination for hiking and cycling, its country roads and endless panoramas inhabited by friendly and welcoming people. Local Services: hospital • regional coffee processing factory • tire repair • pharmacy • corner stores.



Services on the highway: Toca Amber Factory, propane gas station

N - Arenoso

Km 26

Maria Dulce Nursery, gasoline, tire repair, cockfight arena

O - El Llano

Km 28

Bellas Flores Nursery, Yamilka Garden Center

P - La Cumbre

Km 30

At 725 meters altitude, La Cumbre sits on the highest point of the Panoramic Highway, straddling the provincial border between Santiago and Puerto Plata. In this area you can visit the **amber mines** where some of the world's most precious

supermegaminimarket!



species of blue amber is found.

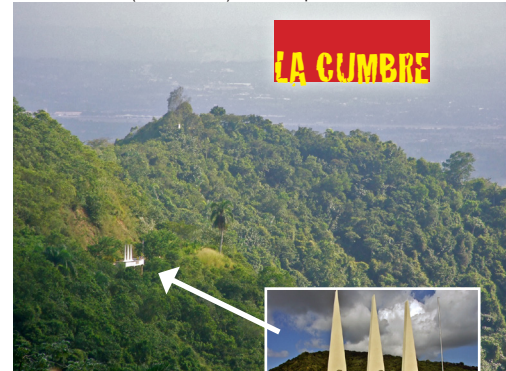
Monument to the Mirabal Sisters. National heroes and martyrs of the anti-Trujillo liberation movement, the heroic sisters who stood up to the tyrant dictator are memorialized by a monument



at the place where their lifeless corpses were abandoned by military assailants.

The Coffee Mansion and Ecological Park. This 26.7-hectare plantation established in 1926 is today an agricultural school and experimental coffee farm with 17 varieties under study and development.

Local Services: amber shops • corner stores • traditional "carne salada" (salted meat) stands • police station



High on the cliff where their lifeless bodies were recovered, this monument pays tribute to the Mirabal Sisters

Q - La Cumbre

Km 31

Navigating from Santiago

14 kms between Hache Building & La Cumbre



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TOURS & GROUP ACTIVITIES

WHERE TO EAT

“STREET FOOD”



Along the highway the food is flavorful and the people who sell from their rustic kiosks are friendly. Try: **pork on the spit and pork crackling** in Arenonso, Lajas, Sonador and Yásica... **salted meats** in La Cumbre... **queso de hoja** (excellent local cheese), **sweets and jams** in Yásica... **fresh coconut and tropical fruits** just about anywhere... **roasted chicken on the spit** in Gran Parada... **mabi**, a local soft drink, in Yásica



Jacqui's Cuisine

Tubagua Plantation Eco Village [D-E]. Jacqui is becoming renowned for her excellent local fare and for her Dominican-American fusions. Try her abundant fresh salads, coconut seabass, charcoal grilled meats and personal creations such as Passion Fruit Chutney and Banana Surprise. Tubagua Eco Lodge can accommodate up to 36 people and offers a spectacular view of the north coast. English spoken, by reservation only 809 696-6932

HOMECOOKED MEALS

For an authentic Dominican meal, try one of the “patio restaurants” operating from private homes where the cooking is known to be special. Reservations are required one day prior and arrangements are made directly with each provider:



Carmen's House

La Cumbre [P-Q] In a cosy country home surrounded by tropical plants. Carmen keeps house and cooks for her children and husband who works in the amber mines directly across the street. Capacity 6 people, Spanish only. Call Carmen at 829 910-8586

PLAZA TUBAGUA OPEN 8 AM - 8 PM



This roadside stop has been an oasis of comfort for years, offering travelers cold beers and other beverages, snacks, ice cream, ample parking, picnic tables, restrooms and more. Located between the E and F markers. Open every day.

ABOUT US



ABOUT US

This UMPC (Municipal Heritage Committee) unites three communities located on the Gregorio Luperon Tourist Highway. It is a non-governmental organization constituted to create frameworks for the development and co-management of ecotourism and cultural resources that promote sustainable development in the region. This project is financed by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) through the TURISOPP initiative, focused on the development of rural tourism based on public-private sector cooperation in Puerto Plata Province; and coincides with initiatives of US-AID and the Puerto Plata Tourism Cluster to reform Puerto Plata's identity as a tourism destination.

Participation in this multi-faceted project is open to all stakeholders and interested parties.

Contact:

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FOR SALE

- **Cottage** with splendid views and gardens, 100 square feet living space, located in Tubagua Plantation Eco Village
- **Farm**, 18 acres with panoramic ocean views, titled

Locacted between C&D markers
Call 809 696-6932 • www.tubagua.com



One man's trash is another man's treasure: inspired by common objects gleaned from the farm, Aramic Ciriaco transforms them into truly authentic Dominican wearable art

wearable art



Rings carved from cow horn



Coral pendant made from stone found at 1000 ft altitude



Keychains and bracelets carved with indigenous motifs



Rings made from coconut shells



Contrasts of coconut and cow horn



Ámbar Del Monte, 225 Main St., Montellano, Tel. 809 574-0650 • 8 am- 6 pm every day or by private appointment