

DO Cabo Rojo Cruise Port Guide

Your Complete Guide to the Dominican Republic's Newest Cruise Destination, Pristine Beaches & the Untouched Southwest



Cabo Rojo is the **Dominican Republic's newest cruise destination** and one of the Caribbean's most exciting emerging ports. Located in the country's remote southwest region near the town of **Pedernales**, Cabo Rojo offers a completely different experience from the more developed cruise destinations of Puerto Plata and Amber Cove.

Instead of bustling tourist areas and large resorts, Cabo Rojo introduces visitors to an untouched side of the Dominican Republic filled with pristine beaches, protected national parks, dramatic cliffs, turquoise waters, and incredible wildlife.

As this destination continues to grow, cruise guests have the unique opportunity to experience one of the Caribbean's last relatively undiscovered coastal regions.

Where Do Cruise Ships Dock?



Cruise ships dock at the **Port Cabo Rojo Cruise Terminal**, a modern facility designed to welcome the newest generation of cruise ships.

The cruise terminal offers:

- Welcome plaza
- Local artisan shops
- Restaurants and cafés
- Excursion meeting areas
- Taxi stand
- Visitor information
- Cultural performances (on select cruise days)

The port has been thoughtfully designed to showcase the natural beauty and culture of the Dominican Republic's southwest region.

Explore Cabo Rojo & Pedernales



Unlike larger Caribbean ports, Cabo Rojo offers a quieter, more authentic atmosphere.

Highlights include:

- Scenic coastal views
- Local artisan markets
- Dominican culture
- Fresh seafood restaurants
- Nearby Pedernales
- Beautiful beaches

The region is still developing, making it feel less commercialized than many Caribbean cruise destinations.

★ Top Shore Excursions

🏖️ Bahía de las Águilas (Eagles Bay)



Often considered one of the **most beautiful beaches in the Caribbean**, Bahía de las Águilas is part of **Jaragua National Park** and remains remarkably untouched.

Highlights include:

- Crystal-clear turquoise water
- Powder-soft white sand
- Excellent snorkeling
- Incredible scenery
- Minimal development

Many visitors describe it as one of the most beautiful beaches they've ever seen.

🏞️ Jaragua National Park



One of the Dominican Republic's largest protected areas.

Visitors may see:

- Flamingos
- Iguanas
- Sea turtles
- Tropical birds
- Unique desert landscapes
- Coastal cliffs

Perfect for nature lovers.

Cabo Rojo Lighthouse



One of the area's most scenic viewpoints.

Enjoy:

- Panoramic Caribbean views
 - Dramatic cliffs
 - Photography opportunities
 - Ocean breezes
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Larimar Experience



The Dominican Republic is the **only place in the world where Larimar is found.**

Some excursions allow visitors to learn about:

- Larimar mining
- Jewelry making
- Local artisans
- Dominican craftsmanship

Larimar jewelry makes a beautiful and meaningful souvenir.



Southwest Dominican Republic Highlights Tour

Explore:

- Pedernales
- Scenic coastal roads
- Local villages
- Beaches
- Cultural sites
- Mountain views

Ideal for travelers wanting to experience the authentic Dominican Republic.



Best Beaches



Bahía de las Águilas

The crown jewel of the region.

Perfect for:

- Swimming
 - Relaxation
 - Photography
 - Nature lovers
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Cabo Rojo Beach



Located near the cruise port.

Known for:

- Calm water
- Beautiful scenery
- Easy access
- Relaxed atmosphere



Playa Pedernales

A local favorite featuring:

- Soft sand
- Family-friendly atmosphere
- Waterfront restaurants



Shopping

Popular souvenirs include:

- Larimar jewelry
- Dominican amber
- Handmade crafts
- Coffee
- Chocolate
- Dominican cigars
- Local artwork
- Caribbean spices

Supporting local artisans helps strengthen the growing economy of the Pedernales region.

What to Eat

Don't leave without trying:

- Fresh grilled fish
- Mofongo
- Sancocho
- Tostones
- Dominican rice and beans
- Tropical fruit
- Coconut desserts
- Dominican coffee

Many restaurants feature fresh seafood caught the same day.

Hidden Gems

If you're looking for something beyond the typical excursions, consider:

- Oviedo Lagoon
- Flamingo viewing
- Local fishing villages
- Eco-tourism experiences
- Mountain viewpoints
- Scenic coastal drives

This region is ideal for travelers who enjoy discovering places that remain largely untouched by mass tourism.

Weather Throughout the Year

Cabo Rojo enjoys warm tropical weather year-round.

Winter (December – February)

- Highs: **81–85°F (27–29°C)**
- Lower humidity
- Excellent sightseeing weather

Spring (March – May)

- Highs: **84–89°F (29–32°C)**
- Sunny and warm

Summer (June – August)

- Highs: **88–92°F (31–33°C)**
- Hot with occasional afternoon showers

Fall (September – November)

- Highs: **84–90°F (29–32°C)**
- Warm temperatures
- Tropical greenery

Trade winds help keep the coastal areas comfortable throughout the year.

Hurricane Season

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from:

June 1 – November 30

Peak activity generally occurs during:

- August
- September
- October

Cruise lines closely monitor weather conditions and may adjust itineraries if necessary.

Travel insurance is always recommended.

Getting Around

Transportation options include:

- Cruise line excursions
- Licensed taxis
- Private tours

Approximate travel times:

- Cabo Rojo Beach – **5 minutes**
- Pedernales – **10–15 minutes**
- Cabo Rojo Lighthouse – **15 minutes**
- Bahía de las Águilas – **30–45 minutes** (often including a boat transfer)

Because this is a newer cruise destination, organized excursions are currently the easiest way to explore the surrounding region.



What to Pack

Bring:

- ✓ Swimsuit
- ✓ Reef-safe sunscreen
- ✓ Sunglasses
- ✓ Hat
- ✓ Comfortable walking shoes
- ✓ Water shoes
- ✓ Lightweight clothing
- ✓ Waterproof phone pouch
- ✓ Reusable water bottle

Because many excursions focus on nature and beaches, you'll spend much of your day outdoors.



Premium Travel Group Tip

If you're looking for shopping malls and busy tourist districts, Cabo Rojo may surprise you—this destination is all about nature.

Take advantage of visiting one of the Caribbean's least-developed cruise regions by exploring **Bahía de las Águilas** or **Jaragua National Park**. These are experiences you simply won't find in many other ports.

If you're interested in unique souvenirs, don't miss the opportunity to purchase authentic **Larimar jewelry**, found only in the Dominican Republic.



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- Cabo Rojo Cruise Port Guide

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- Aruba
- Bonaire
- Curaçao
- Barbados
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Planning Guides

- Caribbean Vacation Planning Guide
- Eastern Caribbean Guide
- Southern Caribbean Guide
- Western Caribbean Guide
- Caribbean Packing Guide
- When to Visit the Caribbean



Why Visit Cabo Rojo?

Cabo Rojo offers something increasingly rare in today's cruise industry: the opportunity to experience a destination that still feels authentic and undiscovered. From the breathtaking beauty of Bahía de las Águilas and the protected landscapes of Jaragua National Park to the warmth of the Dominican people and the rich local culture, Cabo Rojo provides a glimpse into a quieter, more natural side of the Caribbean. As this exciting new cruise destination continues to grow, today's visitors have the chance to experience it while its unspoiled charm remains very much intact.



Joe's Logbook

One of the things that excites me most about Cabo Rojo is that it gives cruisers the chance to experience something **new**. After visiting many of the Caribbean's most popular ports over the years, it's refreshing to discover a destination that hasn't been overdeveloped. The scenery feels untouched, the pace is slower, and the focus is on the island's natural beauty rather than crowds or shopping. If your cruise itinerary includes Cabo Rojo, embrace the opportunity to explore a part of the Dominican Republic that many travelers haven't discovered yet. Years from now, you'll be able to say you experienced it when it was still one of the Caribbean's hidden gems.