Discover Puerto Rico Earthquakes FAQ | January 17 | 10am AST



Frequently Asked Questions:

Are travelers able to travel to/from Puerto Rico?

There are no significant disruptions to tourism as most areas outside the southern region of the Island were not structurally impacted. Power has been restored to 99%. Most hotels and tourism businesses are prepared with generators should they need it. Travelers with upcoming plans and questions about their personal itineraries should reach out to their specific travel providers, hotels and other businesses to confirm details of their operations.

- All flights are operating normally to/from the San Juan Luis Muñoz Marin, Ponce and Aguadilla airports.
- Ports are operating as usual. The San Juan port received roughly 56,000 cruise passengers last week from different cruises who disembarked and enjoyed tours and strolled the beautiful colored streets of Old San Juan.

What does the state of emergency in Puerto Rico mean?

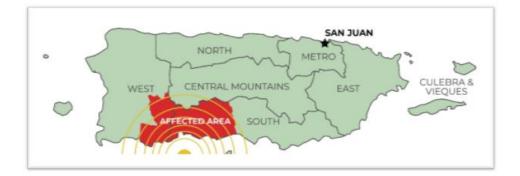
Governor Wanda Vázquez declared a state of emergency to ensure resources such as FEMA and the National Guard are deployed to assist those in need, especially across the southern region of the Island.

What does the disaster declaration that President Trump signed mean?

Governor Wanda Vázquez requested federal funds to support the Southern region of Puerto Rico, which was impacted by the recent seismic activity. The declaration authorizes federal aid to remove debris, provides money for public health and safety, and building to mitigate any potential future impact. It covers six municipalities in the Southern region, including Ponce, Guánica and Yauco.

Which areas suffered damages?

The areas that suffered the most structural damage are in the southern region. Please refer to the below map.



Were any specific hotels or tourist attractions damaged?

Two tourism sites, Punta Ventana in Guayanilla and the Ruins of the Lighthouse in Guánica on the southern part of the Island were damaged. There are some attractions in the southern region that are closed Museo de Arte de Ponce, La Guancha, Bosque Seco de Guanica, among others. Of the 160 hotels endorsed by the Puerto Rico Tourism Company (PRTC) throughout the Island, the Copamarina Beach

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Resort in Guánica and the Costa Bahía Hotel in Guayanilla are repairing damages caused by the seismic activity of the past days. The rest of the lodging properties in Puerto Rico continue to operate normally and hosting visitors.

I hear the Island lost power, when will power be restored?

Power across the Island has been restored at 99% and any hotel not back on the grid is prepared and operating on generators.

What tourist sites and offerings are open?

Our beaches, restaurants, attractions, hotels and travel service providers across the Island are open and ready to welcome visitors to share Puerto Rico's unique culture and warm hospitality. The Ponce Cruise Port, the Puerto Rico Convention Center, and major attractions such as El Morro, El Yunque, San Cristobal Fort, and hotels outside the southern region of Puerto Rico, including all areas around San Juan, continue to be open for business.

Is the water safe to drink?

Give electricity impacts water supply, we are in close contact with the government, the Health Department and the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority to learn more about the status of potable water as power is restored throughout the Island. While we gather additional information, we recommend travelers drink bottled water as a precautionary measure.

If people want to help, how can they?

A way people can show their support for Puerto Rico at this time is to travel to the Island for their vacations, work trips, meetings, conferences and events. Tourism fuels the local communities and will help keep the economy recovering. The local <u>American Red Cross</u> chapter is gathering donations for those who wish to provide support to those in the southern region as well as various local organizations.

For travelers staying in short-term rentals, are there any resources to consult?

We recommend travelers reach out to their unit owners, property managers, or booking platforms directly should they need specific assistance related to their stay. For any other emergencies on-island, they should contact the local police authority or dial 911.

What about taxis and cabs? Everything operating normally?

Taxis and ride sharing options are available throughout the Island.