

Coiba Island, Veraguas, Panama

A UNESCO World Heritage wilderness off Panama's Pacific coast, Coiba Island trades cruise terminal crowds for pristine jungle, world-class reefs, and one of the most biodiverse stretches of ocean in the Eastern Pacific.

Tender (no pier)

Typical call: 6-8 hrs

US Dollar (USD)

Spanish

National Park / Permit Required

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender only — ships anchor offshore; passengers ferry to the ANAM ranger station dock

Best For: Snorkeling, diving, wildlife spotting, nature walks, penal colony history

Walk to center: No town — landing is at ANAM ranger station on the main island; all activity is guided

Don't Miss: Granito de Oro snorkel site (coral gardens + sea turtles) and scarlet macaws at the ranger station

Getting around: Rideshare not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Granito de Oro Snorkeling** — Coiba's star snorkel site: a tiny islet surrounded by shallow coral gardens teeming with reef fish, hawksbill turtles, rays, and the occasional reef...
- Coiba Jungle Wildlife Walk** — Guided walk through old-growth rainforest preserved by the island's penal-colony history.
- Former Penal Colony Tour** — Walk the haunting ruins of the penal colony that operated from 1919 to 2004.
- Scuba Diving — Hammerhead & Whale Shark Zone** — Coiba sits on the same migratory corridor as the Galápagos.
- Whale & Dolphin Watching** — Humpback whales migrate through Coiba's waters July–October (peak August–September).

BEST WALKS

- ANAM Ranger Station Nature Trail** ~1.5 km | Easy | Guided — A short interpretive trail beginning at the ranger station loops through secondary forest and along the shore.
- Penal Colony Ruins Walk** ~1 km | Easy | Guided — A flat walk from the ranger station to the former penal colony central building.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		86°	77°	21d
Jun		82°	76°	29d
Aug		82°	75°	31d
Sep		82°	75°	30d
Oct		81°	75°	31d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:18AM–6:35PM · Jun 6:10AM–6:43PM · Aug 6:20AM–6:41PM · Sep 6:17AM–6:26PM · Oct 6:13AM–6:10PM

US Dollar (USD)

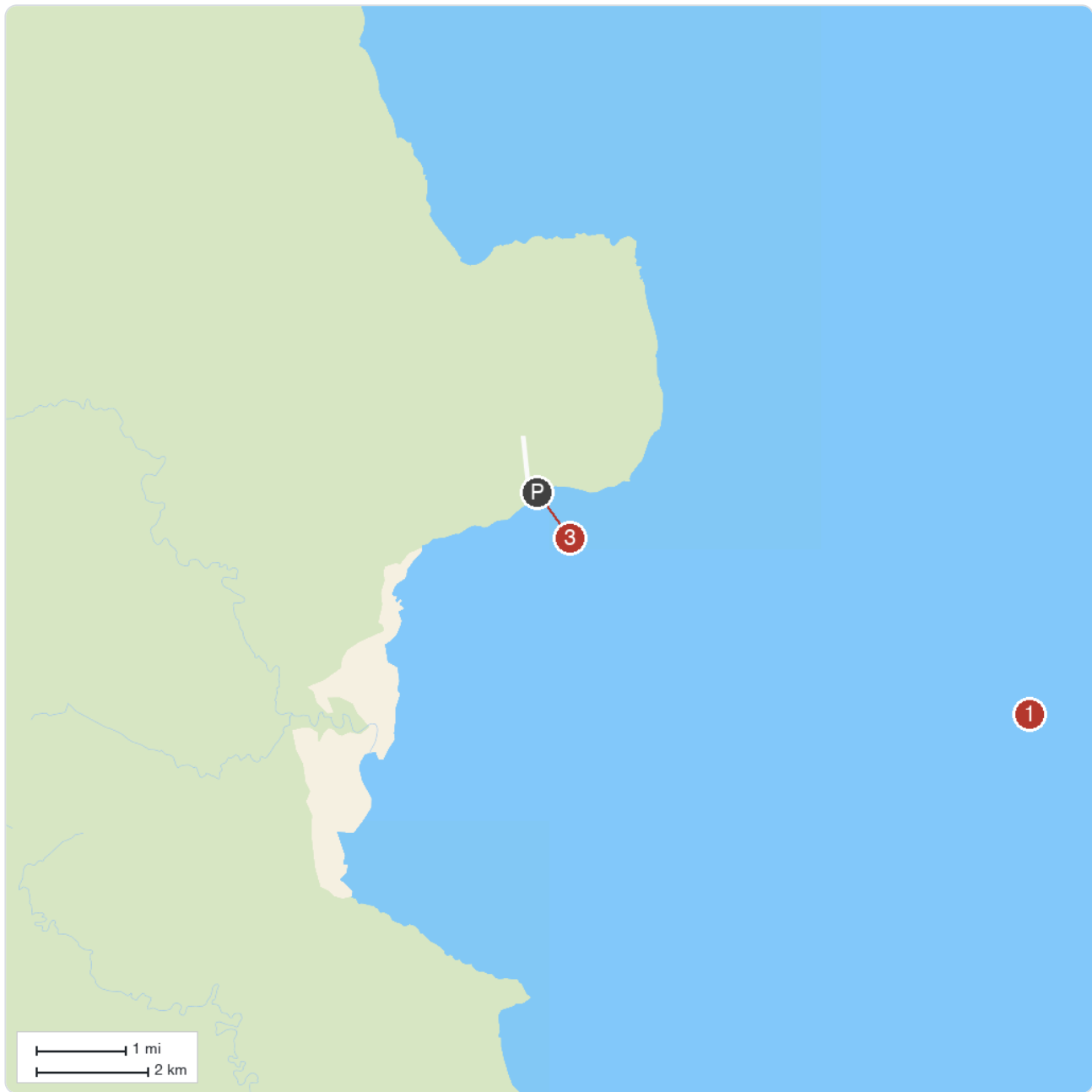
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Book excursions before sailing. Park permits and licensed guides are required — independent access is not possible. Your cruise line shore-ex desk or a pre-booked operator handles this.
- Bring USD cash. There are zero commercial facilities on the island. Cash is only needed for tips and any incidentals on the tender ride.
- Dry season is Dec–April; wet season May–Nov. Wet season brings lush jungle and fewer crowds but some afternoon rain. Diving and snorkeling visibility is good year-round.
- Bring reef-safe sunscreen and insect repellent. Standard sunscreen is banned in the park to protect coral. The jungle interior has mosquitoes and no-see-ums.
- No cell signal on the island. Download offline maps and any information you need before leaving the ship.
- Granito de Oro is the snorkel highlight — don't skip it if it's on your excursion. Sea turtles and reef sharks are common even for casual snorkelers in shallow water.

Coiba Island, Veraguas, Panama — Port Map

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Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Damas Reef | One of the largest coral reef systems in the Eastern Tropical Pacific, on Coiba's eastern side, rich with reef fish and sea turtles. | 2 Former Penal Colony Ruins | Remnants of the island's penal colony that operated from 1914 to 2004, now overtaken by forest. |
| 3 Coiba National Park Ranger Station | The park headquarters and trailhead for forest hikes where the endemic Coiba howler monkey can be spotted. | P Cruise port / terminal | |