

La Guaira, La Guaira State, Venezuela

Wedge between the Caribbean and sheer Andean cliffs, La Guaira has served as Venezuela's maritime gateway for four centuries. A quick mountain crossing brings you to sprawling Caracas — or stay coastal for colonial forts, beaches, and rum-soaked arepas.

-  Pier (cruise terminal)
-  Typical call: 8-10 hrs
-  USD widely accepted
-  Spanish
-  Shore excursions strongly recommended

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____

Arrive: _____

All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____

Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — Puerto de La Guaira cruise terminal, no tendering

Walk to Center: ~20 min walk to La Guaira old town; Caracas is 45–60 min by road

Best For: Cable car over Ávila, colonial history, Venezuelan cuisine, beach clubs

Don't Miss: Teleférico Warairarepano cable car from Caracas to ~2,140 m Ávila summit

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  \$50–\$75

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Teleférico Warairarepano — Ávila Cable Car** — Ride Venezuela's most famous attraction: a modern gondola rising from Caracas to roughly 2,140 m atop Mount Ávila.
- La Guaira Colonial Walking Tour** — Explore the old port quarter with its 18th-century Casa Guipuzcoana (a grand Basque trading house), cobblestone streets, and the star-shaped San...
- Caracas City & Simón Bolívar Sites** — Visit the Casa Natal de Bolívar (birthplace of the Liberator), the National Pantheon where Bolívar is interred, and Plaza Bolívar in central Caracas...
- Private Beach Club Day Pass** — Rather than the public beaches, excursions to secured private beach clubs along the Litoral Central offer clean facilities, pools, fresh seafood...
- El Hatillo Colonial Village & Shopping** — This charming, secure suburb on Caracas's southern edge is Venezuela's best artisan shopping destination — colorful colonial plazas, craft galleries...

BEST WALKS

- La Guaira Historic Quarter** ~1.5 km · 30–40 min · Flat — From the cruise terminal, walk into the old town along Calle Bolívar to the Casa Guipuzcoana and the central plaza.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		87°	76°	19d
Jun		87°	77°	23d
Aug		88°	77°	28d
Sep		88°	78°	26d
Oct		88°	77°	29d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 6:16AM–6:38PM · Jun 6:06AM–6:50PM · Aug 6:18AM–6:45PM · Sep 6:17AM–6:27PM · Oct 6:16AM–6:09PM

 USD widely accepted

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Travel advisory:** The U.S. maintains a Level 4 Do Not Travel advisory for Venezuela. Most major cruise lines have suspended calls here. If your ship does stop, follow all crew safety briefings and never wander independently.
- Bring crisp USD:** The Venezuelan bolívar is volatile. US dollars are universally accepted. Bring small denominations (\$1–\$20) in clean, unmarked bills — torn or marked bills are often refused.
- No street taxis:** Only use transport arranged through your ship or a pre-vetted private guide. Never hail a taxi off the street in La Guaira or Caracas.
- Try arepas and tequeños:** Venezuelan street food is genuinely excellent. Look for a Reina Pepiada arepa (chicken and avocado) and tequeños (fried cheese pastries) at any local lunch stop on your excursion.
- Microclimate surprise:** La Guaira is hot and humid (Caribbean coast), but Caracas sits at 900 m and enjoys a cooler spring-like climate year-round. Bring a light layer if heading up.
- Keep valuables hidden:** Avoid displaying cameras, jewelry, or expensive watches outside secured excursion areas. Store items in a day bag and stay aware of your surroundings.

La Guaira, La Guaira State, Venezuela — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



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|----------|---------------------------------------|---|----------|---------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Iglesia Católica San Francisco | Historic Catholic church in La Guaira. | 2 | Our Lady of Las Mercedes | Church dedicated to Our Lady of Las Mercedes. |
| 3 | National Pantheon | National monument and burial place for Venezuelan heroes. | 4 | Art Ecological Museum | Museum showcasing art with an ecological focus. |
| 5 | P.G.P. Papelón | Local producer and shop for traditional papelón sugar. | P | Cruise port / terminal | |