

Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico

A Pacific paradise where jungle mountains tumble into Banderas Bay — Puerto Vallarta blends cobblestone old-town charm with world-class beaches, adventure, and one of Mexico's most walkable seafronts.

Docked (pier)

Typical call: 8-10 hrs

Mexican Peso (USD accepted in tourist areas)

Spanish

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____

Arrive: _____

All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____

Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Ships dock at Puerto Máximo Terminal, Hotel Zone — no tendering

Best For: Beach days, adventure tours, Old Town culture, whale watching (Dec–Mar)

Walk to center: 5 km to downtown; take bus ("Centro", ~\$1) or taxi (~\$8-12)

Don't Miss: Malecón boardwalk sculptures, Church of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Los Arcos snorkeling

Getting around: Taxi USD 16–20/car · Rideshare Uber, DiDi, inDrive · Hop-on hop-off Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Los Arcos National Marine Park Snorkeling** — Boat out to the iconic granite arch islands of Los Arcos, a protected marine park teeming with tropical fish, rays, and coral.
 - Sierra Madre Zipline & Canopy Tour** — Fly through the jungle canopy above the Sierra Madre foothills on a multi-line zipline course.
 - Marietas Islands & Hidden Beach** — Cruise to the remote Marietas Islands — a UNESCO-protected biosphere — and swim into the famous Hidden Beach (Playa del Amor), a circular beach...
- Old Town Walking & Food Tour** — Explore Centro Histórico's cobblestone streets, sample birria tacos and fresh ceviche at the Mercado Municipal, and visit the Church of Our Lady of...
 - Whale Watching (December–March)** — Banderas Bay hosts one of the highest concentrations of humpback whales on Earth during winter months.

BEST WALKS

- Malecón to Old Town** 3 km one-way | Easy | 1-2 hrs — Start at the northern end of the Malecón boardwalk and stroll south past bronze sculpture installations, seafront restaurants, and the signature Puerto Vallarta letters.
- Playa Los Muertos Beach Walk** Easy | 30-45 min stroll — From the Malecón, head south past the Cuale River to Playa Los Muertos — PV's most popular beach.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		83°	66°	0d
Jun		86°	75°	15d
Aug		87°	77°	27d
Sep		86°	76°	26d
Oct		86°	75°	18d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:42AM–7:19PM · Jun 6:20AM–7:42PM · Aug 6:40AM–7:29PM · Sep 6:48AM–7:03PM · Oct 6:56AM–6:36PM

Mexican Peso (USD accepted in tourist areas)

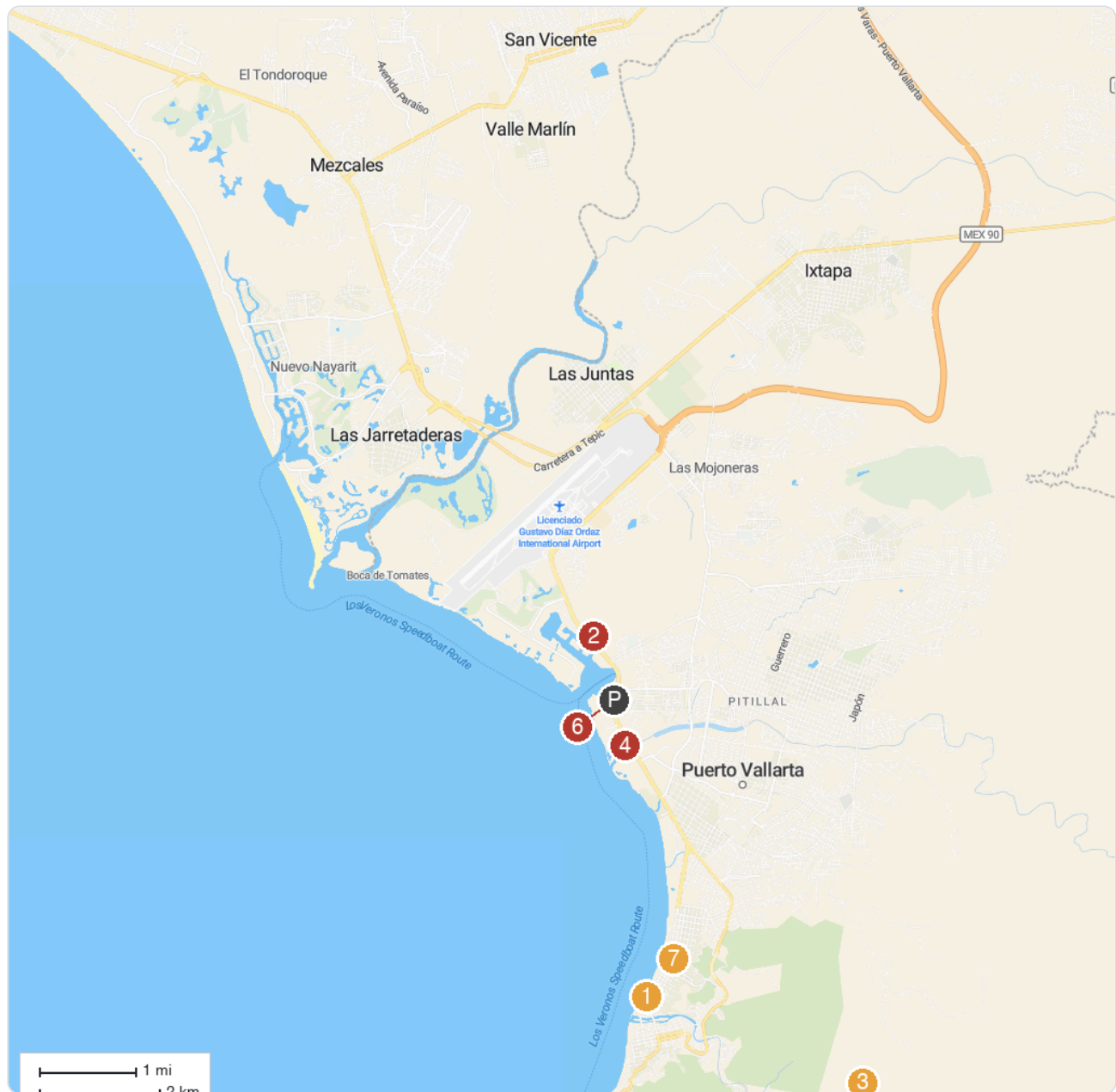
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bus beats taxi for the budget: Local buses to Centro cost about \$1 USD — grab the one marked "Centro" outside the terminal gates and ride it all the way downtown.
- Pesos preferred: USD are accepted widely in tourist areas but you'll get better rates and avoid math surprises paying in pesos. ATMs are inside the terminal.
- Sun is intense year-round: Banderas Bay sits at about 20°N — sunscreen, hat, and water are non-negotiable for a beach or walking day.
- Whale watching is seasonal: Humpbacks visit Banderas Bay December through March only — if you're here in summer, skip that excursion and pick snorkeling instead.
- Watch your ship time: Ships sometimes operate on a different time than local Jalisco time. Confirm departure time with your cruise director before heading into town.
- Eat local on the Malecón: Skip the tourist traps and try ceviche or fish tacos at small stands near Playa Los Muertos — fresher and a fraction of the price.

Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| 1 The Boy on the Seahorse | Iconic bronze sculpture on the Malecon, a city landmark. | 2 Área Natural Protegida Estero El Salado | Urban estuary with mangroves, crocodiles, and diverse wildlife. |
| 3 River Park | Island park on Cuale River with shops, art, and culture. | 4 Skydive Vallarta | Experience tandem skydiving over the bay and city. |
| 5 Puerto Magico | Modern cruise terminal with shops, restaurants, and entertainment. | 6 Pirate Ship Vallarta | Themed pirate ship dinner cruise with show and open bar. |
| 7 Parroquia Nuestra Señora del Refugio | Beautiful historic Catholic church with iconic crown tower. | P Cruise port / terminal | |