

San Juan del Sur, Rivas, Nicaragua

A crescent bay framed by jungle hills, a giant Christ statue gazing over the Pacific, and surf beaches just a short ride away — San Juan del Sur delivers an easygoing Nicaragua in a single shore day.

 Tender port  Typical call: 7-9 hrs  USD & Nicaraguan Córdoba  Spanish  Surf & beach town

MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — ships anchor in the bay; tenders land at the municipal pier

Best For: Beach relaxation, surfing, hiking to the Cristo statue, zip-lining

Walk to centre: 2-3 min from the tender pier to the main beach and market

Don't Miss: Cristo de la Misericordia viewpoint — giant hilltop Christ statue (~110 m above the bay) with panoramic views

 Getting around:  Taxi  \$2-5 USD

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Cristo de la Misericordia Hike & Views** — Hike or take a short taxi up to the base of the giant Cristo statue on the hilltop overlooking the bay, roughly 110 m above the water.
- **Surf Lesson at Playa Maderas** — Playa Maderas, about 10 km north of town, is one of Nicaragua's top surf beaches.
- **Olive Ridley Turtle Tour (Seasonal)** — Between July and January, Olive Ridley sea turtles nest on nearby beaches.
- **Zip-Line Canopy Tour** — Several operators run zip-line tours through the jungle hills surrounding the bay, with platforms offering aerial views of the coast.
- **Beach Day at Playa Hermosa** — Playa Hermosa, a few kilometres south, is a quieter alternative to the town beach — good swimming and far fewer vendors.

BEST WALKS

- **Bay Promenade & Town Wander** 1.5 km · 30 min · Easy · Flat — Walk south from the tender pier along the beach road, past restaurants and souvenir stalls, to the far end of the crescent bay.
- **Cristo de la Misericordia Hilltop** 2 km round-trip · 45-60 min · Moderate · Steep — From the south end of town, follow the signed path uphill to the base of the giant Cristo statue.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌤️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				🇺🇸 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 5:32AM–5:54PM · Jun 5:20AM–6:07PM · Aug 5:33AM–6:02PM · Sep 5:33AM–5:43PM · Oct 5:32AM–5:25PM	
Apr	90°	77°	5d	 USD & Nicaraguan Córdoba	
Jun	84°	76°	26d		
Aug	84°	76°	26d		
Sep	84°	76°	27d		
Oct	83°	75°	28d		

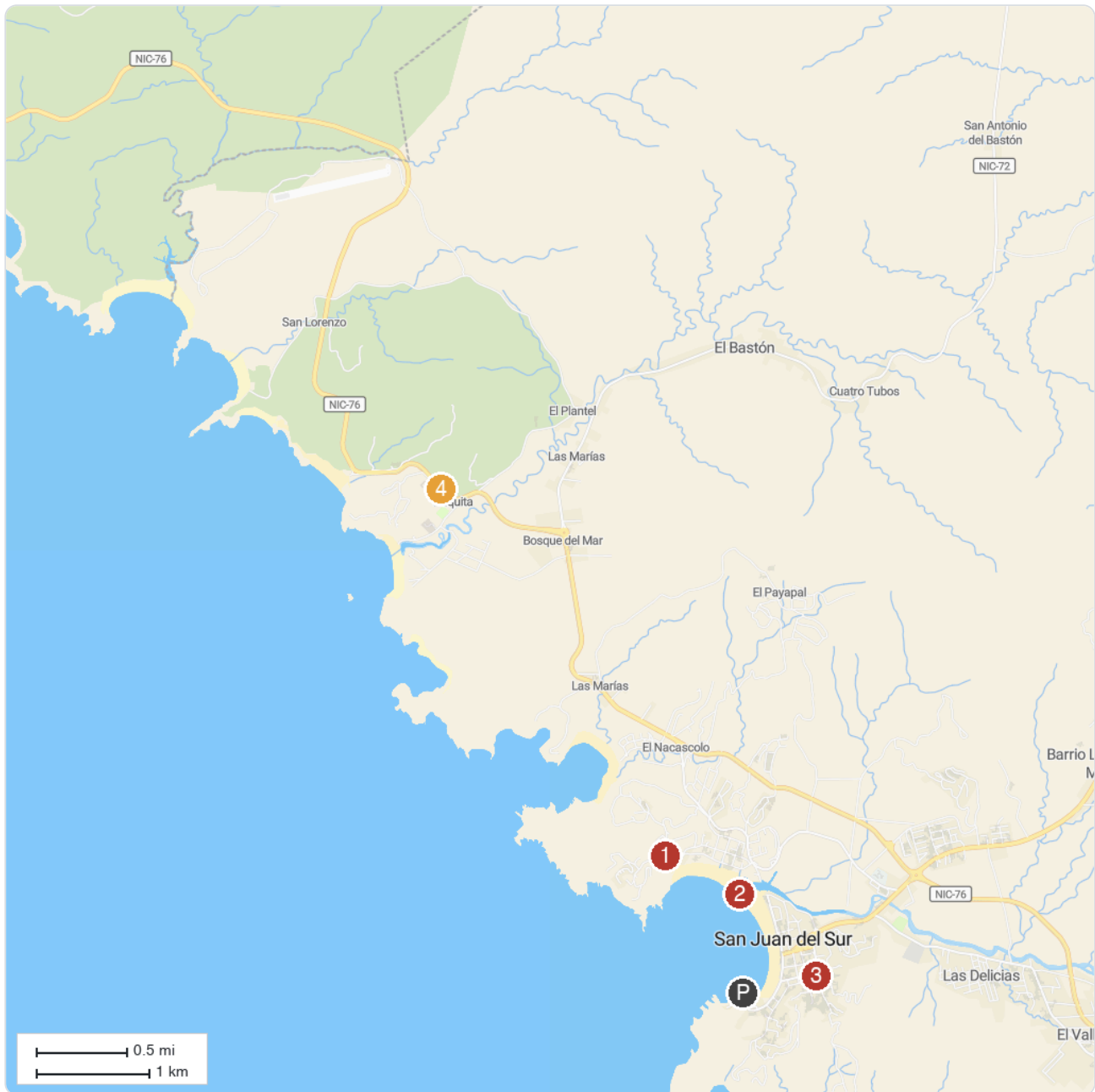
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Hot and humid: San Juan del Sur sits in the tropics. Bring sunscreen, a hat, and water — even a short beach walk gets warm fast.
- Tuk-tuks are the local taxi: Negotiate the fare before you get in. A ride to Playa Maderas typically runs \$10-15 USD one-way.
- Carry small USD bills: Most places accept dollars but change in Córdoba. \$1-5 bills are handy for snacks, tips, and tuk-tuks.
- Last tender time matters: Build in 30-40 minutes buffer. Tender lines can be slow when the whole ship comes back at once — don't cut it close.
- Lunch on the beach: Restaurants along the waterfront serve fresh seafood, grilled fish, and cold Toña beer at reasonable prices. The ceviche is worth stopping for.
- Limited ATMs: There are a couple of ATMs in town but they can run out of cash on busy port days. Come with USD already in hand.

San Juan del Sur, Rivas, Nicaragua — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



- 1** **Cristo de la Misericordia** 24-meter Christ statue on a hilltop above the bay, reached by a 45-minute hike with sweeping Pacific views.
- 3** **Iglesia San Juan Bautista** Simple wooden parish church on the main plaza, the town's historic religious landmark.
- P** **Cruise port / terminal**

- 2** **Playa San Juan del Sur** Town's central crescent beach lined with restaurants, sheltered enough for calm swimming.
- 4** **Playa Maderas** Popular surf beach a short drive north of town known for consistent breaks.