

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

The oldest European city in the Americas — cobblestone streets, the first cathedral and fortress of the New World, all a short ride from your ship across the Ozama River.

Docked (Sans Souci / Don Diego) Typical call: 8–10 hrs Dominican Peso (DOP) · USD ok Spanish · some English

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Sans Souci pier

To Zona Colonial: 5–10 min ride

Best For: History · Architecture

Don't Miss: Catedral Primada

Getting around: **Taxi** ✓ \$5–\$20 USD · **Rideshare** ✓ Uber, Bolt · **Hop-on hop-off** ✓ Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Zona Colonial Walking Tour** — The UNESCO-listed colonial quarter: Catedral Primada (first cathedral in the Americas, 1540), Alcázar de Colón (Diego Columbus's palace), and Calle...
- **Alcázar de Colón & Las Casas Reales** — The fortified palace of Columbus's son and the museum of Royal Houses, telling the story of Spain's first colonial capital.
- **Los Tres Ojos & City Highlights** — A drive out to the Three Eyes limestone caves and lagoons, often paired with the Columbus Lighthouse (Faro a Colón) and a panoramic city tour.
- **Boca Chica Beach Escape** — A shallow, calm Caribbean beach about 30 km east — the easiest beach day from Santo Domingo if you'd rather swap history for sand.

BEST WALKS

- **Zona Colonial essentials loop** ~2.5 km · 2–3 hrs · easy · 30 min from pier — From the Sans Souci cruise pier it's about a 30-minute walk to the fort and the heart of the Zona Colonial — an easy, safe route worth the walk.
- **Fortaleza Ozama & riverfront** ~1.5 km · 1 hr · easy — The oldest formal military structure in the Americas, with the Tower of Homage and views over the Ozama River where your ship is docked.
- **Calle El Conde stroll** ~1 km · 45 min · easy — The pedestrianized spine of the old city — shops, cafés, street musicians, and colonial facades running from Parque Colón to Parque Independencia.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				DAYLIGHT & MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:22AM–6:56PM · Jun 6:03AM–7:17PM · Aug 6:21AM–7:06PM · Sep 6:27AM–6:41PM · Oct 6:33AM–6:16PM	
Apr	84°	71°	17d	Dominican Peso (DOP) · USD ok	
Jun	86°	74°	21d		
Aug	87°	75°	22d		
Sep	87°	75°	22d		
Oct	86°	74°	19d		

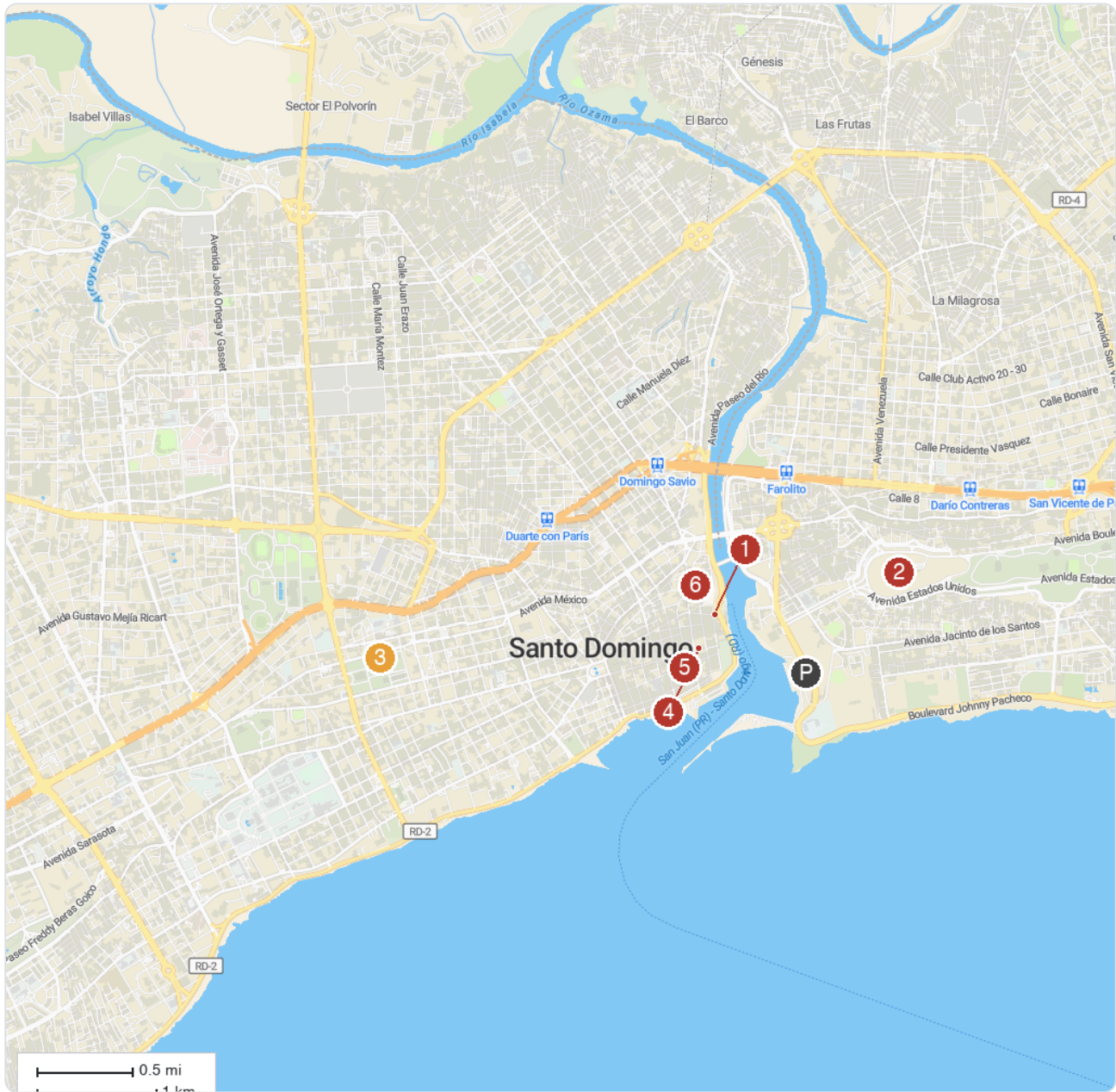
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Old Town is an easy walk from the pier. The Sans Souci cruise pier is about 30 minutes on foot to Fortaleza Ozama and the Zona Colonial — no taxi needed. The fort area is a great spot to start, and you can spend a few hours wandering the historic streets. Tip from Gordon.
- Hard Rock Cafe is worth the trip — allow an hour each way. It's about a 45-minute Uber from the Sans Souci pier, inside the upscale Blue Mall on Av. Winston Churchill. Traffic can be heavy, so budget an hour to be safe. The mall itself is a nice air-conditioned stop. Tip from Gordon. Inside the Hard Rock Cafe at Blue Mall — photo by Gordon.
- Hire a guide at the cathedral. The Zona Colonial's layers of history (1500s firsts, pirate raids, independence) come alive with a licensed local guide.
- Carry small bills. USD is accepted but change is given in pesos at variable rates — small DOP notes are handy for taxis, water, and tips.
- Go early, beat the heat. The colonial streets bake by midday. Tackle the walking sights in the morning and find shade or a café at lunch.
- Agree taxi fares first. There are no meters — settle the price before you ride, especially from the pier to the old city and back.

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic — 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 Chapel of Our Lady of Remedies | Oldest chapel in the Americas, built for early Spanish settlers. | 2 Columbus Lighthouse | Massive cross-shaped monument and museum dedicated to Christopher Columbus. |
| 3 Museo Nacional de Historia y Geografía | National museum showcasing Dominican history, geography, and cultural heritage. | 4 Catedral Primada de las Américas de Santo Domingo | The oldest cathedral in the Americas, a stunning Gothic landmark. |
| 5 Dominican Convent | Historic 16th-century convent, one of the first in the Americas. | 6 Wax Museum Juan Pablo Duarte | Wax museum honoring Juan Pablo Duarte, a Dominican founding father. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |