

Don't Move or Come to Puerto Rico Unless You Can Deal With These 10 Things

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Transcript: <https://dontveter.com/ec/puertorico3.pdf>

Do not come to Puerto Rico or move here unless you can deal with the lifestyle here.

Hey you, welcome to my island, my name is Ana and in today's video I'm gonna be telling you 10 things that might bother you, annoy you, or just might be a deal breaker for you when you come to Puerto Rico.

I was thinking about things that you might not like while you're here in Puerto Rico, so I thought of these things, wrote them down and here I am sharing them with you now.

You know that Puerto Rico is very different from every territory, every country, we have our own lifestyle here, our own culture.

So every place that you visit, obviously is different even though it's part of the US, it is very different so I figured I'd share with you so you can be ready to deal with the lifestyle here.

Let's jump right into it, the first thing you have to deal with while in Puerto Rico.

I put these two together, which are lizards and mosquitos.

Let's talk about lizards first, so lizards there are the you know, like, the brown ones, or the green ones and then there's like the pink ones and they, they're on your walls everywhere, usually outside of your house or apartment, whatever.

Um, they're out there and just lurking in, see I'm filming right now and I saw this, you see they are everywhere and the more greenery there is, the more there are.

And sometimes they could get into your house, um, which I really, really hate them, I really do.

And then there are iguanas. There are iguanas everywhere, I've seen them in parking lots, at the park, at the beach, just everywhere and you're gonna see them as roadkill as well.

I've seen tons of them squished on the road, just huge ones so be prepared to see iguanas of all sizes everywhere.

And mosquitoes, I'm sure you have dealt with them before, you know they bite you, it itches really bad, it leaves you these bumps and markings if you scratch, and, it's just, it's just so bad.

I feel like there's less mosquitoes in the metro area but in the country there's tons, just like more. So, yeah, lizards and mosquitoes, which I really don't like.

The second thing you have to deal with while in Puerto Rico is island time. Yes, that is a thing I didn't even know that was a thing.

Living here as a child I didn't know what island time was, but then I lived in New York where everything is fast, fast, fast and then, now living here again in Puerto Rico, now I truly know what island time means.

So basically, island time is a slower pace, slower everything.

And mainly services here are slower, so for example, if you're going to hire a contractor expect it to be slower.

So their job is going to be slower, their pace, their progress, all of that is going to be slower.

And government agencies, doctors offices, just everything in general is going to be slower.

Obviously not every single thing is slower, there are fast workers, there are fast things here, but in general everything is slower.

For example, I went to the water company here the other day and I got out pretty quick, they helped me right away.

So, I have had experience with fast things, but mainly is slower, so island time is a thing.

The next one is an interesting one. I call it impatient drivers and I know there's a reputation that Puerto Ricans are bad drivers. (replace reputation with belief or stereotype)

They are crazy over here but I really think it's a combination of the bad attitude, impatient, like spoiled brats on the road with the road rage.

And the other thing is that they just don't respect the law too much here, so I think between bad attitude and not respecting the law is where that chaos comes when you're driving.

Let me give you some examples.

So I could be sitting waiting for the light to turn green and the half a second that it turns green, like not even a second, it doesn't even give you time to react, it's like instinct, right?

Like they see green, ah, it's just like that's the way it is.

And another example, like I could be, like slowly stopping at a stop sign and stop and they're honking at me! It's a stop sign!

All the time I see myself like defending the law because I'm doing what I'm supposed to do and they're honking at me for it, so it's just like there's no winning.

The next one I think you've expected, which is hot and humid.

Yes, I know we're on an island in the Caribbean, but darn is hot.

As they say here, there's only one temperature hot.

So just be ready to have frizzy hair because of the humidity and a lot of heat because the sun is very powerful here.

And if you are a person that sweats a lot, you're gonna be dripping [wet]. I'm not a person that sweats and I've been sweating.

The next one to be honest, I have complained before in other videos which is not having certain stores here because once you are used to having certain stores, it's kind of hard when they take it away from you right?

So, I have complained before about not having Amazon Prime because the prime part doesn't really exist here you're not going to get the products fast, they take long and so I even had to cancel my membership.

There's no Trader Joe's which I used to go on a weekly basis.

I used to go to Target on a weekly basis.

Other stores I have thought of are Chipotle, I used to eat Chipotle all the time, Chick-Fil-A which a lot of people are obsessed with that.

I'm not really into that one, but there's no Chick-Fil-A here.

And one I have been suffering [over] is the Apple store.

The Apple store doesn't exist here so I've been ordering my apple products via apple.com.

Yeah, you just got to deal with not having certain stores anymore.

This one you have to deal with if you're moving here there are hurricanes. Hurricanes in the Caribbean are awful.

Obviously hurricanes have hit Puerto Rico very badly. I was here in 1998 when George hit, which was a category four.

I remember it clearly, it was horrible living without electricity, without water, having, you know, just chaos around you.

And then the latest one, which was a really bad category five, was Maria in 2017 which was not too long ago.

That one I wasn't here yet, I wasn't living here but it was terrible and just be aware that you will eventually go through a hurricane if you live here.

Next thing you have to deal with is not having reliable and fast internet. Keyword here: reliable, because sometimes it works, sometimes it goes away.

It's just like on and off all the time and so it's not so reliable, it's not super fast.

For me to even upload these videos on to youtube, it takes forever, so it's not a good experience.

Now the best company, or the best type of internet here is fiber optics and the bad part is they don't have it everywhere some streets have it and some neighborhoods have it.

Hopefully, eventually everyone will be able to have it but right now it's like only some people can have it.

At the Airbnb here we do have fiber optics which works pretty well.

I have uploaded videos from here and it's so much faster than at home, which I have Liberty, I believe, at home.

So, yeah, fiber optics is the way to go here if you are able to get it.

The next one if you hate rain, or random rain showers, or floods anything that has to do with rain you're in big trouble because it's unpredictable weather here all the time.

You can ask Siri how's the weather today? And she'll be, like, it's sunny and then all of a sudden it's raining.

You can't trust the weather reports and, yes, we're in an island so you are to expect that you know it rains, almost every day.

So sometimes it's sunny, and then clouds pass by, it rains for a little bit, and then they go away and then it's sunny again.

So that happens here a lot, obviously, but sometimes it rains for three days in a row or a week, you know, on and off, or two weeks on and off.

So there's a lot of rain here, the problem is that it's unpredictable, right, so I can go to the post office, it's sunny and then all of a sudden when I'm coming out it's pouring.

So you don't have an umbrella because you're not prepared for that. Just be ready for lots of rain and floods.

The next one is not for everyone, but it's for those that love fashion.

You have to deal with not being able to use fall and winter outfits anymore.

Like certain things that you love, like chunky sweaters or nice hats and like scarves and jackets and coats and knee-high boots that I love.

I have some of those things that I brought here and I don't use them. They are stored because I can't use them here, because it's too hot.

I gotta be okay with not wearing certain clothes anymore.

The last thing you gotta deal with are nocturnal noises, so if you're a light sleeper I would recommend you turn on the fan, like a loud fan, or a loud air conditioning because you're gonna hear some noises at night with crickets and coquis, a lot of noise coming from insects and animals.

Do you hear all the noises? Especially when it rains and especially if you're in the countryside but you could also hear in the metro area.

So don't think that if you're in the metro area you're fine, but it's not everyday obviously, it depends where you live.

But it's not every day that you're gonna hear all these sounds, but at night be ready for all these nocturnal creatures.

We have concluded this video, I hope you enjoyed it.

If you like these kinds of videos you might want to check this one out right here and that is it give it a thumbs up if you enjoyed it subscribe if you have it and I'll see you in my next one, bye!