

DuRon Bell & Associates

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC RESORTS

A CONSIDERED GUIDE TO 25 STAYS ACROSS THE ISLAND

JULY 2026 EDITION

DuRonBell.com

Twenty five resorts, five clear ways to c

This guide is designed for practical comparison. The ranking considers setting, service, design, dining, activities, room quality and the consistency of the overall stay. Price bands are indicative market ranges for two adults, before taxes and fees.

BEST OVERALL LUXURY

Amanera

Architecture, privacy and a singular North Coast setting.

BEST NEW ARRIVAL

The St. Regis Cap Cana

A current benchmark for polished service and dining.

BEST VILLAS AND GOLF

Casa de Campo

The island's deepest resort ecosystem for groups.

BEST ADULT ALL INCLUSIVE

Sanctuary Cap Cana

Atmosphere, romance and a strong sense of occasion.

BEST FAMILY ALL INCLUSIVE

Hyatt Ziva Cap Cana

The most complete mix of water, dining and programming.

BEST WELLNESS

Cayo Levantado Resort

Private island calm with serious food and wellness.

BEST NORTH COAST BOUTIQUE

Casa Colonial

A considered base for Puerto Plata and Cabarete.

BEST ACTIVE VALUE

Viva Tangerine

Cabarete access, water sports and a sensible nightly band.

HOW TO READ THE PRICE BANDS

Room only means meals and most activities are separate. All inclusive generally covers core meals, drinks and programming, while premium dining, spa, golf and excursions may still carry charges. Rates move sharply by season, room category and promotion.

The island changes by coast

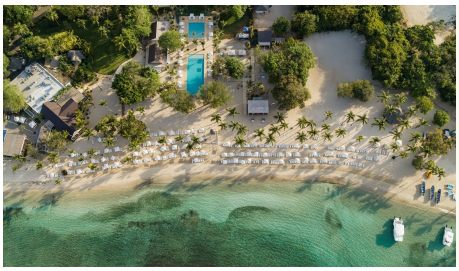
The right region matters as much as the right property. Beach conditions, transfer time, water activity and the surrounding culture vary materially across the Dominican Republic.



EAST, PUNTA CANA AND CAP CANA

Best air access, the broadest resort choice and the most polished all inclusive infrastructure.

Transfer guide PUJ to Cap Cana, roughly 15 to 25 minutes. PUJ to Uvero Alto, roughly 45 to 60 minutes.



SOUTHEAST, LA ROMANA AND BAYAHIBE

Calmer Caribbean water, strong golf, diving and access to Saona and Catalina.

Transfer guide PUJ to La Romana, roughly 55 to 75 minutes.



NORTH COAST, PUERTO PLATA TO PLAYA GRANDE

More texture, surf, wind sports, mountain views and a stronger sense of life beyond the resort.

Transfer guide POP to Playa Dorada, roughly 20 minutes. POP to Cabarete, roughly 25 to 40 minutes.



NORTHEAST, SAMANÁ AND MICHES

Nature, privacy, whale season and longer transfers, with fewer large scale developments.

Transfer guide AZS to Samaná or Las Terrenas, roughly 30 to 50 minutes.

SEASONAL VIEW

December to April usually brings the highest rates and drier weather. May, June and November often provide better shoulder value. August to October carries higher storm risk. Sargassum varies, especially on the east coast, and no property can guarantee daily conditions.

Resorts 01 to 02

01 Amanera

INSIDER PICK



PLAYA GRANDE, NORTH COAST

$1,700 to $4,500+

ROOM ONLY

Best for Privacy, architecture, golf, restorative stays
Why it is here Amanera is the island's most composed luxury retreat, set above Playa Grande with a strong sense of place and very little visual noise.
Dining Refined resort dining with Dominican ingredients and private experiences.
Activities Playa Grande golf, spa rituals, surfing, water sports, nature outings.

DINING ●●●●● ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●●

INSIDER NOTE

Choose an ocean pool casita. The North Coast deserves at least four nights, or pair it with Samaná.

02 The St. Regis Cap Cana Resort



CAP CANA, PUNTA CANA

$850 to $2,500+

ROOM ONLY

Best for Contemporary luxury, dining, golf, polished service
Why it is here A major new benchmark for Cap Cana, with 200 rooms and 36 suites, a sophisticated public realm, and direct access to Punta Espada.
Dining Nine food and beverage venues, including Nina, Cassava, Marola and Kawa.
Activities Punta Espada golf, spa, beach, pools, children and teen programming.

DINING ●●●●● ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●●

INSIDER NOTE

Reserve dinner before arrival. Upper level ocean view rooms offer the calmest experience.

Resorts 03 to 04

03 Eden Roc Cap Cana



CAP CANA, PUNTA CANA

$900 to $3,500+

ROOM ONLY

Best for Culinary travel, villas, beach club, couples
Why it is here The Dominican Republic's only Relais and Châteaux member blends private villas, beachfront suites and a notably strong dining program.
Dining Mediterraneo, La Palapa, Blue Grill and Hoyo 19 are among the island's better resort options.
Activities Private beach club, Punta Espada golf, spa, boating and family activities.

DINING ●●●●● ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●●

INSIDER NOTE

Choose a beachfront suite for walkability, or a pool villa when privacy is the priority.

04 Tortuga Bay Puntacana Resort and Club

INSIDER PICK



PUNTACANA RESORT, PUNTA CANA

$700 to $2,000+

ROOM ONLY

Best for Discretion, service, nature, short transfers
Why it is here Oscar de la Renta designed villas, a personal Embajador and only 30 rooms create one of the island's most quietly private stays.
Dining Bamboo anchors the experience, with access to the wider Puntacana dining collection.
Activities Ecological reserve, La Cana golf, tennis, pickleball, spa and water sports.

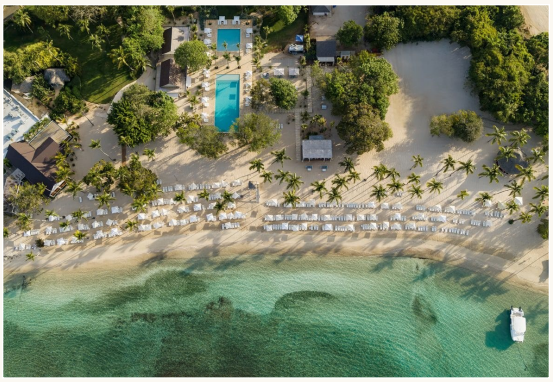
DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●●

INSIDER NOTE

Ask the Embajador to coordinate a reserve swim and a preferred La Cana tee time.

Resorts 05 to 06

05 Casa de Campo Resort and Villas



LA ROMANA, SOUTHEAST COAST

$450 to $1,500+, villas higher

ROOM ONLY

Best for Villas, golf, families, multigenerational travel
Why it is here A 7,000 acre resort with unusual depth, from Teeth of the Dog and a marina to polo, shooting, Altos de Chavón and staffed villas.
Dining Broad collection across the hotel, marina, beach and Altos de Chavón.
Activities Three golf courses, equestrian center, polo, tennis, beach, boating and shooting.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

A staffed villa with golf carts is the strongest format for groups. Plan key restaurants early.

06 Cayo Levantado Resort

INSIDER PICK



SAMANÁ BAY, NORTHEAST COAST

$650 to $1,500

ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Wellness, food, island privacy, couples
Why it is here A private island resort with a serious wellness framework, design led villas and an unusually ambitious culinary program.
Dining Palma Real, Santa Yuca, Carey, Senda and Manaya give the property real dining range.
Activities Yubarta wellness journeys, spa, botanical experiences, water activities and Samaná excursions.

DINING ●●●●● ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●●

INSIDER NOTE

Stay four nights or more. A private pool villa makes the island experience feel complete.

Resorts 07 to 08

07 Playa Grande Beach Club

INSIDER PICK



RÍO SAN JUAN, NORTH COAST

$1,200 to $4,000+

ROOM ONLY

Best for Design, privacy, intimate celebrations, buyouts
Why it is here A highly considered boutique property with tropical architecture, gracious scale and direct access to one of the North Coast's most compelling beaches.
Dining Small format, tailored dining centered on local produce and seafood.
Activities Beach, surf, nearby golf, horseback riding and curated regional excursions.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●○○ QUIET ●●●●●

INSIDER NOTE

Reserve a bungalow grouping for friends, or consider a full buyout for a private gathering.

08 Sanctuary Cap Cana



CAP CANA, PUNTA CANA

$600 to $1,400

ADULT ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Romance, atmosphere, adults only escapes
Why it is here A dramatic castle inspired resort with 324 suites, a strong sense of occasion and access to Juanillo Beach and Cap Cana.
Dining A varied collection around Sanctuary Town, including steak, seafood and Italian options.
Activities Pools, spa, beach, entertainment and access to golf and Cap Cana attractions.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●○○ QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

Castle rooms feel atmospheric. Choose the beach zone when immediate water access matters most.

Resorts 09 to 10

09 Secrets Cap Cana Resort and Spa



CAP CANA, PUNTA CANA

$550 to $1,100

ADULT ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Couples, easy luxury, reliable all inclusive stays
Why it is here An AAA Five Diamond adults only resort on Juanillo Beach with swim up categories, an expansive pool and a polished all inclusive format.
Dining Ten dining choices, including seven à la carte restaurants, plus strong variety for longer stays.
Activities Infinity pool, spa, nonmotorized water sports, entertainment and nearby excursions.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

Preferred Club is most useful for upgraded room placement, private beach space and the quieter pool.

10 Hyatt Zilara Cap Cana



CAP CANA, PUNTA CANA

$550 to $1,000

ADULT ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Adults only groups, pools, fitness, broad dining
Why it is here A well scaled adults only resort with 375 suites, impressive public spaces and access to one of the strongest recreation programs in Cap Cana.
Dining Thirteen restaurants and bars across the connected resort complex.
Activities Larimar Spa, large fitness center, pools, beach and Canapolis water park access.

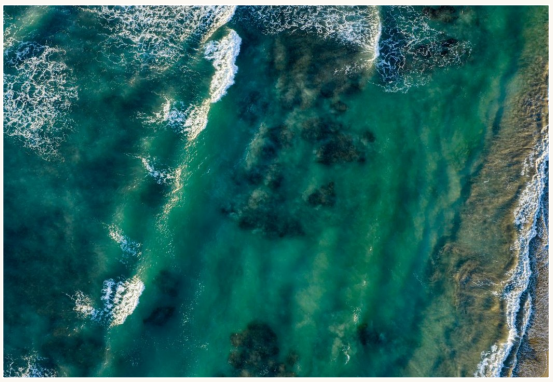
DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

The adult side is calmer. Club access can be worthwhile for a quieter pool and lounge.

Resorts 11 to 12

11 W Punta Cana, Adult All Inclusive



UVERO ALTO, PUNTA CANA

$650 to $1,400

ADULT ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Design, music, social energy, contemporary groups
Why it is here A new generation all inclusive with 340 rooms, a large Wet Deck and a deliberately social, design forward point of view.
Dining Multiple contemporary restaurants and bars, with a stronger nightlife rhythm than most resorts.
Activities Wet Deck, spa, fitness, beach programming, music and evening events.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●●○○

INSIDER NOTE

This is intentionally energetic. A plunge pool room offers a private reset between social moments.

12 Hyatt Ziva Cap Cana



CAP CANA, PUNTA CANA

$550 to $1,100

FAMILY ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Families, multigenerational travel, water activities
Why it is here One of the island's most complete family resorts, with 375 suites, a strong beach setting and programming that works across age groups.
Dining Seven restaurants and seven bars, with enough variety for a full week.
Activities Water park, lazy river, children and teen clubs, spa, fitness and live entertainment.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●●○○

INSIDER NOTE

Families who value activity should stay near Canapolis. Quieter travelers should choose farther buildings.

Resorts 13 to 14

13 Zoëtry Agua Punta Cana



UVERO ALTO, PUNTA CANA

$500 to $1,100

BOUTIQUE ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Quiet wellness, couples, low density stays
Why it is here Only 92 suites, thatched roof architecture and mature tropical landscaping give Zoëtry a distinctly intimate atmosphere.
Dining Smaller scale restaurants with health conscious and Caribbean influenced menus.
Activities Spa, wellness sessions, beach riding, water sports and private excursions.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●○○ QUIET ●●●●●

INSIDER NOTE

Choose this for quiet and restoration. It is less suited to travelers seeking nightlife or constant programming.

14 Excellence El Carmen



UVERO ALTO, PUNTA CANA

$450 to $900

ADULT ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Couples, pools, spa, resort variety
Why it is here A large all suite adults only resort with 23 pools, 13 restaurants and a strong balance of activity and private room categories.
Dining Broad international mix, with enough variety to avoid repetition during longer stays.
Activities Miilé Spa, pools, beach, fitness, water sports and nightly entertainment.

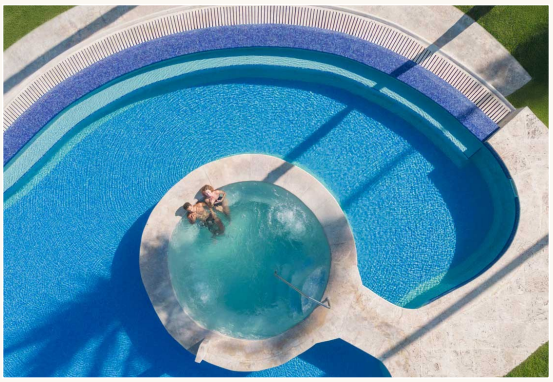
DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

Excellence Club adds Magna dining and calmer beach service, often a meaningful upgrade.

Resorts 15 to 16

15 JOIA Bávaro by Iberostar



BÁVARO, PUNTA CANA

$450 to $900

ADULT ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Classic resort luxury, golf, attentive service
Why it is here A mature adults only resort with three ocean view pools, butler service, extensive gardens and a distinctive full scale sailboat bar.
Dining Seven restaurants, plus access to selected dining across the wider Iberostar complex.
Activities P B Dye golf, spa, pools, diving, fitness and beach activities.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

Confirm the most recently refreshed room category and request a building near your preferred pool.

16 Club Med Michès Playa Esmeralda

INSIDER PICK



MICHES, NORTHEAST COAST

$500 to $1,500

ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Active families, couples, wellness, nature
Why it is here Four distinct villages create a rare mix of family programming, adult calm, nature and a deep schedule of included activities.
Dining Strong buffet and specialty dining, with family friendly range and local influences.
Activities Aerial yoga, fitness, archery, water sports, children programs, excursions and spa.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●●●○

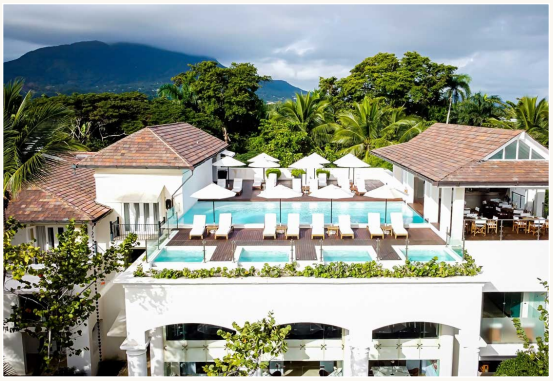
INSIDER NOTE

Choose the village carefully, Archipelago for couples, Explorer Cove for families.

Resorts 17 to 18

17 Casa Colonial Beach and Spa

INSIDER PICK



PLAYA DORADA, PUERTO PLATA

$350 to $750

ROOM ONLY

Best for North Coast boutique stays, design, couples
Why it is here A composed boutique hotel with a rooftop infinity pool, mature interiors and a more intimate alternative to larger Puerto Plata resorts.
Dining Elegant hotel dining with a quieter, more personal tone than the surrounding all inclusive properties.
Activities Spa, beach, nearby golf, Puerto Plata, Cabarete and 27 Waterfalls day trips.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●○○ QUIET ●●●●●

INSIDER NOTE

Pair a few quiet hotel days with Cabarete, the historic center or a North Coast road trip.

18 The Westin Puntacana Resort

INSIDER PICK VALUE PICK



PUNTACANA RESORT, PUNTA CANA

$250 to $600

ROOM ONLY

Best for Golf, short stays, airport convenience, value
Why it is here A recently refreshed 200 room resort within the 15,000 acre Puntacana estate, close to the airport and connected to extensive amenities.
Dining Anani, BAO, Brassa and Arena Beach Club cover resort essentials well.
Activities Corales and La Cana golf, beach, spa, ecological reserve, tennis and children programming.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

An excellent first or final stop, especially for golfers. The airport transfer is exceptionally easy.

Resorts 19 to 20

19 Lopesan Costa Bávaro Resort, Spa and Casino

VALUE PICK



BÁVARO, PUNTA CANA

$300 to $650

ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Facilities, groups, dining variety, value
Why it is here A modern 1,042 room resort with major pools, a lively Boulevard and one of the broader amenity sets in Bávaro.
Dining Eight restaurants, two buffets and numerous bars give large groups meaningful choice.
Activities Large pools, beach, casino, spa, children areas, entertainment and shopping promenade.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●●○○

INSIDER NOTE

Unique can be worthwhile for improved beach and dining access. Expect meaningful walking distances.

20 Live Aqua Beach Resort Punta Cana



UVERO ALTO, PUNTA CANA

$400 to $800

ADULT ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Couples, spa, contemporary design, quieter energy
Why it is here An adults only resort with 347 rooms, sensory design and a calmer pace than many of its large all inclusive peers.
Dining Approximately eight restaurants and five bars, with Italian, Asian and international choices.
Activities Multiple pools, spa with hammam inspired facilities, beach, fitness and entertainment.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

A swim up room is the upgrade to prioritize when private pool access is central to the stay.

Resorts 21 to 22

21 Sublime Samaná Hotel and Residences



PLAYA COSÓN, LAS TERRENAS

$300 to $900

ROOM ONLY

Best for Design, residences, families, Las Terrenas access
Why it is here Antonio Segundo Imbert architecture, generous residences and a quieter Playa Cosón setting make this a sophisticated Samaná base.
Dining Local seafood and Dominican ingredients shape an approachable hotel dining program.
Activities Coconut spa, beach, pools, Las Terrenas dining, whale season and Los Haitises excursions.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

Use a private transfer and reserve at least one evening for dining in Las Terrenas.

22 Catalonia Royal La Romana



BAYAHIBE, SOUTHEAST COAST

$350 to $750

ADULT ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Caribbean water, couples, diving, compact scale
Why it is here A 141 room adults only resort with AAA Four Diamond recognition and direct access to the calmer Caribbean side of the island.
Dining BLoved, Tao Cat, Siwichi and La Toscana give the small resort a useful range.
Activities Swim up rooms, spa, beach, diving, snorkeling and access to sister property amenities.

DINING ●●●●○ ACTIVITY ●●●●○ QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

A duplex pool suite or swim up room creates a meaningful step up from the entry categories.

Resorts 23 to 24

23 Dreams Dominicus La Romana

VALUE PICK



DOMINICUS, BAYAHIBE

$300 to $650

FAMILY ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Families, Caribbean swimming, diving, value
Why it is here A well placed family resort near Bayahibe, with calmer water and easy access to Saona, Catalina and some of the island's better diving.
Dining Broad all inclusive selection designed for families and longer stays.
Activities Children and teen clubs, beach, pools, diving, snorkeling and island excursions.

DINING ●●●○○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●●●○

INSIDER NOTE

Preferred Club is useful for quieter room placement and a more contained pool experience.

24 Viva Tangerine by Wyndham

VALUE PICK



CABARETE, NORTH COAST

$160 to $350

ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Kiteboarding, active travel, social value
Why it is here A practical beachfront base in Cabarete with included introductory kiteboarding and immediate access to the North Coast's active lifestyle.
Dining Three à la carte restaurants, casual all inclusive options and walkable Cabarete dining nearby.
Activities Kiteboarding, windsurfing, paddleboarding, snorkeling, tennis, beach volleyball and nightlife.

DINING ●●●○○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●○○○

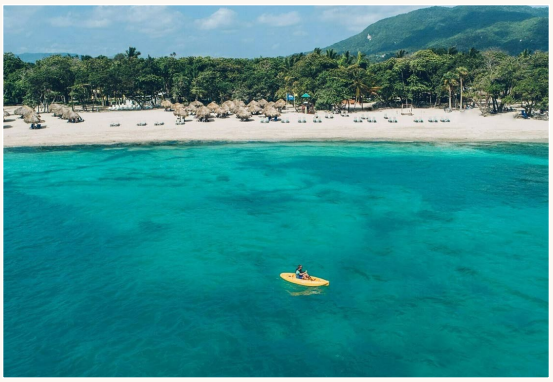
INSIDER NOTE

Ideal for an active social trip, less suited to a silent retreat. Pool works are scheduled August 31 to September 15, 2026.

Resorts 25 to 25

25 Iberostar Waves Costa Dorada

VALUE PICK



PUERTO PLATA, NORTH COAST

$180 to $400

FAMILY ALL INCLUSIVE

Best for Families, sports, beach value, Puerto Plata access
Why it is here A dependable Playa Dorada all inclusive with a large pool, mountain views and a strong set of family and sports facilities.
Dining Three specialty restaurants plus buffet options cover the expected resort range.
Activities Star Camp, tennis, water sports, spa, diving center and easy access to Puerto Plata.

DINING ●●●○○ ACTIVITY ●●●●● QUIET ●●●○○

INSIDER NOTE

Confirm the room category and any scheduled works before booking. Strongest for travelers who prioritize activity and value.

A useful final filter

For a first visit, prioritize the coast and travel format before comparing room categories. A well placed four star resort can produce a stronger trip than a remote five star property that does not suit the group.

Value is the quality of the fit

These resorts are not selected because they are the least expensive. They offer a sensible relationship between nightly cost, location, facilities and the likelihood that guests will use what they are paying for.



18 The Westin Puntacana Resort

$250 to $600

PUNTACANA RESORT, PUNTA CANA

A recently refreshed 200 room resort within the 15,000 acre Puntacana estate, close to the airport and connected to extensive amenities.



19 Lopesan Costa Bávaro Resort, Spa and Casino

$300 to $650

BÁVARO, PUNTA CANA

A modern 1,042 room resort with major pools, a lively Boulevard and one of the broader amenity sets in Bávaro.



23 Dreams Dominicus La Romana

$300 to $650

DOMINICUS, BAYAHIBE

A well placed family resort near Bayahibe, with calmer water and easy access to Saona, Catalina and some of the island's better diving.

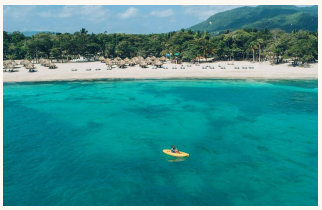


24 Viva Tangerine by Wyndham

$160 to $350

CABARETE, NORTH COAST

A practical beachfront base in Cabarete with included introductory kiteboarding and immediate access to the North Coast's active lifestyle.



25 Iberostar Waves Costa Dorada

$180 to $400

PUERTO PLATA, NORTH COAST

A dependable Playa Dorada all inclusive with a large pool, mountain views and a strong set of family and sports facilities.

NORTH COAST NOTE

Viva Tangerine places guests directly in Cabarete's active environment. Iberostar Waves Costa Dorada offers a fuller family resort structure in Puerto Plata. The Westin, Lopesan and Dreams Dominicus round out the list across the east and southeast.



Before you reserve

A resort's entry rate rarely tells the full story. Room placement, transfer time, beach conditions, dining access, club privileges and the group's preferred pace determine the real value of a stay.

1 Confirm the total

Review taxes, resort charges, transfers, premium dining, golf, spa and cancellation terms.

2 Choose the room location

A better building or quieter zone can matter more than a larger room.

3 Match the travel rhythm

Families, golfers, couples and active travelers need different resort ecosystems.

4 Check current conditions

Ask about renovation work, beach conditions and operating schedules close to arrival.

Property information and market observations reviewed July 2026. Rates are indicative, dynamic and not quotations.
Photography is sourced from property and hospitality media. Representative regional context is used where required.

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