

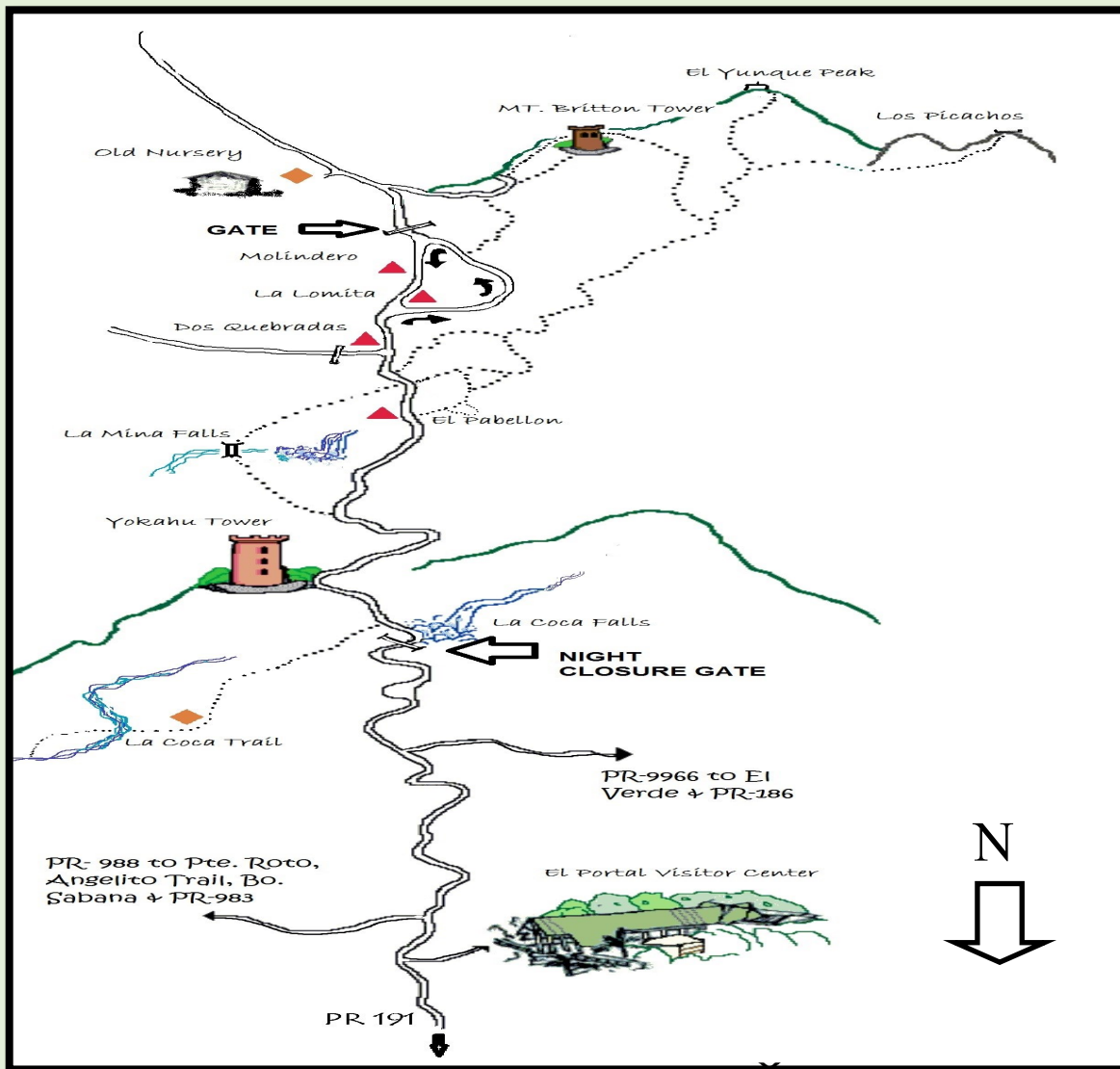


USDA Forest Service

Camping at El Yunque National Forest



Tel: 787-888-1880



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USDA Forest Service

For More Information:

El Yunque National Forest
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 Rio Grande, PR 00745-9625

Phone: 787-888-1880

Fax: 787-888-5622

Website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/elyunque>



Camping at El Yunque National Forest, a safe and enjoyable experience

El Yunque National Forest warmly welcomes you! We provide the following information to help you have a safe and enjoyable camping experience.

What To Expect



Camping in a tropical rain forest will be a different experience. The topography is steep and vegetation is extremely dense. The Forest receives between 100 and 200 inches of rain per year, depending on the elevation. This amount of rain can result in very wet and muddy conditions.

Campers **must** be aware of weather forecasts at all times. Hurricane season begins on June 1st and ends on November 30th.

Getting a Camping Permit

No camping fee is required.

Use the Camping Form at www.fs.usda.gov/elyunque to submit an application for camping.

The Camping Form contains the Camping Guidelines flyer, the Camper's data and Camping Permit Ticket Please read the Guidelines flyer. Complete and submit the Camper's data form to camping officials:

efantauzzi@fs.fed.us & yortiz@fs.fed.us at least 10 days prior to camping date.

The Camping Permit Ticket will become your Approved Camping Permit once you populate it with the assigned Camping Permit #, Authorized Campsite and name of Authorizing Official This validated permit binds you as follows:

BY ACCEPTING AND CAMPING UNDER THIS PERMIT YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLYING WITH ALL THE CAMPING GUIDELINES FOUND IN THIS FLYER.

Camping Season

Camping on the forest is allowed year round.

Night Time Closure

Road PR 191 is closed each night at La Coca Falls, km 8.2. The gate is opened at 7:30 AM and is closed at 6:00 PM

Camping Guidelines

- Have an approved Permit and use only the recommended primitive campsite locations.
- Length of stay is limited to 14 days. Group sizes are limited to 8 persons or less.
- Tents must be located at least 30 feet away from trails and streams, and at least 50 feet from roads and developed picnic areas.
- **Open campfires are not permitted.** Build fires only in fire rings or grills, or use camp stoves.
- Cutting of trees, shrubs, branches or other vegetation not permitted.
- Do not wash in streams or ponds. Use a bucket or wash pan away from streams or ponds.
- Avoid making loud noise at night. Operate any audio devices, at a low volume, so as not to disturb other Forest visitors and wildlife.



Fire ring



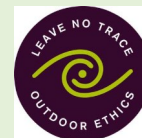
vegetation not permitted.



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Practice Leave No Trace Skills and Ethics

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts
- Respect wildlife and vegetation
- Be considerate of other visitors



Waste Disposal

Pack out all trash and dispose in garbage cans and waste bins off the Forest. Do not dispose of human waste in streams. Bury feces using the cat hole method: dig a shallow hole in the top 6 to 8 inches of soil at least 100 feet away from streams, camp or trails and cover waste with soil. Urine does not need to be buried but should be kept away from streams, campsites and trails.

Safety Alerts

- Be aware of potential flash floods near or in rivers and streams.
- There are few poisonous plants, shrubs and trees in the Forest, be aware of them.
- Mongooses are the principal carrier of rabies in Puerto Rico, **avoid all** contact with them.
- Have a plan about your camper use activities and share it with Forest Service camping official.
- Always be aware of current weather conditions, alerts and warnings specially during hurricane season (June 1- Nov 30).
- There is limited cellular phone coverage inside forest.
- Boots, rain gear and insect repellent are recommended.
- Camping alone is not advisable or safe.
- **In Case of Emergencies Dial 911 or contact Forest Service personnel.**



CAMPERS DATA-PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN ORDER TO APPLY FOR A PERMIT

Lead camper's name-holds accountability for group

Cell phone number

Lead camper's Driver's license/State ID #

City, Country of residence

Group name if applicable

Name & Phone of an additional camper

Name & Phone of emergency contact

Dates :
From _____ to _____ # of Nights _____
Total number of campers: _____
Total number of tents: _____

Vehicle Color/ Make, Model /License Plate Number (Additional vehicles if any:)

Activity schedule (hiking plans, etc.) for safety pur-poses; Additional comments:
Select campsite choices in order of preference in case we need to assign alternate site.
_____El Pabellon
_____Dos Quebradas
_____La Lomita
_____Molindero (3 spaces)
_____La Coca Trail
_____Old Nursery (min. 8 campers or more)

NOTICE: All campers must provide an emergency contact in order to process your permit.