



## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ANNUAL EVENTS 2020

For the most current event listings with confirmed dates, please visit the Dominican Republic Ministry of Tourism's official website and event calendar at [www.GoDominicanRepublic.com/events](http://www.GoDominicanRepublic.com/events)

### ALL YEAR-ROUND

- January – December **Santo Domingo de Fiesta:** Free outdoor show full of folk music and dance, every Friday and Saturday at the Plaza de España in the Colonial City of Santo Domingo from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- January – December **Grupo Bonyé at the Colonial City:** Free performances of son and merengue every Sunday in the Ruinas de San Francisco, in the Colonial City of Santo Domingo from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- January – December **Jazz Nights:** Throughout the year, several venues in Santo Domingo offer free concerts of jazz, blues and other musical genres for locals and visitors. They are held Mondays at the Lulu Tasting Bar, Wednesdays at Acropolis Center and Fridays at the Dominican Fiesta Hotel & Casino. <http://jazzendominicana.blogspot.com>
- January – December **Altos de Chavón Concerts:** The amphitheater with the capacity for 5,000 people is popular for concerts, music videos and private events. Past concerts include Gloria Estefan, Sting, Shakira, Andrea Bocelli, Elton John, Juan Luis Guerra, Carlos Santana and Marc Anthony, among others. [www.casadecampo.com.do](http://www.casadecampo.com.do)
- January – December **Golf Tournaments:** All year long, golf tournaments are organized in various courses throughout the country. In the courses of Casa de Campo The Links, Dye Fore and Teeth of the Dog, the following tournaments take place: the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual International Pro AM, International Caribbean Pro AM I, 33<sup>rd</sup> International Caribbean Pro AM II and 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Casa de Campo Spring Shootout. Other important tournaments are held at Corales Golf Club, Punta Espada Golf Club and Playa Dorada Golf Course, among others.
- January – December **Kitesurfing and Windsurfing Competitions:** The idyllic Cabarete bay is known as home to some of the most spectacular kitesurfing and windsurfing events during the summer. The warm waters and the changing winds of the bay attract the fiercest competitors of water and sailing sports to participate in recognized international competitions.
- January – December **La Puntilla Amphitheater Concerts:** The impressive Greek amphitheater of 2,062 square meters (22,195 square feet) located between the Atlantic Ocean and Fort San Felipe, has capacity for 4,000 spectators. Throughout the year it is the perfect setting for concerts, dance shows and other entertainment events with the participation of Dominican and international artists.

### JANUARY

- January – March **Whale Watching in Samaná:** Take a boat trip to watch between 1,500 and 2,000 humpback whales that migrate to the waters of Samaná Bay. The official whale-watching season is from mid-January to the end of March, but excursions are available while there are whales in the Bay.



January – April **Casa de Campo Polo Tournament:** Annual event where the best polo players in the country meet in this famous tourist complex. It is regulated by the International Polo Federation. [www.CasadeCampo.com.do](http://www.CasadeCampo.com.do)

January 17 – 19 **Caribbean Laser Midwinter Regatta:** It opens the laser regatta world calendar every January in Cabarete, the world capital of kitesurfing. This event attracts the best sailors from around the world and is sponsored by the Laser Training Center, with the assistance of the Dominican Sailing Federation. [www.caribwind.com](http://www.caribwind.com)

## **FEBRUARY**

February - March **Dominican Republic Carnival:** Its origin dates back to 1520, and it is a tradition inherited from the Spanish ancestors in which each city celebrates in its own way, including parades every Sunday in February. Some of these are celebrated in Puerto Plata, Punta Cana, Rio San Juan, Cabarete, Bonao, Constanza, La Vega, Montecristi, Samaná, Higüey, Barahona, Santiago and Santo Domingo. Some final parades are held in March. [www.cultura.gob.do](http://www.cultura.gob.do)

February 2 – March 1 **La Vega Carnival:** Over half a million visitors come to see the colors and hear the sounds of the naughty Diablos Cojuelos, with their huge colorful masks and long horns. The parade is held every Sunday in February and includes live music.

February 7 - 8 **Punta Cana Carnival:** Visitors and locals celebrate carnival on November 1st Boulevard, in Puntacana Village. The parade on Saturday, February 8 has troupes from 15 provinces of the country and international ones with more than 1,000 characters with costumes and live performances. [www.puntacana.com](http://www.puntacana.com)

February 16 – 21 **Procigar Festival:** More than 300 people from all over the world gather at the Procigar Festival in La Romana and Santiago. The event includes a golf tournament, excursions to the beach, merengue classes, seminars about cigars and much more. [www.procigar.org](http://www.procigar.org)

February 23 – 28 **Master of the Ocean:** The specialists of extreme water sports will test their qualities in the recognized unique event that brings together local and international athletes in high-level competitions and celebrations on the beach of Cabarete. It includes the disciplines of surfing, windsurfing, kitesurfing and stand up paddle (SUP) with a single winner and is one of the biggest events of its kind. [www.masteroftheocean.com](http://www.masteroftheocean.com)

## **MARCH**

March – August **Fishing Tournaments and Regattas:** During the summer the Puerto Bahía Marina holds sport fishing tournaments. Dorados, Tunas, Wahoos, as well as other species of billfishes such as White Marlin, Blue Marlin, Sailfish and Swordfish are some of the varieties you can find. In March, it is also very popular to hold regattas in the Samaná Bay with hundreds of sailboats from different countries.

March 1 **National Carnival Parade:** Held on the first Sunday of March in the Malecón of Santo Domingo. Typical carnival characters from all over the Dominican Republic gather in colorful troupes to offer an unforgettable show. [www.cultura.gob.do](http://www.cultura.gob.do)

- March 7 - 13      **Conciertos de la Villa de Santo Domingo:** Festival organized by the Santo Domingo Villa Foundation that includes concerts, art and cultural events aimed at the public in various historical sites of the Colonial City. Participating artists are members of internationally recognized musical institutions in the United States and Europe. <https://www.conciertosdelavilla.com>
- March 12 - 22      **Punta Cana Gourmet Week:** Event that promotes the diverse and high gastronomic offer of the East side of the country among tourists, visitors and residents. The program includes a selection of establishments that offer a special menu for the festival, as well as tastings of gourmet products, wines, cocktails and beers, as well as activities for all tastes.
- March 20      **Caribbean Cigar Night:** With the long history of the Dominican Republic in the production of some of the best cigars in the world; this event, held in Puerto Plata, attracts a wide audience to discover and taste some of the most prestigious local and international brands. The event also offers great food and live music. [www.cigarnightpop.com](http://www.cigarnightpop.com)
- March 23 - 29      **Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship:** The third edition of this famous championship will be held in the exclusive 18-hole course designed by Tom Fazio, Corales Golf Club, where more than 132 professional players will have the opportunity to earn points for the FedEx Cup. [www.puntacana.com/coraleschampionship](http://www.puntacana.com/coraleschampionship)
- March 27 – 29      **Discover Barahona 2020:** It is the annual event where the tourist and production offers of the destination are announced, as well as new investments and ventures related to other productive sectors of the country.
- March 31 – April 3      **Dominican Annual Tourism Exchange (DATE):** It is the most important event of the tourism industry in the country, held annually in Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana. Business exchange between international wholesalers, tour operators, incentive groups, airlines and charter operators, with the most important tourist providers of the Dominican Republic. [www.asonahores.com](http://www.asonahores.com)

#### APRIL

- April – May      **International Book Fair:** The 23<sup>rd</sup> edition will be held in the Colonial City of Santo Domingo; where writers, expert speakers and editors will meet to exhibit their literary works and promote reading. [www.cultura.gob.do](http://www.cultura.gob.do)
- April – May      **Puerto Plata Open:** PGA Latin American Tour event that is part of the BUPA Challenge. It is held at Playa Dorada Golf Course, designed by Robert Trent Jones Senior. It has the participation of more than 140 golfers from 20 countries of America and has a purse of USD \$ 75,000. <https://www.playadoradagolf.com/torneos>
- April 15 - 16      **Expo Gastronómica:** It gathers the main suppliers, institutions, products and services of the gastronomic and hospitality sector of the Dominican Republic. The main hotels, restaurants and patisseries in the country will show their skills and compete in the second edition of the Dominican Culinary Grand Prix, as part of the event.

## JUNE

- June **Punta Cana Food Fest:** Culinary festival that combines haute cuisine with the unique Caribbean paradisiacal atmosphere of Punta Cana. [www.puntacana.com](http://www.puntacana.com)
- June **Marisco Ripiao Festival:** Event that seeks to promote history, culture, gastronomy, environmental conservation, sustainable tourism development and help economic development in the region of the Province of Samaná. It offers workshops with Dominican chefs, meals, drinks, art exhibitions, local entertainment and crafts. <https://festivalmariscoripiao.com>
- June **Fiesta de la Música:** Event organized by the French Alliance of Santo Domingo that includes free concerts in bars, restaurants, hotels and cultural centers in Colonial City, as well as in the Plaza España, Parque Colón and Escalinatas del Conde. Seminars, conferences, workshops, panels and presentations of international and local professionals, a cycle of musical cinema, photo contest and exhibition of photographs of previous versions are held. <http://www.afsd.net>
- June – July **Gastronomic Journeys “Samaná Exquisita”:** The Tourism Cluster of Samaná and the Association of Hotels and Tourism Companies of Samaná organize this event that brings together the best of the gastronomy of the province, recognized nationally and internationally for its diversity and exquisiteness. It has the participation of more than 20 local restaurants, offering the best of our cuisine with a special three-course menu. <https://gosamana.com>
- June 5 - 7 **Expo Turismo Santiago:** Held at the convention center of the Gran Almirante hotel in Santiago, it has the participation of airlines, cruise ships, tour operators and hotels that offer attractive rates and tour packages, giving the public the possibility to take advantage of special rates.
- June 11 - 14 **100K del Caribe:** The seven-day marathon, 100 km del Caribe, goes from Cabarete to Samaná. The race is divided in five phases, Cabarete (10K), Puerto Plata (17.5K), Rancho Magante (18K), Las Terrenas (45.5K) and Samaná (12K). [www.100kmdelcaribe.com](http://www.100kmdelcaribe.com)

## JULY

- July **Bocao Food Fest:** Event with the purpose of recreating a gastronomic park where renowned food trucks, chefs and restaurants will cook live street dishes with a unique and gourmet touch that only they know how to give to surprise everyone who attends.
- July **Cabarete Classic Pablito Guzmán:** This competition is the best windsurfing event in the Dominican Republic and one of the main events of its type in the world. Competitors and tourists from all over the world will come to Cabarete to join the festivities, bringing a lot of energy and excitement to the area. Competitions will be in formula, slalom and free-style categories. There will be long-distance windsurf and kiteboarding races. The races are open to people of all ages and abilities. Open for SUP as well.
- July 2 – 4 **Bolsa Turística del Caribe (BTC):** The Caribbean Tourism Exchange takes place at the Dominican Fiesta Hotel & Casino in Santo Domingo, with the purpose of marketing, promoting and selling products and services of the tourism industry. [www.btc.com.do](http://www.btc.com.do)

July 11 **Puerto Plata Golf Classic:** This event has quickly become one of the favorite tournaments of local and foreign golfers. It takes place in the golf course designed by the renowned Robert Trent Jones Sr. - Playa Dorada Golf Course. [www.ashonorte.com](http://www.ashonorte.com)

July 17 – 19 **Cabarete Kite Festival:** It is an epic celebration in honor of water sports, the protection of our oceans and the spirit of entrepreneurship. This event is filled with kitesurfing at its best, connectivity, surfing sessions and music at sunset on Cabarete beach. [www.cabaretekitefestival.com](http://www.cabaretekitefestival.com)

## AUGUST

August **DR Jazz Festival Cap Cana:** Free two-day festival full of rhythm, flavor and color, with some of the best Latin jazz groups and musicians in the world. It is a recognized annual cultural event that brings jazz to a diverse crowd of music lovers, composed of local residents and tourists alike. [www.drjazzfestival.com](http://www.drjazzfestival.com)

August **Long Night of the Museums Summer Edition:** In this cultural event open to the public, you can discover the beauty of Dominican monuments and heritage through artistic programs in the museums and historic centers of the Colonial City, which will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. free of charge. There will be a program of educational and artistic activities with live statues, concerts, workshops and guided tours. [www.cultura.gob.do](http://www.cultura.gob.do)

August 7- 9 **Dominican Rum Festival:** Attendees of the Dominican Rum Festival can enjoy a great exhibition and tastings of fine Rums from the Dominican Republic and international brands. Different events will also be offered, such as concerts, tastings, seminars, talks, workshops, cocktail contests and gastronomic tastings, among other attractions. [www.dominicanrumfestival.com.do](http://www.dominicanrumfestival.com.do)

August 7 – 9 **Fiesta del Mar Barahona "Palito Seco Regatta":** A sailing competition in the magnificent Barahona Bay, to enjoy the tropical winds and the sweet waves of the beautiful beaches of Barahona, in a sporty and familiar atmosphere. The categories are Laser (Radial and Standard), Optimist, Sunfish, Windsurf and Paddle.

## SEPTEMBER

September **SDQ Gastronómico – Restaurant Week:** It is the gastronomic route that integrates the most emblematic restaurants of the city, through a tour of the different establishments, which are registered through a RW passport. It allows the diner to have access to the tasting menu, which is prepared exclusively for that week, at an affordable price, besides receiving a passport stamp to get discounts and prizes. [www.sdqgastronomico.com](http://www.sdqgastronomico.com)

September **Discover Marketplace International Tourism and Adventure Trade Show:** It is the annual marketing event of Puerto Plata and other destinations in the country for tourism professionals, including tour operators, airlines and press from more than twenty different markets from all over the world. It promotes sustainable, adventure and cultural tourism. It is a unique combination of travel products and business networking opportunities. [www.discoverpuertoplata.com](http://www.discoverpuertoplata.com)

September **Santo Domingo Destino Capital:** Event that seeks to promote the tourist development of Santo Domingo. Buyers and operators, including specialists in cultural trips, circuits, thematic, health, weddings, events and businesses from various countries attend. It includes dinners and galas, panels on topics of interest in the tourism sector. [www.destinocapital.org](http://www.destinocapital.org)

September **XXXIV Commercial Exhibition ASONAHORES 2020:** Held annually at BlueMall Puntacana, it promotes goods and services offered by local hotel and restaurant suppliers. The program includes cooking competitions, tastings, auctions, event launches, new products and more. [www.asonahores.com](http://www.asonahores.com)

September 20 - 24 **DR Golf Travel Exchange:** Event that showcases all the facilities and advantages offered by the Dominican Republic in golf tourism through its unique courses and workshops, which allow the national tourism sector, international tour operators specialized in the golf niche, travel agents, golf course managers, receptive operators and market press to meet and connect. [www.drgolftravel.com](http://www.drgolftravel.com)

## OCTOBER

October - January **Dominican Winter Baseball Season:** Autumn and winter are filled with fun with the games of the winter baseball series, which are held in the stadiums of Santo Domingo, Santiago, San Francisco de Macorís, San Pedro de Macorís and La Romana. At the end of the season, the winning team represents the country in the Caribbean Series, competing with Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba and Venezuela. [www.lidom.com](http://www.lidom.com)

October **Dominicana Moda:** Celebrate Dominican fashion for a week every October. The leading local and international designers and brands exhibit their seasonal designs in continuous fashion shows. The event will take place in the Colonial City of Santo Domingo. [www.dominicanamoda.com](http://www.dominicanamoda.com)

October **SDQ Santo Domingo MICE:** It is the marketing platform that brings together hoteliers, allied suppliers and other professionals related to the Groups, Congresses, Conventions, Events and Exhibitions industry of the City of Santo Domingo and other tourism experts of the Dominican Republic with specialized buyers of this sector. [www.sdqsantodomingomice.com](http://www.sdqsantodomingomice.com)

## NOVEMBER

October - November **DR Jazz Festival:** Annual event that attracts large audiences who come to listen to the best of jazz from national and international musicians, in Santiago, Sosúa and Cabarete. During the event workshops are held by international musicians to children from nearby communities. [www.drjazzfestival.com](http://www.drjazzfestival.com)

November 21 - 22 **Gastro Festival:** Event where you can enjoy the flavors of the Dominican Republic. It includes grilled cuisine, urban food (street food) and Dominican cuisine prepared by the main national and international exponents. You can enjoy children's area, live music, competitions and cooking classes.

## DECEMBER

- December **Long Night of the Museums Christmas Edition:** In this cultural event open to the public, you can discover the beauty of Dominican monuments and heritage through artistic programs in the museums and historical centers of the Colonial City, which will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. free of charge. There will be a program of educational and artistic activities with live statues, concerts, Christmas decorations, workshops and guided tours. [www.cultura.gob.do](http://www.cultura.gob.do)
- December **The Paradise Cap Cana Music & Arts Fest:** It offers two days of live music and DJ sets, with a selection of the best talents across the pop, hip-hop and electronic music spectrum. It has incomparable visual and sound productions, a wide range of interactive personalized artistic installations and exquisite cuisine. Artists such as Cardi B, Snoop Dogg, J Balvin, Bad Bunny, Marshmelo, Stevie Aoki, among others have performed. [www.theparadise.com/](http://www.theparadise.com/)
- December 31 **New Year Celebration:** The New Year's party is held every year on Avenida del Puerto and on the Malecón of Santo Domingo with live music, as well as in various hotels, discos and bars throughout the country. You will enjoy a beautiful fireworks show at midnight.

For an updated list of events in Dominican Republic visit:

[www.GoDominicanRepublic.com/events](http://www.GoDominicanRepublic.com/events)

News releases, images and the press kit also can be accessed from the official DR Ministry of Tourism website: [www.GoDominicanRepublic.com](http://www.GoDominicanRepublic.com) For additional photos, b-roll and more specific needs, please contact Annie Holschuh [annie.holschuh@bvk.com](mailto:annie.holschuh@bvk.com) BVK Word for the Dominican Republic Ministry of Tourism.