

FAST FACTS: The Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic and Haiti share the island of Hispaniola. Hispaniola is the second largest island in the Caribbean after Cuba. However, while the two countries may share the same island, their cultures are vastly different.



- Language: Spanish
- Population: 10,349,741
- Capital: Santo Domingo, 3,263,053
- Other city: Santiago de los Caballeros, 1,503,362
- Land area: 18,680 sq mi (a bit larger than Maryland...would rank as the 41st largest state in the US)
- Government: Representative Democracy
- Avg annual income: \$5,600 annually per household
- Industries: Tourism, Exporting sugar, coffee, tobacco
- Unemployment Rate: 15%
- Currency: The Peso – fluctuates daily (approx 43 pesos to a US Dollar)
- State Religion: Catholicism
- President: Danilo Medina (August 2012)
- Ethnicity/race: white 16%, black 11%, mixed 73%
- Recommended Reading: "Why the Cocks Fight" by Michelle Wucker

Puerto Plata, Sosua, Cabarete area- 2nd most popular beach location (behind Punta Cana)
World capital of Kite Boarding!



Santiago: 2nd Largest City (Where teams fly into when they come for a trip)

Punta Cana – Very popular location for US tourists. Many large All-Inclusive Resorts

Santo Domingo – The Capital and largest city

Doulos Discovery School in Jarabacoa (ha-da-ba-coe-a) population= approx 25,000