

San Juan, Puerto Rico

El fin de semana



Gigi Fernández Roberto & Sandy Alomar

**She won the gold medal in women's tennis
Doubles in the 1992 & 1996 Summer Olympics.
A great number of Latin American athletes have
been successful in many sports. Some well known baseball
Stars are Roberto and Sandy Alomar from Puerto Rico.**



Pasta de Guayaba

**is a popular dessert. This sweet, thick
Paste made from the guava fruit is
usually eaten with white cheese.
Another dessert similar to this is Jalea de
Mango, which is made with mango pulp
& sugar & has a thick jelly consistency.**



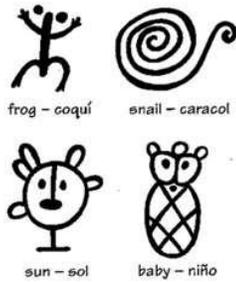
**El Morro is a fortress that the Spanish
Began in 1539 and finished in 1787. The
Fortress was built to protect the Spanish
Settlers from pirates and other invaders.
Some of its walls are 20 feet thick. It is a
popular place to fly kites. It is on the
Northwestern tip of Old San Juan and it
covers more than 70 acres. It last saw action
During the Spanish American war in 1898.**



**Luis Muñoz Marín (1898-1980) became the
island's first elected governor in 1948. In 1952 he
signed an agreement making Puerto Rico a
Commonwealth of the U.S. In 1942 he was head
of the Popular Democratic Party in Puerto Rico.
He launched a development program that
greatly improved the manufacturing sector and
led to a rise in the standard of living.**



TAÍNO SYMBOLS



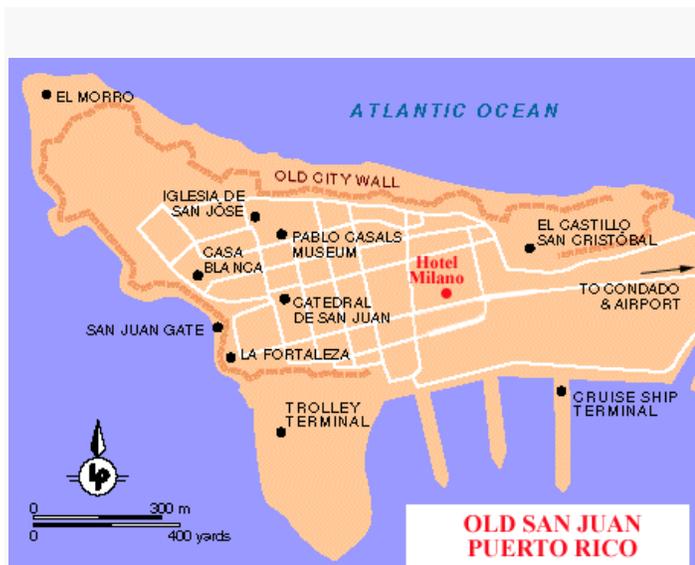
The Taínos were natives on the island when Columbus arrived in 1493. They left these Glyphs. Their language survived in words like huracán. (Hurricane.) They were hunters, fishermen, and Farmers. They were enslaved by the Spaniards, And subsequently exterminated. The word *Taíno* means *gentle*.



El Loro Puertorriqueño became an Endangered species in 1971, when only twenty of these parrots were left. Their numbers have increased. You might see one in “El Yunque”, the tropical rainforest. This Puerto Rican Parrot is the only native parrot in Puerto Rico. Its blue Wing tips are usually only visible in flight.



Puerto Rico consists on one main island and several smaller ones. Columbus named the island *San Juan Bautista*. The settlement already established there was named Puerto Rico. Although no gold, precious stones were ever found on “Rich Port”, it was the place where the riches of the new world were gathered before being taken to the European courts.



Old San Juan is the original section of San Juan. Portions of the walls that once surrounded it are still visible. The Area is seven square miles and contains many historic buildings. Much of the old city has been preserved in its original Spanish architecture and with its cobblestone streets.