The Bioluminescent Bay and Vieques, Puerto Rico

The **little history**: The reason you probably never heard of Isla de Vieques was because this magical island on the Caribbean was not a popular vacation spot since this small island was primarily under the control of the United States Navy. After years of protests the Navy finally discontinued their military practices and left the island on 2003. Since then, the locals and the rest of the world are able to enjoy the island and it's unending beauty in a safer environment.

The Vieques secret is out and many travel experts around the world are calling the island "The Next Hottest Caribbean destination". We invite you to come and discover Vieques Island with us. Take your time exploring this vacation guide, we hope that our love for the island inspires you to come and see this true treasure on the Caribbean. We get many letters saying that they found Vieques to be as beautiful as we have described it on this vacation guide. We are sure that you will be sending us the same type of message once you complete your stay in Vieques.

Since the U.S. Navy's departure in 2003, Isla de Vieques has seen an increase on the number of tourists and many changes have already taken place. If you want to experience the un-crowded, serene, and virgin side of the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, plan to come soon because it may not stay this way for long.
The Bio-Bay

The better-known bio-bay is in La Parguera, Puerto Rico but the more spectacular phosphorescent bay is in Vieques, Puerto Mosquito Bay. Puerto Mosquito (Mosquito Bay) is located on the southern shore of the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico. This magical bioluminescent bay is one of the brightest recorded in the world. In the waters of Mosquito Bay there are organisms named Pyrodinium bahamense, Dinoflagellates (dinos). These "dinos" are responsible for this amazing natural phenomenon. When the "dinos" come into contact with another organism or shaken they produce a bright burst of blue light. Mosquito Bay is the perfect environment for this "dinos". The Bay is small and shallow and the mouth of the bay is small, so the bright tiny organisms are trapped and protected in the bay, making it very, very bright.

The mangroves surrounding the bay provide the perfect nutrition for the Pyrodinium bahamense. Any changes in the delicate ecosystem can diminish the healthy balance of the bay. This is truly a magical place, and thanks to the pristine, non-polluted environs and the ethereal glow of trillions of microorganisms, you are there to witness and appreciate the astounding beauty of an undisturbed Caribbean Wonderland.

the island municipality off of the main island’s northeastern shore. The experience of seeing—and being surrounded by—this eerie light is nothing less than magical!
The Trip

Upon departing Marina Puerto Del Rey, our guests enjoy stunning views of the Fajardo coastline as the sunsets behind the mountains of "El Yunque" National Rain Forest. After a comfortable cruise along the north coast of Vieques, we enter port at the small village of "Isabel Segunda" where guests are taken by van or bus to a local restaurant for a casual local style dinner.

The Bioluminescent Bay Tours begin when guests are driven down a primitive track to the bay where they are treated to a guided tour in (quiet) electric motor boats. Guests should bring towels as swimming is highly recommended, which, in itself, is an unforgettable experience!

Guests should be reminded to bring cash for gratuities and alcohol libations at the restaurant. (Piña Coladas and snacks are served onboard Eco Isleño)

Arrival time back at Marina Puerto Del Rey is 10:15 pm.
Some Reviews of the Bio-Bay:

Atmosphere ★★★★★★★
Value ★★★★★★★

Last Visit: July 2006
Taking this ride was one of the best experiences of my life, I have never seen anything like this. There are no words to describe the feel of seeing the wonderful things in life. Just sitting in total darkness contemplating the bioluminescent lagoon and a sky full of stars just make you think how lucky you are to be there.

Was this review helpful? Yes - No (Report Problem)

A very special place
By A Yahoo! User from Niagara Falls, New York, USA
01/30/07