

Panama Sites – Popular Places

What are the most popular attractions for our free time? Do they have entrance fees? What are their hours? Please note that hours may change during WYD.

Bridge of the Americas

FREE

The steel bridge was constructed in the early 1960's to increase traffic flow between the two land masses of North and South America, crossing the Panama Canal, on the Pan-American Highway. It's an interesting design using a tied arch in the centre and cantilever spans at either end. Unlike other bridges over the canal, at the time it was built, it has no movable spans and therefore limits the heights of shipping passing beneath.

Panama Canal Museum

Tue-Sun: 9:00am-5:00pm (ticket office closes at 4:30pm)

Closed Monday and national holidays.

Regular: \$10.00

Student: \$5.00

The Canal Museum is a public, non-profit museum dedicated to preserving, researching, and propagating the testimonies of the history of the Panama Canal. The museum is situated on the Plaza de la Independencia in the township of San Felipe, part of Panama City's Old Town district. The museum displays the history behind the inter-oceanic route that crosses the isthmus and depicts the construction process of the Panama Canal, and narrates how the canal evolved and was eventually put under Panamanian control, in compliance with the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.

Panama Canal and Miraflores

Locks

Every day: 9:00am-4:30pm

Exhibitions, theatre, and observation decks: \$10.00

The Panama Canal is an artificial 48-mile waterway in Panama that connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean. The canal cuts across the Isthmus of Panama and is a key conduit for international maritime trade. There are locks at each end to lift ships up to Gatun Lake, an artificial lake created to reduce the amount of excavation work required for the canal, 26 metres (85 ft) above sea level, and then lower the ships at the other end.

Casco Viejo

FREE

(Spanish for Old Quarter), also known as Casco Antiguo or San Felipe, is the historic district of Panama City. Completed and settled in 1673, it was built following the near-total destruction of the original Panamá city, Panamá Viejo in 1671, when the latter was attacked by pirates. It was designated a World Heritage Site in 1997.

Panama Viejo

FREE

Founded on August 15, 1519, by Spanish conquistador Pedro Arias de Ávila, the city of Panamá was the first European settlement along the Pacific. For 150 years it flourished as Spain exported Peruvian gold and silver to Europe via Panamá. In

1671, Captain Henry Morgan sacked the city and it was relocated to the present-day Casco Viejo. Today, much of Panamá Viejo lies buried under a poor residential neighborhood, though the ruins are a must-see.

Biomuseo

Mon: Closed

Tue-Fri: 10:00am-4:00pm

Sat-Sun: 10:00am-5:00pm

Adults: \$22.00

Students under 18: \$11.00

Designed by world-renowned architect Frank Gehry, the Biomuseo is his only work in Latin America and the tropics.

There are eight galleries which explain the origin of the Panamanian isthmus and its gigantic impact on the planet's biodiversity.

Avenida Balboa

FREE

Named after Vasco Nuñez de Balboa, Avenida Balboa is the biggest upscale area of real estate development in Panama City, Panama and the most modern road in the country. It also is the most costly kilometer of a road in the world. It is approximately 3.5 km long and is located along the Pacific Ocean, making it one of the biggest attractions for real estate development in the city.