



Flightgeist //

## San Juan Puerto Rico

**WHY NOW:** A robust visual art scene and lively culinary culture make San Juan a must-visit this season.

Puerto Rico's capital has long been a quick fix for the tropically inclined. After all, it's easy to reach, it (allegedly) invented the piña colada and its beaches are as white as native son Ricky Martin's incisors. But the San Juan of 2012 offers more than ocean views and rum drinks. Start by exploring **Santurce**, the city's burgeoning gallery district, where edgy spaces such as **La Repuesta** and **C787** mingle with art institutions such as the **Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico**. Santurce also boasts down-home eateries—**Bebo's Café**, **Jose Enrique** and others—serving Puerto Rican soul food such as chicken and rice and coconut pudding. If you packed your fancy pants (and a few large bills), head to **Pikayo**, an elegant, ocean-front restaurant in Santurce's Condado area. Owned by beloved local chef Wilo Benet and tucked into the **Conrad San Juan Condado Plaza** hotel, Pikayo elevates "fusion" from dirty word to poetry with dishes ranging from foie gras with ripe plantains to tuna tartare with jalapeño and cold yuzu miso broth. As for lodging, the Conrad is lovely, but we recommend the more soulful **Hotel El Convento**, a boutique hotel located in a centuries-old former convent in the heart of historic Old San Juan. A more secluded option is **Dorado Beach, A Ritz-Carlton Reserve**—a luxury resort opening next month in the small town of Dorado, 15 miles west of San Juan. The resort is a seashell's toss from the Atlantic, a nature trail and a world-class golf course. And not to worry—we've been told that Dorado Beach will offer many cold rum drinks. —Chris Clayton



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### Inter Continental London Westminster

The first new InterContinental Hotel to call London home in 36 years opens its doors in a historic former government building in Westminster, just a short walk from Parliament. [ichotelsgroup.com](http://ichotelsgroup.com)



### Four Seasons Hotel Beijing

Reminiscent of Beijing's imperial palaces, this Four Seasons newcomer boasts 313 guest rooms with amenities such as iPod docking stations and espresso machines. [fourseasons.com/beijing](http://fourseasons.com/beijing)



### Hotel Nemzeti Budapest

This newly opened boutique hotel is housed in a 19th-century building near the Hungarian National Museum, the opera house and plenty of shopping. [accorhotels.com](http://accorhotels.com)



Quotable //

## Brian Williams on the Media

The great Sy Syms, the clothier here in New York, had my favorite expression: 'An educated consumer is our best customer.' And I always thought, well, good on the late Sy Syms because he was right about being a haberdasher, but he was also right about our business. [In-depth coverage] is out there—we've been covering substantive issues this whole time.

NBC anchor Brian Williams on a recent episode of *The Daily Show With Jon Stewart*, responding to a question regarding the lack of substantive media coverage during the 2012 presidential campaign

Just outside of Marfa sits an art installation replica of a Prada store.

### Miscellanea //

Marfa might be the Lone Star State's most baffling burg. The West Texas town boasts a world-class art scene (long story), mysterious glowing spheres (the "Marfa lights") and Hollywood cred to spare (*No Country for Old Men* and other movies were filmed here).



Prada store, Marfa, Texas

PHOTOS: BRETT AFRONTI/ILLUMINATIONS; TONY TANKS; LAFFEY EL MUNDO/EL MUNDO; FOURS SEASONS HOTELS LIMITED (BEIJING);