



## Explore Ashore

## Cartagena, Spain

## Thursday

Cruise terminal	Port Alfonso XIII	Terminal facilities	A small tourist booth.
Currency	Euro. Foreign exchange is available from reception on deck 8. Major credit cards are accepted in most shops, cafes and restaurants. Bank and ATM machines are available in the town centre.		
Language	The official language is Spanish. English is widely spoken and understood in tourist areas.	Tourist information	A small tourist booth in the port (which the town hall provides) sometimes a hostess who speaks English will be there to give out maps and information about the local area. The main tourist office is at Puertas de San Joseit, in the town hall square.
Getting around			
Taxis	Taxis will be available outside the port area. Most taxis have a meter but if not, make sure you agree a rate with the taxi driver before making your journey. A 10 minute journey cost approximately €15 per taxi.	Main highlights	There are a number of museums relating to the city's long and complex history under the Carthaginians, Romans and Moors. All are free if you have the Cartagena card*.  Nearby the House of Fortune at Plaza Risueño are the ruins of an ordinary Romarhome from the first century BC. It opens Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 2.30pm, admission €2.50.  The Punic Interpretative Centre on Calle San Diego preserves the one remaining section of wall built by Hasdrubal who founded this city in 227BC. It opens 10am-14.30 and 16.00 − 19.30 daily except Monday; admission is €3.50.  visit the ruins of the Teatro Romano which is regarded as one of the most amazing find in the city's archaeology landmarks. The site also houses the Roman Theater's Museum of Cartagena, which features exhibits about the history of the ruins, its construction, its function in ancient society, and various artifacts harvested from the site. The theate is open from 10:30 am to 6 pm.  *The tourist booths sell the Cartagena Card price for €20 approximately, which is valid for two weeks and covers admission to eight cultural sites as well as free travel around the city on the tourist bus and the harbor ferry.
Other transport options	There is an open top bus to take you on a tour of the town. For further information of running times and ticket prices, please see the tourist information booth. The open top bus runs normally on the same opening times as the museums which start at 10.00. Along the water front you may also find tourist boats.		
Distance to town centre	The town is approximately 10 minutes walk from the ship depending where we are berthed.		
Best way to reach the centre	The town centre is easily reached on foot, approximately 10 minutes walk from the port. On leaving the port turn to the town centre and then enter into the town hall square. Local taxis are available outside the port area.		
Main highlights	La Concepcio Castle (Calle Gisbert, opposite the Autopsy Pavilion). It is a former royal residence where you can have great views of an old bull ring built on top of a Roman gladiator arena, as well as the Cartagena harbour. The site also houses the Castle Interpretive Center, where you can learn the history of the city beginning from its settlement by Hasdrubal in 227 BC. The center is open from 10 am to 7 pm, and admission will cost you €3.50₃		
Essential inform	nation		
Nearest internet	In a cyber café in La Plaza del Rey. Many hotels also allow independent guests internet access.	Shopping  PLEASE NOTE: As with all cities always please keep a close eye on valuables  The main shopping areas are Calle Mayo and Calle Del Aire where you will find boutiques, cafes, bars and restaurants.	
Nearest bank	In Calle Mayor street there are several banks with ATM machines.		
Nearest pharmacy	Along Calle Major Street.		
Nearest beach	Cala Cortina is the nearest beach to the port. This is a local's beach; it doesn't have sun beds and umbrellas but has a restaurant/ bar area, which may be closed in 'low season'. The beach is approximately a 10 minute drive and there is wheelchair access on this beach. Or the famous La Manga strip is approximately 30 minute drive.		

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