

## MARELLA CRUISES

## **Explore** Ashore

## Colon, Panama

## Port information

Currency

Local currency in Panama is the Balboa, which has parity **Language** with the U.S. dollar. U.S. Dollars are accepted everywhere.

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Spanish, but English is spoken and understood in many tourist areas

Approximately 50 minute drive from the port.

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Getting around			
Distance to town centre	To Colon Town centre is about a 20 – 30 minute drive but can sometimes take approximately 45 minutes due to congested traffic. To Panama City downtown, it's approximately 85 minutes' drive.	Main highlights	<b>Portobelo</b> is a picturesque Spanish colonial town and UNESCO World Heritage Site about an hour drive, just along the coast from Colon. Portobelo is worth visiting for its pretty sea views, the ruins
Taxis	There are plenty of taxis. Drivers are regulated, and their runs are closely monitored. Taxi organizers will take your name, your ship, your departure time, your expected time of return and the name and number of the driver with whom you are travelling. Look for the central desk at the Colon 2000 complex.		of five Spanish forts and a Spanish colonial treasure house (the Aduana Real), which was restored in 1998. In the 16th century, Portobelo Treasure House was the holding place for Peruvian gold and loot that was seized in Latin America for shipment to Spain. Spanish galleons came and went constantly until English pirates
	Some taxi drivers will offer lower fares than the official tariff if approached directly, but we would recommend taking the official route for peace of mind.		(notably Sir Francis Drake) repeatedly raided Portobelo's treasures and dislodged the Spaniards. Fort San Lorenzo, a 17th/18th century Spanish Fort Hat guarded the Chagres Birgrthe main
Main Highlights	Auga Clara Locks are the newest and most interesting locks in the Panama Canal are approximately 30-minute drive from the port. These impressive locks give a great insight into the workings of this fabulous piece of engineering. The locks are open to visitors from 9am to 4pm, seven days a week.		fort that guarded the Chagres River the main route to and from the Pacific. The fort was attacked and the Spanish soldiers massacred by the pirate Henry Morgan in 1690 prior to his attack on Panama City. In the early 1700s it was bombarded by the English fleet of Admiral Vernon (whom Mt. Vernon is named for.)

Essential information	i i			
Fourist information	There is no tourist information Centre.		Shopping	Depending on our berth, there are some shop facilities close to each dock.
Internet access	Government internet: Known as "Internet para Todos"		PLEASE NOTE: As with all tourist	Just a ten minute drive from the port you'll find
Nearest beaches	away from the port. For a Langosta beach (also know approximately 45 minutes small island about an hour itself, about a five-minute of La Guayra, is one of Pa spots and offers water spi atmosphere and beach ba	wn as Playa La Angosta) ' drive, or head to Isla Grande, a r's drive from Colon. The island boat ride from the small village nama's most popular holiday orts, a relaxed Caribbean rs.	destinations, please keep a close eye on valuables	a shopping centre selling bargain-priced electronics, perfumes, cosmetics and luxury item like fine china and jewellery. You will also find some native craftwork.
	A taxi ride there is expensive, the price should include some waiting time and access to the island. Negotiate all of this in advance.			
Useful Phrases				
	Hello	Hola		
	Goodbye	Adios		
	Yes	Si		
	No	No		
	Please	Por favor		
	Thank you	Gracias		
	How are you?	Como estas?		
	Beer	Cerveza		
	Coffee	Café		
	Toilets	Banos		
	Do you speak English?	Hablas ingles?		
	Where is?	Donde esta?		
	How much is this?	Cuanto cuesta esto?		

Your Destination Services team would like to wish you an enjoyable day in Colon, Panama

There can be last minute changes. Please check Cruise News for the latest information before you go ashore.