



Ocean Park Beach, Kasalta Bakery & Calle Loiza

The best route to the beach is to go across Ponce de Leon Avenue and continue up the hill on Call San Jorge. Do not turn with the street - go toward the Church and continue on Calle San Jorge down the hill past the Hospital de Niños.

Continue over the highway and straight on Calle San Jorge. At the intersection with Calle Loiza you'll see a 7-11 type mini-mart on the far left corner if you want to pick up snacks for the beach.

Continue on Calle San Jorge which changes to Kings Court as you enter the elegant

Condado area and the beach. Facing the ocean, walk right & you can rent beach chairs - or find a place in the sand.

Some areas of the shoreline may have a steep 'drop-off' depending on the tide, so check to see where the locals are swimming to get the best area. Also watch for Sea Turtle nesting sites which are protected.

There are no bathrooms on the beach, but Kasalta Bakery has very good bathrooms. Look for 'Pamela's Restaurant' on the beach and walk to the street past the guard house to get to the main street by the yoga studio and Laundromat. Kasalta is at # 1966 Calle McLeary.

Buy at least a soda or coffee and you'll get the **access code** to the bathrooms on your receipt. Kasalta is a famous Spanish-style bakery where President Obama had lunch with all the regular customers - order an 'Obama Special' at the farthest counter (there is usually a line). Sandwiches are large, so one may be fine for two people. Grab a seat at one of the long tables and discover the eclectic mix that makes this a local favorite. Politicians, Beach Bums, Actors, Musicians, Families and a few homeless people create an interesting place to take a break from the sun. Grab a loaf of their famous 'pan de agua' to take home.

On your way home, try walking one more block from Kasalta to Calle Loiza. This is a traditional working-class shopping street that was slated for huge condo development during the real estate boom. After the real estate bust, young entrepreneurs took advantage of lots of cheap space for trendy restaurants, boutiques and pop-up stores plus a community 'Cinema Paradiso' in an empty lot. Cueva del Mar restaurant is known for their fish tacos (*corner of Calle Los Baños*)!

When you get to Calle San Jorge - take a left to come home up the hill past the Children's Hospital and San Mateo Church before meeting Ponce de Leon Avenue and Hotel San Jorge.