

Air Travel and Lodging Booking Pace Strong for Q3

Discover Puerto Rico announces promotions with the New York Yankees, iHeart Radio and AFAR to keep Puerto Rico in travelers' minds and stimulate a fourth consecutive year of new tourism industry records

San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 13, 2024 – The first half of 2024 saw new increases in air passengers, lodging demand, and visitor spending, solidifying the continued growth of the tourism industry in Puerto Rico, Discover Puerto Rico announced in its Industry Update Report.

The trend is expected to continue during the third quarter of the year since the pace of air ticket reservations is 19% higher than for the same date last year and reservations for hotel rooms and short-term accommodations are, respectively, 6% and 27% above last year, according to an analysis by Discover Puerto Rico based on information from data platforms such as TravelClick, Key Data and Foward Keys.

"For the fourth consecutive year, Puerto Rico continues to outperform many of our competitors and peer destinations in the U.S. mainland as well as the Caribbean, and that's very encouraging to see. Whether we consider visitor demand, tourism revenues, tourism-related tax collections or employment throughout the visitor economy, it's clear that 2024 is going to be yet another great year for our industry and our Island," said Brad Dean, CEO of Discover Puerto Rico.

Recently, the World Tourism Organization in its industry trends report, recognized Puerto Rico as the second fastest growing jurisdiction in the world after the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association highlighted Puerto Rico as the Caribbean jurisdiction with the highest year-on-year growth in tourists in 2024.

"This is another indicator of just how much progress we've made together in recent years," Dean said.

To continue the growth pattern, Discover Puerto Rico is currently developing a series of special promotions and ad placements with entities and brands with global reach such as Hulu, Afar Media, iHeart Radio, the New York Yankees and Hearst Media, which includes publications such as Cosmopolitan, Men's Health, Runners World and Town and Country.

"We are increasing our visibility in the summer to keep Puerto Rico prominent in the minds of travelers in the second half of the year," said Leah Chandler, Chief Marketing Officer for Discover Puerto Rico. The promotions with the Yankees include a day in which the advertising of the stadium will be dominated by Discover Puerto Rico with ads that will be seen in broadcasts from Yankees Stadium, the distribution of t-shirts that invite you to visit the Island and active promotions on the field. The events and conventions markets are also seeing increasing demand for Puerto Rico as a destination. Discover Puerto Rico reported that between July and April 2024, the events and conventions segment generated around \$158 million, in part due to a 7% growth in reservations and 28% in nights of reserved accommodations.

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