



Balboa Park

TOURISM IN PANAMA

Panama is the land bridge between two continents and divides two oceans, making it a crossroads of the world.



Each year hundreds of cruise ships transit a modern wonder of the world, the Panama Canal. International Airlines serving Panama include not only those from North and South America but also from Spain, Russia, Taiwan and Israel. The following cities in the USA are currently the main connection points for flights to and from Panama: Miami, Orlando, Houston, Newark, New York, Washington DC, Dallas, Atlanta and Los Angeles. Panama's International Airport is Tocumen International Airport, 35 Kilometres from downtown Panama City.

Panama's national airline COPA flies to major cities in South America and cities in the USA in alliance with Continental Airlines.

Land crossings are also possible from Costa Rica with border points at Paso Canoas, Sixaola/Guabito and Rio Sereno. However, there are no roads linking Panama and Colombia. Panama City is approximately 5000 km by road from the nearest US city Brownsville, Texas. However, the costs of insurance, fuel, permits, accommodations etc. usually amount to more than the cost of an airline ticket, so most visitors choose to fly and rent a car upon arrival in Panama.

WHAT TO SEE AND DO

The Panama Canal at 80 km long is one of the modern wonders of the world. A visit to the Miraflores Locks and visitors centre is a must see. Travel agencies can arrange boat trips on Gatun Lake with its island wildlife and good fishing, and a transit of the canal - once-in-a-lifetime experience! Don't miss the graceful lines of the Bridge of the Americas.



Despite the high rise buildings and a skyline reminiscent of Hong Kong, with bright lights and commercial centres, Panama City is the only city in the world that has a tropical rain forest within its city limits. Its beaches and harbour are beautiful, especially at sunset, and views from the palm-lined Amador Causeway with its elegant restaurants, superb. The history of Panama City can be traced through its origins in Panama La Vieja, supposedly sacked by the pirate Henry Morgan, and “Nueva Panama” now known as Casco Viejo.



Take trips to the interior for highland springtime in the mountains of El Valle or Chiriqui. Climb Panama's highest point, the extinct volcano of Volcan Baru. Visit dairy, coffee, flower, and vegetable farms in the bread-basket province of Chiriqui. River rafting is at its best here, together with hiking, climbing and bird watching.

Visit the beautiful beaches of the Pacific and Caribbean coasts, or the Pearl Islands, Bocas del Toro and San Blas.

The biodiversity and the geographical location of Panama on its land bridge (only 50 km. wide at its narrowest) have lead to an incredible variety of plant and animal life. Wilderness regions including rainforests and cloud forests and national parks. Panama is home to 940 recorded species of birds and includes habitats for 125 animal species found nowhere else in the world.

With 1518 islands and 2988 km of coast line, there is plenty of space for water sports. Deep sea fishing is world class. In marine parks on both coasts reefs are found where diving and snorkelling are rewarding experiences. Surfing and whale watching are also popular.



PANAMA CANAL

Starting today, Panama will embark on an ambitious seven-year project, at an estimated cost of well over \$5bn, to expand the canal so it can accommodate the very largest classes of transport ships, the so-called "post-Panamax" generation which is expected to dominate shipping within the next decade or so. The plan is to double the width of the two sets of locks that bring the shipping traffic up above sea-level and thence across the 48-mile waterway separating the two oceans.

Source: The Independent

COASTAL LINE

What could be the city-planning project and of more ambitious traffic solution until now undertaken by the government, the filling of 25 hectares of the coastal line, in the bay of Panama, could have an important impact for the tourism of the capital. Combined with the cleaning of the bay, work that will end up costing near 360 million dollars, the traditional flow of visitors and the one establishing in Panama as second home residence will find in years in the most desirable Balboa Avenue, a species of shore for recreational aims and relaxation in the middle of the city.

According to calculations of the IPAT, the new face of the bay could add 500 thousand people to the flow of annual visitors to the country, to reach million 700 thousand tourists.

Source: La Prensa / Victor Arosemena

You can see the coastal line project by clicking here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7z6cK_q5b8

PRESENT SITUATION OF THE HOTEL INDUSTRY

Due to the economic growth arisen from the investments in the extension of the Panama Canal, the hotel facilities have an occupation near to 100 %, with many difficulties to obtain hotel occupation throughout all the year round, fundamentally in the sector of business tourism. As consequence, the tariffs are having growths superior to 10 % per year.

BALBOA PARK

Balboa Park is a mixed-use project, that will be made up of car park space, wide residential area, shopping area, offices, restaurants, casino and a top level hotel.

The plot is placed at the corner of Colombia Street and 48 Street. Corregimiento de Bella Vista, Province of Panama, Republic of Panama.

The corner between Colombia Street and 48 Street is placed in front of Parque Urracá and Balboa Avenue, yacht club and Bay of Panama, allowing direct views over the Pacific of the most of the hotel rooms and all of the residential apartments of the building, without possibility of construction of any building between our building and the Pacific.

The harbour of the yacht club and the tower of BBVA are very important hallmarks of the Balboa Avenue, the core of the City: it links the ancient neighbourhood with Punta Paitilla, making the sky-line more attractive of Latin America. The Bellavista District is the most prestigious zone of the City.

In this way the plot is in the center of the most interesting areas of the city: Punta Paitilla and Punta Pacifica, upper residential neighbourhoods, 50 Street, the core of the financial district and Uruguay street, leisure center of the city. The location is incomparable, allowing the building to face the Balboa Avenue. and Pacific Ocean.

Location of the plot referring to: the causeway of Amador, Naos, Perico and Flamenco, the Old Town (San Felipe District) and the entrance to the Panama Canal.



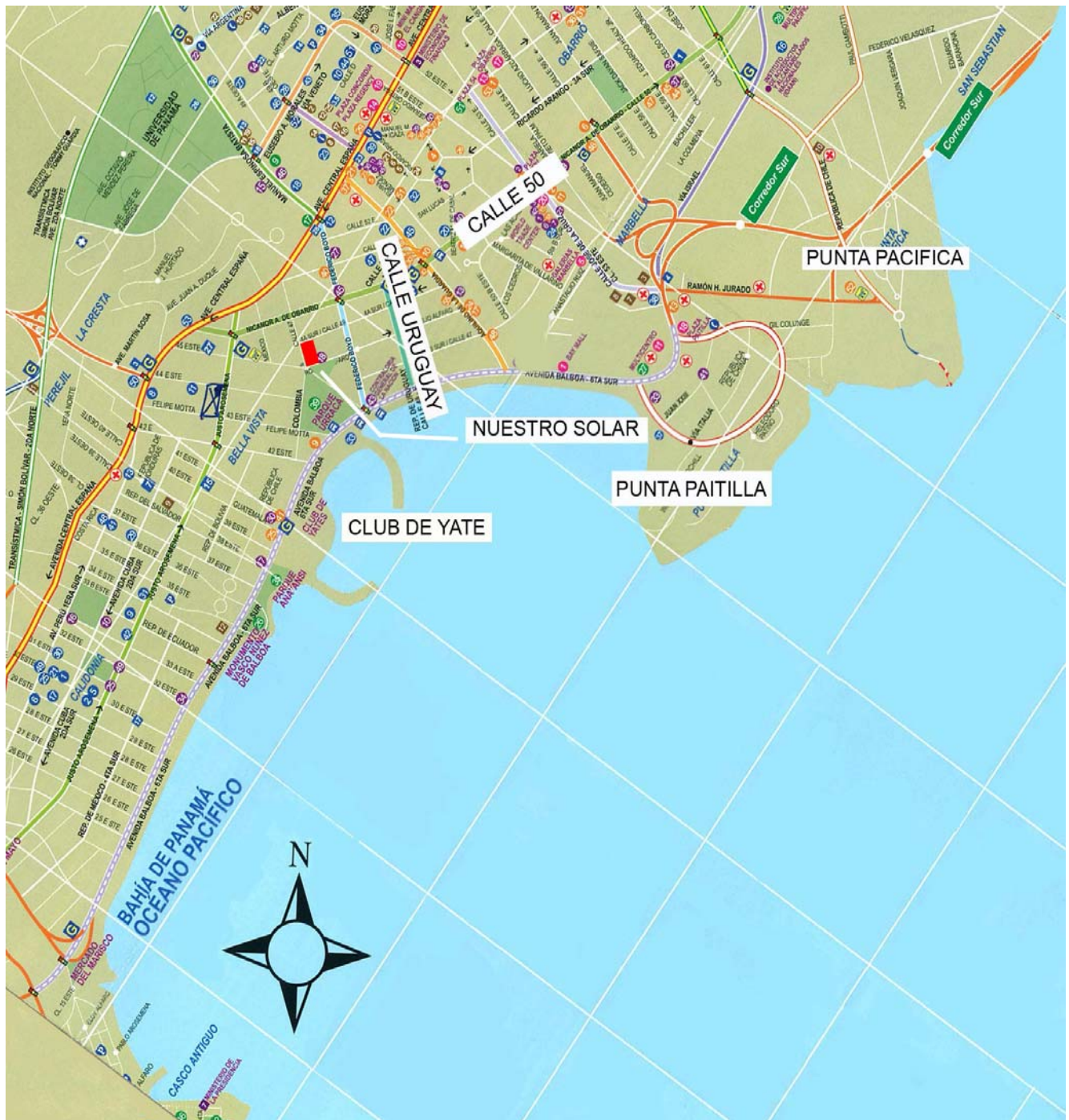
Location of the plot referring to:

50 Street, financial district.

Uruguay street, leisure district (restaurants, pubs, etc.)

Punta Paitilla, residential district (luxury zone)

Punta Pacifica, residential district (luxury zone)



Skyline of the Balboa Avenue, yacht club harbour at the foreground



Night skyline of Balboa Avenue



New developments in the neighbourhood of the building:

Yatch Club



Nikki Tower



Hilton Tower



Trump Ocean Club

