



U.S. Coast Guard – Sector San Juan

Prevention Department



Resident Inspection Office Ponce

Operations

Resident Inspection Office Ponce performs a wide range of Marine Safety roles. RIO Ponce maintains the safety, security, and environmental response of the ports in the south and west coasts of Puerto Rico.

- Conducts Port State Control vessel inspections on foreign ships in five deep water ports in the municipalities of Mayaguez, Guanica, Guayanilla, Ponce, and Guayama. This includes Liquefied Gas tankers, Oil & Chemical tankers, Freight Vessels, and Cruise Ships.
- Inspecting a fleet of twenty-four Small Passenger Vessels, better known as “T” boats. These “T” boats carry passengers for hire to tourist destinations such as La Parguera’s Phosphorescent Bay, Guanica’s Gilligan’s Island, Mona & Desecheo Islands, Caja De Muertos, and Cardona Island.
- Conducting Safety & Security inspections on 18 designated waterfront facilities. This includes oil, chemical, LNG & LPG, and general freight facilities.
- Investigating pollution incidents on over 120 miles of coastline, from the municipality of Maunabo to Aguadilla. Because of aggressive prevention campaigns by the Coast Guard in recent years, oil spills have declined considerably on the south and west coasts of Puerto Rico.

Contact Information:

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787-289-2041 24/hr Emergency

Life in Ponce

Ponce has much to offer in the area. Local activities are numerous, particularly water sports such as windsurfing, kite surfing, diving/snorkeling, and sailing. There are plenty of beautiful beaches to choose from, including, Playa Santa, Combate, Buye, and the spectacular “Caracoles” in La Parguera and Cayo Matias in Salinas, reachable only by small boat. Although the area is bilingual, Spanish is the dominant language.

