

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW Villa 2 Upper...

The following information is provided to assist you in having a safe and relaxing vacation.

We are not a hotel. We try to provide you with a different, more private experience than what you would have by renting a hotel room. Our goal is to have you relax, unwind and get comfortable. We want you to think of this home as your home, "*Mi casa es su casa*", and to experience the casual life style of living on the beach. We have provided you with some basic supplies, but if you should need more or additional items there are many local stores that will offer anything you need.

Sand is beautiful on the beach, but it is not good inside the house. It clogs drains and it damages the floor. Please make every effort to keep the sand on the beach. There is an outdoor shower by the beach, please rinse off and wipe your feet before coming in the house. If needed, there should be a plunger in the bath or under the kitchen sink. We should have a mop and broom for your use somewhere in the unit, or inside the laundry room. If they are not there, please let us know. Please do not use our white bath towels as mops!

If you go exploring around the island: 1) Get a good road map, 2) Watch out for Crazy Drivers! Back in the states drivers are taught to drive Defensively. Here the drivers drive Offensively! Drivers are a lot more aggressive. Watch for the unexpected. Do not be afraid to stop and ask for directions. We do have a Tourist map of Rincon available, but because it is not to scale, use it as a guide only. A lot of the local people are not wealthy and live in poorer housing conditions, but they are friendly and are eager to help if you have such a need. You will find people selling fruit and breads at the major intersections.

There should be a copy of "Bienvenidos" (Welcome) magazine in the living room. It is put out by the Puerto Rico Hotel and Tourism Association (which we are members) for guests and visitors. Other good magazines are "Que Pasa" and "Places to Go". Both are good sources of where to go and what to do. They have a lot of information, so please take them with you when you leave and start planning next year's trip!

Do not be alarmed by Police cars drive around with flashing lights on at night. They have them on when they are patrolling the streets at night. You will also hear lots of cars with loudspeakers on their roofs driving around. This can be disturbing at times, but it is a widely used method of advertising.

Very little major crime occurs in Rincon, what little crime that does occur is "crime of opportunity". Common sense should be used. Example: Do not leave your car unlocked with an expensive camera inside. When you leave make sure you do not leave beach chairs on the beach, or anything of value lying around. Make sure you lock all doors when you leave. **You are held responsible for any loss or missing items.** Just use common sense and do not invite trouble.

We have found the best way to experience the “feel of the tropics” is to double flip the large, ocean front, French doors. You did rent a beach house to enjoy the sun, the sand, and ocean breezes. There are levers on the sides of the doors. They flip down and allow all 4 doors to fold open. You can also open the double wooden doors in each bedroom. This allows you to get a great cross breeze that flows throughout the unit. By doing this, you create the “indoor / outdoor” living that is popular in the tropics. For those days of no breezes and extreme heat, we provide air conditioning, but please help us keep costs down by running the air conditioners only when needed. Electricity is expensive, so if you leave for the day, shut the air conditioners off. Also, please turn off lights and fans when you leave or they are no longer needed. It doesn't take long to cool the house or bedroom down in the evening. To truly experience the tropics, open the doors and windows and let the breezes flow. To run the central air conditioner in the main living area, turn the power on (either by remote control or press “power” button on the unit) and then set the temperature to around 25 c (more or less depending on how cool you want it), then set the fan switch to automatic. If cool air is not coming out of the unit, make sure you have the “mode” set to “cool”, not “fan”. Again, the room cools quickly so please turn the unit off if you are gone for the day.

Bugs like warm tropical climates. To minimize bugs, ants, etc: keep dishes clean, wipe up spills off the countertops, open bags of food should be stored in the refrigerator, and frequently take the garbage outside to the trash can – which is in front of the house. We have a garbage container located at the end of the cabinet. It uses plastic grocery bags for the liner. Make sure they do not have holes in them. Mosquitoes are common in tropical places. You might want to use insect repellent, particularly in if it has just rained or the sun is about to set. Wipe up standing water to keep mosquitoes from developing. Most types of flying bugs are attracted to light, so at night, you may want to close the doors, or turn off the lights, so they do not go inside. If you see any small lizards, don't be alarmed. They are harmless and are very helpful by eating a lot of the insects.

Water is precious on most Caribbean islands. Many places even catch rain water for their use. Please conserve and use the water wisely. On occasion the water is turned off. We have installed a water reserve system, to provide you with your own water supply, until it is turned back on again. The water should be “safe” to drink, but many people purchase bottled water at the store.

Once in awhile the electricity might go out for short periods of time. We should have candles in the kitchen that you may want to use. Keep the refrigerator door closed so food doesn't spoil.

Cautions: Tile floors inside and out can be very slick when wet. Be very careful walking on the wet tile. A first aid kit is provided and can be found under the kitchen sink. Coconut trees are plentiful on many tropical islands. Please be careful if standing or sitting under a coconut tree. You never know when a coconut may fall. If it hits you on the head it will hurt!

We have a no smoking policy. **Please NO SMOKING** inside the house. You may smoke outside on the patio

We have installed a motion detector light at the top of the stairs. It will automatically operate when it senses motion at night. The bottom right switch of the four switches at the top of the stairs is the switch for this light. It will not turn on if the switch is off, so it is best to leave this switch on all the time. The other three switches are for the patio lights and turn off and on normally. The lights for the walkway at the bottom are on a photocell and should come on at night and go off during the day. (Please Note: all ceiling fans have two switches. One is to turn fan on and the other is to independently turn the light on/off.)

The phone is restricted to local calls and toll free calls only, so **calling cards** are necessary to make long distance calls. The phone number to the entire house is (787) 823-2078. Because many people rent the entire house, the phone will ring upstairs and down. The telephone is provided for your use and convenience, but if someone is staying downstairs, please be considerate and try to limit the number of calls you get. You must dial the 787 area code even if it is a local call.

Go up to the top sundeck! You can usually find a nice breeze. It is great at night for viewing the stars. We built a wooden storage unit to protect the lounge chairs from the sun. Please put the chairs back under the storage unit when you are done using them. The light switch for the upstairs is at the bottom of the stairs. Make sure you turn off the lights when you come back down. Be extra careful of the stairs to the top, the steps are steeper than a normal step, and some of the steps are not the same size and you could trip if you are not careful. Again, tile can be slippery when wet. When you go to the sundeck - *Please stay on the flat section only!*

On the north side oceanfront patio, we have installed a BBQ area. Please help keep it clean. This is a charcoal BBQ.

If you are staying 1 week or longer, a clothes washer is available for your use. The washer is located under the stairs on the south side. A clothesline reel is located upstairs on the outside patio. If the room is locked, contact Gladys at 823-7183. Clothes dryers are somewhat rare, because the sun and wind dry things very rapidly. We have installed hooks along the front upstairs columns and inside the shower. They are perfect for hanging up a wet swimming suit, or a wet towel. There should be an iron and ironing board in the bedroom. The top shelf over the closet is a great place to store your suitcases. Since the washer is shared, please remove your clothes as soon as they are finished, so others may use the machine. If you are staying a week and mid-week need clean bath towels, simply call Gladys and exchange the dirty towels for clean ones.

You may want to also ask Gladys if she has any floats or beach stuff that was left by past guests, or you may purchase floats, inexpensive snorkel gear and misc. blowup beach items at Kmart or Walmart in Mayaguez. We may also have a baby gate that may be used to

prevent small kids from going down the stairs.

Stereo/TV/DVD/VCR

Please DO NOT rewire our electronic equipment! If you are having problems, or something is not working, please first read these operation directions and if you are still are having problems, contact Hector at 787-823-7183.

The stereo over by the front door plays CD's, cassettes, and AM/FM. Most radio stations play Spanish music. If you want an "americano" oldies station, try 98.3 For great jazz music, try to find 90.3, but it tends to be off the air sometimes. This plays through the two larger "Aiwa" speakers inside and the two outside patio speakers.

The TV has the top 50 channels. To operate the TV use the "dish network" remote. To turn the TV on, select TV (next to SAT button at top of remote) and then power. The TV should be turned on to channel 4. Make sure the satellite receiver is on by selecting "SAT" and then power. A green power light should come on. To change channels use the 2 blue buttons above and below the center blue "select" button. Channel 101 lists all the stations and helps you work the remote control. If you want to play VCR tapes, Turn both VCR & TV on, set the VCR/TV button on the VCR remote to VCR, and the TV must be set to channel 3.

If you want to watch DVD, or play a CD, put the DVD/CD in the DVD player and hit play. Make sure the VCR is on. (the video is being fed through the VCR) You should see the picture come on the TV and the sound will be play through the TV, so the "GE" TV remote will control the sound level. If you want to hear the sound through the sound surround speakers, turn on the "Lansonic DBX-920" amplifier and turn up the sound level on it and turn down the sound level on the TV. The DVD also plays CD's

Operating manuals for the TV, VCR, Stereo, and Oven all should be in the bottom cabinet under the TV.

We strive to provide you with a clean and attractive place to stay. We would appreciate your help when you leave by taking all garbage to the trash container outside. Please check the unit prior to your departure to ensure you do not leave any items behind. It is helpful if you leave all the dirty towels and sheets in a pile to be washed and all the dishes that you used are cleaned and put away. This greatly assists us in preparing the unit for the next guests. We do charge if excessive cleaning is required. Any left over food items may be left in the refrigerator. We give away anything left behind to the neighbors in the area that are less fortunate. Check-out is by 10 AM. Please leave the keys on the counter.

One last word of advice - Use Sunscreen! We'd hate to have a sunburn ruin all your fun.

Now, just sit back, read a good book, take a nap or a walk down the beach and enjoy the ocean breezes.

Oh, one more thing..... If you'd like a souvenir of your stay at Sunset Paradise Villas, we now have t-shirts available for purchase for \$10.00 (which includes shipping and any applicable taxes. Just give us a call at 1-800-875-6399 or email us and we can put it on a visa or MasterCard. Our shirts are white with turquoise print and come in sizes large and extra-large and are pre-shrunk