

Seeing San Juan on a Segway: Disney Cruise Line Port Adventure Review

by Cheryl Pendry, PassPorter Featured Columnist

□As soon as the shore excursions were announced for our Disney Cruise stop at San Juan in Puerto Rico, I knew what we'd be spending the afternoon doing.

With my husband's love for Segways (and heck, I find them fun as well!), the Fortifications Segway Guided Tour in San Juan was perfect for us.

At 1:30pm of our day in San Juan, we were pleased to find that we were part of a very small group, just seven of us in total, and I was the only woman in the group, which did surprise me. The tour operators were located literally just five minutes' walk away from where the Fantasy was docked, and once there, we started on our orientation, learning how to ride our Segways, something that we as old pros needed little instruction on. It helps to have ridden the things a few times before!

□
□Once the training was completed, we headed out along the seafront of San Juan, and this reminded me of the tour we'd taken in Madrid, as we were on the roads, with traffic alongside us, which was interesting, but manageable. Having said that, I was glad when we moved away from the cars.

□
□Our first stop allowed us to get a glimpse of San Juan's harbor, and it was fascinating to view it from the land, knowing that we would be sailing past it later in the day.

Back on our Segways, we came across a sight that was normal to our tour guide, but was unbelievable to us -- an iguana just sitting there, sunning itself. Never having seen this creature outside of a zoo before, we were just spellbound by it, but our guide told us that they are an absolute pain, as they have no natural predators on the island.

□
□By now, we were at the main gate leading up towards Castillo San Felipe del Morro, our ultimate destination. To get up there, we had to negotiate a steep cobblestone hill, which was certainly challenging on a Segway, although for me, going back down was the worst bit. Considering no-one else in our group had ever ridden one of these before today, they all did amazingly well.

□
□At the top, we found some more stunning views out to sea, and also saw the entrance to the Governor's mansion. From here, our route took us parallel to the coast, before we rounded a corner, and saw the

Castillo in all its glory. It was a truly beautiful sight, and I wasn't expecting to see such a huge expanse of greenery in front of it.

□ We made our way over there, parked our Segways, which our guide secured by removing their battery packs, and then we headed inside. Our guide took us on a tour around, which included the restrooms, and if you think that sounds odd, well yes it was, but they had a superb view over the defences of the fort beneath, and the sea beyond. Once again, I couldn't help but think how cool it was to be able to see from the landside, as we'd be sailing out past the Castillo on the Fantasy not long after the tour finished.

□ Before we headed out, we visited the living quarters of the soldiers who had been stationed here, and the chapel. Home to a beautiful image of the Virgin Mary, we learned that sadly, it had to put it behind glass, as someone had attacked it a couple of years ago with paint.

□ We took the same route back to the ship, which I thought was the only shame about this tour, as I'd have welcomed the opportunity to see even more of San Juan, even if perhaps we didn't have the commentary of the sights we were seeing. Perhaps more importantly, it would've also meant avoiding that dreaded steep cobblestone hill, but no, there was no avoiding it, but we all made it safely down to the bottom.

□ That achieved, it was back to the office to return our Segways, and make our way back to the Fantasy. The tour we'd taken had been worth the money we'd paid for it (\$105/each), as we'd had a huge amount of fun on the Segways, and seen a lot of San Juan. In addition, we'd learned a lot about the history of the island, and life there nowadays, from our wonderful guide, making this much more than just your average Segway tour. It was a superb way of finding out more about this beautiful city, and I'd thoroughly recommend it to anyone heading to San Juan on a Disney cruise in the future.

About The Author: Cheryl and husband Mark live in England and love to travel, particularly to America. They are in the process of visiting every Disney theme park around the world, having already been to Disneyland Resort Paris, Hong Kong Disneyland and both American Disney resorts. They are now planning for their trip to Japan in the spring to visit the Tokyo Disney Resort. [Click here to view more of Cheryl's articles!](#)

Article last updated: 06-13-2013

View the latest version online at:

<http://www.passporter.com/articles/san-juan-segway-dcl.html>

.....

Copyright by Cheryl Pendry. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. No part of this publication may be stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise, except as permitted under sections 107 or 108 of the 1976 United States Copyright Act. Resale of this guide is strictly prohibited without the copyright holder's permission. If you purchased this publication from someone other than PassPorter Travel Press, please call 877-929-3273.

View more PassPorter Articles online at <http://www.passporter.com/articles/>