

THE CAPITOL OF PUERTO RICO

HISTORY, ARCHITECTURE, AND LEGACY

Capitol Tours are offered to school groups, as well as to local and international visitors.

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

"More than 80 years of art, history and architecture"

A Historical Summary

The history of the Capitol began on February 7, 1907 when Don Luis Muñoz Rivera, an important figure in the political history of Puerto Rico, introduced a bill to the House of Delegates proposing the construction of a more suitable structure to house the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico. At the time, they would meet at the headquarters of the Provincial Council in what is known as Old San Juan.

Although the bill was passed, the construction of the Capitol encountered several fiscal, economic and political difficulties which resulted in the work being halted twice.

In 1923, then-governor Horace M. Towner ordered the construction of the Capitol to resume, this time with a new design that was similar to the United States Capitols. Said task was commissioned to Rafael Carmoega, the State Architect of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, who proposed a neoclassical design.

The cornerstone laying ceremony was held on July 17, 1925 and despite all the difficulties encountered throughout the years, the Capitol was finally inaugurated on February 11, 1929.

Because of its great historical and architectural importance, the Capitol of Puerto Rico was designated a Historic Landmark on June 30, 1977 and was listed in the United States National Register of Historic Places on November 18, 1977.

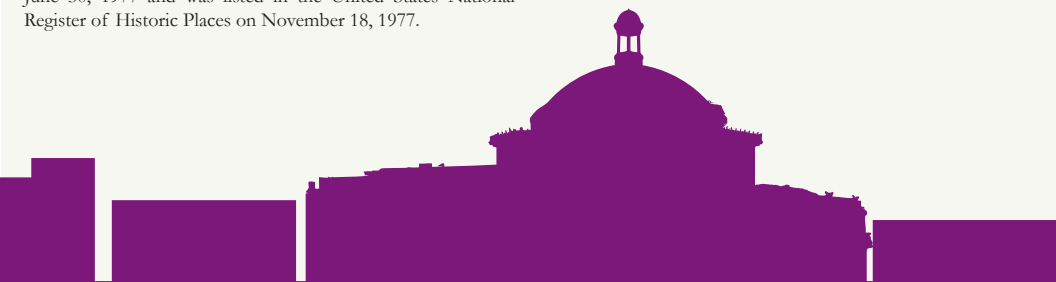
We invite you to discover the Capitol of Puerto Rico

The Capitol of Puerto Rico is a popular tourist attraction that welcomes over 140,000 visitors every year. Our visitors are lured by its magnificent and eclectic architectural design, which is unlike any other in the island, and the hundreds of years of rich history that are depicted by the works of art that adorn its interior.

Our English- and Spanish-speaking tour guides will take you on a journey through the political history of the island, the history of the Capitol building, and the symbolic meaning behind the motifs that decorate its walls.

Your guided tour will begin at the Rotunda, which houses the original documents of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and includes the Hall of Illustrious Men, the Gallery of Former Governors, and the Chambers of both Senate and the House of Representatives of Puerto Rico where you will be able to watch the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly while they are in session.

Whether you visit the Capitol to look for information or to feast your eyes on more than 80 years of art and architecture, we invite you to discover our Capitol.



For more information and to book a free guided tour, contact us at:

Phone: **787-721-5200 ext. 301**

Email: **solicitud.turismo@oslpr.org**

Web Page: **<http://www.oslpr.org/v2/turismo.aspx>**



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