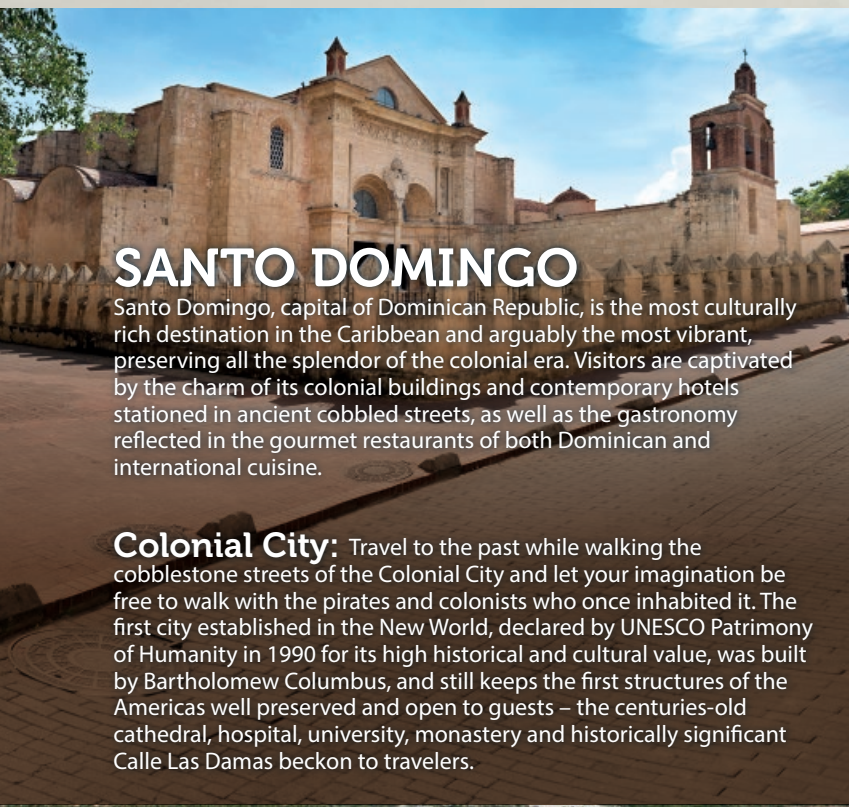




DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

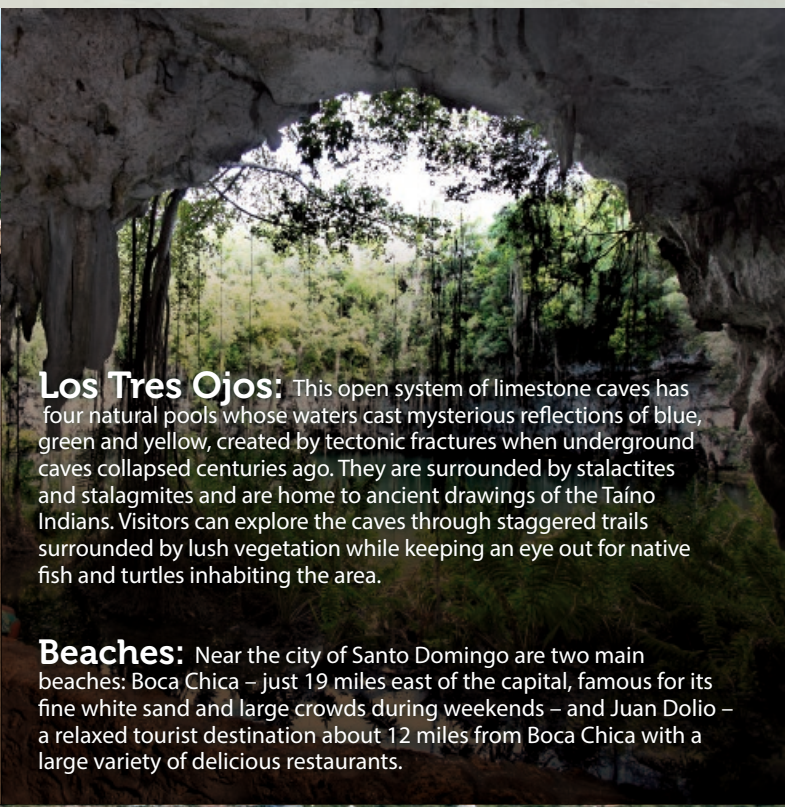
There are few places in the world where locals and visitors alike have eternal smiles and laughter in their eyes. Welcome to Dominican Republic: a place to let your worries go and embrace the island life. Feel the grasp of a warm breeze as palm trees sway to merengue rhythms, and yourself refreshed by the cool turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea or set your wild side free on an adventurous excursion and feel the adrenaline awakening your senses – Dominican Republic has it all.



SANTO DOMINGO

Santo Domingo, capital of Dominican Republic, is the most culturally rich destination in the Caribbean and arguably the most vibrant, preserving all the splendor of the colonial era. Visitors are captivated by the charm of its colonial buildings and contemporary hotels stationed in ancient cobbled streets, as well as the gastronomy reflected in the gourmet restaurants of both Dominican and international cuisine.

Colonial City: Travel to the past while walking the cobblestone streets of the Colonial City and let your imagination be free to walk with the pirates and colonists who once inhabited it. The first city established in the New World, declared by UNESCO Patrimony of Humanity in 1990 for its high historical and cultural value, was built by Bartholomew Columbus, and still keeps the first structures of the Americas well preserved and open to guests – the centuries-old cathedral, hospital, university, monastery and historically significant Calle Las Damas beckon to travelers.



Los Tres Ojos: This open system of limestone caves has four natural pools whose waters cast mysterious reflections of blue, green and yellow, created by tectonic fractures when underground caves collapsed centuries ago. They are surrounded by stalactites and stalagmites and are home to ancient drawings of the Taino Indians. Visitors can explore the caves through staggered trails surrounded by lush vegetation while keeping an eye out for native fish and turtles inhabiting the area.

Beaches: Near the city of Santo Domingo are two main beaches: Boca Chica – just 19 miles east of the capital, famous for its fine white sand and large crowds during weekends – and Juan Dolio – a relaxed tourist destination about 12 miles from Boca Chica with a large variety of delicious restaurants.



PUNTA CANA

Punta Cana is the most splendid and popular destination in Dominican Republic, with nearly 100 miles of the best beaches in the world. The coast surrounded by magnificent world-class resorts, spectacular turquoise waters, white sands and stunning palm trees, attracts vacationers from around the world who come to explore the area's natural treasures and enjoy its luxurious accommodations.

Beaches: Punta Cana's main attractions are the pristine beaches, consistently named among the most beautiful in the world. These border the meeting point between the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea and boast warm, crystalline shores. Bright white sands create an unforgettable impression on visitors and complement the multi-shaded blue waters. The best beaches in Punta Cana are Juanillo, Punta Cana, Playa Blanca, Cabeza de Toro, Bávaro, El Cortecito, Arena Gorda, Macao and Uvero Alto.

Golf: For enthusiasts of the sport, Punta Cana continues to be a premier golf destination. It offers the largest selection of world-class golf, thanks to its 10 designer courses set up in the most magnificent resorts in the country.

Attractions & Sightseeing: Thanks to its great diversity, the Punta Cana region offers a variety of activities including diving and snorkeling, visiting family-oriented water parks with friendly dolphins and stingrays, and much more. You can also bring out your adventurous side and get your adrenaline fix by riding buggies through the jungle or enjoying adventure parks featuring zip lines, flight simulators, hiking trails and more. If you just want to relax, enjoy a refreshing swim in the springs and lakes in the area or visit one of the many fine, luxurious spas in the Caribbean.



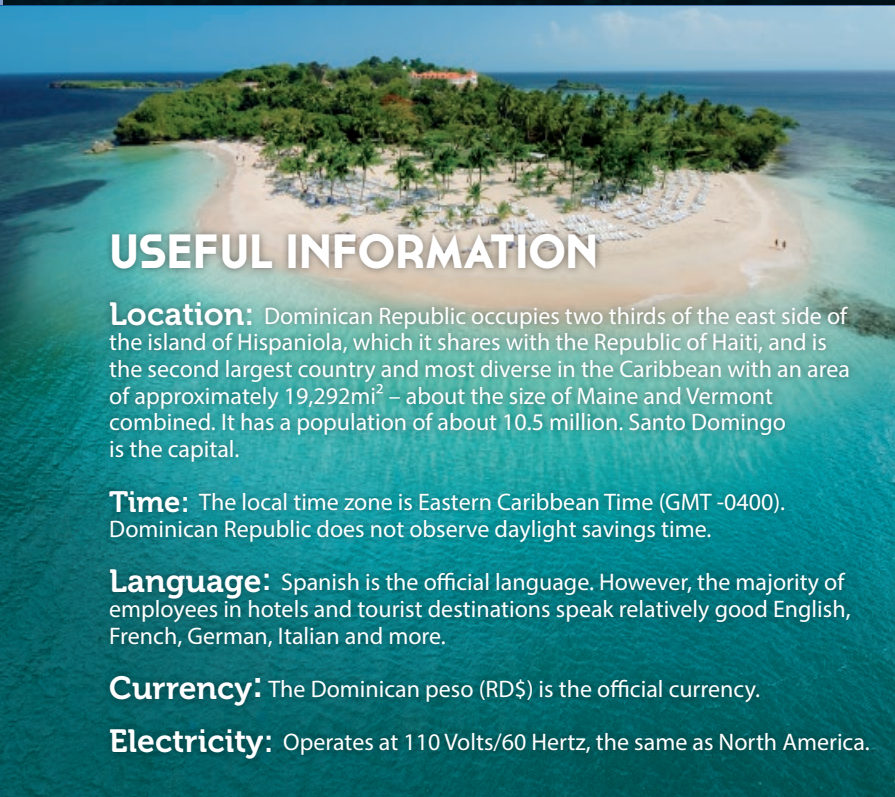
PUERTO PLATA

Puerto Plata, with beautiful beaches surrounded by lush vegetation, is an ecological paradise and a mecca for water sports. Put on your adventure gear or diving fins – it's time to defy the laws of nature by cascading down waterfalls, windsurfing, diving, playing oceanside golf and much more. This hospitable town is full of fascinating activities, adrenaline, rich history and culture, as well as delicious cuisine.

Walk through streets lined by beautiful Victorian houses and buildings from the 19th and 20th centuries in the heart of Puerto Plata, stopping at the Fort San Felipe, built in 1564 by the Spanish, to admire the colonial architecture and visit the Amber Museum to see the famous prehistoric gem found in abundance in this area. Later, reach the top of the heavens by taking a cable car ride 2,300 feet to the summit of Loma Isabel de Torres. Overhead, a replica of Brazil's statue of Christ the Redeemer is waiting with open arms. Feel the adrenaline as you discover one of the best-kept secrets of Dominican Republic, just south of Puerto Plata – the 27 Falls of Damajagua. Climb one of the many waterfalls to jump from its cliffs or slide down unforgettable natural waterslides. Perfect for a full-day tour, Cayo Arena (also known as Cayo Paraíso) is a small sandbar in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean ideal for snorkeling.

Cabarete: A mecca for water sports and one of the top 10 beaches in the world for surfing, windsurfing and kitesurfing, Cabarete is known as a Kiteboarding Capital of the World. Throughout the year, the trade winds cause perfect waves and spectacular conditions for the delight of water sport lovers. From here, you can make excursions on foot, by horseback or by jeep to El Choco National Park to explore the caves and admire the surrounding nature.

Sosúa: This picturesque village is famous for its huge, crescent-shaped beach with gentle waves and its marine sanctuary, making it an ideal area for diving and snorkeling. Sosúa is a small hospitable area with comfortable restaurants neighbored by seaside bars, lively nightclubs and hotels.



USEFUL INFORMATION

Location: Dominican Republic occupies two thirds of the east side of the island of Hispaniola, which it shares with the Republic of Haiti, and is the second largest country and most diverse in the Caribbean with an area of approximately 19,292mi² – about the size of Maine and Vermont combined. It has a population of about 10.5 million. Santo Domingo is the capital.

Time: The local time zone is Eastern Caribbean Time (GMT -0400). Dominican Republic does not observe daylight savings time.

Language: Spanish is the official language. However, the majority of employees in hotels and tourist destinations speak relatively good English, French, German, Italian and more.

Currency: The Dominican peso (RD\$) is the official currency.

Electricity: Operates at 110 Volts/60 Hertz, the same as North America.



Documentation: For most visitors, a valid passport is required to enter the country. Any person, regardless of their nationality, can visit Dominican Republic if they are a legal resident or if they have one of the following valid visas in their passport: United States, Canada, United Kingdom or Schengen. The cost of the tourist card previously paid separately, is now included in the airline ticket.

Hotels: Hotels: For information about Dominican Republic hotels and accommodations visit www.GoDominicanRepublic.com/hotels and the Hotel and Tourism Association www.asonahores.com

Culture: Experience the happiness of the Dominican culture set to the contagious rhythm of Merengue – the country's national dance and music – at any bar in the country. Dominican Republic's capital of Santo Domingo is the most culturally and historically rich city thanks to the many museums, theaters and cultural centers. Dominican culture is also famous for its picturesque gastronomy, thanks to a blend of native Taino, African, Spanish and Arabic influences. Typical dishes use rice, meat, plantains and beans – among its main dishes are the seven-meat stew (sancocho), mofongo, mangú, goat roast, fish with coconut and a coconut or milk-based dessert. The country also stands out for its passion for baseball; it's the land of Juan Marichal, Pedro Martínez, Manny Ramírez, Vladimir Guerrero, David Ortiz, Robinson Canó and José Reyes, to name a few.

Carnival: Celebrated annually every Sunday of February and until mid-March, this is one of the most popular holidays in the country. The most famous character of this festivity is the "Diablo Cojuelo" – not a representation of a malicious "diablo" or devil, but rather a mockery of one. This mischievous character introduces noise, mischief, dance and happiness to Carnival celebrations in a costume featuring an adorned cap, colorful wide pants and flashy mask. Each region of the country has a different character which makes its carnival more interesting and varied.

Shopping: Dominican Republic boasts a wide variety of shopping options, with everything from recognized international brands to local designs. Malls, stores and markets offer many articles and exclusive souvenirs at great prices – the most popular souvenirs being guayaberas, amber or larimar jewelry, fish handmade of wood and recycled parts, rum, beer, cigars, Dominican music, Taino art, paintings, carvings, ceramics and the popular clay 'faceless' dolls. Also cacao, mamajuana, coffee and other Dominican treats.

Adventure & Ecotourism: Dominican Republic is the best destination in the Caribbean for adventure and ecotourism. Its protected national parks and scientific reserves make up 25 percent of the landscape, most with facilities open to visitors. The island boasts nine distinct ecological zones and is home to both the highest and lowest points in the Caribbean: Pico Duarte, at 10,128 feet above sea level and the lowest-lying lake, Lake Enriquillo at 138 feet below sea level.



GOLF COURSES

PUNTA CANA/BÁVARO
Hard Rock Golf Club at Cana Bay (18)
www.hardrockhotelpuntacana.com

Punta Blanca Golf Club (18)
www.punta-blanca.com

CAP CANA
Punta Espada Golf Club (18)
www.puntaespadagolf.com

BARCELÓ BÁVARO BEACH RESORT
The Lakes Barceló Golf Course (18)
www.barcelobavarogolf.net

IBEROSTAR HOTELS & RESORTS
Iberostate Bávaro Golf Club (18)
<http://golf.iberostar.com>

CATALONIA BÁVARO RESORT
Cabeza de Toro Golf Club (9)
www.cataloniacaribbean.com

Caribe Golf Club (18)
www.cataloniacaribbean.com

PUNTACANA RESORT & CLUB
Corales Golf Club (18)
www.puntacana.com

La Cana Golf Club (27)
www.puntacana.com

MELIÁ HOTELS & RESORTS
Cocotal Golf & Country Club (27)
www.cocotalgolf.com

LA ROMANA
CASA DE CAMPO RESORT
Dye Fore (27)
www.casadecampogolf.com.do

The Links (18)
www.casadecampogolf.com.do

Teeth of The Dog (18)
www.casadecampogolf.com.do

La Romana Country Club* (27)
www.casadecampogolf.com.do

BAHÍA PRÍNCIPE LA ROMANA
Ocean's 4 (18)
www.oceans4golf.com

JUAN DOLIO
Guavaberry Golf & Country Club (18)
www.guavaberrygolf.com.do

METRO COUNTRY CLUB
Los Marlins Golf Course (18)

SANTO DOMINGO
Isabel Villas Golf & Country Club (9)
Cayacoa Golf Club (18)
www.cayacoagolf.com

Santo Domingo Country Club* (27)
www.countryclub.do

BONAO
Bella Vista Golf Club (9)

JARABACOA
Jarabacoa Golf Club (9)
www.jarabacoagolfclub.com

SANTIAGO
Las Áromas Golf Club (18)
www.lasaromasgolf.com

PUERTO PLATA
Los Mangos Golf Course (9)

Playa Dorada Golf Club (18)
www.playadoradagolf.com

RÍO SAN JUAN
Playa Grande Golf & Ocean Club (18)
www.playagrande.com

Golf Courses (# of holes)

*This is a private club. You must be accompanied by a member to play



LA ROMANA

Along the southeast coast of Dominican Republic lies La Romana – a vast stretch of sugar cane plantations around some of the most picturesque areas of the country, with elegant accommodations and an unparalleled range of entertainment. La Romana, with its golf, beach and scuba diving options, is the ideal destination for families, couples, golfers and lovers of fishing and sailing. Don't miss the hidden gem of Altos de Chavón – an impressive replica of a sixteenth-century Mediterranean village, with cobbled streets and buildings made of blocks of coral stone and terracotta. The region also has Catalina Island and one of the most complete and luxurious resorts in the Caribbean, ideal for golf and sport fishing enthusiasts.



Bayahibe

Located 25 minutes east of La Romana, Bayahibe was founded in 1874 as an authentic fishing town. It offers a combination of picturesque beaches, majestic nature, exquisite accommodations and fun attractions. This ecotourism region is home to the national flower – the exotic Bayahibe Rose – and is an ideal locale for those who practice snorkeling and diving. The town also allows access to Saona Island, whose enchanting beach has been selected as one of the best in the Caribbean.



SAMANÁ

The Samaná Peninsula is a stunning paradise of majestic, crystalline waterfalls, pristine beaches lined with coconut palms, mountainous hills, and an infusion of rich culture and history. This peninsula is a natural jewel – a hidden gem yet to be explored by those seeking adventure, nature and romance.

Visit Salto El Limón, considered one of the most spectacular waterfalls in the country, Salto El Limón thrills you as water falls from more than 160 feet to a natural pool where you can enjoy a refreshing swim; and Cayo Levantado, this idyllic island has become one of the best tourist destinations in the area to relax, sunbathe, enjoy the delicious Dominican gastronomy, dive and snorkel in the company of colorful fish. The region also has two zipline options with incredible views surrounded by mountains and coconut palms.



Parque Nacional Los Haitises: Los Haitises — “high land” in the Taíno language — is a unique and very diverse protected area consisting of mangroves, karst mountains, inlets and bays. It is easily accessible by a boat ride through Samaná Bay and is renowned for its magnificent limestone caves covered with Taíno art. In the mangroves, visitors will find a variety of lush flora and fauna to admire.

Humpback Whales: From January to March each year, Samaná Bay is a sanctuary for 3,000-5,000 humpback whales that mate and winter in the warm waters of Dominican Republic. You can appreciate this wonder of nature from a boat while watching the whales frolicking at a distance, or if you prefer to see them from the mainland, visit the Whale Observatory in Punta Balandra.



JARABACOA

At the foot of Pico Duarte, 1,640 feet above sea level, Jarabacoa is known as the region of eternal spring for its pleasant temperatures throughout the year. With a mountainous landscape full of pine forests and numerous rivers, the region offers a variety of adventure and ecotourism activities.

Attractions & Excursions

Tubing, rafting, rappelling, canoeing, paragliding, horseback riding or mountain biking are just some of the adventurous activities Jarabacoa has to offer. On the other hand, Jarabacoa has a beautifully quiet golf course with 9 holes surrounded by a landscape of pine trees. Here, the tranquility of the mountains meets the adrenaline produced by its many rivers.

Pico Duarte

It's the highest mountain peak in the Caribbean, over 10,000 feet high. Pico Duarte can be reached by hiking for two, three or four days, depending on the chosen route. All routes guarantee stunning views of the cloudy forest of tropical pines.

CONSTANZA

Located less than an hour from Jarabacoa, Constanza is the highest and coldest city of Dominican Republic at 3,800 feet above sea level. It has a high production of vegetables, strawberries and beautiful flowers as well as many tourist attractions like the Aguas Blancas waterfall, a pyramid representing the four cardinal points of the island, and protected areas like Las Neblinas, Ébano Verde, and José del Carmen Ramírez national parks. Also, Valle Nuevo National Park, with pines and green ebony trees forests, is perfect for birdwatching and mountain trekking. For those looking for an adrenaline fix, paragliding is also an option in the region.

BARAHONA & PEDERNALES

From January to March each year, Samaná Bay is a sanctuary for 1,500-2,000 humpback whales that mate and winter in the warm waters of Dominican Republic. You can appreciate this wonder of nature from a boat while watching the whales frolicking at a distance, or if you prefer to see them from the mainland, visit the Whale Observatory in Punta Balandra.

Lago Enriquillo: Located just over one hour from Barahona, Lake Enriquillo is the largest saltwater lake in the Caribbean and, at 130 feet below sea level, it is the lowest point in the Caribbean. It serves as a sanctuary for flocks of pink flamingos, and its high salt content is ideal for the residing American crocodiles.

Parque Nacional Jaragua: Jaragua National Park is the largest national park in Dominican Republic and one of the country's natural treasures. Located in Pedernales, it is well known for its different types of cactus and the 130 bird species it houses. The weather here is mostly warm with low precipitation – ideal for hiking.

Bahía de las Águilas: Located at Jaragua National Park, this beach dazzles visitors with its soft white sand, clear water and rocky high coast. Its pristine beach, considered one of the most beautiful in the country, is home to manatees, sea turtles, lobsters and a variety of colorful fish.



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

KEY	
● City and Town	🏖 Beach
📍 Point of Interest	🌳 Protected Area/Park
🚢 Cruise Port	⛳ Golf Course
✈ International Airport	🐋 Whales
✈ Domestic Airport	🏔 Highest Peak

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GETTING HERE

Dominican Republic currently has eight international airports throughout the country, including: Las Américas International Airport (SDQ) in Santo Domingo, Punta Cana International Airport (PUJ), La Romana International Airport (LRM), Gregorio Luperón International Airport (POP) in Puerto Plata, El Catey International Airport (AZS) in Samaná, and El Cibao International Airport

(STI) in Santiago. Maritime ports that regularly receive cruise ships in the country include: Santo Domingo Port (Don Diego and Sans Souci terminals), Casa de Campo Port in La Romana, Samaná Bay facilities and the country's newest port, Amber Cove in Puerto Plata.

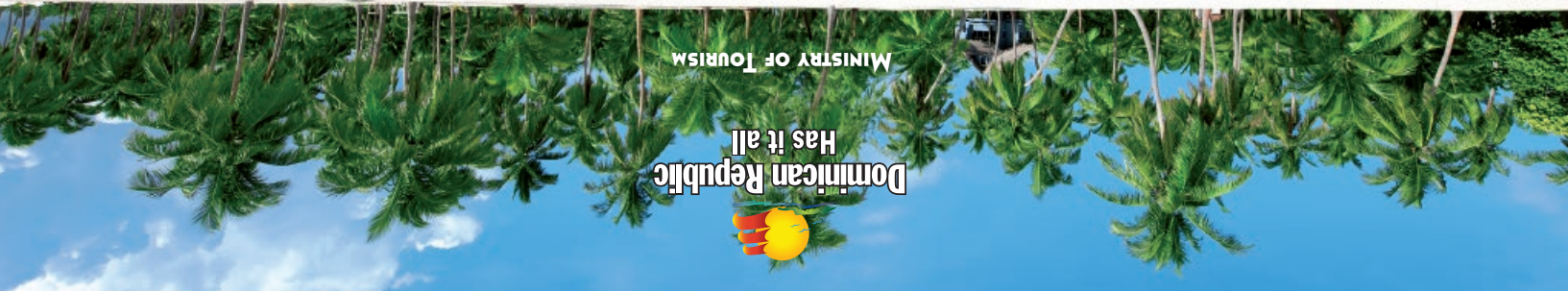


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