



Colorful houses onshore at La Poguera.

PHOTO BY AUTHOR

Pull in as far to shore as you can along the western side of the westernmost dock. A few yards farther west is a small cove where you can land your dinghy if the town dock is unavailable. Next to this cove is small house on the shore with a large sportfishing boat protected by a large roof. You'll see signs here in Spanish saying that you cannot land here without permission. Cruisers however are allowed to use the dock behind the house, courtesy of the owners. This is great boon for cruisers, these folks kindly go out of their way for us, and I implore you not to abuse what they offer.

Just off the dinghy docks you'll find yourself at the heart of La Parguera where you'll find several good restaurants, gift shops, bars, a video game arcade, and even a pharmacy across the street. If you need to dispose of some garbage, there are several garbage containers in the area. Just to the west of the dinghy landing is an excellent restaurant, *La Pared*, while across the street is *Taco Maker* (for good, quick Mexican food), *Bahia Seafood and Steakhouse*. Just up the street from the waterfront is *La Luzerna Pizza Parlor*, one of my favorite stops, and right next door is *Jay Jay's Cafe*. Also in town you'll find *Restaurante Pargomar*, *Zoe*

*En El Restaurante*, *Guacataco* (a restaurant and food market, a good stop that's close to the waterfront), and the *La Casita* seafood restaurant. A few yards up the hill from *Guacataco* is an *ATM* if you need to withdraw some cash. As you get further up the street from the waterfront you will find the *Aponte Supermercado* next to the *Sinbad Guest House*. Take the street just past the *Hotel Casablanca* and you can walk up the hill where you'll find a nice mall with a *U.S. Post Office*, a Chinese restaurant, a

video rental store, a nice book exchange (so bring your old paperbacks and magazines when you stroll up here), the *Pharmacia San Pedro*, the *Parguera Blues Cafe and Restaurant*, a very nice supermarket with *Dave's Deli* on the premises, and a kite shop, the only one in Puerto Rico (be sure to ask owners Ken Priskitt and Andrea Jansen about the annual Puerto Rico kite festival). On the backside of the mall is a small laundry, the only one between Boqueron and Ponce for cruisers. Sometime in 2002, a gas station will open across the street from the mall, which will allow cruisers to jerry jug fuel to their dinghies. Speaking of the *Post Office*, it's probably the cheapest and best way to have things shipped here. The *Post Office* here is very professional and efficient.

The marine supply stores sit just outside of town on the main highway. Here you'll find *A.E Marine*, a marine supply store that also services outboards. Nearby is *Coasta Parguera Marine Center*, *Marina Costa Azul*, a small chandlery that also sells diesel engines, and *Luscar Marine*, the local *Yamaha* dealer.

At the western end of town, between the mangrove islands and the mainland, lies *Veradero Puerto Viejo*, the only haul-out facility available on