

## Self-Guided Walking Tour #2: Downtown Puerto Armuelles

**Approximate Time: 1 1/2 hours**

*\*Additional time if you stop for lunch or dinner.*

---

**1.** Start at the [Dolphin Monument](#), where the road forks going into Downtown. Stand in front of the large orange supermarket, called *Farmacia y Super Puerto Armuelles*, facing the Dolphin.

On your left is the Credit Union CASCA.

Across the street in front of you will be some street vendors and a little to the right is El Regalo del Pueblo, with a fence covered in cardboard. This sight is known locally as the [Cardboard Castle](#). It even has a queen! Start walking straight ahead (southeast) towards the ocean.

**2.** As you walk the 3 blocks toward the beach, you'll see lots of [street vendors](#) along the left side of the road and the 2-story [Todo a Dollar](#) on the right. There are a wide variety of knick-knacks and snacks for sale along the way.

**3.** Soon you will pass by [Almond Park](#) where you can sit and enjoy some people-watching, get your shoes shined, or buy a cool drink or snack from a bicycle vendor.

**4.** You'll veer to the right and continue past **Super Chiriqui**, then straight ahead on the right will be a hostel called [Balboa](#). You will turn right onto Avenida Malecón, which continues along the shoreline.

**5.** *\*Optional:* Before turning right onto Avenida Malecón, you may like to take a detour to the left and visit the oceanfront [Tisamar Bar](#). Grab a cool refreshment and enjoy the view of the beach (la Playa del Centro) to the north of town.

**6.** As you begin your shoreline walk, you will pass the [Bus Terminal](#) on the left. If you are ready for lunch, [Marisqueria Don Juan](#) is a good choice and has air conditioning. Look for the bright yellow building across from the bus terminal.

- 7.** Along Avenida Malecón, you have a choice of walking along the sidewalk on the right side of the street to explore the shops, or walk along the sidewalk next to the beach through [Malecón Park](#) , also known as Parque Ecologica, and enjoy the beach and views of the famous banana pier. If you see a bicycle vendor selling [Raspado](#) (like a snow cone), be sure to cool off with the flavor of your choice!
- 8.** As you approach the far end of the park, near the pier, you will come across the [monument of Tomas Armuelles](#), who the town of Puerto Armuelles was named after.
- 9.** From the monument you can enjoy a view of the historic [Banana Pier](#) and take some photos, or feel free to walk over and maybe walk down the pier a bit. It is in disrepair and visitors are sometimes not allowed to venture out.
- 10.** After viewing or visiting the pier, return to [Central Park](#), (Parque Municipal de Baru) across from the Tomas Armuelles monument. Here you can relax a bit under the shade of large trees and grab a cold drink from **Farmacia Tiffany** or **Kiosko Irma Lorena** across the street.
- 11.** Continue your journey back to the Dolphin Monument by heading back into town on the street between Central Park and Farmacia Tiffany. **Go one block past Farmacia Tiffany then turn right.** Explore the plethora of [shops and fondas](#) (eateries) along the way.
- 12.** After one block then turn left. Continue to explore the [local businesses](#) in downtown Puerto for one more block, then turn right at the gas station and head straight back to the Dolphin Monument where your tour began.
- 13.** One more block takes you back to the start. We hope you enjoy the self-guided walking tour of downtown Puerto Armuelles! Before you embark, please read our [Tips for Walking & Driving Around Puerto Armuelles](#).