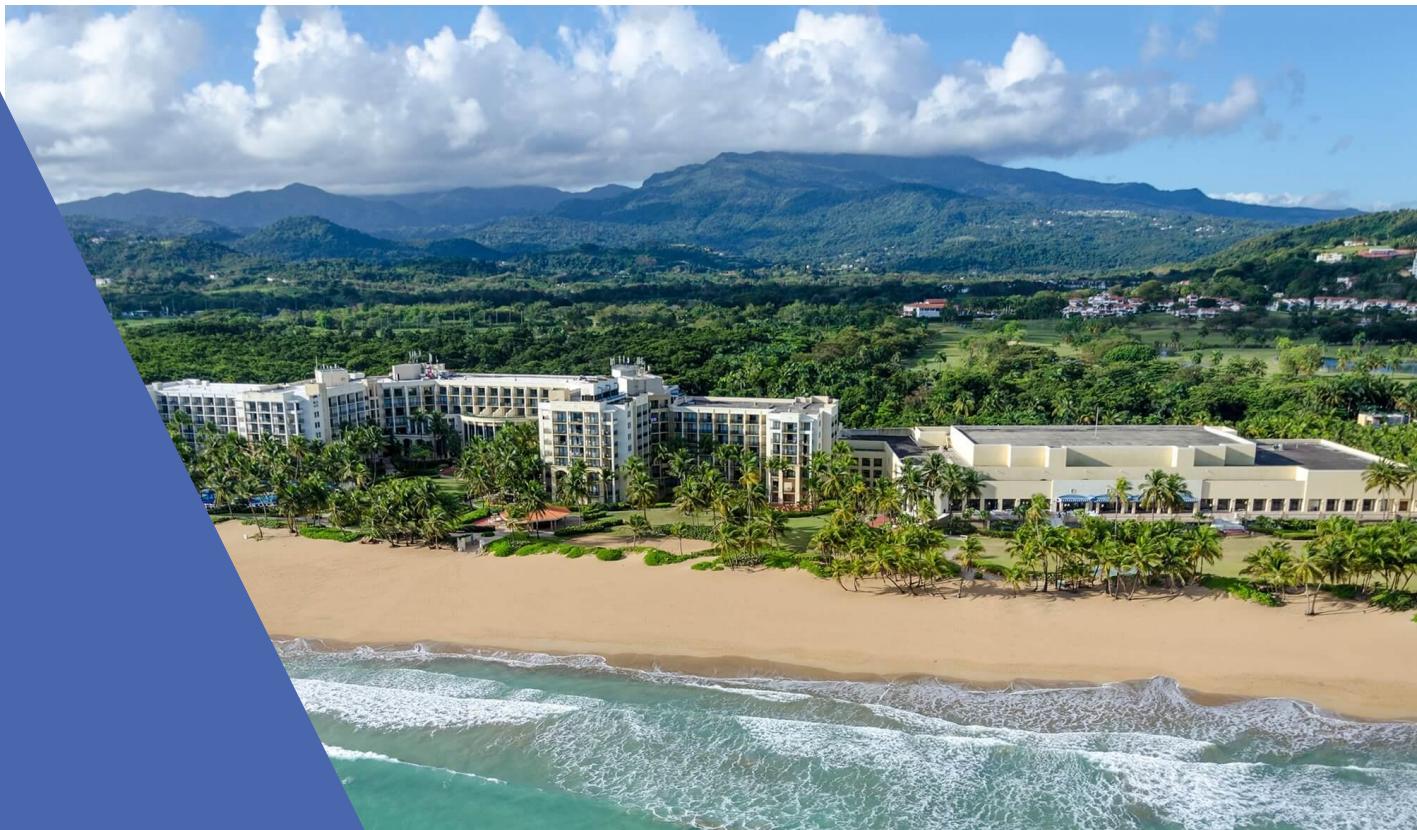




ASSOCIATION OF
LANGUAGE COMPANIES



**ALC 8th Annual
UnConference™ January 2020**

Wyndham Grand Rio Mar – Puerto Rico

We are excited to be hosting the 2020 ALC 8th Annual UnConference™ at the Wyndham Grand Rio Resort in Puerto Rico. We hope this guide gives you a little more information about the venue and expectations of the resort and the UnConference™.

Airport Transportation

San Juan (SJU) airport is located in San Juan, Puerto Rico with 110 daily flights via 24 airlines. With numerous direct flights from the United States, San Juan is a reasonable flight from most major US cities.



Passports are NOT required for US residents as flights from the US are considered domestic. If you have a direct international flight, then you will need to clear US customs and immigration just like you would on the mainland.

Airport & Regional Transportation

Once you book your airfare, please go to the link on the ALC website for Puerto Rico transportation. This will take you to a site with our transportation company GSI. There you can enter your arrival flight information and GSI will handle your shuttle from the airport to the Wyndham. Transport will take about 30-40 minutes from the airport to the resort. Although there are signs of Hurricane Maria in the area, it was not heavily noticeable and the area is very safe to travel.

Uber – Not allowed at airport and very limited on the island.

Lyft – Not on the island as of yet.

Enterprise Car Rental – Vehicles onsite at the airport and an onsite rental office at the Wyndham Grand Rio.

Directions

From Luis Munoz Marin International Airport - SJU

Distance: 19 miles.

From airport, follow signs to HWY 26. From HWY 26 follow signs to HWY 66. Turn right onto RT 3, follow signs for RD 968. Turn left onto RD 968. Drive up mountain, resort entrance is on the right.

From Jose Aponte De La Torre Airport - RVR

Distance: 16.7 miles.

From airport: Take PR-53 N in direction to Fajardo. Follow signs to HWY 3. Drive past towns of Fajardo and Luquillo. Turn right onto RD 968. Drive up mountain, entrance to the resort is on right.

Language - Island

English and Spanish are the official languages of Puerto Rico with both spoken frequently, in fact most Puerto Ricans speak some English.

Hotel Parking

Wyndham Parking - \$15/day for self-park; \$20/day for valet.

Venue

The property is located in Rio Mar, northeast Puerto Rico. The hotel is about one mile from the main highway so you will want to drive into the resort and pass the security gate.



Check -In / Room

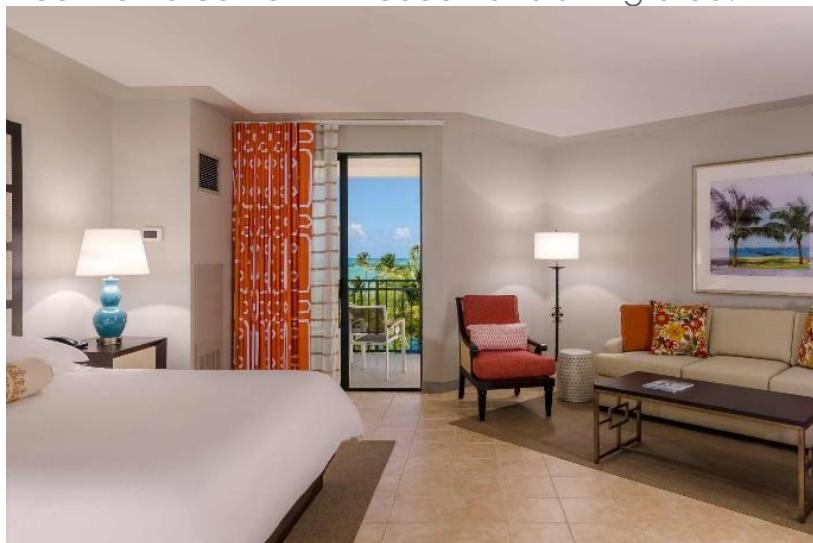
Hotel check in/registration is located to the right as you walk into the resort. The rooms are nice and if you would like an upgraded room, please book early as January is their busy season and rooms are booked on a first come first serve policy. When booking your room, typically we get a ROH (run of house) room, however if you would like an upgrade check out the Junior Suites or the Atlantic Suite below.

Hotel Rooms

Atlantic Suite - is a very nice end unit with views of the ocean. It is recommended to request a room on the 6th or 7th floor for views.



Junior Suites – Larger room on a corner with couch and sitting area.



Run of House - The standard ROH rooms are very nice and allow for plenty of room. Although a typical hotel room, they offer plenty of space and comfort including a safe and refrigerator. Rooms facing the ocean do have partial ocean view and rooms facing the mountains have excellent views of the rain forest.



Room Keys – Wyndham uses electronic bracelet room keys that you wear as a watch. They open your hotel room by putting your band next to the door handle.

Opening/General Session – Thursday 1pm – 5pm

We will meet in the Caribbean Ballroom in the convention center attached to the Wyndham resort.

Opening Reception – Thursday 6pm – 8pm

Join your fellow ALC attendees and reconnect with old friends and new! Hosted on the main lawn, you are sure to have a great time. Drinks, apps and music will be provided. Dinner will be on your own, so make those reservations ahead of time if you wish to dine onsite afterwards.



9 Newport Drive, Suite 200 – Forest Hill, MD 21050
P: 443-966-3854 info@alcus.org www.alcus.org

Meeting Space – Caribbean Ballroom

The Caribbean Ballroom will be our official meeting space for 2020 UnConference with a nice view of palm trees and the ocean.



UnConference Sessions

Our plan is to utilize outdoor space as much as possible, but we will also have indoor backup space since we are on a tropical island prone to unpredictable rain showers from time to time.



9 Newport Drive, Suite 200 – Forest Hill, MD 21050
P: 443-966-3854 info@alcus.org www.alcus.org

Breakfast and breaks will be served on the outdoor patio of the convention center.



Food & Beverage *Prices listed from Feb. 2019*

There are several restaurants on property. The Wyndham is a **RESORT** and does charge resort prices so please keep that in mind. Reservations are recommended and the primary restaurants are:

Iguanas Cocina - Upscale traditional Puerto Rico food in a family friendly setting with golf course and rainforest views. Meals cost about \$60 - \$100 per person.

Marbella – Contemporary Cuisine with garden and ocean views. Breakfast is served at this restaurant daily and cost about \$30/pp.

Roots Costal Kitchen - Caribbean Comfort Food with a farm to table theme. Dinner cost about \$35 - \$60/pp.

Palio Seafood & Steakhouse - Upscale restaurant offering surf & turf along with fine dining while focusing on authentic Puerto Rican Flavors. Meals ran about \$45 - \$100/pp.

Caicu Bar & Tapas - Specialty Rum drinks with limited wine bar. Dinner cost about \$40 - \$70/pp.

5 O'Clock Somewhere - Offers poolside dining in a casual setting. Sitting outdoors this restaurant focuses on burgers, fish tacos, nachos and quick easy food along with an extensive bar. Meals run about \$15 - \$35/pp with apps running about \$13. Bar is also connected to the pool which offers a swim up bar.



Some of the restaurants offer entertainment and the venue hosts “theme” nights on Friday and Saturday at the Marbella restaurant, they offered Mexican and Caribbean all you can eat buffets for \$29.99 per person.

Offsite Restaurants

Although the Wyndham is close to off-site restaurants, etc. there are no safe walking paths. It is suggested to use local transportation which at minimum costs \$15 each way/\$30 round trip. However, several restaurants do offer free shuttles from the hotel to their restaurants. Please see bell hop/desk for referrals.

Drinks

Pool bars offer a blender glass (20 oz.) for \$18 with \$11 refills. This is a great value as it generally runs \$11-\$15 per blended drink for about 8 ounces. Beer costs about \$6 - \$9/bottle.



9 Newport Drive, Suite 200 – Forest Hill, MD 21050
P: 443-966-3854 info@alcus.org www.alcus.org

Friday night Dinner

The ALC is pleased to have a special group dinner planned for Friday, January 24, 2020. Unlike years past with the dine arounds, we are mixing it up! You will **NOT** want to miss this special dinner at **Hacienda Siesta Alegre!** This beautiful Puerto Rican property is located in the rain forest with spectacular views of the ocean and rain forest. With group transportation from the Wyndham to and from the Hacienda, you will arrive in time to watch the sun set over the Caribbean followed by cocktails, dinner, dancing and an unforgettable evening.

Leave Wyndham at 5:15pm via chartered bus

Arrive at Hacienda Siesta Alegre at 5:45pm

Cocktails 6:00pm – 6:30pm

Dinner 6:30pm – 8pm

Networking/Dancing 8pm – 10pm

Return to Wyndham at 10pm via chartered bus



9 Newport Drive, Suite 200 – Forest Hill, MD 21050
P: 443-966-3854 info@alcus.org www.alcus.org

Pools / Ocean

With 3 pools, the Wyndham has a pool for everyone! One family pool with a water slide for the kids; a quiet pool with no music for those who want to relax near a waterfall and an adult pool with a swim up bar and music for those who wish to cut loose and have a little more fun.



The beach is sandy and clean with plenty of lounge chairs and beach umbrellas. Staff are onsite the entire time to set up and adjust if any additional chairs or umbrellas are needed while on the beach.



Golf

With 36 holes of golf, the Wyndham offers some exceptional golfing opportunities. 18 holes on the River Course and 18 holes on the Ocean Course. We strongly recommend making tee times as soon as possible as the golf course can get busy.

<https://www.wyndhamriomar.com/en/activities/golf>



Tennis

Get in a great match under tropical skies in the Caribbean's largest tennis facility! With 11 Har-Tru® courts and two Laykold hard courts – four lit for evening play – they set the perfect stage for you to ace your game.

Join in a tennis clinic, take a private lesson, or play doubles round robin. For those without a tennis partner, our player matching program will pair both single and double players with a perfect partner.

<https://www.wyndhamriomar.com/en/activities/tennis>



Casino

One of the few properties on the island that offers an onsite casino with slots, Black Jack, Poker, Craps and various other games for your enjoyment. Table minimums run about \$5/hand for Black Jack but do fluctuate depending upon the season.



Fire Pits

The venue does offer 2 large fire pits which they light each night. Both are close to the two outdoor bars.



Fitness Center

The venue does a very nice fitness center with free weights, treadmills, and stationary bicycles.



Entertainment

The venue has live music nightly by the two outdoor bars. Some are traditional trios, one is a female drummer/singer playing traditional Latin and top hits. It varies but all are highly enjoyable and professional.

Things to Do

Old San Juan – Old San Juan, about a 45 minute drive each way offers exceptional dining, bars, shopping and architecture. Old San Juan is a walking city with narrow streets, but it has a lot of historical significance.



Carabali – A local adventure park only minutes from the Wyndham. Transportation cost \$30 roundtrip, but the property has an excellent restaurant onsite along with Horseback Riding in the rainforest or on the beach, Go-Karts, Hayrides, Mountain Bike Tours and ATV excursions.

Mandara Spa – Onsite luxury spa at the Wyndham Resort. Spa offers full service massage, manicures, pedicures, facials, wraps, etc. Fees are typical resort spa fees and traditional massage charges 50 minutes - \$130 and an 80-minute is \$190; Couples massage run 50 minutes for \$280 and 80-minutes for \$400.

Miscellaneous

The Wyndham is an excellent family resort. Since this is an executive getaway, please feel free to bring your family.

Island time - The hotel moves on island time! So keep in mind that they move at their own place and plan accordingly. Put that mobile phone down, sit back and relax!

On behalf of the ALC Board of Directors, staff and UnConference™ Committee, we hope you can join us for the 8th Annual UnConference™ at the Wyndham Rio Mar Resort in Puerto Rico.

Any questions you have please feel free to contact the UnConference Committee (Karen Decker, Jennifer Alvarez, and Tino Melita) at ConferenceChair@ALCUS.org.