

PLAYA VENAO LOCATION GUIDE



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Welcome to Playa Venao, Panama

Playa Venao is undoubtedly the Azuero Peninsula's gravitational center for surfers and beach-lovers, with great waves, weather, and ambiance year-round. It's also emerging as one of Central America's hottest investment opportunities, with a growing number of residential and commercial developments.

This secluded and scenic bay offers trendy hotels and restaurants, a young and well-traveled international community, and all the energy and opportunity of an up-and-coming destination.

Find your dream property now by searching our [Playa Venao real estate listings](#).



Lifestyle in Playa Venao

Playa Venao offers a classic Central American surf town vibe. Most beachgoers are on vacation, passing through, or staffing local hotels and restaurants. Think less routine, more relaxation.

Playa Venao is full of people pursuing or achieving personal sovereignty. Stroll the beach at 11 a.m., and you'll see surfers, sunbathers, volleyball, martial arts, and digital nomads working in Wi-Fi-equipped restaurants and coworking spaces.



Life in Playa Venao revolves around sun, salt, sand, and surf. Popular activities include surfing, kayaking, deep-sea fishing, scuba diving, and whale-watching.



On land, Playa Venao features restaurants, nightlife, a Jiu Jitsu Academy, and eco-adventures like zip-lining, waterfall hikes, and island tours.





Community in Playa Venao

The Playa Venao community is remarkably diverse, with the Israeli community being the largest single ethnic group. Over the years, the full-time residents mostly worked in local hotels, restaurants, or tourism services. However, as more investors make Playa Venao their year-round home, this is shifting.

While travelers and surfers from around the world and other parts of Panama frequent Playa Venao, the community maintains a close-knit vibe. It's common for visitors to extend their stays unexpectedly or to return annually. Spending enough time here means seeing a range of interesting characters come and go.

In Playa Venao, a blend of diverse backgrounds and cultures come together to create an optimal environment for themselves, their families, and future generations. Those with a drive for entrepreneurship or sustainable living will find themselves right at home in this evolving community.





Amenities in Playa Venao

Amenities in Playa Venao are geared mainly towards travelers, with plenty of hotels and restaurants, surf shops and tour providers, and a fitness center and coworking office.

Playa Venao has a great grocery store that opened in 2024. You can find most of your groceries and other essentials in Playa Venao. A 30--minute drive 30 to Pedasi will give you even more options. Visitors planning to stay for longer periods tend to stop in Chitre, Las Tablas, or Pedasi on the way to Playa Venao to pick up groceries and essentials. Playa Venao residents either make the drive or order local fish or organic produce delivered to their home.

The growing community is spurring more commercial development. Playa Venao's first gas station is now open. There is also a private school, brewery, chiropractic clinic, and more. If you are an entrepreneur or even just fancy yourself one, Playa Venao may be a great location to turn a dream or an idea into reality.

For a remote beach town, Playa Venao offers impressive gastronomy. You've got pizza and burgers at beach bars, homemade falafel and hummus, taco-tequila bars, classy fine dining, and farm-to-table Panamanian fusion. In short, there are plenty of restaurants and short order joints to accommodate all tastes and budgets.



Playa Venao Infrastructure

While Playa Venao's infrastructure has improved as its popularity as a tourist destination grows, it still retains the characteristics of a Central American beach town. The Panamanian government has directed more resources to the area, including a full refurbishment of the highway from Pedasi to Playa Venao in 2021, making travel much safer and more comfortable. This upgrade has also spurred development.

Given its remote location, the electricity is fairly reliable, and a new insulated power line system is being installed. Power outages still occur but are less frequent. Wi-Fi is strong enough for remote work, video calls, and streaming services.

Tap water is potable, and the water quality is good, as is cell phone service, though some providers work better than others. Despite these improvements, Playa Venao's infrastructure still reflects its laid-back, beach-town roots.





Activities in Playa Venao

Life at Playa Venao centers around ocean activities. A popular surf destination, the beach has breaks for all levels, from beginner to advanced. You'll see surfers, young and old, waiting for the next set. Surf schools offer lessons and equipment rentals.

Beyond surfing, Playa Venao features deep-sea fishing, paddleboarding, kayaking, kite-surfing (seasonally), and simple swims in warm waters. With a boat or catamaran, adventures extend beyond the beach.

For land-based activities, try martial arts or yoga at the Jiu-Jitsu Academy. Eco-adventures include zip-lining, waterfall hikes, island tours, or beach horseback riding. Isla Cañas Wildlife Refuge is just a 20-minute drive and a short boat ride away.

Playa Venao also boasts vibrant weekend nightlife, with beachfront bars open until sunrise. Multi-day festivals and events attract partiers from around the globe.





Playa Venao Real Estate Market

The Playa Venao real estate market has emerged as one of the hottest in all of Panama, and at an incredible pace.

Homes are often purchased right as they come to market, leaving little available finished inventory at Playa Venao. Residential communities such as Blue Venao and Villa Marina have both sold extremely well over the past several years and have turned out to be good appreciation plays for those who got in early. For example, a 2-bedroom ground floor condo in Blue Venao that initially sold for \$205,000 is now worth nearly double.

Beachfront lots for sale in Playa Venao are essentially non-existent as these are the most coveted of properties. Ocean-view lots have a bit more availability, but these don't stay on the market long either.

The rapid growth at Playa Venao is also spilling over into neighboring El Ciruelo and Cañas, which will bring more high-end residential units and condominiums to market. There are a surprising number of new developments with a wide array of offerings and styles. If you're interested in learning more about these opportunities then you're in the right place. Reach out to one of our agents for help.

Playa Venao and the surrounding area represents an excellent investment opportunity for those who may be looking for ROI, for an appreciation play, an interesting land banking option, or for those who are simply looking for less routine and more relaxation.



Playa Venao Rental Market

It's not always easy to find long-term rentals in Playa Venao, as the local rental market has traditionally catered towards short-term stays.

That said, there is a small but growing supply of finished apartments, condos and single-family homes which offer longer-term rental options. Owners also have increased flexibility to either use their properties for rental income exclusively, or to strike a balance between their ROI requirements vs enjoying the property themselves.

There are also still great opportunities to buy land. This could be to build a personal home, to develop rental units, or simply land bank for the future. Investing in land located at or near a fantastic surf break has never been a bad idea, and Playa Venao continues to prove this to be true.



**Reach out to our team
of experts today to
learn more about living
and investing in
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