Capital
The capital of Panama is Panama City.

Location
Colón is located at the Caribbean end of the Panama Canal.

Size
Panama is approximately 30,420 square miles.

Population
Colón is the second largest city in Panama with a population of more than 150,000 people.

Language
Spanish is the official language of Panama.

Currency
The Balboa dollar is the official currency, U.S. dollars, travelers checks and major credit cards are widely accepted.

Time Zone
Panama is on Eastern Standard Time.

Tourist
Information
Information is available at Aventuras 2000 Information center in the shopping complex.

Docking
Cruise ships may dock on two ports in the Atlantic side of the Panama Canal and one in the Pacific entrance. The Cristobal cruise terminal (Pier 6) offers piers for two ships of any size and has a duty-free shopping area, restaurants, and telephones.

Shore Excursions
Please check your tour ticket for the correct meeting time and location for your tour. Your shore excursion team will direct you to your transportation. It is recommended that the cruise ship passengers take organized tours or remain within the duty free shopping complex.

Transportation
For getting around, you'll find taxis and buses to be plentiful and inexpensive in Panama City. Taxi fares aren't metered, so always establish a price with the driver beforehand.

How To Get To Town
To get to town when your ship docks, you will most likely travel by car or bus to the capital city, and it will take about an hour. The recommended shopping area is right off the skyway.

Shopping
Shopping is available within the Colón 2000 duty free shopping complex and Pier 6.

Store Hours
Most stores are open when cruise ships are in port.

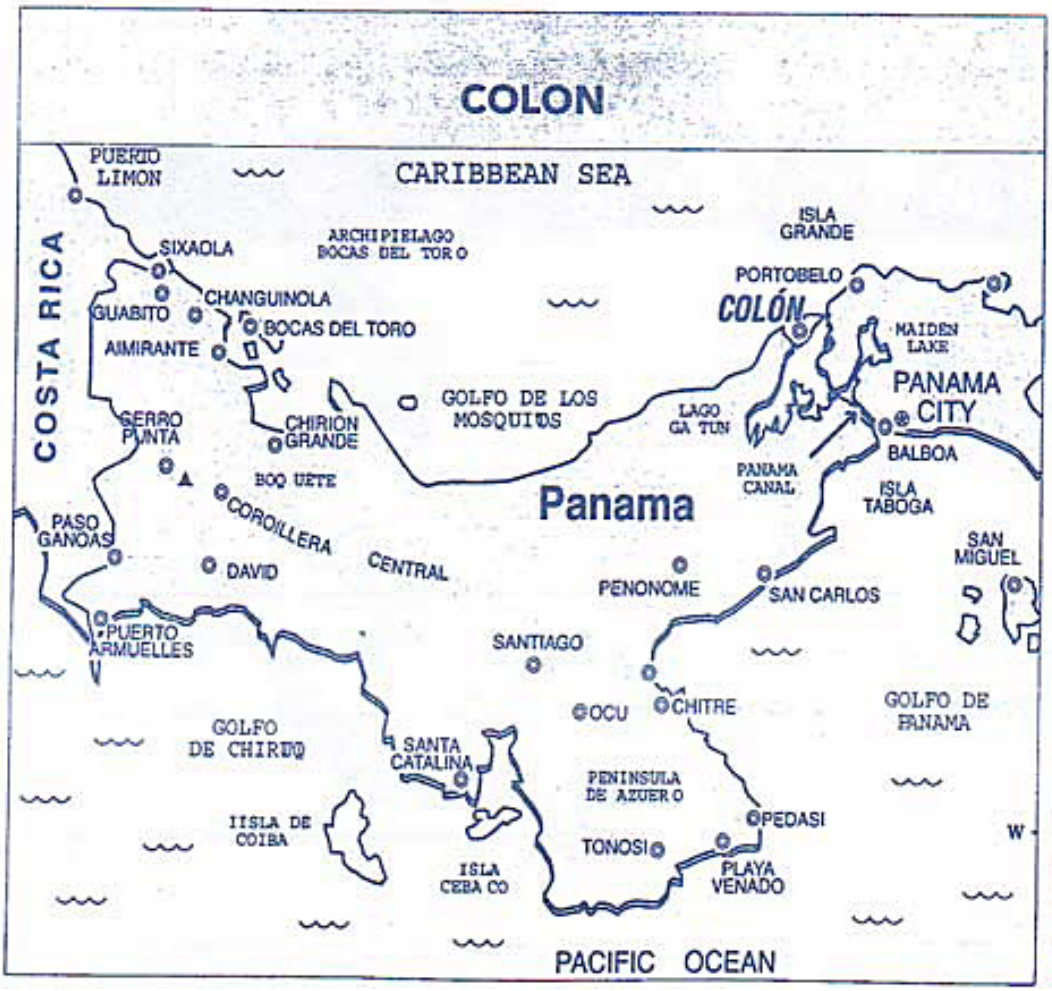
Bank Hours
Banks are open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Post Office Hours
The post office is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday.

Beaches
The closest beach to Colón is María Chiquita, which has a "Turicentro" offering many facilities. Playa Langosta is a few miles further and offers facilities for diving and snorkeling.

Emergency
In case of an emergency, dial 104.

Phone Locations
Phones are located on the skyway.



Guarantee

Shop with confidence, knowing that all merchants on this map have been carefully selected and each offers a 30- day guarantee to cruise line passengers. This guarantee ensures buyers that all recommended merchants will repair or replace any unsatisfactory item, excluding buyer's negligence or buyer's remorse. For purposes of determining quality and value of jewelry related to a buyer's complaint, only appraisals secured by a buyer from independent graduate gemologists, not affiliated with any retail jeweler, will be acceptable. Please inquire about individual store return policies before finalizing any purchase.

The port shopping program is operated by Onboard Media, Inc. Participating merchants have paid an advertising fee to Onboard Media for inclusion in this program. Onboard Media handles all customer relations claims relating to the guarantee. If you become aware of a problem during the cruise, please contact the Shopping Guide onboard for immediate assistance. If a problem arises after the cruise but within 30 days of the purchase date, contact the Customer Relations Department at

Onboard Media:
960 Alton Road
Miami Beach, 33139
Phone: (800) 396-2999
Fax: (305) 673-2741
Email: shoppingissues@onboard.com
Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
(Eastern Standard Time)

Please send a letter and include the name of the ship, cruise date, store name and merchandise problem. Also enclose a copy of the sales receipt and any relevant documents relating to the sale. Onboard Media will contact the recommended store on your behalf for repair or replacement, and you will be notified accordingly.