Vieques: The Hidden Jewel of the Caribbean Sea

This Caribbean paradise known as Vieques island is the little sister of Puerto Rico — La Isla Nina, "Little Girl Island". Just a short plane ride from San Juan, Vieques is the land of beautiful beaches, wild horses and still retains much of the tranquility that defined the Caribbean sixty years ago.

Visitors love Vieques for her pristine beauty.

A hidden jewel among the many Caribbean islands, Vieques is a slice of heaven for those who want to get away from it all. It is not a touristy island, no chain stores or restaurants dot the landscape. The main nightspot is Esperanza, a former fishing village that is coming of age, now sporting funky restaurants and stores and a spectacular promenade known as the Malecón along the gently lapping surf at the water's edge.

Esperanza boasts a number of popular dining establishments and shops, a small museum, places to stay, and eco-tour companies. You can walk along the beach and head east to other popular beaches, the most famous of a which is Sun Bay, a gargantuan bay edged with a beautiful sandy beach that just goes on and on. The other beaches may be too far to walk to, but with a car they are mere minutes away.