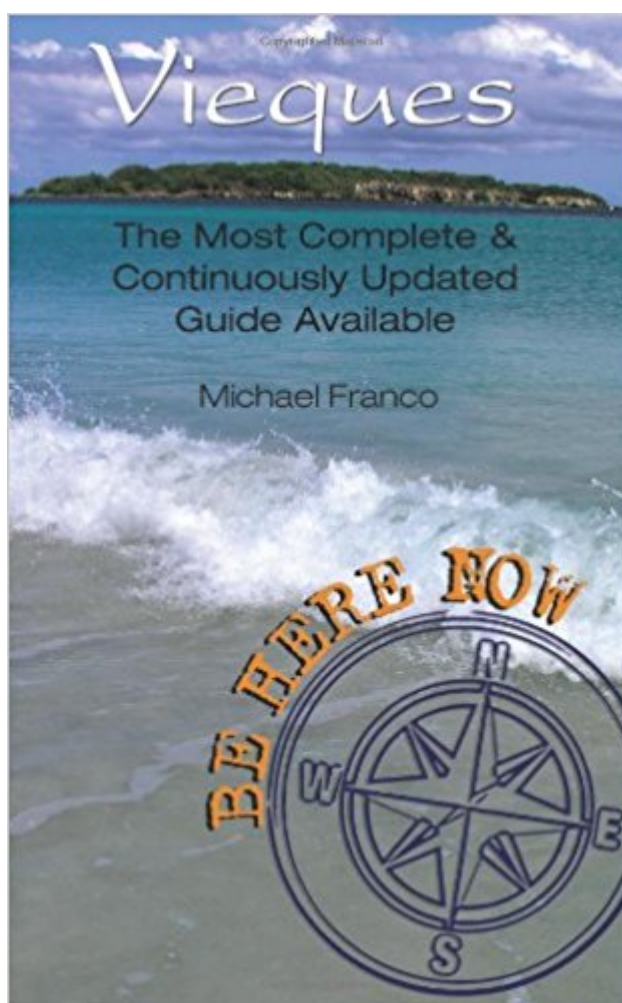


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# Be Here Now: Vieques: The Most Complete And Continuously Updated Guide Available



## Synopsis

This handy book will help make any visitor's trip to Vieques a success. Written by an author who lived on Vieques for two years and still owns property there, you get a true insider's guide to the best beaches, snorkel spots, restaurants, shops, bars and activities the island has to offer. Detailed descriptions and accurate contact information helps you put together the vacation of a lifetime. Get a brief history, discover hidden stretches of sand, encounter the island's flora and fauna, and learn about the biobay - the brightest in the world according to the Guinness Book Of World Records. Includes a special section on getting to Vieques which helps you enjoy your time on the main island of Puerto Rico for a night or two while in transit. Be Here Now: Vieques is continuously updated for accuracy thanks to the author's continuing close ties with the island and its residents. \$4 from the sale of the book benefits the Vieques Humane Society.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Michael Franco loves to write almost as much as he loves to travel, laze on a beach with rum cocktail, or play with his dog. After living on Vieques for two years, a job opportunity relocated him to another tropical island of sorts - Singapore - where he works as a freelance journalist. His writing has appeared in Time Out Singapore, Islands Magazine, Discovery Channel Magazine, Frequent Traveller and elsewhere. He is a strong believe that everyone needs a change of latitude at least once a year.

When my mother-in-law planned a family trip to Vieques I started looking around for a guide book. When I bought this one on I thought it was a little expensive, but knowing that part of the proceeds

when to the human society I figured it was worth giving a little to a good cause. After using the book on vacation, I have to say it would have been worth the price even without the humane society bonus. This book was accurate, comprehensive, and informative. Using it felt like we were traveling with a local willing to give us all the insider tips. We found all the beaches (even the black sand beach), tried several great restaurants (Coqui Fire was our favorite), knew what to expect with gas stations and grocery stores, and learned a little about the island's history and culture. If you are going to Vieques BUY THIS BOOK.

This was my Vieques bible. I had ordered 4 different guides to Puerto Rico, specifically Vieques, and this was my go to guide. The information is up to date and very informative. My only complaint would be that the directions to the beaches is not always clear. Having said that, most of the beaches are down badly potholed roads and it would be difficult to give great directions. You can pick up beach guides around the island that are very specific such as "make a left at the third cactus, or turn right at the iguana carcass". This book has great information on eating in Vieques. If you are planning a trip to Vieques order this book. It will really help you to pre-plan by knowing what to expect of this unique little island.

For our first trip to Vieques, it was totally perfect. We carried where ever we went, depending on it and never being let down. It is all anyone could need, and put so simply without being too crowded with lots of nothing as most travel books are. It's a very small simple island and Mr Franco's book is just that !P.R.

This book does provide some useful information beyond that provided by general guides on P.R., particularly if you haven't done any online research at all on Vieques. But be aware that it is very short and that many "chapters" are merely a title page followed by a paragraph or two. It's way overpriced at \$17.95.

Again, I have checked out a few Vieques guides, and I have to say these people need more experience.

This book truly provided us with the true Vieques Experience. It provides the travel the opportunity to experience the full experience of this incredibly beautiful and magical island. The recommendations on restaurants provided us the opportunity to enjoy great local food and events.

We were able to see all the beaches and parts of the island not found in other travel guides. The most glorious experience came when we visited Black Beach and the book hinted at taking magnets...WOW what an experience we had with those magnets (we had not read this hint anywhere else). Also the recommendation to find the island's only "blow hole" at Navio Beach provided us with beauty we would have not seen had we not had this travel guide.

There are guidebooks and there are guidebooks. "Be Here Now" is like having the author tag along with you while you explore the island of Vieques. It is clear, well-written, and above all its obvious that it was put together by a person with great passion for Vieques. I highly recommend this book for whatever length vacation you plan on taking there. The fact that it can be updated by the author as new restaurants pop up, beaches are re-opened, etc. makes it indispensable. I've purchased guidebooks for other places in the past, and I've found many of them to be not so user friendly and more than a little cluttered. You will not have this problem with "Be Here Now," as its well-spaced and well categorized chapters make it a joy to read.

I don't usually buy guidebooks but this was a gem. Friends told us that Vieques is really only about good food and great beaches and this book took us places we would have NEVER found on our own. The maps were helpful, the restaurant reviews were spot-on and it was pretty cool to have a guidebook that most of the locals didn't even know existed. We loved the Mar Azul Bar and I think I left a piece of my heart on Garcia beach. If you're going to this under-the-radar island, don't hesitate to take this guidebook along.

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