

This Report is brought to you by...

# The WOW Experience

Overdelivery is our Specialty!

Where Vision and Value Go Hand in Hand with Information and Opportunity!



Other Companies Make Promises -- We Make Dreams Come True!  
We Offer QUALITY CONTENT in Every WAY, TYPE and FORM

- Exclusive WOW Private Label Releases
- Private Label Products
- Public Domain Products
- Master Resale Rights eBooks
- Master Resale Rights Software
- Bestselling Audio eBooks by Top Authors
- Non-Fiction Audio eBooks
- Exclusive WOW Affiliate Products
- Resale Rights Products
- Exclusive WOW Private Label Reports
- eBook to Audio Conversion Software
- Resale Rights Generation Software



And, of course, if you want it all tied up in a neat website package, with *all the work done for you*, we have our NEW [Niche Empire Builder Software](#) – the Niche Real Estate Business Builder's Dream Come True!

## Niche Empire Builder

The Complete Done-it-For-You Niche Real Estate Business Builder's Dream Come True!

[www.the-wow-empire.com](http://www.the-wow-empire.com)

## The WOW Content Club

Your Full Spectrum Content Provider

If Content Is King,  
The WOW Content Club is the Kingdom  
You Have Been Searching For!



[www.wow-content-club.com](http://www.wow-content-club.com)

## WOW Profit Packs

Help Yourself to Hundreds of Brand New, Blockbuster Products at Bargain Basement Prices!



[www.WOWProfitPacks.com](http://www.WOWProfitPacks.com)

Enjoy this Free Niche Report, compliments of WOW Enterprises  
For Many More Free Reports, simply click on the links below.

[www.TheWOWExperience.com](http://www.TheWOWExperience.com)

[www.NicheEmpireBuilder.com](http://www.NicheEmpireBuilder.com)

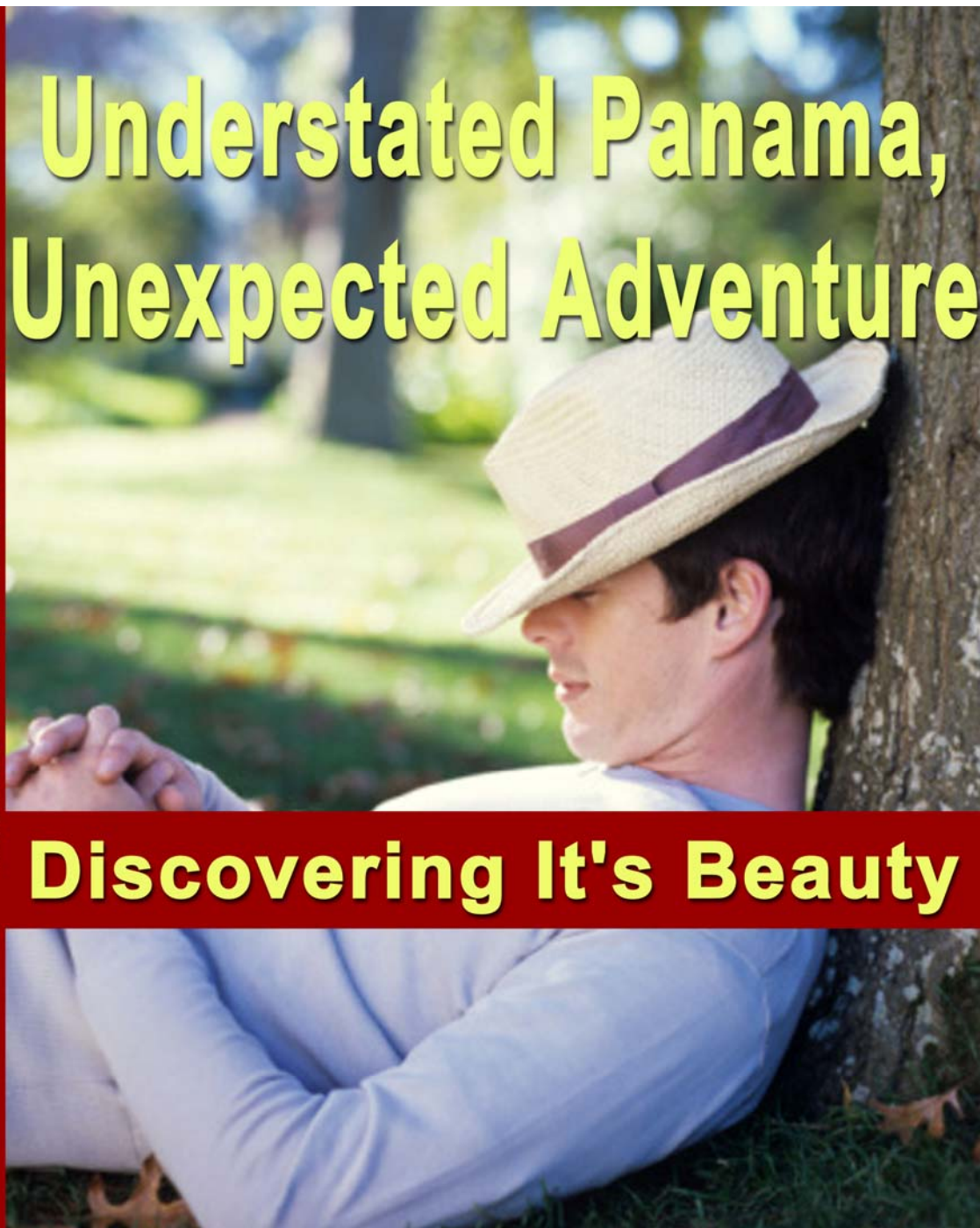
[www.WOW-Content-Club.com](http://www.WOW-Content-Club.com)

[www.WOWProfitPacks.com](http://www.WOWProfitPacks.com)

# Understated Panama, Unexpected Adventure

Understated Panama, Unexpected Adventure

## Discovering It's Beauty



# **Understated Panama, Unexpected Adventure**

There is something about Panama. Its Tocumen International Airport, a small, unassuming airport, will not outright reveal the secret. Neither will its dusty streets with its many holes and the lot of folks walking around.

In fact, at first blush, you might even dismiss this perfectly lovely country as just another Central American destination without the festive diversity of Mexico and nor the startling beauty of Caribbean Costa Rica. That is why many travelers, intent only in finding beauty where it is apparent, miss the subtle attraction that is Panama.

Think big city style right next to a genuine tropical jungle. Think glitzy, multi-storied bank buildings appearing sharply modern against a backdrop of architecture dating back to the colonial times. Think brand new shopping malls, multitudinous residential and corporate highrises, and big city atmosphere with just enough gaps in between to allow you glimpses of tranquil white sand beaches and aqua blue waters.

This is Panama – understated and pleasantly unexpected.

## **Strategic Location**

With coastlines on both the North Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea, and border countries such as Colombia and South America to the southeast and Costa Rica and North America to the northwest, Panama is a Central American country strategically located on the isthmus that forms the land bridge connecting North and South America.

Its name means “abundance of fish and butterflies” and from that alone you get the idea of an exotic tropical paradise full of sun, adventure, Indian mystery, and opportunities (business or leisure).

While Panama is mostly known for the Panama Canal, which earned the moniker of “Bridge of the World,” the country has so much more to offer than nature’s beauty converging with modern, cosmopolitan cities.

### **Fascinating History**

Panama has some of the more interesting histories of the world. Shaped by its strategic location between the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean, the country was first inhabited by the native Cuevas and Cocole tribes, who disappeared soon after the Spanish arrived with their weapons and diseases.

That was the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Later on, Spain acquired a strong foothold on Central America by establishing Panama City as its center on the Pacific Coast, strong enough to serve as base while Spain conquered and plundered Peru.

As Spain gained more power, Panama City flourished. Caravans heavy with gold made their way through this jungle city and across the narrow isthmus to be loaded on galleons bound for Mother Spain.

This wealth, however, attracted pirates who, in the early 1700s, succeeded in making Panama’s Caribbean shore their outpost and haven for their many treasures.

For years, piracy became so rampant in Panama’s distant coast that shippers chose to take the long route and sail around Cape Horn to Peru. And yet, this violent aspect of Panama’s past makes for interesting bedtime stories and fascinating tales.

Perhaps, the pinnacle of Panama's rich historic tapestry is the making of the Panama Canal. In order to build this 80-kilometer combination of human genius and skill, approximately 9,000 workers had to toil tirelessly 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. No small wonder then that this gigantic bridge is now considered one of the Eight Wonders of the World.

Today, the Canal offers transit service to ships of all nations, numbering between 13,000 and 14,000 yearly. Using a complicated locks system, each set of which are named after the Panama town where it was built, the Panama Canal operates by raising the ships from sea-level (Atlantic or Pacific) to 26 meters above seal-level (Gatun Lake).

For the best view of this wonderful example of human genius, take a mini cruise through the Canal or check out the Visitor Center in Miraflores, the recently opened installation where you can best see the Canal in action.

If you are not one for oceanscapes, you still try one of the four exhibition rooms, organized by themes, where you can learn more about the Canal's history, the importance of water as a source of life, the Canal operation and its place in worldwide trading.

### **Getting There**

Situated about 20 miles east of Panama City, the Tocumen International Airport receives international flights from all over the world. From here, you can take a taxi, bus, or rent a car to get to the city. There are also a couple of hotels near the airport if you would rather spend the night relatively away from downtown Panama City but the prices are higher here, around \$60 a night.

A bus ride to downtown costs about 0.25 balboa, good news for those who are short on cash. The bus shelter is located just across the highway from the airport. Once you get there, make sure that your bus says “via España.”

Besides the Tocumen International Airport, the only other airports in Panama are small private airstrips. In fact, the country has more private airstrips per square mile than any other country in the world. This, of course, makes Panama a technically feasible location for the adventurous private pilot, either directly or through country hopping through Central America.

Many of the more remote interior regions of Panama are best accessed via private plane, even as hiking and canoeing may get you to these places just as well.

If traveling by car, the Paso Canoas in Panama's Pacific side is one border crossing in Central America that you can access. However, be aware that it is also one of the busiest and disorganized border crossings in Central America.

Alternatively, you can also try the road crossings at Rio Sereno, still on Panama's Pacific side, or the Sixaola/Guabito on the Atlantic side. Since Rio Sereno crossing sees very little traffic, police can be very strict. Make sure your papers are in order.

It is not always a good idea to bring your own car to Panama. If you need car repairs, tough luck finding a good mechanic shop, especially outside the big city. If you are coming in from Costa Rica, going by bus might be easier. There are three possible entry points, the main one being Paso Canoas.

Another option is to take one of the cruise lines that have the Panama Canal on their itineraries. There are also tours on Panama City or Colon City that you can take part in.

## **Talk the Talk**

The official language of Panama is Spanish. However, many Panamanians are bilingual. In addition, about 14% of the population can speak and understand English.

Panamanian Spanish sounds different from Tico or Nicaraguan Spanish. In fact, if you travel from Costa Rica to Panama, you will notice a large change in the Spanish dialect. True to its Caribbean orientation, Panamanian Spanish sounds much closer to Cuban or Puerto Rican.

As for those educated in Mexican or European Spanish, the most noticeable thing you notice about Panama's Spanish dialect is that half of the S's go missing, specifically at the end of the words or before other consonants. For instance, instead of saying "nosotros estamos", you may hear something like "nosotroh ehtamoh."

Note, however, that the dialect is not pronounced in the big city. While it is fun speaking Panamanian Spanish while in the country, big city folks will probably give you funny looks when you drop your S's.

## **Things to Do**

### ***Shop Panama***

Panama is home to the hemisphere's largest free trade zone, the Colon Free Zone, so shopping is a big thing here. While most of the shops here bear the stamp of Panama's local flair, there are quite a large number of American-style malls and department stores.

The three major malls in Panama City are Multicentro, Albrook Mall, and Multiplaza Pacific, which sell combinations of Western and Panamanian items. Prices from mall to mall may vary widely. However, Albrook is known for selling items that are relatively cheaper. Multiplaza, on the other hand, is home to designer boutiques, so expect prices to be high.

In general, Panama is a good place to buy consumer electronics, clothing, and cosmetics. The malls are a delight to the shopaholic. For traditional Panamanian crafts, however, these can be found mostly in artesanía markets where items are generally cheaper. Panama City's markets in Balboa and Panama Viejo are especially known for native arts and crafts for sale.

### ***Panamanian Adventure***

With its abundance of clear blue waters, pristine rainforests, vibrant communities, and idyllic islands, adventure travel is never in short supply in Panama. From motor scooters to hot springs, hiking tours and rafting, there are literally hundreds of opportunity available and each one has its own unique adventure to offer.

Rafting up the Rio Chiriqui Viejo flowing from the fertile hills of Volcan Baru, you are hidden by the cool shade of a forest for much of its length. The river also offers lots of class II rapids and some class IIIs and IVs, making it perfect not only for rafters but also for those who are practicing kayaking.

Panama is endowed with the most diverse species of birds, more diverse than anywhere else in Central America. The country's location relative to two continents and its narrow girth make it the perfect safe haven for birds and birders alike. Migrating birds from North and South America tend to be funneled in a small area in Panama. In addition to these migratory species, Panama also has its own endemic species of birds.

Another excellent activity for the adventurer in Panama is mountain hiking or biking. In Boquete, you can hike to the top of Volcan Baru, which is Panama's highest peak.

Canopy tours are also good alternatives to hiking. Panama has one of the most pristine rainforests, surprisingly untouched by development despite its proximity to the modern Panama City.

### ***Beaches***

Nearly surrounded by two oceans (North Pacific and the Caribbean), Panama offers a wide variety of beaches to your taste, whether you are staying on the mainland or on its many islands located offshore.

Both of Panama's coastlines have beautiful beaches with crystal clear waters, white sand, and coral reefs. Coconut palm trees fill your sight as they sway with the tropical breeze that blow in across small coves and miles of open beaches.

The only region in Panama that boasts of no beach is Chiriqui Highland. The rest of the regions have more than one unique and pleasurable beach that comes complete with world-class resorts, luxury hotels, sports facilities, and restaurants.

Some of the more popular activities you can engage in while on a Panama beach vacation are surfing (especially in such beaches as El Palmar, Rio Mar, Punta Barco and Playa Venao), sailing (to visit the flower-island of Taboga or the enchanting Pearl Archipelago), swimming (of course), snorkeling and scuba diving.

All these things – the Panama Canal, rich history steeped with fascinating tales of pirates, easy transportation, and great adventures – make for a very exciting

Central American destination that not many people are aware of. If you are the sort who wants to discover new places or just get away from the tourist crowd, then Panama is exactly the destination you need.

**You are invited to pass this report along to as many people as you like,** provided that you make no changes to it and that you give it away for FREE.

If you would like **your own Private Label Version of this report** and hundreds of others just like it on hot, high interest niche topics – all of which come complete with 5 custom cover graphics – [click here to visit our Niche Reports Resource](#).



**WOW: Where Vision and Value Go Hand in Hand with Information & Opportunity!**

Please click below to check out all of our entrepreneurial friendly sites and products.

=> <http://www.The-WOW-Experience.com>

Always something NEW on the horizon. Always something for YOU to use to grow your business!  
That's what WOW is all about. Your success is our ultimate goal and our reason for growth.