

El Yunque Waterfall: Pre-Departure Checklist

Mission: Secure Access & Ensure Safety in the Rainforest

1. Digital & Logistics (The "No-Entry" Filters)

- **Reservation QR Code:** Screenshot saved to phone gallery (Cell service fails at KM 4).
- **Physical Backup:** Printed copy of the Recreation.gov permit.
- **Offline Maps:** El Yunque region downloaded in Google Maps or Avenza Maps app.
- **Photo ID:** Matches the name on the vehicle reservation.
- **Gas Tank:** At least 50% full (There are no gas stations inside the National Forest).

2. Gear & Payload (Tropical Survival)

- **Footwear:** High-traction trail shoes/boots (Flip-flops are a safety hazard on red clay).
- **Dry Bag:** For phone, keys, and car remote (Essential for 2:00 PM flash downpours).
- **Hydration:** Minimum 2 Liters of water per person.
- **Sun/Bug Shield:** Reef-safe mineral sunscreen and DEET-free repellent.
- **Emergency Whistle:** Attached to your backpack strap.

3. Safety Intelligence (Real-Time Data)

- **Weather Check:** Verified NOAA San Juan forecast for "Luquillo Mountains."
- **Water Levels:** Checked **USGS Station 50065500** for Rio Mameyes flow rate.
- **Gate Time:** Aiming to arrive by **8:00 AM** to beat the excursion buses.

4. Conservation Protocol (LNT)

- **Trash Bag:** Small bag packed for personal waste (No trash cans on trails).
- **Biodegradable Soap:** Only if absolutely necessary; otherwise, water only.