

# Welcome to *New Cambium!*

## **About New Cambium**

New Cambium is a 140-acre (7000 hectare) farm that was purchased in 2010 with the intention of developing it into an idyllic place for naturists to live in harmony with nature. Leaseholders have bought plots of land and have built homes, many of which are for rent. Although we have developed a central recreational area at Palm Gardens, New Cambium is still a working farm, with cattle grazing, chickens wandering through the area, and a small cacao plantation. Nature walks will take you to our own small but tranquil waterfall and swimming hole.

There simply is no place in the world like New Cambium. Enjoy your stay!

## **Your stay here**

- **Sign in:** When you arrive you will sign in at the Gatehouse and get the keys to your house. Staff will show you a map and give you directions.
- **Electricity:** The houses here were built to be as eco-friendly as possible and are powered by solar. If you use it wisely, you should have enough each day. On cloudy days please be conservative in your usage of electrical appliances so that you don't run out of electricity.
- **Water:** Water comes from a small dam on the mountain nearby, again please use it wisely. Tap water is fine for bathing and cooking. Drinking water is available in 5-gallon bottles that can be purchased in many of the "colmados" (small kiosks or stores) in the village. If you exchange your empty bottle, it costs RD\$50 per bottle (approx. \$1 US).
- **Garbage:** There are bins located at the Gatehouse and Palm Gardens.
- **Gas tanks:** We use gas for cooking and to heat water. The tanks are usually in bright orange cylinders that can be refilled at gas stations. The nearest is on the way to Rio San Juan NOTE: Do not confuse gasoline (petrol) & diesel filling stations with gas stations as they are always separate. A clue: petrol and filling stations generally have a sign showing the prices for diesel and regular.
- **WiFi:** Purchase a 4G hotspot from a provider (Altice has the best signal at Cambium) for WiFi. You can also get local SIM cards for your cell phone. Altice and Claro have stores in both Gaspar Hernandez and Rio San Juan. Diogene has a couple of hotspots for rent so let him know early if you want to rent one. Some carriers in the US offer free data roaming which is often adequate for emails and messaging purposes. T-Mobile is one example.
- **Groceries:** Many visitors stop en route from the airport to load up on supplies. Stores such as Playero and Super Pola in Sosua, or Janet's in Cabarete cater to the international community. However, Alexandra Supermercado in our local village (variously known as Magante, Villa Magante or La Yagua). It offers a small selection of staples (rice, pasta, canned goods, alcoholic beverages) and you can get good local produce at the colmados in Magante, Rio San Juan and Gaspar. There are also stands on the side of the road as well.
- **Local specialities:**
  - Pico pollo stands are common and sell rotisserie chicken and several sides for modest prices.

**There is a lot of information and photographs on our website at [www.newcambium.com](http://www.newcambium.com)**

- Queso Dominguez in Magante sells a mozzarella-like cheese, yogurt and butter. The yogurt is sweet and very creamy. You can also pre-order unsweetened if you like. Also, in Rio San Juan, a colmado up the street from the Supermercado Fermin sells “queso para freir”, a frying cheese that is very much like halloumi, but tastier.

### **Eating out**

Magante:

Playa Rogellio has a bunch of kiosks on the beach, most of which sell the traditional fish dinner of fried whole fish, salad, tostones, batata (white sweet potato), rice, and sometimes fries. With a beer, the tab is generally between \$RD 500 and \$750. Nothing is prepared ahead of time and it can take up to an hour to get your food, but it is worth it. Grab a drink and walk the beach! To get there, turn right at Alexandra Supermercado — the road takes you straight to the beach.

Rio San Juan:

*La Casita*, located on Laguna Gri-Gri, serves basic Dominican fare and Italian dishes (pasta). After 6:30pm they also serve a very good pizza. There are other eateries along the laguna as well.

*Estrella* serves basic fare as well and also is attached to a French Boulangerie, where you can get French baguettes, croissants, and pan au chocolat with really good coffee. Get there early as they do sell out. It is on the road to Laguna Gri Gri.

*La Casona* is a family run cafeteria/restaurant also on the same road.

*Pollo Guillermo*, located in the center of town, specializes in rotisserie chicken but also sells pasta, a beef stew, and other things.

### **Eating at New Cambium**

If you want to eat a prepared breakfast or lunch here, you can pre-order from the pool area or via Diogene. You need to ask the day before for breakfast, or on the morning of the day you would like lunch.

### **Get to know Diogene Martinez**

Diogene speaks English and can help you with just about anything you need. He is generally at Palm Gardens by the pool early in the morning. If you have booked your stay directly through New Cambium, he will provide you with the basics: drinking water, gas for cooking etc. If you have booked through a leaseholder (directly or via AirBnB), then he may charge for his services. Please check with the leaseholder. Diogene's phone: 1-829-515-5458. He is also on What's App, a less expensive way to communicate if you do not have a local (DR) phone.

**Note:** Wherever you are staying here, if you find anything missing or something gets damaged, please do tell us, Diogene or the leaseholder so that we can try to remedy the situation.

**We have houses and plots for sale too. Let us know if you would like to view any of them.**

## Getting here and getting around

**Airport Pickup from Puerta Plata (POP) or Santiago (STI).** We can arrange to pick you up from the airport if you prefer not to rent a car or use public transport. Another option is a taxi. Typical cost is \$70 one way from POP. If you come via Santo Domingo, Samana or Punta Cana we recommend you take a bus to Rio San Juan. From there it is a 20 min taxi ride to New Cambium or we can arrange to pick you up.

**Car rental.** Having a car here makes everything easier, and if you do rent a car make sure it has 4WD. The access road from Magante is a challenge. Even crossing the river within our site can be difficult, especially in bad weather. If you decide to rent a car for a day or two when you get here, talk to Diogene and see what he can recommend. Also, several of us have rented cars from OK Motors in Sosua, a good option for those who know in advance if they want a car. Diogene can make a car available here in New Cambium. He only has a couple, but if you want to use one occasionally let him know and one can be made available at a reasonable price, typically \$35/day.

**Public Transport.** Travel like the locals! Both small buses (“guaguas”) and public taxis (“carros”) run along the north coast main road regularly and are your best bet for getting to Rio San Juan, Gaspar Hernandez and beyond. Hail one in Villa Magante – they’re always looking out for customers. There are also motorcycle taxis (“motoconchos”) for shorter journeys, such as getting around within a town. You can get a motoconcho ride to the village or back for 50 pesos (\$1) per person. Just ask at the Gatehouse.

**Walking** around New Cambium is wonderful with roads and trails, but please take extra care during and after any heavy rains as the surfaces may be slippery. You can also walk down to the village, which is a perfect way to connect with the local residents. Do say Hola, smile and wave to our neighbours!

## The Naturist Lifestyle

New Cambium was established as a place where guests and residents could be naked without fear of judgement, and most people who visit us are already naturists. At the very least, we expect anyone who stays here to be tolerant of the naturist lifestyle.

We don't have a lot of rules, however:

- Everyone is expected to be naked when swimming in the communal pool at Palm Gardens
- Please bring a towel or sarong to place on chairs
- Do not take photos of anyone without their permission
- Overtly sexual behaviour needs to be kept inside your own property
- Enjoy the 'Hidden' beach clothes free but be respectful of others you may encounter. Public nudity is illegal in the Dominican Republic.

Enjoy your time at **New Cambium**, you are most welcome, we love having you visit. Do come back again and maybe, like us, you will want to stay longer next time. Also leave us a review on the website if you feel inclined. At [https://www.newcambium.com/about\\_us](https://www.newcambium.com/about_us)

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