

Gandul Groceries: A Guide to Food Availability and Accessibility in Gandul



Comprehensive guide to various grocery stores in El Gandul. Helping you locate local sources of fresh food.

★ Gandul Community Center ★



THIS WORK WAS PRODUCED BY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN THE WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (WPI) GLOBAL PROJECTS PROGRAM. FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[HTTP://WWW.WPI.EDU/ACADEMICS/UGRADSTUDIES/PROJECT-LEARNING.HTML](http://www.wpi.edu/academics/ugradstudies/project-learning.html)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PR 24D PROJECT:

[HTTPS://WP.WPI.EDU/PUERTORICO/PROJECTS/MAR-APR-2024/GANDUL/](https://wp.wpi.edu/puertorico/projects/mar-apr-2024/gandul/)

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Preface

THIS BROCHURE CONTAINS DATA COMPARING PRICE, QUANTITY, QUALITY, AND OTHER SHOPPING FACTORS IMPORTANT TO THE GANDUL COMMUNITY.

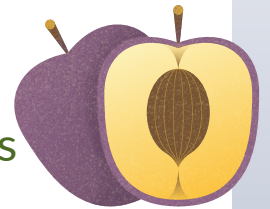
THE IMAGES AND ADDRESSES OF THE STORES HELP READERS KNOW WHERE TO PURCHASE GROCERY ESSENTIALS AND AT WHAT PRICE. THE BROCHURE IS MEANT TO ENCOURAGE COST-EFFECTIVE, LOCAL SHOPPING FOR PARTICULAR GROCERIES. WHILE COMMERCIAL CORPORATIONS OFFER CHEAPER PRICES, THEY ARE FARTHER AWAY FROM GANDUL, AND TAKE BUSINESS AND WEALTH AWAY FROM THE AREA.

THE BROCHURE PROVIDES INFORMATION FOR OBTAINING FOODS THAT ARE NOT PRODUCED IN THE COMMUNITY HYDROPONIC GARDEN. THIS BROCHURE IS DESIGNED FOR PARENTS, ELDERLY, AND VULNERABLE ADULTS LIVING IN GANDUL. BROCHURES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED FROM CORPORACION LA FONDITA DE JESUS OR THE GANDUL COMMUNITY CENTER.



Table of Contents

01	Preface
02	Table of Contents
03-04	Map of Gandul
05	Food Analysis Table
06	Store Analysis Table
07-08	Individual Store Descriptions
09	Additional Information and Honorable Mentions
10	Special Acknowledgments





Food Analysis Table

Grocery Stores in Gandul

Foods	Metropolitan Food Center Santurce Colmado WIC	Santurce Baby Food Center and Mini Market WIC	Quisqueya	Carnicería Jibarito	Walmart
Oranges	3 Oranges (\$5.00)	3 Oranges (\$7.00)	N/A	N/A	1 lb (\$1.86)
Plantains	N/A	N/A	\$1.59 each	\$1.25 each	1 lb (\$0.98)
Eggs (1 Dozen)	\$3.99	\$5.99	\$4.75	\$4.39	\$3.28
Potatoes	N/A	5 lbs (\$7.00)	1 lb (\$1.50)	1 lb (\$1.00)	1 lb (\$1.28)
Bread Loaf	\$3.29	\$2.89	N/A	\$4.19	\$2.94
Meat	12 oz Canned Corned Beef (\$5) [\$0.42 per oz]	12 oz Canned Corned Beef (\$6.79) [\$0.57 per oz]	1 lb Fresh Ham (\$10.50) [\$0.66 per oz]	12 oz Canned Corn ed Beef (\$4.89) [\$0.41 per oz]	12 oz Canned Corned Beef (\$4.44) [\$0.37 per oz]
Rice (3lb Bag)	\$2.69	\$2.79	\$2.50	\$2.99	\$1.74
Water	24 Bottles (16.9 oz each) (\$3.00)	24 Bottles (16.9 oz each) (\$5.00)	1 Gal Bottle (\$1.50)	24 Bottles (16.9 oz each) (\$4.99)	24 Bottles (16.9 oz each) (\$3.57)
Canned Black Beans	\$1.99	\$1.32	\$1.29	\$1.25	\$1.58
Cheese	12 oz Sliced Cheddar (\$3.00)	16 oz Sliced Cheddar (\$5.79)	N/A	N/A	12 oz Sliced Mozzarella (\$3.28)
"Canasta Básica" (Total spent for the same items)	\$16.67	\$21.89	\$20.54	\$18.51	\$14.61

*FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SELECTIONS VARIED ACROSS ALL STORES, HENCE WHY COMPARATIVE DATA FOR FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES WAS NOT INCLUDED

*FRESH MEAT WAS NOT AVAILABLE AT ALL STORES

*PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE SALES TAX

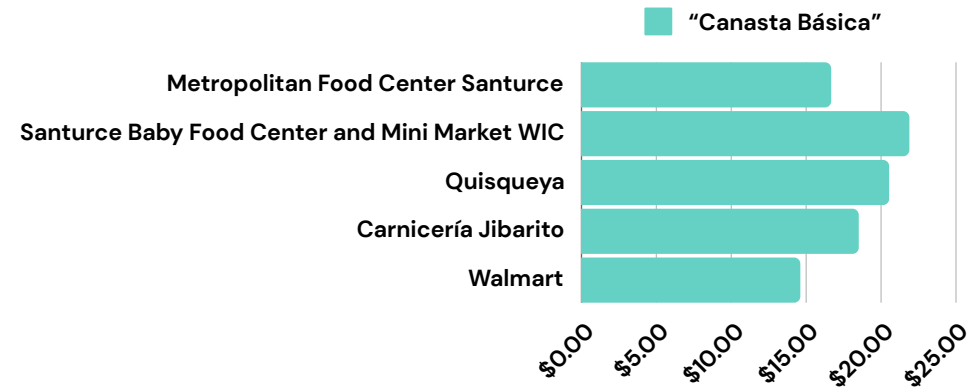
*PRICES REFLECT MARKET PRICE DURING MARCH/APRIL, 2024

**TOTAL OF EACH FOOD ITEM FOR EACH STORE

Shopping Analysis Table

Grocery Stores in Gandul

Shopping Factors	Metropolitan Food Center Santurce Colmado WIC	Santurce Baby Food Center and Mini Market WIC	Quisqueya	Carnicería Jibarito	Walmart
General Price Point	\$	\$\$\$	\$\$	\$\$	\$
Distance from Gandul Community Center	0.2 miles	0.2 miles	150 feet	500 feet	0.4 miles
Availability of Fresh Vegetables	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	High
Availability of Fresh Fruit	Low	Moderate	Low	Moderate	High
Ownership	Public	Public	Family-Owned	Family-Owned	Public





01

Santurce Baby Food Center and Mini Market WIC

Government owned store Funded by the Puerto Rico Department of Health
Address: 956 Avenida Las Palmas, San Juan
Hours:
Monday – Friday: 9am – 6pm, Saturday: 10am – 3pm



One large room with 4 aisles stocked with cleaning and cooking supplies, baby supplies, canned goods, frozen foods, and a larger array of fruits and vegetables. The produce appears fresher compared to the Metropolitan WIC store when this team visited in April 2024, however the prices for all goods are higher here.

02

Carnicería Jibarito

Family-owned shop by local Gandul resident: Ignacio
Address: 636 Calle Monserrate
Hours:
Monday-Friday: 8am-3pm; Saturday: 8am-12pm



One large room with three, well-stocked aisles of snacks, canned foods, and water. There is a small refrigerated section in the back of the store as well. The fresh vegetable selection was small, but there were many fruits available that appeared fresh and healthy.

03

Metropolitan Food Center Santurce Colmado WIC

Government owned store Funded by the Puerto Rico Department of Health
Address: 913 Calle Cerra, San Juan
Hours:
Monday – Saturday: 8am – 5pm



Medium-sized store with 2 rooms and 2 large aisles, this store sells mostly snacks, canned goods, baby supplies, and some frozen foods. The fruit and vegetable sections are limited, but there are good discounts and combos offered each month.



Individual Store Descriptions

04

Quisqueya

Family Owned
Address: 787 Monserrate Street, San Juan
Hours:
Monday – Friday: 6am – 6pm, Saturday: 6am – 8pm, Sunday: 6am – 12am

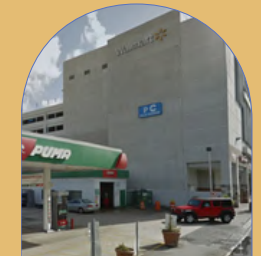


One-room bodega on the corner of Calle Elisa Cerra and Calle Monserrate. Sells some canned vegetables, few fresh vegetables, and alcoholic beverages. This store is open often and for many hours each day. Closest to the Gandul Community Center.

05

Walmart

Large-scale Commercial Company (Privately owned)
Address: 701 Avenida Roberto H. Todd, San Juan
Hours:
Monday – Sunday: 6am – 11pm



By far the largest and cheapest store, Walmart has 2 floors and a large variety of fresh foods, canned goods, cleaning supplies, and medicines. However, it is the farthest from the community and represents an external corporation.



Additional Information and Honorable Mentions

- **Oriental Market Inc.** (1202 Avenida Manuel Fernandez Juncos, San Juan)
Hours:
Tuesday – Friday: 1pm – 9pm
Sunday – Monday: 1pm – 12am
- **Asia Market** (1262 Avenida Manuel Fernandez Juncos, San Juan)
Hours:
Monday – Saturday: 11am – 7pm,
Sunday: 1pm – 7pm
- **Sam's Club** (1045 John Fitzgerald Kennedy Expy, San Juan)
Hours:
Monday – Friday: 10am – 8pm
Saturday: 9am – 8pm
Sunday: 10am – 6pm

Oriental Market Inc. and Asia Market are located near the Gandul neighborhood, selling cooking supplies and East-Asian ingredients. Both stores did not sell certain groceries which were considered essential for this study (milk, meats, and fruits etc.). Thus, price data for these stores was not collected. However, these are worth noting because residents could purchase snacks or groceries here.

Sam's Club is mentioned since many Gandul residents frequently purchase grocery foods from here based on interview responses for this community. The prices and details for this store were not collected because it is far from the Gandul community. And an online membership must be purchased for entrance to shop at Sam's Club. These two factors make Sam's Club less accessible compared to local stores.

Special Acknowledgements

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ALL STORES THAT PARTICIPATED IN THIS STUDY

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WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THE CONNECTIVITY AMONG RESIDENTS OF GANDUL AND TRULY FELT WELCOMED BY THE COMMUNITY.

