



The Taíno's were the native indigenous people present in Puerto Rico, then known as Borikén, when it was "discovered" by Christopher Columbus in 1493. The Taíno society was a hierarchy with the cacique at the top and women likely exercise power as well.

The Taíno's cultivated the land and made little impact on the surrounding land. They cultivated corn, achiote trees, tobacco plants and chili. They were also hunters. They were animist in their religious beliefs and family was their basic unit.

Sadly, the Taíno's did not survive the Spanish conquest, but Puerto Ricans proudly carry their genes in our blood as well as African and Spaniard genes. Many artifacts survive the Taíno culture. If you visit Puerto Rico, I recommend checking the Taíno route.  
[www.discoverpuertorico.com](http://www.discoverpuertorico.com)