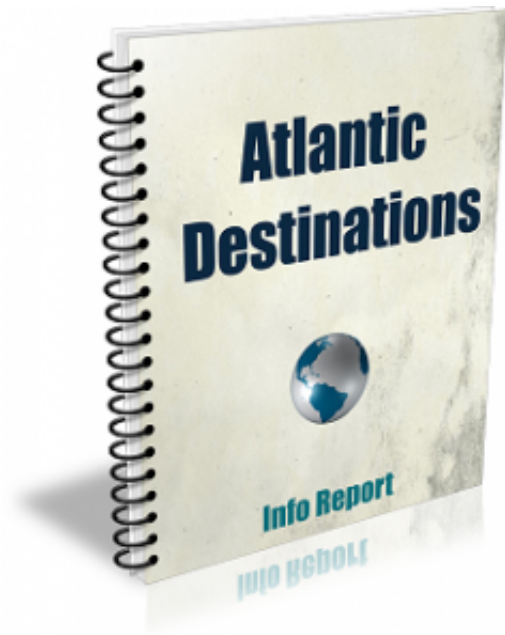


# Atlantic Destinations

by admin

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## **Bermuda Travel Tips**

If you love heat, then you will adore Bermuda. Bermuda has a climate of heat, humidity, and warm winds to make every beachgoer's dream come true.

### Communication in Bermuda

If you are looking to find a relaxing, restful vacation but still need connection to the outside world, you are in luck.

Telecommunications in Bermuda are among some of the fastest, most reliable anywhere. If you are in need of internet services (even wireless), or fax and telephone service, you will feel secure knowing that the island of Bermuda although quaint has what it takes for your business needs.

## Financial

Money in Bermuda has the same status as the United States dollar. There are plenty of ATMs found on the island of Bermuda so there is no need to worry about having to exchange money if you are not from the United States.

Cash is a great way to bargain with the locals for their local and traditional goods.

## What to Wear

Typically, since Bermuda is hot and humid, dressing lightly and with light layering for evening breezes are a good idea. Gentlemen may need a sport jacket for evening attire and ladies may wish to bring a lightweight sweater for evenings out, as well.

Expect to wear your bathing suit much of the time during the day, with shorts and a cover-up. This way, if you choose to partake in a water activity, you will be appropriately dressed.

## Gaining Entry

Gaining entry to Bermuda will require a round trip ticket. Travelers must have an up-to-date passport showing citizenship and the right to regain entry into their country of origin. Check for rules and regulations for children, as they will need a passport as well.

For some, birth certificates and marriage certificates are necessary for travel, as maiden names change when married. Check with the proper authorities to be certain you have the correct and most up-to-date information. Then double-check that information.

## Travel Deals

Be sure to check with your local travel agent or surf the web for great travel deals to Bermuda. Make sure you do a compare and contrast on the different deals and then contact hotels and airfare directly.

Often times when you travel off-season or with a group, you will reap tremendous rewards on a great deal. Also, if you are a first-time visitor, feel free to mention that. You never know, you may just get a lot more Bermuda for a little less money.

### **Consider a Cruise to the Bahamas**

Since the Bahamas is comprised of many islands and cays with a tropical climate, many vacationers visit the Bahamas throughout the year. If you are considering a visit to the Bahamas, perhaps a cruise would be the perfect way to travel.

There are many things to do and see in the Bahamas and here are a few things you should know before you go.

#### **What You May Need**

The wonderful idea behind a cruise is that you will not need to bring as much as if you were staying at a hotel. For the most part, a cruise includes all your basic necessities such as toiletries and does not have the same restrictions as air flight. Airlines have placed restrictions on goods that are more than a few ounces in weight. Check with your local cruise facility to see what, if any, restrictions may apply.

Be sure to dress properly for warmer climate. Sunscreen and a sunhat may be items you wish to bring along for your protection. Most cruise ships also have fewer restrictions on how much luggage you can bring aboard. Check with your cruise facility to see what their rules may be.

Your passport is essential for your travel to the Bahamas. Make sure that you have a safe place to keep it and remember where that place is. Many times we pack something away for safekeeping and have done such a good job securing it that we forget exactly where we have put it.

Be aware of fees associated with non-cash purchases. If you are purchasing a beverage plan with your cruise, you want to make sure that you have enough cash on hand for things such as excursions and island shopping. Often times, you will have a better negotiating handle when you are using cash.

You may also want to look into a calling plan that incorporates international usage. Check with your cell phone carrier to inquire what they offer and for what duration. Unfortunately, for some travelers, some business just will not wait. Check your carrier to see if they offer internet service in the cabin.

## Travel Time

The Bahamas typically have a temperate climate all year round. Most of the activities center on the water in the Bahamas. Snorkeling, scuba diving, swimming, and sunbathing are just among the few activities on the water.

Spring through fall have typically fine weather to enjoy the Bahamas, with winter being a bit more chilly. Some golf enthusiasts enjoy golfing in the winter in the Bahamas, as the weather is a bit cooler.

## The Sea

Hurricane season is most prevalent from early spring throughout the end of November in the Bahamas. The peak for hurricanes is typically August and September. If you are not afraid of traveling and possibly having a change of plans, you will find rates much cheaper during this time of year.

Whether you have taken a cruise to the Bahamas before or not, being prepared

as on any other vacation will ensure smoother sailing as you go along.

## **Cuba: Many Reasons to Visit**

Cuba is a country comprised of one large island and many smaller islands in the Caribbean. Cuba is most well known for its lovely warm climate, lively music, and exciting culture. Of course, there is also traditional fare, classic Mojitos, Cuban cigars and history.

There are many exciting reasons to visit Cuba - warm weather, spotless beaches, and an energized nightlife are only a few. The people and culture are as warm as the weather and there are many sights to see in Cuba, as well.

### **Beach Scene**

Cuba's beaches are known for their snowy white sand and glistening sea. Playa Paraiso and Playa Sirena are two beachfronts worth adventuring. Water sports are exhilarating here as well. Palm trees, coves, and the natural view from the boardwalk made the beach scene in Cuba delightful.

### **Historical Settings**

Old Havana is a great place to visit. It has the restorative sites for which Cuba is well known. The Museum of Revolution will give you insight to the history of Cuba. Old Havana is steeped in history regarding the Cuban Revolution. Here you can find out more about Che Guevara and how he was a pop culture icon.

### **Nightly Entertainment**

The place to be after a hot day in the sun or an exhilarating bout of water sports is the Vedado district. Here you can capture the sound of jazz music and the wafting scent of a good Cuban cigar. The Buena Vista Social Club will find



you enjoying the sounds of Cuban music with perhaps a backdrop of traditional salsa beat. You may even find yourself dancing the night away under the stars.

## Food and Beverage

Be sure to try the traditional Cuban fare offered in many of the eateries there. Traditional dishes such as ceviche, which is fish marinated with lime, or ropa vieja, which is a traditional shredded beef stew, are found in many of the beachside venues. Of course, while you are dancing the night away to the salsa beat and listening to Cuban music, do not forget to top off your evening with a Cuban cigar and the traditional drink of Cuba, the Mojito.

As you can see, Cuba is a combination of many things to soothe the soul. Sparkling sea, sandy beaches, history, tradition, culture, traditional food, and drink all await you should you choose to visit Cuba.

## Curacao

Curacao is an island located in the Caribbean. One of the nicest things about Curacao is the fact that it is not as prone to hurricane season as the rest of the islands.

Vacationers are a little more at ease traveling to this particular island due to the fact that it is less inclined to tropical storms.

In addition, Curacao has a little something extra if you are looking for a unique vacation destination. Curacao has some very interesting sightseeing in addition to the tradition vacation amenities such as sand and surf.

## Things to Do and See

While many other islands have beaches, bars, restaurant, and night life, Curacao offers more in the way of parks, aquariums, and sightseeing in

addition to these other basic vacation treats.

\* Christoffel National Park is a great place to visit where you can view the Boca Grandi. The Boca Grandi is home to the caves where the Arawak Indians left their grand paintings. You can also rest at the highest point in Curacao atop of Mt. Christoffel and take in the breathtaking view for a while.

\* Curacao Sea Aquarium is a wondrous place for singles, couples, or families. Here you can interact with a friendly dolphin. If you choose to do so, you must book ahead of time as these activities fill up quickly.

\* Hato Caves is an adventure in and of itself. Coral and limestone in all their natural glory are here for you to view. Stalactite and stalagmite formations dripping from the caves along with pools and waterfalls make for a spectacular time in these caves.

\* Curacao Marine Park is a coral and Marine Park is made for snorkeling and diving excursions. This is an underwater dive park with plenty of opportunity for straight dives.

\* Fort Amsterdam hosts several shops, restaurants, and the Governor's Palace, while Fort Nassau is open for tours with restaurants that sit atop the bay.

Of course, Curacao hosts snow-white sandy beaches and calm sparkling water where you can fully experience what it means to rest and relax. And water sports abound in Curacao.

Shopping, dining, and nightlife are abundant in Curacao, too. Downtown cafes and seaside terrace restaurants are plentiful in Curacao with a budget to suit every need. Whether you are on a romantic excursion or traveling as a family, there will be something for everyone.

While there are many places to visit in the Caribbean for sun, surf, wine and dine, Curacao offers a little something extra in that it is unique in its own right.

## **Getting to Know the Culture of Barbados before You Go**

Many individuals will plan a vacation around excursions, things to do, and activities such as sightseeing. However, a new trend is developing wherein people want to explore a territory not just for their activities but also for their culture, as well.

To say that Barbados culture has its own distinct ways is an understatement. Food, music, and architecture leave visitors to Barbados wanting to return for more of that old-world charm.

### **Foods of Barbados**

The food of Barbados combines an eclectic mix of Indian, African, and British flair. One of the most well-known dishes in Barbados is that of flying fish. Flying fish have the gift of leaping out of the water and glide through the air. While this type of fish may not look very appealing, as a primary dish served in Barbados, you are sure to try it while there. You can try it either fried or steamed.

Another well-known dish associated with Barbados is coucou, which consists of corn flour and okra. Since this dish was inexpensive during its early history, it has remained a staple of Barbados diet. It is not uncommon to see a dish made of flying fish accompanied by coucou.

### **The Rhythm and Beat of Barbados**

In Barbados, where there is food, there is music. Music is integral to the people of Barbados. Part of the reason you will always see smiling faces there is due to their love of music. Forms of music such as calypso, jazz, and reggae are the

most well-known in Barbados. It is almost impossible not to feel the unique beat of the reggae sound as you find yourself moving to the rhythm. Once you start, you will not stop.

### The People Who Make Up Barbados

If the delightful food and the rhythmic music are not enough to charm you, then the people that make up Barbados surely will.

Upon first meeting a native of Barbados, you will see that these enchanting folk simply love life. They consider life to be a gift and one that is worth enjoying every moment of.

For most natives from Barbados, warmth and inspiration take precedence over worry.

The people that make up Barbados are engaging, friendly, enchanting, and always smiling. One interaction with an individual from Barbados and you will discover that they have captured the secret to life.

So if you are considering a trip to this enchanting land, make sure to soak up the culture. You never know, you may come home dancing and smiling too.

### **Looking for Romance? Look no further than Antigua**

If your destination vacation is to escape to a romantic rendezvous, then look no further than Antigua. Antigua has all the benefits of a perfect vacation with sugar sand beaches and azure waters, but it also specifically caters to the romantic soul in you.

There are many places to visit in Antigua but to get the most out of your

romantic getaway, here are the top three.

## Sandals Grande

Sandals Grande Antigua is well known as the most romantic getaway in Antigua and for very good reason. Besides the miles of white sandy beach, the warm sun, and turquoise waters, the Sandals Grande offers every amenity the romantic soul could wish to have.

\* The Honeymoon Rondoval is a cone-shaped building that has all the privacy a honeymoon couple could ever desire. It is surrounded by a garden oasis and comes complete with your own private plunge pool. These rondovals are equivalent to your own private piece of paradise.

\* Traditional Caribbean design mixed with intricate and sophisticated detail combine to make every aspect of your surroundings as authentic and sensual as you can imagine at the Caribbean Grove.

\* The Mediterranean Village combines an eclectic mix of sophistication found in the most opulent of palaces. Fine furnishings and materials from the world's most exquisite destinations are combined with the backdrop of Antigua's glorious beaches, palm trees, and magnificent water.

The finest dining and an all-inclusive atmosphere will leave you pampered, refreshed, and more in love than ever.

## Cocobay

Cocobay Resort in Antigua exudes romance. The combination of water and beach hues mixed with the custom traditional pastels of Antigua make for an enchanting romantic view. Having the resort on the sunset side of the island makes romance first on the agenda.

Besides serving romance, Cocobay also provides the perfect spot for your

destination wedding.

You can have your own private, exclusive wedding with your choice of garden, beach, or terrace overlooking the water. Then, you can retreat to the exquisite and unique accommodations that are steeped in traditional Caribbean architecture in either a cottage or a plantation house set atop a hill.

At Cocobay you can be sure that you will be surrounded by tranquility, beauty, and romance.

### Galley Bay Resort & Spa

Galley Bay is one of the most romantic spots in Antigua, known for its relaxing atmosphere and laid-back style. If you and your honey are looking forward to some rest and relaxation to rekindle your fire, then Gally Bay Resort & Spa is the place to go.

With all inclusive pricing set on a backdrop of Caribbean culture, sparkling water, and plush gardens, Gally Bay is automatically geared up for romance.

Add in the opulent spa for relaxing and pampering treatments, and you have a combination of romance fit for a king and queen.

### **New Adventures in Aruba**

Whether you have been to Aruba before or going for the first time, adventure waits for you. There are so many new things to see and try every time you visit, you will not be at a loss for new adventures in Aruba.

From beaches to water activities and fine dining to shopping, there is a bevy of activity in Aruba. In addition, if you are not seeking much in the way of activity, there are exquisite things to do in search of nothing more than rest and relaxation.

## Glorious Beaches of Aruba

The most raved about beach in Aruba is the Palm Beach. There is nothing on Palm Beach you cannot find to satisfy your vacation needs. Palm Beach offers a few miles of pure beachfront and calm, tranquil waters.

If you desire relaxation, you can find it on Palm Beach. If you are in search of a little more excitement, beachfront bars and water sports await the more adventurous side of you. Top it off with fine dining and shopping true to the native culture of Aruba, and you have a mix of many wonderful adventures.

Eagle Beach and Manchebo Beach are also popular among visitors for many of the same reasons as Palm Beach. The water is calm enough for exquisite snorkeling on these beaches while Boca Prins and Dos Praya boast mighty waves and currents from the ocean. These beaches have access by off-road vehicles and are usually favorites of hikers and horseback riders.

## Underwater Activities

The Atlantis Submarine is a tour you do not want to miss. In just under an hour, you will see marine life and coral reef up close and personal without having to don scuba equipment and a snorkel. Imagine being in a submarine and taking in the sights and sounds of an underground world.

Sail on Aruba's calm waters to a perfect locale for your snorkel excursion. Marine life, reef, and perhaps even an old shipwreck await your discovery.

## Above Water Activities

Catamaran Cruises – There may be no better way to take in the view of the water than aboard a catamaran cruise. You are close to the sparkling blue water as you sail along, perhaps into the sunset.

Seaworld Explorer is the best of both worlds. You can board a vessel that sails along above sea level while its underbelly submerged for spectacular views for which all the Caribbean Sea world is famous. You will even see the famous World War II shipwreck known as “The Antilla.” Not only will you see beauty in these waters, you will also view a part of history.

Just visiting Aruba and partaking in its glorious water activities whether below or above water and on the beaches is enough to get you started on your next Aruba adventure.

## **The Most Favorable Time of Year to Vacation in the Caribbean**

If you are thinking about taking a Caribbean vacation, it is wise to investigate the different climates and tourist activities during different months there. Some months may have more tourists and be more expensive while other months may have less activity, but also more inclement weather.

### **During the Winter Season**

The winter season is the most popular for a Caribbean destination vacation. Everyone and anyone living in colder climates look to this vacation destination for escape from the bitter cold and snow.

If you are planning to vacation during the winter season, it is best to plan many months ahead of time. The closer you get to the season, the more expensive traveling to the Caribbean will be on all fronts. Hotels, cruises, activities, and even dining are all more expensive during this time.

It is also important to note that vacating during the winter season is also more crowded.



## A Holiday in Springtime

During the springtime, the Caribbean is usually sunny and warm with typically very little rainfall. Since the winter season has passed, there are fewer tourists heading to the Caribbean and you will find that the prices are a bit more reasonable. In an effort to bring more business to this destination, tourist destinations usually lower their prices a bit.

You can find a good deal and perfectly beautiful weather if you plan ahead.

## Summer Fun

The summer season is typically less crowded as compared to winter and spring; however, there is still quite a buzz of activity since many workers do not have time off from work until this time of year; however, it is much less crowded.

Weather is typically more rainy in June, and hot and humid in July and August. If you were in need of a relaxing vacation in the Caribbean, this would be the time to go.

## Hurricane Season

If you are concerned about hurricanes in the Caribbean, you should know that hurricane season typically runs from early June to mid-November. You may wish to do extended research on past hurricanes, including how often they occur and when to expect them most, before planning your visit to the Caribbean.

Whatever season you are planning to visit the Caribbean, do your research, speak with friends, and get the advice of a travel agent. You may also decide to try a mini-vacation for your first time out.

A little legwork now will ensure a well-deserved vacation later.

## **The Top Three Things to Do in Anguilla**

If you are planning a trip to Anguilla, especially for the first time, it is a great idea to acclimate yourself on things to do and what to expect. To say that Anguilla offers sugar sand beaches and azure waters is merely not enough.

There are so many activities to do and things to see in Anguilla that you will never be at a loss for action and excitement. The great thing about Anguilla too is that it offers something for everyone – whether you are there for romance or for a family adventure.

### **Rendezvous Bay**

Just a few short miles of pristine beach and jewel-colored water and you will experience paradise at Rendezvous Bay. There is no fee to enter and Rendezvous Bay offers live music for your entertainment as well.

If you are looking to retreat from all the buzzing activity of the most populated tourist activities and attractions that are in Anguilla, then Rendezvous Bay is the perfect spot. Here you can truly appreciate the meaning of rest and relaxation.

Not only is the water beautiful, it is also calm. It would be no surprise to see people sunning, swimming, and picnicking here at Rendezvous Bay. There is also the well-known hot spot for music, drinks, and entertainment known as Dune Reserve. This is a laid-back bar venue with drinks and music for your pleasure and entertainment.

### **Shoal Bay East**

The best way to describe Shoal Bay East is to say that it has beaches, bars, and plenty of water activities such as snorkeling and scuba diving. Include parasailing into the mix and you have a pretty good picture of what this beach

has to offer.

Shoal Bay East is free and probably one of the more popular beaches. If you like to be with the in crowd, then Shoal Bay East is the destination beach in which to head.

## Dune Preserve

Bankie Banx, a well-known reggae performer in the Anguillan area, has a special treat for those who visit his Dune Preserve restaurant and lounge. Entertainment in the form of live music, good food, and beachside drinks will keep you coming back for more.

Just the atmosphere alone and the laid-back attributes of Dune Preserve are enough to enchant you leaving you with memories of when you can return next.

For those who have not yet visited Anguilla, these are only the top three things to do in Anguilla. There are so many other things to do in the form of water activities, laid-back beaches and fine dining. Do not for a minute forget the culture of Anguilla as just another way to enchant you for years to come.

## **What Is So Special about the Cayman Islands?**

There are many unique things about the Cayman Islands; however, one of the most interesting is the eclectic mix of diverse settlers originally found there. These original settlers came in the form of pirates and sailors.

While you will not see any original pirates, there are many hidden treasures in the Cayman Islands that make them unique unto themselves. Here are just a few:

## Beaches

Seven Mile Beach is the Grand Cayman Islands' biggest tourist attraction. This particular stretch of beach was given the distinct honor of being known as the "Caribbean's Best Beach." And for good reason.

Here you can go for a long stroll on a beautiful beach and take in sights such as the many open-air restaurants and beachside bars. You can listen to music, sunbathe, and swim. Reefs located throughout these waters are perfect for first-time snorkelers.

Cayman Kai is another amazing attraction, especially for those seeking the beach experience that it is off the beaten path. Snuggled away on the northern tip of Grand Cayman Island, water sports, glorious water views, and a scenic lagoon are all awaiting to enchant you.

## Diving

Not only is Grand Cayman known for being the best beach, it is also world renowned for being one of the best places for diving. Grand Cayman is also known as the place of origin for diving. There are many sites to choose from and excellent visibility goes beautifully hand in hand with the most exquisite array of colorful marine life.

There is no place else like it in the world for the most breathtaking diving you can find.

## Stingrays: Up Close and Personal

Imagine having a city named after you – then imagine a city named after stingrays. Stingray City in Grand Cayman is unique in that you can enter the stingray's natural habitat, meet, and greet them up close and personal.

What an experience it would be to meet a stingray while standing in the crystal clear waters of the Caribbean. Nowhere else can you have an experience this close in as natural a habitat as this one.

What is also unique about Cayman Islands is that you do not have to spend all your time in or near the water. Golfing, spas, shopping, and dining abound here and are just as exquisite as the ocean around them.

Incorporate nightlife into your planning and you will be delighted to find sunsets that rival any other. Restaurants and beachside bars that serve rum only made in the Cayman Islands are a treat in itself.

Add in music and laughter as the perfect backdrop for those sunsets and you will see what is so special about the Cayman Islands.

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