



# Caribbean Islands

## Travel Guide

### Travelling To & From

**Airport Procedures** - Be sure to check in for your flights about 12-24 hours prior to travel through the online app or website.

**Arrival Procedures** - At customs, your passport will be verified, and you'll be asked about your reason for travel - for vacation and leisure, of course!

### Getting Around

**Transfers** - If you elected to have a transfer company take you from the airport to your hotel, locate your driver who most likely has your name on a sign near the designated pick-up area at the airport.

**Cabs** - If you didn't elect for a transfer, locate the cab pick-up area at the airport and offer them your destination's address. There will be taxi service available at designated terminals.

**Rental Cars** - Car rental is contingent on availability. It's a great idea to book a rental in advance.

**Walking Around** - Around your resort or hotel, you'll find shops, restaurants, entertainment, and more. Make sure to pack reasonable footwear and sandals for walks along the beach.

### Currency

**Cash** - The Eastern Caribbean Dollar is used in the Islands. It's a great idea to exchange cash at your bank for a small fee prior to your trip, rather than at the airport or in destination for a much larger exchange fee.

**Credit** - Call your card company and banks before you travel to advise them of your travel dates and destinations. Some fees and restrictions may apply. Please note that sometimes you can use international ATMs for a fee.

**Tipping** - At villas, a 5-10% service fee may automatically be included. Many guests additionally tip 5-20% but this is optional. Additionally, a 10-15% charge is included at restaurants, but feel free to tip more to thank for exceptional service.

### Communications

**Language** - Spanish-speakers are common in the Caribbean islands, but English is widely spoken, especially in the tourist industry.

**Cell Phones** - Be sure to let your cell phone provider know of your travels. International travel packages may need to be purchased for service.

### Packing

**Clothing** - The Caribbean Islands have a tropical climate, so you can expect hot and sunny weather year-round, with a rainy season from May to October.

**Accessories** - Pack binoculars, umbrellas, ponchos/rain jacket, and leave valuables at home. Plan excursions in advance to know for certain what to bring along.

**Bagging Arrangements** - Bring backpacks/day bags for souvenirs; keep valuables close by.

### Healthy & Safety

**Hydration** - Keeping yourself hydrated is crucial. While you may not feel the effects of the heat right away, dehydration can quickly catch up to you while in the Caribbean.

**Be smart in the sun** - Here there's a potentially harsher sun, much comparable to a desert terrain. Wear sunscreen and proper sun protection gear like hats and sunglasses.

**Activities** - You can soak up the relaxation as much as you want, or choose to enjoy an excursion booked with in-destination tour guides.

### Technology

**Internet** - Some areas provide public Wi-Fi like in restaurants and hotels.

**Device Protection** - Keep electronics stored in a cool, dry space at all times.

### Emergencies

**Emergency Number** - While most islands use 911 for their emergency number, the emergency number varies by island, so always check for certain prior to travel.

**US Embassy** - A great safety resource for the Caribbean is: <https://bb.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/>

**Travel Protection** - Should you need to file a travel protection claim, you will most likely be reimbursed on a credit card for approved claims. See travel protection policies for details.

**Travel Staff** - Should you need help with anything along your stay, contacting front desk services can be very helpful.