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One Happy Island
 EXPERIENCE. EXPLORE. DISCOVER

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CARIBBEAN SEA



★ General Information

LANGUAGES Papiamento, Dutch, English, and Spanish.

CURRENCY Aruban Florin. US Dollars accepted (conversion rate varies from 1.75 to 1.80). Major credit cards widely accepted. Personal checks from abroad not accepted.

TEMPERATURE Average 82° F/28°C.

TIME Atlantic Standard Time year-round

POPULATION 110,000+ inhabitants, representing more than 96 nationalities.

ATM SERVICES Widely available around the island, dispensing Aruban Florins, with some also dispensing US dollars.

SERVICE CHARGE/TIPS Tipping is at your discretion. Some restaurants and hotels include a service charge that is shared among the staff.

TAXES Government taxes totaling 6% are either added to or included in the price of goods and services. Hotels have additional taxes and service charges (varying from 19 to 22%).

DRINKING WATER Yes, you can drink tap water! Aruba's drinking water meets the highest quality standards of the World Health Organization.

SUN PROTECTION
Although our trade winds are cooling, please protect yourself from the sun's strong rays with hats, sunglasses, and sunscreen. To protect our coral reefs, please use mineral-based, reef-safe sunscreens.

TRANSPORTATIONS
Aruba's main bus terminal is located in downtown Oranjestad, with bus stops and regular service throughout the hotel areas. Taxis and car rental companies are widely available. Do not park in any of the yellow-lined spaces in the downtown area, as those are reserved for permit holders.

PLASTIC BAG
In 2020, Aruba made a big step in its sustainability goals, officially banning single-use plastics, including plastic bags, plastic/Styrofoam cups, plates, and food containers, as well as plastic straws, stirrers, and utensils.

★ Emergency Numbers

FIRE DEPARTMENT 911
POLICE 100
AMBULANCE 582-1234
DR. HORACIO ODUBER HOSPITAAL 527-4000
AIRPORT REINA BEATRIX 524-2424

★ Recommended Beaches

The following beaches are popular for relaxing, sunning, and swimming:

ARASHI

Touted for its crystal-blue water, sugary white sand, well-kept public palapas, and picturesque view of the California Lighthouse.

BOCA CATALINA

A popular snorkeling spot with excellent underwater visibility and a close-to-shore reef to explore.

TRES TRAPI

Tres Trapi is unique for all of the colorful starfish you will find there when snorkeling as well as for the turtles that like to pass by and eat. Be sure not to touch them and admire them from a safe distance.

MALMOK

Located along the northwest coast's limestone terrace, the snorkeling at this beach is excellent.

HADICURARI/FISHERMAN'S HUT

This beach is one of the best flat-water windsurfing locations in the world, with several board-sports operators offering lessons and rentals.

PALM BEACH

This popular beach is home to a variety of diving and watersports operators, piers, and beach bars.

EAGLE BEACH

TripAdvisor's #7 beach in the world features crystal clear waters and immaculate sand that stretches for miles.

DRUIF BEACH

Is directly connected to other beaches in the Eagle Beach area, together forming a miles-long stretch of white sand beaches. It's the excellent setting for day-long beach fun, water sports and unique beach walks with the most amazing ocean views.

SURFSIDE BEACH

Surfside Beach Boasts a long, narrow strip of beach, ideal for gatherings and picnics under the trees and calm waters that make this area an excellent playground for SUP paddle boarding, canoeing and such.

MANGEL HALTO

Named for its dense network of mangroves, the beach here opens to an inviting expanse of shallow, clear water.

RODGER'S BEACH

This local beach skirts a reef-protected bay that proves ideal for swimming and lounging in a peaceful atmosphere.

BABY BEACH

Wrapping around a shallow, calm lagoon, this beach is ideal for families.

★ Action & Adventure

With its laidback, island vibe, Aruba is certainly an ideal place to simply relax on one of our pristine beaches, but if adventure and exploration are part of your vacation agenda, the island offers many exciting activities by land and sea!

LAND ACTIVITIES

GOLF

Aruba's diverse landscapes and near-perfect weather set the scene for hitting the greens. Tierra del Sol's desert-meets-sea, 18-hole course was designed by Robert Trent Jones II. The Links at Divi Aruba offers a par-three, nine-hole course in a lush, tropical setting.

YOGA & SPA

There are a variety of yoga classes offered on the island; from early morning to sunset yoga classes on the beach or a class at one of our local studios or you can enjoy one of our relaxing spas and rejuvenate the mind, body, and soul.

TOURS

Explore Aruba's rugged countryside, coastline, and visit iconic landmarks on an organized tour. Enjoy an air-conditioned coach bus tour or Jeep safari.

HORSEBACK RIDING

Several ranches offer easy-does-it trail rides through our countryside and along the coast.

BIRDING

Some 236 registered species of local and migratory birds flutter and frolic around Aruba. The Bubali Plas Bird Sanctuary is ideal for bird-watching.

BEACH TENNIS

Is arguably one of the most popular sports on the island. Lighted courts and racket rentals are available at Tropicana Aruba Resort & Casino and Moomba Beach Bar

SKYDIVE

Tandem skydiving in Aruba guarantees an exhilarating experience at one of the most scenic drop zones in the world. Soaring from 10,000 feet up, brave souls are rewarded with a free-fall at 120 mph while harnessed to an experienced instructor.

ATTRACTIONS

Whether it's discovering the flora and fauna at the Butterfly Farm, Ostrich Farm, Donkey Sanctuary, Arikok National Park and Phillip's Animal Garden or enjoying a day of fun in the sun at De Palm Island, Aruba has a diverse selection of attractions to visit.

SEA ACTIVITIES

SNORKELING & DIVING

Aruba boasts several close-to-shore reefs that are ideal for snorkeling and shore diving. Divers can also explore a variety of shipwrecks and plane wrecks teeming with sea life.

SAILING

There are several sailing vessels offering snorkel and sunset excursions along our stunning coastline.

SEA BOB

Hydrodynamic underwater scooters allow riders to experience vibrant coral reefs.

PARASAILING

Take flight and enjoy a bird's-eye view floating over the sea.

SUBMARINE ATLANTIS

Submarines takes passengers to depths of 150 feet to explore brilliant reefs and sea life.

DEEP SEA

Fishing Aruba's waters are home to a variety of game fish, including sailfish, marlin, amberjack, and wahoo. Half- and full-day excursions can be chartered.

WINDSURFING & KITESURFING

Aruba's clear, calm seas and steady trade winds make Aruba a top destination for windsurfing and kitesurfing.

KAYAKING & SUP

Organized kayaking and paddle boarding tours can be enjoyed at scenic spots like Mangel Halto.

★ Museums, Tours & Park

ARIKOK NATIONAL PARK

Arikok is a nature, research, and education preserve that encompasses nearly 20% of the island. Explore local flora and fauna, caves, the Natural Pool, and 20 miles of hiking trails.

MUSEUMS

Aruba's museums reflect the lifetime passions of dedicated collectors, historians, and archaeologists. Island guests are invited to step within these museums, including the National Archaeological Museum--with artifacts dating back to 2500 BC, and the Museum of Industry--housed in the San Nicolas Water Tower, to learn more about Aruba's past.

TOURS

Learn more about Aruba through personal, interactive tours like the Aruba Aloe Museum & Factory Tour that details aloé cultivation on the island; discover the desalination process behind our famed drinking water during the WEB Water Plant Tour; or explore the brewing process of our local beers with a tour and tasting at Balashi Brewery.

ARUBA DOWNTOWN WALKING TOURS

Stroll through historic downtown Oranjestad in the company of a knowledgeable local guide, enjoying tastes of our local cuisine along the way.

ARUBA MURAL TOURS

Downtown San Nicolas features a fascinating street gallery of murals painted on dozens of buildings and structures.

★ Shopping

From the resort areas and upscale malls to the store-lined streets of the City Center, Aruba offers a bountiful selection of modern shopping complexes, as well as a potpourri of unique boutiques and emporiums. Here is your guide to making the most of our shopper's paradise!

CITY CENTER ORANJESTAD

Oranjestad, the island's original shopping mecca, is livelier than ever. Hop on one of our trolleys and journey through City Center's vast selection of shopping venues.

ROYAL PLAZA

The Royal Plaza's signature pink and white Dutch Caribbean architecture houses three levels of shops and dining.

RENAISSANCE MALL

Home to elite luxury retailers, dining, and a casino.

RENAISSANCE MARKETPLACE

Anchored by the City Center marina, a lively atmosphere prevails in an al fresco venue that features an array of shops, dining, and entertainment.

MAIN STREET

Luxury retailers and quaint boutiques line this street's historic architecture.

HIGH-RISE AREA

There always seems to be a buzz in the air--especially in the cooler evening hours when the streets are filled with strolling vacationers and locals.

PASEO HERENCIA

A gorgeous fountain featuring nighttime liquid fireworks is surrounded by international and local retailers and restaurants.

PALM BEACH PLAZA

This striking three-level outdoor mall is the largest of its kind, featuring retailers, dining, and entertainment options.

THE VILLAGE

The Village is a colorfully captivating collection of stylish shops and restaurants. The courtyard bustles with souvenirs and local crafts for sale in a festive market setting. This outdoor plaza comes to life after dark with live entertainment mingled with shopping and dining.

LOW-RISE AREA

ALHAMBRA CASINO & SHOPS

This breezy outdoor plaza invites visitors to stroll amongst an array of unique boutiques and dining options.

★ Speak our Language

Although most Arubans speak English, Spanish, and Dutch, it's always fun to greet them with a few local phrases in our local language of Papiamento

BONBINI	Welcome
UN SUNCHI	A kiss
BON DIA	Good morning
CON TA BAY?	How are you?
BON TARDI	Good afternoon
MI TA BON	I am fine
BON NOCHI	Good evening
HOPI BON	Very good
DANKI	Thank you
MI TA FELIZ	I am happy
DI NADA	You are welcome
BIDA TA DUSHI	Life is good

FreestyleTravelers.com

MY PROMISE TO



I will help preserve this island for generations to come and be a mindful and responsible visitor

I will respect land, sea, and nature, leaving only footprints that wash away

I will move around safely, attentive to all rules and norms, being sensible to all who call this island their home

I will honor the local culture and embrace the One Happy Island spirit

I will behave sensibly on social media and will share with care

SCAN HERE!



AND MAKE YOUR PROMISE TODAY!

