

# Abacos, Bahamas









# **MARSH HARBOUR AIRPORT**

Airport Code: MHH Bahamasair has direct service from Palm Beach, FL.

# TREASURE CAY AIRPORT

Airport Code: TCB Gulfstream/Silver and United have direct service from Fort Lauderdale.

Continental and USAir service both Treasure Cay and Marsh Harbour.



DAY 1: Marsh Harbour ... Little Harbour (14NM)

Decompress on the sundeck, tropical drink in hand and emerald islands bedecking the horizon. You are headed to the beautiful sandy beach and protected anchorage of Little Harbour, where frolicking dolphins and sea turtles, great reef snorkeling and fishing await. Kayak to blue holes, some with half mile tunnels, and others that "boil" on an incoming tide. Explore underground caves with a flashlight. The island was uninhabited until May 1952, when a storm marooned Randolph Johnston and his family. They lived in the cliff-side caves, befriended bats and land crabs the size of footballs, soon erected a thatched hut and eventually the house and foundry that stands today. Tour the foundry to observe the ancient lost-wax process used to produce bronzes, from life-size to pint size, cast by various local artists. Pete's Pub and Gallery (Randolph's son) showcases furniture and jewelry adjacent to cold beer, good food, and walls covered with artwork for sale.

LUXURY (

LOCAL HISTORY The Story of Randolph Johnston — <u>http://www.abacoescape.com/Caves/Caves.html</u>

GALLERY Pete's Pub & Gallery — <u>http://www.petespubandgallery.com</u>





Hope Town was settled by British Loyalists who were seeking safe refuge after the American Revolution. Many of the settlers came from the Carolinas, by way of East Florida, after that area was turned over to Spain in the Peace of Paris, 1783.



DAY 2: Little Harbour ... Elbow Cay (12NM)

Hope Town, on Elbow Cay, is a Lilliputian village of gingerbread architecture, diminutive shops, mouth-watering bakeries and restaurants, all much loved for the excess of Out-Island Bahamian charm. The Wyannie Malone Museum recreates turbulent island times during the American Revolution. Further along the High Street in the above ground cemetery, tombstone epitaphs of early settlers are a poignant window to the past. Cars are prohibited here, but the hilly terrain is fun to bike or golf cart around. Climb the one hundred steps of the iconic candy-striped Elbow Reef Lighthouse for boundless views. Dating from 1863, the British Imperial Lighthouse Service was not welcomed by all of the island's inhabitants, many of whom made their living salvaging the wreckage off ships that sunk on the nearby reefs. The lighthouse burns pressurized kerosene and requires constant attention from the keeper. Stop at Firefly for an original Firefly Sweet Tea Vodka, or try a refreshing Dragon Berry at Lubber's Landing.

LUXURY

# MUSEUM

Wyannie Malone Historical Museum - http://www.hopetownmuseum.com/index.html

# **RESTAURANT & BAR**

Firefly — <u>http://www.fireflysunsetresort.com/RestaurantsAndBars/FireFlyBarandGrill.aspx</u> Lubber's Landing — <u>http://www.lubberslanding.com/index.html</u>





Man-O-War home builders are renowned for traditional wood houses built like ships: rafters and structure bolted together as in ship construction. When Grandma Mary Albury was a child, the islanders scrubbed their wood floors with tough Triggerfish skins to scour them clean.



DAY 3: Elbow Cay ... Man-O- Mar Cay (5NM)

Dangle your legs off the swim platform and spy on the domain of groupers, angel fish, barracudas, manta rays and sea turtles dodging your anchor line. Man-O-War Cay's pristine stretches of beach beckon long walks, sun worship and splashing about on the yacht toys. Tender in to the village and tie up at the local dock. The population, descendent from 18th century Loyalists, remains conservative, religious and very pro-British. There are no bars, but the Man-O-War Museum, waterfront shops and the canvas shop, merit visiting. In 1952 the Albury family launched the first hull of their finely handcrafted, custom boats. Originally smacks, sloops and schooners crafted from native Madeira mahogany and other Bahamian hardwoods, today these classic runabouts, constructed out of fiberglass, are still manufactured here. Return to your yacht as another picture-perfect day turns to dusk. Slide into a deck chair and contemplate what signature drink you'd like to be served as you watch the sun sink below the horizon.

LUXURY

# MUSEUM

Man-O-War Heritage Archive - http://www.mowmuseum.com/Welcome.html

**RESTAURANT** Dock & Dine, Man-O-War Cay waterfront, Tel: 242-365-6139







The Sea of Abaco is ideal for those new to yachting or prone to motion sickness. Protected by islands, islets and reefs, the water is very calm and so shallow that many areas can only be accessed at peak tide.

Bahamians use two bow anchors to guard against tricky cross currents and wind changes.



DAY 4: Man-O-Mar... Fowl Cay... Great Guana Cay (7NM)

Cruise to Fowl Cay Preserve for excellent diving and snorkeling, or tender ashore to the little white-sand beach with tidal pool, a delight for children and non-divers. Anchor off Great Guana Cay Harbour, or dock at Baker's Bay Marina for upscale amenities including boutique shops, infinity pool, fitness center and waterfront restaurant and bar. The island boasts an astonishing 5½-mile beachfront and the third largest coral reef in the world, just 50 feet offshore. The forest protects rare birds, including Abaco parrots, white-crowned pigeons and white-tailed tropic birds. The village of (Captain) Kidd's Cove has a couple of businesses, a church, a one room schoolhouse, and tiny clapboard houses with gingerbread cornices, pastel shutters and picket fences enclosing tidy gardens. After a gourmet lunch on board, launch the Jet Skis for a run to Nippers, renowned as the best party hangout in the Abacos, day and night. Dive the reef just offshore, and then beach the PWCs, order a Nippers Juice, and enjoy the revelry.

# **RESTAURANTS, BARS, NIGHTLIFE**

Baker's Bay Marina — <u>http://bakersbayclub.com/marina</u> Nippers Beach Bar and Grill — <u>http://www.nippersbar.com</u>





# MAN.

The people of New Plymouth today are the descendents of the original English, Welsh and Scottish settlers, mostly named Curry, Lowe, Russell, Roberts, Saunders and Sawyer. As a result of generations of intermarriage, many faces are confusingly similar: freckled, blue eyed, redheads and blonds.



DAY 5: Great Guana Cay... Green Turtle Cay (13NM)

Anchor outside Green Turtle Cay harbor, keeping a lookout for playful dolphins. Surrounding your yacht, colorful reefs and coral gardens in 15-20ft of water are ideal for snorkeling, diving and bone fishing. Shelling on the powder-soft beaches and offshore sandbars is among the best in the Bahamas. Explore lush forests, secluded inlets and oft empty beaches like Coco Bay, a crescent beach shaded by Casuarina pines. New Plymouth architecture with steep-pitched roofs recalls a colonial New England seaport. Visit the Memorial Sculpture Garden, opposite the New Plymouth Inn, patriotically landscaped in the pattern of a Union Jack flag. The Albert Lowe Museum in a beautifully restored Loyalist home animates the island's dramatic history. In the basement, paintings by famous local artist Alton Lowe, and other folk artists, are for sale. Join yachtsmen and private pilots at The Green Turtle Club, famous for the Tipsy Turtle, or The Bluff House Marina. Both have deluxe facilities, fine dining and live music most nights.

LUXURY

# MUSEUM

Albert Lowe Museum, Parliament St

RESTAURANT, BAR, ENTERTAINMENT Green Turtle Club — <u>http://greenturtleclub.com/marina-yacht-club</u> Bluff House Marina — <u>http://www.bluffhouse.com</u>







600 Revolutionary War refugees from New York founded Carleton, the first Loyalist settlement in the islands near today's Treasure Cay Resort. The Loyalist heritage remains strong among these descendents, called Conky Joes. They opposed the politics of Bahamian independence and tried to secede and form their own British colony, traveling to England to solicit the support of Queen Elizabeth II.



DAY 6: Green Turtle Cay... Treasure Cay (7NM)

Treasure Cay Beach, Marina and Golf Resort fronts one of the world's favorite, white-sand beaches. You will likely tender ashore, as the marina entrance is only accessible at high tide. For fishing enthusiasts, both fly fishing and big game fishing are big lures on Treasure Cay, with Marlin, tuna, yellow fin, snapper, barracuda, grouper and Wahoo abundant offshore. Tender to nearby Mermaid Reef for great snorkeling. For a change of pace, enjoy a game of tennis or round of golf on the 6,985-yard Dick Wilson course, favored by PGA superstars. Tour a local organic farm, or explore one of the many Blue Holes by canoe. Take a break to meet new friends at the Tipsy Seagull pool bar or the Coco Beach bar. For any incidentals, the resort community has shops, a bank and medical services. The Treasure Sands Club, just outside the property, is the favorite of locals and visitors for cocktails and dining.

# RESORT & MARINA Treasure Cay — <u>http://treasurecay.com/marina</u>

The Tipsy Seagull - <u>http://treasurecay.com/dining/the-tipsy-seagull</u>

RESTAURANT & BAR Treasure Sands Club — <u>http://www.treasuresandsclub.com</u>









Garbanzo Beach got its name from a group of young California surfers who in the mid-1960s waited out a storm to catch the best waves and had nothing to eat but Garbanzo beans.

DAY 7: Treasure Cay ... Elbow Cay (18NM)

Take a sunrise walk on Treasure Cay beach while the crew launches all the toys for a morning commune with the sea. Enjoy a leisurely lunch on board, with spectacular views from the sundeck, as you make the passage from Treasure Cay to Elbow Cay. Dive or snorkel the Hope Town reef, just 30 feet off the beach, to see Elkhorn and brain coral and plenty of schooling fish. Surfers will want to head to Garbanzo Beach on the east side of Elbow Cay for breathtaking views of the Atlantic and the best surfing in the Bahamas. Go ashore in late afternoon for last minute souvenir shopping and a tropical beverage. Galleries and shops selling locally produced artwork, handicrafts, jewelry and clothing epitomize traditional West Indies charm. Tonight your crew hosts a magnificent theme party to create the most memorable finale to an extraordinary charter experience.

LUXURY J

# GALLERY

Hummingbird Cottage Art Centre - http://www.hopetownart.com

# RESTAURANT, BAR, ENTERTAINMENT

Harbour's Edge Restaurant and Bar — <u>http://www.harboursedge.net</u> Captain Jack's — <u>http://www.capnjackshopetown.com</u>









Game fish tournaments lure sportfish enthusiasts from around the globe. Annual competitions include the Great Abaco Beach Resort's Wahoo Tournament, the Abaco Beach Blue Marlin Invitational, and the prestigious 40-year-old Bahamas Billfish Tournament.



DAY 8: *Elbow Cay* ... Marsh Harbour (3NM)

Before departing on your flight from Marsh Harbour, take time to stroll downtown along "restaurant row", or through shops running the gamut from kitschy souvenirs to fine art and jewelry. Book the evening flight to spend an extra day exploring the blue holes, Hole in the Wall Lighthouse and Sandy Point. Hire a car or taxi and set out on the paved and graded highway to explore settlements with colorful names; Fire Road, Mango Hill, Red Bays, Snake Cay and Cherokee Sound. Take advantage of the upscale facilities at Abaco Beach Resort and Boat Harbour Marina. This sportfishing headquarters is a beautiful spot for drinking and dining with a view, or to take a refreshing swim at the pool or beach. Take a paddleboard tour, a rejuvenating massage, or linger at the bar savoring your final, farewell, Goombay Smash.

# RESORTS

Abaco Beach Resort & Marina - http://www.abacobeachresort.com/index.php





# BAHAMAS: Regional Guide



# **OFFICIAL CURRENCY**

Bahamian dollar but United States dollars are accepted everywhere, currently at 1:1 exchange rate.

# **OFFICIAL LANGUAGE:** English

# TIME ZONE

UTC/GMT - 4 hours/Eastern Daylight Time.

# **DRESS CODE**

Dress is casual, but proper attire (shirts and shoes) should be worn in public areas. Bathing suits are worn only at the beach or pool.

# DRIVING

Bahamian motorists drive on the left side of the road as in the UK and British rules apply. Driving is considered challenging in urban centers.

ECONOMY: Tourism, Finance



# **ELECTRIC CURRENT:**

Outlets are 120V 60Hz, which is identical to the U.S. and Canadian standard. There may be some non-grounded and non-polarized outlets that will require an adapter. British and European appliances require a flat two-pin adaptor and 220-volt converter.

# When to visit:

The Bahamas averages between 75°F and 84°F and is a year around destination. Peak season is December to April; June to November is hurricane season with increased precipitation especially in September and October. March through mid-April attracts throngs of spring-breakers, particularly to Nassau resorts.

CLIMATE DATA FOR THE BAHAMAS													
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
Average High °F	77	77	79	81	84	87	89	89	88	85	82	78	83
Average Low °F	64	65	66	69	72	76	77	77	76	74	71	66	71
Average Rainfall (inches)	1.9	1.7	1.6	2.6	5.2	7.0	6.0	6.7	7.1	6.7	2.8	1.7	50.6

# FLIGHTS

Flight Information to Nassau/Paradise Island: www.nassauparadiseisland.com/getting-here

# Flights to Abacos:

www.abacoescape.com/aircarriers/aircarriers.html

Image A, B, G, J, L, N, O, P, and front cover: Abaco Beach Resort | Image C: bvitourism.com | Image D: Lubbers' Landing Image E and back cover: Baker's Bay Marina | Image F: John James Audubon | Image H: Bluff House | Image I: Green Turtle Club | Image K. Treasure Cay Beach, Marina & Golf Resort | Image M: "Hummingbird Cottage" by Brigitte Bowyer 0



www.bahamas.com

THE ISLANDS OF THE



# LUXURY Alacht GROUP

# The Bahamas beckons...