

🌴 Nassau, Bahamas Cruise Port Guide

Your Complete Guide to Beaches, History, Shopping & Island Adventures



Nassau is one of the Caribbean's most visited cruise destinations, welcoming millions of visitors each year. As the capital of the Bahamas, Nassau offers a perfect mix of tropical beaches, fascinating history, colorful colonial architecture, world-class resorts, shopping, and unforgettable island adventures.

Whether you're looking to relax on a white-sand beach, swim with marine life, explore historic forts, or spend the day at Atlantis Paradise Island, Nassau truly has something for everyone.

📍 Welcome to Nassau Cruise Port



Cruise ships dock at the beautifully renovated **Nassau Cruise Port** at **Prince George Wharf**, just steps from downtown Nassau.

Within walking distance you'll find:

- Restaurants
- Duty-free shopping
- Straw Market
- Local vendors
- Historic landmarks
- Museums
- Taxis
- Excursion operators
- Visitor Information Center

One of Nassau's biggest advantages is that many attractions are easily accessible on foot.



Things to Do Within Walking Distance



Straw Market

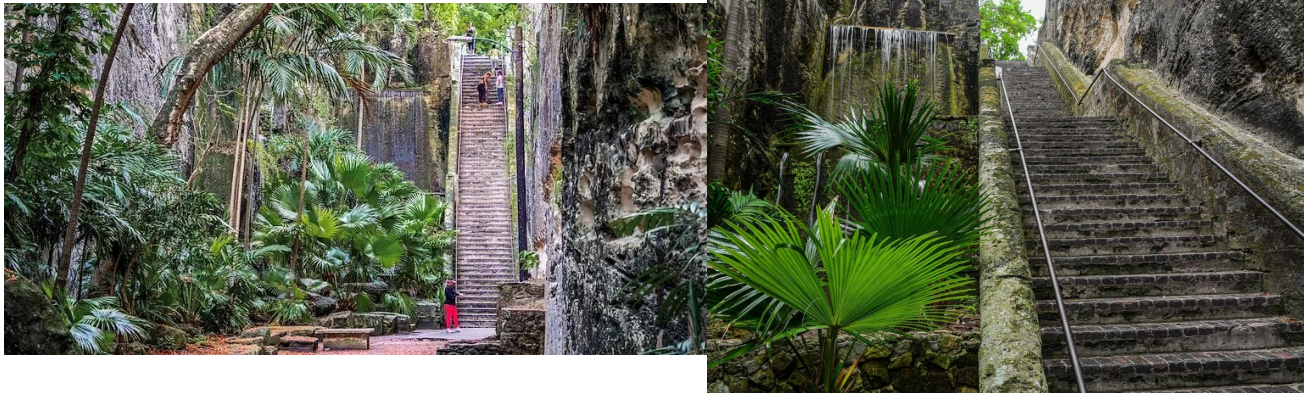


A must-visit shopping destination featuring:

- Handmade straw bags
- Wood carvings
- Bahamian artwork
- Jewelry
- Souvenirs
- Local crafts

Friendly bargaining is common.

Queen's Staircase



One of Nassau's most famous landmarks.

Carved from solid limestone in the late 1700s, the 66-step staircase leads to **Fort Fincastle** and provides one of the island's most photographed locations.

Fort Fincastle

Built in 1793 to defend Nassau Harbor.

Visitors enjoy:

- Historic cannons
 - Harbor views
 - Local history
 - Photo opportunities
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Christ Church Cathedral

The oldest church in the Bahamas and an important part of Nassau's colonial history.

Beautiful Beaches

Junkanoo Beach



Located about a 15-minute walk from the cruise port.

Enjoy:

- Calm water
- Beach chairs
- Umbrella rentals
- Local food vendors
- Beach bars
- Water sports

A great option if you don't want to book an excursion.

Cable Beach

Known for:

- Powder-soft white sand
- Crystal-clear water
- Luxury resorts
- Water sports

Approximately 15 minutes by taxi.

Cabbage Beach

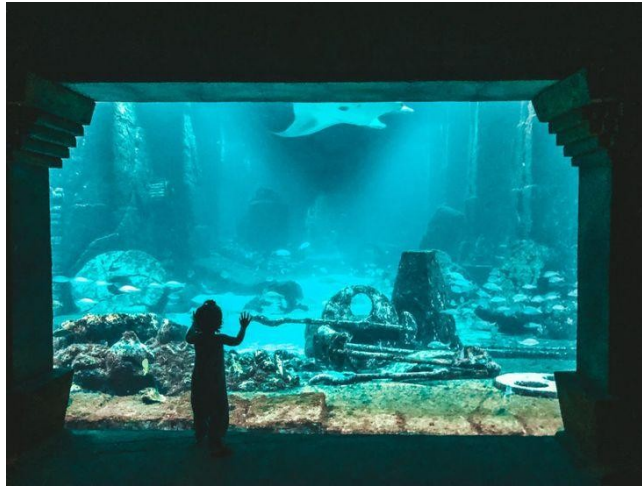
Located on Paradise Island.

Often considered one of the Bahamas' most beautiful beaches.

Top Shore Excursions

Atlantis Paradise Island





Nassau's most famous attraction.

Choose from:

- Aquaventure Water Park
- Marine Habitat
- Dolphin Cay
- Beaches
- Casino
- Fine dining
- Shopping

This is one of the Caribbean's premier resort destinations.

Swimming Pigs

Several excursions allow visitors to meet and swim with the famous Bahamian pigs on nearby islands.

One of Nassau's fastest-growing excursion experiences.

Snorkeling Cruises

Popular snorkeling sites feature:

- Coral reefs
- Tropical fish
- Sea turtles
- Crystal-clear water

Many tours include drinks and beach time.



Catamaran Sail & Beach Break

Enjoy:

- Scenic sailing
- Snorkeling
- Private beaches
- Relaxation

Perfect for couples and families.



Blue Lagoon Island

A favorite family excursion featuring:

- Dolphin encounters
 - Sea lion encounters
 - Beautiful beaches
 - Water toys
 - Calm swimming areas
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John Watling's Distillery

Sample locally produced rum while touring one of Nassau's historic estates.



Shopping

Nassau is one of the Caribbean's best shopping destinations.

Popular purchases include:

- Duty-free jewelry
- Watches
- Perfume
- Rum
- Cigars
- Handmade crafts
- Bahamian artwork

Bay Street offers dozens of shopping opportunities within walking distance.

Local Food to Try

Don't leave Nassau without trying:

- Conch fritters
- Cracked conch
- Bahamian lobster
- Peas and rice
- Johnny Cake
- Guava Duff
- Rum Cake
- Sky Juice
- Fresh seafood

Popular restaurants include:

- Graycliff Restaurant
- Pirate Republic Brewing
- Oh Andros
- Twin Brothers
- Fish Fry at Arawak Cay

Hidden Gems

If you've visited Nassau before, consider exploring:

- Ardastra Gardens & Wildlife Conservation Centre
- Clifton Heritage National Park
- Government House
- Pompey Museum
- Nassau Pirates Museum

These attractions offer a quieter and more authentic look at Bahamian history and culture.

Weather Throughout the Year

Nassau enjoys warm tropical weather all year.

Winter (December – February)

- Highs: 75–80°F (24–27°C)
- Comfortable temperatures

- Lower humidity

Spring (March – May)

- Highs: **78–84°F (26–29°C)**
- Sunny skies
- Excellent beach weather

Summer (June – August)

- Highs: **87–91°F (31–33°C)**
- Warm and humid
- Afternoon showers possible

Fall (September – November)

- Highs: **82–88°F (28–31°C)**
 - Warm water
 - Fewer crowds
 - Lower humidity by late fall
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Hurricane Season

Official hurricane season runs from:

June 1 – November 30

Peak activity usually occurs:

- August
- September
- October

Cruise lines closely monitor tropical weather and frequently adjust itineraries when necessary.

Travel insurance is always recommended.

Transportation

Getting around Nassau is easy.

Options include:

- Walking
- Taxi
- Water taxi to Paradise Island
- Shore excursions
- Local buses ("jitneys")

Many major attractions are located within walking distance of the cruise terminal.

What to Pack

Bring:

- ✓ Swimsuit
 - ✓ Reef-safe sunscreen
 - ✓ Sunglasses
 - ✓ Hat
 - ✓ Comfortable walking shoes
 - ✓ Beach towel (if needed)
 - ✓ Waterproof phone pouch
 - ✓ Small cash for shopping and tips
 - ✓ Reusable water bottle
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Premium Travel Group Tip

Nassau is one of the easiest Caribbean ports to explore on your own thanks to its walkable downtown and excellent transportation options. If it's your first visit, consider exploring the historic district before heading to the beach or Paradise Island. Returning visitors may enjoy discovering Nassau's lesser-known attractions, local restaurants, or nearby snorkeling adventures.

Continue Planning Your Caribbean Adventure

Continue exploring with our helpful guides:

- [Grand Turk Cruise Port Guide](#)
 - [Freeport Cruise Port Guide](#)
 - [Caribbean Vacation Planning Guide](#)
 - [Western Caribbean Vacation Guide](#)
 - [Eastern Caribbean Vacation Guide](#)
 - [Vacation Packing Guide](#)
 - [When to Visit the Caribbean](#)
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Why Visit Nassau?

Nassau offers one of the Caribbean's best combinations of history, beaches, shopping, and adventure. Whether you're walking through centuries-old forts, enjoying fresh seafood at Arawak Cay, relaxing on Cabbage Beach, or spending the day at Atlantis Paradise Island, Nassau delivers a memorable experience for first-time visitors and seasoned cruisers alike.