

HN Mahogany Bay Cruise Port Guide

Your Complete Guide to Carnival Corporation's Exclusive Roatán Cruise Destination



Mahogany Bay is Carnival Corporation's exclusive cruise destination on the beautiful island of Roatán, Honduras. While it isn't a private island, it is a **purpose-built cruise port** designed specifically for guests sailing with **Carnival Cruise Line, Princess Cruises, Holland America Line, Costa Cruises, and Seabourn**.

Located on Roatán's southern coast, Mahogany Bay offers visitors the best of both worlds. You can spend the day enjoying the beautiful beach, shopping, restaurants, and attractions within the port, or venture beyond the gates to discover everything Roatán has to offer—including world-famous snorkeling, sloth sanctuaries, ziplining, and island tours.

Many guests never leave Mahogany Bay, while others use it as the perfect gateway to explore one of the Caribbean's most beautiful islands.

Where Do Cruise Ships Dock?



Cruise ships dock directly at the modern Mahogany Bay Cruise Center.

The port features:

- Shopping village
- Restaurants
- Bars
- Excursion meeting areas
- Taxi stand
- Guest services
- Beach access
- Chairlift station

Everything is well organized and easy to navigate.

Explore Mahogany Bay



Even if you don't leave the port area, you'll find plenty to enjoy.

Highlights include:

- Shopping village
- Local crafts
- Duty-free stores
- Beach bars
- Restaurants
- Live music (select days)
- Beautiful tropical landscaping

The atmosphere is relaxed and family-friendly.

★ Top Things to Do

🏖️ Mahogany Beach



One of the biggest advantages of Mahogany Bay is its beautiful beach, located just a short walk—or chairlift ride—from the cruise center.

Features include:

- White sand
- Calm Caribbean water
- Complimentary beach chairs
- Beach bars
- Water sports
- Excellent swimming

Many guests spend the entire day here without ever leaving the port.

🚠 Magic Flying Beach Chair



One of Mahogany Bay's signature attractions.

This scenic open-air chairlift carries guests from the cruise center to Mahogany Beach while providing panoramic views of:

- Cruise ships
- Caribbean Sea
- Beach
- Tropical landscape

Walking to the beach takes about 10 minutes, but many visitors enjoy riding the chairlift for the experience alone.



Relax by the Water

Spend your day enjoying:

- Beach loungers
- Tropical drinks
- Swimming
- Paddleboarding
- Kayaking

Perfect for guests looking for a stress-free beach day.



Explore Roatán

Mahogany Bay also serves as an excellent starting point for excursions across the island.

Popular options include:

- Island sightseeing tours
 - Wildlife parks
 - Snorkeling
 - Beach clubs
 - Ziplining
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★ Popular Shore Excursions Beyond the Port



If you choose to leave Mahogany Bay, some of Roatán's most popular experiences include:

🦋 Wildlife Sanctuaries

Visit rescue centers featuring:

- Sloths
- Monkeys
- Macaws
- Parrots

Important: At the time of this guide, Honduran regulations no longer allow visitors to hold sloths. You can still observe these amazing animals and often enjoy other wildlife encounters while supporting responsible conservation efforts.

🏖️ West Bay Beach

Frequently ranked among the Caribbean's finest beaches.

Known for:

- Crystal-clear water
 - White sand
 - Outstanding snorkeling
 - Beachfront restaurants
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🌊 Mesoamerican Barrier Reef

Roatán sits along the **second-largest barrier reef system in the world.**

Excursions include:

- Snorkeling
- Scuba diving

- Glass-bottom boats

An unforgettable experience for marine life lovers.

Island Tours

Explore:

- Local villages
 - Scenic overlooks
 - Chocolate factory
 - Rum cake factory
 - Roatán sign
 - Local markets
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Zipline Adventures

Fly above the tropical rainforest while enjoying incredible island views.

Shopping

Within Mahogany Bay you'll find:

- Local artwork
- Handmade crafts
- Honduran coffee
- Rum cake
- Jewelry
- T-shirts
- Beachwear
- Souvenirs

Prices are generally fixed, although you'll often find additional shopping opportunities beyond the cruise port.

What to Eat

Within the port and around Roatán, try:

- Fresh seafood
- Coconut shrimp
- Baleadas
- Grilled lobster (seasonal)
- Conch fritters

- Tropical fruit
 - Honduran coffee
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Hidden Gems

Many guests head directly to Mahogany Beach.

If you have extra time, consider:

- Walking around the marina
 - Exploring the quieter waterfront paths
 - Taking the chairlift both directions for different views
 - Enjoying lunch overlooking the water before returning to the ship
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Weather Throughout the Year

Mahogany Bay enjoys warm tropical weather throughout the year.

Winter (December – February)

- Highs: **80–84°F (27–29°C)**
- Lower humidity
- Excellent beach weather

Spring (March – May)

- Highs: **83–88°F (28–31°C)**
- Warm and sunny

Summer (June – August)

- Highs: **87–91°F (31–33°C)**
- Hot with occasional afternoon showers

Fall (September –November)

- Highs: **84–89°F (29–32°C)**
- Warm temperatures
- Lush tropical scenery

Trade winds help keep the island comfortable throughout the year.

Hurricane Season

The Atlantic hurricane season officially runs from:

June 1 – November 30

Peak activity generally occurs during:

- August
- September
- October

Cruise itineraries may occasionally be adjusted due to tropical weather.

Travel insurance is always recommended.



Getting Around

Within Mahogany Bay:

- Walking
- Magic Flying Beach Chair

Beyond the port:

- Licensed taxis
- Cruise excursions
- Private island tours

Approximate travel times:

- Mahogany Beach – **10-minute walk** or **chairlift ride**
 - West Bay Beach – **25–30 minutes**
 - Daniel Johnson's Monkey & Sloth Hangout – **20 minutes**
 - West End Village – **25 minutes**
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What to Pack

Bring:

- ✓ Swimsuit
- ✓ Reef-safe sunscreen
- ✓ Sunglasses
- ✓ Hat
- ✓ Comfortable sandals
- ✓ Water shoes
- ✓ Waterproof phone pouch

- ✓ Small cash for local vendors and tips
- ✓ Reusable water bottle

If you plan to snorkel or visit West Bay Beach, bringing your own snorkel gear can save on rental costs.

Premium Travel Group Tip

Mahogany Bay is one of the few exclusive cruise destinations where you really have two excellent choices. If you're looking for a relaxing day, stay within the port and enjoy Mahogany Beach, the shopping village, and the beautiful scenery.

If you've never visited Roatán before, however, I highly recommend venturing beyond the port. The island is home to the **Mesoamerican Barrier Reef**, incredible beaches, and unforgettable wildlife experiences that make it one of the highlights of a Western Caribbean cruise.

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- Ocean Cay MSC Marine Reserve

Royal Caribbean Group

- Labadee
- Perfect Day at CocoCay (*coming soon*)

Disney Cruise Line

- Castaway Cay (*coming soon*)
- Lookout Cay at Lighthouse Point (*coming soon*)



Why Visit Mahogany Bay?

Mahogany Bay offers one of the most convenient and enjoyable exclusive cruise destinations in the Caribbean. Whether you choose to spend the day relaxing on the beautiful beach just steps from the ship or use the port as your gateway to explore the incredible island of Roatán, you'll find plenty to love. With crystal-clear water, tropical scenery, and easy access to one of the world's greatest coral reef systems, Mahogany Bay truly combines the convenience of a private destination with the adventure of a world-class Caribbean island.



Joe's Logbook

Mahogany Bay is one of those places where there isn't a wrong way to spend your day. If all you're looking for is a relaxing beach with turquoise water and a tropical drink in hand, you never have to leave the cruise port. But if it's your first time in Roatán, I'd encourage you to explore beyond the gates.

Roatán has become one of my favorite Western Caribbean islands because of its friendly people, incredible snorkeling, and easygoing atmosphere. Mahogany Bay simply makes getting there easy. My advice is to decide before you arrive what kind of day you want. A beach day at Mahogany Bay is fantastic, but an island tour, a visit to West Bay Beach, or a trip out to experience the world's second-largest barrier reef will leave you with memories you'll be talking about long after your cruise is over.