



Bon Bini Welcome to the "One happy island"

Aruba is an island sculpted by the wind and warmed by its people, with plenty to offer to both first timers and those who return year after year. Located in the Southern Caribbean, just off the coast of South America, Aruba is 19.6 miles in length and 6 miles across its widest point and is well-known for being safely outside the hurricane belt.

- Languages:** Papiamentu, Dutch (English & Spanish widely spoken)
- Currency:** Aruban Florin or US Dollar
- Temperature:** Average 82° F year-round



Things to do

Aruba offers you miles of white beaches, a wild cunucu (countryside) and a wide variety of shopping options providing you with a diverse and unique island experience. Just a few steps away from the port you will find a wide assortment of retail shops and restaurants:

- The Main Street
- Port-of-Call Mall
- Royal Plaza Shopping Mall
- Renaissance Mall (Casino, Dining & Upscale Shopping)
- Renaissance Market Place
- Havenstraat

ATM Services

An ATM machine is conveniently located within the terminal across from the Aruba Tourism Authority's information booth. The teller dispenses Aruban Florin and US Dollar.

Transportation

The island's main bus terminal is located across the street from the cruise terminal. Aruba Tour Operators Association's (ATOAs) busses are located on port premises. Private tours are offered by Taxi's and are available outside of the cruise terminal. Independent tour operator busses and car rental services are also located right outside the terminal.



Places of interest



National Archaeological Museum Aruba: "The Adventure to Discover"
The Museum is housed in a beautifully restored former historic complex combined with modern architecture. Information of Aruba's Amerindian past is presented in a state of the art exhibition in such an interactive and exciting manner, that a visit will seem more like an adventurous exploration than an average museum visit.

www.namaruba.org



Arikok National Park: "Inspired by Nature"
A visit to Arikok National Park, the island's vast surreal outback, is a must see attraction that offers a unique journey through Aruba's fascinating natural and cultural heritage. As a visitor to Arikok National Park you personally contribute to our nature conservation, education, and ongoing research through the funding provided by the conservation fee. See you at the park!

www.arubanationalpark.org



Historical Museum Aruba/ Fort Zoutman: "Strolling through Aruba's History"
This museum is located in one of the most picturesque landmarks of our island. This Fort, which was originally completed in 1798, offered security to those who first moved to Oranjestad. It houses historical artifacts, which are laid out within the traditional building, giving the visitors a feeling of taking a brief walk in the Aruban past.

Recommended beaches

For the ultimate swimming experience we recommend the following beaches:

- Palm Beach
- Arashi Beach
- Baby Beach
- Nikki Beach
- Spies Beach



Calendar of events

January

- January 1 New Year's Day
- January-March Aruba 58th Carnival Celebration
- January 25 Betico Croes Day. Official Holiday.
- January 25 Betico Croes Memorial 10k Run & 5k Fun Walk

February

- February 11 Aruba's Tivoli Lighting Parade
- February 18 Grand Carnival Parade In San Nicolas
- February 19 Aruba's 58th Grand Carnival Parade

March

- March 18 National Anthem And Flag Day. Official Holiday.

April

- April 30 Queen's Birthday. Official Holiday

May

- May 23-28 Aruba Soul Beach Music Festival 2012

June

- June 22-28 Aruba International Film Festival 2012 (Aiff)
- June 24 Dera Gai (St. John's Day)

July

- July 3-9 26th Aruba High Winds
- July 7-8 19th Annual Aruba Reef Care Project

September

- September Aruba Piano Festival

October

- October 5-6 6th Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival 2012

November

- November Aruba In Style (Fashion Week) AIS

December

- December 5 Saint Nicolas Day
- December 25 Christmas. Official Holiday
- December 27 Dande Festival

Weekly events

Bonbini Festival

Bonbini means "Welcome!" in Papiamentu, and this weekly folkloric music and dance festival is the perfect introduction to the warmth and hospitality of Aruba's people. The BonBini Festival takes place in downtown Oranjestad every Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the outdoor courtyard of Fort Zoutman, Aruba's oldest building. Catch the flavor of the island, its history people, music and cuisine during this entertaining evening held every Tuesday from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Caribbean Festival

The Caribbean Festival takes place in San Nicolas every Thursday night from 6:00 p.m.-10 p.m., showcasing the multicultural charms of Aruba's "Sunrise City". The center of activities is a stage area in which the audience can relax and enjoy some delicious Aruban and Caribbean food and a parade of local entertainers. Closed to traffic, the main street is a pedestrian mall filled with colorful booths selling food, handicrafts and logo souvenirs with fun activities for the whole family. Packages including round trip transportation are sold at hotels.



Emergency numbers

- 911 (Police)
- 911 (Ambulance)
- 527-4000 (Hospital)
- 582-3777 (Aruba)

Share your story

You can help us enhance our "One happy island"



Tell us about your one day experience during your cruise visit: www.cruise.aruba.com/comments



Win a dream Aruba vacation!

Complete the information below and deposit it in our drop-off box at the Aruba Tourism Authority's information booth at the cruise terminal.

Name:

Last Name:

Telephone: Zip Code:

E-mail:

Cruise line: Month visited: