









Destination Guide One happy island



Welcome to Aruba! Envision pristine beaches, turquoise waters, and lazy, sun-kissed days. Picture yourself on this idyllic island where our culturally diverse and multilingual people welcome you with gracious smiles and a proud tradition of warm hospitality.

World-class resorts, fabulous culinary experiences, action-packed casinos, exciting nightlife, duty-free shopping, rejuvenating spas, and a bevy of land and sea activities and adventures combine to create the perfect Caribbean vacation experience. Expansive beaches line the picturesque waters of the Caribbean, where sailing, kayaking, watersports, and deep-sea fishing are in limitless supply. Windsurfers and kite boarders come from near and far to catch our famous trade winds in their sails, while vibrant coral reefs and sunken wrecks mesmerize divers and snorkelers with a dazzling parade of marine life.

Arikok National Park is a natural preserve of cactus-studded landscapes, rugged trails, fascinating historical sites, and indigenous wildlife. Make time for some off-road adventure; our divi-divi trees will always point the way home!

Downtown Oranjestad and the high-rise strip boast bustling malls and shopping centers with entertainment and eateries. Sunset is the perfect time to enjoy a tropical cocktail at any of dozens of beach bars. For dinner, enjoy a taste of authentic Aruban cooking or various ethnic and international cuisines prepared by talented chefs. Afterwards, casinos, trendy clubs, glittering shows, pub crawls, party boats, or just a quiet nightcap await you.

Need more reasons to travel to Aruba? Our One Happy Island invites vacationers from all over the world to experience its full lineup of some of the Caribbean's most exciting celebrations, festivals, and sports competitions throughout the year. From foodies and wine enthusiasts to music and live entertainment aficionados, travelers of all types are guaranteed to find the perfect event on Aruba's unique and fun-filled calendar.

ha com



# Getting to know us...

### Our land...

Aruba is located in the heart of the southern Caribbean, approximately 16 miles from the South American coastline. The Island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across at its widest point, with a total area of 70 square miles. Aruba's topography and vegetation are unusual for a Caribbean island. On the south and west coasts there are miles of pristine white beaches that rank among the most beautiful in the world, rimmed by calm blue seas with visibility in some areas to a depth of 100 feet. The northeast coast along the windward shore is rugged and wild. The interior is desert-like, with a variety of cacti and dramatic rock formations. The Island's most famous trees are the watapana (divi-divi) trees, all permanently sculpted into graceful southwest-bending shapes by the constant trade winds.

### Our weather...

Except for a few scattered weather events annually, and perhaps some limited showers on some days (welcomed by our tropical plants!), the sun does indeed always shine here. The average temperature is 82 degrees Fahrenheit. The greatest likelihood of precipitation is from October through January.

# Our people...

There are about 108,000 inhabitants on Aruba, representing more than 96 different nationalities—all living peacefully together. Hospitality remains a strongly ingrained tradition. Our official languages are Dutch as well as the native tongue of Papiamento. Most Arubans are fluent in English and Spanish as well. Papiamento is a lilting, melodic language, evolved over the centuries from an eclectic mix of Spanish, Dutch, and Portuguese with a sprinkling of English and French.

# Our government...

On January 1, 1986, Aruba became a separate entity within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The Dutch government is still responsible for defense and foreign affairs. Aruba's system of government is based on democratic principles. The Governor, appointed by the Queen of the Dutch Kingdom, acts as the sovereign's representative on the Island. The legislature consists of a 21-member Parliament elected by popular vote every four years. The Council of Ministers, presided over by the Prime Minister, forms the executive branch.

### Our visitors...

Aruba attracts close to one million international visitors annually and enjoys the highest return rate in the Caribbean. Perfect weather, hospitable people, and world-renowned beaches are the most compelling factors for return visits. Also important are the Island's mix of luxury high-rise and casual low-rise resorts, unique natural beauty, a rich and diverse culture, abundant land and sea activities, safety and security, and enduring friendships.

# Our history...

Aruba's earliest inhabitants arrived in small vessels about 4,000 years ago from the South American mainland. These first Indians were hunters and gatherers who lived in small, scattered groups. The crop-growing Caquetio Indians of the Arawak tribe arrived around 1000 AD and settled in three large villages. The first European to land on Aruban shores was the Spanish explorer Alonso de Ojeda, who is thought to have arrived around 1499. The Spanish exported the Indians to Hispaniola, putting them to work in the copper mines.

aruba.com

# During the years that followed, ownership of the Island changed hands several times. In 1636, near the culmination of the Eighty Years' War between Spain and Holland, the Dutch took possession and remained in control for nearly two centuries. In 1805, during the Napoleonic Wars, the English briefly took over Aruba, but it was returned to Dutch control in 1816.

In 1824, gold was discovered in Rooi Fluit on the north coast. Mining was done by hand until machinery was imported. In 1872, a large smelting works was built in Bushiribana, followed by another site 25 years later in Balashi. Gold mining ended in 1916 when World War I broke out.

Phosphate mining began in 1879, and Aruba exported the raw material until 1914. Other commercial endeavors have included the breeding of cochineal, a cactus insect that produces a coloring agent; the processing of watapana tree pods, which contain tannin; minor cultivations of silkworms, tobacco, cotton, and peanuts; and most importantly, aloe cultivation and oil refining.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Aruba's economy was largely dependent upon aloe, and one-third of the Island was devoted to plantations. With moisture-retentive clay soil yielding a product of superior quality, Aruba would ultimately become the largest exporter of aloe in the world.

In 1928, Royal Dutch Shell built the Eagle Oil Refinery, followed by Lago Oil and Transport Company Ltd. in San Nicolas. In 1932, the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey (Esso, now known as Exxon) took over Lago. There were more than 8,000 employees at the peak of refinery production in 1949.

After many challenges, the refinery closed down in 1985, opening a window for tourism, which has now become Aruba's principal industry. Coastal Oil Company (now known as Valero Energy Corporation) of Houston, Texas, reopened the refinery in 1991. In 2012, refinery operations were halted, and today the facility operates as a terminal for tankers.

\*A glimpse of Aruba from Indian inhabitation through colonial times and into the modern era can be seen at historical homes, cultural sites, and museums.

# Our flag...

Our national flag was officially adopted on March 18, 1976, along with the official anthem "Aruba Dushi Tera." The four colors each have significance: blue represents the sea that surrounds Aruba; yellow is the color of abundance, representing the Island's past and its industries of gold, aloe, and oil; red is for the love each Aruban has for the country and the ancient industry of Brazilwood; and white symbolizes the pristine, white beaches as well as the purity of the hearts of Aruba's people.

The symbols on the flag consist of a red star and two yellow stripes. The red star represents the four points of the compass, with the Island having drawn people from around the world. The star also represents the Island itself, surrounded by the beautiful blue sea. The horizontal yellow stripes denote the free and separate position Aruba enjoys in the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Arubans celebrate all that the flag and anthem have come to signify with the national holiday of Flag and Anthem Day every March 18, the same day that, in 1948, Holland accepted Aruba's right to autonomous status within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

# Tips for Tourists

# **Drinking water**

Aruba's water meets the highest quality standards of the World Health Organization. The desalination process takes place at WEB NV, the world's second largest desalinization facility, located in Balashi, resulting in the fresh water that flows directly from the tap.

### Cell phones

- Your cell phone will work here but check on roaming charges. Contact your local service provider before traveling to Aruba.
- Cellular phones can be rented at the Setar and Digicel kiosks in the airport's arrivals terminal. A deposit and proper identification are required.
- Repeat visitors may consider purchasing an inexpensive cellular phone instead of renting one.
- Teleshops are located in the hotel area.
- Phone cards can be purchased at Digicel and Setar shops, as well as at many convenient locations throughout the Island, including gas stations and supermarkets.

### Internet access

Wi-Fi is available in the public spaces and rooms of most hotels, as well as at many "hot spots" throughout the Island. For more information, please check the profile page of your resort or contact Setar at (297) 525-1000.

### **Medical facilities**

- We have a fully equipped hospital just a few minutes from the hotel sector.
- Be sure to bring all your prescription medicine with you. Foreign prescriptions cannot be filled in Aruba. It will be necessary to make an appointment with a house doctor who can provide you with a local prescription for your medicine or, if not available here, an equivalent.
- All hotels have a doctor on call 24/7; contact your hotel front desk for more information.

# Money

- US dollars are widely accepted; to change florins to US dollars, divide the florin amount in half and add 10%. This formula will be especially useful when shopping in supermarkets.
- The exchange rate for US dollars is Awg 1.77 for cash and Awg 1.78 for traveler's checks. (Awg 1.75 at supermarkets and gas stations / Awg 1.80 at shops and restaurants.)
- All major credit cards and traveler's checks are accepted.
- Personal checks from abroad are not accepted.
- Some shops will not accept US\$50 or US\$100 due to worldwide counterfeiting.

### **ATM Facilities**

ATMs are conveniently located throughout the hotel areas and throughout the island, dispensing local currency and US dollars. Amount of cash per withdrawal varies by bank and by card issuer. Below, a list of ATM locations in the hotels: Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino (lobby and casino), Brickell Bay Beach Club & Spa Boutique Hotel (in the Arawak Garden complex), Divi Aruba All-Inclusive (lobby), Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort (lobby), Divi Dutch Village/Divi Village (lobby), Holiday Inn Resort Aruba (lobby and casino), Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort, Spa & Casino (lobby and casino), Gold Coast Villas Aruba, La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino (casino and lobby), Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort (at Alhambra Casino next door), Marriott's Aruba Ocean Club (lobby), Marriott's Aruba Surf Club (lobby), Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino (lobby and casino), Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino (Marketplace and casino), RIU Palace Antillas (mini market), RIU Palace Aruba (casino), Tamarijn Aruba All-Inclusive (lobby), The Ritz-Carlton Aruba (casino, laundry, and lobby), Tropicana Aruba Resort & Casino (casino).

\*Most of the island's major shopping malls, plazas, and grocery stores also have ATMs on site.

# Service charge and tip

The service charge at a restaurant is shared among servers and kitchen staff. If there is a service charge, a tip is not obligatory, but a token amount left for excellent service is greatly appreciated. If there is no service charge, a tip is appropriate as in the US (+/-15%).

### Special needs

- Accessible rooms can be provided by the hotel reservations staffs.
- Labco Medical & Home Healthcare sells, leases, and rents medical and home healthcare products, including wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, daily living aids, and oxygen delivery systems. www.labcoaruba.com
- Adapted Happy Wheels offers products that afford accessibility and safety for those with physical limitations, including Mobi-Chair (amphibious beach wheelchair), Roll-a-Ramp, and Mobi Mat (for portable wheelchairs on sand). adaptedhappywheels@hotmail.com
- Lite Life Medicals provides vans with hydraulic lifts and a ramp, www.litelifemedicals.com
- Essential Health Supplies NV specializes in the retail and rental of home health products, www.essentialaruba.com

# Sun protection

The sun is strongest from 11 am to 3 pm. Please be sure to reapply sunscreen often and drink plenty of liquids. Sunglasses and a hat/cap are recommended.

### **Taxes**

Room tax and service charge vary at each hotel, adding an additional 19 -22% to the room bill. A government tax (BBO) of 2.5% and Health Tax of 1% is either added to or included in the price of all goods and services. There is a \$3 Environmental Levy Fee added per room per night to the current room rate and charges. The revenue generated from this levy will be used to contribute to the advancement of green technology, environmental awareness, and sustainable practices in order to reach the government's vision to transition 100% off fossil fuels by 2020.

### Time

Aruba is on Atlantic Standard Time year-round.

# US Pre-Clearance in Aruba

- Aruba provides the service of The Department of Homeland Security/US Customs and Border Protection
  to pre-clear all passengers departing on flights to the US. For the most part, passengers have only one
  stop during the inspection process. Some, however, may have to pay duty, report currency, or have their
  bags or documents inspected, which will require a second stop.
- In March of 2014, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officially designated Reina Beatrix International Airport as an authorized pre-clearance location for general aviation (GA) aircraft transporting up to 19 passengers and crewmembers.
- To allow sufficient time to clear both Aruban and US procedures, which include Transportation Security Administration (TSA) mandated screening, passengers are requested to be at the airport 3 hours prior to departure.
- Passengers are allowed an US\$800 duty-free exemption. US\$1,000 per person is dutiable at the flat rate
  of 3%.

# **Downtown Parking**

Paid parking has recently been implemented as a solution to the lack of available parking spaces. The paid parking spaces are centralized around the Caya Betico Croes, also known as Mainstreet, and made visible by white registration numbers. The yellow lined parking spaces are for employees only and are not available for regular parking.

The rate is Afl 1.00 for 30 minutes and Afl 2.00 for 90 minutes with an additional Afl .50 for each additional 15 minutes. In lieu of cash, a rechargeable SmartCard with Afl 10.00 credit can be purchased at most hotel gift shops and car rental companies.

# Travel to Aruba



### Entry requirements

Upon arrival in Aruba, a tourist must have a passport that is valid upon entry and for the duration of stay in Aruba. If the tourist holds a passport from a visa-required country, he or she must have a valid visa sticker in the passport. The maximum period of time that a person can be admitted to Aruba as a tourist is, in principle, 30 days. In a few cases, a tourist may want to stay for more than 30 days. In such a case he/she will have to submit a special petition to DIMAS (the island's department of immigration and foreign admissions services). Information about applications for extensions of stay is found on www.dimasaruba.com.

### Aruba customs

Beside articles for personal use, persons over 18 are allowed a fifth of liquor, 200 cigarettes, 50 cigars, and 250 grams of tobacco. Aruba abides by CITES regulations in monitoring against the international trade in endangered species. For example, products made from sea turtles or conch shells are prohibited from being brought in or out of the country.

### Air travel

The gleaming state-of-the-art Reina Beatrix International Airport has won numerous international accolades. For a complete airport guide including shops, restaurants, and facilities, as well as live arrival and departure times, visit www.airportaruba.com. An impressive roster of carriers and charters offer non-stop and direct service to and from the US, Canada,

South America, Europe, and the Caribbean. US-bound passengers check in at their own terminal building and have the convenience of a US Customs pre-clearance facility (one of only two in the Caribbean). There is a separate terminal for private planes, with a recently added US Customs pre-clearance facility for private plane passengers.

The airport lists carrier, gateway, and flight information on www.airportaruba.com. Here you will also find live arrival and departure times. The phone number at the airport is (297) 524-2424.

### Online ED-Card

The Online ED-Card now makes traveling to Aruba even easier. Currently you are requested to fill in the card en route to Aruba during your flight. But with the online version of the ED-card, you can fill in this form before embarking on your journey to Aruba, and can pass through customs with your printed out form. As soon you have booked your trip to Aruba, apply for your online ED-Card (must be filled out at least 48 hours prior to departure). For more information go to http://www.aruba.com/travel-to-aruba/online-ed-card.

### Cruise travel

Each week throughout the year, thousands of cruiseship passengers disembark at the Port of Oranjestad, where they are greeted by tourism representatives and activity companies positioned to introduce them to Aruba's many and varied pleasures. Cruise tourism to the Island began in the early 1950s with the visit of



the M.S. Libertador, a combination cargo/passenger ship belonging to the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (K.N.S.M), now the Nedlloyd Line. Regular visits by passenger-only ships began in 1958 and have been steadily increasing in number ever since. Aruba is now on the itinerary of most cruise lines serving the Caribbean.

The height of the cruise tourism season runs from October through April; however, numerous big ships and mega-liners visit the Island year-round. Included are Holland America Line, Princess Cruises, Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, Celebrity Cruises, and Carnival Cruises. Aruba is prepared to greet even more of the big ships with renovations and beautification plans scheduled by the Aruba Ports Authority.

For a complete cruise schedule, please contact Aruba Ports Authority by telephone at (297) 582-6633 or visit its website, www.arubaports.com. Aruba Ports Authority offices are located at L.G. Smith Boulevard 23, Oranjestad, Aruba. Make your cruise visit to Aruba the most enjoyable and memorable Caribbean cruise experience you've ever had. Take advantage of Resort Day Pass offers for families and couples who visit our shores. Visit www.aruba.com for a listing of resorts offering cruise visitors day passes, along with pricing and descriptions.

# **Getting around**

Getting around Aruba is quick and easy. Bus service to and from downtown Oranjestad and resort areas is reliable and inexpensive. Taxis are always available and have set rates. The downtown Street Car is free of charge.

### Buses

There is a daily bus service all along the hotel strip. Retour cards, Awg. 7.00 (local currency) or US 4.00, can be used for two trips (for example, from downtown to the beaches and back). The card can also be used to travel to any other part of the island.

A Baby Beach card is Awg. 14.00 or US 8.00 and can be used for transportation from Oranjestad to Baby Beach and/or Roger's Beach and back.

A day pass is Awg. 17.50 or US10.00 and is valid for one day of unlimited transportation on all the routes of Arubus across the island. Visit www.arubus.com for more information.

### Taxis

Taxis have no meters; fares are set by the government. Feel free to ask your driver to confirm the fare or show you the rate sheet. Rates are per ride and not per person. Minimum fare is US\$5. Current rates include airport to high-rise hotel area (\$25) and airport to low-rise area (\$22). Rates are subject to change. An additional \$3 charge is added on Sundays and holidays. See www.aruba.com for complete listing of taxi fares.

### Car rentals

Many visitors rent a car for at least one day to see the sights beyond resort areas. Driving is on the right side of the road, no right turns on red. Vehicles on the right generally have right of way. It is wise to familiarize yourself with road signs that differ from those in the US; most car-rental companies provide maps with a key to the road signs. After a rain, drive cautiously because roads are slick. Foreign and international driving licenses are accepted.

On the hotel side, there are paved roads and highways. There is a public parking lot behind the central bus station in downtown Oranjestad, as well as along many streets (there is a fee for public parking, payable in local currency at convenient meters). While many tour in the comfort of an airconditioned motor coach, those more daring may prefer a jeep or all-terrain vehicle. A four-wheel-drive vehicle is a good idea when venturing off the beaten path in the interior of the Island and along the windward coast.

# Land and Sea Activities



Sharp geographical differences create a unique combination of land and sea activities. Calm, glittering turquoise waters fringed by marshmallow-soft ivory beaches neighbor a national park encompassing a wild windward coast and an unsettled rugged interior. Test your endurance hiking on 20 miles of rugged trails at Arikok National Park, climbing rocks at Ayo and Casibari, or climbing 500 steps to the top of the Hooiberg, one of Aruba's highest peaks. For off-road adventure, rent a jeep, an all-terrain vehicle (or the new ultra terrain vehicles), or a mountain bike. Saddle up for a scenic or challenging horseback ride.

Wet 'n' wild fun awaits you right at your hotel beach, where you can rent Jet Skis, Sunfish sailboats, paddleboats, WaveRunners, banana boats, and motorized tubes. Walkers will enjoy a brick beachfront path along the high-rise strip. Beach tennis and volleyball are perfect for fun and fitness. Most resorts have their own tennis courts.









# Sailing

Hop aboard a pleasure boat or luxury catamaran for a day of sailing. The calm waters of Aruba's leeward coast are great for sailing, and the steady trade winds ensure favorable conditions for snorkeling adventures, sunset sails, or dinner cruises. Visit www.aruba.com for a listing of watersports activities, yacht charters, and cruises.

# Diving

Dive operators offer expert instruction and PADI and NAUI courses, including Open Water and Rescue Diver Certification, as well as basic bubble-maker and refresher courses. After learning how to deal with fins, mask, tank, and regulator, many go on to a shallow dive. Reef, wreck, and night diving can all be arranged. Be sure to bring your open-water dive certification. Aruba is known as the wreck-diving capital of the Caribbean. Along Aruba's entire south coast is a coral reef with over 20 dive sites and 11 diver-friendly wrecks, including a plane, tugboats, cargo ships, and historic vessels such as the Antilla and the Pedernales. Aruba's easily accessible reefs and shallow formations of coral will fascinate snorkelers, while diving at reefs and wrecks reveals a brilliant underwater panorama of sea life. Shore dives are possible off De Palm Island, Pos Chiquito, and Baby Beach.

# Swimming and Snorkeling

The water is calm and perfect for swimming anywhere along the seven miles of Palm Beach, in front of the high-rise resorts, and along Eagle Beach. Snorkeling locales include Boca Catalina, De Palm Island, Mangel Halto, and even some of the wreck sites where there is visibility of up to 100 feet. Watch out for very rough surf all along the northeast coast. Signs are posted at dangerous areas.

# Sea Bob

For those seeking a thrilling experience in the water, one of Aruba's newest activities is Sea Bob. This

powerful, hydrodynamic underwater scooter allows riders to enjoy Aruba's underwater world at speeds up to 15 kilometers an hour. Riders can dip below the surface of the water and glide around vibrant coral reefs along the Malmok, Boca Catalina, and Arashi coastline areas, dodging schools of colorful tropical fish along the way.

### JetLev

Soar 30 feet into the air and hover over the water with the water-propelled jetpack of the JetLev. A custom-designed, 225-horsepower engine powers the system. A flight assistant on a WaveRunner will accompany each JetLev pilot to ensure a safe and uninterrupted flight experience.

# **Parasailing**

Up, up, and away! Taking flight along the scenic coast of Palm Beach with one of the many parasailing excursions offered on the Island is a must for adventure seekers. Parasailers board a speedboat that whisks them from the shores of Palm Beach out a few hundred yards where they are launched into the sky over the azure Caribbean Sea.

### SNUBA

Snorkelers will love SNUBA, an underwater breathing system that combines snorkeling and scuba. Descend to a depth of 20 feet with your swim fins, diving mask, and breathing apparatus. Air is delivered through a long hose from tanks on pontoon rafts on the surface.

### Submarine

For a tour of Aruba's spectacular, brilliantly-colored coral reefs, hop aboard the Atlantis Submarine, descending to a depth of 130 feet. In the Seaworld Explorer semi-submarine, you sit in air-conditioned comfort just five feet below the surface to behold an amazing underwater panorama.

# Deep-sea Fishing

For deep-sea fishing, half- and full-day excursions go

five to seven miles offshore. Game-fish catch includes sailfish, blue and white marlin, dorado, wahoo, shark, barracuda, kingfish, bonito, amberjack, and blackfin and yellowfin tuna. Enjoy bottom fishing on a sports yacht provided with equipment and bait for reeling in snapper, grouper, triggerfish, and squirrelfish.

# Windsurfing and Kitesurfing

Aruba ranks among the top five windsurfing destinations worldwide due to its flat-water locations, challenging wave conditions, extensive shallows, and constant trade winds averaging 15 knots year-round. Strong winds also attract kitesurfers who catapult themselves high above the water executing mid-air acrobatics. Hadicurari and Boca Grandi are popular spots for enjoying these sports.

# Wakeboarding

Wakeboarders favor the Bucuti inlet just south of the airport, spending entire days perfecting tricks like surface 360s, tantrums, whirlybirds, and batwings. The Aruba Wakeboarding School offers lessons for all levels, as well as equipment rental for those looking to experience this intense, exhilarating sport.

# Kayaking and Paddleboarding

One of the Island's newer activities is paddleboarding—also known as SUP (standup paddleboarding). Adjusting to balancing on water is the hardest part, but once paddlers get the hang of it, it's like walking on water! Organized kayaking and paddleboarding tours, are available at popular spots like Mangel Halto and the Spanish Lagoon.

# **Birding**

With some 236 registered species of birds—locals and visitors are captivated with "birding" opportunities. Visitors to Aruba can easily access the Bubali Plas Bird Sanctuary—with a bird-watching tower overlooking marsh areas—located across from to The Mill Resort & Suites in the high-rise hotel area of Palm Beach.

# Skydiving

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.

### **Beach Tennis**

Introduced to Aruba in 2002, beach tennis is inarguably one of the most popular sports on the Island. Players of all ages and levels of athletic ability are welcome to competitively or recreationally participate in weekly and monthly events. The easy camaraderie of the sport—plus the pumping music, cold beers, and sunny setting—guarantees a good time for everyone. Lighted courts and racket rentals are available at Tropicana Resort Aruba and Moomba Beach Bar. Every November, Aruba's hosts one of the most popular international beach tennis events, attracting hundreds of professional and amateur players from around the world.

# Yog

There are a variety of yoga classes offered on the Island, with early morning and sunset yoga classes on the beach among the most popular. Many Island resorts now offer yoga classes, programs, and even complete yoga/wellness vacation packages. Yoga takes to the water as well with SUP yoga, held on the boards used for paddleboarding.

### Golf

Golfing in Aruba combines the challenge of constant trade winds and tropical sun with the wonder of desert beauty and sweeping Caribbean views. Tierra del Sol is a unique 18-hole championship desert course (6,785 yards, par 71) with an ocean view, designed by Robert Trent Jones II. The Links at Divi Aruba is a nine-hole course designed by leading architects; golfers play on paspalum grass, over water and beautifully landscaped lagoons.

# Beaches

Fringing turquoise Caribbean waters, Aruba's beaches include wide shaded expanses, quiet retreats, and busy sunbathing and watersports meccas. Much of the seven-mile strip along the west coast is lined with resorts and packed with activity. Beachgoers relax on their comfortable lounges while swimming, snorkeling, kitesurfing, waterskiing, tubing, parasailing, banana boating, and all kinds of wet 'n' wild adventures are just steps away.

In contrast, the beaches along the windward coast are in more secluded and undeveloped areas. There are coves carved out of limestone, inlets formed by pounding waves, unique natural phenomena, and craggy desert terrain. Because of strong undertows and crashing waves, swimming here is not recommended. Both coasts afford spectacular Caribbean views. All beaches are open to the public.





### Palm Beach

The renowned two-mile-long strip known as Palm Beach is home to glamorous high-rise resorts and dotted by watersports concessions, piers, beach bars, restaurants, and shops. Calm waters make this a comfortable haven for swimmers and snorkelers. Enjoy a walk along the coast at dawn or sunset, and luxuriate in candle-lit, barefoot dining on the beach.

# Eagle Beach

Acclaimed as one of the world's most beautiful beaches, Eagle Beach is a long, uninterrupted stretch of glittering ivory sand with ample parking and palapas for shade. This beach is ideal for morning and sunset walks and jogs, wedding ceremonies and celebrations, and its wide-open spaces are great for families to picnic and play beach games. Most lowrise hotels adjacent to this beach provide cabanas and lounges for their guests. During Easter week, tents dot the coastline as local families enjoy the tradition of camping out.

# Baby Beach

Baby Beach is located in Seroe Colorado at the southeastern end of the Island. It is a sandy halfmoon expanse wrapped around a calm lagoon, with a refreshment stand and huts. The waters are shallow; swimmers can wade out for a long distance and still touch the sea bottom. Where the lagoon opens out to the sea, snorkelers should watch out for strong currents.

# **Rodgers Beach**

Rodgers Beach is a narrow strip of powdery white sand that hugs a small bay near Baby Beach. Local fishermen anchor their colorful boats within the bay, using its calm waters for protection.

## Malmok Beach

Malmok Beach is a narrow sandy stretch in a neighborhood of sprawling homes and a variety of modest windsurfing residences. Its shallow, clear waters make it a popular snorkeling spot. Catamarans and sailboats stop for daytime snorkeling just off the shoreline. Reefs and sunken wrecks nearby afford excellent diving. Nearby, Boca Catalina is a small, secluded bay accessible by steps, perfect for a private swim.

### **Druif Beach**

Druif Beach, a long, narrow, oval-shaped stretch of ivory sand, is adjacent to Eagle Beach and is home to several casual, low-rise resorts. Here, rooms are just steps away from the relatively calm Caribbean waters. Though not too far from bustling downtown Oranjestad, Druif Beach is a quiet and relaxing spot for sunning and socializing.

### Boca Catalina

Heading south past the high-rise hotel area, the limestone barranca that characterizes the Malmok coastline gives way to a white sandy beach area known as Boca Catalina. The beach yields easy,



walk-in access to some of the best snorkeling on the island with crystal clear underwater visibility of a chain of small reefs teeming with angelfish, needlefish, goatfish, starfish, and other colorful sea life. On shore, relax under one of the public palapas while the pelicans put on a show of diving mastery.

### Surfside Beach

Across from the Talk of the Town resort, children love to swim in the calm waters of Surfside Beach as they hunt for crabs and watch the planes overhead. Waterfront restaurants and a night club add an exciting dimension.

### Manchebo Beach

Just past the low-rise resorts is Manchebo Beach, a very private, undisturbed area named after an Arawak chief. This very wide stretch of flat beach is dotted with swaying palms and the occasional beach lounge. Jutting out at the Island's most western point, it has some rough surf resulting from converging currents.

## Hadicurari Beach

Hadicurari Beach (Fisherman's Huts), a rocky strip out past the Ritz-Carlton, is a popular spot for windsurfing and kitesurfing enthusiasts. It serves as the venue for many sporting events and tournaments throughout the year.

# Mangel Halto

Mangel Halto is located in Pos Chiquito on the southeast coast just south of the Spanish Lagoon. It is a perfect picnicking, sunning, shore diving, and snorkeling spot with calm, shallow waters rich in sea life supported by an intriguing network of mangroves.





# Arikok National Park



When exploring off the beaten path, be sure to bring plenty of drinking water, snacks, hats, sunglasses, and sunscreen. Sturdy shoes are recommended to protect against sharp corals, rocks, and uneven terrain. The sun's rays are especially strong from 10 am to 3 pm.

Arikok, a nature preserve covering almost one-fifth of Aruba's surface area, contains historical sites as well as Aruba's three geological formations that support unique, indigenous plants and wildlife that have influenced human settlement. It is on the great granite rocks of Arikok that the Island's earliest inhabitants left their mark. Painted by Caquetio Indians, the drawings are at least 1,000 years old. Twenty-one miles of well-marked trails await hikers.

The park encompasses Mount Jamanota (Aruba's highest point, reaching 620 feet), underground Indian caves, and everything in between. Sand dunes and limestone cliffs are found along the coast. Among the desert vegetation in the park are divi-divi trees, rare and exotic cacti, aloe plants, and colorful tropical flowers.

Wildlife includes the cascabel (local rattlesnake) and santanero (cat-eyed snake). The shoco (burrowing owl), prikichi (Aruban parakeet), and kododo blauw (whiptail lizard) are among the park's residents. Iguanas and many species of migratory birds live in the park as well, and goats and donkeys graze on the hills.

Cunucu Arikok is a restored farm that recreates life in the early days. The tiny, two-room house of mud and grass adobe, called a cas di torto, is surrounded by stone walls and cactus fences. Miralamar, a complex of gold mines and trenches, was active during the first decade of the twentieth century. Masiduri served as an experimental garden in the 1950s. At Prins Plantation, now a complex of abandoned adobe structures, hundreds of coconut trees were cultivated



# Historical Sites

as recently as the 1960s. Hofi Fontein is the only place along the north coast with a freshwater spring.

Because of strong undertows and crashing waves, swimming on the windward side is not recommended, but the beaches on Aruba's wild coast are magnificent. Amazing natural bridges created about one million years ago are found along the north coast.

Boca Grandi is a semi-circular, reef-protected cove with onshore winds that make it a popular windsurfing and kitesurfing spot. Boca Prins is a small, secluded cove amidst rugged limestone cliffs fringed by snow-white sand dunes. Fuente is a rocky cove pounded by surf. Dos Playa features two coves carved out of the limestone bluff; a wide, sandy beach attracts sunbathers and is perfect for picnics. Protected from the rough sea by surrounding rocks, the Natural Pool was once used to hold sea turtles.

The adventurous will enjoy exploring the caves along the northeast coast. In Fontein, the largest and most accessible, drawings left by Amerindians and graffiti etched by early European settlers ornament the walls and ceilings. Quadirikiri is a short distance away on a similar ancient sea cliff. Openings in the ceiling provide natural light for the 500-foot-long cave; bats residing here are quite harmless. The Huliba Cave and Tunnel of Love (Sabana Sulu), named for its heart-shaped entrance, are part of the same underground cave system. \*Please note that some of the caves are closed for periods of time to help conserve the residing bat populations.





# Alto Vista Chapel

Known as the Pilgrim's Chapel, the small, bright yellow Alto Vista Chapel is the picture of tranquility in its dramatic setting on a high coastal plain. The chapel was the Island's first Roman Catholic Church, built in 1750 by Domingo A. Silvestre and reconstructed in 1953. It is reached by a winding road lined with white crosses marking the Stations of the Cross. It is a special place for peace and contemplation in a magnificent natural setting.

# Santa Ana Church

When it was constructed in 1776, Santa Ana Roman Catholic Church in Noord was the Island's second most important religious meeting place (the first being Alto Vista Chapel). It was rebuilt twice during the nineteenth century, and a final renovation was made in 1916. Its solid oak, hand-carved altar is a recognized work of art in classic neo-Gothic design.

# Frenchman's Pass

French pirates attempted to invade Aruba during the first quarter of the seventeenth century. When an Indian tribal head and his group tried to stop them in this narrow passage, they were killed. Legend has it that their ghosts preside over this tranquil, scenic spot.

# California Lighthouse

More than 90 feet high, the imposing California Lighthouse overlooks both a barren lunar landscape and a glittering Palm Beach panorama. It was built in 1914 of local stones and is named after an English steamship that was shipwrecked off the coast.

### Rock Formations

Rock formations are of mysterious origin. At Ayo, you can meander through stacks of giant boulders of curious shapes and sizes. In the center of the Island is the Casibari Rock Formation. Meandering through piles of rocks, a narrow path leads up to the top, affording a beautiful panoramic view. A large desert rock garden is at ground level.

### Balashi and Bushiribana Gold Mills

In 1824, gold was discovered on the north coast by a young boy named Willem Rasmijn. Ultimately, the search turned to gold-bearing quartz and mines were created with dynamite. The Balashi Gold Mill was built at the tip of the Spanish Lagoon near Frenchman's Pass. In 1872, Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd. (London) built a large smelting works at Bushiribana on the north coast. Though only in use for a decade, Bushiribana's construction was so solid that impressive ruins still.

# **Cultural Pursuits**



# **Bon Bini Festival**

The Bon Bini Festival takes place every Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the outdoor courtyard of historical Fort Zoutman in downtown Oranjestad. An engaging emcee introduces traditionally costumed folkloric dancers, local musical genres such as the mazurka and the waltz, and instruments such as the cuarta, wiri, raspu, and caja di orgel, a barrel organ affectionately called the "ting-a-ling box." The steelpan, originally developed in the English Caribbean from oil drums, also adds a touch of local color. The works of talented artists and artisans are on sale, as are authentic culinary specialties.

### Carubbian Festival

The Carubbian Festival takes place in San Nicolas every Thursday night from 6 to 10 pm, showcasing the multicultural charms of Aruba's "Sunrise City." The center of activities is a stage area where 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 promising fun activities for the whole family and filled with colorful booths selling food, handicrafts, and souvenirs. Packages including round-trip transportation are sold at hotels.

# Korteweg Pop-up Art Gallery

The trending cultural phenomenon of the pop-up art gallery comes to the streets of Aruba. Aptly called Korteweg after the street it is held on in downtown

Oranjestad, the initiative is a collaboration of a fascinating group of local artists and craftspeople who set up shop here one Friday evening a month.

# Museum

# Aruba Aloe Factory and Museum

(Pitastraat, Oranjestad)

Learn about the 160-year-old history of aloe on Aruba in the museum, a national depository for ancient tools and equipment. Aruba Aloe products can be purchased here.

Open Monday – Friday, 8 am – 4 pm Saturday, 9 am – 1 pm.

### Historical Museum

(Downtown Oranjestad between two of Aruba's oldest monuments, Fort Zoutman and the Willem III Tower). The museum houses a collection of artifacts acquired since its opening in 1983. There are audiovisual programs on topics related to Aruba's history and a permanent exhibition outlining main events in Aruban history. Smaller, themed exhibitions are on periodic display. If visiting the museum on a Tuesday, stay in town for the Bon Bini Festival. Open Monday – Friday, 9 am – noon / 1:30 – 4:30 pm. museohistoricoarubano@hotmail.com

# Archaeological Museum

(Schelpstraat, downtown Oranjestad)

This state-of-the-art museum is housed in the restored historic Ecury family home complex in downtown Oranjestad. Three periods of Amerindian habitation are documented through artifacts from various digs around the Island and presented through film and audio presentations, exhibits, and interactive technology. The museum sheds light on the cultural and religious practices of the Amerindians. Highlights include a reproduction of a maloca, a hut where natives lived 1,000 years ago, and an exposition of history-themed artwork by contemporary artists. Public programs include lectures, education projects, temporary exhibits, and workshops. archeo@setarnet.aw

# Tours

# **Desalination Plant Tour**

Aruba's renowned, high-quality drinking water is produced at the world's second largest seawater desalination plant. Visit Water en Energiebedrijf (W.E.B.) Aruba N.V., located in Balashi, for free tours on Thursday at 9:30 am. Advance reservations required. Wear closed shoes, a collared shirt, and trousers. Tel. (297) 585-4600

### **Balashi Plant Tour**

Balashi is the island's national beer and the only beer that is produced in Aruba. You can take a tour of the fully automated brewery with cutting-edge technology. Built in 1998 at a cost of about US\$ 12 million, the state-of-the-art facility is equipped with special computer software from Germany that controls the quality of the brew during the entire process. To promote recycling and help protect the environment bottles that are returned to the plant will be re-used after going through a pasteurization process. More information on tours and (group tour) reservations at (297) 597-6544.

# Aruba Aloe Factory Tour

Tour the state-of-the-art Aruba Aloe Factory and see firsthand the production process that turns aloevera leaves into finished products. The tour guides will explain all about the aloe plant and its uses. Free tours every 15 minutes. www.arubaaloe.com

# Art Galleries

# Art Studio – Gallery Insight

Paradera Park 215 Open Monday – Friday, 10 am – 12:30 pm / 2 – 5:30 pm Weekends by appointment

### Ateliers '89

Dominicanessenstraat 34, Oranjestad Tel. (297) 588-5776. Cell (297) 565-4613 www.ateliers89.com

# Atelier Elisa Lejuez

Malmokweg, Noord (across from entrance to Tierra Del Sol). Tel. (297) 592-3053 Open Monday – Friday, 9 am – 12 noon www.elisalejuez.com

# L'America Gallery Art & Framing Specialist

Italiestraat 24-A, Suite 3, Oranjestad Tel. (297) 583-0800. Open Monday-Friday, 8 am - 5 pm; Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm www.lamericagallery.com

### **Terrafuse**

Ciro & Marian Abath Turibana 14, Noord Tel. (297) 586-7826. Cell (297) 592-2978 www.arubaglassceramics.com

### **UNOCA**

Stadionweg 21, Oranjestad
Tel. (297) 583-5681
Open Monday – Friday, 9 am - 12 noon
/ 1:30 – 5:30 pm
www.unocaruba.org

# Studio O Art Salon

Stadionweg 23, Oranjestad Tel. (297) 594-5031 www.osairamuyale.com

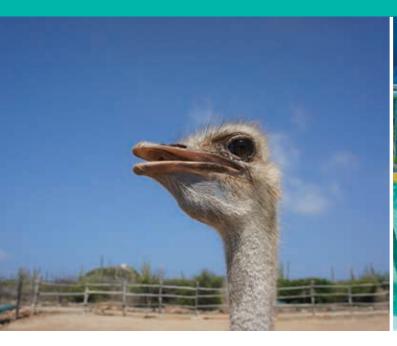
### Cosecha

Aruban Crafts, Heritage & Design Store Zoutmanstraat 1, Oranjestad Open Monday, 12pm to 6pm, Tuesday—Saturday, 10am to 6pm



# Attractions

# Shopping, Nightlife, Casinos







### Ostrich Farm

Located on the road to the Natural Bridge, a large ostrich farm provides an educational experience with an incubator-cum-hospital on site. Guided tours are given every half hour from 9 am to 4 pm.

# **Butterfly Farm**

Step into a tropical garden teeming with butterflies from around the globe. Tour guides provide commentary on butterfly life. Your admission ticket gives you a free pass for the rest of your vacation. The Butterfly Farm is located in Palm Beach across from the Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort. Open daily from 9 am to 4:30 pm.

# **Donkey Sanctuary**

Home to 138 endangered donkeys, this guest-friendly sanctuary in Santa Lucia provides the opportunity to interact with these harmless animals in a fun environment. Stop for a snack and purchase a donkey-themed gift or souvenir; you can even adopt your own donkey! Volunteers care for the donkeys and organize activities and fund-raising events.

# **Bubali Bird Sanctuary**

Also known as Bubali Plas, the Bubali Bird Sanctuary is an official nature preserve. This freshwater lagoon, located close to the high-rise hotel strip, is an important nesting site for many bird species. A tower located just at the edge of the cattail marsh across from the Mill Resort offers a vantage point for bird watching, especially exciting during late fall when the birds migrate to the south.

### De Palm Island

De Palm Island is a private tropical paradise. Choose a relaxing day of sunbathing and leisure or exciting thrills at the spectacular water park, up on the zip-line, and on an Air Jumper . Waters teeming with abundant aquatic life, including brilliant blue parrotfish found only here, delight swimmers and snorkelers.

The waterslide park on De Palm Island boasts a shallow pool, 6 riveting waterslides, and over 70 fun-filled water activities, including net climbing, crawl tunnels, spinning trays, and bubble jets. The attractive all-inclusive package includes food and beverages, snorkeling equipment and instruction, and various island activities.

Behold a brilliant world of sea life with De Palm Island's Sea Trek as you walk 20 feet below the surface in zero gravity along a 375-foot-long path. Air is safely delivered to the underwater helmet. Feed the fish, view the wonders of a man-made reef, and take your seat at the "Sea Trek Café."

# Phillip's Animal Garden

This zoo is a non-profit organization that focuses on rescuing exotic animals on Aruba and throughout the region. The zoo is open to the public for tours.

Aruba is a virtual nirvana for shoppers, with a greater selection of international brand-name products than anywhere else in the Caribbean or South America, and prices that are generally lower than in the United States! South Americans may save even more, and European brands are usually priced better here than in Europe. Oranjestad, the Island's original shopping mecca, is livelier than ever. The year 2013 ushered in a new era for the Island's capital with the introduction of the Caribbean's first streetcar line. Three streetcars, designed in San Francisco and utilizing clean energy sources, take shoppers and sightseers through the heart of downtown (it's free of charge and you can hop on and off at several stops along the way), where both historic Dutch colonial architecture and world-class shopping await. Whether you prefer international designer brands or quaint, one-of-a-kind boutiques, the downtown scene is a shopper's delight. Parking is available in the free lot behind the bus station; taxi and bus service will also get you downtown in minutes. Regular shopping hours are from 9 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday, but there are sometimes extended hours when cruise ships are in port.

# Downtown shopping

# Royal Plaza

Located across from the harbor and adjacent to the main bus terminal, has become an iconic landmark in downtown Oranjestad. Its signature pink and white Dutch Caribbean architecture houses three levels of shops—featuring anything from fine jewelry and perfumes to cigars and souvenirs—as well as restaurants and an alfresco nightclub. The mall has an elevator and an escalator.

## Renaissance Mall

Is home to elite luxury retailers like Cartier, Louis Vuitton, Carolina Herrera, BCBG, David Yurman, Rolex, and Gucci, just to name a few. Duty-free

perfumes and cosmetics, Cuban cigars, and beach and resort wear can also be found in this indoor/outdoor mall. Upstairs, L.G. Smith's Steak & Chop House, Crystal Casino, and Crystal Theater can be found. Shopping hours are 9 am - 8 pm, with later hours for restaurants, bars, and lounges.

# Renaissance Marketplace

Anchored by the downtown marina, is just across the street from Renaissance Mall. Here, a lively atmosphere prevails in an alfresco venue that features an array of shops, restaurants, outdoor cafés, and an outdoor stage with live entertainment nightly. A state-of-the-art cinema complex and the Seaport Casino are also located here. Open daily, from 10 am to 9 pm. Enjoy extended hours at the dining and entertainment venues.







# Low-rise area

# Alhambra Casino & Shops

Is the Island's newest shopping and dining destination. The breezy outdoor plaza invites visitors to stroll amongst an array of unique boutiques offering resort wear and swimwear, souvenirs, and gifts. A large coffee shop with alfresco seating; pizza, ice cream, and sandwich shops; a gourmet mini-mart; and an authentic Southern-style smokehouse barbecue restaurant make up the plaza's culinary offerings, and a chic tapas and piano bar infuses energy into the nightlife scene.

# High-rise area

Here the streets are lined with shops and kiosks, bars, cafés and restaurants, and exciting new malls, providing an entertaining ambiance for high-rise shopping and dining.

### Paseo Herencia

At the heart of the area's first large-scale outdoor mall, Paseo Herencia, is a gorgeous fountain featuring nighttime liquid fireworks choreographed with colorful lights and music, and an amphitheater that showcases a variety of themed events and performances throughout the year. Some 50 shops, a multitude of local and international restaurants, and a cinema complex with 6 movie screens fill this mall, which is dedicated to Juan Chabaya "Padu" Lampe, the legendary composer of Aruba's national anthem. Parking garage on site.

# Palm Beach Plaza

Located next to Paseo Herencia and a block away from the Holiday Inn Aruba, is a striking three-level outdoor mall, the largest of its kind in the southern Caribbean. Positioned as more than shopping, Palm Beach Plaza is a family entertainment venue with cinemas; a children's entertainment center with a supervised playroom, activities, and a rock-climbing

wall; a bowling alley; a gourmet fast-food court; fine dining restaurants; and a multitude of shops and boutiques to peruse.

# The Village

Located in the heart of Palm Beach, The Village is a colorfully captivating collection of stylish shops and restaurants. During the evening hours, the courtyard bustles with a festive outdoor market selling souvenirs and local crafts. The Village has several popular bars and clubs that stay hopping into the wee hours. There is convenient parking, and taxis are abundant.

## South Beach Centre

This area set the pace a few years ago, establishing the Palm Beach area as a lively district for shopping, dining, and entertainment. Anchored by the Hard Rock Café Aruba, this outdoor plaza comes to life after dark. In addition to gift and souvenir shops and kiosks, South Beach Centre has a diverse dining scene, tempting palates with sushi, Dutch cafés, Chinese and Japanese cuisine, Indian fare, a sports bar, and a chic outdoor lounge with nightly live music. Parking is convenient and ample.

## Arawak Garden

Across from the Occidental Grand Aruba Resort, Arawak Garden is home to a variety of restaurants, including a Dutch bar/café, an Argentinian steak house, a pizzeria, and a seafood house. A piano bar, live outdoor entertainment, and kiosks for shoppers make this a lively and popular spot for locals and tourists. Special events and festivals take place throughout the year.

### La Hacienda Mall

Across from Playa Linda Beach Resort, this lively area features a Brazilian churrascaria, an Italian restaurant, a row of kiosks along the main strip, and interesting shops selling souvenirs, gifts, jewelry, and more. Check with your concierge about shops at your resort.

# Supermarkets

In addition to a host of small markets found along every road, the Island offers four mega supermarkets—Ling & Sons, Kong Hing, Super Food, and Certified Supercenter—all located outside of downtown Oranjestad near the low-rise area; they are generally open Monday through Saturday from 8 am to 8 pm, and Sunday from 9 am to 1 pm (Super Food and Ling & Sons from 8 am to 6pm). At the Island's supermarkets, you will find everything you have at home plus international gourmet delights and unique local products. Enjoy the selection of Dutch cheeses; confections; exotic condiments; international wines and liqueurs; local spirits, produce, and hot sauces; Aruba Aloe products; and homemade baked goods and snacks.

# Nightlife

Aruban nights add excitement to the Island's quiet desert-island persona. Mingle with locals and tourists at one of the scores of casual beach and pier bars along the coast from downtown Oranjestad to the far end of the high-rise strip. Weekly managers' cocktail parties and daily happy hours are island traditions. Cruises depart from Palm Beach piers; hop aboard for a sunset sail, a romantic nighttime interlude, or a fun party. At resorts, Aruba Carnival shows boast talented dancers and brilliant costumes, while sumptuous outdoor theme-night buffets delight the palate. Twelve exciting resort casinos offer non-stop after-dark gaming action, lively house bands, and exhilarating ambiances.

Enjoy the latest films in air-conditioned comfort at The Cinemas at the Renaissance Marketplace and Paseo Herencia, as well as at the Caribbean Cinemas at Palm Beach Plaza. The high-rise area now rivals downtown Oranjestad for trendy venues and after-hours haunts, from karaoke and martini

bars to upscale bistros and casual pubs. The strip comes alive after dark with shops, kiosks, cafés, restaurants, and bars.

# Casinos

Aruba's casino scene sizzles with expectation and exhilaration as bells sound with each win and lively crowds ring around each gaming table. As the originator and home of Caribbean stud poker as well as the host of professional poker tournaments, and offering everything in slots from progressive jackpots to nickel machines, Aruba welcomes both veteran gamblers and casual players in courting chance. Whether pursuing luck with a roll of the dice or a spin of the roulette wheel, the carnival-like atmosphere provides unforgettable thrills.

Offering much more than familiar table games and machines, Aruba's casinos feature theme-night events, tournaments, bingo, entertainment, special offers, and prizes. Some have sports books for betting on the international sporting events of the day. No one under 18 is allowed in casinos.

- Alhambra Casino at Alhambra Casino & Shops
- Aura Casino at Occidental Grand Aruba
- Cool Casino at RIU Palace Aruba
- Hyatt Regency Casino at Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort, Spa & Casino
- Crystal Casino at Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino
- Excelsior Casino at Holiday Inn Aruba Resort
- Seaport Casino at Renaissance Marketplace
- Stellaris Casino at the Marriott Aruba Resort
- The Casino at the Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino
- The Casino at The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba
- Trop Casino at Tropicana Aruba Resort
- Glitz Casino at La Cabana Beach Resort
- Orchid Casino at RIU Palace Antillas

# Made in Aruba





### Aruba Aloe

Aruba Aloe, a family owned company, is the leading producer of the world's finest aloe since 1890. Aruba Aloe's products range from shower gels and sun protection items to body lotions and lip balm. Beside their own plant and main store, you will find Aruba Aloe on island in multiple shops.

# Cigars

The Aruhiba is a cigar produced and cultivated in Aruba by Benjamin Petrochi. Grown from Dominican and Cuban strains, Aruban tobacco offers a full, distinctive flavor in both its mild and strong varieties. The cigar case has the Aruhiba logo and "Made in Aruba" stamp. Aruban cigars are sold at local shops and kiosks and are permitted in the US.

# **Stamps**

Aruba's colorful and artistic stamps celebrate Aruba's unique history, culture, and nature, and also have international themes. Post Aruba provides year packs of first day covers and postage stamps with new and innovative features. A stamp can be created from your own digital photo as part of a souvenir sheet with an Aruban design and map. (The Main Post Office is located in downtown Oranjestad and a new branch at Palm Beach Plaza.) filateliearuba@setarnet.aw

### Music

What better way to relive your Aruba vacation than to take home a music CD? Popular Aruba Carnival tunes include the rhythmic and fast-moving road marches, the tumbas of African origin, and the commentary-laden calypsos. Traditional lilting steelpan music has expanded its scope to include easy listening, classical, salsa, jazz, and reggae. Latin salsa and merengue and Aruban waltzes and boleros attract music fans of all ages.

# Handicrafts, art, and photography

Local artisans create unique and decorative items made of clay pottery and natural materials such as shells, sand, driftwood, and kwihi wood. These souvenirs can be found at flea markets, stores, resorts, and weekly festivals.

Local artists utilize canvases and various media to interpret the Aruban culture and landscape. The Island's friendly people and natural beauty are captured through the lenses of talented photographers.

# Food and beverage

Delicious traditional Aruban products are sold at local supermarkets.

### Wine

Using various types of grapes and local fruits in several combinations, Vincente Kock has produced local wine for the past quarter-century. Shamu grapes, Mediterranean grapes, and coastal grapes are mixed with local fruits; European grape varieties are grown from cuttings. Visit the vineyard in Santa Cruz (Sombre 22-A). Tel. (297) 585-3995 or (297) 567-6623. Visits are generally scheduled for Monday and Thursday at 10 am.

## **Hot Sauce**

Hot Delight's pica di papaya, light orange in color, is a hot sauce made with locally grown green papayas. It is less potent than Hot Delight's Madam hot sauce, made of Madame Jeanette peppers, which far exceed the jalapeno in intensity. These sauces are all natural and contain no preservatives. Hot Delight gourmet products have won national acclaim and are found in most homes and restaurants all over Aruba. These condiments are made by Aurelio Ruiz using a recipe that his grandfather developed in 1880.

### **Sweets & Snacks**

Arubans prepare treats such as cocada (coconut candy) and tamarind balls, as well as rich desserts such as pan bollo (bread pudding) and cashew cake. Piet's Ice Cream, a family tradition for decades, is non-fat and available in delectable tropical flavors. Try a pastechi, the national snack, a deep-fried halfmoon pastry with a savory filling (chicken, chop suey, tuna, beef, cheese, or ham).

## Aruba's "Balashi Cocktail"

AWA (Papiamento: water) is a clear, refreshing liquid in the blue-labeled bottle. Aruba has some of the best-tasting drinking water on the planet, produced by a desalination process utilizing coral rock as a filter.

### Balashi Beer

Balashi is Aruba's national beer, produced in a fully automated brewery with cutting-edge technology. Built in 1998 at a cost of about US\$12 million, the state-of-the-art facility is equipped with special computer software from Germany that controls the quality of the brew during the entire process. The

beer is a deep golden color and easy on the foam. It has a soft bitterness, an aroma of fresh hops, and a short aftertaste.

## Palmera Rum

Palmera Quality Products imports raw materials for rum and other alcoholic beverages and uses its own formulas for blending. It has the most extensive line of locally bottled alcoholic products sold on Aruba and seven different flavors of liqueur, including the Palmera, Bon Bini, and Taste of Aruba labels.

### Coecoei & Ponche Crema

Playa Liquor & Bottling Company produces coecoei, a deep red alcoholic beverage used in many tropical cocktails. The recipe is centuries old, originally made by an Indian tribe of Venezuela and introduced on Aruba some 60 years ago. Ponche crema is a creamy, smooth, and refreshing beverage made of egg yolks, cream, rum, and a variety of spices.



# Restaurants

With so many restaurants to choose from—many in walking distance and others accessible by taxi, rental car, and bus—Aruba is a foodie's paradise!

# Spa



The abundance, full flavor, and diversity of cuisines prepared by world-class chefs; fine international wines; casual, elegant, and creative ambiances; and attentive service combine to create very special dining experiences.

The high-rise strip is now home to about 150 restaurants. This bustling area is dotted with an eclectic patchwork of shops, malls, cafés, and restaurants. But do venture downtown and off the beaten path to discover local favorites and trendy new establishments. No matter where you go, you will find warm island hospitality and a unique menu of tasty ethnic and international delights.

Classical delicacies such as frog legs, duck, venison, foie gras, and chateaubriand join fresh Caribbean catch such as mahi-mahi and wahoo, Argentinean churrasco, Middle Eastern shoarma, Japanese sushi and teppanyaki selections, Spanish tapas, Indian curries, Caribbean jerk ribs, homemade pastas, USDA choice steaks, and Maine lobster.

But, also be sure to sample hearty and healthy traditional home cooking at local restaurants, including soups, fresh island catch, and authentic dishes such as goat stew, keshi yena, funchi, pastechis, Johnny cakes, and pan bati.

Indeed, the tiny island nation of Aruba provides an impressive world culinary tour rivaling the most cosmopolitan of cities.

The Aruba Gastronomic Association provides a unique dine-around program as well as gift certificates valid at all member restaurants. Purchase online and your dinner coupons will be waiting for you at your hotel desk. Visit www.arubadining.com for more information.

Visit www.aruba.com to discover our many restaurants, chefs, and recipes.

Most resorts have their own spas on property. Invigorating mud wraps, hotstone massages, soothing scrubs, aromatherapy baths, and refreshing facials and masks await you. Treatments feature local aloe and cactus, desert mud, essential oils, plant extracts, sea salts, fruits, and other restorative substances provided by Mother Nature. Spa venues include luxurious treatment rooms and airy private gazebos.

**Etnika Spa** is located at the Tropicana Aruba Resort, Holiday Inn Aruba Resort, and The Mill Resort & Suites, providing a diverse menu of relaxing and rejuvenating massages, facials, scrubs, and wraps and a salon providing the best in beauty care.

Indulgence by the Sea has both spa and salon locations at Divi & Divi Tamarijn Aruba. With an extensive list of relaxing, signature treatments, like the Mango Papaya Salt Glow (derived from natural products including delicious mango and papaya immersed in sea salts and pure essential oils), spa owner Angie Wallace has handpicked and tested all of the organic and natural products used in the spa's

treatments. www.spaaruba.com

Intermezzo Day Spas feature fresh aloe and mineral wraps; refreshing facials; coffee, fruity, and soothing body scrubs; and a full menu of massages, all provided by skilled aestheticians in a relaxing atmosphere. Locations at La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino and Alhambra Casino & Shops. www. arubaspa.com

At **Eforea Spa**, located at the Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino, a tranquil oasis of bamboo and water features creates a soothing environment that boasts ten treatment rooms where quests can enjoy



a full menu of services, including advanced skincare therapies, therapeutic and integrated massages from around the world, exfoliating and detoxifying body

treatments, and a full-service salon.

With Balinese-style design, **Mandara Spa** at Marriott's Ocean Club features four VIP treatment rooms with extra-large Jacuzzis and Vichy showers, eight individual treatment rooms, indoor and outdoor relaxation areas, a steam room, and a beauty salon. www.mandaraspa.com

It's time for the ultimate in relaxation at the **Okeanos Spa**, located at the Renaissance Marina Hotel. The spa offers a full line of signature treatments, destressing massages, and a full-service hair salon. For a secluded tropical experience like no other, guests can choose to enjoy a massage or specially designed treatment at the Spa Cove located on the resort's private Renaissance Island. www.okeanosspaaruba.com

Brikell Bay Beach Club & Spa's **Orchid Spa** offers a variety of massages, facial and body treatments, and manicures and pedicures.

Palm Li Spa, located at the Caribbean Palm Village, offers a wide range of specialty massages including deep tissue, Asian body, traditional Swedish, and even a massage designed specifically for pregnant women. European facials and masks, aromatherapy, hot stone facials, waxing, exfoliation, and manicures and pedicures are also part of this full-service spa's menu of treatments.

**Pure Indulgence**, located at the Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, offers the ideal balance between state-of-the-art facilities and organic, island-inspired treatments utilizing fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers, and herbs. Thoughtful details include natural stone and marble finishes, wood tiles, handcrafted cedar wood elements, and hydrotherapy features throughout the décor. Luxurious treatment rooms and the spa's loft (dedicated to nail treatments) offer breathtaking views spanning from Eagle Beach to the California Lighthouse.

Spa del Sol is located both at the tropical gardens overlooking the beach at the Playa Linda Beach Resort and in the Caribbean-Balinese beachfront facility at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, with open-air gazebos and air-conditioned treatment rooms. Yoga lessons also available. www.spadelsol.com

The Ritz Carlton Spa, an oceanfront sanctuary tucked into 15,000 square feet of elegant tranquility, offers a novel and original spa ritual and an extensive, unique menu of services. The spa includes 13 luxurious treatment rooms divided into two wings, serving both men and women in their own separate, stylish, and comfortable areas. Spa guests can also enjoy two his and hers steam rooms and dry saunas, as well as two outdoor, private Jacuzzis.

Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort & Casino's renovated **ZoiA Spa** is a peaceful escape that rejuvenates your body and soul. ZoiA—the Papiamento word for balance and poise—is reflected in the spa's all-natural treatments. The 5,200 sq. ft. ZoiA Spa boasts eight treatment rooms and a spa menu that utilizes native ingredients, including aloe.

# Weddings & Romance



Fall in love with our magical paradise of surreal seascapes, magnificent sunsets, and starry nights. Go off on your own to have a picnic lunch surrounded by staggering natural beauty. A sunset sail, a moonlight dinner for two, an outing to a secluded cove, sizzling Latin dancing, a quiet nightcap, and a couple's massage are among the romantic moments to be shared. What better than an Aruba vacation to kindle love, pop the question, enjoy a honeymoon, celebrate an anniversary, even get married!

From one end of the Island to the other and throughout its interior, couples can discover their own favorite spots, and at absolutely no cost! Visit www.aruba. com for details about our popular value-added One Happy Honeymoon program.

Getting married in Aruba is a dream come true! Civil marriages are now possible in Aruba, but they must take place at the Civil Town House. Visit www.aruba. com and click on "Weddings" for legal and religious requirements. If you have already tied the knot at home, Aruba is a perfect place for a honeymoon, an anniversary, or a renewal of vows. Aruba is the perfect venue for a unique and unforgettable destination wedding. You don't have to do it all

yourself! Independent and resort wedding planners provide valuable advice about documentation and legal matters as well as coordination on the ceremony day. Every minute detail about the ceremony and reception can be arranged, from officiator, witnesses, flowers, mementos, gifts, and wedding certificate to limousine service, photography and video, rehearsal dinner, wardrobe, and personal attendants—even a butterfly release! Visit www.aruba.com for a listing of wedding planners.

Who needs another toaster? Wedding gifts for today's couples are less likely about setting up house for the first time than about helping to enhance the wedding, renewal of vows, or honeymoon experience. Aruba is now offering an island first with a fast, easy, and free interactive way for couples to prepare for their special events as well as to help point friends and family in the right direction in the purchase of gifts. Visit www. registry.aruba.com for complete information about Aruba's Celebration Registry.

Launching in February 2016, aruba.com will include a dynamic wedding blog featuring weekly updates on destination wedding trends, ideas for unique settings, food, beverage, flowers, music, and more.

# Calendar of events

# Year-round/weekly

### **BON BINI Festival**

Every Tuesday in the outdoor courtyard of historical Fort Zoutman, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Discover Aruba's history, arts, crafts, authentic culinary specialties, folkloric music, and dance.

### **Carubbian Festival**

Every Thursday on Main Street in San Nicolas, 6 pm – 10 pm. This festival is a unique cultural celebration of international music, dance, song, theater, ethnic foods, crafts, traditional customs, and folklore. Package includes transportation. \*The festival is not held during the two-month Carnival season.

# January/February

### January 1: New Year's Day

Aruba welcomes the New Year with music and a magnificent midnight fireworks display. Groups of musicians stroll from house to house singing traditional songs of goodwill and prosperity.

#### Carnival

During the month before Lent, all of Aruba participates in a variety of Carnival events, including music contests, queen elections, and festive street parades with colorful costumes and floats, music, and dance. The Lighting Parade in downtown Oranjestad is a nighttime extravaganza of twinkling lights. Grand Parades for both children and adults wind through the streets of San Nicolas and Oranjestad. Carnival ends on the eve of Ash Wednesday with the burning of "King Momo".

### January 25: Betico Croes Day

Aruba pays tribute to its greatest statesman on his birthday. The late Gilberto Francois "Betico" Croes who obtained Aruba's "Status Aparte" (separate status) within the Dutch Kingdom. This official holiday features various cultural and sporting events, as well as popular games held at various venues on the island.

### March

### March 18: National Anthem & Flag Day

Plaza Betico Croes in Oranjestad is the site of a traditional celebration that features the display of flags, national music, and folkloric events. Various sporting events and popular games take place throughout the Island.

### Aruba International Half Marathon (21 KM)

International competitors participate in Aruba's longest

road race, covering the length of the Island from San Nicolas to Oranjestad.

### **April**

### International Boulevard Race (10 KM)

Aruba's most popular running race draws over 200 international competitors.

### April 27: King's Birthday

This special day features an official government ceremony in honor of King Willem Alexander, followed by numerous sporting events and family-friendly celebrations. Sports competitions, kite-flying contests, and fun-filled activities are held at various sites, including community centers.

### May

### Ahata Exposition And Recycling Art Competition

This public awareness campaign for adults and kids promotes the collection and reuse of old articles to crexate recycled art. Art is on display at Cas di Cultura. For information, contact Vanessa Rasmussen: Tel. (297) 582-2607 / Fax (297) 582-4202 / Vanessa@ ahata.com

### Soul Beach Music Festival

Held on Memorial Day weekend, this is a star-studded, two-night concert series with comedy nights. Venue: Adjacent to Nikki Beach. For information, contact ATA: Tel. (297) 282-3777 / www.aruba.com / www.soulbeach.net

### **June**

### **Aruba International Triathlon**

International competitors participate in a triathlon beginning at Eagle Beach and including a 1.5 km swim, 40 km bike race, and 10 km run. There is also a sprint triathlon for beginners. For information, contact Maximilian Irving: Tel. (297) 594-5814 / arubatriathlon@hotmail.com

### June 24: Dera Gai (St. John's Day)

Aruba's harvest festival is a cultural celebration featuring traditional costumes, song, and dance.

### **Aruba Summer Festival 2016**

This second edition of a two-day festival features exciting artists never before seen live in Aruba. Last year's edition featured artists like Nicky Jam, Jerry Rivera, Elvis Crespo, Carlos Vives, and Pitbull.

Packages for the festival are available. Email Loco Lobo Productions at diarioaruba@yahoo.com for additional information.

# July

### Aruba Hi-Winds

The largest amateur windsurfing event in the Caribbean features exciting windsurfing and kite boarding competitions in various categories. For information, contact ATA: (297) 582-3777 / www.aruba-hiwinds.org

### August

### Aruba International Regatta

This two-day open sailing event features yachts, catamarans, Sunfish, and windsurfing. The event also includes an evening music festival. Tel. (297) 565-6887 / www.aruba-regatta.com.

### Aruba International Pro-Am Golf Tournament

Professional and amateur golfers team up in a 2-day, 36-hole tournament featuring gifts, prizes, and special events. For information, contact Tierra del Sol: Tel. (297) 586-7800 / Fax (297) 586-4970

### September

### Turibana to Santa Cruz Race (10 KM)

This popular open road race concludes at Betico Croes Sports Complex in Santa Cruz.

### Aruba Reef Care Project

A cleanup of the island's most popular beaches and dive and snorkel sites helps raise awareness for a clean marine environment. Contact Mr. Castro Perez at Tel. (297) 740-0797 / email castroeperez@gmail.com.

### World Tourism Conference

In honor of World Tourism Day, the Aruba Tourism Authority, in cooperation with the UNWTO, will host an international conference with an emphasis on the "Happiness Index." International and local speakers will share important knowledge during keynotes and workshops. For more info contact the Aruba Tourism Authority at +(297) 5823-777 or www.aruba.com

#### **TED**xAruba

At TEDxAruba we are happy and humble to welcome the thinkers and do-ers who can teach and lead us. Contact TEDXARUBA at +(297) 588-7075 or visit the website at www.tedxaruba.com for additional information.

### Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival

This annual festival ignites Aruba's music scene with impressive lineup of International and local jazz, latin, soul and funk musicians at Renaissance Festival Plaza. Tel. (297) 588-0211. E-mail: info@caribbeanseajazz.com

### **October**

### Restaurant Week

Indulge in the island's zesty flavors at the Eat Local Restaurant Week, with more than 60 restaurants participating. For info contact the Aruba Tourism Authority at Tel. (297) 582-3777 or Fax (297) 583-7403, or visit www.aruba.com for additional information.

### Island Temptations' Bartenders' Brawl

Aruba's bartenders shake, mix, and stir it up in an epic battle of mixology. For more information, contact Island Temptations at info@island-temptations.com.

### Island Temptations' Iron Chef Aruba

Produced by Island Temptations, Aruba's premier lifestyle magazine, this exciting culinary event puts three of the island's top chefs on stage for an exciting mystery basket challenge. For more information, contact Island Temptations at info@island-temptations. com.

### Aruba International Bike Week

The annual international bike event attracts bikers from several countries who ship their motorcycles here to participate in the festivities. Contact Mr. Rudy Croes at Tel. (297) 593-5344 or email croesrudy@gmail.com or Mr. Nahar at (297) 593-0014/ email ttt.riders.aruba@gmail.com

### **November**

### National Coastal Cleanup

National cleanup day concentrates on areas near and along the coast. For information, contact Vanessa Rasmussen: Tel. (297) 582-2607 / Fax (297) 582-4202 / vanessa@ahata.com

### Aruba Beach Tennis Open

Aruba is host to one of the largest beach tennis events in the world. For more information visit www. beachtennisaruba.com

### December

### December 5: Saint Nicolas Day

Aruba celebrates the birthday of Saint Nicolas, who traditionally arrives by boat with his helpers at Paardenbaai Harbor in Oranjestad.

#### December 25: Christmas

December 26: Boxing Day

### December 27: Dande Festival

Traditional musical groups that brighten the New Year present their original compositions as well as the traditional "dande" songs.

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

# Hotels

Aruba's world-class resorts offer a diverse selection of accommodations, each with its own unique signature. While options range from grand high-rise hotels to more intimate boutique-style resorts, as well as all-inclusives to timeshares, warm island hospitality and a wide range of amenities are sure to complement every stay.

# High-rise/Palm Beach Area



#### **ARUBA MARRIOTT RESORT & STELLARIS CASINO**

L. G. Smith Blvd. 101 Aruba: (297) 586-9000 Fax: (297) 520-6227 Res: (800) 223-6388

Website: www.arubamarriott.com

E-mail: aruba.reservations@marriotthotels.com

This beachfront resort features 411 spacious guest rooms with large private balconies overlooking the ocean. Nine bars and restaurants provide fare from light to elegant while the eighth floor offers the Tradewinds Club, an exclusive lounge serving upscale services and deluxe amenities. An award-winning spa, a 24-hour casino, a free-form pool, a bi-level health club, an Adult Pool and shopping facilities are also available on the property.

### **BOARDWALK SMALL HOTEL**

Bakval 20, Palm Beach, Aruba Tel.: (297) 586-6654 Toll Free: (866) 978-5948

Website: www.boardwalkaruba.com E-mail: info@boardwalkaruba.com

Facebook: facebook.com/boardwalkhotelarub a

Instagram: @boardwalkaruba Twitter: @boardwalkaruba

The boutique-style Boardwalk Small Hotel offers 14 spacious casitas spread out in the peaceful gardens of a historic coconut plantation, just steps from popular Palm Beach. Each casita is tastefully decorated in fresh Caribbean colors and features a large living room, a fully equipped kitchen, a modern bathroom, a separate

bedroom(s), a private patio equipped with your own hammock and BBQ grill, a TV, full air conditioning, and free Wi-Fi. The Boardwalk Small Hotel, with its palm-fringed gardens and cozy swimming pool, offers the ultimate setting for a relaxing and romantic vacation in Aruba.



### **BRICKELL BAY BEACH CLUB & SPA**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 370 Aruba (297) 586-0900 Fax: (297) 586-4957 USA: (800) 324-6965

Website: www.brickellbayaruba.com E-mail: info@brickellbayaruba.com

This Caribbean adults-only boutique hotel blends contemporary design, tranquil ambiance, comfort and style, 98 superior / deluxe rooms with a host of amenities. Located in Palm Beach, it's surrounded by shops, restaurants, casinos and clubs. Amenities include pool with swim-up bar, spa, restaurant, free Wi-Fi. Free unlimited calls and text messages to US and Canada. Free virtual concierge service. The perfect accommodation for small groups, business and leisure travelers alike.

### **CARIBBEAN PALM VILLAGE**

Noord 43-E Aruba: (297) 586-2700 Fax: (297) 586-2380 Website: www.cpvr.com E-mail: info@cpvr.com

Caribbean Palm Village Resort is a low-rise resort featuring a friendly atmosphere with Aruban hospitality. It offers deluxe accommodations: 170 lavishly decorated rooms,

including 1- and 2-bedroom suites that feature balconies overlooking lush tropical gardens. The resort is located about a mile from Palm Beach.



### **DIVI ARUBA PHOENIX BEACH RESORT**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 75 Aruba: (297) 586-6066 Fax: (297) 586-1165

USA: (800) 376-1072 or (919) 419-3484 Website: www.diviarubaphoenix.com

This newly expanded resort offers studio, one-, and two-bedroom suites with deluxe amenities. Guests enjoy fully equipped kitchens, private balconies, freshwater swimming pools, romantic beachside dining, a fitness center, watersports, and a new hot spot, Pure Beach Lounge & Restaurant. The best amenity is the quiet white



### **GOLD COAST ARUBA**

Malmok

Aruba: (297) 586-2200 Fax: (297) 586-2201

Website: www.goldcoastaruba.com E-mail: rentals@goldcoastaruba.com

The unique resort residential community, close to beaches and the Palm Beach strip, offers great vacation rental values on furnished two- and three-bedroom townhomes and private three-bedroom villas. Amenities include two community swimming pools, 24-hour security within a fully gated complex, and hospitality and concierge services. Opening in 2016—clubhouse with restaurants and lounge areas, swimming pool, bar and grill, two tennis courts, full-service spa, fitness center, beauty salon, convenience store, and business lounge.

#### **HILTON ARUBA CARIBBEAN RESORT & CASINO**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 81 Aruba: (297) 586-6555 Fax: (297) 586-3260 USA/Canada: (800) 774-1500 Groups: (800) 800-321-3232 Website: www.hilton.com/Aruba AUAHH RES@hilton.com

The rooms at Hilton Aruba are designed with Caribbean touches and modern amenities. Each of the 355 rooms has a private balcony or patio, iHome® radio, and complimentary Wi-Fi. The Radisson Aruba is dedicated to bringing guests new vacation experiences through their Discover Programs. Complimentary activities are structured to suit traveler of all types, from paddle boarding to yoga to wine tastings, and the signature Biba Aruba festival.

#### **HOLIDAY INN RESORT ARUBA**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 230 Aruba: (297) 586-3600 Fax: (297) 586-5870

USA Toll Free: (855) 446-6282 Website: www.Holidayarubaresort.com

E-mail: hiaruba@ihg.com

This 597-room beachfront resort is positioned on one of the most desirable locations on Palm Beach. Fresh renovations have been made to all guest rooms, restaurants, bars, leisure areas, and more. Enjoy trendy shopping, dining, and sizzling nightlife right across the street. Whether you're here for a romantic retreat, a family vacation, or just a little downtime, you'll find refreshing accommodations, an attentive staff. Come and experience everything a resort can offer at the new Holiday Inn Resort Aruba.



### **HYATT REGENCY ARUBA RESORT, SPA & CASINO**

Irausquin Blvd. 85 Aruba: (297) 586-1234. Fax: (297) 586-1682 USA: (800) 55HYATT Website: www.aruba.hyatt.com

Recipient of the Four Diamond Award in 2014, Hyatt brings sophistication and an inviting blend of casual Caribbean elegance and "Authentic Island Chic" to Palm Beach. The magnificent open-air lobby, tropical gardens, and sparkling three-level pool complex with waterslide

create a most enchanting environment. More than 350 inspiring deluxe guest rooms (including 24 suites) boast Hyatt signature Grand Beds, 24-hour room service, and contemporary design. Other impressive features include four world-class restaurants, six bars/lounges, a spa, a 24-hour fitness center, an exhilarating casino, meeting facilities, basketball and tennis courts, Camp Hyatt, and a romance planner.

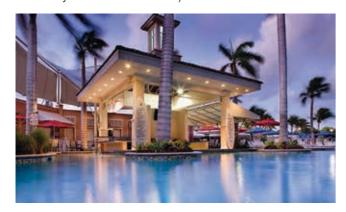


### **MARRIOTT'S ARUBA OCEAN CLUB**

L. G. Smith Blvd. 99 Aruba: (297) 586-9000 USA: (800) VILLAS-9

Website: www.marriott.com/auaao

This beautiful oceanfront resort offers 218 spacious 1- and 2-bedroom villas with private balconies or patios, luxurious whirlpool spas in master baths, color TVs with cable and DVD players, fully equipped kitchens, and separate living and dining areas. On-site amenities include two lighted tennis courts, ocean view swimming and a toddler pool, a beach grill and bar, Champion's Sports Bar, the full-service Mandara Spa, and the Village Center, which includes a convenience store. Access to all amenities of the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino are included (except for the newly installed Adult Pool).



### **MARRIOTT'S ARUBA SURF CLUB**

L.G. Smith Blvd.103 Aruba: (297) 586-9000

Website: www.marriott.com/auaa

This tropical oceanfront retreat offers 450 spacious 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom villas with fully equipped kitchens, large separate living and dining areas, private balconies or patios, and in-villa washers/dryers. Enjoy the beachfront swimming pool featuring a slide, lazy river, and whirlpool spa; a health club; a pool bar and poolside restaurant; and

the MarketPlace convenience store. Guests have access to the stores and food and beverage outlets of Marriott's Aruba Ocean Club and the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino.



### **OCCIDENTAL GRAND ARUBA**

J.E. Irausquin Blvd. 83 Aruba: (297) 586-4500 Fax: (297) 586-3191 USA: (877) 284-0935

Website: www.grandaruba.com

E-mail: GM GrandAruba@occidentalhotels.com

Set amidst the pristine white sands of Aruba's famed Palm Beach, the Occidental Grand Aruba Resort & Casino offers the best high-end All Inclusive experience for couples and families visiting Aruba. Featuring five restaurants, four bars, day and night entertainment, 368 rooms and suites, a brand new gym and casino, your vacations at the Occidental Grand Aruba Resort & Casino are guaranteed to last for lifetimes to come.

### **PLAYA LINDA BEACH RESORT**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 87 Aruba: (297) 586-1000 Fax: (297) 586-3479 USA/Canada: (800) 992-2015 Website: www.playalinda.com

Rated internationally as a 5-star resort, Playa Linda boasts 214 well-appointed, full kitchen units-spacious studios and a variety of luxury suite options: one-bedroom, twobedroom, townhouse, lanai, spa lanai as well as penthouse accommodations-located steps from the ocean on the island's best beach. Amenities include concierge services, activities program, kid's club, various restaurants and bars, watersports facilities, shopping arcade, fitness center, spa, lighted tennis courts, two swimming pools and Jacuzzis. Playa Linda Beach Resort has won the RCI Gold Crown Award for twenty-three consecutive years (1992-2014), and Interval International awarded the resort its Premier Status, each year, from 2005 through 2014. Playa Linda Beach Resort is also an ISO 14001-certified resort.

### **RIU PALACE ANTILLAS**

J. E Irausquin Blvd. 77 Aruba: (297) 586-3900

hotel-riu-palace-antillas E-mail: palace.antillas@riu.com

Website: http://www.riu.com/en/Paises/aruba/palmbeach/

A 24h All Inclusive resort, is located on the shores of Palm Beach. Its Adults Only service is ideal for a fantastic and romantic vacation. Enjoy colorful Caribbean cuisine at the buffet restaurant, or explore the world flavors at three themed restaurants. A complete entertainment program offers a variety of activities and at nighttime, quests can enjoy RIU's shows, dance at the Pacha Night club, or try their luck at the casino.



### **RIU PALACE ARUBA**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 79 Aruba: (297) 586-3900 Fax: (297) 596-1941 Website: www.riu.com E-mail: palace.aruba@riu.com

The Riu Palace Aruba (All Inclusive 24h) is situated on the vast strand known as Palm Beach. At this magnificent Palace you'll find two fresh water swimming pools, a jacuzzi, sauna, gym, solarium-terrace and the health and beauty centre with a range of treatments. All meals and drinks are included at the five theme restaurants and five bars (including a swim-up bar and sports bar) on the property.



### **THE MILL RESORT & SUITES**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 330 Aruba: (297) 586-7700 Fax: (297) 586-7271

USA/Canada: (800) 992-2015 or (401) 847-4720

Fax: (401) 847-4796 Website: www.millresort.com E-mail: sales@millresort.com

Perfect for an unforgettable vacation experience, this 200room resort offers casual elegance and spacious comfort amidst lush tropical gardens. Enjoy the intimacy and ambiance of this small resort situated amidst high-rise hotel surroundings. The Mill has a children's playground and children under 12 years old stay for free per each paying adult. The Mill offers EP, AI, and meal plans.



### THE RITZ-CARLTON, ARUBA

L.G. Smith Boulevard #107 Aruba: (297) 527-2222 Fax: (297) 527-3333

Website: http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/Aruba/

Default.htm

Just steps away from the powdery white sands of Aruba's famed Palm Beach, The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba offers a stunning oasis revealing a new level of elegance. More than 300 beautifully appointed rooms and suites boast private balconies with sweeping views of the Caribbean Sea and design elements that blend the Island's relaxed aesthetic with incomparable Ritz-Carlton character. The resort also offers 4 dining outlets, a luxurious 13-room spa, 2 swimming pools, and a 24-hour casino.



### **TIERRA DEL SOL RESORT AND GOLF**

Aruba: (297) 586-7800 USA/CANADA: (866) 978-5158 Website: www.tierradelsol.com E-mail: reservations@tierradelsol.com

This resort offers world-class luxury lodging amidst 600 acres of unspoiled beauty. Accommodations include 2 and 3-bedroom luxury condominiums and 2 to 4-bedroom private villa homes fully furnished and equipped with all modern amenities. This property creates an awesome retreat for golf groups, couples, family and friends getaways and business travelers alike. Play golf or tennis, swim at the Club pool, or treat yourself to a massage or treatment. Savor a meal and enjoy unique and the spectacular views of the Caribbean Sea, the historic California. Escape the crowds and enjoy a true stress-free getaway.

# Low-rise/Eagle Beach Area



#### **AMSTERDAM MANOR BEACH RESORT**

J. E. Irausauin Blvd. 252 Aruba: (297) 527-1100 Fax: (297) 527-1112 USA: (800) 969-2310

Website: www.amsterdammanor.com E-mail: reservations@amsterdammanor.aw

This unique Dutch-colonial-style resort, located across from the white sands of Eagle Beach, has 72 spacious and recently renovated studio, 1- and 2-bedroom suites complete with kitchenettes or full-size kitchens. Rooms feature flat screen TVs, direct telephone lines and free high-speed Internet services. Amenities include Horizons Bar, Passions on the Beach restaurant, Mangos restaurant, Passions Beach Bar & Lounge, a concierge desk, a swimming pool with a waterfall and a mini-market.

### **ARUBA BEACH CLUB**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 53 Aruba: (297) 524-3000 Fax: (297) 583-8191

Website: www.arubabeachclub.net

This family-oriented resort features 131 comfortable beachfront suites with kitchen facilities. Amenities include activities for adults and children, swimming pools, shops, a day spa, tennis courts, a mini-market, and restaurants. Services include daily maid service, baby-sitting services, laundry service, and a laundromat. The Alhambra Casino & Shops is located across from the resort.



#### **BUCUTI & TARA BEACH RESORTS**

L. G. Smith Blvd. 55-B, Eagle Beach Aruba: (297) 583-1100

USA: (888) 4 BUCUTI Website: www.bucuti.com E-mail: info@bucuti.com

An adults-only, romantic oasis with 104 rooms and suites (non-smoking), situated on a spacious and beautiful beach. Bucuti is perfect for couples seeking a tranquil and intimate environment. Wellness and personal service are the emphasis, with an oceanfront restaurant specializing in diners' dietary needs, a beautiful fitness center and a day spa. Free Breakfast, Free WiFi. TripAdvisor's "Top 10 Most Romantic Resorts" and Conde Nast "Top 10 Hotels in Caribbean".

#### **CASA DEL MAR BEACH RESORT**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 51 Aruba: (297) 582-7000 Fax: (297) 583-4371

Website: www.casadelmar-aruba.com

For a relaxing and exclusive vacation, 107 beachfront 2-bedroom suites and 40 privately located 1-bedroom suites are available on a pristine stretch of Eagle Beach. All units include full-sized kitchens and daily maid service. Dining options include a beachfront restaurant, bagel shop, ice cream parlor, and pool bar. Amenities include a complimentary wifi hotspot, two swimming pools, outdoor Jacuzzis, tennis courts, shopping arcade, a mini-market, professional spa, and a gym. A children's Activity Center with daily activities, kids' pool, and playground are located within view of the swimming pool. The Alhambra Casino & Shops, with 22 dining and retail outlets, is conveniently located across from the Resort.

### **COSTA LINDA BEACH RESORT**

J.E. Irausauin Blvd. 59 Aruba: (297) 583-8000 Fax: (297) 583-6040 USA/Canada: (888) 858-0845

Website: http://www.costalinda-aruba.com/ Email: reservations@costalinda-aruba.com

Discover the perfect island hideaway, Costa Linda Beach Resort, located on Eagle Beach, one of the finest beaches on Aruba. The resort offers 155 luxurious 2- and 3-bedroom suites with fully equipped kitchens and oceanview balconies. Amenities include various restaurants and bars, a tropical pool, whirlpool spas, a children's pool, a playground, tennis courts, a fitness center, a gift shop, a jewelry shop, and a spa.

### **DIVI ARUBA ALL INCLUSIVE**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 45 Aruba: (297) 525-5200 Fax: (297) 525-5203

USA: (800) 554-2008 or (207) 594-7888

Website: www.diviaruba.com E-mail: info@diviaruba.com

Enjoy the ultimate white sand beach and breezy sunny days at this charming low-rise resort with 203 rooms, each with patio or balcony, A/C, and satellite TV. Amenities include seven dining options, seven bars, three freshwater wading pools, non-motorized watersports, and a sports center with a 30-foot rock-climbing wall and fitness center. Additional charges apply at the day spa and nearby golf course and casino. Use of all services and facilities at the adjacent Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusive is included.



### **DIVI DUTCH VILLAGE**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 93 Aruba: (297) 583-5000. Fax: (297) 582-0501 USA: (800) 367-3484. Fax: (919) 419-2075 Website: www.dutchvillage.com E-mail: info@diviaruba.com

This newly renovated all-suite resort features oversize studio, one-, and two-bedroom suites perfect for families. Each suite offers a fully equipped kitchen and private patio or balcony. The Divi Dutch Village offers three swimming pools with outdoor Jacuzzi tubs and shares amenities with the neighboring Divi Village Golf and Beach Resort.



### **DIVI VILLAGE ALL INCLUSIVE VILLAS**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 93 Aruba: (297) 583-5000 Fax: (297) 582-0501 USA: (800) 367-3484 Fax: (919) 419-2075 Website: www.divivillas.com

E-mail: info@diviaruba.com

Aruba's all-suite, all-inclusive resort with luxury villas on the golf course allows for use of all the facilities and features of its own property as well as those of the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusives-both a quick shuttle ride away. This premier choice offers 13 restaurants, 11 bars, 7 freshwater pools, and a variety of sports and activities on the beach. Additionally, golf is included with your stay after 3 pm.

### **DIVI VILLAGE GOLF & BEACH RESORT**

J. E. Irausauin Blvd. 93

Aruba: (297) 583-5000. Fax: (297) 582-0501 USA: (800) 367-3484. Fax: (919) 419-2075

Website: www.divivillas.com E-mail: info@diviaruba.com

This all-suite resort features spacious studio, one-, and two-bedroom suites surrounded by freshwater swimming pools and a challenging nine-hole golf course, The Links at Divi Aruba. Resort amenities include three restaurants. lighted tennis courts, a watersports center, a fitness room, and more. Complimentary transportation is provided to the Alhambra Casino.

### LA CABANA BEACH RESORT & CASINO

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 250

Aruba: (297) 520-1100. Fax: (297) 587-0848

Website: www.lacabanabrc.com

This resort offers the complete vacation experience with full-service amenities including an outside bar with live entertainment, a health & fitness center, a spa, a beauty salon, a shopping arcade, and a car rental on property. Other features include activities, a swimming pool with waterslide, a kiddie pool, a playground, a supervised kids program, wireless Internet service, and a concierge. Enjoy the excitement of the resort's new Glitz Casino.

### **LA QUINTA BEACH RESORT**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 228

Aruba: (297) 587-5010. Fax: (297) 587-6263 Website: www.webnova.com/laquinta

Located across from beautiful Eagle Beach, this tranquil resort offers all the comforts of home. Its offerings include 84 luxury apartments, 2 swimming pools, an intimate poolside restaurant, BBQ grills, Internet facilities, a laundromat, and car rental. Island activities are available through the front desk.



### **MANCHEBO BEACH RESORT & SPA**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 55 Aruba: (297) 582-3444 Fax: (297) 583-2446 Toll-free: 1-888-673-8036 Website: www.manchebo.com

E-mail: reservations@manchebo.com

Experience your own personal Caribbean paradise at this intimate, two-story boutique resort on the shores of

majestic Eagle Beach, an ideal place for romantic and rejuvenating getaways. Seventy-two fully-appointed and renovated deluxe oceanview and gardenview rooms are cool and comfortable, bathrooms with waterfall showers, and thoughtful amenities. Optional All-inclusive program. Resort amenities include free Wi-Fi, a fitness room, daily yoga & Pilates classes and Spa del Sol, an exotic outdoor spa on the beach.



### **MVC EAGLE BEACH**

J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 240 Aruba: (297) 587-1110

Website: www.mvceaglebeach.com E-mail: reservations@mvceaglebeach.aw

With only 19 guest rooms, MVC Eagle Beach offers an intimate environment for you to relax to the fullest while on Aruba. Facilities include a small freshwater pool, a large garden terrace for sunbathing, free wireless Internet access, a tennis court, Tulip Caribbean Brasserie, a laundry room, free parking and concierge services. Rooms were recently renovated and it is located just across Eagle Beach.



#### **PARADISE BEACH VILLAS**

J.E. Irausquin Boulevard #64, Oranjestad, Aruba Tel: (297) 587-4000

Fax: (297) 587-0071

Website: www.paradisebeachvillas-aruba.com

E-mail: paradise@setarnet.aw

This exclusive 80-room timeshare hideaway is located across from Eagle Beach. Tastefully decorated and comfortable suites offer all the comforts of home, including fully equipped kitchens, cable TVs, central A/C, large balconies, and Wi-Fi access. Outdoor facilities include two

free-form swimming pools and Jacuzzis, a BBQ area, an exercise room, an Internet station, a beauty salon, a café, a mini-mart, and two restaurants.

### **TROPICANA ARUBA RESORT & CASINO**

Aruba: (297) 587-9000 Fax: (297) 527-9168 Toll-free: (888) 857-5735

Website: http://www.troparuba.com E-mail: reservations@troparuba.com

Leave the ordinary behind and indulge in a world of breathtaking natural beauty. Stately palms gently sway in the breeze; cascading waterfalls create their own gentle rhythms. Enjoy unparalleled vacation excitement day and night at this resort located just a short walk from the pristine white sands of Eagle Beach.



#### **TAMARIJN ARUBA ALL INCLUSIVE**

J. E. Irausquin Blvd. 41 Aruba: (297) 525-5200 Fax: (297) 525-5203

USA: (800) 554-2008 or (207) 594-7888 Website: www.tamarijnaruba.com

E-mail: info@tamarijnaruba.com

This all-inclusive resort offers a total of 236 oceanfront rooms with patios or balconies, A/C, and satellite TVs; 3 freshwater pools, 7\* dining options, 7 bars, non-motorized watersports, bikes, and a sports center with a 30-foot climbing wall and fitness area. Additional charges apply at the day spa and nearby golf course and casino. Use of all services and facilities at the adjacent Divi Aruba All

Inclusive is included. \*Surcharge applies at Windows on

Aruba, located at The Links at Divi Aruba.

# Downtown Area



### **RENAISSANCE ARUBA RESORT & CASINO**

L. G. Smith Blvd. 82 Aruba: (297) 583-6000. Fax: (297) 582-3820 USA: (800) 421-8188

Website: www.renaruba.com reservations@arubarenaissance.com

Live in luxury in either of our two newly renovated distinct hotels. The adult- exclusive Renaissance Marina Hotel is the perfect blend of chic style . And island comfort for both singles and couples alike. The Renaissance Ocean Suites offers spacious one- and two-bedroom suites, resort-style pools, and a beach area with a private lagoon. Discover Aruba's only private beaches on Renaissance Island, a popular destination wedding location. Its pristine, secluded beaches give you a sense of peace and solitude that is simply not found anywhere



### TALK OF THE TOWN HOTEL & BEACH CLUB

L.G. Smith Blvd. 2

Aruba: (+297) 524-3300. Fax: (+297) 582-0327

Website: www.tottaruba.com E-mail: info@tottaruba.com

Intimate, charming, and inviting, this casual boutique hotel is across the street from Surfside Beach and the Linear Park, and one mile from the international airport and the casinos, shops, theaters, and cruise port of the downtown area. The property has a total of 51 rooms and 11 suites (1- and 2-bedrooms). Meeting rooms, a business center, complimentary breakfast, and Wi-Fi internet are available. A palm-fringed courtyard with a beautiful pool and two hot tubs as well as bar and restaurant service are also on the premises. The lobby bar offers happyhour events. Diving, watersports, a great restaurant selection, and beach services are available just across the street at Surfside Beach.



# Aruba Tourism Authority Offices and Representatives

#### **NORTH AMERICA**

#### **NEW JERSEY**

400 Plaza Drive 1st floor Secaucus, NJ 07094 Phone: (201)-558-1110 Fax: (201)-558-4767

Email: ata.newjersey@aruba.com

### **DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS NORTHEAST**

Natasha Felix

Phone: (201)-558-1110 Email: n.felix@aruba.com

### **NEW YORK**

Natasha Lee Soy Phone: (917) 295-8991 Email: n.lee@aruba.com

### **NEW ENGLAND**

Katherine Kennedy Phone: (978) 276-1600 Fax: (831) 609-8246

Email: k.kennedy@aruba.com

### **SOUTHEAST**

Angelina Buckley Phone: (305)-766-3625 Email: a.buckley@aruba.com

### **WESTERN**

Carmelita Zenzola Phone: (760)-717-5603 Email: c.zenzola@aruba.com

#### **CANADA**

Liliana Mancini Phone (416) 464-0385 Email: I.mancini@aruba.com

### **DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS - US**

Kim Riddle

Phone: (936) 232-4938 Email: k.riddle@aruba.com or ata.houston@aruba.com

### **EUROPE**

#### THE NETHERLANDS & BELGIUM

R.J. Schimmelpennicklaan 1 2517 JN Den Haag, The Netherlands Phone: (31)-70-3028040 Email: ata.europe@aruba.com Facebook.com/ArubaToerisme Facebook.com/BezoekAruba

#### **UNITED KINGDOM & IRELAND**

C/o BEAUVUE MARKETING 21 Auction Close. Ashbourne Derbyshire DE 6 1GQ Phone: +(44) (0) 788-591-3860 Email:j.walding@aruba.com Facebook.com/ArubaFansUK Twitter.com/ArubaTourismUK

### NORDIC C/O NBTC

Peter Myndes Backe 9 SE- 118 46 Stockholm, Sweden Phone: 46 (o) 8 556-007 56 Fax: 46 (o) 8 714-8434 Email: Norden@aruba.com Facebook.com/BonBiniAruba

### **ITALY GLOBAL TOURIST**

Via Boucheron 14 10122 Torino (TO) ITALY T: +39 011 4546557 F: +39 011 0374844 Email: aruba@globaltourist.it

Facebook.com/ArubaTurismo

# **LATIN AMERICA VENEZUELA**

Centro Ciudad Comercial Tamanaco Torre B-Piso 9, Oficina 902

Chuao, Caracas

Teléfono: (+58) 212-959-9166/ 1148 Email: ata.caracas@aruba.com

#### **COLOMBIA**

Fedia Representaciones Carrera 11 # 73-4, Oficina 504 Bogota, Colombia Phone: (+57) 1-7020257 Email: arubacol@aruba.com ata.colombia@aruba.com

### **ARGENTINA**

Esmeralda 1056 2"L" Codigo postal C1007 ABN Cuidad de Buenos Aires Phone: (+54) 11-5353-0001 Email: ata.argentina@aruba.com

### **BRASIL**

Rua Alfredo Guedes, 72-CJ 65 CEP: 02034-010 Sao Paulo-SP, Brazil Tel/Fax: (+5511) 2768-3111 Email: c.barbosa@aruba.com ata.brazil@aruba.com

### CHII F

Grupo Net Global Padre Mariano 39, Oficina 1102 Phone: (+56-2) 2231-15883 Email: a.caballero@aruba.com ata.chile@aruba.com

### **MEXICO**

Gutemberg 176 Col. Anzures Del Miguel Hidalgo Mexico, D.F., C.O., 11590 Phone: (+52-55) 5596-6142 / (+52-55) 6273-6641 Email: bdiaz@adnova.com.mx



L.G. Smith Boulevard 8, P.O. Box 1019. Oranjestad, Aruba Phone: (297) 582-3777

Email: support@aruba.com Facebook.com/ArubaFans

Twitter: @aruba www.aruba.com









