



NEW YEAR'S DAY JANUARY 1

Aruba welcomes the New Year with traditional music and an amazing island-wide display of fireworks. With the pop of the champagne cork at midnight, troupes of traveling musicians, known as "Dande" groups, brighten the New Year with song, bestowing blessings of goodwill and prosperity upon the local community. Aruba's joyous holiday atmosphere can be enjoyed with just a simple evening on the beach under the stars and fireworks, or at one of the glitzy gala receptions held at various island resorts.

ARUBA'S 65TH Carnival Celebration January - March

Aruba's biggest party of the year is a month long celebration consisting of festive "jump-ups" (street parties), spectacular parades, and musical events. Dazzling costumes and music play a central role in events ranging from the queen elections to the Grand Parades, which wind their way down the streets of San Nicolas and Oranjestad to the delight of thousands of spectators. The Grand Parade in Oranjestad will take place March 3rd, 2019.

ARUBA'S TORCH PARADE JANUARY 5

Originally organized by the Tivoli Club, Aruba's oldest social club, the Torch Parade is now the official opening parade on the Carnival organizer's (SMAC) schedule. The tradition continues with bright lights leading the way down the streets of Oranjestad.

The parade begins at 8 p.m. and sets the pace for the festivities to come in the following weeks.

ARUBA INTERNATIONAL BIKE WEEK JANUARY 18-25

Didn't bring your Harley with you? No worries—just watching hundreds of bikes parade around the island is a remarkable sight to see! This 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 croesrudy@gmail.com, or Mr. Nahar at Tel. (297) 593-0014 or ttt.riders.aruba@gmail.com.

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH CARNIVAL QUEEN ELECTION JANUARY 19

Carnival excitement builds as Aruba elects its first queens of the season. Contestants in the Children's Carnival Queen Election are 6-9 years of age. Youth Carnival Queen contestants are aged 13-17. All demonstrate their Carnival spirit through dance performances, speeches, and Carnival shows. Venue: Aruba Entertainment Center at 7:00 p.m.

CARNIVAL QUEEN AND MRS. CARNIVAL ELECTION JANUARY 24

During a fun-filled event, Aruba elects its two most important Carnival representatives: the Aruba Carnival Queen and Mrs. Carnival. Contestants of the Aruba Carnival Queen Election are between the ages of 17 and 25, while the Mrs. Carnival contestants are more experienced participants—young at heart and full of pride—representing districts, schools, and social clubs on the island. Marked by lavish production numbers, the election is judged by a panel of local and international judges. Highlights of this festive election event include skits and joyful displays of Carnival costumes and dance. Venue: Aruba Entertainment Center at 7:30 p.m.



BETICO CROES DAY JANUARY 25

Aruba pays tribute to its greatest statesman on his birthday. The late Gilberto Francois "Betico" Croes 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.

BETICO CROES MEMORIAL 10K RUN & 5K FUN WALK JANUARY 25

Calling all runners! Betico Croes' hometown of Santa Cruz sponsors an amateur road race through the hilly, scenic terrain of that area. The circular route takes runners through residential neighborhoods and back to the main intersection of Santa Cruz. Avoiding the hotter hours of the day, the starting pistol sounds at 6:00 p.m. Open registration through IBISA at Tel. (297)-582-4987, Fax (297)-583-6478, or ibisaaruba@gmail.com.

GRAND FINAL TUMBA CONTEST FEBRUARY 2

Originally from Africa with a Caribbean influence, the tumba music played during the Carnival has the rhythm of the "tambu" which is a tambour with a 6/8 beat. This event features local bands and singers competing for the Tumba King or Queen title with their original musical compositions and lyrics. Venue: Aruba Entertainment Center at 8 p.m.

PRE-FINAL ARUBA CAISO & Soca Monarch 2019 February 4-7

Setting the tone for the music of the new Carnival season, hundreds of talented locals compete for entry into the grand finals for King or Queen of Aruba's Calypso and Road March. Venue: Carnival Village in San Nicolas at 8 p.m.-12:00 p.m.

GRAND FINAL ARUBA CAISO & Soca Monarch 2019 February 9

Attracting more than 10,000 spectators, one of the most exciting and popular local music festivals is the annual Calypso and Road March contest. This festival is your best bet for enjoying imaginative music of the people, by the people, and for the people. Original musical compositions and lyrics are presented with the social commentary of Calypso or the catchy beat of Road March, helping to define the Carnival season. The most popular songs will be featured in the upcoming jump-ups and parades. Venue: Carnival Village in San Nicolas at 8 p.m.-3:00 a.m.

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL PARADE IN NOORD FEBRUARY 9

The district of Noord demonstrates its Carnival spirit with the presentation of its own children's parade. Children representing elementary schools and social clubs participate in vibrant interpretations of different themes. The event starts at 1 p.m.





CHILDREN'S GRAND CARNIVAL PARADE IN ORANJESTAD FEBRUARY 17

The largest children's parade of the season includes all of the island's various Carnival groups coming together to form Aruba's 38th Children's Grand Carnival Parade. Hundreds of children enjoy the opportunity to show off their dancing skills and colorful costumes. Held in downtown Oranjestad, the event begins at 1 p.m.

JOUVERT MORNING FEBRUARY 23

An early-morning open invitation to Aruba's largest "jump-up" is extended to Carnival enthusiasts throughout the island. Popularly known as the "pajama party," thousands of people gather in San Nicolas to follow the various live-music caravans down the city streets. Set the alarm clock! This exciting jump-up begins at 4 a.m. and continues until sunrise.

ARUBA'S LIGHTING PARADE FEBRUARY 23

Aruba's favorite evening Carnival parade is a visual treat. Thousands of tiny lights are incorporated into costumes, road pieces, and floats, heightening the dramatic effect of an already stunning and creative display. Live bands accompany the various participating Carnival groups. Held in downtown Oranjestad, the parade begins at 8 p.m.

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL PARADE IN SAN NICOLAS FEBRUARY 24

Aruba's youngest Carnival enthusiasts take center stage as they parade down the streets of San Nicolas dressed in colorful costumes representing various themes. The parade starts at noon in downtown San Nicolas. 2:00 p.m.

SAN NICOLAS LIGHTING PARADE FEBRUARY 28

Although not as extravagant as the Oranjestad version of the parade, the San Nicolas Lighting Parade is no less jubilant in its presentation of dance, music, and Carnival spirit. The parade starts at 8 p.m.





SAN NICOLAS GRAND CARNIVAL PARADE MARCH 2

This is a prelude to the Grand Carnival Parade in Oranjestad. Local musicians create an exceptional ambiance in San Nicolas by playing their latest Carnival hits to the delight of hundreds of marchers dressed in resplendent costumes. Beautifully decorated themed floats accompanied by their floor members parade through the streets of San Nicolas until sunset. The parade starts at noon in San Nicolas.

ARUBA'S 65TH GRAND CARNIVAL PARADE MARCH 3

The largest Carnival parade is the Grand Parade through Oranjestad, held on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. This parade is filled with unforgettable music, spectacular floats, and original costumes decorated with colorful stones, sequins, and feathers, creating a unique display. The event starts at 10 a.m. in Oranjestad and continues into the early evening hours.

BURNING OF KING MOMO & CLOSING OF ARUBA'S 65TH CARNIVAL MARCH 3

Carnival 65th comes to an official end with the burning of "King Momo." The event is held at 8 p.m.at Oranjestad Harbor Arena.

CARNIVAL MONDAY MARCH 4 Official holiday.

ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 6

This Christian event is prominently marked on the island at our many Catholic churches and begins the official start of the Lenten season. Locally, Ash Wednesday also represents the end of the Carnival season.

In 2020 and 2021, the Grand Parades will take place on Sunday, February 23rd, and Sunday, February 17th, respectively. Contact the Aruba Carnival Organizer (SMAC) at Tel. (297) 592-8792 or info@smacaruba. com for additional information.

NATIONAL FLAG AND ANTHEM DAY MARCH 18

A strong sense of pride is displayed each year as Arubans celebrate their "Status Aparte" and the Flag and Anthem Day. An impressive folkloric production marking the holiday is held each year at Plaza Betico Croes in Oranjestad. This official holiday also features many cultural events showcasing the local gastronomy of Aruba, as well as sporting events and organized games for both adults and kids around the island.

34TH ARUBA INTERNATIONAL HALF MARATHON (21K) MARCH 24

International competitors participate in Aruba's longest road race covering the length of the island from San Nicolas to Oranjestad. The race begins at 5:00 a.m. Contact IBISA at Tel. (297) 582-4987, Fax (297) 583-6478, or ibisa.aruba@gmail.com / ibisa.socialmedia@ gmail.com or visit the Website www.ibisaaruba.com for additional information or registration.





GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 19 Official holiday.

EASTER SUNDAY AND EASTER MONDAY APRIL 21-22 Official holiday.

EARTH DAY April 22

The first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, activated 20 million Americans from all walks of life, and is widely credited with launching the modern environmental movement. Growing out of the first Earth Day, Earth Day Network (EDN) works with over 22,000 partners in 192 countries to broaden, diversify, and mobilize the environmental movement. Here on Aruba, many resorts and businesses celebrate Earth Day with interactive events and activities to promote awareness.

KING'S BIRTHDAY April 27

An official government ceremony in honor of King Willem Alexander is 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.

59TH INTERNATIONAL BOULEVARD RACE (10K) APRIL 27

Aruba's most popular running race draws over 200 competitors from countries including Aruba, Venezuela, Colombia, the Netherlands Antilles, USA, and Holland. The 10K event starts at 5:30 p.m. on L.G. Smith Blvd. and ends at the Marriott parking lot. Entry forms will be issued in February. Contact Vanessa Tromp at Tel. (297) 593-5801 or arruwac@gmail.com for additional Information.

FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL April 26-27

Ready to experience the deliciousness of our "cuminda di truck?" Take a bite at every "cuminda di truck", and be surprised what the streets of Aruba have to offer you! Savor the best of Aruba's Food Trucks during Eat Local's: Food Truck edition. Location: Plaza Daniel Leo (Behind the Renaissance Marina Hotel). Time: 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM. Visit www.aruba.com for additional information.









LABOR DAY MAY 1 Official holiday.

ASCENSION DAY MAY 30

Official holiday.

17TH AHATA RECYCLING ART COMPETITION/EXPOSITION MAY 6-10

Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association organizes annually an awareness campaign for adults and kids promoting the re-use of old articles to create recycled art. Last day for registration is April 14. Free entrance. For more information, please contact The Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association at Tel. (297) 582-2607, Fax (297) 582-4202. or vanessa@ahata.com.

19TH EDITION ARUBA SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL 2019 MAY 22-27

Held on Memorial Day holiday weekend, the Aruba Soul Beach Music Festival is a star-studded, two-night concert series that has featured such artists as Marv J. Blige, Tony Braxton, Alicia Keys, Sinbad, Jennifer Hudson, Ne-yo, Babyface, Robin Thicke, Charlie Wilson, Trey Songz, The Isley Brothers, featuring Ronald

and Enest Islev, singer-songwriter Fantasia, Jazmine Sullivan, Usher, The Roots, Cedric the Entertainer, For the 2nd time Alicia Keys, Maxwell, Marlon Wayans. 2019 legendary and 10 times Grammy award winner: John Legend has been announced. Venue: Harbor Arena, Contact: email: email at: info@soulbeach.net Visit: www.soulbeach.net_for additional information.

ALOE WELLNESS MONTH JUNE

Start your summer off in June with a unique and holistic wellness program hosted by the One happy island. Aruba offers the perfect backdrop to revitalize your mind, body and soul with special hotel deals and exclusive on-property activities. Recharge with invigorating yoga, tai chi or Pilates, or explore the island with off-property adventures such as organized beach walks and captivating Caribbean nature hikes. For more information visit: http://www.aruba.com

18TH ANNUAL AHATA NATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP

JUNE 1

Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association organizes annually a national cleanup concentrating on areas near and along the coastline.

For more information, please contact AHATA at Tel. (297) 582-2607, Fax (297) 582-4202, or send an email to vanessa@ahata.com

2ND EDITION KLM ARUBA INTERNATIONAL MARATHON JUNE 2

After a successful 1st edition the KLM Aruba Marathon will continue with its 2nd edition. Full & Half Marathon. 10K and 5K will be held on June 2nd, 2019. The Bace is AIMS/ IAAF certified and this road race is organized on the highest International level. Contact: e-mail: info@arubainternationalmarathon.com Tel.: IBISA (297) 582-4987 https://registration.mylaps.com/aruba-marathon/

DERA GAI (ST. JOHN'S DAY) JUNE 24

Aruba's harvest festival is now a cultural celebration featuring traditional song and dance. The symbol of the rooster and bright yellow and red costumes are central to events held at various locations including community centers.

Contact Tel.: (297) 582-2185 / www.gobierno.aw.

5TH EDITION ARUBA SUMMER FESTIVALS 2019 JUNE 28-29

5th edition of a two-day festival features exciting artists never before seen live in Aruba. Previous editions have featured artists like Nicky Jam, Jerry Rivera, Elvis Crespo, Carlos Vives, Pitbull, Enrique Iglesias and

Gente de Zona, Juan Luis Guerra, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Maluma, Zion & Lennox, Ozuna, Nacho, Eddy Herrera, Felipe 'Pipe' Pelaez, Foseca, Victor Manuel. & Kes The Band, 2019 line up to be advised. Festival packages information: Contact Email Loco Lobo Productions at: info@arubasmf.com or http://www.arubasmf.com/.

33RD ARUBA INTERNATIONAL TRIATHLON JUNE 30

International competitors participate in a triathlon comprised of a 1.5 km swim, 40 km bike race, and 10 km run. Beginners can test their endurance in the triathlon of a 750 m swim. 20 km bike race, and 5 km run. Beginning at Eagle Beach, the event is planned on a safe and closed circuit. More than 100 athletes expected to participate in this event hosted by the Aruba Triathlon Association. For registration and information contact Glenda Croes-Tromp at Tel. (297) 594-0067 or arubatriathlon@hotmail.com / Glenda croes@hotmail. com or visit www.arubatriathlon.com.





33TH ANNUAL ARUBA HI-WINDS JULY 7

Aruba's trade winds provide the perfect conditions for the largest amateur windsurfing event in the Caribbean. Exciting windsurfing and kite boarding competitions in various categories held off Hadicurari Beach (Fisherman's Huts). There are five days of non-stop entertainment, beach parties, events, and activities. Contact email:hiwindsaruba@gmail.com, or visit: www. aruba-hiwinds.org for additional information.

ARUBA INTERNATIONAL REGATTA 2019 August 16-18

This sailing event features fun, action, and competitions among international yachts, catamarans, Sunfish, and windsurfers during the day, combined with music, parties, and dinners at night. Contact the Organizing Committee at Tel. (297) 565-6887 or eric@arubaregatta.com, or visit www.aruba-regatta.com for registration and additional information.







38TH TURIBANA TO SANTA CRUZ 10K RACE SEPTEMBER 8

A unique way to experience an Aruban sunrise is during this open road race that starts at 5:30 a.m. at Panaderia del Campo in Noord and finishes at the Betico Croes Sports Complex in Santa Cruz. Registration begins on August 20, 2019.

Contact IBISA at Tel. (297) 582-4987, Fax (297) 583-6478, or ibisaaruba@gmail.com/ ibisa.socialmedia@ gmail.com or visit the Website www.ibisaaruba.com for additional information or registration.

25TH ANNUAL ARUBA REEF CARE PROJECT SEPTEMBER 22

If you are in search of a great eco-tourism opportunity, join more than 800 participants from both the local community and those visiting us from abroad for the island's largest volunteer initiative. 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 or castroeperez@gmail.com for additional information.

WORLD TOURISM DAY SEPTEMBER 27

Event celebrated with a conference. Contents and venue: TBA

For more info: www.aruba.com or call + 297 582-3777 or email support@aruba.com

ART FAIR ARUBA OCTOBER TBD

Starting in the month of June and culminating in September Aruba will be infused with art. The Aruba Art fair will consist of different elements such as a Culinary Art Competition, Building Take Overs (Visual Art), Art TV Program, Art Magazine, School Art Contest, Sculpture Making and at the 3-Day Art Fair in San Nicolas. The 3-day fair will be taking place in the streets of San Nicolas where local and international artists will be performing live art and displaying their masterpieces. The fair will be combined with other forms of art such as music, dance and other creative forms of expression. Venue: San Nicolas

Contact Mr. Bolivar Tel +(297) 593 4475 or visit www. arubaartfair.com for additional information.

34TH FIRE PREVENTION 10K & 5K RUN OCTOBER TBA

Do not forget to pack your running shoes! This race is open to all local and visiting runners (and walkers!), and follows a circular route that begins and ends at the Fire House in Tanki Flip.

The race begins at 4:00 p.m. Registration begins on September 23, 2019. Contact: IBISA at Tel. (297) 582-4987, Fax (297) 583-6478, or ibisaaruba@gmail.com/ ibisa.socialmedia@ gmail.com or visit the Website www.ibisaaruba.com for additional information or registration.

5TH EDITION EAT LOCAL RESTAURANT MONTH October

Indulge in the island's zesty flavors at the Eat Local Restaurant month with ore than 60 restaurants participaiting, offering critics, wine connoisseurs, foodies, and everyone in between the chance to sample Aruba's diverse culinary heritage. Two-course lunch for \$15.00, and three-course lunch for \$30.00 or \$40.00. Visit www.aruba.com for additional information.





INTERPASO 2019 NOVEMBER TBA

Interpaso in Aruba is a showdown of the best Paso Fino horses from Latin America and the Caribbean competing in different categories. Interpaso is organized by OCA, the Aruban Horse Riding Organization. A must-see if you enjoy Paso Fino show horses, horse riding, horse competitions, and an exciting, local ambiance! Contact: ocaboard@ocaruba.com for additional information.

13TH EDITION ARUBA INTERNATIONAL BEACH TENNIS TOURNAMENT NOVEMBER 12-17

Aruba's international beach tennis event is the premier tournament in the Caribbean. International beach tennis pros and amateurs travel from around the world to compete in the prestigious tournament and take part in the festive beach-chic ambiance on gorgeous Eagle Beach. Contact Sjoerd de Vries at Tel. (297) 593-6512 or Aruba Tennis at Tel. (297) 583-7074, Fax (297) 588-4278, or sjoerd@beachtennisaruba.com, or visit www.arubabeachtennis.com for additional information

SAINT NICOLAS DAY December 5

Aruba's children line Oranjestad's harbor for the ceremonious arrival by boat of "Sinterklaas" (Saint Nicolas), dressed in bishop's robes and accompanied by his "Zwarte Pieten" (helpers).

For days before Sinterklaas' birthday on December 5, children leave out their shoes and treats for Sinterklaas' white horse in anticipation of his nighttime visit and gifts. Sinterklaas and his helpers appear at many daytime events throughout the island.

CHRISTMAS BOXING DAY DECEMBER 25 DECEMBER 26 Official holiday. Official holiday.

DANDE FESTIVAL December 27

In Aruba's biggest traditional musical event, more than 50 singers accompanied by typical musical groups present their original compositions and lyrics as well as the traditional Dande song. A Dande group is a troupe of traveling musicians brightening the New Year with a song bestowing blessings, goodwill, and prosperity. Venue: TBA at 8 p.m.





BONBINI FESTIVAL

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

NORTH AMERICA ARUBA TOURISM AUTHORITY NEW JERSEY

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Natasha Felix \$\$\lambda : (201) 558-1110 \$\$\lambda : n.felix@aruba.com

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SOUTHEAST - SALES REPRESENTATIVE

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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT - US REPRESENTATIVE

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This Calendar of Events has been produced by the Aruba Tourism Authority to provide general information about events and activities taking place in Aruba during 2019. This information is subject to change without any notice. All efforts have been made to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information of each event at the time of printing. The Aruba Tourism Authority is not liable for any possible errors, omissions, or cancellations. Visit Aruba's official website, www.aruba.com, for the latest updates on festivals, events, and conferences, or contact any of the following offices or representatives of the Aruba Tourism Authority.