



Country Profile: Bahamas

The Bahamas is a developed, English-speaking Caribbean nation composed of hundreds of islands covering a territory approximately the size of California. Tourism and financial services comprise the two largest sectors of the economy. Independent from the United Kingdom since 1973, The Bahamas is a Commonwealth nation with more than a century-old democratic tradition. The capital, Nassau, is located on New Providence Island. Please read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on The Bahamas for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Bahamas
Continent:	Caribbean
Capital City:	Nassau
Boundary Countries:	
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Nassau: Princess Margaret Hospital, Doctors Hospital Freeport: Rand Memorial Hospital
Main Cities:	Nassau, Freeport, Matthew Town, South Riding Point
Country Size:	13,940 sq km
Population:	305,655

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	English (official), Creole (among Haitian immigrants)
Currency:	Bahamian Dollar (BSD)
Predominant Religions:	Baptist 35.4%, Anglican 15.1%, Roman Catholic 13.5%, Pentecostal 8.1%, Church of God 4.8%, Methodist 4.2%, other Christian 15.2%, none or unspecified 2.9%, other 0.8%
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 10 July (1973)
Economic Status:	The Bahamas is a stable, developing nation with an economy heavily dependent on tourism and offshore banking.
Security:	Royal Bahamian Defense Force: Marines, Air Wing
US Presence:	Americans living or traveling in the Bahamas are encouraged to register with the nearest US Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's travel registration web site so that they can obtain updated information on travel and security within the Bahamas. Americans without Internet access may register directly with the nearest US Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. U.S. Embassy Nassau 42 Queen St. Nassau, the Bahamas Phone: 242-322-1181 Fax: 242-356-7174
Major Airports:	Airports: 64, Airports w/paved runways: 29 Nassau Airport, Bahamas, Nassau International Airport, AP59229, BAHAMAS Tel: +1 242 277-0209 Fax: +1 242 377-0294 Email: feedback@nas.bs Website: www.nas.bs

Grand Bahama Airport (FPO/MYGF)
Freeport Airport, Bahamas, PO Box 40916, Freeport, BAHAMAS
Tel: +1 242 352-6020, +1 242 352-7647
Fax: +1 242 352-4504
Telex: FPO 20

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