Pre or Post Cruise

Starting or ending your cruise in Barbados? Then you’re one of the lucky ones who gets to spend a few days with us before or after your cruise – there’s just so much to do all through the year, from morning till night!

Rent a car and check out the numerous restaurants, beaches, signature attractions, dinner shows, sporting events and so much more at your own pace. Stay close to port in a well-known brand name hotel like the Hilton, Radisson or Marriott Courtyard or getaway from it all and relax in a luxurious villa, exquisite resort, chic boutique hotel or a charming guest house! Most of our hotels are located on or very close to the beach so you can experience all that the gloriously diverse shorelines have to offer.

Contact your travel agent for more information on how and where to stay, pre and post cruise in beautiful Barbados! Visit our website today!
Welcome to Authentic Barbados

So you’ve only got a few fabulous hours to spend with us on our extraordinary island? Great! Let’s make some memories! With just 166 square miles, we’re packed with more attractions per square mile than any other island in the Caribbean! No matter which corner of the island you go, you are destined to find a rich combination of culture, heritage, adventure, shopping, sport, food, activities and hallmark attractions which you can access within minutes.

Stay Close to Port

Closest to the cruise terminal is Pelican Village, a colourful handicraft and souvenir-shopping marketplace. Enjoy duty-free shopping of luxurious brands in trendy stores in our capital city Bridgetown or take an enlightening walking tour of the city.

Designated as a UNESCO Heritage site in 2011, Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison provide you with a scenic and informative heritage journey from the island’s remarkable past to its dynamic present. Nestled within the historical city you’ll find not only elegant 19th Century buildings with ornate finishes, but also beautifully maintained symbolic structures of our heritage.

Signature Attraction

Set sail on a party cruise onboard the Jolly Roger Pirate Ship. Walk the plank and swim with turtles on this high-energy pleasure boat destined to immerse you in music, culture and a lot of rum!

Six weeks of parties, food, arts and music climax with our biggest street party! The Barbados Crop Over Festival celebrates the end of our sugar cane season. Party like a Barbadian!
While we’re not as mountainous as some other islands, our interior landscape is made up of rolling hills, caves, gullies, tropical gardens and scenic viewpoints. Harrison’s Cave is a must-see for adventurous cruisers! Calm glassy pools, mesmerizing rock formations and amazing stalactites and stalagmites await. Relax with nature at Welchman Hall Gully, a tropical rainforest, home to the Barbados Green Monkey. Watch them feed, swing from vines and be exceptionally curious to visitors.

Head for the Hills

While we’re not as mountainous as some other islands, our interior landscape is made up of rolling hills, caves, gullies, tropical gardens and scenic viewpoints. Harrison’s Cave is a must-see for adventurous cruisers! Calm glassy pools, mesmerizing rock formations and amazing stalactites and stalagmites await. Relax with nature at Welchman Hall Gully, a tropical rainforest, home to the Barbados Green Monkey. Watch them feed, swing from vines and be exceptionally curious to visitors.

Escape to the East

Wild waves, breathtaking beaches and lush landscapes define the East Coast of our island. A tour of this coast must include the renowned Oxford-styled Codrington College, the oldest Anglican/Episcopal Theological seminary in the Western Hemisphere; a perfect selfie opportunity with the oft-photographed boulder at Bathsheba; the serene picnic spots at Bath and Barclays Park and the picturesque and lively Martin’s Bay. The East Coast is chockfull of culture and heritage too!  

Signature Attraction

Strategically situated on the highland of one of the central parishes is Gun Hill Signal Station. Built in 1818 it was used to signal the approach of enemy ships. Be sure to check out the collection of military memorabilia kept there and of course, the lion!
When style, sophistication, culture and history meet in one fabulous place that’s #winning! The West Coast of Barbados is all that and more. Wander to the west and return with luxury brands, illuminating knowledge and maybe a perfect tan!

Holetown is historically referred to as the site where the first English settlers of the island arrived. Since then it has become home to a treasure trove of shopping and restaurants on the west.

A little further north, the quaint and charming Speightstown will delight you with local style and laid-back ambiance. Beachside restaurants offer you an amazing ocean view while you relax with a cocktail. Learn the history of the town at the Arlington House Interactive Museum situated centrally in a beautiful colonial-style building. The Gallery of Caribbean Art showcases local and regional talent in an enthralling space.

You never know, you just may be tempted to purchase one of the wonderful pieces on sale!

How The West Is Won

The most northerly point of Barbados will leave you breathless! The truly adventurous will enjoy discovering the Animal Flower Cave. Bring your swimwear and relax in the pool inside the cave. Then, have lunch with a breathtaking view at the restaurant by the cliff.

Limegrove Lifestyle Centre is known for its international designer brand stores, diverse cuisine options and entertaining events.

Seaside dining
The South Coast is every watersports lover’s dream come true. Diverse beaches along this shoreline are lively with jet skiing, surfing, stand-up paddle boarding, scuba diving and even hydro flying. Brush up on your skills or learn a new one to turn your trip into a fun-filled adventure!

There’re even more shopping centres, boutiques and restaurants on the South where you can pick up a few souvenirs, enjoy a culinary delight or even take in a local Farmer’s Market on select days.

Eager to hit the ground running?
Hop on an Island Safari custom built 4x4 Land Cruiser and enjoy a tour off the beaten track with a knowledgeable and fun tour guide. Want to stay in the water? Take in a catamaran cruise and bask in the sunshine while you sail the coastline. Snorkel with the fish or swim with the turtles and enjoy a delectable local buffet on board.

**Signature Attraction**

Only a handful of these supersonic passenger aircraft were ever built and now one British Airways Concorde calls Barbados home. Built for the ultra wealthy who wanted to travel in speed and comfort, we can now all climb aboard and take a peek inside this stunning aircraft.

**Explore Shore to Shore**

Eager to hit the ground running?
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When the sun goes down more island activities start to heat up. Step into 1751 and enjoy Dinner with George - an exceptional dining and theatrical experience at George Washington House: the only place outside the USA which George Washington ever visited and spent an extended period of time. Thrill-seekers will enjoy the Historic Garrison Night Tour and Tunnel Experience. Informative and dramatic guides will lead you on a rousing journey around the site and through the recently discovered underground tunnels. The weekly Oistins Fish Fry is for the traveller seeking to immerse themselves in the local culture. This open-air experience is a delight for locals and visitors every Friday night.

Discover Barbados After Dark

Yes... a rum. No sneakers required. Since we are known as the birthplace of rum, your trip won’t be complete without a taste of one of our main exports. Just minutes away from the cruise terminal you’ll find the Mount Gay Visitor’s Centre where the world’s oldest rum is created. In the south eastern countryside, pay a visit to Foursquare Rum Distillery and Heritage Park or head north to St. Nicholas Abbey for a rum tour.

Go For a Rum

When the sun goes down more island activities start to heat up. Step into 1751 and enjoy Dinner with George - an exceptional dining and theatrical experience at George Washington House: the only place outside the USA which George Washington ever visited and spent an extended period of time. Thrill-seekers will enjoy the Historic Garrison Night Tour and Tunnel Experience. Informative and dramatic guides will lead you on a rousing journey around the site and through the recently discovered underground tunnels. The weekly Oistins Fish Fry is for the traveller seeking to immerse themselves in the local culture. This open-air experience is a delight for locals and visitors every Friday night.
Clear your schedule because we’ve got more world-class events than ever packed into our annual calendar!

From January to December, Barbados is pulsing with action, day and night. Music events include jazz, reggae, calypso and even Broadway festivals! Foodies will love the Barbados Food and Rum festival, or maybe even a chocolate expo. Hit the water for sailing, surfing, beach volleyball, windsurfing and more fun in the sun competitions!

Feeling sporty? Don’t miss horse-racing, golf, motorsport, polo, cricket, football and triathlon annual events including the world-renowned Sandy Lane Barbados Gold Cup horserace.

Learn more about our culture and heritage with a variety of festivals including the Holetown Festival, Oistins Fish Festival and the six week Crop Over festival culminating with an all day street carnival on the first Monday in August. Be sure to check out the calendar on visitbarbados.org to see what’s on when!
Idyllic locations, stunning settings, beautiful days... we think we want to marry you! Getting married on our island can be done with no minimum stay requirements. Just apply for your license, marry and enjoy your celebration in hours!

Let the Shopping Begin

Visitors to Barbados are exempt from local taxes inclusive of VAT. That means you can treat yourself to your favourite brands at as much as 30% less than what you’d pay at home! Find clothing, fragrances, beachwear, shoes, cosmetics, jewelry, souvenirs and more at many of the shops in Bridgetown and around the island.

You can also discover local craftworks at Medford Craft World where each piece is individually handcrafted from Barbados Mahogany wood, and at Pelican Village where you can watch, learn and join in as local artisans create wood carvings, board games, pottery, basketry, jewellery and even music!

Signature Shops

Start your duty free shopping spree right in the cruise terminal! Stock up on the latest fragrances and cosmetics by international brands, and jewellery from Colombian Emeralds and Little from Little Switzerland. Scour the delightful little kiosks for brightly printed totes, clothing and accessories that make great souvenir gifts for friends back home, or wonderful memories for you and your family.