

Bahamas

Destination Guide

ARRIVING IN BAHAMAS

- 1) After deplaning, you will enter the Immigration line. Present your passport and answer any questions from the officer.
- 2) Claim all your checked bags and proceed through customs.
- 3) Check your travel documents for instructions for transportation to your hotel.

ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS

In addition to a valid passport, the Bahamian government may require proof of a return airline ticket and sufficient funds to support your stay.

DURING YOUR STAY

TIPPING

Tipping is customary in The Bahamas, and you should tip according to the quality of service you receive. Bellboys and porters usually receive \$1-\$3 per bag, while most other servers (waiters, taxis, etc.) receive 15%. Be advised that many establishments include the gratuity in the total.

CURRENCY

The Bahamian dollar is maintained at the same level as the U.S. dollar and both are accepted interchangeably on all islands.

ELECTRICITY

Electrical outlets in The Bahamas are 60 cycles/120 volts, which is compatible with all American devices.

TIME ZONE

The Bahamas falls in the Eastern Time Zone, and follows Daylight Saving Time.

DRIVING

UK rules apply in The Bahamas, so drive on the left and be very careful on the roundabouts. Visitors can use their residence permit for up to three months and may also apply for an international driving licence.

COMMUNICATION

English is the official language in the Bahamas.

The country code for the Bahamas is +1 which is the same as the United States. You may find that you need to dial +1 in front of the phone number for it to work.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

- Emergency numbers: 911 or 919
- Police: (242) 322-4444

SAFETY TIPS

Only accept rides from licensed operators on land and sea, including taxis and watercraft operators, such as water taxis, jet skis, banana boats, speedboats, etc.

Enjoy the sun but use sunscreen, take breaks, and hydrate with non-alcoholic beverages to avoid heatstroke.

Never swim alone and use caution if you choose to swim during the early morning or after dusk.

If you have medical issues that may affect your ability to participate in strenuous excursions, please consider before diving in.

When booking an excursion, work directly with your hotel or travel provider to find a trusted tour operator. It is not recommended to work with individuals who may approach you on the beach or street.

The purchase and usage of marijuana is illegal and enforced with strict penalties.

Be mindful of sharks when swimming and engaging in water activities, as there have been recent incidents involving sharks.

Be aware of weather and water conditions and heed local warnings.

RETURNING TO THE US

Nassau has Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Preclearance which means you will go through customs before your flight. This means you will save time on your connecting flight and should not need to go through customs or TSA upon returning to the US. If you are flying home

If you are returning to the U.S. from another airport in the Bahamas, you will go through customs and immigrations when you arrive on US soil.

1) You may be given immigration forms to fill out during your flight. Keep a pen, your passports, travel documents, and receipts from anything you purchased during your trip easily accessible from your seat.

2) After deplaning, go through immigrations. You will need your passport. We recommend using Mobile Passport Control if your connecting airport supports it.

3) Go to the luggage carousel and claim all your checked bags.

4) Take all your belongings to the Customs line. You may be asked questions about what you are bringing back into the country, and your belongings may be subject to search.

5) For connecting flights or to reach the final airport exit, you may need to pass your checked luggage back to the airline. This is usually done at a counter outside of the Customs area.