

THE BERRY ISLANDS FACT SHEET

The Berry Islands are composed of a cluster of 30 mostly uninhabited cays, so it's not uncommon to stumble across a footprint-free beach or peaceful cove. With the abundance of privacy, these serene islands are a long known hideaway for the rich and famous. The Berry Islands are home to a number of spectacular dive sites, a 600-foot-wide blue hole and some of the most remarkable billfishing, making it the perfect destination for anglers and underwater adventurers. From pristine beaches and historical sites to renowned fishing and diving, visitors can expect to find tranquility and natural beauty around every corner.

HISTORY

The Berry Islands are believed to have been first settled in 1836 when Bahamas Governor William Colebrook established a settlement of emancipated slaves at Great Stirrup Cay. Comprised of 30 cays, The Berry Islands contained numerous natural resources that initiated plantations, hunting and settlements. The largest island, Great Harbour Cay, was developed in the 1960's to be the ultimate getaway for the rich and famous.

ABOUT THE BERRY ISLANDS

Town/Settlement: Bullocks Harbour, Great Harbour Cay

Size: 12 square miles

Population: Approximately 800

ACCOMMODATIONS

Chub Cay Club – This private island paradise sits at the southern tip of The Berry Islands and at the edge of "The Pocket" of the ocean, where a variety of dolphins, wahoo, marlin, tuna and sailfish are often spotted. Chub Cay has miles of untouched beaches and offers full resort amenities, including beachfront cabanas, beautifully designed accommodations, a full-service marina, restaurants and bars.

www.chubcayresortandmarina.com.

Carriearl Boutique Hotel – Renovated in 2012, this boutique property boasts bright, cozy rooms and a relaxed atmosphere. Located on one of the most magnificent beaches in The Bahamas, Carriearl is the perfect place to soak in the natural beauty of The Berry Islands. www.carriearl.com

Harbour Inn Guest House – Located next to Great Harbour Cay Marina, this centrally located hotel offers five tropically decorated villas with easy access to the beach, a beautiful nine-hole golf course and the New Beach Club Restaurant. Guests can take in the panoramic views of the marina from a spacious, tranquil patio deck.

www.greatharbourcaymarina.com

ACTIVITIES

Sport fishing, diving and off-the-beaten-path island life continues to draw celebrities and discerning travelers to these islands.

POINTS OF INTEREST



Great Stirrup Cay Lighthouse – Standing 46 feet above sea level, this whitewashed, solar powered lighthouse is located on Great Stirrup Cay, a private island own by Norwegian Cruise Line. Non-passengers can visit by making prior arrangements.

Great Harbour Cay's Sugar Beach – Among Great Harbour Cay's seven miles of secluded shores is its jewel, Sugar Beach. One of the prettiest places in The Bahamas, it has numerous sandy coves set among cliffs and caves with excellent shelling and creeks filled with wildlife.

Great Harbour Cay Art Shack – This shop features a fantastic range of Bahamian handmade arts, crafts and souvenirs. The best part of shopping here is that proceeds go to the local R.N. Gomez School, the only all-age children's school in The Berry Islands.

Hoffman's Cay Blue Hole – Located in the southern Berry Islands, Hoffman's Cay Blue Hole is about 600 feet wide and has a cliff perched 20 feet above the water. It is the most visited blue hole in these islands and accessed via a horseshoe-shaped beach, just behind a patch of Australian Pine trees that rim the shoreline.

INTRIGUING FACTS

- The Rockefellers, Brigitte Bardot, Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman are a few of the historic wealthy residents and visitors of The Berry Islands.
- Once a golf resort for the rich and famous, The Berry Islands contain more millionaires per square inch than most places on earth.
- The Berry Islands are known as the "Billfish Capital of The Bahamas."

AIRLINE SERVICES

Great Harbour Cay Airport (GHC) and Chub Cay Airport (CCZ) service the Berry Islands.

- <u>Eastern Air Express</u>: (954) 772-3363; (954) 295-0681
- Golden Wings Charter: (242) 377-0039
- <u>Island Air Charters, Inc.</u>: (954) 359-9942; (800) 444-9904
- <u>Leair Charter Service:</u> (242) 367-8175
- Monarch Air Group, LLC: (954) 359-0059; (877) 281-3051
- Noble Air: (305) 685-9634; (786) 251-4345
- Performance Air Limited: (242) 341-3281

- <u>Seabird Air:</u>

 (242) 362-1224
- Shore Charter Services: (242) 524-8721
- <u>Treasure Air Charters</u>: (305) 741-0489
- <u>Triton Airways:</u> (954) 961-8485; (844) FLY-TRITON
- <u>Tropic Air Charters:</u> (954) 267-0707
- <u>Tropic Ocean Airways</u>: (954) 210-5569; (800) 767-0897
- Watermakers Air: (954) 771-0330

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

• U.S. currency is accepted and is interchangeable with the Bahamian dollar.



- Temperatures range from 68 to 86 degrees during the day and 62 to 70 degrees at night, year-round.
- Seawater temperature ranges from 73 degrees in February to 82 degrees in August.
- The entry requirement for U.S. and Canadian residents is proof of citizenship, in the form of a passport. All U.S. citizens and foreign nationals traveling to the United States from The Bahamas, are required to present a valid passport or another secure document accepted by United States Customs and Border Protection.

ABOUT THE BAHAMAS

With over 700 islands and cays, and 16 unique island destinations, The Bahamas lies just 55 miles off the coast of Florida offering an easy fly away escape that transports travelers away from their everyday. The Islands of The Bahamas have world-class fishing, diving, boating and thousands of miles of the earth's most spectacular water and beaches waiting for families, couples and adventurers. Explore all the islands have to offer at www.bahamas.com or on Facebook, YouTube or Instagram to see why It's Better in The Bahamas.

###

PRESS INQUIRIES

Anita Johnson-Patty General Manager, Global Communications Bahamas Ministry of Tourism & Aviation ajohnson@bahamas.com

Weber Shandwick
Public Relations
Bahamas@webershandwick.com