



Bahamas

Overview

A vacation in the Bahamas is a great experience and, once you've been through the routine, it's nearly as easy to do as visiting Martha's Vineyard or the Florida Keys. The Bahamian government actively encourages tourism and makes it easy to fly into the country on a GA aircraft; getting back into the US is the harder part! With the islands of Grand Bahama and Bimini only 50 nm from the Florida coast, you won't be out of sight of land for more than a few minutes. Once you get to the Bahamas, you can fly the entire chain of some 700 islands and 2000 cays (pronounced "keys") without being out of sight of land.

In some ways, the Bahamas are actually two destinations – the two, major, developed islands (Grand Bahama Island and New Providence / Nassau / Paradise Island) and the Out Islands (698 of them). While Grand Bahama and Nassau / Paradise Island are worth a visit, the Out Islands are a real adventure open primarily to those of us who have access to a private airplane; you can easily visit two or three of the Out Islands on the same trip; in fact, flying between the islands can be the highlight of the trip. The map below may be helpful in getting your bearings.



Destination

Detailed information on hotels and attractions in the Bahamas is available through the Bahamas government website www.bahamas.com, the large travel vendors such as American Express, and the specialty internet travel sites, such as www.expedia.com. During the season, however, you may have to use the hotels own website or contact them by phone to get reservations. A few suggestions appear below, organized by island.

Grand Bahama Island (Freeport)

For a complete list of hotels and resorts, try the Bahamas government website, www.bahamas.com/bahamas/accommodations/accommodations.aspx, and select your destination from the menu on the right. For a more limited list of hotels and resorts including ratings, try www.expedia.com, Hotels, Grand Bahama, Bahamas. And, for a more European perspective with lots of ratings, feedback etc, try the TripAdvisor, www.tripadvisor.com/Tourism-g147414-Bahamas-Vacations.html, search for Freeport, Bahamas.

All the major hotel chains are represented on Grand Bahama, primarily around Freeport. The Grand Bahama International Airport (MYGF) is 82nms from KFXE.

Here are links to a few of the major hotel websites:

Westin: http://caribbean.destinations.starwoodhotels.com/bahamas2.htm?EM=PWS_REDIRECT_LUCAYA_FLC

Sheraton: http://caribbean.destinations.starwoodhotels.com/bahamas2.htm?EM=PWS_REDIRECT_LUCAYA_FLC

Wyndham: http://www.vivaresorts.com/destination_bahamas.html

New Providence Island (Nassau and Paradise Island)

For a complete list of hotels and resorts, try the Bahamas government website, www.bahamas.com/bahamas/accommodations/accommodations.aspx, and select your destination from the menu on the right. For a more limited list of hotels and resorts including ratings, try www.expedia.com, Hotels, New Providence Island, Bahamas. And, for a more European perspective with lots of ratings, feedback etc, try the TripAdvisor, www.tripadvisor.com/Tourism-g147414-Bahamas-Vacations.html, search for Nassau, Bahamas.

The principal airport is Nassau International, MYNN, 160nms from KFXE.

Here are a couple of the "biggies"

Atlantis, Paradise Island

The unmistakable sight of this peach fantasia comes into view just as you cross the Paradise Island Bridge. The towering sun-struck visage is actually Royal Towers, the largest and newest wing of the Atlantis resort. With glitzy shopping malls, a cabaret theater, and seemingly unlimited choices for dining and drinks, Atlantis is as much a tourist attraction as a resort hotel.

Many of its facilities, including the restaurants and casino, are open to non-guests. For a peek at the rest, take the self-guided "Discover Atlantis" tour, which begins near the lobby at an exhibit called "The Dig." The tour tempts you with a walk through the many water slides and pools inaccessible to non-guests.

Amenities: 11 Swimming Areas, Zero-Entry pools, 2 Children's Pools, 7-Acre Protected Snorkeling Lagoon, Lazy River Ride for Tubing, Six-Story Mayan Temple with 5 Water Slides, Beach, Tennis Courts, Basketball, 18-Hole Putting Course, Driving Range, Fitness Center, Club Rush Teen Center (For Guests Aged 13-17; No Adults!) and more.

The Dig: An elaborate maze of corridors and rooms in the underwater ruins of Atlantis, representing what the lost continent of Atlantis might be like more than 11,000 years ago.

Atlantis Casino: 50,000 square foot casino, one of the largest in the Bahamas and the Caribbean, with 1,000 state-of-the-art slot machines, available 24 hours a day.

The Mandara Spa at Atlantis: Full-service spa with fourteen treatment rooms, massages, facials, body treatments, and more. Sauna and open-air therapy pool, aerobics classes and personal-training sessions, and a full-service beauty salon.

Discovery Channel Camp at Atlantis: Innovative program for children aged 4-12. It combines the educational format of Discovery Channel with the natural resources of Atlantis, including a replica of a Spanish galleon, an area for making shark-tooth art, live animal touch tanks, state-of-the-art computers, and a guided expedition around Atlantis.

Atlantis Sports Center: The wide array of equipment at the fitness facility at the Sports Center provides guests with a satisfying workout. Personal training sessions, free-weights, and workout classes with certified health-and-fitness professionals are available.

Pegasus Race & Sports Book: The newest addition to the Atlantis Casino, Pegasus offers wagering on all major sporting events including live simulcasts from U.S. racetracks. Five betting windows, nine individual player terminals and an inviting players lounge complete this winning experience. Open 11am to 11pm, 7-days a week.

Dining & Bars

It is recommended that reservations for dinner should be made 14 days prior to arrival!

Listed are some of Atlantis Paradise Island's restaurants:

Café Martinique: The candlelit Café Martinique features French gourmet fare and spectacular marina views. The glass-enclosed cellar will feature an international variety of acclaimed wines from French to Californian boutique wineries. (Marina Village)

Carmine's: Enjoy the lively atmosphere and family-style dining experience of this popular New York restaurant. Sumptuous platters of classic Italian recipes such as chicken scarpariello, shrimp scampi, fried calamari and veal saltimbocca are served in abundant portions to share with family and friends. (Marina Village)

Dune: Perched atop a white sand beach at nearby One and Only Ocean Club, Dune is a truly unexpected dining experience. The dinner menu offers an innovative blend of French-Asian cuisine infused with local herbs and Bahamian influences.

Nobu: Experience the new trend in Japanese cuisine at the newest outpost of the acclaimed Nobu restaurant. Savor favorites including new style sashimi and yellowtail with jalapeño, or indulge in the multi course chef's choice, Omasake. (Atlantis Casino)

Seafire Steakhouse: Tempting starters from classic shrimp cocktail to oysters. Rockefeller complement entrées such as spit-roasted prime rib and lemon pepper tuna. The menu introduces signature martinis and offers an extensive collection of fine wines.

Seagrapes: Delight in scenic views of a lagoon with sea animals while dining on a lavish breakfast buffet. For lunch and dinner, the buffet features pasta and stir-fry stations, carved meats, Bahamian specialties and delectable desserts. On the

Where: Casino Dr., Paradise Island, New Providence Island, Bahamas

Phone: (242) 363-3000

Toll Free: (800) 321-3000

Wyndham Nassau Resort & Crystal Palace Casino

Wyndham Nassau Resort & Crystal Palace Casino is in Cable Beach, New Providence Island, Bahamas and is open 24 hours. The 35,000 square foot casino features 750 slots and fifty-nine table games. The property has seven restaurants and a hotel with 867 rooms. The website is www.bahamas-travel.info/casinos/wyndham_nassau.html

Wyndham Nassau Resort & Crystal Palace Casino Address:
West Bay Street

Cable Beach, New Providence Island, Bahamas

Telephones:

Local: (242) 327-6200

Toll Free: (800) 222-7466 (hotel reservations)

Fax: (242) 327-6818

Wyndham Nassau Resort & Crystal Palace Casino has 750 total slots., Table games, 59 tables -Baccarat, 1 table, Blackjack, 51 tables, Caribbean Stud Poker, 2 tables, Craps, 7 tables, Let it Ride, 2 tables, Pai Gow Poker, 1 table, Roulette, 9 tables.

Abaco Island

For a complete list of hotels and resorts, try the Bahamas government website, www.bahamas.com/bahamas/accommodations/accommodations.aspx, and select your destination from the menu on the right. For a more limited list of hotels and resorts including ratings, try www.expedia.com, Hotels, Abaco Island, Bahamas. And, for a more European perspective with lots of ratings, feedback etc, try the TripAdvisor www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g147414-Bahamas-Hotels.html.

One resort which the Cirrus Owners and Pilots Association has used is Abaco Beach Resort, www.abacoresort.com. Nearest airport is Marsh Harbor, MYAM, 167nms from Ft. Lauderdale.

Eleuthera / Harbour Island

For a complete list of hotels and resorts, try the Bahamas government website, www.bahamas.com/bahamas/accommodations/accommodations.aspx, and select your destination from the menu on the right. For a more limited list of hotels and resorts including ratings, try www.expedia.com, Hotels, Eleuthera, Bahamas. And, for a more European perspective with lots of ratings, feedback etc, try the TripAdvisor www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g147414-Bahamas-Hotels.html.

Cat Island

For a complete list of hotels and resorts, try the Bahamas government website, www.bahamas.com/bahamas/accommodations/accommodations.aspx, and select your destination from the menu on the right. For a more limited list of hotels and resorts including ratings, try www.expedia.com, Hotels, Cat Island. And, for a more European perspective with lots of ratings, feedback etc, try the TripAdvisor www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g147414-Bahamas-Hotels.html.

Several AirShares Owners swear by the Fernandez Bay Village for a very low key, room-right-on-the-beach experience. Nearest airport is New Bight, MYCB, 280nms from Ft. Lauderdale. Here's the summary from their website www.fernandezbayvillage.com:

Fernandez Bay Village is a charming resort village located on the quiet island of Cat. Family owned and operated for over 20 years, this remote and rustic hideaway has 6 beach front villas and 9 beachfront cottages. Come explore, play, relax, read, renew and refresh yourself. Swim, snorkel, fish or visit local settlements. Take a break from hurried schedules to walk on the beach. Revel in the joy of no stress, no phones, no television, (no shoes?)!? We invite you in for a look at what we have to offer.

You can download a brochure in .pdf format at www.fernandezbayvillage.com/FBV-BROCHURE.pdf.

Exumas

For a complete list of hotels and resorts, try the Bahamas government website, www.bahamas.com/bahamas/accommodations/accommodations.aspx, and select your destination from the menu on the right. For a more limited list of hotels and resorts including ratings, try www.expedia.com, Hotels, Exumas, Bahamas. And, for a more European perspective with lots of ratings, feedback etc, try the TripAdvisor www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g147414-Bahamas-Hotels.html.

The Four Seasons Great Exuma Spa

The Four Seasons Great Exuma Spa is located on the northeast end of Great Exuma; the nearest airport is Exuma International, MYEF, 280 nms from Ft. Lauderdale. The area is renowned for diving, fishing, and sailing.

Resort Forte: Providing creature comforts in an off-the-beaten-path locale. Families account for a large portion of the guests; there's a kid's club, a separate pool for families, and lots of kid-friendly activities.

Rooms: 183, spread among seven three-story buildings, all facing Emerald Bay. Buildings 2 and 3 are closest to the spa. The 26 beachfront rooms and 6 one-bedroom beachfront suites (which can be combined into two-bedrooms) are just steps from the beach. The smallest room is 475 square feet.

Top Room: The Royal Villa, a three-bedroom, 4,400-square-foot villa with a private pool and courtyard dining patio. It's in a secluded corner of the resort and on the beach

Restaurants: The more formal Il Cielo serves Italian food and fresh local seafood for dinner and a lavish breakfast buffet. The open-air poolside Sea Breeze Grill serves lunch and casual dinners, including local conch and crispy pizza from a wood-burning oven.

Golf: An 18-hole championship course designed by Greg Norman. Six holes are right on the bay, and the back nine have terrific ocean views.

Other Amenities: 2 swimming pools; tennis club with six lighted courts; complementary windsurfing, kayaking, sailing, snorkeling; fishing, diving, and boat excursions for a fee.

Local: (800) 332-3442 (hotel reservations)

Website: www.fourseasons.com/greatexuma

Long Island

For a complete list of hotels and resorts, try the Bahamas government website, www.bahamas.com/bahamas/accommodations/accommodations.aspx, and select your destination from the menu on the right. For a more limited list of hotels and resorts including ratings, try www.expedia.com, Hotels, Long Island, Bahamas. And, for a more European perspective with lots of ratings, feedback etc, try the TripAdvisor www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g147414-Bahamas-Hotels.html.

Getting There

While it is possible to depart from and return to most of the principal airports on Florida's east coast, for AirShares Owners, Orlando, Fort Pierce, West Palm Beach and Fort Lauderdale are the most commonly used.

If you are flying in from the north in an AirShares aircraft, Ft. Pierce and the Fort Pierce Air Center (FBO located in Fort Pierce, FL) are a logical departure point for the Bahamas. It has been the stopping point for Caribbean traffic for over 25 years. In addition to the information contained in this package, the FBO sells complete Bahamas air travel kits that include all required flight charts, all necessary customs and immigration forms to enter the Bahamas, as well as necessary survival equipment. Courtesy cars are also available. To contact the FBO toll free (800) 466-7830 or local (772) 489-2285.

If you're picking up your AirShares plane in Florida, AirShares will work with you to make an aircraft available in a convenient location. As the Florida-based aircraft are heavily booked during the winter months, AirShares relocates northern aircraft to Florida for the winter flying season to meet the needs of our Owners vacationing in Florida and the Bahamas. As you start planning your trip, Owner Services will work with you to arrange a plan for rendezvousing with your aircraft that considers aircraft availability, commercial flight schedules and costs, and the other attractions – like Disney World.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PILOT & AIRCRAFT:

1. Certified birth certificate (with a raised seal), passport, or proof of citizenship for each person. Photo ID is now required in the US. A passport will be required as of January 1, 2007.

2. Pilot and medical certificate.
3. Aircraft Registration. You cannot fly internationally with a temporary pink slip registration.
4. Airworthiness certificate.
5. Weight and balance information and a Pilots Operating Handbook.
6. AirShares will provide an aircraft radio station license for the aircraft. Although no longer required for domestic flights, the pilot is technically required to have a Restricted Radiotelephone Operators License for international operations. An operators license can be purchased online at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/> - although the process is somewhat cumbersome; alternatively, AirShares will obtain the license on your behalf for a fee of \$40.
7. Life raft and life vest for each person onboard. They can be rented at Fort Pierce and most of the FBO's along the south Florida coast and through AirShares.
8. AirShares Release for International Flights (Attachment A).

FLIGHT CHARTS

The Miami Sectional covers the northeaster 1/3 of the Bahamas, namely Bimini, Grand Bahama Island, Abaco, Nassau/Paradise Island, and the northern portion of Andros.

For complete coverage of the Out Islands, the FAA WAC Aeronautical Charts are available covering the Bahamas and more. It requires three charts (CH-25, CH-26 and CH-27) to cover all of the Bahamas including the Turks and Caicos Islands. These charts sell for \$6.25 each when purchased on line at <https://naco.faa.gov/ecom/Catalog.aspx?a=AERO+NOS+VISUAL+WAC>.

CUSTOMS & ATC WHEN LEAVING THE US / ENTERING THE BAHAMAS:

1. Prior to departing the U.S., you will need to file a flight plan (DVFR) and alert U.S. authorities that you will be flying through the Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ). Put **ADCUS** in the remarks section of the flight plan so that Air Traffic Control will advise the Bahamian Customs of your intended arrival.
2. Aircraft arriving and departing the Bahamas must arrive and depart from a government Airport of Entry. A list of AOE's is included as Attachment B.
3. Before arriving in the Bahamas, fill out three copies of the C7A Bahamas Custom form (Attachment C). One will be kept as your cruising permit in the Bahamas, and Customs will keep the other two.
4. You may also be required to complete a separate Bahamas Immigration card for each person (available at the airport of entry).

Note: A complete package of all forms required to enter the Bahamas can also be purchased from the Fort Pierce Air Center (FBO).

BAHAMIAN FLIGHT RULES

The Bahamas generally are similar to those of the United States. The air above is controlled by the Miami Oceanic CTA/FIR. In general, air traffic rules and procedures and the organization of air traffic services are in accordance with International Civil Aviation Organization Standards.

CONTROLLED AIRPORTS

Nassau and Grand Bahama International are controlled airports. You are advised to contact approach control or tower approximately 20 nm out for landing instructions. When approaching West End, it is recommended you contact Freeport Approach prior to entering the Freeport airspace.

UNCONTROLLED AIRPORTS

When approaching airports with no control facilities you are required to announce: Aircraft identification, Location, and Intentions over Unicom frequency 122.8 - Pass over airport at 1,000' MSL and enter LEFT traffic pattern. All landings and

takeoffs at uncontrolled fields shall be into the wind. When departing uncontrolled airports state intentions and whether you intend to back-taxi on the runway.

CUSTOMS & IMMIGRATION HOURS OF OPERATION

Normal hours for Customs & Immigration at Airports of Entry are: 9 AM - 5 PM. Nassau and Freeport airports provide Customs and Immigration facilities 24-hours per day, seven days a week. However, in Nassau, from 5 PM to 9 AM they are located only in the main terminal, not at the general aviation facility.

Should you arrive at an Airport of Entry where no Customs/ Immigration officers are present, it is the responsibility of the pilot to find and clear with authorities at that location before ANY passengers, crew members and/or baggage is moved from the airport.

Overtime charges: Should the need arise to clear Customs at any time other than normal hours, overtime charges may be incurred, depending upon the hour involved, status, and wage scale of the individual Customs Officer on duty. Call the airport manager or Customs manager; they will arrange to keep the airport open for you. Also verify the need for runway lights and make arrangements to leave them on.

PRIVATE PILOTS VISITING THE ISLANDS OF THE BAHAMAS SHOULD EXPECT

In an effort to encourage GA pilots to fly to the Bahamas, the government of the Bahamas has published a "GA Pilots Bill of Rights" which includes:

1. No Landing fee - for single engine private planes under 6,000 lbs. on a non-commercial trip at any Government owned airport. Fee may apply at private airports.
2. No Overtime Customs & Immigration Fee - for private aircraft visiting The Islands of the Bahamas where the pilot declares that he/she does not receive any remuneration and the flight is for recreational purposes.
3. No Transire - (C38) is needed for private pilot, cruising through The Islands of the Bahamas for pleasure (a copy of the C7A will suffice.)
4. No Tie Down Fee - at any Government owned airport. Tie Down Fee may apply at private airports.
5. A Flight Plan must be filed - activate prior to entering The Islands of the Bahamas and close after landing. When leaving The Islands of the Bahamas it is mandatory to file a new flight plan.

FLIGHT PLANS

Day time flights from Nassau or Freeport International airports require VFR or IFR flight plans. At Freeport, all plans are automatically activated upon departure and canceled upon arrival. At Nassau, arriving flights are automatically canceled but you must activate any departure plans.

While flight plans are not required for flights between the islands, VFR flight plans are strongly recommended regardless of their duration. Night flights, those between sunset and sunrise, **require** IFR flight plans. Aircraft are not permitted to land or takeoff at night at any location in the Bahamas without prior approval.

VFR WEATHER MINIMUMS

No VFR night flying allowed. To fly under VFR rules, weather minimums are a 1,500-foot ceiling and 3 miles visibility in TMAs, (the international equivalent of Class B Airspace). There are only two of these in the Bahamas; 1) The Grand Bahama Island TMA at Freeport on Grand Bahama Island and 2) The Nassau TMA at the Nassau International on New Providence Island.

West End Airport on Grand Bahama Island is Class E, and the VFR weather minimums are 1,500-foot ceiling and 5 miles visibility.

Elsewhere, since the Out island airports are all uncontrolled, the weather minimums for VFR flight outside of controlled areas apply: 1,000-foot ceiling, 1 mile visibility and clear of clouds in sight of land or water. The Out Islands are relaxing and more informal than Freeport or Nassau. The Out Islands may offer different styles of relaxation or be totally

uninhabited. Others have villages and settlements in which you may rent cars, boats, bikes or taxis to aid in your exploration.

IN-FLIGHT COMMUNICATION/FLIGHT SERVICE

For best flight following and NAV/COM reception during flights over open water, maintain an altitude of 6,000 MSL or above.

Freeport Flight Service Station traffic uses Freeport Radio 122.3.

Operations within a 50 NM radius of Nassau use Nassau Radio 128.0.

All other areas of the Bahamas are served by remote transceivers on Nassau Radio 124.2. Remote sites are located at South Bimini; Marsh Harbor, Abaco; Governor's Harbor, Eleuthera; Georgetown, Exuma and Great Inagua. Nassau Radio is listening to six remote receivers simultaneously. Always identify your location so that they know which remote is active. A good rule of thumb is to use 1000 MSL as a base communication altitude and add 80 feet to that base for each NM distant from the nearest remote site of 124.2.

U.S. Flight Service Station Frequency of 118.4 is remote at Nassau, 126.9 East of Freeport, 126.7 at Bimini.

Unicom is available in many locations on 122.8 MHz. Be aware that some receivers may not be well monitored, and many resort Unicom's will not answer unless you call them by name. You may also want to use 122.7 MHz for plane-to-plane communications, relaying messages and to monitor for informal weather and traffic information.

AIRPORT TRAFFIC PROCEDURES

Circle all non-controlled airports in the Bahamas prior to landing to check that the runway is clear of airplanes, livestock, and other traffic. At some of the remote airstrips, it is easy to assume you are the only airplane around, only to find another airplane inbound on long final. An overhead entry also serves to alert those on the ground, such as resort owners, Customs and Immigration officials, and taxi drivers of your arrival.

Standard uncontrolled airport procedures are for pilots to monitor transmission of other traffic and provide position advisory and intentions on 122.8. Typically, there will be left turns in the traffic pattern and pattern altitudes of 1000 AGL.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

The emergency frequency is 121.5 MHz. Search and rescue operations are provided in the Bahamas by a joint effort between the Bahamas Air-Sea Rescue Association, a self-supported volunteer group, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

ISLAND FLYING TECHNIQUE

Remain to the right-hand side of whatever island you are flying over whenever possible. This is a standard collision-avoidance technique among island pilots. Also it is **illegal** to fly below 2000' MSL over populated areas or assemblies of persons, except when during take off or landing operations.

FORMS TO CARRY

The third copy of Inward Declaration form is used as the cruising permit for flying within the islands. Each visitor should remember to carry the Bahamas Immigration Disembarkment/Embarkation card, which serves as a tourist card and must be produced upon request by any Customs officer.

AIRCRAFT REPAIR SERVICES

Aircraft repair services are difficult to obtain and may be expensive. If you encounter maintenance issues while in the Bahamas, contact AirShares immediately.

DEPARTING BAHAMAS FOR UNITED STATES

1. Return the C7A and immigration forms to Bahamas Customs at an airport of entry and hand them a completed C7 general declaration form.

2. Pay a departure tax of \$15.00 per person, including the pilot.
3. File an international flight plan to a U.S. airport of entry in Florida. You can file by using the same 800-WX-BRIEF telephone number used in the U.S.
4. Inform US Customs by phone of your planned arrival time and airport of entry at least one hour prior to arrival; be sure to record the initials of the individual contacted to provide positive confirmation that the call was made / received. If you plan to depart the Bahamas in the morning, you should contact US Customs the prior afternoon during regular business hours. Fines of up to \$5000 have been assessed for failure to notify Customs by phone of your arrival time; DO NOT rely on simply putting "Advise Customs (ADCUS)" in the remarks field of the flight plan. The US Customs contact phone numbers are: West Palm Beach (561) 233-1080, Ft. Lauderdale Executive (954) 356-7411, Ft. Pierce (772) 461-1733. A more complete list can be found at www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/ports/
5. Fill out U.S. Customs general declaration form (Attachment F) and the ominous-sounding Private Aircraft Enforcement System Arrival Report (Attachment E).
6. Taxi to Customs upon landing. You may need to remove all of your bags from the airplane and take them in for inspection. South Florida is unique in that you don't have to wait in the airplane for a Customs agent. Instead, when landing at any of the following airports head inside yourself: Miami International, Tamiami, Opa Locka, Key West, Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood, Fort Lauderdale Executive, Palm Beach, and Fort Pierce. At other airports you are expected to stay with the airplane until the agent comes out to you.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The government of the Bahamas website www.bahamas.com is a good place to start for additional information. For some specifics on the use of private aircraft see Getting There / Private Plane.

Another excellent website for information specific to flying in the Caribbean is www.caribbeanflyingadventures.com. The site includes aerial photos and videos of the principal airports and approaches. AirShares is a member: Username: airshares; Password: asny



Finally, an excellent printed guide to flying within the Caribbean is the Bahamas and Caribbean Pilot's Guide, available for \$50 from Pilot Publishing www.pilotpub.com. This guide is widely accepted as the authoritative guide to flying in the Bahamas and the rest of the Caribbean; well worth owning if you're planning to fly to the Bahamas or beyond.

Attachments

- A. AirShares Release for International Flights
- B. List of Bahamas Airports, showing Airports of Entry, fuel availability etc.
- C. Bahamas Arrival and Cruising Permit, C7A
- D. International Flight Plan form
- E. US Private Aircraft Enforcement System Arrival Report
- F. US Customs Declaration Form



International Flight Requirements, Recommendations, and Release Form

1. **Release Form** – Ensure the Owner signs the release form and understands that:
 - a. If any maintenance issues arise while the Owner is in the Bahamas, the client will be responsible for paying the additional maintenance expense incurred from having the plane serviced outside of the U.S., over the average cost of the same maintenance performed at the aircraft's home base.
 - b. He/She is responsible for returning the aircraft to the home base. If for some reason, he/she has to return to the home base and leave the aircraft behind, AirShares will coordinate the retrieval of the aircraft and invoice the Owner for the charges. AirShares will make every effort to keep the cost down and to communicate the aircraft retrieval plan to the Owner.
2. **Checkout** – Depending upon the size and conditions of the runway the Owner is flying into, additional training may be necessary. The Regional Chief Pilot will be contacted and he/she will determine if additional training is necessary, following a brief interview with the Owner. Topics of discussion should include, but are not limited to:
 - Risks associated with flight over water, beyond gliding distance from shore, or inhospitable terrain
 - Proper ditching procedures (*ref.* AIM 6-3-3) or use of CAPS
 - Operation and stowage of flotation devices, signaling devices, ELT
 - Weight and balance of aircraft loaded with flotation devices or survival gear
 - Limitations of flight operations: no night VFR; lack of lighting and instrument approaches to most fields; limited facilities; IFR recommended; no CMax or XM Satellite Weather coverage for the region; etc.
3. **Life Gear** – If necessary, ensure that Owner owns or has the means of renting flotation gear (raft and life vests). One U.S. Coastguard approved life vest is required for each occupant on board. A raft and signaling device is recommended.
4. **Aircraft Maintenance Inspection** – An authorized mechanic needs to inspect aircraft prior to the flight. The mechanic inspecting the aircraft should do so within a reasonable interval of time prior to the Owner's departure and report to that region's Operations Manager.
5. **Aircraft Registration** – Ensure that the scheduled aircraft has permanent aircraft registration, and, if necessary, a notarized letter authorizing international operations for the aircraft.
6. **Schedule Back Up Aircraft** - If possible, schedule back up aircraft just in case of a last minute maintenance issue with the aircraft.
7. **GPS Cards** – If the GPS database expires during the Owner's trip, then provide an updated second set of cards and brief Owner on installation procedure. (Subsequent cycle data is published ten days prior to cycle change-over date.)
8. **Extra Aircraft Keys** – Two sets of aircraft keys should be provided, in case of loss or breakage.
9. **Cash** – Owner should travel with a significant amount of cash to cover unexpected costs associated with aircraft or flight operations.
10. **Contact Destination Airport** – (This is probably one of the most important tasks on the list.) The Owner should contact the destination airport and be briefed by airport personnel on their port of entry requirements and flight operations.

AirShares Release for International Flights

Flights outside of the United States present challenges different from familiar domestic operations. In the interest of safety and security for all, AirShares Elite requires Owners who fly outside of the United States to abide by the following:

1. Contact the Regional Chief Pilot to discuss the items listed under the "Checkout" section of this appendix, and, if deemed necessary by the RCP, complete a check out demonstrating proficiency in short field take-off and landings, go-arounds, and proper ditching procedures.
2. Properly stow and understand the operation of flotation devices for any flights over water beyond gliding distance from shore.
3. Complete all of the required paperwork (customs, etc.) prior to departure and file copies with respective AirShares Elite Regional Office.
4. You are responsible for complying with all US Customs and Border Patrol requirements for re-entering the US. In particular, you must notify the US Customs office at your airport of entry by telephone at least 1 hour prior to arrival; fines of up to \$5000 have been assessed for failure to notify customs. It is highly recommended that you record the NAME and/or BADGE NUMBER of any customs personnel you speak with. If your aircraft does not have a current customs sticker affixed, it can be purchased at the time of arrival; AirShares will reimburse you for the cost of the sticker.

In addition to the above, the Owner hereby agrees to assume all risks and liabilities associated with flying outside of the United States. This includes repair of the aircraft and all costs associated with the repair as outlined in A1a. AirShares Elite is not obligated to send a replacement airplane or a shuttle to pick the Owner up, but will make best efforts to assist the Owner in their return plans. Any damage that the Owner inflicts upon any aircraft will require the payment of all expenses not covered by the insurance policy, including but not limited to the deductible or any loss in market value of the aircraft. If an Owner elects to fly outside of the United States, they must agree to these terms and acknowledge this agreement by signing below.

Please fax signed release to 866-448-4553 at least 24 hours prior to departure.

Name of Owner

Owner's signature

Name of Witness

Witness's signature

Airport Information

The Islands Of The Bahamas

ISLANDS	Runway/length-width	Fuel	Port Of Entry	AUTHORITY	CONTACT	Airport view
Abaco						
Gorda Cay - MYAG	2,400 x 60	no fuel	no	PVT	OWNERS USE	AIRPORT VIEW
Marsh Harbour - MYAM	5,000 x 100	100/ fuel	yes	GOVT	242-367-3884	AIRPORT VIEW
Mores Island - MYAO	2,640 x 100	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-366-6100	AIRPORT VIEW
Sandy Point - MYAS	3,000 x 80	no fuel	yes	GOVT	242-366-4044	AIRPORT VIEW
Scotland Cay -	3,000 x 100	no fuel	no	PVT	242-367-2570	AIRPORT VIEW
Spanish Cay – MYAX	5,000 x 80	no fuel	yes	PVT	242-365-0083	AIRPORT VIEW
Treasure Cay - MYAT	6,900 x 150	Jet fuel	yes	GOVT	242-365-8919	AIRPORT VIEW
Walker Cay - MYAW	2,500 x 80	Jet fuel	yes	PVT	242-353-1252	AIRPORT VIEW
Acklins						
Spring Point - MYAP	5000 x 150	No fuel	No	GOVT	242-344-3666	AIRPORT VIEW
Andros						
Andros Central	5,000 x 150	No fuel	No	PVT	CLOSED	
Andros Town - MYAF	4,000 x 100	No fuel	yes	GOVT	242-368-2030	AIRPORT VIEW
Congo Town - MYAK	4,300 x 100	No fuel	yes	GOVT	242-369-2640	AIRPORT VIEW
Clarence Bain - MYAB	5,000 x 75	No fuel	No	GOVT	242-369-0083	AIRPORT VIEW
San Andros - MYAN	5,000 x 75	100/ fuel	yes	GOVT	242-329-2140	AIRPORT VIEW
Berry Islands						
Chub Cay - MYBC	5,000 x 80	No fuel	yes	PVT	242-325-5788	AIRPORT VIEW
Great Harbour Cay - MYBG	4,536 x 80	No fuel	yes	PVT	242-367-8566	AIRPORT VIEW
Lt. Whale Cay - MYBX	2,000 x 50	No fuel	no	PVT	242-359-3467	AIRPORT VIEW
Big Whale Cay - MYBW	4,200 x 60	No fuel	no	PVT	242-359-3467	AIRPORT VIEW
Bimini						
South Bimini - MYBS	5,600 x 100	No fuel	yes	GOVT	242-347-3101	AIRPORT VIEW
Ocean Cay - MYBO	1,650 x 60	No fuel	no	PVT	242-347-2397	AIRPORT VIEW
Cat Cay - MYCC	1,100 x 50	No fuel	No	PVT	242-347-3565	AIRPORT VIEW
Cat Island						
Arthurs Town - MYCA	7,034 x 150	No fuel	no	GOVT	242-342-2016	AIRPORT VIEW
Cutlass Bay - MYCX	2,450 x 60	No fuel	no	PVT	242-359-3534	AIRPORT VIEW
Hawks Nest - MYCH	4,600 x 80	100/ fuel	no	PVT	242-342-7050	AIRPORT VIEW
New Bight - MYCB	5,065 x 75	No fuel	yes	GOVT	242-342-2016	AIRPORT VIEW
Cay Sal						
Cay Sal - MYCS	2,000 x 100	no fuel	No	PVT	OWNER USE	
Crooked Island						
Colonial Hill - MYCI	3,500 x 60	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-344-2599	AIRPORT VIEW
Pitts Town - MYCP	2,070 x 60	no fuel	no	PVT	242-344-2507	AIRPORT VIEW
Eleuthera						
Cape Eleuthera - MYEC	6,500 x 150	no fuel	no	PVT	CLOSED	
Governor's Harbour - MYEM	8,500 x 150	Jet	yes	GOVT	242-332-2321	AIRPORT VIEW
North Eleuthera - MYEH	4,500 x 100	100/jet	yes	GOVT	242-335-1068	AIRPORT VIEW
Rock Sound - MYER	7,200 x 150	No fuel	yes	GOVT	242-334-2177	AIRPORT VIEW

Exuma						
Exuma Int'l - MYEF	8,000 x 100	100/jet	yes	GOVT	242-345-0607	AIRPORT VIEW
Darby Island	1,500 x 100	no fuel	No	PVT	OWNER USE	
Black Point - MYEB	2,500 x 80	no fuel	No	GOVT	242-355-3060	
Hog Cay - MYEY	2,800 x 60	no fuel	No	PVT	242-366-2123	
Lee Stocking - MYEL	3,000 x 75	no fuel	No	PVT	242-336-4557	
Little Darby Island	1,000 x 75	no fuel	No	PVT	OWNER USE	
Norman's Cay - MYEN	3,360 x 70	no fuel	No	GOVT	242-357-8846	AIRPORT VIEW
Rudder Cut Cay	2,100 x 60	no fuel	No	PVT	242-366-2639	
Sampson Cay	2,300 x 30	no fuel	No	PVT	OWNER USE	
Staniel Cay - MYES	3,030 x 75	no fuel	No	GOVT	242-355-2024	AIRPORT VIEW
Farmers Cay	2,000 x 50	no fuel	No	GOVT	242-355-4002	
Grand Bahama						
Freeport - MYGF	11,000 x 150	100/jet	yes	PVT	242-352-6020	AIRPORT VIEW
West End - MYGW	8,000 x 150	no fuel	No	PVT	CLOSED	
Inagua						
Matthew Town - MYIG	7,000 x 100	100/jet	yes	GOVT	242-339-1254	AIRPORT VIEW
Long Island						
Deadmans Cay - MYLD	4,000 x 80	No fuel	No	GOVT	242-337-1264	
Hard Bargain - MYLR	3,000 x 60	no fuel	No	PVT	242-337-3000	
Stella Maris - MYLS	3,900 x 90	100/ fuel	yes	PVT	242-338-2012	AIRPORT VIEW
Cape Santa Maria - MYLM	2,600 x 60	No fuel	No	PVT	242-338-5273	AIRPORT VIEW
Mayaguana						
Mayaguana - MYMM	7,700 x 150	no fuel	No	GOVT	242-339-3100	AIRPORT VIEW
New Providence						
Nassau - MYNN	11,000 x 150	100/jet	yes	GOVT	242-377-6100	AIRPORT VIEW
Ragged Island						
Duncan Town - MYRD	3,800 x 75	no fuel	No	GOVT	242-344-1699	
Rum Cay						
Port Nelson - MYRP	2,400 x 80	no fuel	No	PVT	242-357-1600	AIRPORT VIEW
San Salvador						
Cockburn Town - MYSM	8,000 x 180	Jet	yes	GOVT	242-331-2131	AIRPORT VIEW

*Note: The only official airports that have lights for night flying is Nassau and Freeport, but few Out Island airports have light for emergencies only. **North Eleuthera runway is currently been extended to 6,000'*



BAHAMAS CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT
INWARD DECLARATION AND CRUISING PERMIT
FOR PRIVATE AIRCRAFT ENTERING THE BAHAMAS

- 1. This modified form of declaration under the Customs regulations is applicable only to private aircraft not carrying cargo and operated for pleasure and recreation only by a pilot who is not flying for reward or remuneration or for business purposes. Other aircraft must be reported on the General Declaration Form No. C7.
2. This form should be presented in triplicate at all Ports of Entry other than Nassau, West End and Freeport, where two copies will be sufficient.

Time of Arrival _____ Date of Arrival _____
Name of Pilot _____ Type of Aircraft _____
Country of Registration _____ Reg No. _____
Customs Port of Arrival _____ From Where _____
Number of Crew _____ No. of Passengers _____
Stores on Board _____

List of Arms and Ammunition _____

I hereby certify that the above information is correct and that, except for the goods declared above and the bona fide baggage of the crew and passengers, no goods are being carried in the aircraft.

I further certify that -

- (a) The aircraft referred to herein is operated to and within The Bahamas solely for pleasure and recreation, by a pilot, who is not flying for reward or remuneration or for business purposes, and
(b) To the best of my knowledge no person on board this aircraft is suffering from any contagious or infectious disease and neither was there any known epidemic at my port of Departure.

Signature of Pilot and Date

Permission is hereby granted for the above described Aircraft to cruise The Bahamas for a period not exceeding

Official Stamp

(Sgd.) _____
for Comptroller of Customs.

We welcome you to The Bahamas and trust you will have a pleasant cruise through our Islands.

This Cruising Permit should be retained until application is made for clearance from The Bahamas at which time it must be surrendered to Customs at your Port of Clearance. It should be produced on requested of the commissioner or a Customs Officer at any place you may visit The Commissioner of Customer Officer as requesting will initial, stamp and return it to you. In the interest of you own safety you may wish to contact the proper official of any place you visit but this is not compulsory.

U S Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration

International Flight Plan

PRIORITY **<=FF** ADDRESSEE(S) _____

 _____ **<=**

FILING TIME _____ ORIGINATOR _____ **<=**
 SPECIFIC IDENTIFICATION OF ADDRESSEE(S) AND / OR ORIGINATOR _____

3 MESSAGE TYPE **<=(FPL** 7 AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION _____ 8 FLIGHT RULES _____ TYPE OF FLIGHT _____ **<=**
 9 NUMBER _____ TYPE OF AIRCRAFT _____ WAKE TURBULENCE CAT. / _____ 10 EQUIPMENT _____ / _____ **<=**
 13 DEPARTURE AERODROME _____ TIME _____ **<=**
 15 CRUISING SPEED _____ LEVEL _____ ROUTE _____

16 DESTINATION AERODROME _____ TOTAL EET _____
 HR MIN _____ ALTN AERODROME _____ 2ND ALTN AERODROME _____ **<=**
 18 OTHER INFORMATION _____

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (NOT TO BE TRANSMITTED IN FPL MESSAGES)
 19 ENDURANCE HR MIN _____ PERSONS ON BOARD _____ EMERGENCY RADIO UHF _____ VHF _____ ELBA _____
E/ _____ **P/** _____ **R/** _____
 SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT POLAR _____ DESERT _____ MARITIME _____ JUNGLE _____ JACKETS _____
 LIGHT _____ FLUORES _____ UH _____ VHF _____
 DINGHIES _____
 NUMBER _____ CAPACITY _____ COVER _____ COLOR _____ **<=**
D/ _____
 AIRCRAFT COLOR AND MARKINGS _____
A/ _____
 REMARKS _____ **<=**
N/ _____
 PILOT-IN-COMMAND _____ **C/** _____ **<=**

FILED BY _____ ACCEPTED BY _____ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION _____

Pre-Flight Pilot Checklist

Aircraft Identification		Time of Briefing				
Weather <small>(Destination) (Alternate)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Present	Remarks	Report Weather Conditions Aloft			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Forecast		<i>Report immediately weather conditions encountered---particularly cloud tops, upper cloud layers, thunderstorms, ice, turbulence, winds and temperature</i>			
			Position	Altitude	Time	Weather Conditions
Weather <small>(En Route)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Present					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Forecast					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pireps					
Winds Aloft	Best Crzg. Alt.					
Nav. Aid & Comm. Status.	<input type="checkbox"/> Destination					
	<input type="checkbox"/> En Route					
Airport Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> Destination					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Alternate					
ADIZ	<input type="checkbox"/> Airspace Restrictions					

Civil Aircraft Pilots

FAR Part 91 states that each person operating a civil aircraft of U S. registry over the high seas shall comply with Annex 2 to the Convention of International Civil Aviation, International Standards - Rules of the Air. Annex 2 requires the submission of a flight plan containing items 1-1 9 prior to operating any flight across international waters. Failure to file could result in a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation (Section 901 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, as amended).

International briefing information may not be current or complete. Data should be secured, at the first opportunity, from the country in whose airspace the flight will be conducted.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: Flight Plan information is collected for the protection and identification of aircraft and property and persons on the ground. Air Traffic uses the information to provide control services and search and rescue services. An individual respondent would require about 2.5 minutes to provide the information. FAR Part 91 requires an Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) flight plan to operate under IFR in controlled airspace. Filing a Visual Flight Rules flight plan is recommended but not mandatory. It is FAA policy to make factual information available to persons properly and directly concerned except information held confidential for good cause, i.e., pilot's address/telephone number. All flight plan data is destroyed when 15 days old except for data retained due to an accident/incident investigation. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number associated with this collection is 2120-0026.



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
United States Customs Service

PRIVATE AIRCRAFT ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM ARRIVAL REPORT

Handbook 3000-05

Aircraft Tail #	Decal #	Registration #
U.S. Airport of Arrival:	Time of Arrival: Zulu: 1700	Local: 1200
Foreign Airport of Departure:	Time of Departure: Zulu: 2000	Local: 1600
Date of Arrival: / /	Date of Departure: / /	

Direct flight or was other foreign itinerary involved?

Make:	Model: 1	Colors:	Trim:
Aircraft Owner/Lessee Name:			
Address		State:	
City:	Country:	Zip:	

Full Legal Name:	Address:	City:	State:
Date of Birth:	Nationality:	Country:	Zip:
Pilot License Number:	Country:	Zip:	

Crew or Passenger	Full Legal Name (Last/First)	Date of Birth (mmddyy)	Nationality
<input type="checkbox"/> C or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P			
<input type="checkbox"/> C or <input type="checkbox"/> P			
<input type="checkbox"/> C or <input type="checkbox"/> P			
<input type="checkbox"/> C or <input type="checkbox"/> P			
<input type="checkbox"/> C or <input type="checkbox"/> P			
<input type="checkbox"/> C or <input type="checkbox"/> P			
<input type="checkbox"/> C or <input type="checkbox"/> P			
<input type="checkbox"/> C or <input type="checkbox"/> P			
<input type="checkbox"/> C or <input type="checkbox"/> P			

Use reverse side for more crew or passengers

Inspector's Name:	Badge #	PAES Report #
Compliance Exam: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	ECAR #	Overflight: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**GENERAL DECLARATION
 (Outward/Inward)
 AGRICULTURE, CUSTOMS, IMMIGRATION, AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

19 CFR 122.43, 122.52, 122.54, 122.73, 122.144

Owner or Operator.....

Marks of Nationality and Registration Flight No. Date

Departure from (Place) Arrival at (Place)

FLIGHT ROUTING
 ("Place" Column always to list origin, every en-route stop and destination)

PLACE	TOTAL NUMBER OF CREW	NUMBER OF PASSENGERS ON THIS STAGE 1)
		Departure Place:
		Embarking.....
		Through on same flight
		Arrival Place:
		Disembarking.....
		Through on same flight.....
		NUMBER OF SED's AND AWB's
		SED's _____ AWB's _____

Declaration of Health

Persons on board known to be suffering from illness other than airsickness or the effects of accidents, as well as those cases of illness disembarked during the flight:

.....

Any other condition on board which may lead to the spread of disease:

Details of each disinsecting or sanitary treatment (place, date, time, method) during the flight. If no disinsecting has been carried out during the flight give details of most recent disinsecting:

.....

Signed, if required
 Crew Member Concerned

For official use only

I declare that all statements and particulars contained in this General Declaration, and in any supplementary forms required to be presented with this General Declaration are complete, exact and true to the best of my knowledge and that all through passengers will continue/have continued on the flight.

SIGNATURE Authorized Agent or Pilot-in-Command

1) Not to be completed when passenger manifests are presented.

GENERAL DECLARATION

Notes and Specifications

- NOTE 1.—An arrival-departure card (Immigration Form I-94) for each passenger on board shall be presented to the immigration officer at the port of first arrival.
- NOTE 2.—List surname, given name and middle initial of each crew member in the column headed "Total Number of Crew."
- NOTE 3.—Air cargo manifests shall be attached hereto.
- NOTE 4.—If copies of air waybills/consignment notes are attached, their numbers shall be entered on separate cargo manifest Form 7509 to be attached hereto. If copies of air waybills/consignment notes are not attached to this form, a separate cargo manifest Form 7509 completed to show the full information required shall be furnished.
- NOTE 5.—If the airline or operator consolidates a shipment with other shipments, or encloses the goods in other wrappers or containers, either separately or with other goods, the changes in packing and/or marks and numbers must be clearly stated in the air waybill/consignment note.
- NOTE 6.—Declaration of Health (U.S. Public Health Service requirements):
First two items—To be completed **immediately upon landing** or **immediately before landing**, by pilot-in-command or appropriate crew member designated by him. Make entries in clear handwriting. Person making entries is to initial the first item unless he signs the general declaration.
Third item—If entry is duplicated, it is to be (a) initialed by person signing the general declaration or (b) signed by his authorized agent having knowledge of measures applied.
- NOTE 7.—This General Declaration and/or attached manifests or air waybills should not bear erasures or corrections except those approved by the proper public authorities concerned nor contain interlineations or several listings on the same line. As many extra sheets may be added as necessary.

The information requested by the official General Declaration may be furnished on ICAO Annex 9, Appendix 1, provided the form approximates (but does not exceed) 8½" x 14", and is printed on white paper of appropriate quality.

This form may be printed by private parties provided it conforms to official form in size, wording, arrangement, and quality and color of paper.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 says we must tell you why we are collecting this information, how we will use it, and whether you have to give it to us. We ask for the information in order to carry out the laws and regulations administered by the U.S. Customs Service. These regulations and forms apply to the agent or pilot-in-command to make entry of the aircraft as required by statute, to bring the aircraft under United States control, deliver passengers and their baggage to their destination, and cargo to the appropriate consignee/owner for payment of duties and taxes. It is mandatory.

The estimated average burden associated with this collection of information is 5 minutes per respondent or recordkeeper depending on individual circumstances. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and suggestions for reducing this burden should be directed to U.S. Customs Service, Paperwork Management Branch, Washington DC 20229. **DO NOT** send completed form(s) to this office.