



Aruba

Photo: Natalia Barsukova / Shutterstock.com



Steve Photography / Shutterstock.com

Sun-drenched beaches sit next to desert wilderness in Aruba, one of the most popular destinations in the Caribbean. With warm and sunny weather all year round, the island seems frozen in a timeless holiday atmosphere, with turquoise ocean waters washing over Aruba's soft warm sand. Nightlife bursts with Latin music and exotic sounds, and exciting shopping and dining await at every corner. Stronger waves break against the eastern coast, deserted and swept over by wind - exploring it will lead the most adventurous visitors to spectacular vistas.

NOTE: This Guide has been limited to 20 points of interest per section. For the full guide, please visit [ArrivalGuides.com](https://www.arrivalguides.com)



meunierd / Shutterstock.com

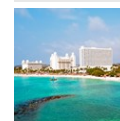


Tom Hannigan / Flickr.com

QUIZ
*What Type of Traveller
Are You Based on
Your Travel IQ?*

TAKE THE QUIZ

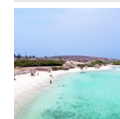
Top 5



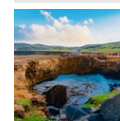
Palm Beach
One of the main hubs for cheerful tourist life, surrounded by resorts and fu...



Eagle Beach
Another much-loved tourist spot, Eagle Beach is located walking distance fro...



Baby Beach
To find refuge from tourist masses, head to this beautiful, secluded beach i...



Arikok National Park
Apart from the well-decorated western touristic area, Aruba offers miles of ...



Conchi Natural Pool
Aruba's uncharted-tropical-island vibes are at their best in this natural



THE ISLAND



byvalet / Shutterstock.com

Sheltered as it is from oceanic winds and tides, the north-western area of Aruba has become a holiday heaven, perfected by the tourism industry. Whether swimming in the calm blue water, snorkeling, venturing to do some water sports, or joining beautiful sunset cruises, it's quite difficult to get bored there. Funny flamingos and refreshing divi trees are characteristic parts of the scenery. You'll find the best entertainment in the popular areas of Palm and Eagle Beach, and in Oranjestad, the charming and compact capital city.

When looking for accommodation in this popular area, you have two main options. The high rise hotels are huge beachfront palaces located in the busiest and most central position. One mile north from there, low rise hotels offer a more private and relaxed atmosphere.

A visit to the more genuine town of San Nicolas, in the southern area, will be rewarded by hidden food gems and beautiful views. Reach the wind-swept Eastern coast and you'll find yourself in an undeveloped natural treasure (which can, of course, be explored as part of plenty of guided tours).

Aruba has a fascinating history of pre-Columbian tribes, colonization, and peoples' encounters.

Arawak Amerindians came to the island around 1,000 BC and stayed for millennia; traces of their presence are left in the ancient wall drawings of Fontein Cave. After being discovered by European explorers, the island was colonized by Spain; fortunately, it was never big on slave trade, because the climate was too dry for plantation settlements. The Netherlands took over in the 17th century and ruled until the first free elections in 1986. Oranjestad preserves beautifully restored Dutch architecture from the Colonial period.

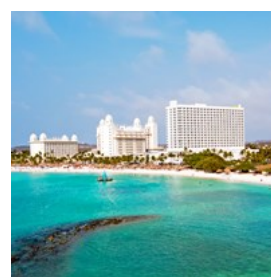
DO & SEE



Steve Photography / Shutterstock.com

Unwind on the pristine beaches, forget about the rut of everyday life exploring the dining and nightlife scenes, or catch some thrills taking part in water sports and outdoor exploration. However you decide to experience it, Aruba has all the trappings of an all-around perfect vacation destination.

Palm Beach



One of the main hubs for cheerful tourist life, surrounded by resorts and full of things to do, this beach is likely the one you saw in the ads for vacations in Aruba. Swim in the calm, sparkling blue water, take long walks along the fine sand

of the shoreline, and seize the occasion to do some people-watching. Be aware that the beach can get crowded.

Photo: Steve Photography / Shutterstock.com

Address: Palm Beach, Aruba

Eagle Beach



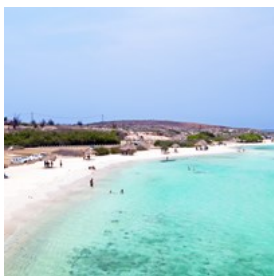
Another much-loved tourist spot, Eagle Beach is located walking distance from the low-rise hotel area, and it's quieter and usually less crowded than Palm Beach. It looks stunning with its fine sugary sand, and is the perfect spot to relax under the shade of umbrellas or the characteristic divi trees. Bars and cafes await right on the sand, and snorkeling here is great.

Photo: DiegoMariottini / Shutterstock.com

Address: Eagle Beach, Aruba

More Info: Some areas of the beach may be close May-July for animal conservation purposes

Baby Beach



To find refuge from tourist masses, head to this beautiful, secluded beach in the island's very south. Reaching the place will take around 30 minutes by car, and some patience if you're driving your own vehicle - signage isn't too clear. However, it's worth the exploration: locals love Baby Beach because it's calm and less crowded. Its waters are clean and good for swimming, and the local fauna is beautiful, featuring gorgeous tropical fish and sea turtles.

Photo: Steve Photography / Shutterstock.com

Address: Baby Beach, San Nicolas, Aruba

Arikok National Park



Apart from the well-decorated western touristic area, Aruba offers miles of a breathtakingly wild desert land, protected by the Arikok national reserve. Visit this windy, atmospheric place, and see some of the island's most loved natural attractions. You can choose to visit the park by yourself, by renting a jeep and using a sat nav, or to join a guided tour. Either way, prepare for an intense, adventurous journey.

Photo: DiegoMariottini / Shutterstock.com

Address: San Fuego 70, Aruba

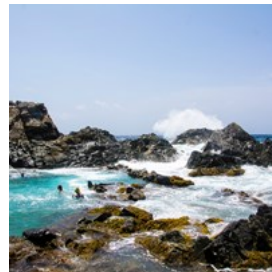
Opening hours: Daily 8am-4pm. Ticket shop closes at 3:30pm

Phone: +297 585 1234

Internet: www.arubanationalpark.org

Email: info@arubanationalpark.org

Conchi Natural Pool



Aruba's uncharted-tropical-island vibes are at their best in this natural pool right at the oceanfront. Conchi is located in the Arikok Natural Park, completely uncultivated, and far away from the touristic areas. Plunge into the turquoise water and discover the beautiful tropical fish, while waves crash against high rocks that surround the pool.

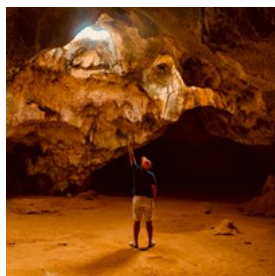
Photo: Matt Grimaldi / Shutterstock.com

Address: Natural Pool, Arikok National Park, Santa Cruz, Aruba

Phone: +297 585 1234

Internet: www.arubanationalpark.org

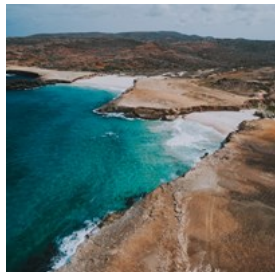
Fontein Cave



Channel your inner Tom Sawyer and visit these impressive rock formations inside the Arikok National Park. Between stalagmites hanging over your head and natural limestone columns, you will also catch a glimpse of cave art by the Arawak indigenous people, dating back to the first millennium BC. Visitors are only allowed to explore the entrance area, but the cave spreads for miles inside the rocks. A short guided tour is available.

Photo: DiegoMariottini / Shutterstock.com
Address: Fontein Cave, Arikok Natural Park, Aruba
Phone: +297 585 1234
Internet: www.arubanationalpark.org

Andicuri Beach



Andicuri's wild beauty makes it a unique spot on the island. It sits on the windy, underdeveloped eastern coast, inside the Arikok National Park. An organized tour is probably the best way to reach it. Its crystal waters are moved by strong waves, which make them great for experienced surfers and not safe for swimming. There are no amenities, and you should bring your own food.

Photo: Aruba Paradise Photos / Shutterstock.com
Address: Andicuri Beach, Aruba

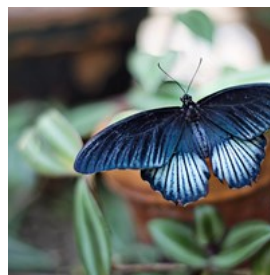
Aruba Archaeological Museum



If you're passionate about history and want to use every occasion to learn more, even on vacation, visit the local museum in Oranjestad. The displays focus on the pre-colonial period and Amerindian culture, and it's located inside an elegant colonial house. Some of the artifacts in the exhibition were crafted millennia ago.

Photo: Natalie Liao Jen / Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)
Address: Schelpstraat 42, Oranjestad, Aruba
Opening hours: Tue-Fri 10am-5pm. Sat-Sun 10am-2pm
Phone: +297 582 8979
Internet: www.namaruba.org

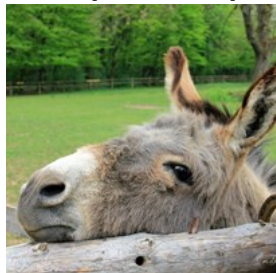
Butterfly Farm



This colorful, well-maintained reserve is fascinating for children and adults, and a great option when you don't feel like going to the beach or exploring. Educational guided tours are available, and if you're gentle and follow the staff's suggestions, you may manage to get a butterfly to land on your fingers. The staff is clearly passionate about the place's mission.

Photo: jill111 / Pixabay.com
Address: J.E. Irausquin Boulevard, Oranjestad, Aruba
Opening hours: Daily 8:30am-4:30pm
Phone: +297 586 3656
Internet: www.thebutterflyfarm.com
Email: butterflyfarmaruba@gmail.com

Donkey Sanctuary



Funny for children and relaxing for adults, this unassuming but heart-warming ranch is great for spending a couple of hours and having some rest while in the Arikok National Park area. Bring some veggie snacks to get extra love from these cute creatures.

Photo: AnnaER / Pixabay.com

Address: Bringamosa 2z, Santa Cruz, Aruba

Opening hours: Daily 9am-4pm. Closed on January 1st

Phone: +297 593 2933

Internet: main.arubandonkey.org/portal

Email: director@arubandonkey.org

Tours and Excursions



Plenty of options are available to experience the natural beauty of Aruba: here you can find a selection of activities to enjoy the island to the fullest.

De Palm Tours offers many different tour options, including sunset cruises and snorkeling experiences. One of the most interesting is probably the Atlantis Submarine Expedition, which will take you underwater in a submarine and get you close to the luxuriant flora and fauna – a cozier alternative to snorkeling.

De Palm Tours

L.G. Smith Boulevard 142, Oranjestad, Aruba

+297 522 4400

www.depalmtours.com

info@depalmtours.com

Those who love energetic adventures will be thrilled by the off-road ATV safari offered by the

Aruba Go Cherry company. On a half-day trip, you will explore the Arikok National Park and take a bath in the Natural Pool.

Aruba Go Cherry

Sero Preto 22J, Oranjestad, Aruba

+297 594 1414

www.arubagocherry.com

www.facebook.com/ArubaGoCherry

Red Sail Sports's Introductory Diving experience will be one to remember. The company also organizes water sports, catamaran sailing, family activities, cruises, and more.

Red Sail Sports

J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 348a, Palm Beach, Aruba

+297 586 1603

www.redsailaruba.com

info@redsailaruba.com

Photo: Jag_cz / Shutterstock.com

DINING



Cor Meenderinck / Shutterstock.com

Aruban cuisine is a mouth-watering fusion of cultures – mostly Spanish, Dutch, French, and African. Specialties like goat cheese and funchi, the local variation of polenta, are must tries. Dining in Aruba is also about the setting and the experience: you will find restaurants located right on the sand, or in picturesque manors. There are plenty of cultural influences, and –

hard as it can be to believe it – very affordable options.

Barefoot Restaurant



Feel the warm sand under your feet and admire the sunset while enjoying yummy food. This breezy yet stylish restaurant is located right

on the beach and offers fresh ingredients and good wines. The staff is extremely helpful with dietary restrictions.

Photo: IZZ HAZEL / Shutterstock.com

Address: L.G. Smith Boulevard 1, Oranjestad, Aruba

Opening hours: Daily 5pm-10:30pm. Kitchen closes at 10pm

Phone: +297 588 9824

Internet: www.barefootaruba.com

Email: eat@barefootaruba.com

Gasparito



Gasparito is very well-loved for the authentic Aruban dining experience it provides.

Located in a historical country house, it also offers outdoor seating in a patio, with a view over a beautiful fountain. The warm-hearted staff are happy to share their knowledge about the dining traditions of Aruba. Prices are honest.

Photo: Elena Shashkina / Shutterstock.com

Address: Gasparito 3a, Noord, Aruba

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 6pm-9pm

Phone: +297 594 2550

Internet: www.gasparito.com

Email: bonbini@gasparito.com

Yemanja Woodfired Grill



If you're looking for a sophisticated dining experience and budget is not an issue for you, try out Yemanja Woodfired Grill. Located centrally in

Oranjestad, it is very well appreciated for tasty food made with fresh ingredients and professional service. If in doubt, start your meal with the delicious truffle potato soup.

Photo: Karl Allgaeuer / Shutterstock.com

Address: Wilhelminastraat 2, Oranjestad, Aruba

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 6:30pm-10:30pm

Phone: +297 588 4711

Internet: www.yemanja-aruba.com

Email: info@yemanja-aruba.com

Papiamento



Family-run Papiamento serves tasty local cuisine in an outstanding location – an atmospheric old farmhouse filled with antiques, boasting a

pretty courtyard and a pool that gets lit at night. Fun fact: "Papiamento" is one of the official languages of the island, a creole formation based on Portuguese. This romantic, relaxing experience can get a bit pricey, especially if you choose to order cocktails.

Photo: William Berry / Shutterstock.com

Address: Washington Road 61, Noord, Aruba

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 18pm-9h30pm

Phone: +297 586 4544

Internet: www.papiamentoaruba.com

Email: bookings@papiamentoaruba.com

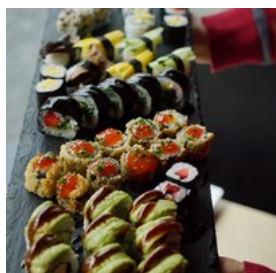
Así Es Mi Peru



For a tasty culinary trip to the South, this restaurant provides authentic Peruvian specialties at reasonable prices. It is located a stone's throw away from the seaside. You can choose to dine in a covered patio or in a cozy dining room inside, adorned with characteristic art from Peru.

Photo: gustavo ramirez / Shutterstock.com
Address: J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 64, Eagle Beach, Oranjestad, Aruba
Opening hours: Tue-Sat 12pm-10:30pm
Phone: +297 588 3958
Internet: www.asiesmiperuenaruba.com
Email: reservations@asiesmiperuenaruba.com

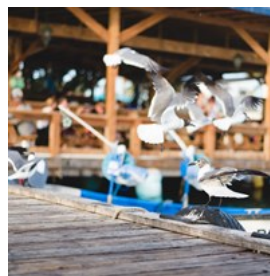
Omakase Japanese Sushi Bar



Sushi lovers don't panic, not even if vegetarian: you won't suffer from withdrawal in Aruba. Omakase is an elegant and affordable sushi bar near the beach, and it has earned many enthusiastic reviews. The concept of 'omakase' means diners leave it up to the chef to select the dishes they'll be served, which adds an extra element of excitement to the experience.

Photo: FreeToUseSounds / Pixabay
Address: J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 55, Oranjestad, Aruba
Opening hours: Tue-Sat 5:30pm-10:30pm
Phone: +297 522 3444
Internet: www.omakasearuba.com
Email: omakase@manchebo.com
More Info: Part of the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa

Zeerovers



A real insider tip for dining on Caribbean specialties while on a budget is heading to Zeerovers. This informal restaurant boats a stunning location right by the sea, and its wood-defined decor gives it a carefree summer village atmosphere.

Photo: EvZav / Shutterstock.com
Address: Savaneta 270a, Savaneta, Aruba
Opening hours: Tue-Sun 11am-9pm
Phone: +297 584 8401
Internet: www.facebook.com/zeerovers
Email: eric.zeerovers@outlook.com

CAFES



inobjective / Shutterstock.com

While relaxing on the beach all day, or jumping from one exciting experience to the other, you'll likely need a proper coffee break. Stay hydrated with fresh fruit smoothies, find sweet comfort in local desserts like kesio (a local version of creme caramel) or go full tropical with the banana chips snacks. Also, discover some great spots in the less touristy parts of the island.

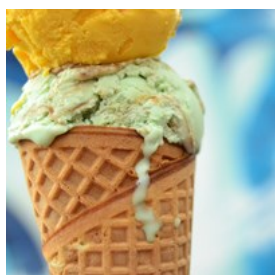
Santos Coffee With Soul



For good coffee in a hip ambiance, Santos is a good option. Located in the capital city, it offers quick eats along with hot and cold drinks, and it has an upbeat interior design. Free WiFi inside.

Photo: Engin_Akyurt / Pixabay.com
Address: J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 51, Oranjestad, Aruba
Opening hours: Daily 6am-9h30pm
Phone: +297 280 3030
Internet: www.santos-aruba.com
Email: info@santos-aruba.com

Aruba Coffee Roasting Company



In addition to roasting coffee beans in-house (which was a first for the island back the time of opening), this cafe offers a mouth-watering

selection of gelato. Take a break in its cozy, retro-inspired decor, and maybe purchase some souvenirs from the shop inside.

Photo: SilviaEmilie / Pixabay.com
Address: Caya Betico Croes 101a, Oranjestad, Aruba
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7am-6pm
Phone: +297 588 5569
Internet: www.arubacoffeeroasters.com

Diana's Pancakes Place



To start the day with a delicious sweet treat, try Diana's traditional Dutch pancakes. Choose from the rich offer of toppings, and complete the

breakfast with coffee or freshly squeezed orange juice. The menu also includes savory pancakes, perfect for a brunch. Service is great and

portions are generous.

Photo: RitaE / Pixabay.com
Address: J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 370, Palm Beach, Aruba
Opening hours: Tue-Sun 8am-1pm
Phone: +297 586 6444
Internet: restaurantsnapshot.com/DianasPancakesPlace
Email: pancakesaruba@hotmail.com

Eduardo's Beach Shack



To keep cheerful and energetic throughout your day at the beach, you'll need some fresh fruity snacks. Eduardo offers plenty of healthy

options right on the sand: from smoothies and fruit salads to more substantial bowls and wraps. It's the place to go in the town of Noord.

Photo: silviarita / Pixabay.com
Address: J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 87, Noord, Aruba
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7:30am-4:15pm. Sun 8am-4pm
Phone: +297 594 2534

Kamini's Kitchen



Yummy food all day long (and at incredible prices!), has earned Kamini's a reputation of one of the best eateries on the island. Located in

the southern area, this place is lively and unassuming, and the owner is extremely well-loved. Try their curry specialties (different from the familiar Indian flavors).

Photo: 41330 / Pixabay.com
Address: De Vuyst 41b, Saint Nicolas, Aruba
Opening hours: Wed-Mon 12pm-9pm
Phone: +297 587 1398
Internet: www.facebook.com/KaminisKitchen
Email: kamini-kurvink@hotmail.com

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



DisobeyArt/Shutterstock.com

Quirky party places, mainstream clubs, and more sophisticated bars are all available in Aruba, especially in resort areas and in downtown Oranjestad. Start exploring the nightlife scene with our suggestions.

Craft Aruba



A chill cafe and bar with a relaxing atmosphere all day long, Craft serves a wide choice of wines, beers and well-mixed cocktails (both classic

and more creative). Relax in their chic decor and enjoy the good selection of music.

Photo: *Ennie / Shutterstock.com*

Address: J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 348a, Palm Beach, Aruba

Opening hours: Sun-Thu 8am-1am. Fri-Sat 8am-3am

Phone: +297 586 6999

Internet: www.craftaruba.com

Email: hello@craftaruba.com

Kukoo Kunuku



For an evening of whimsical fun, join one of Kukoo Kunuku's nightlife tours. This bright party bus is just what you'd expect from cheerful

Caribbean entertainment: animated by an

energetic couple, it will show you around local pubs and/or restaurants, with some drinks and shots included. A good way to discover Aruba's nightlife and have a blast.

Photo: *oneinchpunch/Shutterstock.com*

Address: Noord 128p, Noord, Aruba

Opening hours: Mon-fri: 9am-6pm, Saturday: 9pm-00, closed on Sunday

Phone: +297 586 2010

Internet: www.kukookunuku.com

Email: contact@kukookunuku.com

7 Club



Another great spot for clubbing is this cozy alternative venue. It is part of a huge partying complex called District 7, which is worth exploring

and is comprised of different lounges and an outdoor pool area. 7 Club celebrates diversity and is gay-friendly, so much so that it frequently organizes drag queen shows. You will find cheap drinks and a good music selection.

Photo: *453169 / Pixabay.com*

Address: Windstraat 32, Oranjestad, Aruba

Opening hours: Wed, Thu and Sun 9pm-2am. Fri-Sat 9pm-4am

Phone: +297 582 2550

Internet: www.7aruba.com

Email: 7club@7aruba.com

The Wine Room



For a sophisticated wine tasting evening, The Wine Room is a well-reviewed option. Although not cheap, it boasts knowledgeable staff and

an eye for detail. The tasting menus also include appetizers and desserts, as well as entire meals. It sometimes hosts live music sessions. A

must-try are the chocolate truffles.

Photo: Africa Studio / Shutterstock.com

Address: L.G. Smith Boulevard 126, Suite 1, Oranjestad, Aruba

Opening hours: Tue-Sat 7pm-12am

Phone: +297 737 0019

Internet: www.thewineroomaruba.com

Email: info@theartofdiningaruba.com

Saloon Bar



This frisky country bar offers craft beers and music to let loose after a day at the beach. You can choose your favorite songs and mingle with a diverse crowd, enjoying the cheerful, carefree atmosphere.

Photo: Olivier Le Queinec / Shutterstock.com

Address: South Beach Mall - Palm Beach 55, Palm Beach, Aruba

Opening hours: Sun-Thu 6pm-1am. Fri-Sat 6pm-3am

Phone: +297 280 9911

Internet: www.facebook.com/saloonbararuba

Email: saloonbararuba@gmail.com

SHOPPING



littlenySTOCK / Shutterstock.com

Aruba is not the place to go for great discounts, but it offers many rare finds. Dutch porcelain and chocolate, as well as Cuban cigars, are especially good purchases here. To get something unique, rather than run-of-the-mill

mass-produced souvenirs, head to quality jewelry shops and art galleries. The island welcomes visitors with a rich array of colorful, well-kept shopping malls, which also work as entertainment hubs. Locals love shopping on Oranjestad's main street, Caya G.F. Betico Croes, and in the rest of the downtown area.

Renaissance Mall and Marketplace



This well-decorated, expansive shopping center in the main town offers every kind of shop: luxury clothing and accessories at Louis

Vuitton and more affordable choices at the Mall, along with souvenirs and local arts and craft work at the Marketplace. It is set in a central location, near the beautiful Renaissance Marina. You will also find plenty of places to relax, such as cafes, eateries and spas.

Photo: Pexels / Pixabay.com

Address: L.G. Smith Boulevard 82, Oranjestad, Aruba

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-7pm

Phone: +297 583 6000

Internet: www.shoprenaissancearuba.com/mall

Palm Beach Plaza



To find many entertainment options as well as a selection of stores, head to Palm Beach Plaza: it is open until late at night and

features a huge cinema, different game rooms, and spaces for children, plus fountains and beautiful decor. Shops are not cheap, but you'll find some hidden gems.

Photo: adriaticfoto/Shutterstock.com

Address: L.G. Smith Boulevard 95, Palm Beach, Aruba

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10am-12am. Sat-Sun 5pm-12am

Phone: +297 586 0045
Internet: www.palmbeachplaza.com

Paseo Herencia



Another good spot for shopping and entertainment, Paseo Herencia is a miniature town with a cheery atmosphere, where all revolves around shopping. It is open at night, often organizes shows, and also includes a cinema.

Photo: little star/Shutterstock.com
Address: J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 382, Palm Beach, Aruba
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-10pm. Sun 5pm-10pm
Phone: +297 586 6533
Internet: www.paseoherencia.com
Email: info@paseoherencia.com

Royal Jewels & Diamonds



Trusted by many locals and visitors, this jewelry shop offers a big selection of items and custom-made pieces. For a luxury souvenir of Aruba or a unique gift for a loved one, check their offer. The staff is friendly, patient and ready to help. Prices are reasonable - some of the best on the island.

Photo: pashminu / Pixabay.com
Address: L.G. Smith Boulevard 94, Oranjestad, Aruba
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-6pm
Phone: +297 588 5520
Internet: www.royaljewelers.net
Email: royaldiamonds@usa.net

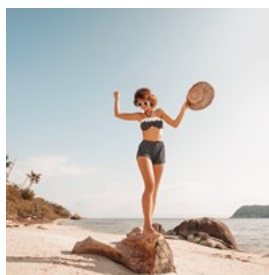
The Aruban Taste



This well-loved specialty shop offers an amazing choice of Aruban rum. To find your favorite, ask the knowledgeable staff for a rum tasting - it's free and encouraged! Whiskeys and other traditional products from the island are also available.

Photo: felix_w / Pixabay.com
Address: Italiestraat 50, Suite 12, Oranjestad, Aruba
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-7:30pm. Sun 3pm-7:30pm
Phone: +297 280 9954
Internet: www.buyarubarum.com

The Juggling Fish



When in need of a new swimsuit for the beautiful Aruban beaches, check out this popular boutique right on the beach. Their selection is wide, fun and varied, and you'll probably love the staff's cheerful personalities.

Photo: Zolotarevs / Shutterstock.com
Address: J.E. Irausquin Boulevard 87, Palm Beach, Aruba
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 8am-7pm. Sun and holidays 9am-6pm
Phone: +297 592 7803
Internet: www.arubaswimwear.com
More Info: Located on the beach at Playa Linda Beach Resort

TOURIST INFORMATION



Keith Muratori / Shutterstock.com

Passport / Visa



Citizens of the European Union member-states, the majority of countries in the Americas and Europe, as well as Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and a

handful of others do not require a visa for stays of up to 90 days.

Visitors of other nationalities might need to apply for a visa in advance. The visa for Aruba is not an equivalent to a Schengen Visa, and does not allow holders to enter the European part of the Netherlands.

Visitors will need to provide a passport that is valid for the duration of the stay and has some unused pages. They also need to have a valid Embarkation and Disembarkation card (ED-Card), a valid return ticket, and the necessary documents for returning to the country of origin. Finally, they can be requested to demonstrate that they have arranged for accommodation in Aruba, and that they have the financial means to support themselves while staying there.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

Best Time to Visit



The weather in Aruba is always nice, with an average temperature of around 28°C at all times of the year. Budget-wise, the best time to visit

Aruba is from April to December, during the low season. During the rest of the year, prices increase significantly as more tourists come down from the north to escape winter.

The perceived temperature is a bit hotter in September, when trade winds cease.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

Queen Beatrix International Airport



The recently renovated Aruba Queen Beatrix International Airport is located in the western part of the island, 5 km from the downtown area

and 7/10 km from the resorts area. It is served by a number of daily or weekly flights from North and South America, the EU, United Kingdom, and many others.

The airport tax ("PFC", Passenger Facility Charge) is usually included in the price of the flights, but it's worth checking.

Check-in for flights to the US is 3 hours before departure; check-in for other flights can be 2-3 hours before departure according to your airline. If your flight is going to depart during a peak hour (Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 3pm), arrive earlier.

There are many different ways to get to and from the airport.

Aruba's public bus service, Arubus, has several lines stopping at the airport. You can take any of these to Oranjestad, reach the town's bus station and change to another line to reach your hotel (many are served by line 10).

Arubus

+297 520 2300

www.arubus.com

marketing@arubus.com

You will find car rental offices in front of the arrival terminal; alternatively, take the shuttle bus outside the airport to reach other car rentals that are not located at the airport. Among the car rental companies that serve Aruba:

Avis (at the airport)

+297 582 5496

www.avis.com

Open daily 6am-10pm

Jay's Car Rental (shuttle bus from the airport)

+297 583 2223

www.jayscarrentalaruba.com

Open daily 8am-6pm

Alternatively, you can take a taxi from outside the airport.

Arutaxi:

+297 587 5900

www.arutaxi.com

info@arutaxi.com

You can also arrange for an airport transfer, as an individual or as a group. Two options are:

Sun Transfers

+1 646 506 4966

www.suntransfers.com/aruba-airport

Wix Tours

+297 739 2000

www.wixtours.com

info@wixtours.com

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Aeropuerto Internacional Reina Beatrix, Sabana Berde 75, Oranjestad, Aruba

Phone: +297 524 2424

Internet: www.airportaruba.com

Cruise



The Aruba Cruise

Terminal is located on the Western coast of the island, a few minutes walk away from the center of the capital city

Oranjestad.

Right at the terminal you will find information booths and ATMs. Shops are also available inside the terminal.

The public bus service in Aruba, run by Arubus, is good and affordable, and the Oranjestad bus terminal is located a few steps away from the port, on Lloyd G. Smith Boulevard.

However, you can also decide to hail a cab at the taxi rank on the left of the terminal exit.

Alternatively, find car rentals in front of the terminal exit. Here are two car rental companies that operate at the Aruba Cruise Ship Terminal:

Royal Car Rental

+297 587 7900

+1 866 978 0965 from the USA

www.arubaroyal.com

Amigo Car

+297 583 8833

www.amigocar.com

If you're visiting Aruba during a cruise and only

have one day to spend on the island, follow our suggested itinerary to experience the best of it. Aruba is mostly well-known for its beautiful touristic beaches. Eagle Beach, one of the best, is quite close to the ship terminal, and boasts flamingos, cute turtles, typical divi divi trees and plenty of facilities. For a morning of perfect beach life, take the Arubus line 10 from the Oranjestad bus terminal and get off at the Eagle Beach stop.

For a change from cruise ship food, have lunch with the delicious ethnic cuisine at Así Es Mi Peru (www.asiesmiperuenaruba.com), a few steps away from the beach.

If you're still in the mood for touristic beaches in the afternoon, visit the very popular Palm Beach (bus line 10 to Malmok, stop at Palm Beach Plaza). To take a break before getting there, spend an hour at the colorful Butterfly Farm (same bus, stop at Divi Resort).

If you're looking for a more adventurous day, save the afternoon for a tour in the wilder Eastern part of the island. A convenient solution is booking a half-day guided tour: the Aruba ATV Tour, operated by Kini-Kini Tours (www.kinikinitours.com), will show you some of Aruba's most beloved natural wonders. The highlight is swimming in the breathtaking Natural Pool, just in front of the ocean, with colorful fish under the surface. The tour departs directly from the cruise ship terminal and brings you back there at the end of the trip.

However you decide to experience the island, take some time to explore the picturesque Oranjestad city center. It only takes 15 minutes on foot from the terminal to Oranjestad's cute main street, Caya G.F. Beltico Croes. Here you can admire colorful Dutch revival architecture

and typical palm trees; this is also where you'll find some of the best shops on the island. Another good shopping and entertainment hub is the whimsical Royal Plaza mall, just a 5 minutes walk from the cruise ship terminal.

Photo: icon Stocker / Shutterstock.com

Public Transport



Public transport in Aruba is easy and inexpensive. The Arubus service covers Oranjestad and the resort areas, with stops at beaches and

supermarkets; it also reaches the airport. Check their website for schedules and ticket prices. The bus line 10 to Malmok is probably the most convenient to reach hotels and points of interest near Eagle and Palm Beach.

The central bus station is located in downtown Oranjestad, next to the Royal Plaza shopping mall, on Lloyd G. Smith Boulevard.

The bus runs every 15 minutes from 5:45am-6pm; every 40 minutes from 6pm-11:30pm.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Phone: +297 520 2300

Internet: www.arubus.com

Email: info@arubus.com

Taxi



Taxi fares in Aruba are set according to the destinations; meters are not used. An additional charge is applied after 11pm, on Sundays and

official holidays. The cabs bear a "TX" sign to indicate that they are licensed.

Taxis are often available at hotels and popular

sights; otherwise, it is best to hail them by phone. If you're making an excursion to a less popular spot, you may want to arrange with the same taxi driver to pick you up and bring you back to the hotel when you're done.

Find two taxi companies at:

Arutaxi
+297 5875900
www.arutaxi.com
info@arutaxi.com

Aruba Taxi Company
+297 587 1300
www.arubataxicompany.com

Photo: Taxi

Post



If you have to send a letter, look for red post boxes. Post Office Oranjestad: Juan E. Irausquin Plein 9, Oranjestad, Aruba Post

Office San Nicolas:
Bernard van de Veen Zeppenfeld Street, San Nicolas, Aruba

Both are reachable through:

Photo: Andy Fuchs
Opening hours: Open Mon-Fri 7:30am-4:30pm
Phone: +297 528 7678
Internet: www.postaruba.com
Email: customerservice@postaruba.com

Pharmacy



Pharmacies in Aruba are usually open Mon-Sat between 8am and 7pm. At night, on Sundays and during official holidays, they place out an

announcement where you can check which of them is on duty at that time.

Find a Pharmacy in San Nicolas at:

Benu Pharmacy San Luca
Bernard van de Veen Zeppenfeld Street 49, San Nicolas, Aruba
+297 584 5119
Open Mon-Sat 7:30am-7:30pm
www.visserpharmacy.com

Alternatively, find a Pharmacy in Oranjestad at:
Botica Di Servicio Eagle:

Photo: Gemma Garner
Address: Caya Punta Brabo 17, Oranjestad, Aruba
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 8am-8pm
Phone: +297 640 8443
Internet: www.boticadiservicio.com
Email: info@boticadiservicio.com

Telephone

Country Code: +297



Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity



127 V / 60 Hz Power
sockets type A, B and F

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population

Approximately 105,000

Currency

Aruban florin, 1 AWG = 100 cents

Opening hours

Many shops are open approximately 9am-6pm. Some of them close for a break 12pm-2pm.

Newspapers

Aruba Today (English) - www.arubatoday.com

Amigoe (Dutch) - www.amigoe.com

Diario (Papiamentu) - www.diario.aw

Emergency numbers

Ambulance and fire brigade: 911

Police: 100

Hospital in Oranjestad: +297 527 4000

Tourist information

172 L.G. Smith Boulevard, Oranjestad, Aruba

+44 7950 131216

www.aruba.com

ata.aruba@aruba.com