



Practical arrival information and FAQ

Curacao's 15 Facts

1. Population: over 150,000.
2. Location: Southern part of the Caribbean Sea. Curaçao is located between the islands of Aruba and Bonaire, just 35 miles north of Venezuela.
3. Total surface area: 444 sq. km/171.4. Sq Miles 64 km/ 40 miles long and 16 km/ 10 miles wide.
4. Capital: Willemstad (Punda - Otrabanda).
5. Four Languages: Papiamentu, English, Dutch and Spanish.
6. Discovered: 1499 by the Spaniards.
7. Dutch territory as of 1634.
8. Earliest inhabitants: Arawak Indians.
9. Oldest Synagogue in the Western Hemisphere in continued use the Mikvé Israel-Emanuel (1651).
10. Major industries include tourism, oil, and offshore banking.
11. Self-governing as of December 15, 1954
12. Average Temperature of 27°C / 80°F
13. Religion: predominantly Catholic (80%) Others: Jewish, Protestant and Muslim.
14. Currency: Netherlands-Antillean Guilder, abbreviated as 'NAfl.' Or ' ANG.'. Fixed exchange rate of US \$1 = NAfl. 1.75
15. Slavery: abolished in 1863.

Climate

Located in the tropics, just 12° north of the Equator, Curaçao has a warm, sunny climate year round. The average temperature is about 27° C (in the mid 80s F). Cooling trade winds blow constantly from the east, picking up in the spring months. The rainy season, between October and February, is usually marked by short, occasional showers at night and sunny weather during the day. Total annual rainfall averages only 570 mm (22 inches).

Language

Many languages are spoken in Curaçao. Dutch is the official language, but English and Spanish are also widely spoken. Papiamentu is Curaçao's local and native language and is a mixture of seven different languages.

Clothing

Since temperatures are warm throughout the year, light, casual tropical wear is recommended. When outdoors, protect yourself from the sun. Locals dress fashionably, particularly for indoor evening events, while Curaçao fashion for outdoor festivals is decidedly casual. Some restaurants

prohibit shorts or sandals and some casinos also require jackets for men.

Baoase dress code is casual and requires not more than appropriate wear. It is not allowed to not wear a shirt in our beach bar and restaurant area. Dinner is slightly more formal describing the dress code as smart/elegant casual.

Drinking Water

Not only is Curaçao water safe to drink, it is of the finest quality. Since 1928, a seawater distillery has produced top quality drinking water for the island. It contains no chloride and little calcium, is tasteless, odorless and has a good bacteriological composition.

Safety & Security

Curaçao is a safe Caribbean destination. However, visitors are encouraged to use common sense and take standard safety precautions. Car doors and hotel doors should remain locked at all times and valuables should not be left unattended in hotel rooms. Baoase offers safety vaults for this reason. It is recommended that visitors do not take valuables to the beach or wander off alone late at night.

Car Rental

The easiest to get around the island is by car. We recommend you to use our local taxi service or rent a car via Baoase. Renting a car can be organized prior to your arrival to guarantee availability or during your stay. The advantage of renting via Baoase is that you do not need to stand in any line or go to any car rental desk, the GH car rental company comes to you!

Renting requires a credit card and valid driver's license. Curacaos drive on the right-hand side of the road. The speed limits in the city and residential areas are 45 km per hour (28 mph), with a maximum speed of 60 - 80 km per hour (37 - 50 mph) outside the city and on the four-lane ring road.

Electricity

The power-sockets in our accommodations are all 220V. Our Beachfront Pool Suites offer both 110V and 220V. Our Front Office can provide you with adaptors and transformers. However, we recommend you bring the right adopters for your own appliances.

Gratuity (Tipping)

Tipping is an universal sign of appreciation for quality service. Tipping is left to your own discretion at all times and will be greatly appreciated, no matter how much is given. Between 5-10% of the total bill is customary. You may choose to add your Tip at each invoice at the restaurant or leave an envelope at the end of your stay at the Front Office.

Curacao entry-requirements

Generally tourists holding a valid passport may enter Curaçao without a written permit and remain with us for a period of up to 90 days. However, several nationalities (e.g. Colombia, Cuba, Haiti, Peru) must present a tourist visa as part of our entry requirements. A visa should be applied for at least one month in advance at any representation of the Netherlands (in the concerning country). US visitors require a passport to get back into the USA.

Nationals from Colombia, the Dominican Republic, China and India do not need to apply for a visa if they are in possession of a valid multiple entry visa for the United States, Canada or the Schengen countries (Europe). As of July 1, 2015 Colombian nationals will not need a visa anymore to enter Curaçao. Tourists should be in possession of:

- Valid passport
- A return or outward ticket on arrival
- Sufficient funds for accommodations and food
- The necessary documents for returning to the country of origin, or further travel elsewhere

The following nationalities DO NOT require a Visa to enter Curaçao:

Albania	Chili	Guatemala	Macao	San Marino	Sweden
Andorra	Costa Rica	Guyana	Malaysia	Serbia	Switzerland
Antigua and Barbuda	Croatia	Honduras	Malta	Seychelles	Suriname
Argentina	Cyprus	Hungary	Mauritius	Singapore	Taiwan
Australia	Czech Republic	Hong Kong	Mexico	South Korea (see Korea)	Trinidad & Tobago
Austria	Denmark	Iceland	Monaco	St. Christopher (St. Kitts) & Nevis	United Arab Emirates
Bahamas	Dominica	Ireland	Montenegro	St. Lucia	United Kingdom (UK)
Barbados	Germany	Israël	Netherlands, The	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Uruguay
Belgium	Ecuador	Italy	Nicaragua	Slovakia	Vatican City
Belize	El Salvador	Jamaica	New Zealand	Slovenia	Venezuela
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Estonia	Japan	Norway	Spain	
Brazil	Finland	Korea South	Panama		
Brunei	France	Latvia	Paraguay		
Bulgaria	Germany	Liechtenstein	Poland		
Canada	Grenada	Lithuania	Portugal		
	Greece	Luxembourg	Romania		
		Macedonia			