



# BAOASE PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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PREPARATION IS KEY - ALL YOU NEED TO  
KNOW BEFORE YOU VISIT OUR ISLAND.



# 15 FACTS ABOUT CURAÇAO



1. The island has a population of over 160.000 people.
2. Curaçao is located between the islands of Aruba and Bonaire, just 35 miles north of Venezuela. It's in the Southern part of the Caribbean Sea.
3. The island has a total surface area of 444 km<sup>2</sup> /171.4. mi<sup>2</sup> and it measures 64 km/40 miles long and 16 km/10 miles wide.
4. The capital is Willemstad which is divided into two quarters - Punda and Otrobanda.
5. The island is a cultural melting pot with over 65 nationalities living on the small surface.
6. The main languages spoken on the island are Papiamentu, English, Dutch, and Spanish.
7. Curaçao was discovered in 1499 by the Spaniards.
8. The island became Dutch territory as of 1634.
9. The Mikvé Israel-Emanuel synagogue is the oldest synagogue in the Western hemisphere that is in continued use. It has been in use since 1651.
10. Curaçao has its very own deserted island named Klein Curaçao. No one lives here but you can visit it.
11. The island is self-governing as of December 15th, 1954.
12. The tropical average temperature is 27°C / 80°F.
13. The biggest religion on the island is Catholic (80%). Followed by Jewish, Protestant and Muslim.
14. The currency used is Netherlands-Antillean Guilder, abbreviated as 'NAfl.' Or 'ANG.'. The fixed exchange rate is US \$1 = NAfl. 1.75.
15. A famous national figure, and popular souvenir, is the Chichi doll. In the shape of a well-rounded Caribbean woman, she represents the older sister that binds the family together in a loving and caring way.

## CAR RENTAL

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*Explore every corner of the island.*

The easiest way to get around the island is by car – either by our local taxi service or by renting one through Baoase. We can assist you in [renting a car](#) prior to your arrival to guarantee availability, but it can also be requested during your stay. No need to stand in any lines when renting through Baoase – the car rental company will come to the resort to deliver and pick up the car.

Renting a car requires a credit card and a valid driver's license. The island has similar traffic rules to Europe and the US. People drive on the right-hand side of the road, and 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.

## CLOTHING

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*This is going to be a sundress and sandals kind of day.*

Because of our warm climate light and casual tropical wardrobe is recommended. Be aware of protecting yourself from the sun with natural sun cream from our boutique shop when outside though. Locals dress casually during outdoor events but tend to dress up for indoor evening events. Some restaurants even prohibit shorts or sandals, and some casinos require jackets for men.

## DRINKING WATER

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*Drink up – the water is crystal clear here.*

Not only is Curaçao's 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. You can fill up your recyclable bottle at various points on the island and the resort.

## CLIMATE

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*Today will be sunny with a slight ocean breeze.*

Located in the tropics - just 12° north of the Equator - Curaçao has a warm and sunny climate year-round with an average temperature of 27°C (in the mid-80s F). Cooling trade winds constantly blow 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. The total annual rainfall is on average only 570 mm (22 inches).



## ELECTRICITY

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

## GRATUITY (TIPPING)

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Tipping is a 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 to each invoice at the restaurant or leave an envelope at the end of your stay at the Front Office.

## LANGUAGE

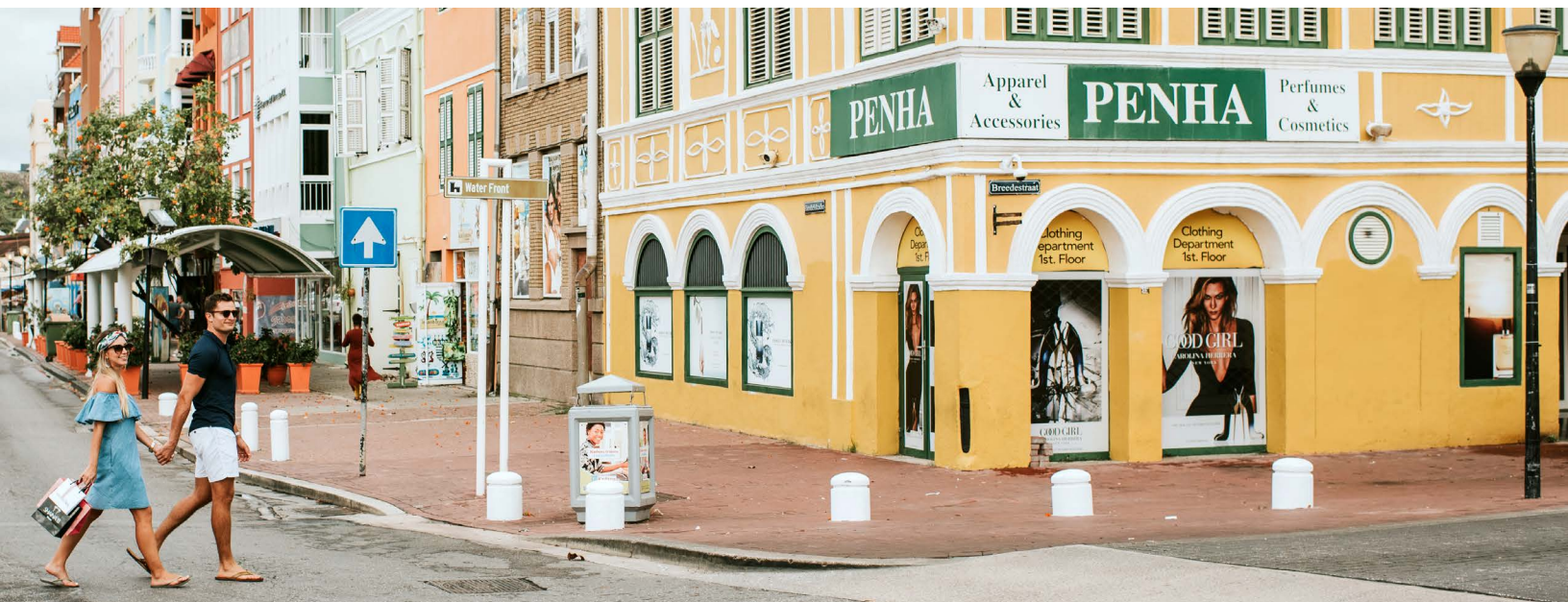
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Many languages are spoken on Curaçao. Even though Dutch is the official language, English and Spanish are also widely spoken. Papiamentu is Curaçao's local and native language and is a mixture of seven different languages. At Baoase, our primary language is American English. But our team could assist you verbally in Dutch, Papiamentu, Spanish, German and French as well.

## SAFETY & SECURITY

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Curaçao is a safe Caribbean destination. However, visitors are encouraged to 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 or cars. Baoase offers a safe inside the rooms to safely store anything of value. It is recommended that visitors do not take valuables to the beach or wander off alone late at night.



## CURAÇAO ENTRY-REQUIREMENTS

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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., Cuba, Haiti, Peru) must present a tourist visa as part of the 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 upon arrival
- Sufficient funds for accommodations and food
- The necessary documents for returning to the country of origin or further travel elsewhere

*Please find more information about nationalities that do not require a visa to enter Curaçao on [curacao.com](http://curacao.com).*