

TRANQUIL TURKS & CAICOS ESCAPE



These two groups of tropical islands are in the Lucayan Archipelago of the Atlantic Ocean and the northern West Indies. Situated southeast of Mayaguana in The Bahamas island chain, northeast of Cuba, and north of the island of Haiti and the Dominican Republic, the Turks and Caicos Islands are a paradise waiting to be discovered.

Make the Turks and Caicos Islands a top destination on your bucket list, and look at our suggestions for the perfect tranquil escape.

Geography

Let's start with a lesson in the geography of the islands.

There are eight main islands and over 22 smaller islands, giving the visitor 128 miles of beachfront to enjoy. The island groups are separated by the Turks Island Passage and consist of the following islands.

Grand Turk is the largest island in the Turks Islands; you arrive via AGS McCartney International Airport or aboard one of the many cruise ships that stop off on the island all year round. Offering 360 days of sunshine a year, Grand Turk is a popular destination.

Salt Cay is the second of the larger Turks Islands. It is a tiny, flat, triangular island measuring about 2.0 miles. The main source of income for the island is sea salt production. Salt Cay is not a tourist destination, but you can visit via a community ferry from Grand Turk.

Several uninhabited islands are surrounding Salt Cay and Grand Turk. Let's look at the Caicos Islands.

The Caicos Islands are made up of the Providenciales, North Caicos, South Caicos, Parrot Cay, East Caicos and West Caicos. There are a further 22 smaller islands and islets some are not inhabited. Arrive at Providenciales International Airport to access the Caicos islands.

Where to Stay

Now you know the geography of the Turks and Caicos Islands, but where is the best place to stay?

Amanyara, Providenciales is a great choice. This resort is a private-club-style retreat that brings Indonesian style and luxury to this stunning Caicos island. The hotel feels like it's removed from the rest of the world, situated on the shores of a nature reserve overlooking the unspoilt beach and the clear blue sea of North West Point Marine National Park.

If you love snorkelling and diving, the facilities are world-class. Providenciales is known for stunning coral reefs and prolific marine life in this biodiversity hotspot. Expect to see lizards, colourful birds and tropical plants everywhere.

The hotel has an open-air restaurant famous for dining on fresh seafood and delicious local produce,

plus a private beach, gym, tennis, onyx infinity pool dive centre, spa and nature reserve centre.

Accommodation is made up of Individual teak and glass pavilions adjoining the suites and the support the indoor/outdoor living ethos, the resort is perfectly secluded for the ultimate time-out.

Hire an Amanyara Pavilion suite and enjoy ocean views and a private walled garden, your own glassed-in relaxation alcove and outdoor lounging salon. Each suite has an entrance terrace with twin daybeds, private swimming pool.

Inside the Amanyara Pavilion, you will find a king-size bed, living area with sofas and a writing desk. The bathroom has a raindrop shower and separate toilet. Wi-Fi, TV and a DVD player come as standard. Each suite has a bar making your pavilion the perfect place to relax.

Celebrity Hangout

The islands are popular with celebrities, and many Hollywood stars own homes in the Turks and Caicos, including Dick Clark, Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner, Bruce Willis, Eva Longoria. The list goes on with director Rob Margolies and musician Nile Rodgers; all consider the islands home.

Lots of other famous people holiday on the islands. Including Beyonce and JayZ, Richard Branson, Bruce Springsteen and Stevie Wonder. Not forgetting Adele and Madonna.

Turks and Caicos host an annual series of concerts, called the Turks & Caicos Music and Cultural Festival. Held at The Turtle Cove Marina in The Bight on Providenciales, the festival is a week-long. It has featured many international recording artists, such as LL Cool J, Anita Baker, Lionel Richie, Billy Ocean, John Legend, Alicia Keys, Kenny Rogers, Ludacris, Chaka Khan, Michael Bolton, and Boyz II.

So if you're in any doubt about the Turks and Caicos Islands, you shouldn't be, what's not to love about this island paradise? After All, if you're a celebrity and you can go anywhere, but you choose the Turks, and Caicos as your home there can't be a better endorsement can there?

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