

Antigua & Barbuda

POP 93,000 / 2268

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Best Places to Eat

- → Le Bistro (p107)
- Cecilia's High Point Cafe (p107)
- → C&C Wine Bar (p104)
- Sun Ra (p113)

Best Places to **Sleep**

- Admiral's Inn (p112)
- South Point Hotel (p112)
- → Buccaneer Beach Club (p106)
- Waterfront Hostel (p112)

Why Go?

On Antigua, life is a beach. Its corrugated coasts cradle hundreds of perfect little strands lapped by beguiling enamelblue water, while the sheltered bays have provided refuge for everyone from Admiral Nelson to buccaneers and yachties. If you can tear yourself away from that towel, you'll discover that there's a distinct English accent to this island. You'll find it in the bustling capital of St John's, in salty-glamorous English Harbour, and in the historic forts and other vestiges of the colonial past. Yet, Antigua is also quintessential Caribbean, full of candy-coloured villages, a rum-infused mellowness and bright-eyed locals that greet you with wide smiles.

If life on Antigua is a beach, Barbuda *is* a beach: one smooth, pink-tinged strand hemming the reef-filled waters. Birds, especially the huffing and puffing frigates, greatly outnumber residents on this Caribbean dream island.

When to Go

Dec-Apr Peak travel season when daily highs average 81°F (27°C), while nighttime temperatures drop to a balmy 72°F (22°C).

Jul & Aug Only slightly hotter (86°F/30°C high and 77°F/25°C low) but can get humid. July is also the start of hurricane season, which runs into November.

May-Nov Prices drop and crowds thin.



Antigua & Barbuda Highlights

Half Moon Bay (p114)
Playing in the waves of
Antigua's most beautiful beach.

2 Frigate Bird Sanctuary (p115) Marveling at the magnificent winged denizens off Barbuda's northwest coast.

3 Shirley Heights Lookout Restaurant (p113) Swaying to reggae during the Sundayafternoon barbecue at English Harbour.

4 Fig Tree Drive (p109)
Tasting a sweet black pineapple at a roadside fruit stand.