



# Eleuthera

TELEPHONE CODE 242 / POPULATION 7800 / AREA 198 SQ MILES

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## Best Places to Stay

- » Rock House (p143)
- » Pink Sands Resort (p143)
- » Runaway Hill (p143)
- » Edge of the World (p150)

## Best Places to Eat

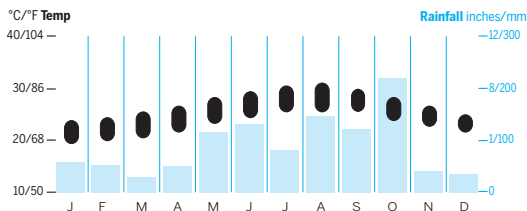
- » Arthur's Bakery & Café (p146)
- » Landing Restaurant (p146)
- » Ma Ruby's (p146)
- » Rainbow Inn & Restaurant (p151)
- » Tippy's Bar & Beach Restaurant (p152)

## Why Go?

So what do you do in Eleuthera, a 100-mile-long wisp curving east like an archer's bow? According to literature, research and dependable local gossips, most people come here to do...absolutely nothing. That's right. The beach bum is the true royal here, their every do-nothing need met by mile upon mile of obliging shores. These are the supermodels of the beach world: pink sand, sunlight dancing on cerulean waters, sheltered coves, dramatic cliffs.

For those looking for more than a suntan, Eleuthera offers a number of high energy distractions. Wreck divers can explore the Devil's Backbone, fashionistas and foodies can salivate at the upscale boutiques and bistros of Harbour Island, and seasoned surfers can catch the waves of the eastern shore. While Harbour Island, a celebrity favorite, is developed and pricey (though fabulous), 'mainland' Eleuthera is ripe for off-the-beaten-path exploration.

## When to Go Eleuthera



**June Sleepy**  
Gregory Town comes to life for the Pineapple Festival.

**March–May** Low season means you may actually be able to get a same-day dinner reservation on Harbour Island.

**December–February** High season brings pricier rates, bigger crowds and better celeb-spotting.

## History

The name 'Eleuthera' comes from the Greek word *eleutheros*, meaning freedom (the Lucayans who originally settled the island called their home 'Cigatoo'). In 1648, English refugees fleeing religious persecution in Bermuda during the English Civil War era landed in Eleuthera after the Devil's Backbone reef ripped open their boats. They were later joined by Loyalists,

who brought their slaves and founded new settlements.

Massive pineapple exports in the late 1800s and early 1900s were replaced with less intensive farming crops. Abandoned silos recall the thriving cattle and chicken industries that evolved in the 1950s. Alas, following independence the government bought out the farmers, and within a short period of time the farms were derelict.



## Eleuthera Highlights

**1** Browsing the chichi boutiques of celeb-happy **Harbour Island** (opposite)

**2** Strolling the ethereal **Pink Sands Beach** (p142 and p154)

**3** Braving the rutted road to the secluded,

jaw-droppingly beautiful **Lighthouse Beach** (p154)

**4** Snapping a picture at the must-see-it-to-believe-it **Glass Window Bridge** (p149)

**5** Splashing in the sun-warmed waters of the cliff-top **grottoes** (p151)

**6** Rocking out with a who's who of island musicians at **Elvina's** (p150) in Gregory Town

**7** Grooving the night away at the rumbustious **Vic Hum Club** (p147)