

The Bahamas



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Nassau & New Providence

TELEPHONE CODE: 242 / POPULATION: 249,000 / AREA: 80 SQ MILES

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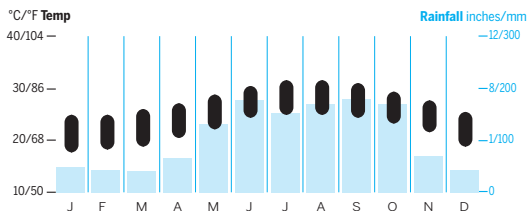
Why Go?

What New Providence lacks in size, it more than makes up for in energy, attitude and devil-may-care spirit. In fact, this 21-mile-long powerhouse of an island is a perfect fit for the Type-A tourist with money to burn. Plummet down a 50ft-long waterslide, puff on a hand-rolled stogie, place your bets on a high-stakes hand and party like a pirate into the wee hours – it's all there for the grabbing.

But all is not lost for value-minded Type B's, who can escape the go-go party track with minimal effort. In Nassau, just a few blocks off Bay St, there are engaging museums, historic buildings and locally owned restaurants that are crowd-free and personality-full. Scenery hounds can head to the island's western shores and hilltops. Those really wanting to disappear should beeline for the ferry terminals where sailing jaunts, fishing trips and snorkeling cruises are only an impulse away.

When to Go

Nassau



March College Spring Break means Nassau is crawling with Jell-O shot-fueled partiers. Dream or nightmare?

September–November Low season brings great rates on hotels, including the ever-pricy Atlantis. It also brings rain.

December Junk-anoo bands and masked dance troops turn the island into a giant carnival.