

Bridgetown,  
Barbados  
Presented by  
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# What I Will Cover

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- **Map of Bridgetown**
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# My Port Philosophy

I have been cruising for over 45 years and have taken over 100 cruises.

So, I consider myself an experienced cruiser.

The information I will present is based on those many years of experience.

When I am on a cruise where the city, I want to visit is not the port city, I always recommend taking a ship's tour.

But when I am in a port with multiple attractions nearby and easy to see on my own -

I will do it on my own.

This presentation is not like that.

# Don't Miss the Ship

## **How to Avoid Missing Your Ship**

Pay attention to the time. - Ship time and local time are often different.

Put a return-to-ship reminder on your phone.

## **Choose excursions wisely.**

If a ship-sponsored excursion is late returning to port, the ship will wait for you. If you are on your own.

## **Be Prepared**

Have your Passport, Credit Card, and phone numbers for your ship port agent.

## **What to Do If You Miss the Ship**

Most cruise lines have port agents stationed in the port area to assist if your ship has left without you. If you are lucky, when cruisers are late returning to the vessel, the ship's crew will often remove the passengers' essential items – passports, cell phones, and medication -- from the ship to leave with the port agents.

The Port Officials can help you with contacting your ship  
and making necessary travel arrangements.



# Money

**1.00 Barbadian or Bajan Dollar =  
0.50 US Dollars**



# About Bridgetown

- **Bridgetown**, capital, and port of the island-state of Barbados, in the West Indies, southeastern Caribbean Sea. It is on the southwestern end of the island, on the wide curve of Carlisle Bay. A built-up coastal strip stretches for several miles on each side of the town.
- The town, which was founded in 1628 and was originally called Indian Bridge, provoked considerable criticism from early visitors because of its location by a noxious swamp and its unplanned development. The name St. Michael's Town came into favor about 1660 and remained in use into the 19th century. Much of the town was destroyed repeatedly by fires, and in 1854 a cholera epidemic killed some 20,000 people.
- Today Bridgetown is a crowded and picturesque mixture of old and new. St. Michael's Anglican Cathedral was built of coral rock, largely from the proceeds of a lottery to replace a building destroyed in a hurricane of 1780. The General's House in Queen's Park, northeast of the cathedral, is now used as a theater and an art gallery. Northwest of the cathedral is Kensington Oval, a historic cricket ground (1871; original structure demolished and rebuilt 2005–07) that has hosted international matches since 1895, including the International Cricket Council World Cup final in 2007.



# Ethnic Groups and Languages

- People of African descent and mixed African-European descent make up more than nine-tenths of the population. A small fraction of the population is of European (mainly British) descent, and there is an even smaller number of inhabitants who originated from the Indian subcontinent.
- There are small groups of Syrians, Lebanese, and Chinese. There is also a sizable expatriate community—primarily from the United States and Great Britain—made up of international civil servants, businesspersons, and retirees. English is the official language, and Bajan is also spoken.











# Bridgetown City Bus

- Transport Board is a public transportation provider in Barbados which operates Bus routes. The Transport Board has 88 Bus routes in Barbados with 625 Bus stops.
- The Bus routes operating across Barbados including Bridgetown, Saint Andrew, Christ Church, Saint James, Saint George, Saint John, Saint Lucy, Saint Philip, Saint Peter, and Saint Thomas.
- The **Rocklyn bus** is a brightly colored open-sided bus reminiscent of those typically used in Barbados in the 60's and 70's.
- In addition to the government's buses, there are many privately run minibusses. **Minibusses** are painted yellow with a blue stripe. These are about the same size as the smaller Transport Board buses.



The standard fare is BDS \$2 (USD \$1).

# Barbados Taxis

- Taxis in **Barbados** are readily available at taxi stands or by phone.
- . Fares vary, but it is wise to agree on the fare before departing.
- The variation in fares is based on the destination, the number of people, the amount of luggage, and the taxi company.
- Taxi fares are displayed in local currency based on your starting location.
- Typically, taxi tip amounts to 10–12 percent of the total fare.
- UberPool is also available in Barbados.



# Barbados Museum

The Barbados Museum, located at the Garrison, is housed in the former British Military Prison. The prison, whose upper section was built in 1817 and its lower section in 1853, became the headquarters of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society in 1930.

**Some of the main displays and features of the Barbados Museum are:**

- A natural history display that describes the coral structure of Barbados.
- Artifacts of the Amerindians, the early inhabitants of the Caribbean islands.
- Children's Gallery 'Yesterday's Children' which provides an exciting and educational travel back into history.
- Furnishings of an eighteenth-century plantation house.
- A collection of rare historical maps of the island.
- A reference library that is available for research on the island's history and genealogy.





# Andromeda Gardens

- Andromeda Botanic Gardens is a Partner Garden of the UK Royal Horticultural Society, and is the only garden with such a status in the West Indies.
- **Andromeda Botanic Gardens** is an organic 8-acre botanical garden and a historic cultural attraction in the village of Bathsheba, Barbados.
- Iris Bannochie created the garden in 1954 on land owned by her family since 1740.
- Andromeda Botanic Gardens was first opened to the public by the Barbados Horticultural Society in the 1970s.
- Andromeda has remained open to the public by paid admission since then. Andromeda has over five hundred different species of plants adapted to a range of tropical environments.
- In 2018, the Palm Garden contained over 50 different species of palm and there were approximately 100 different tree species. Over 90 plant families are represented.





# Animal Flower Cave

- The Animal Flower Cave is a premier Tourist Attraction and Restaurant serving Barbados for decades. They offer unforgettable cave tours led by experienced guides and have been providing high-quality food for all those who wish to combine a fun ambiance with skillful cooking in one day.
- The Animal Flower Cave is the perfect spot to relax, unwind, and enjoy the beauty of Barbados. They offer stunning views of the Caribbean Sea, and the restaurant is renowned for its delicious Caribbean cuisine.



# Sunbury Plantation House

- Sunbury Plantation House was built around 1660 by Matthew Chapman, an Irish/English planter, one of the first settlers on the island.
- He was related to the Earl of Carlisle and through this association, was granted lands in Barbados. Sunbury Plantation House is over 300 years old, steeped in history, featuring mahogany antiques, old prints, antique porcelain dolls, and a unique collection of horse-drawn carriages.
- The original name of Sunbury was Chapman's Plantation, then Branker's Plantation. During the ownership of the Barrow brothers, then to "Brothers Plantation" and finally Sunbury Plantation, named after their home in Britain.





# The Sugar Museum

- This museum is a permanent record of how sugar was produced in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The museum now stands a tribute to Sir Frank Hutson, who with assistance from the Barbados National Trust, collected the items in the museum.
- The history of sugar cultivation and production is displayed in this attractive museum which is located in the yard of the Portvale Sugar Factory, just off Highway 2A.
- The museum is open throughout the year but if you visit during the reaping season (February to May), you can compare the machinery of previous times with the modern machinery of the Portvale factory.





# Mount Gay Visitors' Centre

- Rum-loving visitors are invited to the Visitor Centre for fun-filled tours that immerse you in all things Mount Gay! Take a captivating journey into the world of rum-making and the rich history of the island, enjoy tastings of signature rums, and craft your very own cocktails!
- Located just a short stroll from the cruise port, this is a great activity if your cruise stops in Barbados.



- The park sits on a massive hillside overlooking the Atlantic Sea and sets a tranquil, picturesque scene for visitors to enjoy.

## **Barkleys Park**

- The area is also home to the famous surfing site Bathsheba and the ever-popular Sand Dunes bar and restaurant both located just a short distance away. The northeast trade winds make their way across the ocean, generating large waves that crash against the shore at high tide and send sweet sea sprays through the leaves of tall casuarina trees. The ocean song invites you to relax and get lost in observing the waves as they rhythmically move along the coastline.



# Bath Beach

- Bath Beach is a rugged east coast beach in the parish of St. John. Unlike other beaches on the eastern coast, Bath has some of the calmest waters. The coral reefs meters away from the shore protect the waters from rough seas and makes it the ideal place for swimming.
- Bath is popular for picnics and the large Casuarina trees provide shade for picnic-goers to sit, eat and swim. The beach is quiet on weekdays but you expect to find crowds flocking to Bath Beach weekends and on holidays to enjoy the open spaces and the crisp ocean air.





# Carlisle Bay

- Carlisle Bay is one of the most popular beaches in Barbados. The natural harbor and a marine park boast calm turquoise waters and soft white sands.
- With its rich history, remnants of shipwrecks can be found near the shore, which is an amazing adventure for snorkellers and divers. Marine life thrives here; expect to see turtles, fish, and even the occasional manta ray!
- On the beach, the Boatyard offers a day package that includes beach chairs, umbrellas, and even a trampoline in the sea!





# Restaurants

There are a lot of excellent restaurants in Bridgetown. Especially for seafood.

Here are some recommendations for Restaurants in Bridgetown:

**Lobster Alive** \$\$ - \$\$\$ Caribbean Seafood Gluten Free Options

Wesley House Bay Street, Bridgetown

**Cuz's Fish Stand** \$ Caribbean Seafood Fast

Food Pebbles Beach, Bridgetown

**Salt Café** \$\$ - \$\$\$ Caribbean Seafood

Hastings Main Road, Hastings

**Tapas** \$\$ - \$\$\$ Italian Caribbean Seafood

Hastings Main Road Keswick Centre, Hastings

**Enjoy your dining while in Barbados!**



# Conclusion

- Bridgetown, is a beautiful City with a rich history and numerous attractions. Regardless of what you're looking for, Bridgetown, has something for everyone.
- I hope this presentation will help when we visit Bridgetown!

# **Thanks For Coming**

**If you have any more questions, please ask.  
I will do my best to answer them for you.**

**Have a great visit in Bridgetown!**