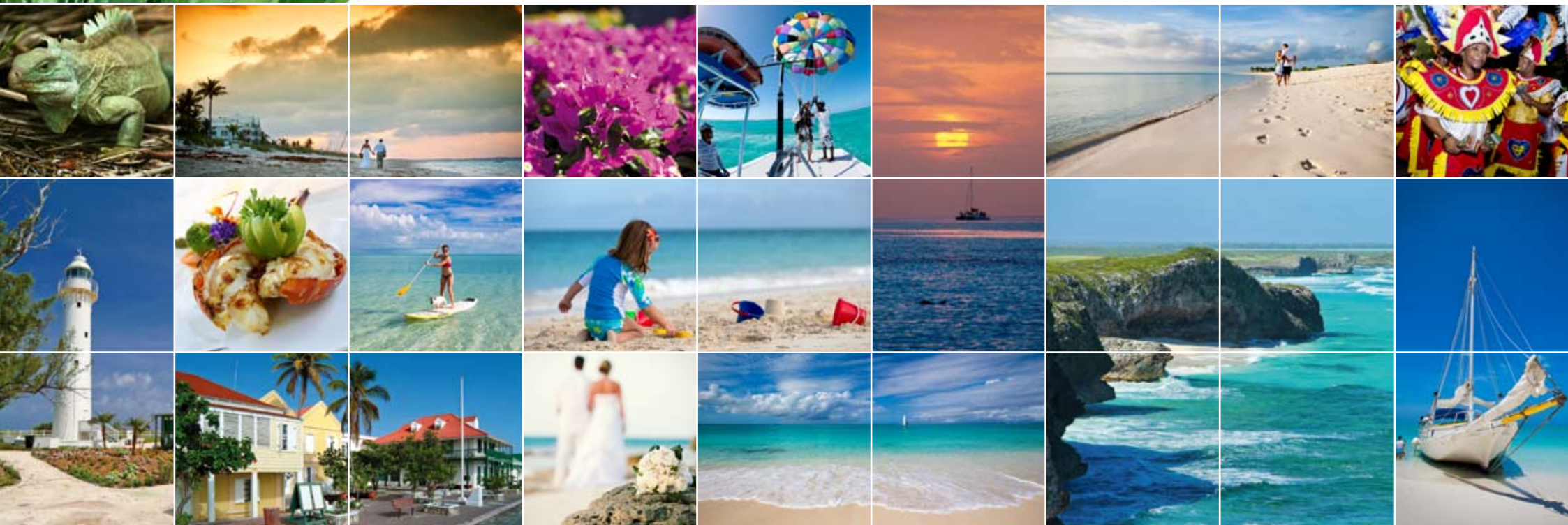


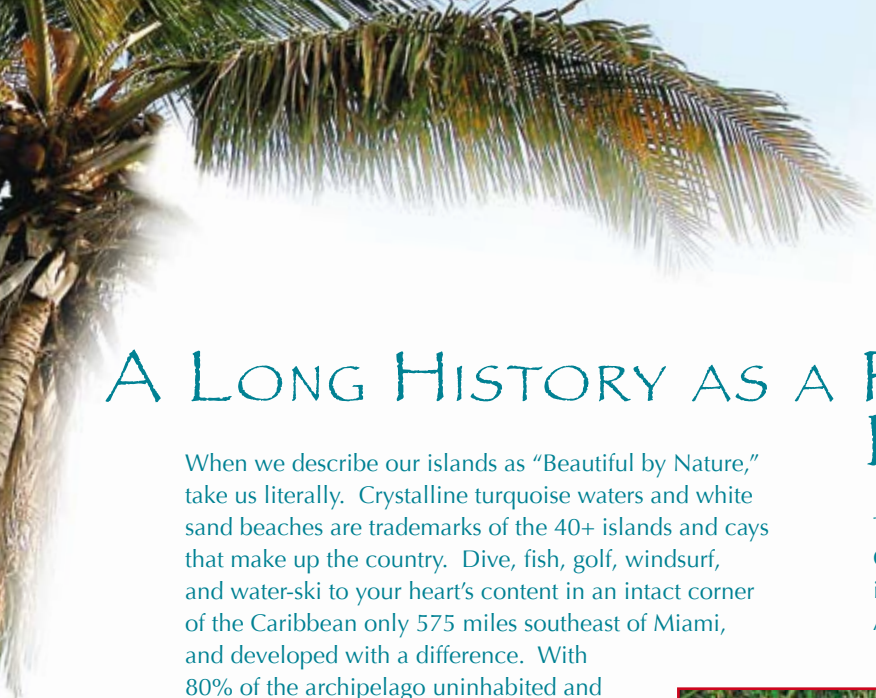


# TURKS CAICOS Islands



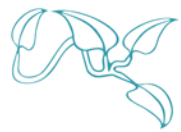
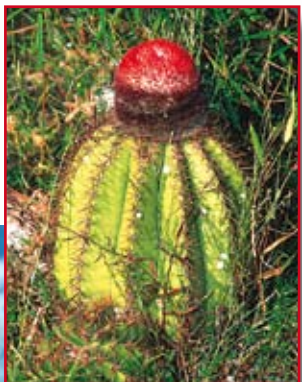
BEAUTIFUL BY NATURE





# A LONG HISTORY AS A PLACE OF DISCOVERY AND REFUGE

When we describe our islands as "Beautiful by Nature," take us literally. Crystalline turquoise waters and white sand beaches are trademarks of the 40+ islands and cays that make up the country. Dive, fish, golf, windsurf, and water-ski to your heart's content in an intact corner of the Caribbean only 575 miles southeast of Miami, and developed with a difference. With 80% of the archipelago uninhabited and accessible only by small plane, ferry or boat, Turks & Caicos is where those who've got it, go.



*Columbus' possible  
first landfall in 1492*



TCI has a long history as a place of discovery and refuge: from Columbus' first landfall in 1492, to the Bermudian salt rakers in the late 1600s to British Loyalist cotton planters fleeing the American revolution in the late 1700s. The Islands also host migrating Atlantic humpback whales crossing the 22-mile wide Columbus Channel separating the Turks from the Caicos islands. Our size, 193 square miles of land area stretching hundreds of miles west to east, located south of the Bahamas and east of Cuba, guarantees virgin beaches and waters and includes the third largest coral reef system on earth. Grace Bay Beach is one of the world's ten best, but there are dozens of other pristine beaches here that rival it. Our shallow seas abound with countless species of colorful tropical marine life. Our lobster, conch, and grouper - cooked fresh and served in any local style - make for a perfect welcome.



"Belongers," as TCI's citizens are known, have good reason to relax. Mostly descended from African slaves and a turbulent history, they now enjoy enviably stable democratic government as a British Crown Colony presided over by Her Majesty's Governor. Belongers and those who make TCI a home-away-from-home both enjoy all the guarantees of the rule of law and property owners' and investors' rights which TCI's Crown Colony status provides.



*Beautiful and historic  
Caribbean architecture*

With no income, capital gains, or property tax, TCI offers a fiscal welcome for investors as warm as its weather.

Venture beyond the resort center of Providenciales to Grand Turk,



the seat of government and home to charming and historic Bermudian Colonial architecture. After a 20 minute flight from Provo, stroll the quaint, gated lanes to soak in the reminders of salt-raking and sea-faring days in the past. Visit the well-respected National Museum, housed in 150+ year-old Guinep Lodge.







## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITH A DIFFERENCE



Many of our guests now arrive via the Grand Turk Cruise Centre, featuring an 18-acre recreation complex with two white sand beaches, swimming pool, FlowRider attraction, duty-free shopping, and the Caribbean's largest "Margaritaville" themed bar and restaurant. Yet even with the arrival of the cruise business, Grand Turk has not lost its quaint island charm. Neither will the rest of our islands, even as they attract world-class investment and development. In keeping with our sustainable development and environmentally-

friendly policies, all new development must undergo extensive environmental impact assessments to ensure that TCI remains "Beautiful by Nature." And don't forget, the country boasts 34 protected national parks, nature reserves, sanctuaries and historical sites.

*Islands that never feel crowded*







*Grace Bay Beach, voted one  
of the world's ten best*

## FROM EXCLUSIVE OPULENCE TO SECLUDED RELAXATION

The most developed of the Islands, **Providenciales** (or "Provo") is the gateway to our country. Our commercial capital and most populous island, Provo is home to many ultra-luxury resorts and spas lining its most famous 12 mile Grace Bay Beach - consistently voted one of the world's best beaches by international travel magazines and travelers' websites. For the more discerning traveler, Provo guarantees exclusive opulence and indulgence as well as serene solitude and pristine nature, and an easy escape from civilization.

Covering 38 square miles, Provo boasts eight national parks, nature reserves and historical sites. Princess Alexandra Marine Park is home to JoJo, the famously interactive wild bottlenose dolphin. Here you will also find superb reef and wall diving and all varieties of water sports.



At the Caicos Conch Farm, the only one of its kind in the world, see how Caribbean Queen Conch are grown from eggs to four year old adults ready for the local cuisine or export. In Northwest Point Marine National Park find deserted beaches and spectacular wall diving that the Turks & Caicos is famous for.



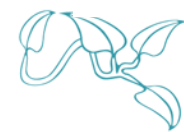
At Chalk Sound National Park you can kayak or paddleboard the turquoise inland lake with hundreds of cays and a large variety of bird species.



Sapodilla Bay in Chalk Sound and Malcolm's Bay on Provo's northwestern tip are fine secluded beaches. Mangrove Cay, Donna Cay, and Little Water Cay, all a short boat ride off the north coast of Leeward, are nature reserves which protect the native Turks & Caicos Rock Iguana (Little Water Cay), ospreys, pelicans, and other waterbirds. On Provo, Cheshire Hall is a historic site holding remnants of a cotton plantation built by Loyalists fleeing the American Revolution in the late 1700s. The Bight, Five Cays and Blue Hills are Provo's oldest native settlements, each with a unique, authentic atmosphere.







# THE MIGRATION OF ATLANTIC HUMPBACK WHALES IS ONE OF NATURE'S GREAT SIGHTS



Our historic and political capital, seven square mile **Grand Turk** is home to Cockburn Town, a fascinating collection of traditional Caribbean architecture. Compact enough for a leisurely walking tour shaded by bougainvillea and yellow elder, Duke and Front Streets are lined with restored landmark 18th and 19th century Bermudian buildings of the salt raking era. The Governor's



residence at Waterloo, built in 1815, is located right on the beach in Columbus Landfall Park.

Grand Turk offers divers one of the world's greatest wall-diving meccas, with a drop of nearly 7000 feet. This "Mount Everest" of wall dives is just 1/4 mile from the beach.

The lighthouse, which once warned passing boats of the treacherous reefs, was shipped in pieces from the UK and constructed in 1852. A prized historic site, protected by the National Trust, it provides shade, a picnic area and an excellent viewing spot for the Atlantic humpback whales' migration in the winter months.



The Turks & Caicos National Museum includes well-done exhibits that tell the tale of the Islands from their Lucayan roots through to modern times.

Collections include Taino artifacts, a presentation on maritime excavation centered around the Molasses Reef wreck (the oldest known shipwreck in the Western Hemisphere), relics from the Colonial era, a coral reef re-creation and an exhibit on space exploration, detailing John Glen's splashdown off Grand Turk's shore.



Grand Turk has only 70 hotel rooms, so reserve early in high season.







*Immerse yourself in our history,  
marvel at our wildlife*

## A GROUP OF ISLANDS AS DIVERSE AS OUR VISITOR'S INTERESTS



The most lush of all our islands, North Caicos is known as the "garden island." Located a short trip from Provo by ferry, boat or small plane, North's greater rainfall allows forests of Caribbean hardwoods to flourish in the island's interior. Among the lush vegetation are sugar apples, guineps and the sweetest of

sapodillas, a cross between a kiwi and a fig. As a sanctuary for wildlife and protected wetlands, North Caicos and its five national parks and nature reserves are a unique eco-tourism destination for nature and

water sports lovers. North was originally settled by Wade Stubbs, a Loyalist refugee from the American Revolution. His Wades Green cotton plantation did not last long, but the haunting and well-preserved ruins can now be toured.



At North Caicos' east coast find Bottle Creek, a shallow passage of shimmering turquoise connecting the Atlantic Ocean to the Caicos Banks. Paddle down the creek, beach your kayak and then float lazily with the current from the passage's shallow waters to where the channel's mouth opens to the sea.



While the village of Bottle Creek is the geographic and commercial center of North Caicos, the settlement of Whitby, on its main highway, is home to most of its guest houses and hotels. With miles of deserted white sand beaches to enjoy in solitude, Whitby is also home to one of TCI's natural wonders -- the hundreds of flamingoes at Flamingo Pond Natural Reserve, an internationally protected RAMSAR site.

Sandy Point is named for the beautiful white sand beach. It is also home to Cottage Pond, a submerged sinkhole that connects to the ocean and which local cave divers have mapped to a depth of 255 feet. This easily accessible phenomenon is home to numerous perching bird species.



Now accessible from North Caicos via causeway, **Middle Caicos** is another favorite for heritage and ecotourism. Sample local food at Daniel's Café or choose handmade local crafts at the Middle Caicos Artisans Co-op. Arrange to take a shoreside bike ride to a picnic at spectacular Mudjin Harbor. Visit with the friendly residents of Bambarra and Lorimers, or explore the awe-inspiring Conch Bar Caves in the nearby national park. Once a safe haven for the Lucayan Indians, the cave's corridors and caverns are home to bats, stalactites and stalagmites. Middle Caicos is also home to an 18th century cotton plantation and remnants of this can still be seen today.

The south shore is a major portion of the protected RAMSAR "wetland of international important." Just offshore is Ocean Hole, a huge marine sinkhole now frequented by turtles, sharks and other marine wildlife.

Middle Caicos is the TCI's largest island, yet has only 200 inhabitants.







# IN THE ISLANDS THAT TIME FORGOT, YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT TIME



Commonly referred to as “The Big South,” **South Caicos** is TCI's fishing capital. The main attractions on this approximately 18 square mile island are fishing, snorkeling and scuba diving. Go bonefishing in the shallows of Bell Sound Nature Reserve or dive and snorkel straight off the beaches. Favorite dive sites are Amos’ Wall, Eagle Nest, The Arch, Shark Alley and the vertical wall which wraps around the island’s southern edge and drops to an astonishing 7000 feet.



TCI's first hotel, Admiral's Arms Inn, is now home to Boston University's Center for Marine Resources Studies program. The salt ponds, wandering donkeys and Boiling Hole testify to TCI's status as one of the major salt production centers of the world in the 17th to 19th centuries. Today, the Sailrock residential/resort project is well underway, with developers restoring the historic downtown and dock area.

At the far west of the Caicos Islands, lies 11 square mile **West Caicos** which has remained uninhabited, except for a brief period when it was a sisal plantation. Today you can still see remnants of the old community of Yankee Town, with its sisal press, railroad, and steam engines. With the pending opening of a five star hotel and villas, West Caicos will return to its heyday.

West Caicos is a great location for sport fishing and snorkeling and is considered an underwater photography mecca. A wall running two miles along the western shore offers some of the finest diving in TCI. This is where live-aboard dive boats often stop for the views of brilliantly colored wall formations and thriving marine creatures. Lake Catherine Nature Reserve, on the west coast, is a scenic habitat for flamingoes, ospreys, ducks, and waders.



The tiny one square mile isle of **Salt Cay** guarantees visitors a secluded escape from civilization to the world as it ought to be. Donkeys and cows have the right of way and transport is by golf cart. Whaling was once an industry here, and, from December through April, you can see one of nature's great spectacles: the migration of Atlantic humpback whales through the Columbus Passage to their winter breeding grounds on the Silver Banks. Although Salt Cay is the smallest island in the Turks and Caicos, the warmth and hospitality of its residents are matchless.

Uninhabited **East Caicos** is large, at 18 square miles, and has a 17 mile beach on its north coast used only by sea turtles to lay their eggs. Once home to cattle rearing and a large sisal plantation, East Caicos has the evidence of railroad tracks and petroglyphs which testify to earlier settlement.





# GENERAL INFORMATION

## HOW TO GET TO TCI

Flights from Atlanta, Boston, Charlotte, Dallas, Miami, Newark, New York, Philadelphia, Montreal, Toronto, London, Jamaica and Nassau serve Providenciales, the main port of entry for most visitors. Grand Turk and South Caicos also have international airports with more limited scheduled services.

Currently **American Airlines** flies twice daily from Miami and from Dallas on Saturday.

**US Airways** has daily flights from Charlotte and Philadelphia and service from Boston on Saturday.

**JetBlue Airways** offers daily service from New York/JFK and from Boston on Saturday.

**United Airlines** travels from Newark daily except Tuesday.

**Delta Airlines** has daily flights from Atlanta.

From outside the US, **Air Canada** flies seasonally from Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa. West Jet hosts flights from Toronto and Montreal. **British Airways** flies from London on Sunday.

**Bahamasair** flies from Nassau on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

**Inter-caribbean Airways** hosts flights between Provo and Nassau, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica.

**Contact information:**  
**Inter-caribbean Airways:** 649 946 4999  
www.airturksandcaicos.com  
**Caicos Express Airways:** 649 941 5730  
www.caicosexpressairways.com  
**Global Airways:** 649 941 3222

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**  
All visitors require passports, but no visas are necessary for citizens of the United States, Canada, the European Union and most Commonwealth Countries. Travellers are advised to contact the nearest British Consulate Office. All visitors must hold an onward or return ticket.

Please contact the local Immigration Department (649 941 7792 www.immigration.tc) for more information.

**DEPARTURE TAX**  
\$60 is levied on all persons over the age of 2. In most cases this tax is collected by the airline or travel agent upon ticket purchase.

**LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS**  
Individual airlines should be consulted.

**CUSTOMS**  
Duty free goods that may be brought in to the Islands include: one carton or cigarettes or cigars, one bottle of liquor and perfume for personal use.

There are no restrictions for travellers on the import of cameras, film or sports equipment, except spear guns and Hawaiian slings.



To bring in firearms of any type (including spear guns and Hawaiian slings), you must have written approval from the Commissioner of Police. Controlled drugs and pornography are illegal. Please contact the local Customs Department (649 946 4450 or www.customs.gov.tc) for more information.

**DOMESTIC PETS**  
If you travel with your pet, you will need an Import Permit, Veterinary Health Certificate and laboratory test results which must be submitted at the port of entry to obtain veterinary clearance. Some breeds of dogs are banned from entry. Contact TCI Department of Agriculture (649 946 5801).

**HOW TO GET AROUND TCI**  
TCI has several local airlines which provide local excursion and scheduled service to North, Middle and South Caicos, Salt Cay and Grand Turk. There is also a ferry with scheduled service to North and South Caicos.

**CLIMATE**  
The average temperature ranges between 85 and 90 degrees Fahrenheit (29-32 degrees Celsius) from June to October, sometimes reaching the mid 90s (35 degrees Celsius), especially in the late summer months. From November to May the average temperature is 80 to 84 degrees Fahrenheit (27-29 degrees Celsius). Water temperature in the summer is 82 to 84 degrees Fahrenheit (28-29 degrees Celsius) and in winter about 74 to 78 degrees Fahrenheit

(23-26 degrees Celsius). Constant tradewinds keep the climate at a very comfortable level.



There is an annual rainfall of 21 inches on Grand Turk and South Caicos, but as you go further west the average rainfall could increase to 40 inches. In an average year the Turks & Caicos has 350 days of sunshine. Hurricane season can vary but usually runs from June to October.

**CLOTHING**  
Shorts are worn in town as well as at the beach during the day, it is advisable to also wear sunhats and sunscreen. In the evenings, light sweaters and jackets may be occasionally needed in the winter. Dinner is usually not formal, most restaurants accept dress shorts while others require pants with a collared shirt for gentlemen and dress slacks or dresses for the ladies.

Nudity is illegal throughout the Islands.

**VEHICLE RENTAL**  
Driving is on the left side of the road, even though most cars' steering wheels are also on the left. There is a wide choice of car rental companies, which charge a 12% government tax on each car rental contract. Scooter and bicycle rentals are also available.

For sightseeing, try one of the sight-seeing tour buses or hire one of TCI's certified taxi tour guides.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS & INTERNET**  
Islandcom, LIME and Digicel provide wireless 4G voice and data services throughout the Turks & Caicos Islands. They also provide 3G roaming service to AT&T, Rogers, Bell Canada and TELUS customers



and provide 4G CDMA roaming coverage on Provo and Grand Turk for Verizon, Sprint and ALLTEL. You can purchase or rent 4G SIM cards, phones and internet devices with long distance rates.

Most hotels offer wireless internet services. There are internet cafes in several shopping area and many restaurants and gyms.

**ELECTRICITY**  
Though we're British, our plugs are not. Visitors' US gadgets will have no problem with our outlets. Electricity is 120/240 volts and 60 HZ.

**TIPPING**  
15% of the bill is customary.

**BANKING & CURRENCY**  
Currency is the US dollar and banks are open from Monday -Thursday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, and on Friday to 4:30 pm. However, lines at teller windows can be quite long on Friday.

ATM machines are plentiful, but tend to run out on weekends. Take care to stock up early in the weekend to avoid cruising for cash on Sunday evening.

**SHOPPING**  
The main shopping areas are in Grace Bay, and include Regent Village, The Saltmills and Ports of Call. Here you will find a wide variety of boutiques, restaurants and pubs, souvenir shops and art galleries. On Leeward Highway there is Graceway Plaza and Courtyard Plaza, while downtown Provo is home to small local retail stores.

**LEGAL SYSTEM & POLITICS**  
TCI became a British Crown Colony in 1972 after being loosely associated with the Bahamas for the previous ten years. Her



Majesty's Governor presides over a local self-governing legislative council headed by elected ministers and a Premier. With two parties alternating in power, TCI has enjoyed enviable stability for 250 years. TCI's legal system is based on English common law and consequent guarantees of property and investor rights and contract enforcement.

**CONFERENCE & INCENTIVE TRAVEL**  
TCI hosts many regional and international conferences and many hotels have state of the art conference facilities with all the necessary audio visual and IT services. For larger events, the Williams Auditorium has 1000 seats. Beaches Resort offers conference hosting facilities and all hotels will negotiate preferential rates for conference delegates.

**INVESTMENT & TAXES**  
We are not just a holiday destination; 40% of our visitors come on business. They find no income, wealth, inheritance or capital gains taxes and fiscal hospitality to match our holiday hospitality. US investors looking toward retirement can invest their IRA account funds in TCI to take advantage of our climate which is as investor- and business-friendly as it is vacation-friendly. The offshore financial sector has grown the legal and professional infrastructure to facilitate international business transactions and is equipped with modern corporate law and the personnel to effectively serve foreign investors and retirees. Both traditional mortgage financing and construction loans are available for real estate investors. Portfolio investors can find a myriad of services from forex to stock, bond and precious metals trading. TCI is not only where those who've got it go, but where those who come with it get more. If you want to know more, visit www.gov.tc or call 1 649 946 4776.

**IMMIGRATION**  
A residence permit is required to live in TCI and a work and business license to work or establish a business. These are readily granted to those who bring skills or qualifications not available in the islands. Priority in granting business licenses is given to businesses which provide employment and/or training.

**MEDICAL MATTERS**  
There are large, modern hospitals on Grand Turk and Providenciales. Both offer a range of services including: 24/7 emergency room, operating theaters, diagnostic imaging, maternity suites, dialysis suites, blood bank, physiotherapy and dentistry. Private clinics are staffed by doctors, chiropractors, dentists and optometrists. Decompression chamber and air ambulance services are available.



Though we advise visitors to bring medication they require, there are now a number of well-stocked pharmacies on Provo.

**MOSQUITOES**  
TCI's main tourist areas are relatively free from mosquitoes but they can be irritating to birdwatchers or other visitors to wetland areas. Take an insect repellent and check the weather, both forecast and what has just passed, to see if the area is full of after rainstorm mosquitoes.

**WEDDINGS & HONEYMOONS**  
An island wedding can be the dream-come-true way to tie the knot, especially for a couple

with friends and relatives scattered around abroad. Be as traditional or as eclectic and interdenominational as your heart moves you. Our experienced wedding planners will hold your hand from start to finish, so you keep your mind and heart on the magic moment to cherish, and not on the details to worry about. Many of our hotels also offer the catering and other services which make up an unforgettable wedding or honeymoon.

The traditional church wedding is the most popular wedding in the Turks and Caicos; our places of worship represent the following religions: Adventist, Anglican, Assembly of God, Baha'i, Baptist, Catholic, Church of God of Prophecy, Episcopal, Faith Tabernacle Church of God, Jehovah's Witnesses, Methodist and Pentecostal.

Available on island are local florists, bakers, hair stylists, make-up artists, photographers, caterers and entertainers to make your wedding day extra-special.







BEAUTIFUL BY NATURE



## TURKS & CAICOS TOURIST OFFICES

### London

83 Baker Street  
London W1U 6AG  
Tel: 44(0) 20 7034 7845

### Grand Turk

P.O. Box 128  
Front Street  
Grand Turk  
Turks & Caicos Islands  
Tel: (649) 946-2321  
Fax: (649) 946-2733

### Providenciales

P.O. Box 868  
Stubbs Diamond Plaza  
Providenciales  
Turks & Caicos Islands  
Tel: (649) 946-4970  
Fax: (649) 941-5494

### U.S.A.

80 Broad Street  
Suite 3302  
New York, NY. 10004  
Tel: (646) 375-8830  
Fax: (646) 375-8835  
Toll Free: (800) 241-0824

### Canada

340 Sheppard Ave East  
Suite 100  
Toronto, ON M2N 3B4  
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Toll Free: (866) 413-8875

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