

Barbados Resource Guide

UN-GGIM International Forum on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters

**4-5 and 8 September 2016,
Bridgetown, Barbados**

These information notes have been compiled to assist you in the preparation for your trip to Bridgetown Barbados to participate in the UN-GGIM International Forum on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM

International Forum

The UN-GGIM International Forum on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters will be held from **4 – 5 September 2016** at the Hilton Barbados, Needham's Point St. Michael Bridgetown, BB 11000, Barbados. **The opening session on Sunday 4 September will begin at 9:30 a.m.** and on Monday at 9:00am. The forum will take place in the **Peninsula conference room**.

UN-GGIM Working Group on GI and Services for Disasters Meeting

The Working Group on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters meeting will be held on **Thursday 8 September beginning at 9:00 in Garrison 3** of the Hilton Hotel.

8th URISA Caribbean GIS Conference

This biannual conference will be held from **5-8 September 2016**. For additional information visit the conference web site at <http://www.urisa.org/education-events/caribbean-gis-conference/>

REGISTRATION

All participants are asked to register online at the [URISA website](http://www.urisa.org/education-events/caribbean-gis-conference/#Registration) at <http://www.urisa.org/education-events/caribbean-gis-conference/#Registration>

If you are planning to attend the international forum please notify the UN-GGIM Secretariat by sending an e-mail with the following information: Name, Job Title, Organization, Address, Country, e-mail address, telephone number and indicate which meetings you will be attending (International forum, Working Group Meeting and or 8th URISA Caribbean GIS Conference) to Timur at obukhov@un.org or Cecille at blake1@un.org

OFFICERS

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Every person entering Barbados, including all North American citizens (Americans and Canadians), should be in possession of a valid passport and a valid return ticket. The official forum announcement letter is generally sufficient to be used as supporting documentation for visa request.

Visas required for Barbados¹

For list of countries requiring visas please visit:

<http://www.foreign.gov.bb/UserFiles/File/June%202012.pdf>

Visas may be obtained from any of Barbados' [Missions and consulates globally](#). Application forms can be downloaded at <http://www.foreign.gov.bb/UserFiles/File/Form%20J.pdf>

HEALTH

Vaccinations and Vaccines

While there are no specific vaccinations required for visitors travelling to Barbados, you should be up to date on routine immunizations (tetanus-diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella, chickenpox). Your personal physician may recommend preventative measures. Commonly recommended vaccinations are for Hepatitis A (for all travellers) and Hepatitis B (for long-term visitors).

Yellow fever vaccination certificates are required for travellers, over one year of age, travelling from infected areas.² Additional information on the yellow fever vaccine is available from the [CDC site](#).
[Zika virus](#): Information for travellers.

MONEY

The currency of Barbados is the Barbados Dollar (BBD). The Barbados Dollar is converted at the rate of \$1.98 BDS to \$1.00 U.S. US currency is accepted across the island, and most stores and restaurants accept major credit cards. Of course most Barbados hotels and other lodgings also accept these various forms of payment.

Barbados banknotes are issued in the following denominations: 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 Dollars. Barbados coins are issued as 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents and 1 Dollar.

HOTELS

*The conference will take place at the Hilton Barbados Resort. The conference rate is \$159 plus tax (including internet access). The group rate is available **until August 22 or until the block is full**. You are required to reserve your hotel room online at [online Hilton form](#).*

Hilton Barbados Resort
Needham's Point St Michael
Bridgetown, BB 11000
Barbados
Tele +1-246-426-0200
Fax +1-246-434-5770

¹ Information taken from <http://www.foreign.gov.bb/pageselect.cfm?page=120> on 11 August 2016

² Information taken from http://www.barbados.org/barbados-vaccinations.htm#.V60cl_krKUK on 11 August 2016

Please note that a credit card is normally required to make a reservation and participants should plan accordingly. A two night deposit is required to confirm your reservation which is fully refundable should you wish to cancel up to fourteen days before your arrival date. Cancellations made within fourteen days of arrival will incur a two night cancellation fee.

RESTAURANTS

Restaurants in walking proximity:

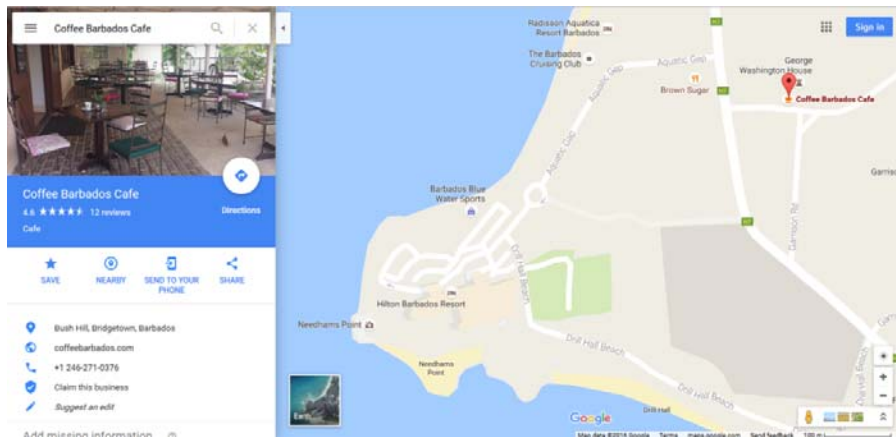
- Brown Sugar Restaurant
- Barbadian cuisine fine dining restaurant offering daily lunch buffet as well as a la carte
Website: <http://www.brownsugarbarbados.net/>
- Restaurants of Bayside Plaza
Several casual dining options including a Jamaican and Chinese restaurant

Restaurants along the coast (Highway 7) easily accessed by taxi or public transport:

- Tapas
- Champers Restaurant
- Sizzle Steakhouse
- Bert's Sports Bar
- The fast food restaurants in the food court of Lanterns Mall

Coffee Shop

Other than the services within the Hilton Barbados, Coffee Barbados is approximately 10 to 15 minutes by walking. The weekday opening hours are 8:00am to 4:00pm.



AIRPORT

The sole Barbados airport is Grantley Adams International (IATA Code: BGI). It is situated in the south-east of the island in Christ Church, approximately 16km from the capital city of Bridgetown. Telephone (246)418-4180,

TRANSPORTATION

Airport Taxis and Transfers

Barbados taxis can be easily identified by the letter "Z" that appears on their license plates. As you exit customs you'll see a board displaying the standard taxi fares to various points on the island. Be

sure to stop a minute and review these prices. As you emerge from the Arrivals Hall you can quickly locate a friendly taxi driver waiting to serve. You should settle on the fare and currency (US\$1 = BDS\$2) before beginning your journey. The approximate cost of the taxi fare from the Airport to Garrison Savannah (the area in which the Hilton is located) is \$US 18.50 or \$BS37.00r

TIME

- Barbados falls in the Atlantic time zone. Geographical Location: 13° 6' N, 59° 37' W
- Barbados Standard Time is Greenwich Mean Time minus four hours (GMT -4)
- There is no daylight saving time in Barbados

ELECTRICITY

Electricity in Barbados is 110 volts/50 cycles. There is a reliable electricity supply, with only the occasional outage.

Standard plug types in Barbados are:

- Flat blade (2 flat blades)
- Flat blades with round grounding pin

Travelers from North America should be able to use appliances without any problems, however if travelling from UK & Europe you may need adapters and transformers. Most Barbados hotels can provide adapters and transformers for hair dryers and other appliances - please check with your hotel to be sure.

WEATHER

Barbados weather is generally warm and sunny all year round with an average daytime high of 30°C / 86°F. The prevailing northeast trade winds blow steadily so that although it is bright and sunny, it is not unbearably hot. The nights are usually slightly cooler. The rain typically comes in quick showers. The dry season lasts from January to June. To check current weather condition in Bridgetown, Barbados refer to <http://www.worldweatheronline.com/>