

Frequently Asked Questions: General Information on Bonaire

Where is Bonaire?

The most eastern of the Leeward Islands, Bonaire is located 50 miles north of Venezuela and 38 miles east of Curacao.

How big is Bonaire?

Bonaire is twenty-four miles long and 3 - 7 miles wide. The total land area is 112 square miles.

What languages are spoken in Bonaire?

The official language for Bonaire's ±15,000 residents is Dutch. The island language, Papiamentu, along with English and Spanish, are also widely spoken.

What is the weather like?

Bonaire is located outside of the hurricane belt, allowing for good weather year-round. The year-round average air and water temperature is 82 degrees, and rainfall averages 22 inches.

How do I get to Bonaire?

Continental Airlines offers two weekly non-stop flights, one from Houston and one from Newark. Delta also offers two weekly non-stop flights, one from Atlanta and one from New York's JFK. Insel Air offers flights from Miami to Curacao several times each week. Dutch Antilles Express offers daily flights from Aruba and Curacao; Divi Divi, Insel Air, and Easy Air offer flights between Curacao and Bonaire.

What is the form of government in Bonaire?

Bonaire is part of The Netherlands Antilles, an autonomous region of the Netherlands. The Lt. Governor is appointed by the Queen of The Netherlands, and the locally elected legislature has three island commissioners.

Can I use U.S. Dollars in Bonaire?

The official currency is the Netherlands Antilles Florin or Guilder. U.S. \$1.00 = NAfl. 1.78. U.S. dollars are widely accepted.

Do I need a passport to enter Bonaire?

U.S. and Canadian citizens must prove citizenship with a valid passport and return ticket.

What time zone is Bonaire in?

Atlantic Standard Time, which is one hour ahead of Eastern Standard Time and the same as Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

Do I need an adaptor for my laptop and other electronics?

The electric current in Bonaire is 127/220 volts, 50 cycles. Adapters are necessary in some cases.

Is there public transportation in Bonaire?

Taxis and small buses are available. Taxis rates are set, not metered. Rates generally range from about \$10 to \$15 to almost any hotel on the island. Ask about the fare before you board.