

**The Bahamas High Commission
London**

Fact Sheet #16



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
IMMIGRATION**

Visitors

The Bahamas is a major tourist destination and for this reason every effort is made to keep visitor immigration formalities to a minimum. Citizens of the United States, Canada, most Commonwealth countries and others indicated below do not require visas for The Bahamas.

A visitor with proper documentation (including evidence of financial support, other documentation which would permit the person to enter the next country of destination after The Bahamas and a return or onward ticket) may be landed in the Bahamas by a Bahamas Immigration official for a maximum period of eight months. If a visitor intends to stay in The Bahamas for more than an average holiday period he may apply for an extension of stay for up to a maximum of eight months. He will also be required to produce evidence of sufficient funds to do so or to indicate relatives or friends with whom he will be staying.

Should the visitor wish to remain in the country for a period longer than eight months, it would be necessary to apply to the Director of Immigration, P.O. Box N-831, Nassau, The Bahamas, Tel: (242) 322-7531, Fax: (242) 326-0977 to be considered for an extension of stay or temporary residence on an annual basis. While in The Bahamas, visitors are not allowed to engage in any type of employment.

VISAS

Visas are required by all persons entering The Bahamas except:

1. United States, United Kingdom & Canadian citizens entering as bona fide visitors for a stay not exceeding eight (8) months;
2. Commonwealth citizens, with the exception of citizens of Pakistan, Cameroon, India, Nigeria, Ghana and Mozambique, for short stays;

3. Persons who are in possession of a valid residence or work permit issued by the Director of Immigration, Nassau.
4. Nationals of the following countries for a stay not exceeding three (3) months:

American Samoa	Andorra	Anguilla
Argentina	Armenia	Aruba
Austria	Azerbaijan	Azores
Bahrain	Bermuda	Bolivia
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Brazil	Bulgaria
Cape Verde	Cayman	Chile
Colombia	Cook Islands	Costa Rica
Croatia	Curacao	Czech Republic
Ecuador	El Salvador	Estonia
Finland	France	French Guiana
French Polynesia	Galapagos Islands	Georgia
Germany	Gibraltar	Guadeloupe
Guam	Guatemala	Honduras
Hong Kong(SAR)	Hungary	Ireland
Israel	Japan	Korea-South
Kuwait	Latvia	Lithuania
Macedonia	Mali	Marshall Islands
Martinique	Mexico	Moldova
Monaco	Montserrat	Nicaragua
Panama	Paraguay	Peru
Poland	Portugal	Puerto Rico
Romania	Russia	Saint Martin
Saint Maarten	Sao Tome & Principe	Slovakia
Slovenia	Spain	Suriname
Sweden	Tahiti	Turks & Caicos
Uruguay	Vatican City	Venezuela
Virgin Islands	Western Samoa	Zimbabwe

All persons are advised that they must have the following documents upon entering The Bahamas:

- (i) Passports valid for at least six (6) months from date of departure from The Bahamas;
- (ii) A return or onward ticket;
- (iii) Documentation – visa, re-entry permits etc. to enter a country other than The Bahamas for which one is ticketed;
- (iv) Sufficient funds to finance the visit to The Bahamas
- (v) Evidence of accommodation for the duration of the trip.

Visa fees vary depending on the type of visa required:

1. Single entry visa £45.00
2. Multiple entry visa £55.00

Service charges may apply where faxes or telephone calls are required for referrals.

The minimum processing period for a visa is 48 hours with a maximum processing time of 6 weeks. Each application for a visa is examined individually according to The Bahamas Government regulations. The High Commission reserves the right to refuse any visa, if justified to do so, or to request additional documentation where required.

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