

Snapshot

BARBADOS

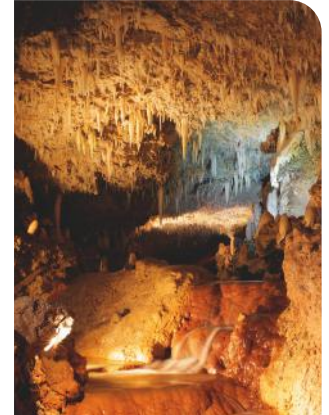
Sell a holiday to the world's newest republic, with Nigel Tisdall's highlights

new attractions...



Must-sees

Harrison's Cave, home to a well-organised, hour-long underground tram tour, has rebranded as an Eco-Adventure Park. A Mount Gay rum experience has been added and a zipline, challenge course, aviary and monkey attraction are due for next winter. In Bridgetown, the Synagogue Historic District now includes an upgraded museum.
chukka.com/destinations/barbados



we love...



Hot restaurants

This winter's top table is dinner-only The Beach House in Hometown, recently opened by Paul Owens who was executive chef at the renowned The Cliff restaurant for over 25 years. In Speightstown, Local & Co is a new restaurant majoring in island-grown produce while PEG Farm, a scenic drive inland at Easy Hall, offers terrific garden-to-table fare plus rural walks.
paulowensatthebeachhouse.com



sample price...



Cruise options

"This winter we expect to receive 336 cruise vessel calls, with just over 372,000 passengers," says Kirk Humphreys, Barbados minister for maritime affairs. Royal Caribbean is using Bridgetown as a home port for *Grandeur of the Seas*, until April 17. A seven-night cruise costs from £179 departing February 13, excluding flights. Other lines include Seabourn, Silversea, TUI and Cunard.
royalcaribbean.com

book it...



Aer Lingus is now flying from Manchester three times a week and packages can be booked through **British Airways Holidays**. **Virgin Atlantic** has also started a service from Edinburgh, operating twice a week.
aerlingus.com

good to know...



New direction

Barbados became a republic on November 30, removing the Queen as head of state, but clients will notice no significant change. Covid-19 precautions remain in force, including a nightly curfew from midnight to 5am, but there are plus points such as more space on catamaran cruises due to reduced capacity. The BTMI has set up a toll-free phone number offering advice to UK travellers, 0800 0163 098.
visitbarbados.org



PICTURE: Shutterstock/ESB Professional

where to stay...



The Sands Barbados

Foodies will enjoy The Sands Barbados, a contemporary all-inclusive beach resort on the south coast with a rooftop restaurant overseen by Bajan chef and former *MasterChef* contestant Jason Howard. Worthing Square Food Court, a gathering of takeaway food trucks that grew out of the pandemic, is a stroll away, while Oistins, famous for its Friday night Fish Fry, and the entertainment zone of St Lawrence Gap, are within easy reach.
thesandsbarbados.com

