



# George Town

Photo: Marc Babin/unsplash



Jack Lajoie/unsplash

Primarily known as a financial hub, George Town is also a prime destination for cruise ships. The capital city of the Cayman Islands is just 10 minutes away from the long crescent of the famous Seven Mile Beach with blindingly white coral sand. There is no better place to enjoy submarine and glass-bottom boat tours, try snorkelling, scuba-diving or parasailing. Get your credit card ready for some serious tax-free shopping, and don't leave without trying the remarkable sunken rum.

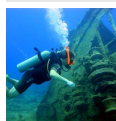


Toa Heftiba/unsplash



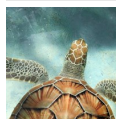
Adam Gonzales/unsplash

## Featured



### Kittiwake Shipwreck & Arti...

The historic Ex-USS Kittiwake became a home to sponges, Goliath groupers, ur...



### Cayman Turtle Centre

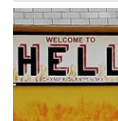
The Cayman Turtle Centre is a conservation facility and tourist attraction t...



### Cayman Spirits Co. Rum Dis...

Cayman Spirits Co is a small-batch distillery that is famous for its Seven F...

## Top 5



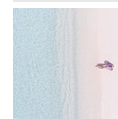
### Hell

About a 25-minute drive north from the cruise ship port in George Town you'...



### Stingray City

Stingray City is the most popular tourist attraction of Grand Cayman. Book a...



### Seven Mile Beach

The long crescent of coral-sand Seven Mile Beach is a true gem of Grand Caym...



### Cayman Islands National Museum

The building of the Cayman Islands National Museum dates



### Fort George Ruins

Fort George was a colonial era fortification that was built in 1790s to prot...



## GRAND CAYMAN ISLAND



NASA/Public Domain/Wikimedia

As the name suggests, Grand Cayman is the biggest of the three Cayman Islands. Its capital city is a tax-free shopping destination, financial centre and the perfect place to sip cocktails on the beach. The white crescent of the Seven Mile Beach stretches just north of George Town, on the western side of the island.

If you have the time, escape the cruise ship crowds. You will get to experience local culture and will find many opportunities to explore marine life.

The more tranquil northern side offers you Rum Point. Old Man Bay, known as the “Far Side” by the Caymanians, is a little paradise with especially picturesque sunsets. East End reportedly has the friendly locals and a small neighbourhood vibe, along with numerous deserted beaches.

Bodden Town is the former capital of Grand Cayman. Today it feels like a small Caribbean town with an attractive mix of locals and expats. This part of the island is perfect for contemplative long walks on the beach.

If you are a fan of urban experiments, make sure to visit Camana Bay. It is designed with walkability in mind, based on the principles of

New Urbanism. Explore traditional Caribbean architecture, set within the natural beauty of the island. Restaurants and cafes, parks, beaches and cultural institutions —everything is reachable on foot or by bike.

## DO & SEE



David Reber/cc by-sa 2.0/Flickr

Grand Cayman is a treasure chest of fun activities, history and culture. The remains of the colonial era fortification Fort George greet you right as you step off the ship. The Cayman Islands National Museum and Cayman Maritime Treasure Museum are a short walk away from the port. Further north, make a brief stop at “Hell”— a jagged football field-size area of limestone rock formations.

### Hell



About a 25-minute drive north from the cruise ship port in George Town you'll find Hell. Roughly the size of half a football field, this peculiar area is famous for its short, black, ironshore karst formations. The jagged structures make Hell appear rather treacherous.

Part of the attraction is the Hell Post Office. Send a postcard to your friends and family!

Photo: James Lee/unsplash  
Address: Hell Road, West Bay

### Stingray City



Stingray City is the most popular tourist attraction of Grand Cayman. Book a tour of 3-5 hours and head out to the sandbars 40 km (25 miles) off the shore of Grand Cayman. Jump in to the shallow water and interact with the gentle Southern Stingrays. A guide will help you get individual attention from the animals, and will teach you how to feed and touch them. Memorable experiences and fantastic photos guaranteed.

Photo: Kfulgham84/cc by-sa 3.0/Wikimedia(image cropped)  
Internet: [www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/experiences/popular-attractions/stingray-city](http://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/experiences/popular-attractions/stingray-city)

### Seven Mile Beach



The long crescent of coral-sand Seven Mile Beach is a true gem of Grand Cayman. It was named one of the Ultimate Beaches in the

region by Caribbean Travel + Life. While many of the Caribbean's most luxurious properties are located along the shore, the expansive waterfront is completely open to the public. Walk the full length of the beach and take in the natural beauty.

On your walk, stop at the numerous restaurants and bars, souvenir stalls or even choose to or snorkel in the peaceful seas around Cemetery Reef.

Photo: Marc Babin/unsplash  
Address: North of George Town  
Internet: [www.visitcaymanislands.com/experiences/beaches/s](http://www.visitcaymanislands.com/experiences/beaches/s)

[even-mile-beach-grand-cayman](#)

### Cayman Islands National Museum



The building of the Cayman Islands National Museum dates back to the 1800s and is a focal point of George Town. Every history tour of the island will make a stop here, since the museum is dedicated to the preservation, research and display of all aspects of Caymanian heritage, both cultural and natural.

As a bonus, you can buy one-of-a-kind souvenirs at the gift shop of the museum, including a beautiful selection of ornate Caymanite jewellery and gifts. The proceeds go to finance museum maintenance and educational programs.

Photo: Lhb1239/cc by-sa 3.0/Wikimedia(image cropped)  
Address: 3 Harbour Drive, George Town  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 10am-2pm, Sun closed  
Phone: +1 345 949 8368  
Internet: [www.museum.ky](http://www.museum.ky)  
Email: [info@museum.ky](mailto:info@museum.ky)  
More Info: Only steps away from the cruise port

### Fort George Ruins



Fort George was a colonial era fortification that was built in 1790s to protect the harbour. By the 20th century, the fort was no longer in use.

Only a tall silk cotton tree growing within the fort was used as a lookout post to spot German submarines that patrolled the Caribbean waters.

Today, very little remains of the structure. The ruins belong to the National Trust for the Cayman Islands and are an important remnant of

the colonial times.

Photo: Balou46/cc by-sa 4.0/Wikimedia (cropped)(image cropped)

Address: Corner of Harbour Drive and Fort Street

### Cayman Turtle Centre



The Cayman Turtle Centre is a conservation facility and tourist attraction that welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors per year.

Although the facility was initially used to breed the endangered green sea turtle for commercial purposes and still continues to operate as a farming operation, its importance as a research and conservation facility cannot be overstated.

Photo: Abner abiu Castillo diaz/unsplash

Address: 786 Northwest Point Road, West Bay

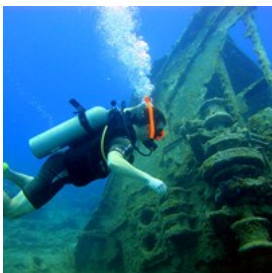
Opening hours: Daily 8am-5pm

Phone: +1 345 949 3894

Internet: [www.turtle.ky](http://www.turtle.ky)

More Info: The Cayman Turtle Centre was also the first facility to successfully breed the endangered Kemp's Ridley turtle in captivity

### Kittiwake Shipwreck & Artificial Reef



The historic Ex-USS Kittiwake became a home to sponges, Goliath groupers, urchins and squirrelfish since its sinking in 2011. Over the

years, the underwater wreck has blossomed into a beautiful and dynamic artificial reef — the perfect refuge for marine life.

Divers of all skill levels, as well as snorkellers, explore the shipwreck with ease, as it is only 17 metres (55 feet) deep.

Photo: Karl Callwood/unsplash

Internet: [www.visitcaymanislands.com/plan-your-trip/our-local-business/kittiwake-shipwreck-artificial-reef](http://www.visitcaymanislands.com/plan-your-trip/our-local-business/kittiwake-shipwreck-artificial-reef)

### Cayman Spirits Co. Rum Distillery



Cayman Spirits Co is a small-batch distillery that is famous for its Seven Fathoms Rum — an artisanal amber rum aged in year-old bourbon

barrels that are secured and placed 13 metres (42 feet) underwater for 2 years. This ageing process is unique throughout the distilled spirits world.

Learn about the Caribbean rum culture, see the big copper still and sample of rum and vodka on a guided tour.

Photo: Michael Scicolone/cc by-sa 2.0/Flickr

Address: 65 Bronze Road Box, Bronze Road

Phone: +1 345 943 4786

Internet: [www.caymanspirits.com](http://www.caymanspirits.com)

Email: [ahop@rum.ky](mailto:ahop@rum.ky)

### SHOPPING



Minh Pham/unsplash

Downtown George Town, right next to the cruise port, is where you can find high end jewellery shops as well as a few interesting and unique businesses that sell souvenirs made by local artisans.

If you're staying a while, visit downtown on Fridays, Saturdays and Mondays when there isn't as many people around.

### Camana Bay



Camana Bay is a bayside retail and entertainment district — the best destination for featuring several blocks of shops, restaurants and cafes, as well as pleasant promenades. You'll find this vibrant area in the middle of Seven Mile Beach.

A special feature of Camana Bay is the 23-metre (75-foot) Observation Tower. On Wednesdays from noon till 7 pm, you can find handmade jewellery, soaps, pepper jelly and locally grown produce at the Farmers & Artisans Market.

Photo: goatling/cc by-sa 2.0/Flick

Address: 89 Nexus Way, Camana Bay, Grand Cayman

Phone: +1 345 640 4000

Internet: [www.camanabay.com](http://www.camanabay.com)

### Pure Art Gallery



The charming Cayman cottage of Pure Art Gallery & Gifts exhibits and sells local fine art, prints, jewellery, souvenirs and

collectibles. The shop has existed for over 30 years now, and new items arrive daily.

Photo: Eric Prouzet/unsplash

Address: 5 Denham-Thompson Way & South Church Street, George Town

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

Phone: +1 345 949 9133

Internet: [www.pureart.ky](http://www.pureart.ky)

Email: [pureartcayman@gmail.com](mailto:pureartcayman@gmail.com)

More Info: Across from Dart Family Park

### Craft Market



The Craft Market on the waterfront, just south of the cruise port, is a great place to see local artisans at work. Pick up a few unique gifts including woodcarvings and paintings, items crafted from conch and caymanite, plus local jellies, jams, pickles and snacks.

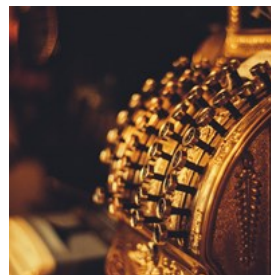
Photo: Ed Junaidi/unsplash

Address: Corner of Boilers Road & South Church Street, George Town

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-3pm. Saturdays during high season

Internet: [www.craftmarket.ky](http://www.craftmarket.ky)

### Artifacts



Artifacts is one of the most unique shops you will find in downtown George Town. They have everything from shipwrecked coins to jewellery, porcelain and cigar cases. You'll get plenty of personal attention from the shopkeeper, who's an avid numismatics fan. The prices range from a few bucks to thousands of dollars. You should make a stop here, even if you're not planning to buy anything.

Photo: Ramiro Mendes/unsplash

Address: 6 Harbour Drive, George Town

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-2pm, Sun closed

Phone: +1 345 949 2442

Internet: [www.artifacts.com.ky](http://www.artifacts.com.ky)

Email: [artifax@candw.ky](mailto:artifax@candw.ky)

### Cathy Church's Photo Centre



The world famous Cathy Church is an undisputed expert in both marine biology and photography. In her shop in George Town you can see (and

buy!) her works, get any kind of equipment for underwater photos, replace your camera or buy a drone. You can also quickly print your own photos using an automated kiosk. And if you need a lovely frame — it's right there for you to choose. They have it all for a quick stop for all your photography needs and accessories, including top notch advice.

Photo: Vlad Tchompalov/unsplash

Address: Sunset House Hotel, 390 South Church Street, George Town

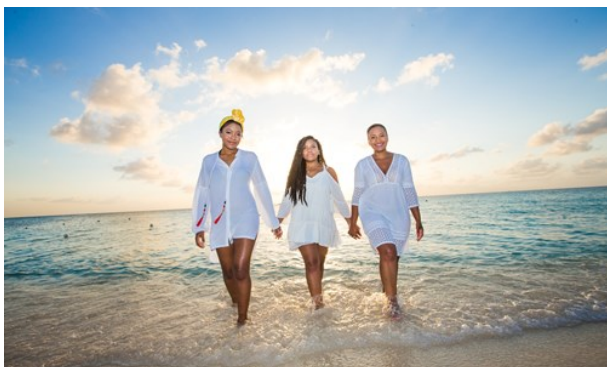
Opening hours: Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri 10am-6pm; Sat 10am-5pm, Sun closed

Phone: +1 345 949 7415

Internet: [www.cathychurch.com](http://www.cathychurch.com)

Email: [cathy@cathychurch.com](mailto:cathy@cathychurch.com)

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Jackie Parker/unsplash

### Owen Roberts International Airport (GCM)

Owen Roberts



International Airport is the main international airport for the Cayman Islands as well as the main base for Cayman

Airways. Many flights to and from Grand Cayman operate on a seasonal basis, discontinuing service in the slower summer months.

Photo: Juan Garces

Phone: +1 345 943 7070

Internet: [www.caymanairports.com](http://www.caymanairports.com)

Email: [ciaa@caymanairports.com](mailto:ciaa@caymanairports.com)

### Pharmacies



The closest pharmacy to the cruise port is the Caribbean Pharmacy & Wellness Centre. You can find an exhaustive list of pharmacies of Grand

Cayman following the link below.

Photo: Gemma Garner

Address: Caribbean Pharmacy & Wellness Centre, 65 North Church Street, George Town

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-6pm, Sat 9am-2:30pm, Sun closed

Phone: +1 345 946 0338

Internet: [www.caymanresident.com/health/pharmacies](http://www.caymanresident.com/health/pharmacies)

### Passports & Visas



Passengers can stay in transit for 24 hours without a visa except for nationals of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus,

Burundi, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, India, Iran, Iraq, Ivory

Coast, Lebanon, Liberia, Moldova, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Northern Cyprus, Pakistan, Palestine, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Turkey, Uganda, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.

No visa is required for a stay of up to 30 days for citizens of many (but not all) countries. Please keep in mind that your passport must be valid for at least six months with at least one blank visa page.

For more information about longer stays check the visa policy on the Cayman Islands Immigration Department official website.

Photo: uxwing.com

Internet: [www.immigration.gov.ky/portal/page/portal/immhome/visitinghere/visas/visitorsvisas/visafaqs](http://www.immigration.gov.ky/portal/page/portal/immhome/visitinghere/visas/visitorsvisas/visafaqs)

### Cruise Port



George Town is a tender cruise port, which means that cruise ships anchor and passengers are transported to the terminals via smaller

boats. Port George Town has 3 terminals, all close to the main shoreline road: South Terminal, North Terminal, and Royal Watler Pier. South and North terminals have tourist offices.

Travel agents at the terminals can help you choose tours to Stingray City, shopping tours (including duty free), scuba diving and snorkelling tours. Boats can take you to see and get close to the dolphins. Don't miss the turtles at the Turtle Farm in West Bay. Jeep tours, catamaran rides, parasailing and kayaking — anything is within reach.

Photo: uxwing.com

Phone: +1 345 949 2055

Internet: [www.caymanport.com](http://www.caymanport.com)

### Population

34,921 (2021)

### Currency

Cayman Islands Dollar (CI\$) is the local currency, but the US dollar is widely accepted throughout the islands. The exchange rate is pegged to the US dollar: CI\$ 1 is equivalent to USD 1.25. Payments with foreign cards are processed in USD.

If gratuities are not already included, it is customary to tip about 15% for good service.

### Internet

[www.visitcaymanislands.com](http://www.visitcaymanislands.com)

[www.caymanresident.com](http://www.caymanresident.com)