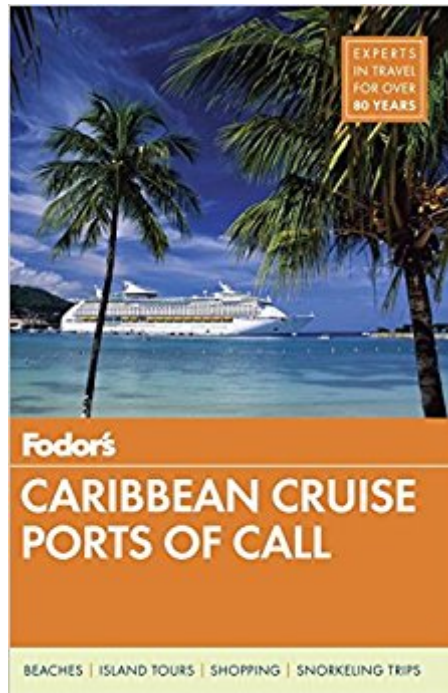




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# Fodor's Caribbean Cruise Ports Of Call (Travel Guide)



## Synopsis

Written by locals, Fodor's travel guides have been offering expert advice for all tastes and budgets for more than 80 years. Packed with information on more than 40 ports of call and a dozen ports of embarkation, Caribbean Cruise Ports of Call is a comprehensive guide to everything from sightseeing information and strategies to help cruisers plan their own shore excursions to some basic information on the cruise-ship experience. This travel guide includes:

- Dozens of maps
- A "Cruise Primer" with the basics of cruising and "Cruising the Caribbean" with capsule overviews of every major cruise line
- Hundreds of hotel and restaurant recommendations, with Fodor's Choice designating our top picks
- Covered ports of call: Private Islands; St. John's, Antigua; Oranjestad, Aruba; Bridgetown, Barbados; Belize City, Belize; Bermuda; Kralendijk, Bonaire; Calica (Playa del Carmen), Mexico; Cartagena, Colombia; Colon, Panama; Costa Maya, Mexico; Willemstad, Curacao; Roseau, Dominica; Falmouth, Jamaica; Freeport-Lucaya, Bahamas; Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands; Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos Islands; St. George's, Grenada; Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe; Key West, Florida; La Romana, Dominican Republic; Fort-de-France, Martinique; Montego Bay, Jamaica; Nassau, Bahamas; Charlestown, Nevis; Ocho Rios, Jamaica; Progreso, Mexico; Puerto Limon, Costa Rica; Roatan, Honduras; Samana (Cayo Levantado), Dominican Republic; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; Santo Tomas de Castilla, Guatemala; Gustavia, St. Barthelemy; Fredericksted, St. Croix; Cruz Bay, St. John; Basseterre, St. Kitts; Castries, St. Lucia; Philipsburg, St. Maarten; Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas; Kingstown, St. Vincent; Road Town, Tortola; and The Valley, Virgin Gorda
- Covered ports of embarkation: Baltimore, Maryland; Charleston, South Carolina; Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Galveston, Texas; Houston, Texas; Jacksonville, Florida; Miami, Florida; New Orleans, Louisiana; New York, New York; Port Canaveral, Florida; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Tampa, Florida

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Fodor's is pitched a few notches higher, aimed at a fairly discerning traveler with an appetite for background and the occasional surprise. • "New York Times" • "The Fodor's guides are notable for their ratings of sights, restaurants, shops, accommodations and attractions. • "Chicago Tribune" • "In terms of comprehensiveness of coverage, the very accessible format, and the enthusiastic tone, this series remains one of the best on the market. • "Booklist" • "Fodor's super-informative guidebooks are known for accuracy and attention to detail. • "Sacramento Bee" • "Fodor's can help you plan the perfect adventure. • "Arizona Republic

For over 80 years, Fodor's Travel has been a trusted resource offering expert travel advice for every stage of a traveler's trip. We hire local writers who know their destinations better than anyone else, allowing us to provide the best travel recommendations for all tastes and budget in over 7,500 worldwide destinations. Our books make it possible for every trip to be a trip of a lifetime.

Are you considering a Caribbean cruise? Curious as to your options? Are cruises today anything like what they show on the Love Boat? Fodor's has the ideal resource for you. It addresses each of these questions, plus hundreds more. What I loved about Caribbean Cruise Ports of Call was the information up front. I'm posting pics taken to illuminate my point. Part 1 is the planning section. It briefly touches on the itineraries that differ according to locale (Eastern, Western and Southern. It also mentions cruise costs, but then does not address the specifics, or basic costs. Except for gratuities and 'extras.' Of course, for most of us this will work fine, because we can get the basic costs when booking. I also liked the Before You Book advice on page 18, but the best advice comes on pages 22 and 23: Fodor's Cruise Preparation Time Line. This advice is wisely referred to six months in advance of your trip and then referred to again and again as your departure date approaches. See the attached pics. Commencing on page 33, and ending on page 56, readers are treated to a cursory description of each of 21 cruise lines, as well as reasons you might choose this, or decide not to choose this, particular operator. Probably this information will be the primary determinant in your success or failure to have a great trip. Then, we get into a discussion of the

various ports of embarkation and the ports of call --- the biggest reason I got this book. Further, I should warn you, the next 370 pages are woefully devoid of photographs. The information provided is excellent and practicable, so I won't be harsh, but I am greatly disappointed in the absence of photographs - I want to take a daydream cruise to the ports I frequented 45 years ago in the Navy, but, alas, I will have to view videos on YouTube or find some Prime Video. Bottom Line Fodor's Caribbean Cruise Ports of Call is an indispensable resource to consult while considering and planning your first Caribbean cruise, but it cries out for photos of the ports and of people enjoying themselves aboard the vessels. Even, I would suggest, the Kindle version should include links to videos. Four stars out of five. Comments regarding your opinion of this book or of my review, whether favorable or unfavorable, are always welcome. If you buy the book based on my review and become disappointed, especially, I do want to know that and I want to understand how I can improve as a book reviewer. Just please be polite. Thank you.

The Fodor's guide to Caribbean cruise ports of call is absolutely packed with information to help you plan your ultimate vacation in the Caribbean. Most people who take a vacation in the Caribbean do so with cruise lines rather than fly and this guide takes you step by step through all the options that are available (well most) starting with how to choose your cruise liner, what options are available, layouts of a typical ship so that you can better choose your cabin etc. then onto the cruise lines themselves detailing all the different cruise lines that ship to the Caribbean. Part of choosing a cruise line is where you will depart. If you live in New Jersey chances are that you won't want to have to travel down to Miami just to board a ship so the book details which departure points are available and which cruise lines depart from there. Also dependent on your departure point is the destination of the cruise you will take. Fodor's guide has you covered as well as maps, places to stay, things to do, where to eat etc. for each of the departure cities in case you have to stay overnight or just wish to stay longer before you board your ship. At this point you can tell that the guide isn't quite up to date as one of the departure points for the Caribbean starting this 2017 season is Mobile, Alabama which isn't listed in the guide. The first third of the book is geared towards those that have never sailed on a cruise line before. If you have taken a cruise before then, unless you are departing from a different point, you can fairly much skip over the first few chapters. The rest of the book is a guide to each port of call that all the cruise liners stop at. For each port of call there is a map highlighting the main places you may want to go visit for example with Nassau it details where Parliament Square is, the Queen's staircase, Paradise beach etc. Along with pointing out each of the main tourist attractions on the map there is a short description of each. Next the guide gives you a couple

of places to eat, which beaches are nearby, an overview of the shopping and activities such as golf that are nearby each port of call and finally some tips for example which currency is in use at that port, tips on taxis and rough costs etc. This is not a detailed guide to each island but focuses mainly on a port of call and what you could reasonably be expected to do in a day whilst ashore. It doesn't list all the main attractions, places to eat or things to do but gives you a couple of the highlights from each port of call. There are no pictures to accompany each of port of call either. This Fodor's guide covers all of the Caribbean, not just for example the Bahamas or Haiti and as such, although there is a lot of information in this guide, the information regarding each place is fairly sparse and you would end up having to either buy a more detailed of the ports that you visit or look up google which won't give you the insiders view, which is supposed to be one of the attractions of guides like these. As such I would say get a guide more suited to the cruise that will embark on, for example a guide to Nassau and the Bahamas rather than a guide that covers absolutely everything.

I'm going to be cruising to the Caribbean for the third time in a few months. I wish I had had this book on my first cruise there! I love that all the ports of call are covered, and I love, love, love that the book discusses things such as how far from the cruise port you will find sites of interest, shops, restaurants, etc. The information on the best places to see and whether or not it's worth hiring a taxi is also invaluable. If you are planning any kind of Caribbean cruise this is the book to get!

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