

NASSAU CRUISE DAY SURVIVAL GUIDE

Enjoy Nassau. Choose the right excursion.
Return to your ship without stress.



FREE!

✓ Realistic port-day timing

✓ Excursion-matching help

✓ Return-to-ship guidance



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Welcome to Nassau



Hi, I'm Ngozi Cash. Call me "Guzzy." I'm a Nassau-based travel concierge and the founder of Bahamas Up Close.

I created this guide from the questions cruise passengers ask me every week: What can we fit into our time? Where do we meet? Will we make it back to the ship? What happens if the weather changes?

MESSAGE YOUR LOCAL CONCIERGE

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BROWSE TOURS

Your No-Stress Nassau Day

This guide will help you:

- Plan confidently, even if you only have a few hours.
- Choose an activity that fits your group and schedule.
- Avoid wasting your port day figuring everything out after arrival.
- Protect a comfortable return-to-ship buffer.

THE GOAL

A fun Nassau day without unnecessary stress.

BROWSE NASSAU EXPERIENCES

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BROWSE TOURS

Ship Time

Ships usually arrive early in the morning, and morning excursions commonly depart around 10:00 AM. Complete your check-in promptly so you do not create avoidable complications.

Round-trip travel by boat or jet ski is roughly 30 minutes. Boarding and disembarking can take another 10 to 15 minutes each way.

REAL ACTIVITY TIME

Depending on the wind and logistics, a four-hour excursion can translate to roughly three and a half hours of great fun.

Tell your operator exactly when you must be back aboard your ship. When I am your concierge, I will make sure they know.

The Four Main Cays

Many half-day excursions visit one of four main cays - pronounced "keys" - about 15 minutes from Nassau.



PEARL ISLAND

Coral reef snorkeling.



ROSE ISLAND

Coral reef snorkeling, beach time and swimming pigs.

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The Four Main Cays - Continued



GREEN CAY

A natural turtle habitat.



ATHOL ISLAND

Swimming pigs, jet ski, banana boat, paddleboards and a little snorkeling.

REMEMBER

Wildlife, water and weather conditions can vary.

SEE ISLAND-HOPPING OPTIONS

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BROWSE TOURS

Plan Before the Last Minute

Do not wait until the last possible moment to plan activities. Always check the cruise line daily notice.

If your ship arrives after 1:00 PM, your excursion options may be reduced. You may still be able to jet ski, shop, enjoy local food or experience Nassau nightlife.

Most downtown shops and many tour operators close after 4:00 PM. Downtown Nassau follows the rhythm of the cruise port; when most ships leave, many businesses close for the day.

IMPORTANT

Always follow the official time shown by your cruise line. Schedules, weather, port conditions and ship itineraries can change.

Choose Your Nassau Day

Start with your time and travel group.

Choose a planning path:

01 I HAVE ABOUT FOUR HOURS

02 I HAVE ABOUT SIX HOURS

03 I'M TRAVELING WITH CHILDREN

04 COUPLE OR PRIVATE GROUP

LOCAL TIP

Advertised duration may not include meeting, boarding, transportation or check-in.

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I Have About Four Hours

Pick one primary experience and protect your return-to-ship buffer.

4-IN-1 EXCURSION PACKAGE

PARASAIL - 20 MINUTES

SWIM WITH SHARKS - HALF DAY

JETCAR - 15 MINUTES

ATV, BUGGY OR SCOOTER CITY TOUR

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BROWSE TOURS

Four-Hour Options - Continued

ATV, BUGGY OR SCOOTER RENTAL

JET SKI GUIDED TOUR - 2 HOURS

JET SKI RENTAL - 30 OR 60 MINUTES

Your simple four-hour plan:

- Bring a physical credit card, towels and a smile.
- Meet your concierge and operator.
- Complete one primary activity.
- Return to the downtown or port area.
- Allow a comfortable ship-return buffer.

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BROWSE TOURS

I Have About Six Hours

A six-hour visit allows more room for an island experience, extra beach time or shopping.

4-IN-1 PACKAGE + EXTRA BEACH TIME

FAMILY FISHING + OPTIONAL STOPS

PARASAIL

SWIM WITH SHARKS

JETCAR

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BROWSE TOURS

Your Six-Hour Plan

- Bring a physical credit card, towels and a smile.
- Meet your concierge and operator.
- Complete one primary activity.
- Return to the downtown or port area.
- Make time for shopping if desired.
- Protect a comfortable ship-return buffer.

DO NOT OVERPACK THE DAY

One memorable primary experience is better than rushing between activities and worrying about the ship.

I'm Traveling With Children

JET SKI RENTAL

SEGWAY TOUR

AIR-CONDITIONED BUS CITY TOUR

DOUBLE-DECKER BUS CITY TOUR

BUGGY CITY TOUR OR RENTAL

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BROWSE TOURS

More Family-Friendly Options

4-IN-1 EXCURSION PACKAGE

SWIMMING PIGS + TURTLES

FAMILY FISHING

PRIVATE LUXURY YACHT

Operator age and participation requirements vary. Confirm restrictions before booking.

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BROWSE TOURS

Nassau With Children

- Children as young as 11 may ride a jet ski when accompanied by an adult, subject to operator rules.
- Child-size life jackets are generally available.
- Bring towels, sun protection and any needed medication.
- Floating-bar locations commonly have a restaurant and restroom.
- Snacks, bottled water and soft drinks are commonly included on excursions.
- Foldable strollers may be brought aboard, subject to available space.
- Excursion vessels are commonly canopied center-console boats carrying approximately 10 to 15 passengers.

Couples and Private Groups

ATV, BUGGY OR SCOOTER CITY TOUR

SUNSET CRUISE - 2 HOURS

PRIVATE SNORKELING BOAT TRIP

PURA VIDA PRIVATE LUXURY YACHT

FAMILY FISHING + OPTIONAL STOPS

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BROWSE TOURS

Celebrating Something Special?

A private yacht can include island hopping, water toys, beach time and swimming pigs at an additional per-person cost. A private-chef option may also be available.

EXPLORE PURA VIDA

Your couples and celebration plan:

- Meet your concierge and operator.
- Complete one primary experience.
- Leave room for downtown shopping or a meal.
- Protect a comfortable return-to-ship buffer.

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BROWSE TOURS

Excursion Finder

Wildlife and beautiful water

TURTLES

SWIMMING PIGS + MORE

SHARKS

FISHING

Tap any button to view the experience on BahamasUpClose.

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Excursion Finder - Adventure

Adventure on land

ATV, BUGGY + SCOOTER

SEGWAY

AIR-CONDITIONED BUS

DOUBLE-DECKER BUS

High-energy water fun

JET SKI

JETCAR

PARASAIL

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BROWSE TOURS

Excursion Finder - Premium

Several experiences together

4-IN-1 ATHOL ISLAND PACKAGE

ISLAND-HOPPING OPTIONS

A premium private day

PURA VIDA PRIVATE YACHT

Personal assistance

ASK GUZZY ON WHATSAPP

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Morning or Afternoon?

Half-day turtle, swimming-pig, fishing and private boat or yacht excursions commonly depart around:

MORNING

Approximately 10:00 AM

AFTERNOON

Approximately 1:30 PM

Departure times are subject to availability, weather and operational changes. Afternoon excursions may not suit ships with an early all-aboard time.

ASK IF AN EXCURSION FITS MY SHIP

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BROWSE TOURS

Where Will I Meet My Operator?

Meeting instructions vary by activity. A common meeting point is outside Señor Frog's at Prince George Wharf.

- Before arrival, I will send your confirmation, booth image and instructions.
- Review your confirmation receipt carefully.
- Keep a screenshot handy on your phone for quick display.
- Do not assume that every activity uses the same meeting point.

WHATSAPP GUZZY

What to Bring

- Government-issued identification if required
- Booking confirmation screenshot
- Swimwear and towels
- Reef-conscious sunscreen
- Hat and sunglasses
- Water
- Cash for optional purchases and gratuities
- Waterproof phone pouch
- Motion-sickness medication if needed
- Cruise-ship contact information

Weather and Backup Plans

- Nassau weather can be localized and change quickly.
- Rain in the forecast does not automatically mean cancellation. It may rain briefly and then clear.
- Boat operators make safety decisions based on actual conditions, including wind.
- Monitor your messages. WhatsApp is preferred and has no messaging fee.
- Cancellation and refund terms vary by product.
- Bahamas Up Close can help identify alternatives when possible.

ASK ABOUT TODAY'S CONDITIONS

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BROWSE TOURS

Seven Common Mistakes

- 1 Confusing departure time with all-aboard time.
- 2 Forgetting that getting off the ship can take time.
- 3 Booking an afternoon excursion that ends too late.
- 4 Assuming every activity leaves from the cruise port.
- 5 Waiting until arrival to ask about availability.
- 6 Failing to bring the correct items or identification.
- 7 Choosing by price without checking duration and logistics.

Ready to Plan Your Day?

I know what I want.

BROWSE NASSAU EXCURSIONS

I need help choosing.

SEND MY SHIP INFORMATION

I want personal assistance.

EXPLORE CONCIERGE SERVICES

Eligible excursions can be reserved online and paid for at the booth or boat. Pura Vida requires a deposit to reserve.

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BROWSE TOURS

A Final Word From Guzzly

I want you to enjoy Nassau, choose an experience that fits your group, and return to your ship without unnecessary stress.

Bahamas Up Close is an independent local booking and concierge service and is not affiliated with or endorsed by any cruise line.

Some activities featured in this guide can be booked through Bahamas Up Close, and we may earn a commission from qualifying bookings.

Always follow your cruise line's official schedule and instructions. Tour schedules, restrictions, weather and operational conditions can change.

VISIT BAHAMAS UP CLOSE

MESSAGE GUZZLY

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