

Bonaire Seaside Apartments

Please review the important information regarding your reservation at Bonaire Seaside Apartments RESERVATION & TRAVEL POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$100 per person is required in order to confirm a reservation. The final balance is due 45 days prior to arrival date. **If you are paying your deposit by credit card, your card will be automatically charged for final payment on the due date.** Reservations are not confirmed until proper payment is received. Reservations made within 45 days of arrival require full payment at time of reservation.

Cancellations/Refunds: Cancellation made 46 days or more prior to arrival will receive a full refund. Cancellations made within 45 – 30 days of arrival will forfeit the deposit. Cancellations 29 days or less, no-shows, unused nights and/or package features due to premature departure will receive no refunds.

Group Reservations: Please inquire about deposit, payment and cancellation policies for group reservations.

Forms of Payment: All payments must be made in US currency and drawn on US banks payable to **Reservation Services International**. We reserve the right to electronically debit your account if this item comes back dishonored, plus a \$25.00 processing fee and applicable tax. The use of a check is your acceptance of this agreement and its terms. Sender must pay for any bank transfer fees. We also accept MasterCard, Visa and AMEX.

Changes to the Reservation: There is a \$25.00 fee per change once documents have been issued. Any unused or cancelled portion of the hotel, package and/or dives not completed by customer's choice once travel has commenced and/or diving cancelled as a result of inclement weather and/or acts of God are non-transferable and is not refundable. Bonaire Seaside Apartments is not responsible for missed or delayed flights.

Entry/Exit Requirements: Everyone, including children of any age entering Bonaire must have a valid passport and a return or ongoing ticket. No visas are required for US or Canadian citizens. For other nationalities, it is your responsibility to ensure your own visa requirements, and no refunds will be awarded for customers denied access for lack of a proper visa. There is a departure fee of approximately US \$35.00 subject to change, payable at the airport. Children under 2 are exempt from this tax.

Children: Children 12 and under are exempt from paying government room tax. Please be sure you have notified us if you will be traveling with an infant and need a crib reserved for a one time \$20 fee.

Continental & KLM Passengers: If you have reserved your room for the evening prior to your dawn arrival, there will be a key to your apartment in the night safe. If you have NOT reserved the room for the previous evening there will also be a key in the night safe, but only to get in the lobby and to the pool area. We suggest you make yourself comfortable in either location until the Front Office opens at 8:00 a.m. If at that time your assigned room happens to have been vacant the previous day, you will have access to your room prior to the 2:00 p.m. check-in time.

What to Know Before You Go: Bonaire is experiencing a building "boom", especially along the waterfront areas. Bonaire Seaside's goal is to inform our guests where there is construction nearby, and exactly what kind of construction it is, so you can make an informed decision. At present, there is new construction underway on the adjacent property to our north side. Construction noise can be expected weekdays from approximately 7am-5pm. The construction that had been underway on the south side is in the final stage of painting and landscaping. To minimize any disturbance, we will house guests in the apartments units furthest away from the construction areas.

PROTECT YOUR VACATION! We strongly encourage the purchase of trip insurance!

[Click here for further information on trip cancellation and interruption insurance.](#)

We also encourage all divers to have [Dan Master Insurance](#) Plans

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE THIS WITH YOU!

PRE-TRIP PLANNING

Bonaire Entry Requirements: All US and Canadian citizens entering Bonaire (regardless of age) must have a valid passport and a return or ongoing ticket. No visas are required for US or Canadian citizens. For other nationalities, it is your responsibility to ensure your own visa requirements, and no refunds will be awarded for customers denied access for lack of a proper visa or passport.

Marine Park Fee: US \$25 cash is required for divers to purchase a Bonaire Marine Park Tag. The Bonaire Marine Park requires all visiting divers to participate in a short orientation session on their first morning of diving and to purchase a marine park tag for \$25 per diver (not included in package rates.) All non-divers who use the waters of the BNMP including snorkelers, windsurfers, kayakers, sport fishermen, kite boarders, etc., will be charged a Nature Fee of \$10.00 per year.

Packing Considerations: Casual attire is the norm; evening clothes are casual to casual nice. We'll provide you with body soap at the Resort, but please **bring your own shampoo and conditioner**. Beach towels and all linens are provided except wash cloths. The linen provisioning and laundry service on Bonaire follows European customs, which do not include the use of **wash cloths**. So be sure to bring your own if you can not do without! Please also bring your own **travel alarm clock** and a sufficient supply of sunscreen and insect repellent.

We also encourage all guests to **bring their own reusable water bottles**. We know you will want to keep well hydrated during your stay and will therefore be drinking a great deal of water. Bonaire's tap water is one of the purest and safest water sources in the world to drink, so there is no reason to purchase bottled water. Your efforts will also help us keep Bonaire's landfill clear of unnecessary waste that cannot be recycled.

Your apartment has a safety deposit box in the master bedroom; one and two bedroom apartments and three bedroom villas have full size kitchens equipped with a microwave, dishwasher, full size refrigerator and stove. Studios have more moderate sized kitchenettes. Your living area has a TV and DVD player so you may want to bring along your favorite DVD's or CD's.

Because of the sharp coral at the water's edge at many of the off-property shore dive sites, booties and open heel fins are recommended for shore diving. Full foot fins are adequate for boat diving & shore diving on property. Dive Friends Bonaire rents both types of fins as well as booties.

Airline luggage restrictions are constantly changing. **Be sure to check your airline's web site(s) for the most current information on baggage allowances and restrictions.** For most international flights, any luggage over 50 pounds will have a surcharge and you could potentially be told to remove something from the bag. In most cases luggage over 70 pounds will not be accepted. Domestic flights especially those booked independently of the international flight will most likely have other allowances and restrictions. Best advice is travel light

In the unlikely event you arrive on Bonaire without your luggage, please make sure you have packed your "trip essentials" in your carry on bag, such as your **C-Card for diving or Referral Papers for Dive Courses**, a pair of shorts, bathing suit, dive mask, medicine, sunglasses or anything you consider necessary to begin enjoying your stay from the moment you arrive. **Tiara Air** and **Dutch Antillean Express** passengers should keep in mind that the overhead compartments are very small and most carry on luggage will need to be checked curb side before boarding the plane.

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The grocery stores on Bonaire carry a wide variety of products but the majority will not be brands or “versions” recognized by North Americans. Example: You may be able to find Soy Milk, but you may or may not be able to find fat free, vanilla Soy Milk. If you have any products you **must have** you may want to consider bringing them with you. There are NO restrictions placed on bringing fruits and vegetables into Bonaire.

Lithium Batteries: Spare lithium batteries may not be packed in checked baggage. They MAY be packed in carry-on baggage. Lithium batteries already installed in a device may be packed in either checked or carry-on. **Please Note:** The Island does not have a proper toxic waste disposal system. Yearly more than 100,000 used batteries from visitors end up on our landfill. That is more than 6,000 pounds of heavy metals and toxins. Corroding batteries leak toxic chemicals into the soil and, ultimately, the sea. Please take your used batteries home with you where they can be recycled.

Vaccinations: No vaccinations or preventative medications are recommended for travel to Bonaire. Yellow fever and malaria are not a problem here. The [Center for Disease Control](#) in the US offers updates and advisories for travelers.

ARRIVING ON BONAIRE

Arriving at the Airport & Picking Up Your Rental Vehicle: If you have reserved a rental vehicle with Total Car Rental we HIGHLY RECOMMEND that upon arrival, you “divide and conquer,” sending the person or persons who will be authorized to drive the rental vehicle to complete the contract work, while the others remain and wait for the luggage. This will save you considerable time. Please make sure you have your Rental Car voucher with you. The optional CDW (Collision Damage Waiver) Insurance, which ranges from \$10 - \$12 per day depending on the rental agency, is highly recommended as most credit card insurance coverage does not cover truck rentals. Note: Insurance deductibles range from \$300 - \$500 depending on the rental agency. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the “fine print.” Charges ranging from \$5.00 - \$15.00 per day are also assessed for additional drivers. Insurance protection only applies when the primary renter and authorized additional drivers are driving the vehicle. There is no requirement to purchase a local license. **Note for KLM 753 flight passengers:** Total Car Rental will not be open at the time this flight arrives. Taxi-service will be provided instead by a well known and trusted company: either Taxi 27 or “Taxi Henk.” These gentlemen will wait for our guests at the gate, and bring you to Bonaire Seaside. The next day, around 10:00 am, Total will bring the truck to you.

Taxis: If you have not rented a vehicle, Taxis will run approximately \$20 from the airport to the Resort..

Continental, KLM and other early/late arriving Passengers: If you have reserved your room for the evening prior to your dawn arrival, there will be a key to your apartment in the night safe. **Your reservation agent will provide you with your unique code that will enable you to open the key safe. Please be sure you have this code with you before departing for Bonaire!** If you have NOT reserved the room for the previous evening there will also be a key in the night safe, but only to get in the lobby and to the pool area. We suggest you make yourself comfortable in either location until the Front Office opens at 8:00 a.m. If at that time your assigned room happens to have been vacant the previous day, you will have access to your room prior to the 2:00 p.m. check-in time.

All Other Arrivals at Bonaire Seaside Apartments: The front office staff will be available to welcome all guests arriving between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., and key will be in night safe for guests who arrive on later flights. Please be sure we have your **accurate flight information** to ensure we know when to expect you. A credit card will be needed upon check in at the Resort as a deposit against incidental charges incurred during

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the stay. If a guest does not have a credit card then a US \$200 cash deposit per person will be required. No personal checks will be accepted on island.

Apartment Amenities: Your apartment has a safety deposit box in the master bedroom; one and two bedroom apartments and three bedroom villas have full size kitchens equipped with a microwave, dishwasher, full size refrigerator and stove. Studios have more moderate sized kitchenettes. Your living area has a TV and DVD player so you may want to bring along your favorite DVD's or CD's.

Electricity: Studio apartments have 220 voltage only. All other units have 220 volts and 127 volts, 50 cycles, slightly different from the US. Most U.S. appliances will work, however they may run a bit hotter. Plugs (except in studios) are US three prong and do not require adapters.

Telephone: There are direct dial phones in the apartments, with pre-paid telephone calling cards available for purchase at the Front Desk. The number for Bonaire Seaside Apartments when dialed from the US is **011-599-717-8500**. Incoming calls can only be accepted when the front office is open between 8:00 a.m. and noon. Bonaire Chat N' Browse, 1 mile north, rents cell phones.

Internet: Wireless Internet Service is available in the apartments for use with your laptop, with access codes available for purchase at the Front Office. The codes can also be bought online. There are also computers available for Internet use at Bonaire Chat N' Browse.

Food Service: Bonaire Seaside Apartments does not have a restaurant on property but is easily within walking distance of the downtown restaurants. It Rain's Fishes, just a 5 minute walk along the seaside, serves breakfast from 8:00-11:00 daily as well as a great lunch and dinner. There are several restaurants within a 5 minute drive north of the resort as well, a favorite of which is The Sunset Bar and Grill.

Dive Registration, Orientation & Marine Park Fee: Dive Friends Bonaire located next door on the north side of the property, opens at 8:00 am. Divers must register at the dive center, and bring their (1) dive certification card, (2) diving vouchers, (3) credit card for a security deposit, and (4) US\$25 cash for the required purchase of a Bonaire Marine Park Tag. The Bonaire Marine Park requires all visiting divers to participate in a short orientation session on their first morning of diving. **At Dive Friends Bonaire, this orientation is held at any time that is convenient for you during normal business hours of 8:00 – 5:00 p.m.** After the orientation, divers must do a self-guided familiarization dive on in front of the dive shop before leaving for off-property shore diving or boat dives. The purpose of the dive is to recheck buoyancy and to check your dive equipment while still within safe distance of the dive staff and facilities. Free Nitrox upgrades are offered for certified enriched air divers with a maximum allowance of three tanks per day.

Gear Storage & Gear Considerations: Gear storage is available free of charge. The dive shop will assign your storage space. The Gear room and tanks for shore diving are accessible from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Because of the sharp coral at the water's edge booties and open heel fins are necessary for off property shore diving along the iron coast. Full foot fins are adequate for boat diving & shore dives on property. **We respectfully ask that you do not wear damp wet suits to your room.**

Non-Diver Use of the Marine Park: All non-divers who use the waters of the BNMP including snorkelers, windsurfers, kayakers, sport fishermen, kite boarders, etc., will be charged a Nature Fee of \$10.00 per year. All persons who pay the Nature Fee (both divers and other users) and show their tag along with their printed receipt will receive complimentary admission to Washington-Slagbaai National Park throughout the year their tag is valid.

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Water Temperature: Normally 78-84F degrees all year, slightly warmer in the summer and fall and cooler in the winter and spring. A 2-mm shorty to 3-mm full suit is recommended for divers.

Weather/Time: The average year-round temperature is 81.5 degrees, with a +/- 2.5-degree seasonal variation. An arid island, Bonaire receives on average only 20.5 inches of rain annually, 65% of which occurs October – January. Bonaire operates on Atlantic Standard Time, but not daylight savings (no summer time change).

Currency: The Netherlands Antilles Guilder (NAFL) is fixed at the exchange rate of 1.77 to the dollar for cash and 1.78 for traveler's cheques. Most stores and business however exchange it at 1.75. You can spend dollars everywhere, but you will likely receive your cash in guilders. Traveler's checks and credit cards are widely accepted but be sure to have your passport or photo ID available. There is a bank with a 24-hour ATM within walking distance which can dispense guilders or dollars as well as a number of other banks with ATMs located conveniently around the island. Note: If using credit cards on island, please be aware that most credit-card companies are now adding an extra 2% to 5% fee on international transactions in addition to any currency-exchange commissions.

Tips: Tipping for good service is customary and welcomed in Bonaire – 15% is standard. Note: Some restaurants add a 10-15% service charge automatically, so if in doubt, ask. Guests at Bonaire Seaside Apartments might consider tipping housekeepers, restaurant servers, boat captains, dive guides, tour guides or anyone else who provides good service. **Please note that Bonaire Seaside Apartments and Dive Friends Bonaire DO NOT include a service charge in their rates!**

Language: Papiamentu the local language, Dutch the official language, English and Spanish widely spoken.

Legal Age: 18 for drinking beer and other alcohol; 21 for gambling in a casino and 23 for renting a car.

Drinking Water: Bonaire has distilled seawater for drinking water that is safe to drink and of excellent quality. Be sure to remain well hydrated while on holiday! At present, Bonaire does not have a recycle facility for plastic, so we encourage everyone to help us keep Bonaire's landfill clear of unnecessary waste by NOT buying or using plastic water bottles. If you did not bring a water bottle with you, please endeavor to buy one you can recycle for the remainder of your stay.

Emergencies: Bonaire has the 60-bed hospital, Hospitaal San Francisco (Kaya Soeur Bartola #2, Kralendijk.) Many of the doctor's are European trained and certified. There is an ambulance plane on call for emergencies. A hyperbaric recompression chamber is located adjacent to the hospital and is run by a highly trained staff - admittance is via the emergency room at the hospital. The emergency phone number for the ambulance is 114. All emergency numbers can be dialed out of your apartment without charge.

Return Flight Information: Once on island it is not necessary to reconfirm your return flights. Please be sure you are at the airport 2 hours prior to your scheduled departure for most flights. To avoid long lines, passengers on the afternoon Delta flight should consider checking in early and then having a nice lunch at the airport restaurant which serves excellent food!

Exit Requirements: Departure Fee for all international destinations is approximately US \$35.00 per person, payable in cash or debit/credit card at the airport prior to check-in. Children under 2 are exempt. MasterCard, Visa, Discover, Maestro, are all accepted, but American Express is not. Departure tax to Curacao and Aruba is lower.