

MANDATORY READING:
IMPORTANT ARRIVAL INFORMATION
GEORGE TOWN, GRAND CAYMAN

Institute on Caribbean Law
December 26, 2017 - January 6, 2018



The island country consists of **Grand Cayman**, largest and most populous of the trio; and the Sister Islands of **Cayman Brac** and **Little Cayman**, which lie approximately 89 miles east-northeast of Grand Cayman and are separated from each other by a channel about seven miles wide.

The Cayman Islands lie 480 miles south of Miami, nestled in the turquoise waters of the western Caribbean. The three gentle islands are located just 149 miles south of their closest Caribbean neighbor Cuba, and 167 miles northwest of Jamaica.

The total land mass of the three islands is 100 square miles. Grand Cayman occupies 76 square miles; Cayman Brac, 14 square miles and Little Cayman, 10 square miles. **Grand Cayman** is approximately 22 miles long and 8 miles at its widest point, reaching a maximum elevation of 79.77 feet in North Side.

Kristen Cohen
Resident Director, Cayman Islands 2017- 2018

The information is provided to assist students in making their plans for attending and participating in the study abroad program in the Cayman Islands. Stetson University College of Law is not responsible for changes in rates, schedules, dates or other facts contained herein or on the websites listed.

Grand Cayman

The island itself is made up of 5 main areas. Moving from the northwest tip of the island we are staying in West Bay which is the resort side of the island where most of the hotels are located. Moving south, Georgetown is the downtown area where the law school is located. To the east is Bodden Town, the southern coast and a little more tranquil. East End is the far end of the island with far less development and a reef farther off shore. The only road winds counter clockwise around the East End to the North Side ending at Rum Point Beach Club. A ferry is available from Rum Point to the West Bay side of the Island.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Stetson University College of Law International Programs Office

Contact: Assistant Dean JR Swanegan
Address: 1401-61st Street South Gulfport, FL 33707
Phone: (727) 562-7857
Fax: (727) 231-0723
E-mail: swanegan@law.stetson.edu
international@law.stetson.edu

Resident Director in Cayman Islands

Contact: Kristen Cohen
Cell in Cayman Islands: 1-727-667-9086
E-mail: kcohen@law.stetson.edu

Truman Bodden Law School

Contact: Mitchell Davies, Director of Legal Studies
Address: Truman Bodden Law School
Second Floor, Old CIBC Building
54 Edward Street
George Town, KY1-1110 Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands
Phone: (345) 945-0077; Fax: (345) 946-1845
Email: Mitchell.Davies@gov.ky

Housing Accommodations in Grand Cayman



Contact Information

SUNSHINE SUITES RESORT
1465 ESTERLEY TIBBETTS HIGHWAY
PO Box 30095
Grand Cayman KY1-1201
Cayman Islands, BWI
US Toll Free: 877-786-1110
On Island Tel: 345-949-3000
On Island Fax: 345-949-1200
Email: info@SunshineSuites.com

[GET MAP AND DIRECTIONS](#)



Hotel Amenities



Sunshine Suites Grand Cayman Island Resort includes 130 beautifully appointed and well furnished suites. The Studio, Deluxe or One Bedroom suites offer the amenities you would expect in the best Cayman resorts, including a fully equipped kitchen with a large fridge, stove top, microwave, toaster, coffee machine, cookware, dishes and utensils.

- Five star service
- Full kitchens
- Complimentary “Grab & Go” continental breakfast served daily from 6:30am to 9:30am
- Free high speed wireless Internet throughout the resort
- Flat screen TVs with 62 channels of premium HD television and music
- Complimentary use of Business Center with two computers and Internet
- Award winning Sunshine Bar & Grill
- Hammocks and Adirondack chairs in beautifully manicured gardens
- Sparkling fresh water pool and sundeck
- 200 yards from the famous Seven Mile Beach
- Complimentary beach chairs and beach towels
- Complimentary use of dive storage lockers & rinse tanks
- Dry cleaning facilities and onsite laundry facilities
- Central location to attractions, supermarkets, shops, restaurants and bars
- Nearby jogging and cycling trails
- Unlimited and free access to the World Gym (2 miles away)
- Adjacent to the Islands only 18-hole Links Golf Course
- World-class scuba diving / snorkeling – discounts available through our partners
- Variety of water sports
- Budget Car Rental – exclusive guest discounts
- Rental Bikes (surcharge)

U.S. Embassy in Kingston, Jamaica - American Citizen Services

The main office for American Citizen Services is located at the U.S. Embassy in Kingston, Jamaica. There are consular agents stationed in Montego Bay and Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands that also can provide assistance to American citizens living near those locations. Contact information for the U.S. Consular Agency in George Town is shown below.

Address: American Citizen Services Unit

142 Old Hope Road, Kingston 6, JAMAICA

Phone: (876) 702-6450; (876) 702-6000 (after-hours emergency number)

Website: <http://kingston.usembassy.gov/>

Office Hours: Monday through Friday (except Jamaican and U.S. holidays),

7:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

U.S Consular Agency in George Town, Grand Cayman

Address: Cayman Centre, Unit B-1

118 Dorcy Drive

Georgetown, Grand Cayman

Phone: (345) 945-8173; (876) 702-6000 (after-hours emergency)

Fax: (345) 945-8192

E-mail: consagency@candw.ky

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (except U.S. and Cayman holidays).

Cayman Islands Department of Tourism

Phone: (345) 945-0077

Web site: www.caymanislands.ky

EMERGENCY:

Fire Department - Emergency 911 General Enquiries 949-2276

Police - Emergency 911 General inquiries 949-4222

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS TO U.S CITIZENS

ALL U.S. citizens travelling by air between the United States and the Caribbean, Canada, Mexico, Central and South American, and Bermuda, **will be required to present a valid passport.**

In order to ensure that you have a hassle free experience when passing through borders, please have the following forms completed on your arrival:

- Tourist Identification Card (will be provided by airline staff)
- Valid Passport (It must be valid for six months after date of return)
- Customs declaration card.

Upon arrival please keep the immigration card given to you! Visitors should keep it with their travel documents and present it when departing

Departure Tax: There is a CI \$20.00 or US\$25.00 **departure tax for the Cayman Islands** that is included in the price of your airline ticket.

THE BASICS

Electricity

Electrical current is 110 volts AC, 60Hz. American style two-pin plugs are standard.

Time

Local time is GMT -5. (The same as in Tampa)

Weather

The average temperature in the winter is 75 degrees Fahrenheit. Winter or summer, the temperature generally stays within the range of 70 - 90 degrees. The months with the least humidity and lowest temperatures are December through April.

Currency /Banks

All business including taxis and buses will accept U.S. dollars or Cayman Island dollars.

The Cayman Islands has its own currency, whose basic unit is the dollar. However, there is **no need for visitors to exchange their US dollars into local currency.** The US dollar is accepted throughout the islands at a rate of CI 80 cents. This rate may also vary on the company / business doing the exchange. The US dollar equals CI \$.80 or, CI\$1.00 equals US\$1.25.

Regular banking hours are 9: 00 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until 4:30 p.m. on Friday. Major credit cards (with the exception of the Discover Card) and traveller's checks are widely accepted. In addition, Automatic Teller Machines accepting VISA and MasterCard with

Cirrus affiliation are located at Cayman National Bank, other banks, Owen Roberts International Airport, as well as a few other locations such as the grocery stores.

International and Local Calling/ cell phone service

Calls placed to the Cayman Islands from other countries should begin with **1** followed by the international country code **345**. Once on the Islands, students may call their home or any other international destination by dialing **00** before the relevant country code.

Cell phone service in the Cayman Islands may not work with many of the GSM and TDMA network phones. Be sure to check with your service provider before you leave for roaming rates and coverage.

Cellular telephones can be rented upon arrival in the Islands.

Internet service

Many of the hotels and resorts provide Internet service in one form or another. Some have centrally-located business centers while others offer in-room access for guests who opted to bring their own computers and equipment.

Students staying at a hotel without Internet service should not despair. Internet cafes are widely available in the Cayman Islands, enabling visitors to send and receive e-mail from almost anywhere their adventures take them. The cost of using these facilities can vary a great deal, but \$10(USD) per hour seems to be a fairly average price.

Health/ Hospitals

There are no specific health risks and food and water are considered safe; however, note that some types of tropical reef fish may be poisonous when eaten, even if well cooked. Hepatitis A vaccination is recommended before travel. Dengue fever is endemic and occurs throughout the year.

Medical facilities are relatively good; there are both a public and private hospital. The main hospital is located in George Town, Grand Cayman. It boasts modern equipment and facilities. A 24 hour **hyperbaric decompression chamber** is available for divers and an air ambulance service for other emergencies. The telephone number is **(345) 949-8600**. In Cayman Brac, there is the government hospital, Faith Hospital. The number is **(345) 948-2243/2245**. There is a small clinic in Little Cayman that can be reached at **(345) 948-1051**.

Pharmacies

Regular business hours vary, however, most are open from 8 am to 6 pm. On nights and weekends, pharmacies are open on a rotation schedule.

Safety

The Cayman Islands has a relatively low crime rate. Nevertheless, visitors are advised to take the usual sensible precautions as they would anywhere else in respect of their personal safety and belongings. Do not leave valuables lying about; keep them in a hotel or other safety deposit box.

Take precautions to avoid being a target of crime: do not wear conspicuous clothing or jewelry, and do not carry excessive amounts of money. Also, do not leave unattended luggage in public areas, and do not accept packages from strangers.

For the latest security information, Americans traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's internet web site at: <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Caution Public Announcement, Travel Warnings and Public Announcements can be found. Up-to-date information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the U.S. The Department of State urges American citizens to take responsibility for their own personal security while traveling overseas.

For general information about appropriate measures travelers can take to protect themselves in an overseas environment, see the Department of State's pamphlet "A Safe Trip Abroad" at: http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1747.html.

Customs

The culture is a blend of American, British and West Indian traditions. The churchgoing Caymanians appreciate politeness and modesty - beachwear is not acceptable off the beach.

GETTING AROUND

Transportation

Cab fare from the airport to the Sunshine Suites where we are staying is about \$24 U.S.

When exiting the airport, go to the taxi dispatcher and they will give you a ticket with the rate written on it for the driver. Between 6am-11pm the rate covers 1-3 passengers. After 3 people, there is an additional one-third charged for each additional passenger and an extra 25% is added between 12-6am. Most taxis are minivans that can seat up to 8 people. Cabs have a minimum fare of \$10 and are usually destination-based. Bus is the cheaper way to travel.

The local bus routes cover the main roads of the island and use small 12-person mini buses. The fare is \$2.50 Cayman (CI) or \$2.50 U.S. They run every 15 minutes from about 6am-5pm, then every half hour up to 10pm. The main bus depot is located directly next to the law school.

Taxis

Taxis are available at Owen Roberts International Airport on Grand Cayman and offer a fixed rate per vehicle or per person to all points on Grand Cayman. This information is available from the taxi dispatcher at the curb. Hotel vans cannot provide courtesy arrival pickup at the airport.

Taxis are readily available from all resorts and from the taxi stand at the cruise ship dock in George Town. On average, a taxi would cost from US\$10 to US\$25 depending upon your destination. Also, you can order a taxi by phone:

Burton's Taxi Service 345-947-2274
Elite Transportation Ltd. 345-947-1173
Cayman Cab Team 345-947-2274

Public Transport System

There is a daily bus service which runs from 6 am until midnight depending on the route and the day of travel. The bus fare also depends on the route and varies between CI\$1.50 to CI\$3.00 per person.

The new bus terminal is located adjacent to the Public Library on Edward St. in downtown George Town and serves as the dispatch point for buses to all districts. There are 38 mini-buses operated by 24 licensed operators, serving eight routes. Daily service starts at 6 a.m. from the depot, and the schedule is as follows **from George Town to:**

* **West Bay** - every 15 minutes, 6 a.m. - 11 p.m., Sunday - Thursday; 6 a.m. - midnight, Fri. & Sat. Fare is CI\$1.50 each way.

* **Bodden Town** - Every 30 minutes, 6 a.m. - 11 p.m., Sunday- Thurs.; 6 a.m. - midnight, Fri. & Sat. Fare is CI\$1.50 each way.

* **East End and North Side** - Every hour, 6 a.m. - 9 p.m., Sunday - Thurs. and Saturday. On Friday, buses will operate until after Midnight. Fare: CI\$2 each way.

The new system uses color-coded logos located on the front and rear of buses to identify routes as follows: Route 1 (yellow) and Route 2 (lime green) cover George Town to West Bay; Route 3 (blue) provides service between the depot in George Town and Bodden Town. Route 4 (purple) operates between the depot and East End. Route 5 (red) goes from the depot to East End and North Side. Route 6 (dark green) operates from North Side to West Bay. Route 7 (dark green with white numbers) is an inter-district service for George Town. Route 8 (orange) runs from the depot to Hutland in North Side. Licensed buses are identified by blue licence plates. To maintain consistency in fares, each bus must display a fare table outlining standard government-authorized fares. The hotline number for public comment and feedback is **945-5100**.

Recreation

Plenty of nature hiking, snorkeling, and scuba diving are available. If you have your own gear, it is recommended to bring it due to somewhat expensive rental fees for snorkel gear. Bars and restaurants are open until 2am Monday through Friday and until midnight on Saturday. There are 2 golf courses on the West Bay side of the island. Most of all, it's an island.

Attractions

Besides the island itself, there are the turtle and butterfly farms and tours to Stingray City. There are museums and botanical gardens, early settlements, and St. Pedro's castle for history buffs. Also, you can send a postcard from Hell. There is also a movie theater playing current releases.

Enjoy the unique heritage attractions, Boatswain's Beach/Cayman Turtle Farm, Pedro Saint James, Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park, and the National Museum. Business hours and days may vary, however, most attractions are open from 9 am to 5 pm every day.



Stingray City

You cannot miss swimming with the stingrays in their natural environment. This amazing water adventure will take you out to both the original North Sound Stingray City as well as to a shallow sandbar where you can comfortably stand (or run!) and interact with these beautiful marine creatures. Be sure to ask the front desk staff at our [Grand Cayman island resort](#) about booking your tour with **Dexter's Fantasea Tours** or **Captain Marvin's**.



Pedro St. James

This is the restored center piece of a national historic site overlooking the Caribbean Sea with the best view in Grand Cayman. Visitors can stroll through the edifice built along the lines of the Caribbean plantation Great Houses and containing period furniture and interesting artifacts from that long-lost time. Visit the gift shop and don't miss the site's multimedia show (it runs every hour); rated the best in the Caribbean, it's an experience you will long remember. Open Daily 9.00am to 5.00pm
Tel: 345 947 3558



Turtle Farm

Save time to visit the Cayman Turtle Farm and be sure to take your swim suits. You will be able to view (and hold) Cayman sea turtles. You can enjoy a refreshing dip in the Breaker's fresh water tidal lagoon and Boatswain's snorkel Lagoon, (a 1.3 million gallon salt-water snorkel lagoon which is at the heart of the park showcasing the beauty of the Cayman marine environment). Hundreds of species of tropical fish thrive in this free-swim area – guaranteeing an up-close view of a turtle. After the underwater experience, guests can relax on the white sand beach by the shoreline of a tropical lagoon. The Turtle Farm also has a wonderful aviary which persons of all ages are guaranteed to enjoy.



National Museum

On the waterfront in Georgetown, The Old Courts Building contains many historical and natural artifacts of Caymanian life. Open Mon – Fri 9.00am – 5.00pm and Saturday 10am to 2pm. Tel: 949 8368



Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park

Take a leisurely stroll through the woodlands and by the lake to view much of Cayman's natural fauna and flora in this most relaxing of settings. Open Daily 9.00am to 6.30pm. Tel: 947 3558



Rum Point

On the north coast of Grand Cayman, lies the ever popular Rum Point. Here, flat white sands backed by shade trees lead down to the calm blue sea. Peace and quiet is just one offering you'll find at many of the Cayman Islands' beaches, and this sedate vacation style can be had at Rum Point without taking you too far away. Cities are close – without being too close – you'll have everything you need. Snorkeling in the crystalline waters is a popular activity at Rum Point, as well as, volleyball, windsurfing, and para sailing. A beach bar and grill, Wreck Bar, provides food and cold drinks, including beer.



Cayman Craft Market

Located in central George town this market place offers locally made wood & leather products, Thatch and straw work and Local visual arts. Find yourself immersed in a unique Caymanian

atmosphere where you can purchase a real part of Cayman whilst learning about our past and one of a kind culture.

Shopping

Downtown Georgetown, where the law school is located, is filled with a number of souvenir, clothing, and miscellaneous shops. A food market is located across the street from the school, and there is one a short ride from the Courtyard as well. All stores are closed on Sunday, so be sure to get any necessary items on Saturday.

Duty-Free

Grand Cayman has a maximum allowance for duty-free products purchased during flights. Up to 200 cigarettes are allowed. ONE liter of alcohol OR up to FOUR liters of wine is allowed. Any additional tobacco or alcohol will be taxed upon entry, and this is usually more expensive than the items themselves.

Restaurants

There are limitless opportunities for every taste available. Prices range from the ridiculously expensive resort restaurants to local mom-and-pop stands. Fresh seafood is available at most venues with the occasional fast food chain popping up. Wendy's, Burger King, KFC, and Subway are all a short distance from the hotel. Downtown restaurants include Señor Frog's, Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville and others.

Business hours and days may vary, but usually restaurants are open from 11 am until 10 pm. Look for restaurant and night life information at: www.caymangoodtaste.com/index.asp, the official partner website for the Cayman Island Department of Tourism.

Menu prices may be quoted in either Caymanian or U.S. dollars. The exchange rate makes the difference noteworthy, and travelers should ask the restaurant staff to which currency the price refers. Many establishments do not accept credit cards, so be sure to have cash on hand. Restaurants that do allow credit card payments may assess an additional fee for the convenience. Diners should not be surprised to find a service charge of 15 percent added to the bill. Adding the waitstaff's gratuities to the check is a common practice in the Caribbean.

Restaurants You Should Try

DOWNTOWN:

- o Casanova's
- o Guy Harveys Restaurant
- o Bacchus Wine Bar
- o The Brasserie

NORTH (of Sunshine Suites):

- o Ristorante Pappagallo
- o Calypso Grill
- o Cracked Conch by the Sea
- o Neptune Restaurant

OUTSIDE DOWNTOWN:

- o Lighthouse Restaurant
- o Kaibo Bar & Grill & Cecil's
- o Over the Edge
- o Rum Point Restaurant

SOUTH:

- o Edoardos
- o Ristorante Ragazzi
- o Café Mediterraneo
- o Cimboco
- o Thai Orchid
- o Luca
- o Ragazzi
- o Mezza
- o Icoa



Tipping

Most restaurants and hotels automatically add a 10 to 15% service charge to the bill, otherwise a gratuity of the same amount is expected. At hotels, a 22% government tax is also usually added to the cost of your room. Taxi drivers expect a 10 to 15% tip.

BEFORE YOU GO

Register Your Trip

The United States State Department requests that U.S. citizens register their trip online with the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). Registration provides an added level of security to your trip in case something unexpected happens to you while abroad, or the area you are visiting experiences civil unrest. To register you will need to know your passport number, the countries you are traveling to, the dates traveling, and your emergency contact information.

Inform your bank that you will be using your debit and credit cards abroad. Otherwise, you may not be able to withdraw money while traveling.

If you intend to use your credit card, or debit cards, in the Cayman Islands, you should notify your bank (or card issuer) that you will be traveling to the Caribbean, and the dates of your travel. Many credit card companies will "block" credit cards if they see them being used outside the U.S. This can be extremely inconvenient for you.

Some credit cards will charge an additional percentage when you make purchases while traveling outside the U.S. This charge varies by issuer and may be called a currency exchange fee or a foreign transaction fee. If you expect to use a card while traveling outside of the U.S., look for a card that has a currency conversion method that is favorable to you.

Make a note of the credit limit on each credit card that you bring, and avoid charging over that limit while traveling. Americans have been arrested for innocently exceeding their credit limit. Ask your credit card company how to report the loss of your card from abroad. 1-800 numbers do not work from abroad, but your company should have a number that you can call while you are overseas.

WHAT TO PACK

Always try to travel light. You can move more quickly and will be more likely to have a free hand. You will also be less tired and less likely to set your luggage down, leaving it unattended. Paying for excess baggage is very expensive.

Personal Items

Besides the higher value of the Caymanian dollar, things are expensive on the island. Be sure to pack enough of all essential items so as to not have to pay premium prices on the island. This includes toiletries, sunscreen, cleaning products, etc. All extra items should be in new unopened packages to avoid delays in customs.

Clothing

Bring plenty of beachwear but be sure to wear it only on the beach. When leaving the beach, cover up. T-shirts and shorts are generally acceptable, but depending on where you go you may want to consider a few other styles. Always pack with a mind to light clothing, as you will be in a tropical climate, breathable clothes are best.

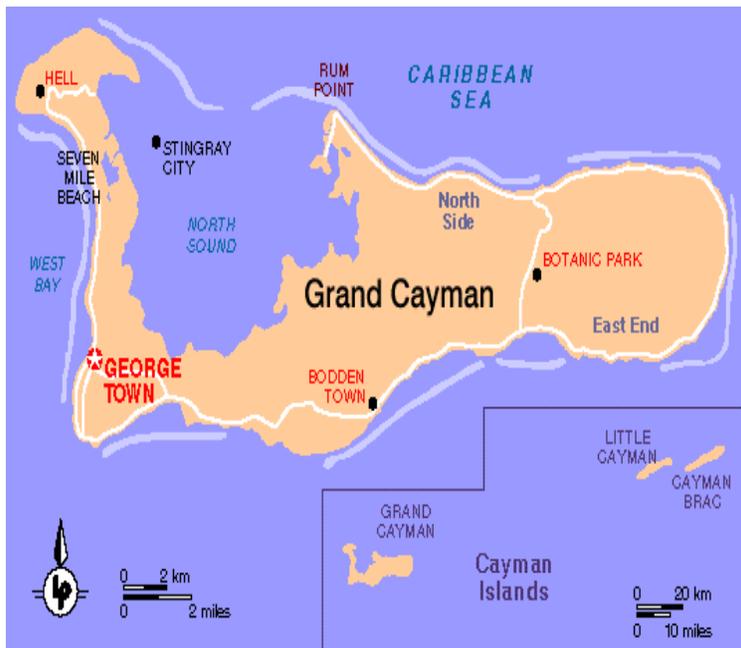
Remember that the Cayman Islands are a little bit conservative, especially when it comes to dress, and that light, tropical clothing is best.

- Safety begins when you pack. To help avoid becoming a target, do not dress so as to mark yourself as an affluent tourist. Expensive-looking jewelry, for instance, can draw the wrong attention.
- Carry the minimum number of valuables and plan places to conceal them. Your passport, cash, and credit cards are most secure when locked in a hotel safe. When you have to carry them on your person, you may wish to put them in various places rather than all in one wallet or pouch. Avoid handbags, fanny packs, and outside pockets that are easy targets for thieves. Inside pockets and a sturdy shoulder bag with the strap worn across your chest are somewhat safer. One of the safest places to carry valuables is in a pouch or money belt worn under your clothing.
- If you wear glasses, pack an extra pair. Bring them, and any medicines you need, in your carry-on luggage.
- To avoid problems when passing through customs, keep medicines in their original, labeled containers. Bring copies of your prescriptions and the generic names for the drugs. If a medication is unusual or contains narcotics, carry a letter from your doctor attesting to your need to take the drug. If you have any doubt about the legality of carrying a certain drug into a country, consult the embassy or consulate of that country before you travel.
- Bring travelers checks and one or two major credit cards instead of cash.
- Put your name, address and telephone numbers inside and outside of each piece of luggage. Use covered luggage tags to avoid casual observation of your identity or nationality. If possible, lock your luggage.
- Consider getting a telephone calling card. It is a convenient way of keeping in touch. If you have one, verify that you can use it from your overseas location(s). Access numbers to U.S. operators are published in many international newspapers. Find out your access number before you go.
- **Pack business attire.** You will visit law firms and meet local attorneys.
- Pack a change of clothes in carry-on luggage in case of luggage delay.
- A battery-run alarm clock to get you up for class!
- Basic classroom supplies (legal pads, pens, pencils, highlighters).

What to Leave Behind

- Don't bring anything you would hate to lose. Leave at home:
 - valuable or expensive-looking jewelry
 - irreplaceable family objects
 - all unnecessary credit cards
 - your Social Security card, library card, and similar items you may routinely carry in your wallet.
- Leave a copy of your itinerary with family or friends at home in case they need to contact you in an emergency.
- Make two photocopies of your passport identification page, airline tickets, driver's license and the credit cards that you plan to bring with you. Leave one photocopy of this data with family or friends at home; pack the other in a place separate from where you carry the originals.

USEFUL LINKS



<http://www.caymanislands.ky/>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Cayman
<http://www.caymangoodtaste.com/>
<http://caymanislands-guide.info/travel.basics/>
<http://www.caymanonline.com/info/contacts/index.shtml>