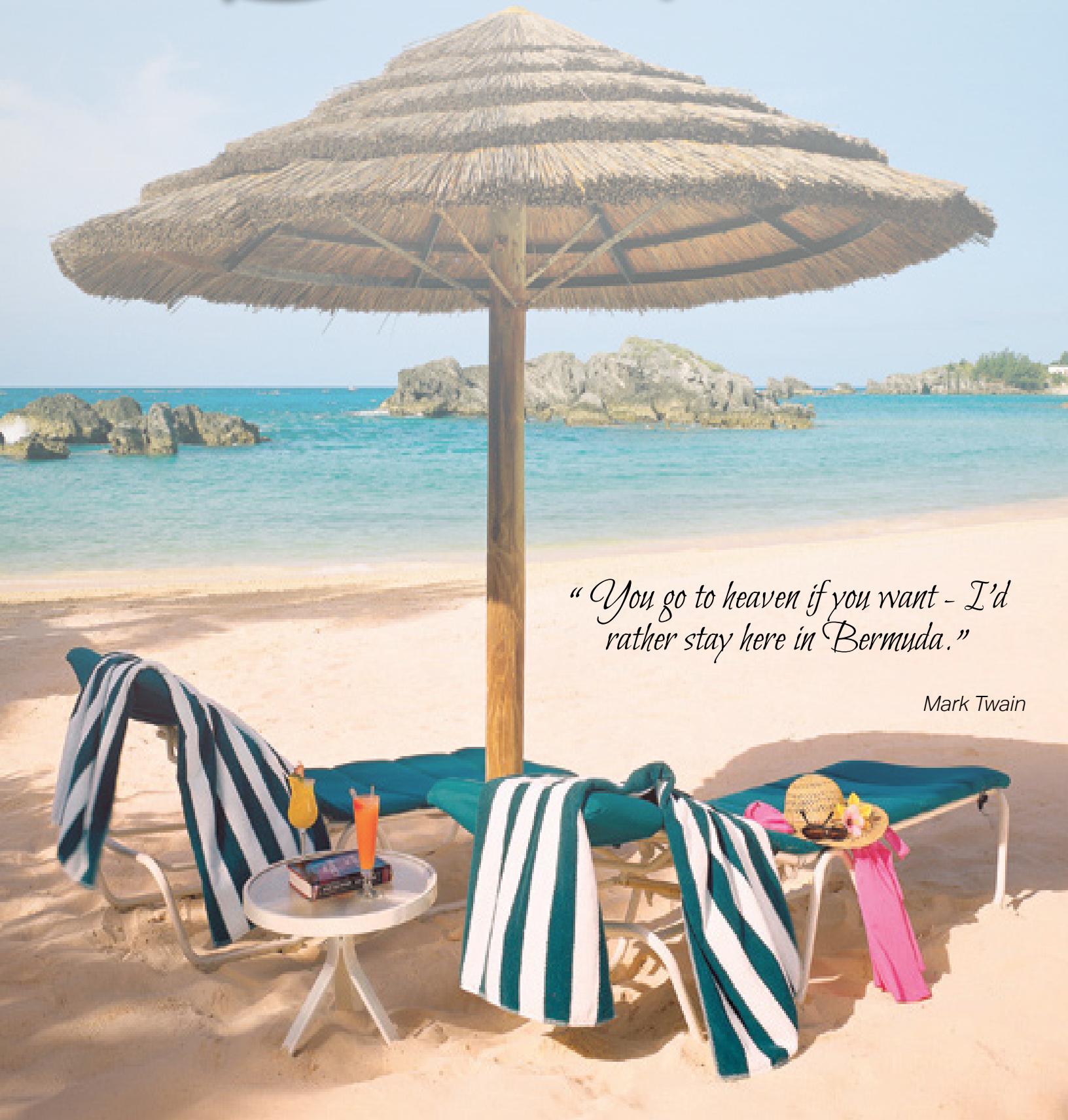
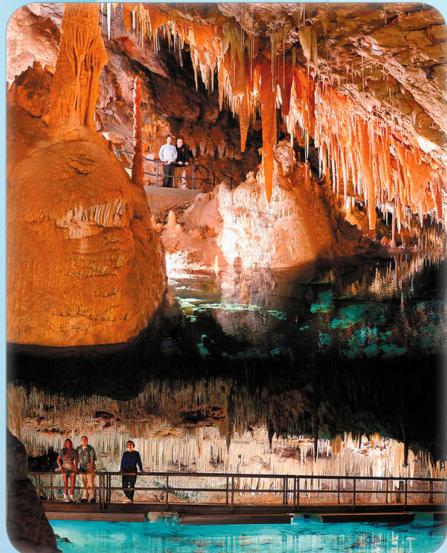
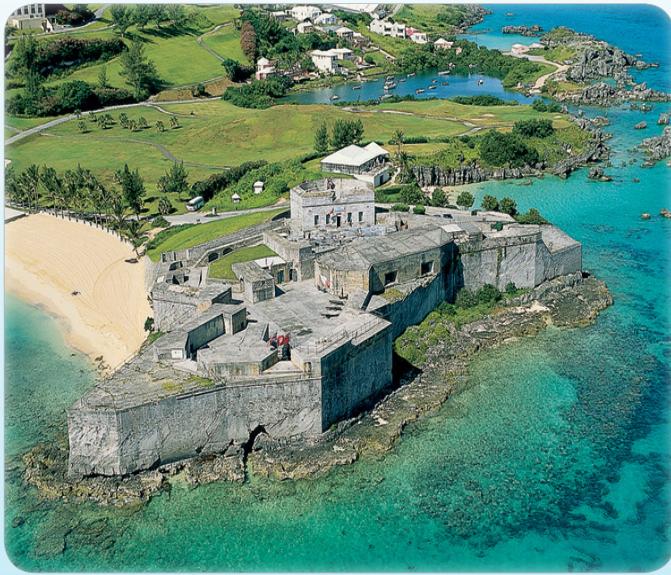


Bermuda



"You go to heaven if you want - I'd rather stay here in Bermuda."

Mark Twain



Clockwise from top left: kayaks on Bermuda's famous turquoise blue water; Fort St. Catherine & Museum; Horseshoe Bay Beach; snorkeling in Snorkel Bay; Fairmont Southampton Golf Course; Crystal Caves

Bermuda Basics

Know Before You Go:

- Passports are required, and you must have a round-trip ticket or other proof of onward transportation.
- Legal tender is the Bermuda dollar, which trades at the same rate as the US dollar. Merchants accept either, but change is given in Bermuda dollars.
- Rental cars are not available on the island, so plan on renting a scooter (called a bike by Bermudians), riding a "pedal bike," or taking public transportation.
- Bermuda is a self-governing territory of the United Kingdom; and like the mother country, vehicles travel in the left lanes. Roundabouts are common and traffic travels clockwise.
- Yes, men really do wear Bermuda shorts to the office! If you are so inclined, Bermuda shorts are also perfectly acceptable when dining out at a nice restaurant.

Many people mistakenly believe Bermuda is a part of the Caribbean. In fact, it is located hundreds of miles north of the Bahamas in an astoundingly beautiful stretch of the Atlantic, about 650 miles off the coast of North Carolina. Bermuda can be reached by plane from most east coast United States cities in under three hours.

Bermuda is approximately 21 square miles – about one-fourth the size of Washington DC. It consists of some 180 islands, most uninhabitable; the largest eight of which are

connected by bridges and causeways. Altogether, Bermuda features 75 miles of pristine beaches and dramatic coastlines.

Because Bermuda is located in the Atlantic, not the Caribbean, the country is warmed by the sun's rays but free of the tropics' relentless heat. In the hottest part of the year, May through October, high temperatures range between 75°F and 85°F while the winter temperatures average a balmy 70°F.



If you rent a scooter, and you really should, remember to drive on the LEFT side of the road. And don't forget your helmet — they're required.

Water Sports



Diving and snorkeling are popular activities.

Whatever water sport you crave, we've got you covered.

Explore the underwater world of Bermuda. Visit the many shipwrecks around the island or experience the beautiful coral reefs and see some of the ocean life that surrounds the island. Choose a scuba dive, snorkeling adventure, or a helmet dive!



Whether you're new to underwater adventuring, or have years of experience, you will find a tour company that will be happy to assist you in finding the right activity for you.

Or stay on the water's surface with a kayak, sailboat, jet ski, or motorboat rental. Guided Eco-tours are popular

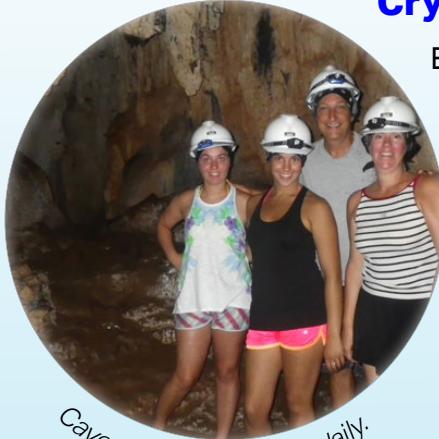
with many travelers and are offered by many vendors on the island.



A catamaran cruises past the beach. boat cruise or one of the many water taxis that will get you from place to place in style. Go whale watching on one of our most exciting excursions.

Maybe fishing is your thing. There are numerous charter boats and fishing guides that are just waiting to help you reel in the big one.

Crystal and Fantasy Caves



Cave tours are available daily.

Explore deep, clear underground pools of azure blue water and incredible formations of every size and shape imaginable. Cave ceilings are adorned with rare chandelier clusters and delicate crystallized soda straws. Each cave is uniquely beautiful and is a new adventure to discover.

Attractions

Whale Watching

Bermuda's wild beauty comes to life in springtime, when majestic whales make their annual arrival to our crystal waters. Be one of the lucky ones to witness the northern parade of playful Humpback and other whale species. Although different species are often observed, the most commonly seen are the aerobic Humpback whales.

With their tendency to breach, fin slap, wave their tails, and sometimes do the back float, they are the stars of the show. And as if to toot their own horns, they often shoot streams of water up to 12 feet in the air!



A Humpback whale breaches the surface.

Pirate Adventure



The pirate cruise is a popular choice for families.

Arrr! The Pirate Adventure is a nighttime cruise, where you will be entertained with exciting stories of how privateering was both legal and encouraged on the island. Cruise out to Pirates Point, where legendary pirates once lured unsuspecting ships with false lighting, only to steal their valuable treasures.

West Whale Bay Beach

Located at the western end of Southampton Parish, West Whale Beach offers a calm, scenic escape with craggy cliffs surrounding a stretch of Bermuda's classic pink sand. Its name comes from the fact that it was near the island's whaling grounds in the 18th century. Happily, whaling is long gone from these shores – but West Whale Beach remains one of the best places to spot migrating humpback whales in the spring.



Any beach is a good beach for morning yoga.

Horseshoe Bay Beach

Due to its captivating beauty and gorgeous pink sand, Horseshoe Bay Beach is probably the most photographed beach in Bermuda, and rightly so!

From small children, to senior citizens, its wide appeal makes Horseshoe Bay a must see when visiting Bermuda. With an adjacent kiddy beach, and its low tide, Horseshoe is definitely a spot for the entire family.

The expansive horseshoe-shaped beach is bordered by natural limestone cliffs and large reefs where snorkelers can explore the large variety of fish and sea life.

Not a fan of water activities? Go for a jog, play volleyball or just kick back on the sand. When hunger strikes you, do not fret. There is a concession stand fully stocked with a variety goodies. Horseshoe Bay is also home to BeachFest, the country's largest beach party which takes place every summer as part of Cup Match celebrations.

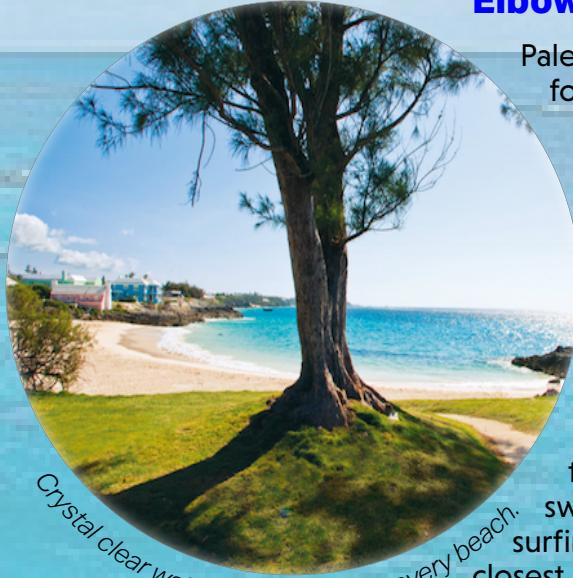


One of the many pocket-coves along the beaches.

John Smith's Bay Beach

Captain John Smith led quite a life – he was renowned as a soldier, author, explorer of the New World, and most famously as the paramour of Pocahontas. But in Bermuda he's remembered primarily as a cartographer. Smith drew some of the first maps of the island. And for his efforts, Bermudians named a beach and bay after him.

Beautiful Beaches



Crystal clear waters are a staple at every beach.

Elbow Beach

Pale pink sand stretches for almost one mile at this lovely beach, which has a gentle curve like an elbow. And because of the protective coral reefs that surround it, Elbow Beach hosts one of the calmest shores on the island, perfect for swimming and body surfing. This is one of the closest beaches to the City of Hamilton.



Explore the many pocket covers along Bermuda's beaches.

Tobacco Bay Beach

This beach earned its name when survivors of the Sea Venture discovered tobacco growing here. Now the key thing to notice is the unusual limestone formations off the shoreline, a haven for parrotfish and sergeant majors. This most popular beach in St. George's parish offers equipment rentals and a snack bar.

More to Explore



Private yachts dock at the Dockyard.

Royal Navy Dockyard

As you visit Bermuda's Royal Naval Dockyard, the sweep of history is all around you in the fine old stone buildings, wharves, and fortifications. You step back in time to the era of the British Empire, when Britannia ruled over the waves. Over 150 years of service as the bastion of

Royal Naval might in the Western Atlantic, this dockyard launched ships that changed history.

Today you will find quaint shops and restaurants in the vicinity, and the Dockyard is host to many festivals and events.



South Shore

Picture limestone bluffs, spectacular coves, natural trails, and some of the most famous pink sand beaches in the world. Now you can begin to see why South Shore is a photographer's paradise.

The trail along the cliff offers a breathtaking view of the ocean. Walk along the beach and come across tiny semi-secluded coves that feel like private enclaves. Each is a delight, and there is something wonderful about having a small pristine Bermuda beach all to one's self. Go for a dip, or sit at the edge of a bluff at night and count your lucky stars.



Visit the Gibbs Hill Lighthouse for an aerial view of the South Shore.

St. George

The Town of St. George is the oldest continuously occupied town of English origin in the new world. In fact, Bermuda's first people were the shipwrecked survivors of the Jamestown bound British ship the Sea Venture!

Today visitors can view picturesque cottages, quaint lanes and alleyways and a wealth of historic architecture. The town and surrounding fortifications were recently designated a World Heritage site by UNESCO.



Replica of the Deliverance in St. George.

Hamilton

A picturesque harbor city graced with shops, museums, galleries and gardens, Hamilton is Bermuda's capital city and the hub of international and local businesses.

Take a walk through this historic town and take in the sea breezes, harbor views, and the pastel palette of shops, galleries and restaurants. Enjoy the intoxicating gardens, historic churches, and interactive aquarium and zoo, all conveniently located in Hamilton and nearby parishes.



Pastel building lining Main Street, Hamilton.

Bermuda All Year Long

No matter what time of year you visit, you're sure to find memorable special events taking place. From festivals to yacht races, golf and fishing tournaments to fashion shows, there's something for everyone. Here's a rundown of some of the most popular annual events:

- **January:** Runners flock to the island for **Bermuda Marathon Weekend**, featuring a 10K, half marathon, and full marathon. The Bermuda Triangle Challenge dares runners to complete a one mile fun run on Friday, the 10K on Saturday, and a half or full marathon on Sunday.



Bermuda Day festivities.

- **March:** Watch the skies over Horseshoe Bay Beach fill with colorful handmade kites during the **Bermuda Kite Festival**. Prizes are awarded in categories such as most innovative kite and ugliest kite.

- **May through August:** **Harbor Nights** are Bermuda's best weekly street parties! On summer Wednesdays, Front Street in the City of Hamilton is closed to traffic as restaurants and vendors line the streets, and Bermuda Gomeys dance up a storm.

- **May:** **Bermuda Day** ushers in the official start of summer in Bermuda. This national holiday is a fun-filled celebration of culture, highlighted by a parade with dazzling floats, food vendors, and a dance party in the streets.

- **June:** The **Annapolis Bermuda Ocean Race** covers 753 miles, making it the longest ocean race on the east coast of the US. Watch the boats as they race toward the finish line under full sail.

- **July:** The **Lionfish Tournament** is a chance to reduce the population of this non-native fish that is poised to cause serious damage to reefs and native fish populations.



One of Bermuda's beautiful golf courses.

- **July:** Centered around the cricket match between two island rivals, St George's and Somerset, **Cup Match + Summer Splash** includes concerts, dance parties, and lots of food and drink.
- **December:** The **Good Will Golf Tournament** is the oldest Pro-Am tournament in the world, with teams from the US, Canada, and England all participating against gorgeous coastal backdrops.
- **New Year's Eve:** While Americans watch the ball drop in Times Square, Bermudians celebrate a little differently. Instead of a ball drop, thousands gather in the Old Town of St. George for the traditional **Onion Drop** amidst fireworks, live entertainment and revelry. It's an unforgettable way to ring in the New Year.