

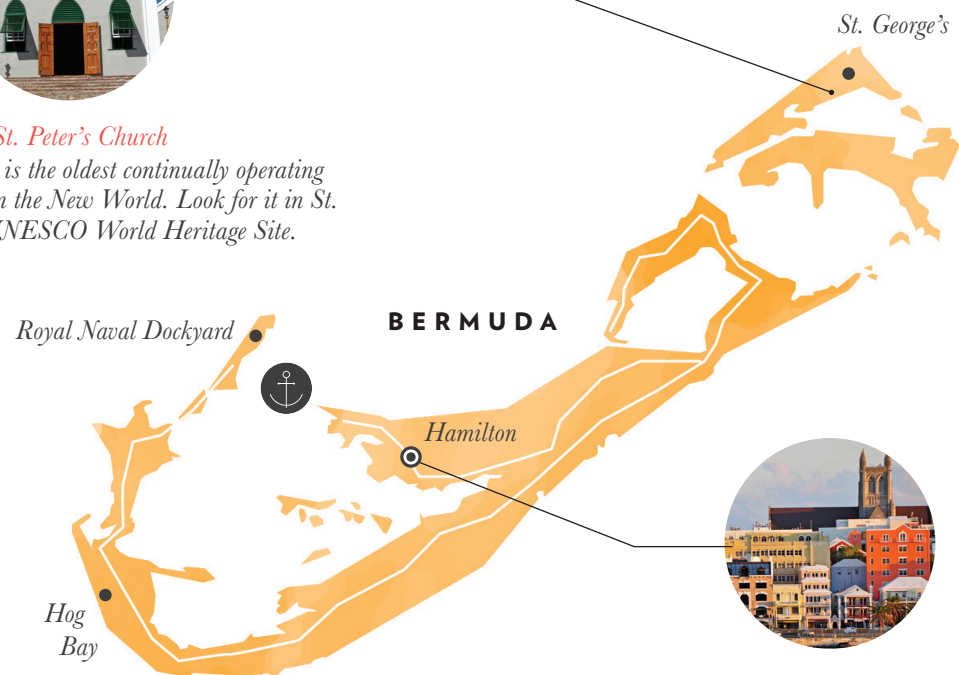
BEST TO EXPLORE

BERMUDA IS KNOWN FOR ITS PINK-SAND BEACHES, CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF COURSES, AND MORE THAN 300 SHIPWRECK SITES FOR THE WORLD'S BEST DIVING.



St. Peter's Church

Built in 1612, it is the oldest continually operating Anglican church in the New World. Look for it in St. George's, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



St. George's



Hamilton

The colonial capital is the international and local business center, where quaint boutiques, historic buildings, churches, museums, and galleries abound.

Mark Twain once said, "You can go to heaven if you want. I'd rather stay in Bermuda." Upon arrival on Bermuda, it's easy to see why. Although it's only 21 miles long and 1.75 miles at its widest point, the island paradise boasts nearly 75 miles of impeccable coastline surrounded by sparkling turquoise waters. The sophisticated British overseas territory, with art galleries, craft markets, and historic fortresses, is as rich in culture as it is in natural beauty—with a whole lot of pink.

In 1809, the British Navy purchased 200 acres of land to build the Royal Naval Dockyard, which was to be its largest naval facility outside of Britain. Today, it is one of Bermuda's most visited sites. Maritime Lane runs around the far end of the dockyard, which is where you'll find an array of local artisans and exhibitions. Bermuda's signature arts and crafts are referred to as Bermudiana, which consists of everything from handcrafted jewelry and cedarwood trinkets to miniature ceramic cottages and polished sharks' teeth set in 14-karat gold.

Visit the Bermuda Arts Centre, Bermuda Clayworks, Dockyard Glassworks, Bermuda Rum Cake Company, and Bermuda Craft Market to watch local artisans hard at work perfecting their crafts. Soothing watercolor paintings that recreate the bountiful natural surroundings of land and sea are also extremely popular. Other souvenir favorites include Bermuda's own Black Seal Rum and, of course, Bermuda shorts.

Set within a six-acre fortress at the edge of the dockyard is the National Museum of Bermuda. Visitors can explore 500 years of local history and tour historic buildings, including old munitions warehouses and the superbly restored Commissioner's House.

Climb aboard the Dockyard Trolley Train to get a complete tour of the dockyard. Pass by sites including Lagoon Park, the Clocktower Centre, and the Royal Naval Cemetery. The cemetery is the oldest and largest of its kind. It is enclosed in a protected valley with rows of plaques, marble obelisks, and tombs paying homage to naval officers from



GET READY FOR ADVENTURE

DOLPHIN EXPERIENCE: It will be love at first sight with this shallow and deepwater dolphin interaction. Half the time you will be sitting on a submerged platform where the friendly creatures can swim right up to your lap. The other half takes place in deeper water where you'll wear a snorkeling mask as these playful animals swim under and around you.



as early as 1819. Horse-drawn carriages are another fun way to see the dockyard and its surrounding area.

Bermuda's stunning unspoiled beauty continues to be protected by the world's first-ever environmental laws, which date back to the seventeenth century. The former British colony has further embraced its historical eco-movement by banning things such as car rentals and smoking in public places.

Bikers and hikers can safely explore the islands via the original Bermuda Railway Trail, a scenic path that is now restricted to bicyclists and pedestrians. Organized bike tours are a wonderful way to get in some active sightseeing while discovering various points of interest along the way.

Hamilton, Bermuda's capital, is a charming colonial town jam-packed with historic buildings, churches, museums, galleries, and gardens. The city is easily accessible from the dockyard via the SeaExpress ferry or by a scenic drive

through Bermuda's south shore. The land route takes you across Somerset Bridge, the smallest working drawbridge in the world, first built in 1620.

Along the way, there's also an opportunity to stop to relish breathtaking views from the historic Gibbs Hill Lighthouse, thought to be one of the oldest cast-iron lighthouses in the world. The iconic landmark houses a small museum that highlights stories of Bermuda's seafaring past.

The third major city of interest on Bermuda is St. George's, the island's original capital, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. St. George's is exceedingly well preserved, boasting historic forts, homes, and the oldest Anglican church in the Western Hemisphere.

Located 120 feet below ground, Crystal Caves is one of the largest cave systems in Bermuda. The dramatic stalactites and stalagmites will astonish and inspire; it's no wonder it's one of Bermuda's top visitor attractions. ●

SHOP ASHORE



WHERE: Royal Naval Dockyard, Hamilton, and St. George's. **WHAT:** Upscale stores, one-of-a-kind boutiques, souvenir shops, and retail centers.



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