

BARBADOS

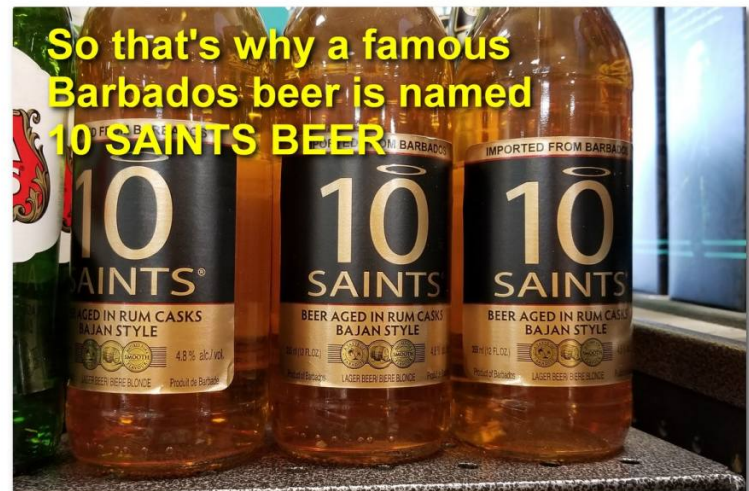
Presentation by Paul Pacter

www.PaulVisits.com

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Barbados

- **An island:** In the Lesser Antilles.
- **Divided into:** 11 parishes.
- **Motto:** "Pride and Industry".
- **Capital:** Bridgetown.
- **Population:** 282,000 (2024).



- **Area:** 164 sq mi. RI smallest state is 1,545 sq mi.
- **Approximate dimensions:** 21 miles x 14 miles.
- **Mainly flat.** Some hills in northeast.
- **Highest point:** Mt Hillaby 1,120 ft.

Two seasons:

- **Wet:** June to November. Average temp. 73 to 88F.
- **Dry:** December to May. Average temp. 70-88 F.
- **Hurricane season:** June to November. But gets few hurricanes.

- **Water:** Source is coral rock underground. Safe.
- **Time:** Atlantic time zone. One hour ahead of Eastern. But no daylight-saving time. So same as Eastern late March-Nov.
- **Visas:** Not required for US.

Name Barbados

From the Portuguese "os barbados" - the bearded ones. Could mean:

- Long, hanging roots of the island's bearded fig trees, or
- Beards of the native Carib inhabitants.

Locals call Barbados Bim, defined in the Oxford English Dictionary as a noun with the meaning "a native or inhabitant of Barbados".



Bearded Fig Tree (Ficus Citrifolia) for which Barbados is named.

- **Official language:** English.
- **In everyday life people also speak:** Bajan Creole. Pronounced Ba'zhan. Mostly unintelligible to English speakers.
- **Demonyms:** Barbadian or Bajan.

Ethnic groups

- **Black:** 92%.
- **Multiracial:** 3%.
- **White:** 3%.
- **East Indian:** 1%.
- **Other:** 1%.

Religion

- Christian: 76% (half Anglican).
- Other: 3%.
- None: 21%. (Most born Christian).

Median age: 41.4 (USA 38.9).

Literacy rate: Close to 100%.

Life expectancy:

- Men 76, Women 81.

National holiday: Independence Day, November 30 (1966).

Flag: Adopted 1966 at independence.

Blue: Sea and sky.

Yellow: Gold of the beaches.

Trident: Independence.



Constitutional Parliamentary Republic.

Within Commonwealth of Nations.

Republic established Nov 30, 2021.

- President replaced British monarch as head of state.

Bicameral Legislature:

- Senate.
- House of Assembly.

President:
Dame Sandra Mason
(since Nov 30, 2021)



Prime Minister:
Mia Mottley
(appointed 2018)



President: Is elected by an electoral college of both Houses of Parliament for a 4-year renewable term.

Prime Minister: Is appointed by the President. Usually the leader of the majority party or leader of the majority coalition.

So neither President nor PM is directly elected by the people.

Bicameral Legislature:

Senate: 21 members appointed by President as follows:

- 12 on advice of Prime Minister.
- 7 on advice of Majority Party.
- 2 on advice of Opposition Party.

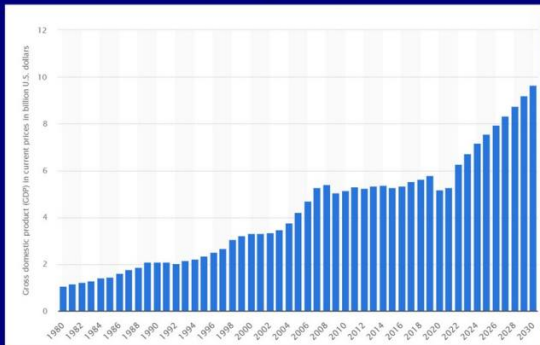
House of Assembly: 30 members directly elected by people.



Economy

- **1600s to 1970s:** dependent on sugarcane and related activities. But this is now in steep decline.
- **Since late 1970s:** diversified into manufacturing, tourism, offshore finance, and information services.
- **GDP per capita:** US\$19,900 2024 est, PPP.

Gross domestic product (GDP) Barbados 1980 to 2030 (2024-30 Projected) (in billion US dollars)



<https://www.statista.com/statistics/533703/gross-domestic-product-gdp-in-barbados/>

Currency:

- Barbadian dollar.
- Symbol: Bds\$.
- Pegged to US\$: **US\$1 = Bds\$2.**



Errol Barrow, Statesman



Sir Frank Worrell, Cricket Hero

Miscellaneous

- **Barbados Wildlife:**
 - Nesting turtles.
 - Green monkeys.
- **Barbados has no significant rivers or lakes.** Only a few streams, springs, and ponds.
- **Drive:** On left (British).



History - 1

4th c: Inhabited by Amerindians from South America.

1627: First permanent settlers arrived from England.

1630s: First African slaves arrived.

1640: Sugar cane farming introduced from Brazil. Economic success. Made profitable by slave labor.

History - 2

1640s-1807: Prosperity due to slave labor and trade.

1807: Slave trade outlawed.

1833: Emancipation.

1831: Great Hurricane. Bridgetown leveled. 1,500 died.

1946 to 1980: One-third of population emigrated to England.

History - 3

30 Nov 1966: Barbados became an independent state in the British Commonwealth with the British monarch as hereditary head of state.

30 Nov 2021: Barbados became a parliamentary republic with an indirectly elected president as head of state and an appointed prime minister as head of government.

Great Barbados Hurricane of 1831

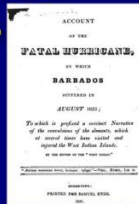
Left cataclysmic damage across the Caribbean and Louisiana.

2,500 died in all.

1,500 dead in Barbados.

Bridgetown was levelled.

Most of the 11 Parish Churches in Barbados were destroyed.



140,000 people – around half of Barbados's 280,000 people – live in the capital, Bridgetown.



Bridgetown Barbados

Independence Arch

Built 1987.

Commemorates independence in 1966.



Barbados Parliament Buildings Bridgetown 1871

Parliament Museum: Open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 10 am to 4 pm, and Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm.



St Michael's Anglican Cathedral

Bridgetown

Built 1789

Seats 1600



St Michael's Cathedral Cemetery





**St Mary's Anglican Church
Bridgetown – 1825**



**Bridgetown – population 140,000
(half of Barbados total).
Next biggest towns:
– Speightstown – pop. 3,600.
– Oistins – pop. 2,300.**



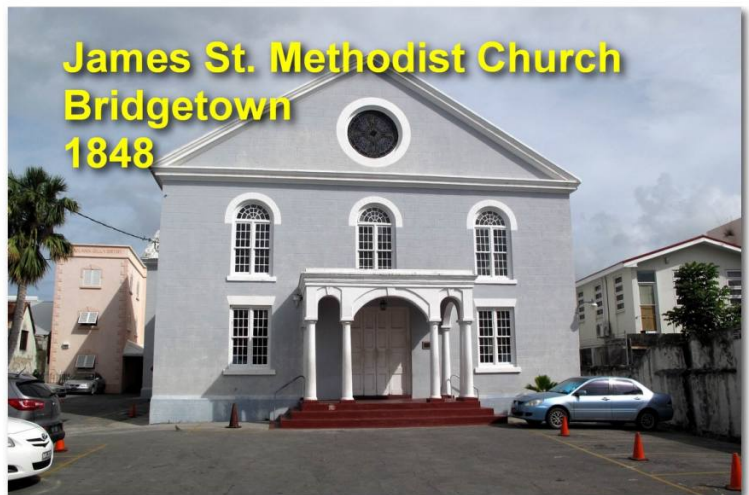
Bridgetown



Bridgetown



**War Memorial
Monument
Bridgetown**

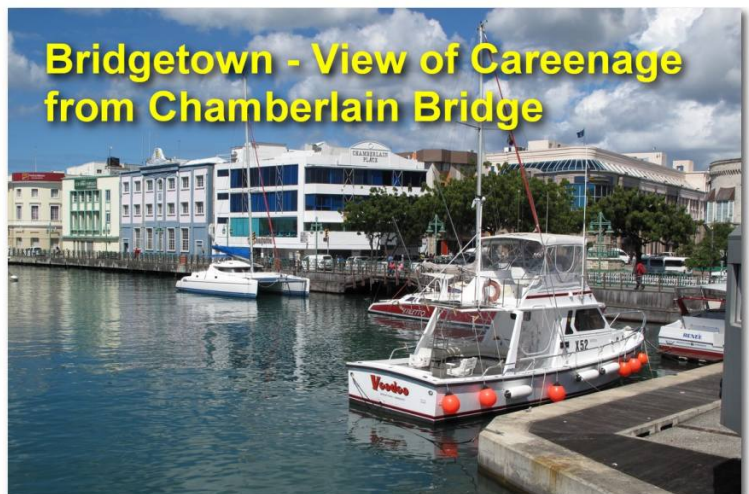


**James St. Methodist Church
Bridgetown
1848**

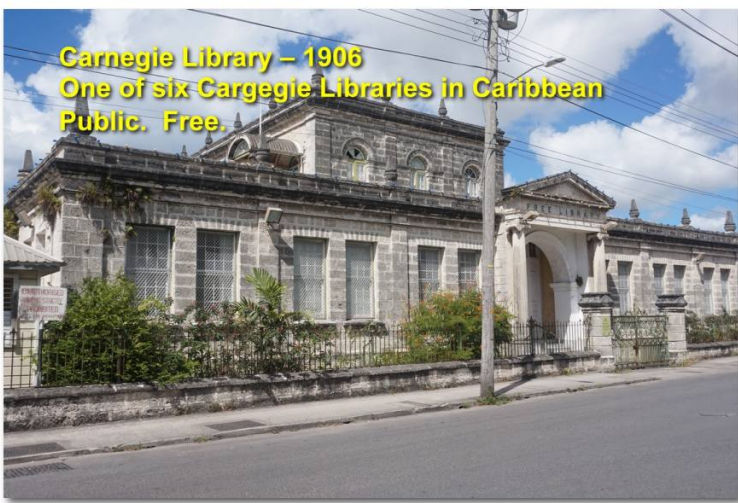


**Bridgetown
The Careenage**

**Careenage: Steep, sandy shore
on which a ship can be tilted (by
the tide) for cleaning or repairs.**



**Bridgetown - View of Careenage
from Chamberlain Bridge**



Carnegie Library – 1906
One of six Cargegie Libraries in Caribbean
Public. Free.



Dolphin Monument and Fountain
Built 1865 to
commemorate new
piped water
system built
1861.



Bethel Methodist Church
Bridgetown
1844



**Bronze statue
of Admiral
Horatio Nelson
at Heroes'
Square –
erected in 1812.**

**Erected 30
years before
Nelson's
statue in
Trafalgar
Square
London.**

**In 2020, the statue was removed from the city centre and
relocated to the Barbados Museum & Historical Society.**



Cheapside Market

**Second floor is clothing,
crafts, and a cooked food hall**

**\$3.00 Bds =
US\$1.50**

**Bitter Marrow
White Eggplant**

Malanga (root veg.)



Ochra (local spelling) at Cheapside Market



Cheapside Market
Aubergines (eggplant), gourds, cucumbers



Mutual Life Assurance Society Building
Bridgetown – Ornate Victorian
1895

A photograph showing four cruise ships docked at a terminal. The ships are numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4 from left to right. Ship 1 is a large white ship with a yellow crane structure next to it. Ship 2 is a smaller white ship. Ship 3 is a smaller white ship. Ship 4 is a smaller white ship. The ships are docked at a pier with a yellow crane structure. The water is blue and the sky is cloudy.

February 2020: Four Cruise Ships in Barbados Cruise Terminal At the Same Time


1 2 3 4

Walk directly from the cruise terminal into downtown Bridgetown

**No Tenders.
No Visas.
No Taxis.**

**No Tenders.
No Visas.
No Taxis.**

Atlantis Submarine
You take a boat from shore to the sub.

A white Atlantis submarine is shown on the water. The name "Atlantis" is visible on the conning tower. The submarine has a blue and white wave-like logo on its side. It is surrounded by a metal railing. In the background, a coastline with buildings and trees is visible under a cloudy sky.

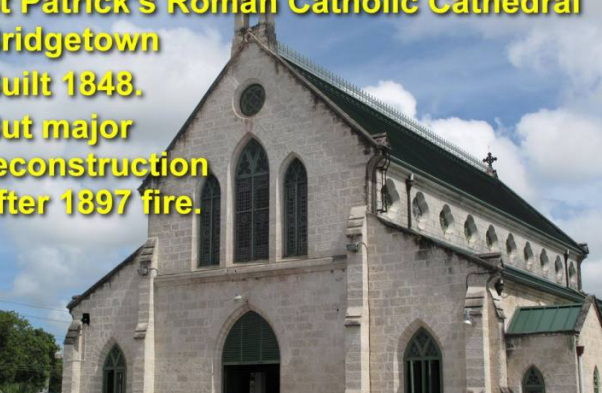
Atlantis Submarine – Barbados

**Fairchild St Bus Terminal
Bridgetown**

[illegible]

A photograph showing the interior of the Bluebird II submersible. Several passengers are seated in rows, looking out through large, circular, blue-tinted viewports. The cabin is white and has a curved ceiling. The text "6 foot high air conditioned cabin. View ports are 2 feet diameter each." is overlaid in yellow at the top of the image.

**St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral
Bridgetown
Built 1848.
But major
reconstruction
after 1897 fire.**

A photograph of the exterior of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral in Bridgetown, Barbados. The building is constructed from light-colored stone and features Gothic Revival architecture, including a prominent central spire, large arched windows, and a series of smaller arched windows along the side. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. In the foreground, the tops of several cars and a few people are visible, indicating the cathedral is a public space.

**Other direction
sign says
"Out of City".
Easy to get
around by
bus.**



**We took a bus ride.
Barbados buses are easy to use.
Clean, safe, efficient, inexpensive.**

Jews arrived in Barbados in 1627.

- Mostly from Brazil.
- Started sugar cane industry.
- Nidhe Israel Synagogue (Bridgetown): **Oldest Jewish synagogue in the Americas. Dates from 1654. Current structure built 1833 replacing one ruined by the hurricane of 1831.**
- Cemetery dates from the 1630s.
- Site deserted in 1929. Restored by the Jewish community beginning in 1986.



Nidhe Israel Synagogue
Original 1654
Major hurricane damage 1831
Rebuilt 1833



Nidhe Israel Synagogue
Interior – Altar



Nidhe Israel Museum
History of Jewish people in Barbados
Building is made of cut coral blocks



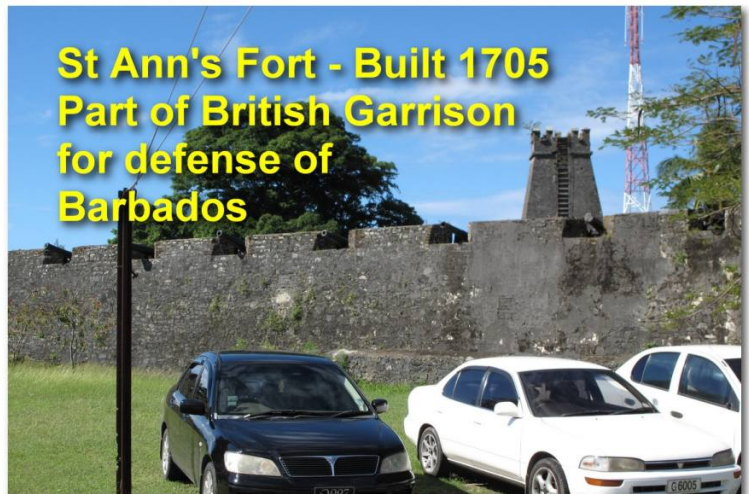
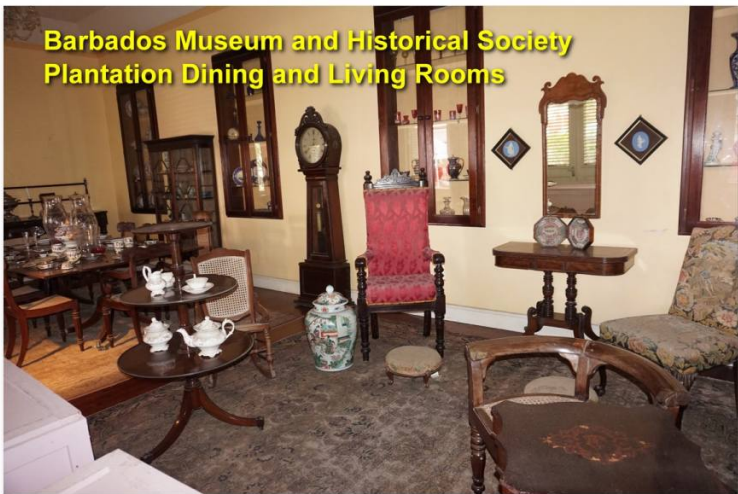
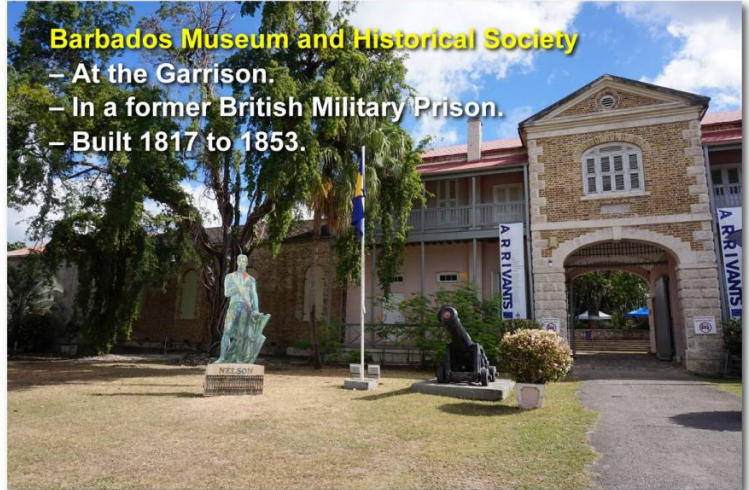
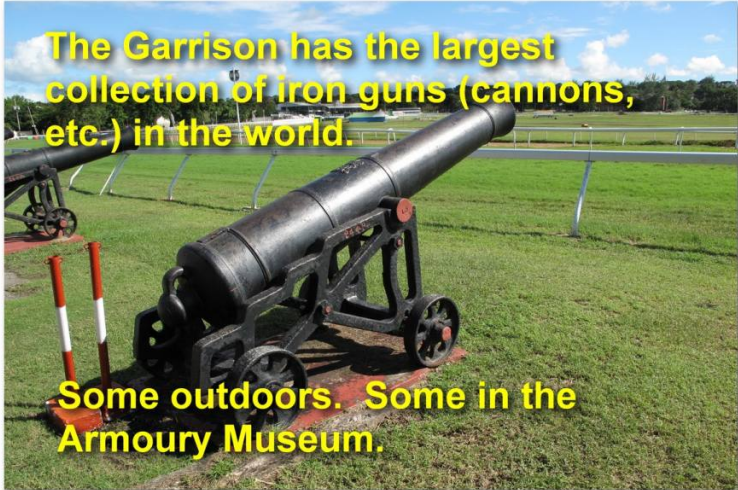
Entry to a 17th century Mikvah
(Jewish ritual bath) discovered by
an archaeological dig at Nidhe Israel
Synagogue in 2008



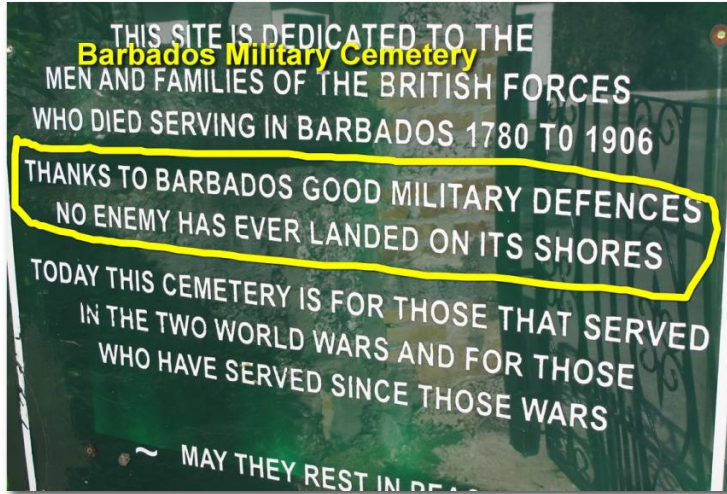
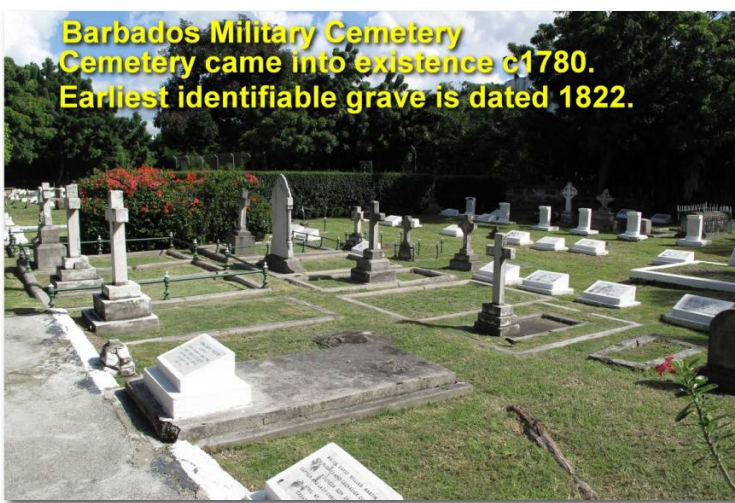
Nidhe Israel Synagogue Cemetery

By 1700s, over 4,000 British troops in Barbados. Protect British investment.

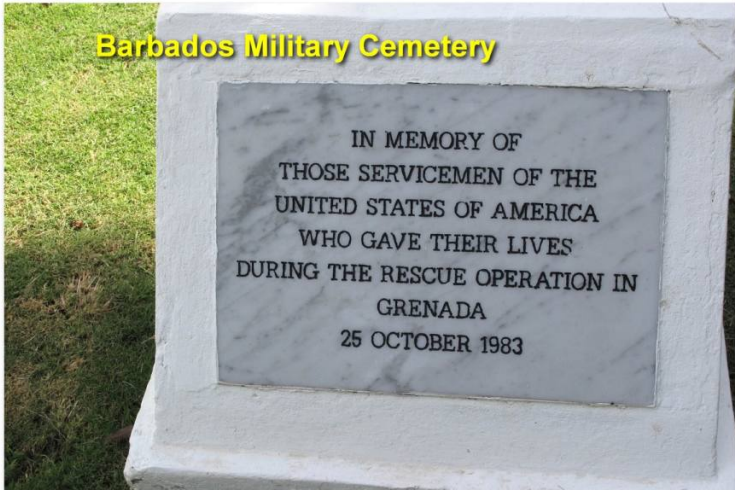
- By 1660, Barbados had more trade than all other English colonies combined.
- Bridgetown was one of the three largest cities in English America (other two were Boston, Mass. and Port Royal, Jamaica).
- By 1700, the English West Indies produced 25,000 tons of sugar, compared to 20,000 for Brazil, 10,000 for French islands and 4,000 for Dutch islands.



Barbados Military Cemetery
Cemetery came into existence c1780.
Earliest identifiable grave is dated 1822.



Barbados Military Cemetery



Garrison Savannah Race Track
Year-round. Mostly Saturdays.



George Washington House

The only time Washington left what would become the USA was in 1751, age 19, when he and his half-brother Lawrence rented a house in Barbados for 6 weeks to try to cure Lawrence of tuberculosis. It was unsuccessful, and Lawrence died the next year. The house and related museum and tunnels are open to view.

George Washington House
Built 18th C
Also called Bush Hill House
In The Garrison area of Bridgetown

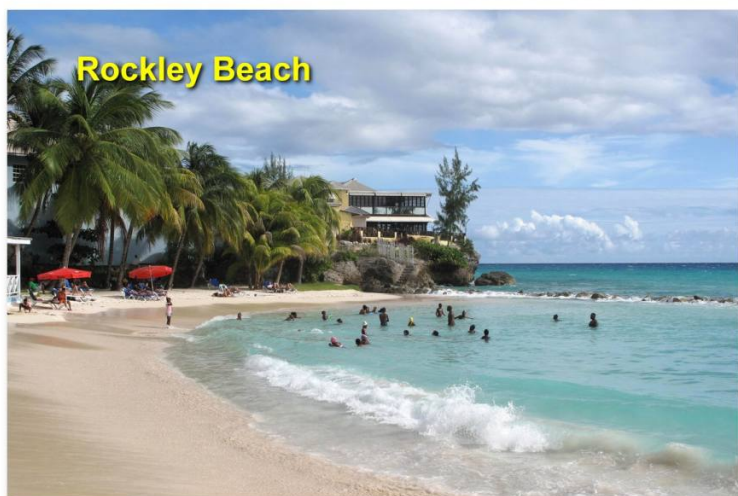
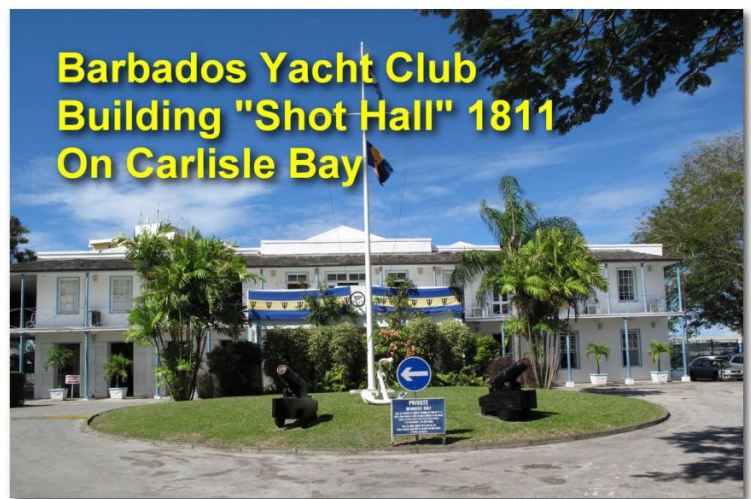


George Washington's Bed in Barbados



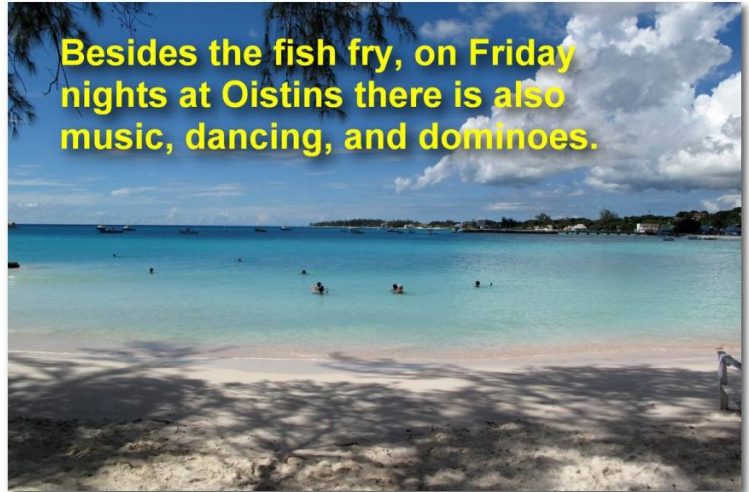
Lawrence Washington's Bedroom in Barbados



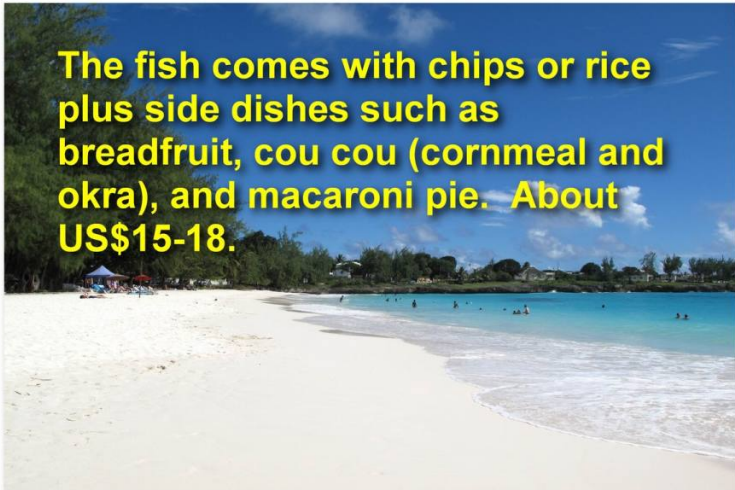




Town of Oistins
Famous for its Friday night fish fry.



Besides the fish fry, on Friday nights at Oistins there is also music, dancing, and dominoes.



The fish comes with chips or rice plus side dishes such as breadfruit, cou cou (cornmeal and okra), and macaroni pie. About US\$15-18.



Oistins Fish and Vegetable Market
– Open every day.
– Fresh-caught fish.
– Friday nights fish fry and music.



The sweet potatoes may have red skin, but the flesh inside is white (like a russet or Idaho potato). They taste like sweet potatoes.



Pawpaws (Papayas)

Pomelos in Barbados are called Shaddock



Barbados Flying Fish

Sold cleaned in packs of 10. On BD\$1 coin.



Dolphin Fish (aka Mahi Mahi or Dorado)

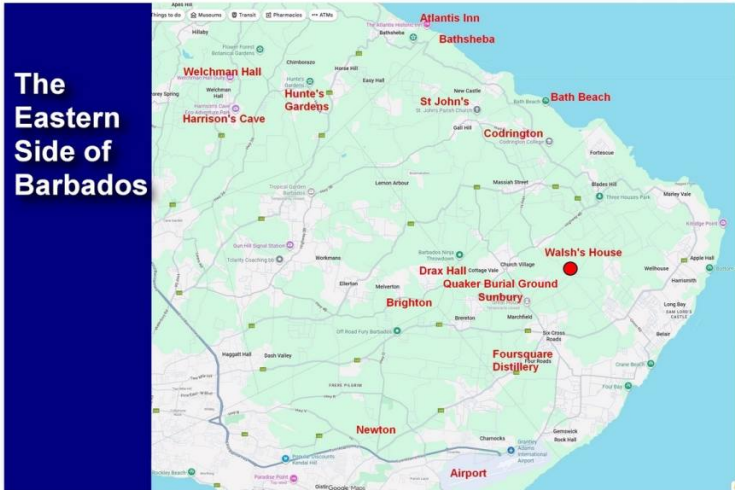
\$50 = Barbados Dollars. US\$ = 1/2 of Bds\$.



Slicing Swordfish in Oistins Market



**Red Snapper
Oistins Market
Fish in the market
are fresh caught**



**The
Eastern
Side of
Barbados**

Grantley Adams Airport, Barbados

This little country of under 300,000 people has non-stop flights from the following cities (several seasonal):

Miami New York Charlotte Philadelphia Atlanta Boston	London UK Manchester UK Birmingham UK Dublin Frankfurt	Toronto Montreal Caracas Panama City Several Caribbean Countries
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Quaker Burial Ground - St Philip Parish 1670

QUAKER BURIAL GROUND
c. 1670

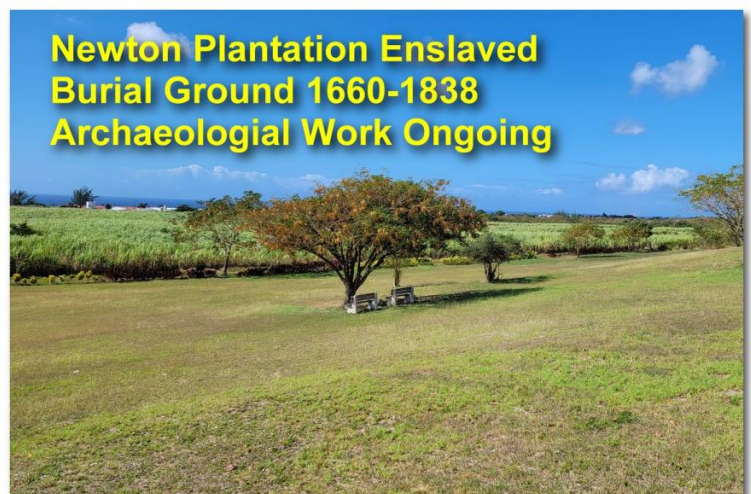
- 17th century around 500 of 20,000 white Barbados residents were Quakers.
- In late 17th c. 5 Quaker meeting houses and burial grounds in Barbados.
- In 17th c. Quakers were slave owners.
- By mid- 18th c. Quakers had rejected slavery.
- Their anti-slavery views made them enemies of plantation owners. Some were imprisoned.
- Last Quakers left Barbados 1790s.
- All of the meeting houses are now gone.



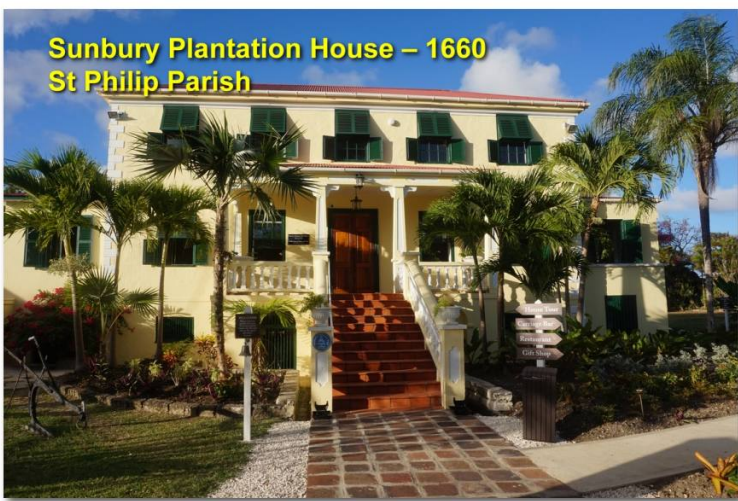
Quaker Burial Ground – 1670
Circled Initials
mark Quaker
family burial
vaults.

Newton Plantation Enslaved Burial Ground 1660-1838

The Enslaved Burial Ground at Newton houses some 570 burials on a half-acre site. Those interred would have worked on the Newton plantation from 1660-1838. By the end of the Emancipation period, the newly freed moved to settlements on non-agricultural lands of the plantation. The enslaved cemetery ceased operation in 1838. Its rediscovery in the 1970s was as a site of archaeological excavation and analysis that allowed for the rethinking of how enslaved populations lived and died. Today the site is a sacred space and place of contemplation for the descendants of those who live on this island and in the diaspora.



**Newton Plantation Enslaved
Burial Ground 1660-1838**
Archaeological Work Ongoing



**Sunbury Plantation House – 1660
St Philip Parish**



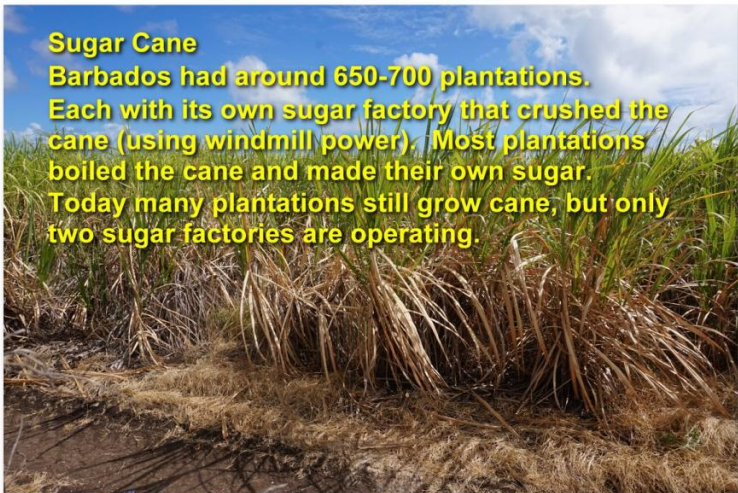
**Sunbury Plantation House
Mahogany Dining Table**



**Sunbury Plantation House – 1660
St Philip Parish**



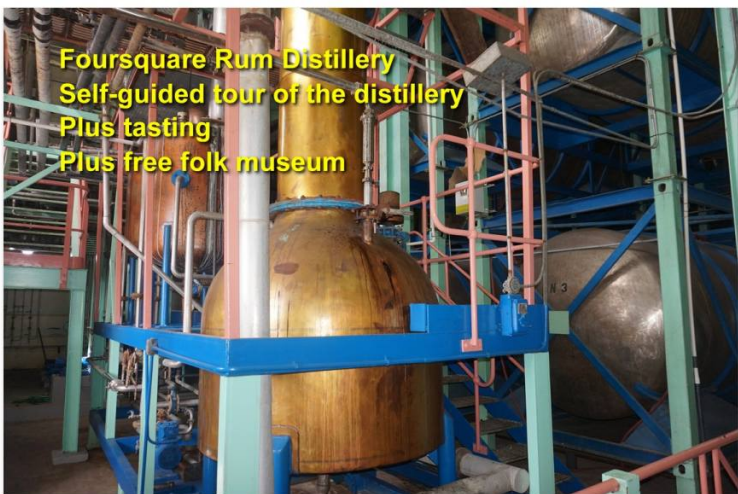
**Foursquare Distillery Free Folk Museum
Life of plantation workers**



Sugar Cane
Barbados had around 650-700 plantations.
Each with its own sugar factory that crushed the
cane (using windmill power). Most plantations
boiled the cane and made their own sugar.
Today many plantations still grow cane, but only
two sugar factories are operating.



Sugar Cane Cart.
Collect the cut cane
and bring to
grinding mill.



Foursquare Rum Distillery
Self-guided tour of the distillery
Plus tasting
Plus free folk museum



My friends' home in St Philip's Parish.
Typical local neighborhood.
Not a gated community.



Rear of their home. They eat most of their meals on the deck.



Solar Panels. Solar Water Heater.

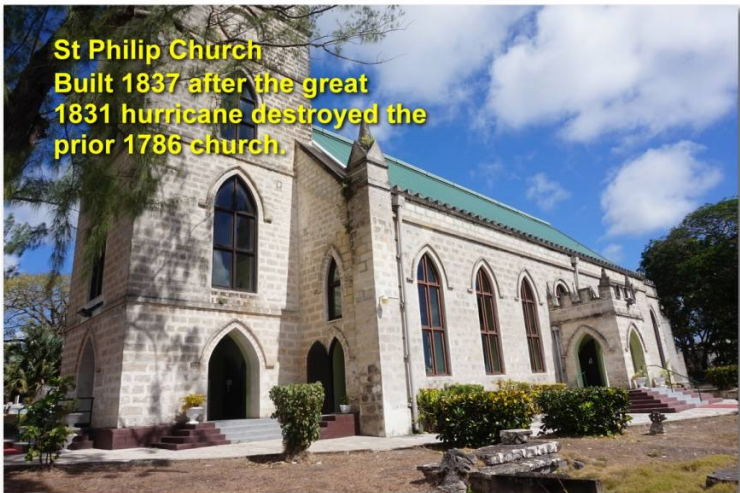


Wonderful view from my friends' rear deck.

Atlantic Ocean



Sunrise From Their Deck. Maybe Not Every Day – But a Large %!



St Philip Church
Built 1837 after the great 1831 hurricane destroyed the prior 1786 church.



Brighton Saturday Morning Farmers' Market

Fresh fruits and veggies.
Home made breakfast pies, pastries, donuts, coffee.
Sausages, jellies, quiches.
Also plants, local arts and crafts, clothing.



Breakfast Pies
Brighton Farmers Market

BREAKFAST PIES
EGG, BACON AND CHEESE
THE WORKS: EGG, BACON, SUN DRIED TOMATOES, MUSHROOM, MOZZARELLA
EGG, BLACK FOREST HAM AND CHEESE
EGG, BREAKFAST SAUSAGE AND CHEESE
EGG, BASIL, SUN DRIED TOMATO AND FETA
APPLE PIE \$6
PEACH PIE \$6
\$12

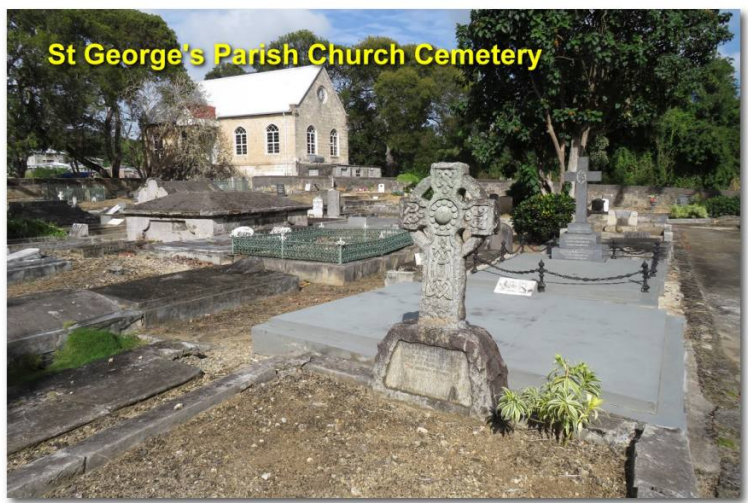


Coconut Bread
Brighton Farmers Market

COCONUT BREAD
Juna's Sweet Indulgences
244-7306
Ingredients: - flour, coconuts, raisins, cherries, shortening, margarine, nutmeg, spice, sugar, milk, eggs, baking powder, essence



St George's Parish Church – 1784
Survived the 1831 Hurricane



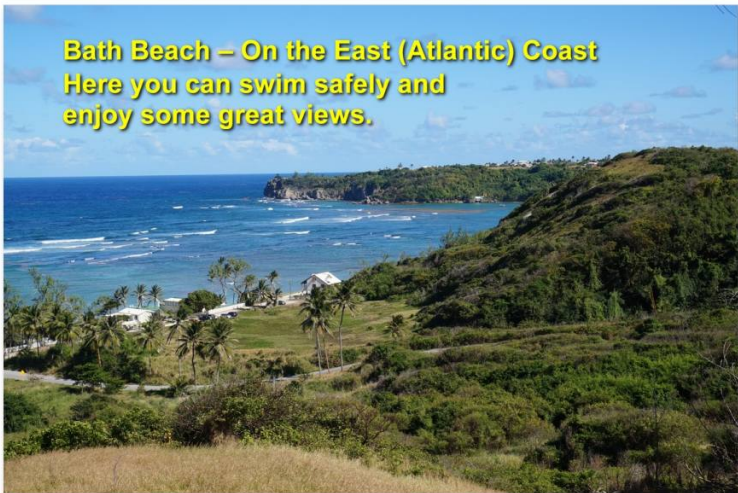
St George's Parish Church Cemetery



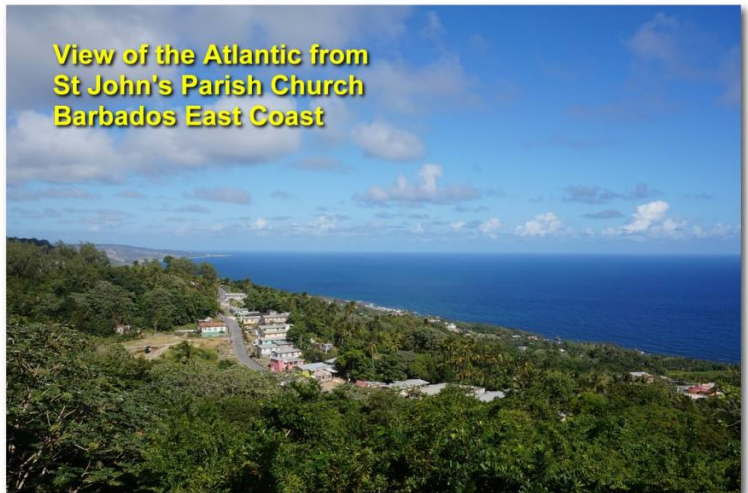
Drax Hall Plantation
1650
Still a working sugar plantation



Sugar Cane Harvester



Bath Beach – On the East (Atlantic) Coast
Here you can swim safely and enjoy some great views.



View of the Atlantic from St John's Parish Church
Barbados East Coast



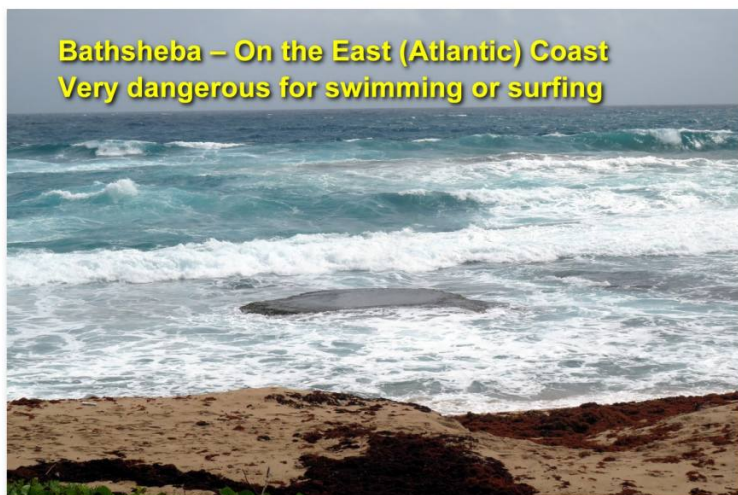
St John's Parish Church, Barbados
1836



St John's Parish Church Interior



Codrington College
Built 1670
Oldest theological seminary in
Western Hemisphere



Bathsheba – On the East (Atlantic) Coast
Very dangerous for swimming or surfing



The Atlantis Hotel is right on the Atlantic Ocean just south of Bathsheba. View from hotel dining room.



The Atlantis is famous for its Sunday Brunch.
Red snapper.



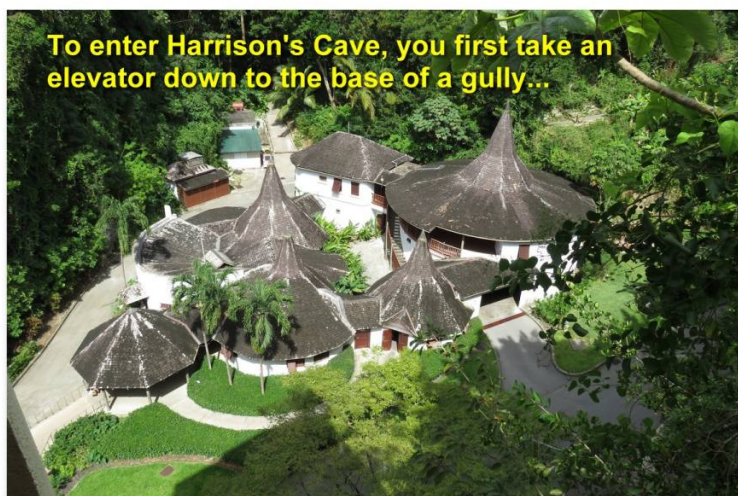
Flying Fish. All over Barbados you can get Flying Fish Cutters (sandwiches).



Salt Cod Fritters – Spanish style
Buñuelos de bacalao

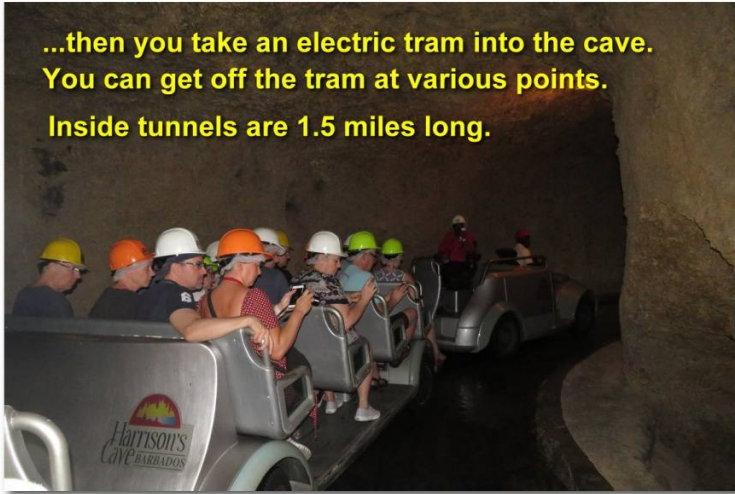


Hunte's Gardens
Caribbean Forest and Plant Collection

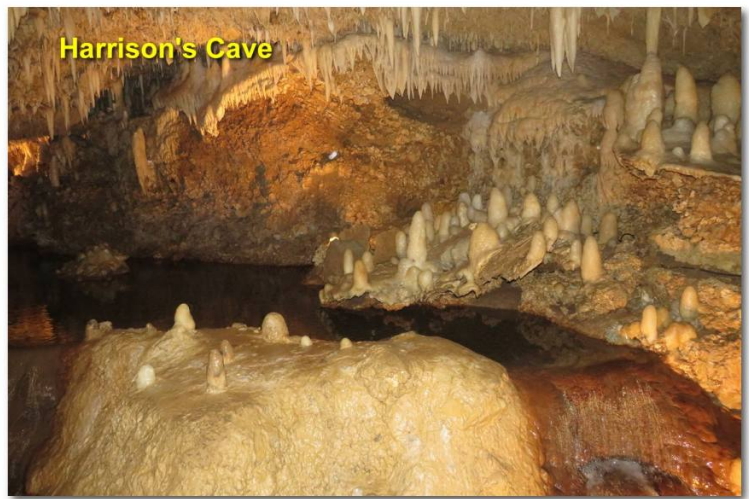


To enter Harrison's Cave, you first take an elevator down to the base of a gully...

...then you take an electric tram into the cave.
You can get off the tram at various points.
Inside tunnels are 1.5 miles long.



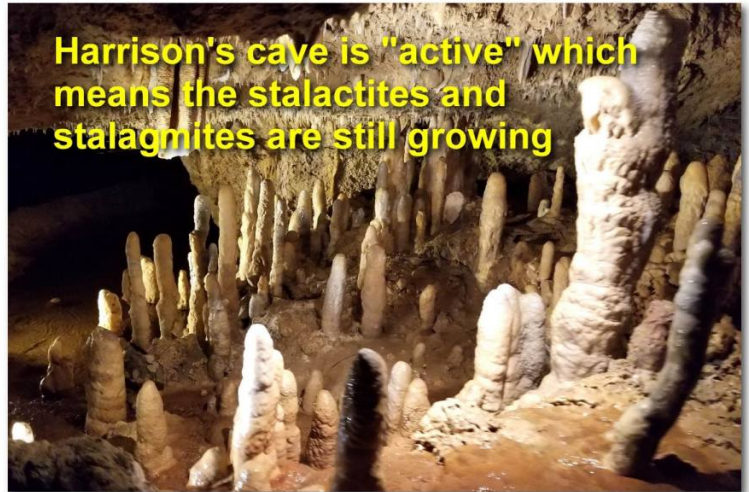
Harrison's Cave



Harrison's Cave - Discovered 1795



Harrison's cave is "active" which means the stalactites and stalagmites are still growing



Numerous lakes in the cave



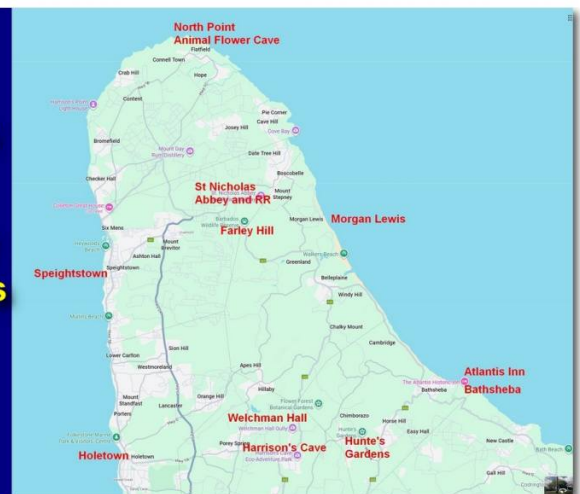
Welchman Hall Gully
Tropical Rain Forest
Botanical Garden
Caves and Monkeys



Welchman Hall Gully
Mango

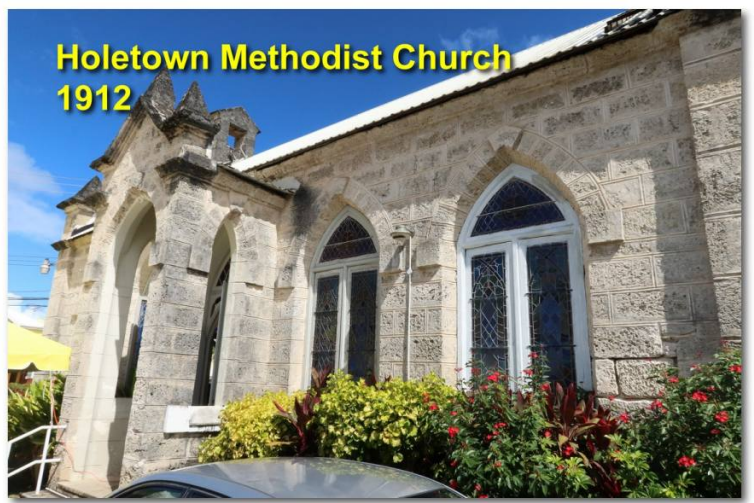


Northern
Part of the
Island of
Barbados





We took a bus to Holetown, on the NW coast, to the Holetown Festival



Holetown Methodist Church 1912



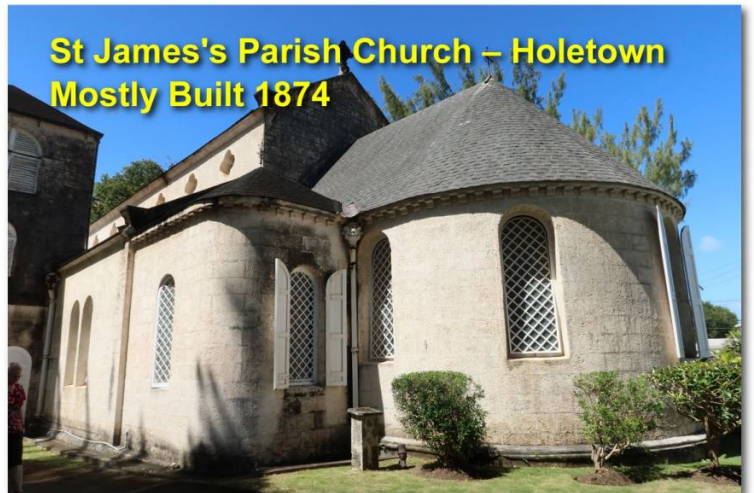
Holetown Festival Parade



Holetown Festival Crafts



**St James's Parish Church – Holetown
Mostly Built 1874
Some earlier stonework remains.**



**St James's Parish Church – Holetown
Mostly Built 1874**



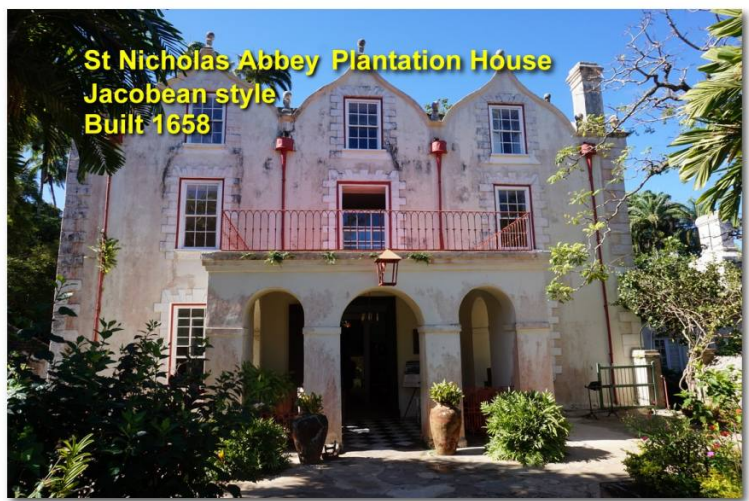
**St James's Parish Annual
Harvest Garden Party**



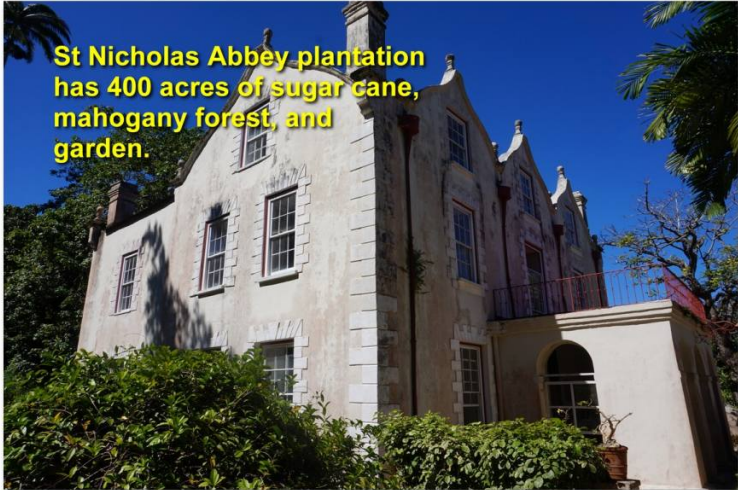
All This and a Cup of Tea US\$5



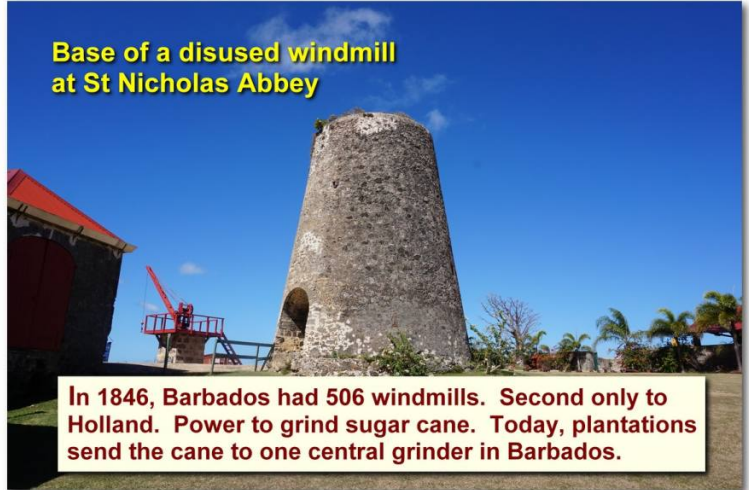
**St James's Parish Garden Party
Barbados Police Band**



**St Nicholas Abbey Plantation House
Jacobean style
Built 1658**

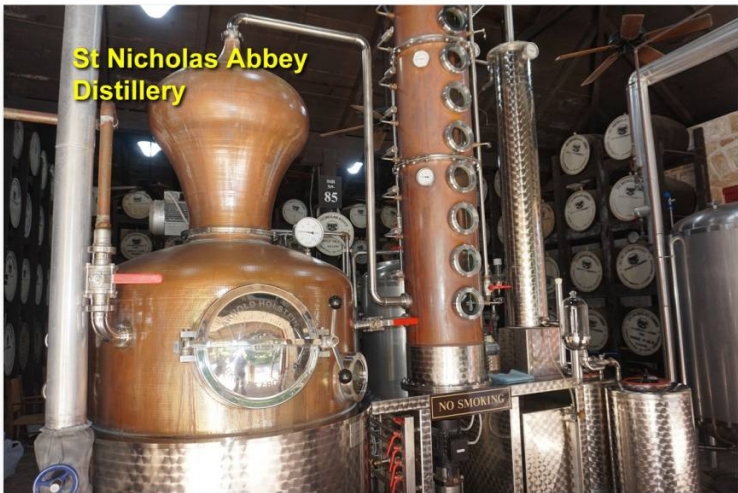


**St Nicholas Abbey plantation
has 400 acres of sugar cane,
mahogany forest, and
garden.**



**Base of a disused windmill
at St Nicholas Abbey**

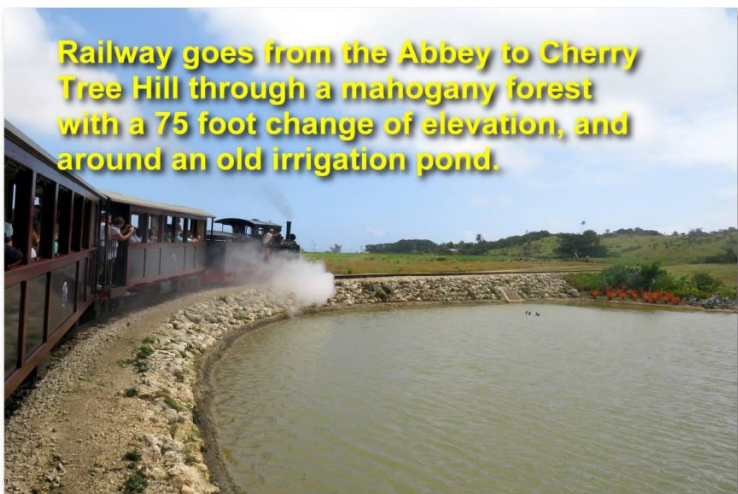
In 1846, Barbados had 506 windmills. Second only to Holland. Power to grind sugar cane. Today, plantations send the cane to one central grinder in Barbados.



**St Nicholas Abbey
Distillery**



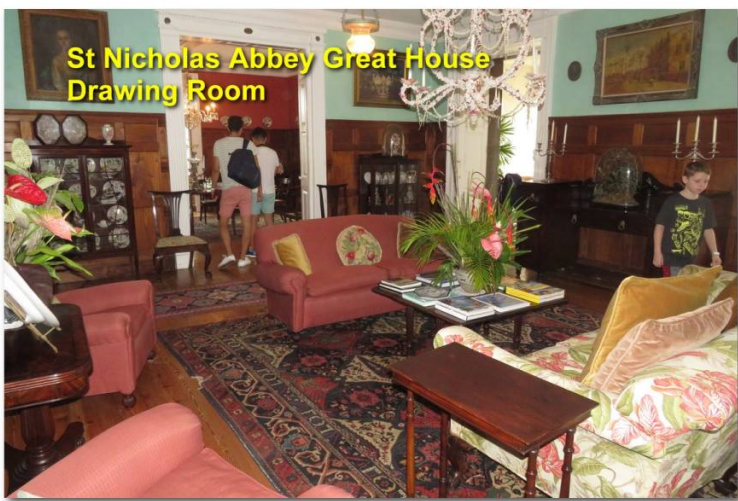
**St Nicholas Abbey Heritage Railway
Completed in late 2018**



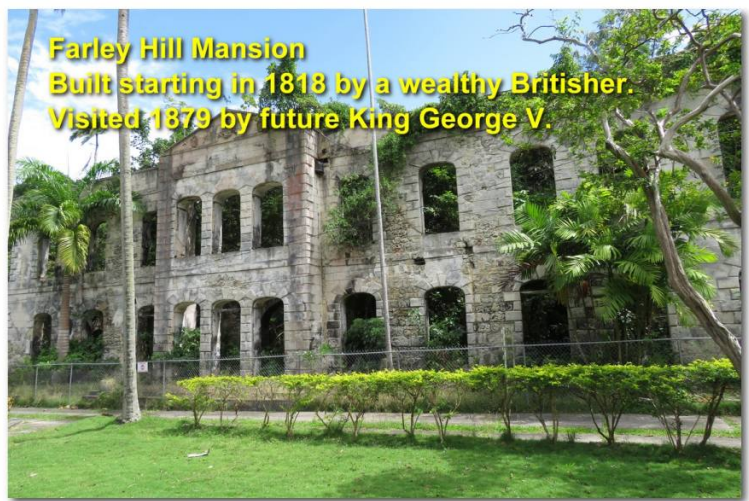
**Railway goes from the Abbey to Cherry
Tree Hill through a mahogany forest
with a 75 foot change of elevation, and
around an old irrigation pond.**



**St Nicholas Abbey Great House
Dining Room**



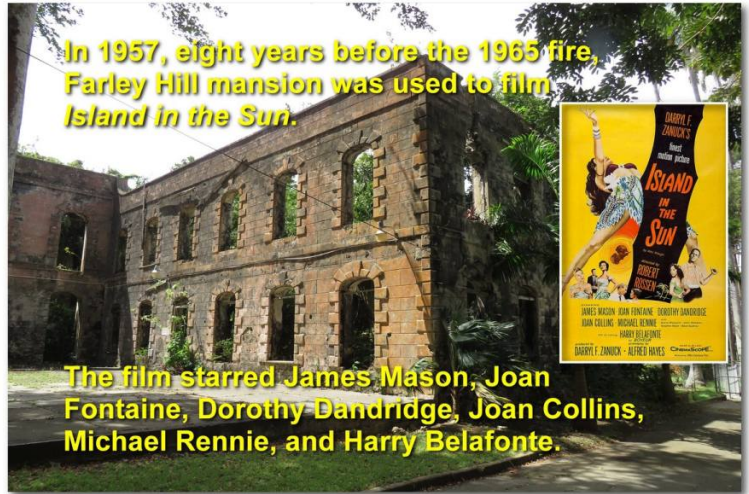
**St Nicholas Abbey Great House
Drawing Room**



Farley Hill Mansion
Built starting in 1818 by a wealthy Britisher.
Visited 1879 by future King George V.



**The mansion was destroyed by a
massive fire in 1965.**

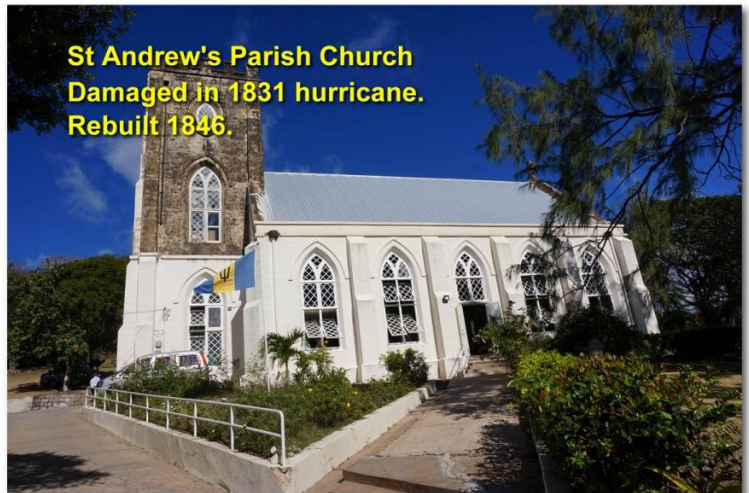


**In 1957, eight years before the 1965 fire,
Farley Hill mansion was used to film
Island in the Sun.**

**The film starred James Mason, Joan
Fontaine, Dorothy Dandridge, Joan Collins,
Michael Rennie, and Harry Belafonte.**



Morgan Lewis Windmill – 1727
Last functioning
sugar cane
crushing windmill
in Barbados
(there were
hundreds).



St Andrew's Parish Church
Damaged in 1831 hurricane.
Rebuilt 1846.



**National Heritage Mural
Speightstown**



St Peter's Church – Speightstown
1837
Rebuilt 1980
after a fire.

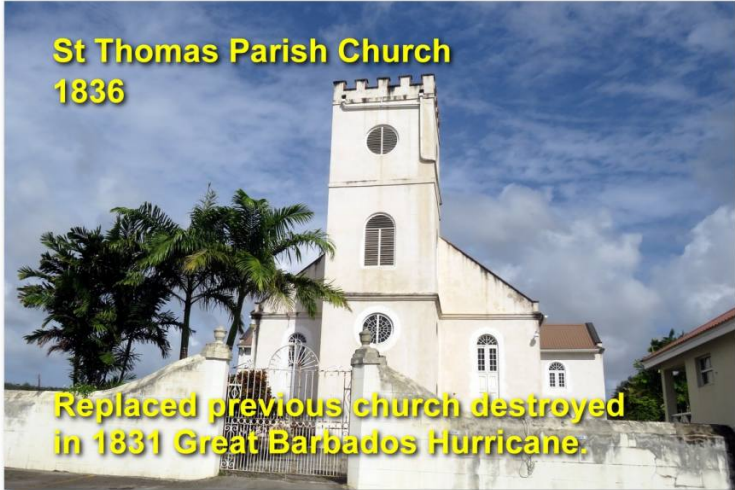
**The 1837 building was itself a replacement for
one destroyed by the 1831 Great Hurricane.**



**St Peter's Church – Speightstown
1837**

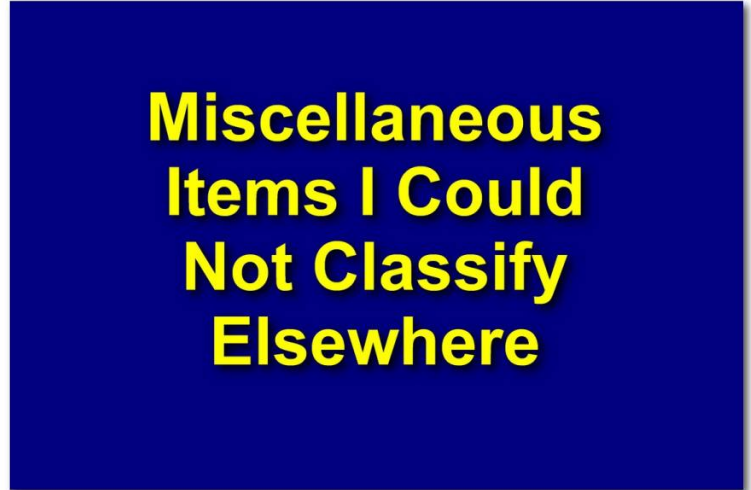


**St Lucy's Parish Church – 1837
Most parish churches are dated after 1831.**



**St Thomas Parish Church
1836**

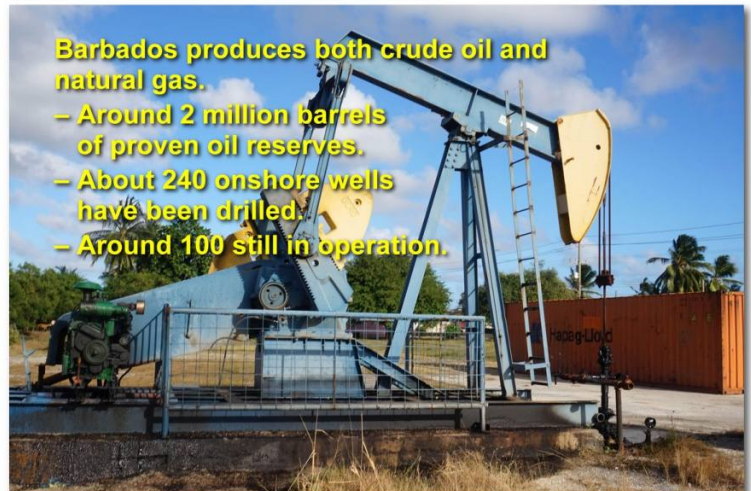
**Replaced previous church destroyed
in 1831 Great Barbados Hurricane.**



Miscellaneous Items I Could Not Classify Elsewhere



**Chattel House – Barbadian term for a small
moveable wooden house that working class
people occupy since plantation days.**

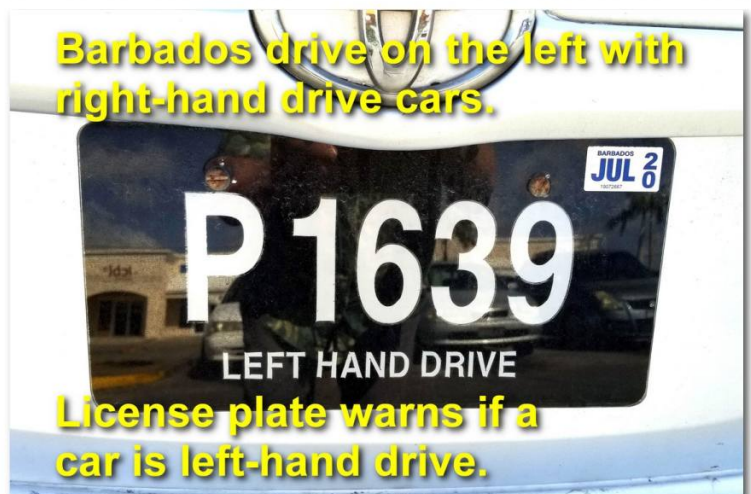


**Barbados produces both crude oil and
natural gas.**

- Around 2 million barrels
of proven oil reserves.
- About 240 onshore wells
have been drilled.
- Around 100 still in operation.



**Free public water tap
In every area of Barbados
Government provides
for homes without
running water or
those who just want
to save on their
water bill.**



**Barbados drive on the left with
right-hand drive cars.**

**License plate warns if a
car is left-hand drive.**



**Emerald City Supermarket
Typical**



**Florida
Oranges
US 60
cents
each**



**Hot Pepper Sauce
A staple at most Bajan meals**



**Hard spice is Barbados term
for cinnamon**

**Mauby is bark of Colubrina
tree used to make a drink.**



**"Bloaters" are whole herrings
that are salted and smoked**



Hair Mayonnaise

Black castor oil also used for hair



Plenty of Bagels in Barbados

**Toufayan bakeries in Orlando and
Plant City, Florida**



Banks - Barbados' biggest brewery

Sold in Caribbean, US, Canada, UK



Supermarket – Shelves of Bajan Rum

A Few Example of Wonderful Bajan Cooking



Kingfish with Caribbean Macaroni Pie



Barbados Fish Pie



Vilma's Rice, Pigeon Peas, and Lamb Stew



Barbadian Rabbit
The rabbit meat industry is still in its infancy in Barbados.



Bajan Bakes

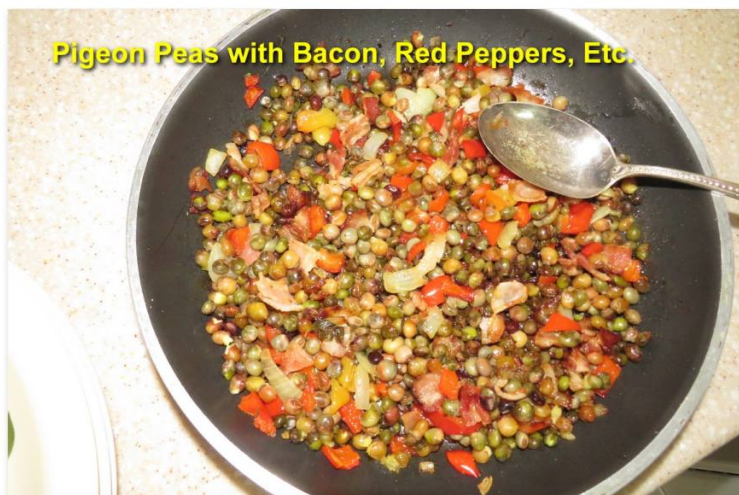
My friends' recipe
1 cup Flour.
1 tsp Baking Powder.
1-2 tbsp Sugar.
1/4 tsp Grated Nutmeg.
A Pinch of Allspice.
A Pinch of Salt.
1 tsp Vanilla Essence.
Enough Water to Knead
into a Ball (2 cups?).
Corn or Veg Oil (frying).
Combine ingredients.
Knead into balls. Flatten.
Deep fry. Drain on towel.



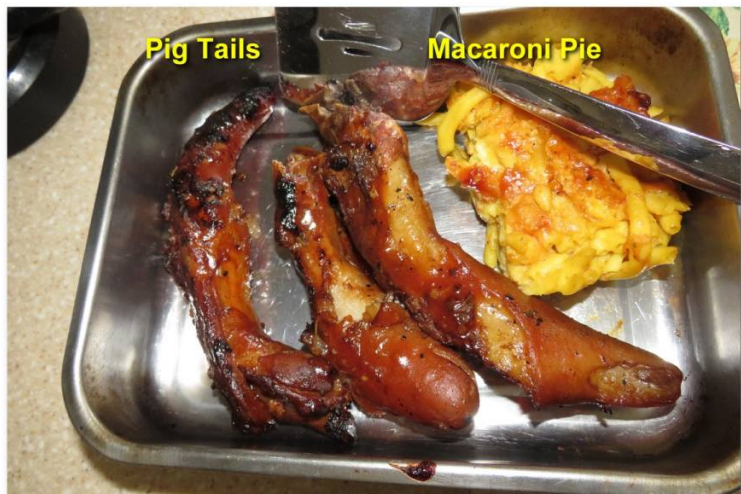
Swordfish and Bay Leaf Skewers



Grilled Aubergine (Eggplant)



Pigeon Peas with Bacon, Red Peppers, Etc.



Pig Tails

Macaroni Pie



Barbados Flying Fish Frying



**Bajan Fish Cakes
Made from Salted Cod
and Diced Hot Peppers**



Bajan Sweet Potato Mash



**Caribbean Saltfish Buljol
Chopped Salted Cod Fish
and Chillies**



THE END
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