

A Water Wonderland...

Cerulean, turquoise, and azure are colors to describe Bermuda's brilliant blue water, and there are even more ways to enjoy it.



Port Royal Golf Club



(Left) Flatts Village, a picturesque fishing village. (Above) As an alternative to a traditional scooter rental, consider an electric two-seater Renault Twizy to explore the Island.

BERMUDA was named a "Best Place to Travel in 2017" by Travel+Leisure.

HAMILTON, BERMUDA: Beloved around the world for its pink-sand beaches and turquoise waters, Bermuda is an archipelago composed of 181 islands surrounded by a 200 square-mile coral reef plateau. Since it's just 21 square miles and two miles across at its widest point, the ocean is woven into the fabric of daily life in Bermuda.

"I never appreciated how good we had it until I went to school in the U.S.," recalled Glenn Jones, director of Public & Stakeholder Relations for the Bermuda Tourism Authority. "In contrast to my dreary commute in Boston to get to a decent shoreline, in Bermuda I just slipped on my flip-flops and strolled down to the beach. No matter where you are in Bermuda, you're never more than a quick walk from the ocean. Most people look for resorts with ocean-view accommodations. Here, you literally cannot escape a great view of the ocean!"

NO GUILT FACTOR

Although Bermuda has a well-earned reputation as a golfers' paradise—you're always within a 15-minute drive from a great course—a golfer need not feel guilty for dragging his family along on this vacation.

"There's a no guilt factor for all of my old college buddies when they bring their families to Bermuda," advised Jones. "While I'm out at Rosewood or Port Royal playing

golf with them, their wives are on the beach with the kids or off to the spa if they didn't bring the kids. They reunite for dinner somewhere and everyone is happy. It's even better when several couples travel together—we can get a foursome on the golf course. That's a really good time."

Bermuda is often referred to as a destination where British charm meets island soul, a nod to the country's status as a United Kingdom territory (a passport is required for entry) which is matched with a strong Caribbean culture. "Afro-Caribbean influences can be found in Bermuda's dance and music, especially reggae and soca, and also in the rhythm of the Gombey dancers," said Jones.

OCEANFRONT GOLF

With six courses, Bermuda has one of the highest concentrations of golf per square mile in the world. Two of the island's standout choices to play are Mid Ocean Club, a classic C.B. Macdonald design with surprising elevation change, and Port Royal Golf Club, ranked one of the world's best public courses with 13 ocean-view holes. Both offer vivid contrast of colors that change during the day. *Golf Digest* accurately captured the appeal by reporting, "hard to say which is better—Bermuda's golf or its ocean views." ■

For more on travel to Bermuda, visit GoToBermuda.com.

INSIDER TIPS ON TRAVELING TO BERMUDA:

ENJOY a fish sandwich Bermudian style at Seaside Grill (on the North Shore) or Woody's (on the West End). It's hotly debated which restaurant serves the best traditional entrée of freshly caught grilled fish placed over a slice of raisin bread with a side of coleslaw. If you asked 10 Bermudians for their favorite eatery, you'll receive 11 answers. **GREET** others with a hearty "Good Morning." It's customary for strangers crossing paths to give a friendly nod and salutation. You'll find it infectious. **VISIT** Cooper's Island Beach. Since there aren't concession facilities, most tourists shy away, creating an unspoiled setting intended by Mother Nature. With a little luck, you will be able to swim among sea turtles and parrotfish. **HIKE** the old Railway Trail that extends almost the entire length of the Island. **CHALLENGE** your fears by cliff jumping at Blue Hole Park. It's considered a rite of passage.



Mid-Ocean Club



Glenn Jones