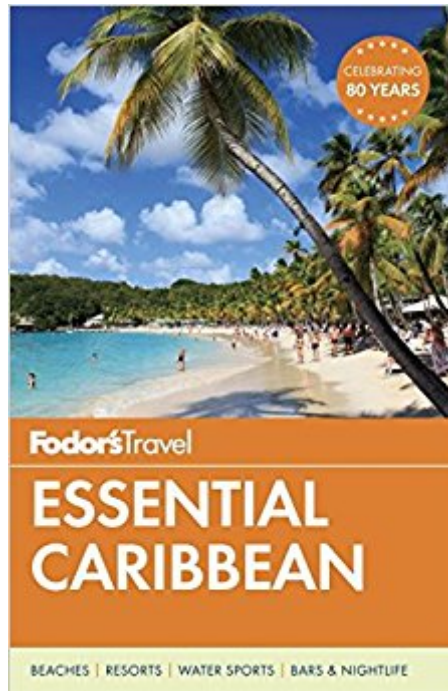




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# Fodor's Essential Caribbean (Full-color Travel Guide)



## Synopsis

Written by locals, Fodor's travel guides have been offering expert advice for all tastes and budgets for 80 years. In amazing full-color, Fodor's Essential Caribbean covers the top destinations in the Caribbean, from the Dominican Republic and Jamaica to Turks & Caicos and U.S. Virgin Islands. The guide reviews the best each island has to offer, including activities, resorts, restaurants, nightspots, shops, and more. It's a complete planning tool that will help travelers put together the perfect trip to an island paradise. This travel guide includes:

- Dozens of full-color maps
- Hundreds of hotel and restaurant recommendations, with Fodor's Choice designating our top picks
- In-depth breakout features on the reggae of Jamaica; the many different cuisines of the region; renting a villa, and chartering a yacht
- Coverage of Anguilla; Antigua and Barbuda; Aruba; Barbados; British Virgin Islands; Cayman Islands; Curaçao; Dominican Republic; Guadeloupe; Jamaica; Martinique; Puerto Rico; St. Barthelemy; St. Kitts and Nevis; St. Lucia; St. Maarten/St. Martin; Turks and Caicos Islands; United States Virgin Islands

Planning to focus on just part of the Caribbean? Check out Fodor's guides to Aruba; Bahamas; Barbados & St. Lucia; Bermuda; Cayman Islands; Cuba; Puerto Rico; St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Barth & Anguilla; Turks & Caicos Islands; and U.S. & British Virgin Islands.

## Book Information

Series: Full-color Travel Guide (Book 1)

Paperback: 944 pages

Publisher: Fodor's Travel (November 22, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1101879998

ISBN-13: 978-1101879993

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 1.2 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #70,064 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Travel > Caribbean > General #158 in Books > Travel > Europe > General #168 in Books > Travel > Specialty Travel > Tourist Destinations & Museums

## Customer Reviews

"Fodor's is pitched a few notches higher, aimed at a fairly discerning traveler with an appetite for background and the occasional surprise. • New York

Times    “The Fodor’s guides are notable for their ratings of sights, restaurants, shops, accommodations and attractions.”    •    œ Chicago Tribune    “In terms of comprehensiveness of coverage, the very accessible format, and the enthusiastic tone, this series remains one of the best on the market.”    •    œ Booklist    “Fodor’s super-informative guidebooks are known for accuracy and attention to detail.”    •    œ Sacramento Bee    “Fodor’s can help you plan the perfect adventure.”    •    œ Arizona Republic

For over 80 years, Fodor’s Travel has been a trusted resource offering expert travel advice for every stage of a traveler’s trip. We hire local writers who know their destinations better than anyone else, allowing us to provide the best travel recommendations for all tastes and budget in over 7,500 worldwide destinations. Our books make it possible for every trip to be a trip of a lifetime.

I’m a backpacker planning a trip to Haiti for Carnaval, and bought this book in an attempt to research whether I could also tack on another Caribbean country. Problem 1: Haiti and Cuba aren’t covered at all. There is no explanation as to why. Problem 2: Each (listed) country has three price ranges of hotel. The so-called "budget" price range varies from \$200-275US. Problem 3: Once I figured out the layout of the book (each country is listed in bulk, with hotels listed for the entire country, then restaurants, and so on) I flipped to the outdoors section for the Dominican Republic. Under a heading called "hiking and biking," the book lists zero hikes, zero bike rides, and one tour operator. Good luck planning a trip to the Dominican with that! I’m better off with nothing than this paperweight. Even though this was one of the only books I could find on the Caribbean as a whole, it is getting returned.

Great guide book and it gives me a lot of ideas of places I want to see while we are on our Cruise. It give any kind of information you could wants. Hotels, Tours, Food, Nightlife, shopping, what to see and how to find it.

great

I found it less useful than the internet.

This is probably the best book about the Caribbean that you can buy. There aren’t

many out there. I bought this thinking it was an updated version Fodor's Caribbean 2013, and it is. I'm not sure why the title changed. Maybe the plan is to not update it annually? This book was a bit of let down for me because from what I can tell by skimming, not that much has been updated. In fact, the 2013 book had this fabulous table that rated each island's beaches, diving, casinos, etc. on a scale from 1 to 5. It indicated which islands were most affordable/expensive - this is the most important factor in choosing where I go. I used this table to compare islands and plan four trips. It is missing from this book. The 2013 book has 1191 pages; this one, 942 pages. The 2013 featured information in 27 chapters. The new book, only 19. Islands that were in the old book and are not covered in the new one are Bonaire, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saba, St Eustatius, St Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. Surprisingly, there isn't a chapter on Cuba. The same brief, unhelpful generic blurb about mosquito-borne disease appears in each chapter covering an island. It reads as if written by a lawyer. Some islands have terrible mosquito problems, others, next to none, and it would be nice if this book made some distinctions among islands for people concerned getting infected while on vacation..

I am a photographer so purchased this book in hopes of getting an idea which caribbean islands were best for NATURE, HIKING and PHOTOGRAPHY. I do not think this book was best for what I wanted to find. It is, however, a fair book for folks just wanting to vacation on any of these islands and not especially do a lot of site seeing. This is not a Photographers Guide but in all fairness it wasn't advertised as such either. This review reflects what I wanted in this book and does not necessarily reflect on what YOU might be looking for.

We've been a two Caribbean cruises so we had the opportunity to visit several different islands on just two vacations. We loved the Caribbean but there are many more islands to visit and lots more things to do at the islands that we have already visited so I have been reading the Fodor's Travel Essential Caribbean travel book. The book covers: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, the British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barthelemy, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, Turks and Caicos Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands. I like how easy the book is to navigate. The "Need to Know" section of each island is the best information. I would suggest to still do a little internet research for the area that you are visiting. There were popular activities that I am aware of that

were not listed in the activities in the book.

It should come as no surprise that Fodor publishes excellent travel guides. They have been doing it for years, and their Essential Caribbean guide continues the trend. This is a book of over 900 pages and it covers just about any place you might want to go in the Caribbean. It is laid out very well, contains a ton of good information, and should be very useful to travelers. The pictures in the book are limited, but it does include a good number of charts and maps. A good book for travelers. My only caveat is that the book is heavy and would be awkward to carry around when exploring the islands.

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