

Travel Advisory for CURACAO (CARIBBEAN)

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1. Intro

Time zone : GMT -4 hours

Languages : Dutch, English, Spanish, Papiamentu (local language)

Currency : Antillean Guilder (fixed R.O.E. to the US Dollar: 1 Usd = 1.75-1.80 Nafl)

Location : A small Island, about 60 Miles North of Venezuela, South America



2. Crew Change Summary

Crews are to fill in an immigration form for Curacao. **The stub of this form is to be kept in the passport at all times.** For crews departing Curacao with the vessel, the agent will collect this stub from all passports just prior to the vessel sailing. For crew departing via airport, airport immigrations need to see this stub.

After you have completed Immigration and Customs formalities at the Curacao international Airport "Hato", please exit the airport building. Depending on your party size, either a small van or crew bus will be waiting outside. The driver will be strategically positioned to receive/welcome you. The driver will check your names.

All crew are advised to observe a no-alcohol policy.

If applicable: The exact times for pick-up at the hotel for transportation to the vessel/port will be advised by the agency as soon as this is known. The agency will make the reservations at your hotel (if applicable).

If applicable: on-signers will be staying overnight at "TBA" Hotel (to be advised, depending on party size and availability). Please ensure that you have a passport with you when checking in at the hotel.

3. Immigration Process - Entry Requirements

A. Arrival via AIRPORT/AIR:

It is advisable for all arriving crew/pax to travel with a letter from their employer, stating details of traveler and reason to travel to Curacao (eg.: "to join ship X in Curacao"). Furthermore, the agency should issue ok to board letters for crew traveling to Curacao, for which we should receive all travel itineraries in advance. This okay to board letter should be hand carried while traveling to Curacao.

For vessels staying in port 48 hours or less, crew (with valid seaman book) do **NOT** require visa's to travel to Curacao and for joining the vessel in CURACAO. An OKTB is mandatory and needs to be hand carried to the island and presented to immigrations at airport check-in. Please note this 48 rule is stickily adhered to by the local immigrations office and cannot be extended.

For arriving crew staying in CURACAO longer than 48 hours (even if staying on board), visa's are required for certain countries. See below list for countries whose nationals are exempt from the visa requirement:

Albania	Latvia
Andorra	Liechtenstein
Antigua and Barbuda	Lithuania
Argentina	Luxembourg
Australia	Macao – holders of a Special Administrative Region passport
Austria	Macedonia
Bahamas	Malaysia
Barbados	Malta
Belgium	Mauritius
Belize	Mexico
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Moldova
Brazil	Monaco
Brunei	Montenegro
Bulgaria	Nicaragua
Canada	New Zealand
Chile	Norway
Costa Rica	Panama
Croatia	Paraguay
Colombia	Peru (visa required for Curacao and St. Martin)
Cyprus	Poland
Czech Republic	Portugal
Denmark	Romania
Dominica	San Marino
Ecuador	Serbia
El Salvador	Seychelles
Estonia	Singapore
Finland	St Christopher and Nevis (St Kitts)
France	St Lucia
Germany	St Vincent and the Grenadines
Grenada	Slovakia
Greece	Slovenia
Guatemala	South Korea
Guyana	Spain
Honduras	Suriname
Hong Kong – holders of a British National (Overseas) passport	Sweden
Hong Kong – holders of a Special Administrative Region passport	Switzerland
Hungary	Taiwan – only applies for passports
Iceland	Trinidad and Tobago
Ireland	United Arab Emirates
Israel	United Kingdom
Italy	United States of America
Jamaica (<i>only for Curaçao – Jamaican nationals do require a visa for Aruba, St Maarten and the Caribbean Netherlands</i>)	Uruguay
Japan	Vatican City
	Venezuela

* NB: Russian nationals living in the Baltic States who hold alien's passports issued by Estonia, Latvia or Lithuania do not require a visa for Curacao, but do require one for Aruba.

All countries whose nationals need a visa to enter can enter with:

- a Caribbean (Curacao) Visa, or
- a Multiple Entry Schengen Visa from Schengen countries

If a visa is required a visa application cannot be done in Curacao. It must be initiated in the country of origin, at the Royal Dutch Embassy. Application must be for a Caribbean (Curacao) visa. A MULTIPLE entry Schengen visa is also valid in Curacao. Required documents to present to Embassy/Consulate for visa application are as follows:

- Letter from employer stating that crew will travel to Curacao, as crew, to join an ocean going vessel (state vessel name, if possible);
- Valid passport;
- Visa invitation letter from agent.

It is advised to apply for a visa min. 2 weeks before travel (for some Embassies even longer). If visa's are granted for a certain period and the crew members overstay this period in Curacao (for example: if the vessel stays longer than was anticipated), the agency is able to apply for an extension of the visa through to local Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Immigrations Department, in CURACAO.

B. Arrival via SHIP/SEA:

For those crew arriving via Sea on a ship, they will be granted an "automatic" entry (no visa's required), even if the crews are from visa required countries and the ship stays longer than 48 hours. Your agent will take care of the required procedures for this "automatic" entry.

For immigrations purposes, your agent will collect all passports, in order to have them scanned "in" with harbor immigrations, upon vessel arrival. This same procedure will be repeated upon the vessel's port exit, passports will be scanned "out".

This passport procedure is also applicable for off signers in Curacao. Your agent will collect the passports when the vessel arrives, to have them scanned at harbor immigrations (scanned "in") and to have the immigrations form processed (stub should be kept in the passport for airport clearance !). When the crewmembers depart via the airport, the crewmember passports are again scanned by Airport immigrations (scanned "out"), and so the procedure is completed.

4. Customs Regulations

As long as visitors are carrying alcohol, tobacco, perfumes, etc. in volumes which are deemed to be for personal consumption, they will be allowed to enter with these.

Drugs (hard or soft) are not permitted. Firearms are not permitted.

If crews are hand carrying spare parts, new/valuable electronics and/or any extraordinary items of value, it is advisable to pre-declare these through the agency, in order to avoid them being placed in temporary customs storage, pending formal customs clearance. With these items there are 3 options:

1. Pre-clear the items – Customs declaration at airport is mandatory

For this please send us the commercial invoice, flight itinerary and a passport copy of the person hand carrying the item(s). If we know at least 2 workdays in advance we can pre-clear the items that are being hand carried. **Upon arrival the items have to be declared at customs** and explained that they are for a vessel. We will make sure the documents are with the taxi/driver at the airport, upon explaining this customs will go outside and take the documents from the taxi/driver for processing. Afterwards the goods can depart with the traveler. The captain of the vessel will have to sign and stamp the documents.

2. No pre- clearance – No customs declaration

Subject to the type of items you could decide to travel to Curacao not having pre-cleared the item(s). If these item(s) are not declared and the person traveling leaves the airport with the items, no problem. If customs does not 'take' the items no paperwork involved and they can stay with the traveler. If customs 'take' the items, see point 3 below. If customs 'take' the items, import duties can also be paid after which the traveler can depart the airport with items in hand.

3. No pre- clearance –Customs declaration

Should the items catch the eye of customs they will 'take' the items. For this they will then issue a receipt. With this receipt in hand we can usually clear the items and have them delivered to the vessel the next day or usually within 48hours, for this we would need the commercial invoice of the items. The captain of the vessel will have to sign and stamp the documents.