



**#BATABANEWS**

**PRESS RELEASE**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**May 6, 2020**

**Cayman Carnival Batabano to host first ever virtual street parade**  
*International Soca artists Marzville and 5StarAkil confirmed to perform*

It will be one for the history books for Caribbean Carnivals worldwide, as Cayman's national carnival, Batabano, launches its first ever Virtual Street Parade this Saturday May 9th in the Cayman Islands, featuring international Soca performers Marszville and 5Star Akil.

"Batabano is celebrating its 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, and while we await the government's final decision on the main street parade being possible this Fall, we are excited to introduce a Virtual Street Parade for the first time in the carnival's history, and certainly one of the first such virtual parades in the history of Caribbean carnivals overall," said Batabano Chairperson Donna Myrie-Stephen, stressing that the actual Batabano Street Parade is still merely postponed for 2020, not cancelled. "As people in Cayman know, we fought long and hard to confirm this date, so while we are adhering to the government's decisions in terms of the health and safety for our people during this Coronavirus pandemic, we remain determined to offer our masqueraders a unique experience of a lifetime on Saturday May 9th."

Starting at 1pm, the 37th Annual Batabano Street Parade will take the format of a "Virtual" Street Parade, with live performances by Marszville out of Barbados and 5Star Akil out of Trinidad.

5Star Akil, best known for his breakthrough single "Partier" as well as "To Meh Heart", "Noise", "Islands Adventure", "Never Done", and "Tuh Night", had this to say about the Virtual Batabano Street Parade: "This is the first ever, and my first ever, Cayman Carnival Batabano Virtual Carnival, and you don't want to miss it! Song after song, it will be a virtual concert performance, so get your friends and family involved, organize your crew, get connected, stay home, stay safe."

There will also be international DJ's participating in the virtual parade, including DJ Storm out of Atlanta, DJ Ang from New York, and DJ Omar from Jamaica, alongside some of Cayman's top DJ's - DJ Fross, DJ Menace, Sound Revolution, and DJ Lin.

Local radio stations are also participating to help take masqueraders virtually down West Bay Road, including Hot 104.1 and Radio Cayman.

Fetedayz iRadio out of Jamaica will also carry the Cayman Carnival Batabano Virtual Street Parade live.

The following Mas Bands were registered for Batabano 2020: Tribal Carnival (the reigning Batabano Band Of The Year, 2018 & 2019); Fresh Carnival; Renegade Mas; Party Animals; Revel Unit; Local Carnival; Kaotic Mas Band;

Mas Azucar; Iconz; Cayman Aids Foundation; Quintessential Movement; Reba Dilbert Creations; Topsy Tomatoes; Honduras Band; and Coconuts.

Carnival chasers and masqueraders locally and around the world are invited to wear one of their favourite carnival costumes or simply represent their country flag and join the virtual Batabano Street Parade via Zoom and Facebook Live starting at 1pm. Zoom access details will be provided via the Batabano Facebook page [www.facebook.com/batabanocayman](http://www.facebook.com/batabanocayman) and via email for those signed up for Batabano's newsletters via [www.caymancarnival.com](http://www.caymancarnival.com).

~ Ends ~

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**ABOUT CAYMAN CARNIVAL BATABANO**

Established in 1983 by the Rotary Club of Grand Cayman, Cayman Carnival Batabano is the National Carnival of the Cayman Islands. A salute to Cayman's turtling heritage, "Batabano" is the native name for tracks left in the sand when sea turtles go ashore to nest, which has always been cause for celebration in the Cayman Islands. From humble beginnings, Cayman Carnival Batabano has grown from a small parade with homemade costumes and floats, to an international tourism attraction with hundreds of masqueraders donning professional costumes by local and international designers, parading down West Bay Road just steps from Cayman's iconic Seven Mile Beach. A unique carnival that fuses culture and the arts via creative costumes, Caribbean music, local crafts, and a Food Festival worthy of the Culinary Capital of the Caribbean, Batabano is symbolically held over the first two weekends of May (including Junior Batabano) as part of the celebration and awareness of the start of Turtle Nesting Season. Today, the non-profit Cayman Carnival Batabano Board of Directors is proud to use its platform to promote and support local turtle conservation efforts in the Cayman Islands. Part-proceeds from Batabano sponsorships will help support select turtle conservation initiatives locally, made possible only through the financial contributions of Cayman's corporate community and the local Government. For more details, visit [www.caymancarnival.com](http://www.caymancarnival.com) and follow [www.facebook.com/batabanocayman](http://www.facebook.com/batabanocayman), [www.instagram.com/caymancarnivalbatabano](http://www.instagram.com/caymancarnivalbatabano), and [www.twitter.com/batabano\\_cayman](http://www.twitter.com/batabano_cayman).

## THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

*Immerse Yourself in the Barefoot Elegance of The Cayman Islands and Lose Track of Time*  
**Longines Global Champion Tour | Miami Beach, FL**

Offering travellers an unmatched Caribbean escape just one hour south of Miami, the Cayman Islands boasts the perfect luxury oasis and unforgettable cultural landscape to explore. From Grand Cayman to the Sister Islands of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman, the unique tropical locale offers a plethora of once-in-a-lifetime adventures that continue to draw sun-seeking travellers to its shores in search of the perfect panoramic vista, secluded romantic escape, high-end culinary immersion, or off-the-beaten-path bucket list activity.

Not to mention, the welcoming nature of Caymanians, known as “Caymankindness,” adds to the destination’s charm, providing an atmosphere different than anything else in the Caribbean.

### **Getting There**

Travellers will quickly see that getting to the shores of Cayman is quite simple and the ease of travel to the Cayman Islands is a luxury itself. Situated less than 450 miles from Miami, there are many nonstop flights to the Cayman Islands by way of Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Denver, New York City, Houston and more.

### **Where to Eat and Drink**

Frequently heralded as the “Culinary Capital of the Caribbean,” the Cayman Islands has a thriving epicurean scene as diverse as it is delicious, with over 200 unique restaurants. From gourmet five-star establishments to rustic seaside establishments with authentic local flair and teeming with flavour.

For a truly immersive experience, visitors can sample Seven Fathoms Rum – a premium, hand-crafted Caymanian spirit that has been skillfully distilled by the very waters that surround the destination. The award-winning liquid is rocked by underwater currents and will be sure to delight the most discerning of palates.

### **Where to Stay**

Those looking to experience bespoke luxury should look no further than The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman’s Seven South – an internationally-recognized collection of upscale suites with sweeping views and unmatched hospitality.

For a secluded slice of paradise with a bit more privacy, guests can stay in the Kimpton Seafire Resort + Spa’s free-standing beachfront bungalows which are ripe with ocean views, the allure of the Caribbean sea and lavish amenities.

### **What to Do**

For those looking to experience the proud local Caymanian culture and immerse themselves in barefoot elegance that can only be found in the Cayman Islands, there are several signature events held annually – from high-end culinary and spirits festivals to cutting-edge wellness celebrations and swashbuckling cultural demonstrations.

Hosted by The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman and renowned Chef Eric Ripert, Cayman Cookout is one of the most prestigious food and wine celebrations in the world. It is only in Cayman that guests can mingle

with internationally acclaimed Michelin-starred chefs and friendly stingrays simultaneously in the Caribbean sunshine.

This fall, to further complement its well-known gastronomic offerings and cocktail scene, the destination will host a rum festival in conjunction with Seven Fathoms Rum showcasing its thriving mixology culture.

From details on accommodations and restaurants, to the latest travel offers and learning about the top scuba diving sites in the Cayman Islands, explore the Department of Tourism's online [Travel Guide and Dive Guide](#) to learn more about all the destination has to offer. For more information, go to [www.visitcaymanislands.com](http://www.visitcaymanislands.com).

**Total Word Count: 505**

**THE CAYMAN ISLANDS**

*Reinvigorated with Sun, Sand, Sea and Safety Like Never Before*

Adorned with pristine white sand beaches and crystal blue waters, the Cayman Islands is an unmatched oasis for travelers. Cutting-edge health technology, elevated safety measures and redefined luxury are among the many reasons the Cayman Islands is undoubtedly worth the wait.

**Total Word Count: 41 words**

*Image(s) for inclusion: <https://coynepr.sharefile.com/d-sffa5da6f8bb4131a>*



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**For Immediate Release:**

**Cayman Islands Announces Shelter in Place Order to Prevent Spread of Virus**

**Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands (24 March 2020)** – The first presumed positive case as a result of community spread was announced today, leading the Cayman Islands' Government to announce a new shelter in place order, which will further affect daily life for residents and business owners within the hospitality industry.

The presumed positive case announced today came from a member of the Health Service Authority. As a result, 14 other medical professionals are currently in isolation after also being tested. To get ahead of the potential spread of COVID-19, the measures that will be enforced under the new order include:

- Beginning today Tuesday, 24 March 2020 an extended curfew will be enforced daily from 7:00PM until 6:00AM for a period of 10 days.
- Starting at 6:00AM on Wednesday, 25 March 2020 persons will be required to shelter in place unless they or their business fall into an essential category. A list of essential businesses will be decided upon and released to the public following the press briefing this afternoon. After a period of 10 days, the curfew and shelter in place orders will be re-evaluated.
- The ban on public gatherings has been reduced further from 10 persons to 2 persons, unless members of family. The community is still advised to continue practicing social distancing guidelines issued by the Public Health Department, maintaining a minimum of 6ft between persons.
- An Emergency Travel Helpline, 2443333, will open to the public on Tuesday, 24 March 2020 to address any persons that have emergency or compassionate reasons to leave the Cayman Islands. The helpline will be available Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM.

For more official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus) and [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus). And, subscribe to the official [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) page to be notified of key links.



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**For Infographic Blurb: 7 May 2020**

New Cases: 2  
Confirmed: 80  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 35

### **Some COVID-19 Regulations Lifted for Cayman Brac**

The Cayman Islands reported two (2) new cases of COVID-19 today, raising the total number to 80 positive cases.

Starting this evening, 7 May 2020, the *Shelter In Place* provisions in Cayman Brac will be amended and replaced with new guidelines in effect until 31 May 2020. These new provisions include, but are not limited to, a shortened hard curfew time of 8:00PM to 5:00AM, removal of the 24-hour Sunday curfew and alphabetized system, allowance of public gatherings up to 25 persons, reopening of beaches, allowance of fishing and boating in vessels containing no more than two (2) persons and wearing face masks in public. Elements of the regulations still remain in place, such as adhering to social distancing guidelines.

A reminder that businesses who fall into the categories identified in the amendments to the *Shelter In Place* regulations for Grand Cayman, such as pool maintenance and landscaping, must request formal recognition by completing the application found at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/curfewtime>. The application can also be used by persons seeking exemptions for other purposes.

The updated regulations for Grand Cayman are in effect until Friday, 15 May 2020. These regulations continue to apply to all persons in the Cayman Islands, including persons residing in strata managed properties.

A repatriation flight to Dominican Republic is confirmed for Sunday, 17 May 2020. Booking procedures will be announced tomorrow.

The online submission portal for all emergency or repatriation travel needs is available at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>. The phone line hours are 9:00AM to 1:00PM, Monday through Friday, at 244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky).

The Cayman Islands Department of Tourism is hosting two free professional development webinars—FoundEd and Promises—offered every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00AM. For more information and to register, visit [pride.ourcayman.ky](http://pride.ourcayman.ky) or email [pride@caymanislands.ky](mailto:pride@caymanislands.ky).

***Following today's Tourism Update we will be moving to a weekly or as-needed update.*** For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-travel-tourism>
- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

All are encouraged to support the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism's latest social media campaign. From gospel and wellness to culinary and other exciting experiences, these short sessions provide a Caymankind moment for all viewers.

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)

Please subscribe to the official [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) page to be notified of key links, press briefings and updates. A FAQs page on the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism website may be found at: <https://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/ourcayman/covid-19-faq>.

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**For Infographic Blurb: 27 March 2020**

New Cases: 0

Confirmed: 8

Deaths: 1

**Focus on 'Stay Home Cayman' to Contain the Spread of COVID-19**

The Cayman Islands Government (CIG) shared the Shelter In Place provision now officially in effect as announced by the Attorney General. Referred to as the 'Stay Home Cayman' campaign by the Honourable Premier, the panel outlined amendments to the public gathering ban, curfews, and categories of exempted businesses and personnel. All persons are mandated to adhere to the specific rules of the Shelter In Place provision, which includes but is not limited to the following:

- At the completion of the 24-hour curfew tomorrow, Saturday 28 March at 5:00AM, a new curfew regime is in effect, as follows:
  - Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 7:00PM, for the initial period of 10 days
    - All non-essential businesses must remain closed
    - Limited operations allowed for places such as supermarkets and minimarts, gas stations, banks
      - Banks, credit unions and building societies will be open from the hours of 9:00PM – 1:00PM
      - Supermarkets, minimarts, liquor stores and pharmacies will be open from the hours 6:00AM – 6:00PM
    - Persons will be allowed to go outdoors to exercise or walk pets for no more than one and a half (1.5) hours daily, pending they remain six (6) feet of distance between other persons
  - Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM daily until Friday, 3 April 2020
    - All persons must stay within the confines of their home except for essential personnel identified by CIG
  - Food delivery services and some restaurants will continue during curfew but must adhere to specific closing times which are:
    - Deliveries must be completed by 9:00PM
    - Curbside pick up must cease by 6:00PM
- An adjustment to the Public Gathering Ban directs that no more than two (2) people should be gathered at a time, unless the small group are members of the same household

- For detailed information about all policies implemented by the CIG, including specific details of the Shelter In Place provisions announced today in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit: <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- The Emergency Travel Helpline -- 345-244-3333-- is available Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM, to address any persons that have emergency or compassionate reasons to leave the Cayman Islands.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus) and [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus). Please subscribe to the official [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) page to be notified of key links, press briefings and updates. A FAQs page on the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism website can be found at: <https://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/ourcayman/covid-19-faq>.



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**For Infographic Blurb: 29 March 2020**

New Cases: 4  
Confirmed: 12  
Deaths: 1

## Supermarket Strategy Announced

Four new cases of the COVID-19 virus were reported in the Cayman Islands, bringing the total number of cases to 12.

An urgent request was put forward by His Excellency the Governor to any UK visitors and non-residents who remain on island for these persons to contact the Emergency Travel Helpline at 345-244-3333 to assist his office in negotiating return flights with British Airways once it is deemed safe. The Travel Helpline is open Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM. Any visitor or non-resident requiring travel advice and information, or those who have emergency travel needs are encouraged to call.

A strategy to manage supermarket visits was also announced, coming into effect on Monday, 30 March 2020. To ensure public obedience with the soft curfew hours and social distancing parameters, the following rules will be enforced.

- Adults with the last name starting **A through K** will be allowed to enter supermarkets to shop for essential goods on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays**.
- Adults with the last name starting **L through Z** will be allowed to enter supermarkets to shop for essential goods on **Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays**.
- It is recommended that only one member of the household goes to the supermarket; that he/she shops for the entire household; and it is discouraged for children to accompany.
- Elderly and Vulnerable are described as: senior citizens, disabled persons and pregnant women.
- Elderly, Vulnerable and Essential Workers must also adhere to shopping on their assigned days.

Per the last name protocol listed above, the following supermarkets will be operating Monday through Saturday as follows:

- All Fosters Supermarket locations, including Priced Right

- Hours of operation: 6:00AM to 6:00PM
- First hour reserved for elderly and vulnerable only: 6:00AM to 7:00AM
- Essential Government Staff (with relevant ID) will have a dedicated line from 5:00PM to 6:00PM.
- Hurley's Marketplace
  - Hours of operation: 7:00AM to 6:00PM
  - First hour reserved for elderly and vulnerable only: 7:00AM to 8:00AM
  - Essential Government Staff (with relevant ID) will have a dedicated line from 5:00PM to 6:00PM.
- Cost U Less
  - Hours of operation: 7:00AM to 6:00PM
  - First hour reserved for elderly and vulnerable only: 7:00AM to 8:00AM
  - Essential Government Staff (with relevant ID) will have a dedicated line from 5:00PM to 6:00PM.
- Kirk Market
  - Hours of operation: 6:00AM to 6:00PM

For any further updates on operational hours, please check the specific supermarket's website.

For detailed information about all policies implemented by the CIG, including specific details of the *Shelter In Place* provisions announced today in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit: <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus) and [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus). Please subscribe to the official [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) page to be notified of key links, press briefings and updates. A FAQs page on the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism website can be found at: <https://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/ourcayman/covid-19-faq>.



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**For Infographic Blurb: 30 March 2020**

New Cases: 0  
Confirmed: 12  
Deaths: 1

## **Confidential Online COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool Launched**

No new cases of the COVID-19 virus were reported in the Cayman Islands.

A self-assessment tool for persons concerned they may have coronavirus symptoms is now available online. The self-guided assessment tool was developed by the Ministry of Health, Public Health Department and E-Government to help persons determine if further assessment or testing for COVID-19 should be carried out. If you feel you or someone in your household may have symptoms, you are encouraged to use this new online service by visiting [www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus) and clicking on the self-assessment button; call the 24 hour Flu Hotline on 1-800-534-8600 or 925-6327 (Flow) or 947-3077 (Digicel); or email [flu@hsa.ky](mailto:flu@hsa.ky) for guidance.

His Excellency the Governor shared that a British Airways flight is due to arrive in Grand Cayman via Bermuda in the first half of next week, bringing in supplies as well as providing return passage for Caymanians currently in the UK who wish to return home. They should contact the Cayman Islands Government Office in the UK for further details on +44 (0) 207 491 7772 or email [info@cigouk.ky](mailto:info@cigouk.ky). While the crew of the flight will not leave the airport, any person returning to Cayman is mandated by law to self-isolate for the 14-day period.

Persons seeking to leave the Cayman Islands on this return flight should contact the Emergency Travel Helpline on 345-244-3333 or email [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) as soon as possible. There will be a charge for tickets on both legs of this flight, however, costs haven't been determined at this time. While this flight is not solely for British nationals or visitors, there are limited seats available and ticketing will be on a first come first served basis noting that priority consideration will be given to compassionate cases.

The successful implementation of the supermarket strategy now includes retail banks, effective Tuesday, 31 March 2020 as follows:

- Adults with the last name starting **A through K** will be allowed to carry out banking needs on **Mondays and Wednesdays**.

- Adults with the last name starting **L through Z** will be allowed to carry out banking needs on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**.
- **Fridays** will be open for general admittance.
- For updates on operational hours, please check the specific bank's website.

For detailed information about all policies implemented by the CIG, including specific details of the *Shelter In Place* provisions announced today in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit: <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus) and [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus). Please subscribe to the official [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) page to be notified of key links, press briefings and updates. A FAQs page on the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism website can be found at: <https://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/ourcayman/covid-19-faq>.



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**For Infographic Blurb: 31 March 2020**

New Cases: 2  
Confirmed: 14  
Deaths: 1

### **Airbridge on British Airways Confirmed**

Two new cases of the COVID-19 virus were reported in the Cayman Islands with no travel history, therefore confirming community transmission.

A British Airways flight is due **to arrive** in Grand Cayman on Monday, 6 April **or** Tuesday, 7 April 2020 to allow Caymanians and those with the right to reside in the Cayman Islands to return home.

- Medical supplies will be transported to the Cayman Islands on this flight.
- Travel from the UK is being coordinated through the Cayman Islands Government Office in London.
- For further details call +44 (0) 207 491 7772 or email [info@cigouk.ky](mailto:info@cigouk.ky).
- There is a mandate by law to isolate for the 14-day period in a government facility under strict monitoring for any person returning to the Cayman Islands.

Persons seeking **to depart** the Cayman Islands on the British Airways return flight should contact the Emergency Travel Helpline on 345-244-3333 or email [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) as soon as possible.

- There will be a charge for tickets on both legs of this flight.
- There are limited seats available and ticketing will be on a first-come first-served basis noting that priority consideration will be given to compassionate cases.

A self-assessment tool for persons concerned they may have coronavirus symptoms is now available online. This tool will help users determine the need for next steps or further assessment; you can complete this assessment for yourself, or on behalf of someone else.

- Use this online service by visiting [www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus) and clicking on the self-assessment button

Alternatively, the helpline and emails remain available to provide guidance.

- Call the 24 hour Flu Hotline on 1-800-534-8600 or 345-925-6327 (Flow) or 345-947-3077 (Digicel)
- Email [flu@hsa.ky](mailto:flu@hsa.ky) for guidance

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 1 April 2020**

New Cases: 8  
Confirmed: 22  
Deaths: 1

**British Airways Charter Confirmed for 7 April 2020**

As an update, eight new cases of the COVID-19 virus were reported in the Cayman Islands today. Seven of the new cases had travel history or contact with a positive case, while one did not. These new results further the evidence of community transmission and cement the need for the Stay Home Cayman provisions currently in place.

The British Airways charter flight is confirmed **to arrive** in Grand Cayman on Tuesday, 7 April 2020 to provide those needing to leave the Cayman Islands with transport to London. To-date, 109 persons have requested passage on the flight.

- Medical supplies, including personal protective equipment, will be transported from the UK to the Cayman Islands on this flight.
- The Cayman Islands Government is working to get additional COVID-19 testing kits from South Korea on this flight, as well.
- Supermarket replenishments will be arriving in the Cayman Islands on this flight.

Persons still seeking **to depart** the Cayman Islands on the British Airways return flight should contact the Emergency Travel Helpline on 345-244-3333 or email [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) as soon as possible.

- The cost for the flight has been set at 500 pounds; this cost is not eligible to be paid with British Airways credit, but the airline is willing to refund for existing bookings.
- All persons that are interested in leaving the island for a destination other than London should still contact the Emergency Travel Helpline for assistance.

The Cayman Islands Government is working to develop a plan to help small businesses affected by the curfew guidelines. They advise that the tourism industry will be among those most hardly hit and for that sector to make important decisions regarding employees, especially those that are not citizens of the Cayman Islands.

The Minister of Health announced that the Cayman Islands are experiencing a critical blood shortage and encourages anyone interested in donating to visit <https://giveblood.ky/>. A hospital appointment will be arranged and letter of exemption to the soft curfew will be given to all those who are interested and qualify to give blood.

For anyone experiencing respiratory symptoms or in need of medical advice, the following resources are available:

- Call the 24 hour Flu Hotline on 1-800-534-8600 or 345-925-6327 (Flow) or 345-947-3077 (Digicel)
- Email [flu@hsa.ky](mailto:flu@hsa.ky) for guidance

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 2 April 2020**

New Cases: 5  
Confirmed: 28  
Deaths: 1

## Community Instructed to Follow Curfew as COVID-19 Cases Increase

Five new cases, plus the one outstanding inconclusive test now confirmed as positive, brings the total number of COVID-19 cases reported in the Cayman Islands to twenty-eight. The increase of community transmission has led the Cayman Islands Government to plan for extending the current Shelter in Place provisions — with important amendments to curfew — which will be announced at the press briefing on Friday, 3 April 2020. For a reminder of the current curfew times which remain in effect today: [www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew](http://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew).

Important information recently added to the official government website:

- A comprehensive guide of key messages, advice, and updates – [COVID-19 What You Need to Know - Issue 1 - Download](#)
- The Cayman Islands Centre for Business Development, an entity of the Ministry of Commerce, Planning & Infrastructure, has shared '[16 Tips to Help Your Small Business Survive](#)' - [Download](#)

A British Airways charter flight is confirmed **to depart** Grand Cayman to London on Tuesday, 7 April 2020. Persons (no pets allowed) seeking to leave the Cayman Islands on the British Airways return flight should contact the Emergency Travel Helpline on 345-244-3333 or email [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) as soon as possible. The incoming flight will bring Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other medical supplies to support the COVID-19 effort here in the Cayman Islands.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

Please subscribe to the official [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) page to be notified of key links, press briefings and updates. A FAQs page on the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism website may be found at: <https://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/ourcayman/covid-19-faq>.



Contact: Public Relations  
Tel: (345) 949-0623, Fax: (345) 949-4053  
Email: [pr@caymanislands.ky](mailto:pr@caymanislands.ky)

**For Infographic Blurb: 3 April 2020**

New Cases: 1  
Confirmed: 29  
Deaths: 1  
Fully recovered: 1  
Clinically recovered: 13

**Shelter in Place Provisions Extended and Amended to Limit Community Spread**

One new case of COVID-19 was reported, bringing the number of confirmed cases to 29 in the Cayman Islands. Dr. John Lee, Chief Medical Officer, noted that we now have one fully recovered case and 13 clinically recovered cases.

New curfew amendments per the Shelter in Place provisions were announced today, further extending the alphabet strategy. The provisions for both the hard and soft curfew will coincide to be in effect until 17 April 2020. The hard curfew extension comes into effect this evening, while the amended soft curfew begins when the previous provision expires on Monday 6 April 2020.

- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 7:00PM in place to 17 April 2020
  - All non-essential businesses must remain closed
  - Only persons with the last name starting **A through K** will be allowed to undertake essential travel to convenience stores, mini-marts, building societies, credit unions and gas stations, in addition to supermarkets and banks, on **Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays**
  - Only persons with the last name starting **L through Z** will be allowed to undertake essential travel to convenience stores, mini-marts, building societies, credit unions and gas stations, in addition to supermarkets and banks, on **Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays**.
  - This arrangement does not include essential travel to healthcare facilities, pharmacies and restaurants that provide drive-thru or take out collection of food
  - All persons regardless of last name will be allowed to travel outdoors to exercise or walk pets for no more than one and a half (1.5) hours daily, pending they remain six (6) feet of distance between other persons
- Daily Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM in place to 17 April 2020
  - All persons must stay within the confines of their home except for essential personnel identified by CIG

- Sundays are now on hard curfew for 24 hours from 12:01 AM to 12:00 AM on the two Sundays within that timeframe: 5 April 2020 and 12 April 2020
- Food delivery services will operate during curfew and must adhere to specific closing times:
  - Deliveries must be completed by 9:00PM
  - Curbside pick-up must cease by 6:00PM
- Visits to residential home care facilities are now only permitted with written permission from the Medical Officer of Health.
- Beginning on 6 April 2020, breaches of the Shelter in Place provisions will now be a ticket-able offense with fines ranging from \$250 to \$750 as opposed to being warned for prosecution.

A reminder that the Public Gathering Ban is still in effect of no more than two (2) people gathered at a time, unless the small group are members of the same household.

- For detailed information about all policies implemented by the CIG, including specific details of the *Shelter In Place* provisions announced today in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit: <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>

Important information recently added to the official government website:

- A comprehensive guide of key messages, advice, and updates [COVID-19 What You Need to Know - Issue 1 - Download](#)
- The Cayman Islands Centre for Business Development, an entity of the Ministry of Commerce, Planning & Infrastructure, has shared '[16 Tips to Help Your Small Business Survive](#)' - [Download](#)

The British Airways charter flight confirmed **to depart** Grand Cayman to London on Tuesday, 7 April 2020 currently has 150 travellers with a few seats available. Persons (no pets allowed) seeking to leave the Cayman Islands on the British Airways return flight should contact the Emergency Travel Helpline immediately on 345-244-3333 or email [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) as soon as possible.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 4 April 2020**

New Cases: 6  
Confirmed: 35  
Deaths: 1

**First case of COVID-19 in Cayman Brac**

Six new positive cases of COVID-19 were reported, bringing the number of confirmed cases to 35 in the Cayman Islands—34 in Grand Cayman and the first positive case in Cayman Brac.

The community is instructed to follow all *Shelter in Place* provisions established to curtail further spread of the virus in the Cayman Islands.

- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 7:00PM
- Daily Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM
  - Reminder—the hard curfew begins at 7:00PM tonight, Saturday, 4 April and ends at 5:00AM, Monday, 6 April 2020.
- Full 24hr Hard Curfew on Sunday, 5 April and Sunday, 12 April 2020.

Beginning on Monday, 6 April 2020, law enforcement officers will issue tickets for breaches associated with the regulations of the *Shelter in Place* provisions. These tickets incur fines ranging from CI\$250 to CI\$750. For detailed information on the fines, click [here](#).

All persons seeking to leave the country should contact the Emergency Travel Helpline immediately on 345-244-3333 or email [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) as soon as possible.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

Please subscribe to the official [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) page to be notified of key links, press briefings and updates. A FAQs page on the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism website may be found at: <https://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/ourcayman/covid-19-faq>.



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**For Infographic Blurb: 5 April 2020**

New Cases: 4  
Confirmed: 39  
Deaths: 1

### **Swimming and Fishing Regulations for COVID-19 Soft Curfew**

Four new positive cases of COVID-19 were reported, bringing the number of confirmed cases to 39 in the Cayman Islands; of the total cases, one is noted as fully recovered.

The Commissioner of Police clarified that exercise hours are from 6:00AM through 6:00PM during soft curfew as defined by Public Health (Prevention, Control and Suppression of COVID-19) Regulations, 2020. He further clarified that persons can swim in the sea and fish from shore or a dock as part of the allotted 90 exercise minutes per day (Monday through Saturday), but must adhere to social distancing and group size limitations. Marine and water related activities such as boating, diving, kayaking, snorkeling, parasailing, etc. are **prohibited**.

The community is instructed to follow all *Shelter in Place* provisions established to curtail further spread of the virus in the Cayman Islands.

- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 6:59PM
- Daily Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM
- Full 24hr Hard Curfew on Sunday, 5 April and Sunday, 12 April 2020

Ticketing for breaches associated with the regulations of the *Shelter in Place* provisions begins tomorrow, Monday, 6 April 2020. These tickets incur fines ranging from CI\$250 to CI\$750. For detailed information on the fines, click [here](#).

The Cayman Islands Government (CIG) continues to provide for those persons negatively impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

- For Caymanians needing support from the Needs Assessment Unit (NAU), contact [NAUInfo@gov.ky](mailto:NAUInfo@gov.ky) or 946-0024. Anyone seeking to access services from the NAU as a first-time client should first complete [this pre-assessment form](#).
- Temporary food assistance for qualifying non-Caymanians or work permit holders who have been impacted by COVID-19 may be eligible for emergency supplementary funding. Click here to access [the Non-Caymanian COVID-19 Support application form](#) and follow directions for submission.

All persons still seeking to leave the country should contact the Emergency Travel Helpline immediately on 345-244-3333 or email [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) as soon as possible.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 6 April 2020**

New Cases: 0  
Confirmed: 39  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 1

### **All COVID-19 Regulations Apply for Easter Weekend**

No new positive cases of COVID-19 were reported in the Cayman Islands, therefore the number of 39 confirmed cases remain.

Expect this Easter weekend to be irregular in comparison to previous years in the Cayman Islands. In combating COVID-19, all tourism businesses must comply to the regulations as outlined in the [Public Health \(Prevention, Control and Suppression of COVID-19\) Regulations, 2020](#).

It is important to flatten the curve on COVID-19 in the Cayman Islands by managing your business to these government-mandated regulations. If you are found in breach of these regulations, you will be fined and/or imprisoned.

- Tourism accommodations renting over Easter weekend must adhere to the public gathering ban which sets the maximum to two persons.
- Be reminded that families who have not been dwelling together cannot rent units together over the Easter weekend.
- All Easter camping and social gatherings on beaches and elsewhere are officially prohibited.
- Recreational swimming—not for exercise—in the sea is prohibited.
- All non-essential businesses must remain closed.
- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 6:59PM
- Daily Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM
- Full 24hr Hard Curfew on Sunday, 12 April 2020 (starting Saturday, 11 April at 7:00PM; ending on Monday, 13 April at 5:00AM)

Essential movements in the community are guided by the curfew and surname protocol outlined below:

- Only persons with the last name starting **A through K** will be allowed to undertake essential travel to convenience stores, mini-marts, building societies, credit unions and

gas stations, in addition to supermarkets and banks, on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays**

- Only persons with the last name starting **L through Z** will be allowed to undertake essential travel to convenience stores, mini-marts, building societies, credit unions and gas stations, in addition to supermarkets and banks, on **Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays**.
- To verify operating hours, please contact the business directly.

People may engage in outdoor **exercise**, which includes swimming in the sea as a workout, walking a pet, and shore/dock fishing for a maximum of 90 minutes. This exercise is permitted, whether alone or together with a family member living in the same residence, for no more than an hour and a half each day between the hours of 6:00AM and 6:00PM.

- At such times persons must also maintain a distance of at least six feet or two metres from any another person.
- Exercise is not permitted in a public pool, a public gym, around or in a strata pool or a strata gym.
- Marine and water related activities such as boating, diving, kayaking, snorkeling, parasailing, etc. are **prohibited**.

The Ministry of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure has implemented a micro and small business enterprises relief package to support the business sector and economy during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. The [Cayman Islands Centre for Business Development](#) provides support to small businesses across the Islands. A variety of services are offered to these businesses, including business continuity training and coaching. Micro and small-sized enterprises with an urgent need for assistance with cash flow management, business impact analysis or those that need to redesign or re-think their business models are urged to contact the Centre by email at [CICBD@gov.ky](mailto:CICBD@gov.ky) or phone at 244-3451; 244-2498; or 926-5771.

All persons still seeking to leave the country should contact the Emergency Travel Helpline immediately on 345-244-3333 or email [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) as soon as possible.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 22 April 2020**

New Cases: 0  
Confirmed: 66  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 7

### **UK and Miami Flight Booking Processes Shared**

The Cayman Islands reported no new positive cases of COVID-19 today, maintaining the total number of 66 positive cases.

His Excellency The Governor shared booking procedures for two confirmed repatriation flights.

#### **United Kingdom**

- British Airways flight will arrive on Tuesday, 28 April 2020 and return to the UK via the Turks and Caicos Islands on Wednesday, 29 April 2020.
- To book, visit: [www.otairbridge.com/trips/london-repatriation](http://www.otairbridge.com/trips/london-repatriation).

#### **Miami**

- Cayman Airways flight to Miami, Florida will depart on Friday, 1 May 2020.
- To book, contact Cayman Airways directly starting tomorrow (23 April) during weekday business hours, 9:00AM – 6:00PM at 949-2311, or purchase tickets through the online portal at [www.caymanairways.com](http://www.caymanairways.com).

The Emergency Travel Helpline is available Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM by phone at 244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) to register requests for repatriation flights.

Persons in need of economic assistance should contact the following:

- Caymanians: [NAUInfo@gov.ky](mailto:NAUInfo@gov.ky) or 946-0024
- Non-Caymanians: [CIGCOVIDSupport@gov.ky](mailto:CIGCOVIDSupport@gov.ky) or 244-8000

The *Shelter in Place* regulations remain in effect; visit [www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew](http://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew) for more information.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)

- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

All are encouraged to support the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism's latest social media campaign. From gospel and wellness to culinary and other exciting experiences, these short sessions provide a Caymankind moment for all viewers.

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###



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**For Infographic Blurb: 24 April 2020**

New Cases: 4  
Confirmed: 70  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 8

**Additional COVID-19 Support Measures Passed in the Legislative Assembly**

The Cayman Islands reported four new positive cases of COVID-19 today, raising the total number to 70 positive cases.

The Government Administration Building and Cayman Islands Department of Tourism remain closed to the public until further notice. There is currently no collection of tourist accommodation taxes as the Cayman Islands Government is currently reviewing policies, with more information forthcoming on the matter. Please continue to submit your tourist accommodation tax return form and any supporting documentation to [ar@caymanislands.ky](mailto:ar@caymanislands.ky), including submissions of NIL occupancy.

The first historic sitting of the Legislative Assembly (LA) took place on Thursday, 23 April 2020 which allowed electronic participation by MLAs. To learn more about the five bills passed by the House, click [Legislative Assembly home page](#). These bills include:

1. The Traffic (Amendment) Bill 2020
2. The Immigration Transition (Amendment) Bill 2020
3. The Labour (Amendment) Bill 2020
4. The National Pensions (Amendment) Bill 2020
5. The Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Bill 2020

An additional repatriation flight to Miami on Cayman Airways is now available for booking. The procedures for ticket purchase remain the same for all announced flights.

**Miami**

- Cayman Airways will have two flights to Miami, Florida departing on Friday, 1 May 2020.
- To book, contact Cayman Airways during weekday business hours, 9:00AM – 6:00PM at 949-2311 or purchase tickets through the online portal at [www.caymanairways.com](http://www.caymanairways.com).

### United Kingdom

- A British Airways flight will arrive on Tuesday, 28 April 2020 and return to the UK via the Turks and Caicos Islands on Wednesday, 29 April 2020.
- To book, visit: [www.otairbridge.com/trips/london-repatriation](http://www.otairbridge.com/trips/london-repatriation).

The Emergency Travel Helpline now has an online submission portal:

<https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>. The phone line is available Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM at 244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) to register requests for repatriation flights.

The Cayman Islands Department of Tourism (DOT) is providing two free professional development workshops—FoundEd and Promises—on an e-learning platform. Led by the PRIDE (Personal Responsibility In Delivering Excellence) training team of the DOT, each webinar will take place every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00AM and will run for 45 minutes each. These new e-learning courses are geared toward anyone wanting to continue their professional development in the hospitality industry. For more information and to register, visit [pride.ourcayman.ky](http://pride.ourcayman.ky).

Persons in need of economic assistance should contact the following:

- Caymanians: [NAUInfo@gov.ky](mailto:NAUInfo@gov.ky) or 946-0024
- Non-Caymanians: [CIGCOVIDSupport@gov.ky](mailto:CIGCOVIDSupport@gov.ky) or 244-8000

The *Shelter in Place* regulations remain in effect; visit [www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew](http://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew) for more information.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 27 April 2020**

New Cases: 0  
Confirmed: 70  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 10

### **No New Cases and Limited Postal Services Resume**

The Cayman Islands reported no new positive cases of COVID-19 today, keeping the total number at 70 positive cases.

While all seats have now been sold on the flights to Miami and London, additional repatriation flights to Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and other countries continue to be coordinated by government. Persons are requested to contact the Emergency Travel Helpline by using the online submission portal: <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>. The phone line is available Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM at 244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) to register requests for repatriation flights.

Limited reopening of postal services on all three islands begins Wednesday, 29 April 2020. Government will reopen a single post office on each island for two days a week, 9:00AM to 1:00PM. The post offices that will reopen are:

- Grand Cayman – Airport Post Office
- Cayman Brac – West End Post Office
- Little Cayman – Little Cayman Post Office

Opening days and hours will be the same for all three Islands using the same last name protocol – surnames A to K can visit the post office on Wednesdays, while surnames L to Z can visit on Thursdays – and offer services such as domestic mail, stamp sales and utilities payments.

As a reminder, please submit your tourist accommodation tax return form and any supporting documentation to [ar@caymanislands.ky](mailto:ar@caymanislands.ky), including submissions of NIL occupancy, on or before the 28<sup>th</sup> of each month. There is currently no collection of tourist accommodation taxes as the Cayman Islands Government is reviewing policies, with more information forthcoming on the matter. The Government Administration Building and Cayman Islands Department of Tourism remain closed to the public until further notice.

Sign up for two free professional development workshops—FoundEd and Promises—offered on an e-learning platform. The webinars will take place every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00AM and will run for 45 minutes each. These new e-learning courses are geared toward anyone wanting to continue their professional development in the hospitality industry. For more information and to register, visit [www.pride.ourcayman.ky](http://www.pride.ourcayman.ky) or email [pride@caymanislands.ky](mailto:pride@caymanislands.ky).

The *Shelter in Place* regulations remain in effect; visit [www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew](http://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew) for more information.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 28 April 2020**

New Cases: 3  
Confirmed: 73  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 10

### **Sign Up for PRIDE Tourism Professional Development Webinars**

The Cayman Islands reported three new positive cases of COVID-19 today, raising the total number to 73 positive cases.

Registration for two free professional development workshops—FoundEd and Promises—offered on an e-learning platform is now open. The webinars will take place every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00AM and will run for 45 minutes each. These new e-learning courses are geared toward anyone wanting to continue their professional development in the hospitality industry. For more information and to register, visit [pride.ourcayman.ky](http://pride.ourcayman.ky) or email [pride@caymanislands.ky](mailto:pride@caymanislands.ky).

Repatriation flights to various countries such as Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic continue to be coordinated by government. Persons are requested to contact the Emergency Travel Helpline by using the online submission portal – <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>. The phone line is available Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM at 244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) to register requests for repatriation flights.

Limited [reopening of postal services](#) on all three islands begins Wednesday, 29 April 2020. Government will reopen a single post office on each island for two days a week, 9:00AM to 1:00PM.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 29 April 2020**

New Cases: 0  
Confirmed: 73  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 10

### **Updates to COVID-19 Regulations Continue**

The Cayman Islands reported no new positive cases of COVID-19 today, keeping the total number at 73 positive cases.

Following last week's meeting of the Legislative Assembly, several laws have now been gazetted. To learn more about these laws, visit the [official site](#) for details.

1. The Traffic (Amendment) Bill 2020
2. The Immigration Transition (Amendment) Bill 2020
3. The Labour (Amendment) Bill 2020
4. The National Pensions (Amendment) Bill 2020
5. The Customs and Border Control (Amendment) Bill 2020

Additionally, the Cabinet is scheduled to meet tomorrow, Thursday 29 April 2020, to review the Shelter In Place regulations currently in place through Sunday, 3 May 2020. Any changes to these regulations would be announced officially at a future press briefing.

Repatriation flights to various countries such as the US, Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic continue to be coordinated by government. Passengers traveling to Honduras have additional medical information requirements and must contact Maria Leng at [Maria.Leng@fco.gov.uk](mailto:Maria.Leng@fco.gov.uk) for directions.

To register a travel need, contact the Emergency Travel Helpline by using the online submission portal – <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>. The phone line is available Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM at 244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky).

Reserve your space at the two free professional development workshops—FoundEd and Promises—offered on an e-learning platform for your convenience. The webinars will take place every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00AM and will run for 45 minutes each. These new e-learning courses are geared toward anyone wanting to continue their professional development in the hospitality industry. For more information and to register, visit [pride.ourcayman.ky](http://pride.ourcayman.ky) or email [pride@caymanislands.ky](mailto:pride@caymanislands.ky).

Limited [reopening of postal services](#) on all three islands resumed today, 29 April 2020.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

All are encouraged to support the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism's latest social media campaign. From gospel and wellness to culinary and other exciting experiences, these short sessions provide a Caymankind moment for all viewers.

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###



Contact: Public Relations  
Tel: (345) 949-0623, Fax: (345) 949-4053  
Email: [pr@caymanislands.ky](mailto:pr@caymanislands.ky)

**For Infographic Blurb: 1 May 2020**

New Cases: 1  
Confirmed: 74  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 10

**New COVID-19 Shelter In Place Regulations Begin on 4 May 2020**

The Cayman Islands reported one (1) new positive case of COVID-19 today, raising the total number to 74 positive cases.

Several amendments to the Shelter In Place regulations will begin on **Monday, 4 May 2020** which impact areas such as (but not limited to) curfew hours, exercise, money remittance, non-contact services – such as pool maintenance and landscaping – courier services and more.

To read the updated regulations, which are in effect from **Monday, 4 May to Friday, 15 May 2020**, click on the links below.

- [Prevention, Control and Suppression of Covid-19 Regulations, 2020](#)
- [Public Health \(Prevention, Control and Suppression of Covid-19\) \(Ticket\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2020](#)

**REMINDER: All current [Shelter In Place](#) measures remain in effect until 5:00AM, Monday, 4 May 2020, when the new regulations begin.**

The repatriation flight to Costa Rica on Cayman Airways is now available for booking. To book, contact Cayman Airways during weekday business hours, 9:00AM to 6:00PM at 949-2311, or purchase tickets through the online portal at [www.caymanairways.com](http://www.caymanairways.com).

The online submission portal for all emergency or repatriation travel needs is available at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>. Effective Monday, 4 May 2020, the phone line hours will be 9:00AM to 1:00PM, Monday through Friday, at 244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky).

The Cayman Islands Department of Tourism is hosting two free professional development webinars—FoundEd and Promises—offered every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00AM. For more information and to register, visit [pride.ourcayman.ky](http://pride.ourcayman.ky) or email [pride@caymanislands.ky](mailto:pride@caymanislands.ky).

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- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-travel-tourism>
- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 8 April 2020**

New Cases: 0  
Confirmed: 45  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 5

**COVID-19 Provisions Continue and No New Cases Announced**

There are 45 positive cases of COVID-19 reported in the Cayman Islands with no new cases announced today. Testing will soon become more widespread, in order to further suppress the virus on the islands, with the arrival of 165,000 test kits from South Korea today.

The Premier advised that there would be no press briefings on Good Friday, 10 April 2020 or Easter Sunday, 12 April 2020 unless required. Further guidance on Easter protocols will be announced in tomorrow's community updates.

All *Shelter in Place* provisions, such as the public gathering ban and curfew guidelines, will be enforced throughout the Easter weekend. This includes renting your accommodation during Easter weekend, which would place you in breach of the regulations resulting in fines and/or imprisonment.

- All non-essential businesses must remain closed.
- All Easter camping and social gatherings on beaches and elsewhere are officially prohibited.
- Recreational swimming—not for exercise—in the sea is prohibited.
- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 6:59PM
- Daily Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM
- Full 24hr Hard Curfew on Easter Sunday, 12 April 2020 (starting Saturday, 11 April at 7:00PM; ending on Monday, 13 April at 5:00AM)

Persons still seeking to leave the country are advised to contact the Emergency Travel Helpline on 345-244-3333 or email [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) as soon as possible. The helpline operates Monday through Friday, between 9:00AM through 5:00PM.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)

- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 9 April 2020**

New Cases: 0  
Confirmed: 45  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 5

### **Easter Restrictions Reinforced and Port Closure Updates Announced**

No further cases of COVID-19 were announced today, keeping the total number of positive cases at 45 in the Cayman Islands leading into Easter weekend. To further contain the spread of the virus, the Premier announced all ports will be closed until at least 30 May 2020, except for emergency flights or evacuations.

The government revised the schedules of important COVID-19 resources due to the Easter holidays:

- No press briefing on Good Friday, 10 April 2020 or Easter Sunday, 12 April 2020, unless required.
- [Curfewtime@gov.ky](mailto:Curfewtime@gov.ky) will be closed on Good Friday, 10 April 2020 and Monday, 13 April 2020, reopening at 9:00AM on Tuesday, 14 April 2020.
- The Emergency Travel Helpline, 345-244-3333 or [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky), will be closed on Good Friday, 10 April 2020 and Monday, 13 April 2020, reopening at 9:00AM on Tuesday, 14 April 2020.

The *Shelter in Place* provisions, such as the public gathering ban and curfew guidelines, will be strictly enforced throughout the Easter weekend. This includes renting your accommodation or traveling to your vacation home, which would place you in breach of the regulations, resulting in fines and/or imprisonment.

- All non-essential businesses must remain closed.
- All Easter camping and social gatherings on beaches and elsewhere are officially prohibited.
- Recreational swimming—not for exercise—in the sea is prohibited
- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 6:59PM
- Daily Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM
- Daily Exercise Time: 6:00AM – 6:00PM

- The Chief Medical Officer updated social distancing guidelines for certain forms of exercise, recommending a distance of 15 feet between persons while running and 60 feet while cycling.
- A full 24hr Hard Curfew will be in effect on Easter Sunday, 12 April 2020 (starting Saturday, 11 April at 7:00PM; ending on Monday, 13 April at 5:00AM)

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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Wishing all a happy and safe Easter!

###



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**For Infographic Blurb: 15 April 2020**

New Cases: 6  
Confirmed: 60  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 6

### **Flights to Miami and Nicaragua Now Available**

An additional six confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 were announced today, bringing the total number of positive cases to 60 in the Cayman Islands.

His Excellency The Governor confirmed the following flights have been scheduled this week:

- Miami: Friday, 17 April 2020
  - One inbound charter flight from Miami, Florida which will bring up to 85 Caymanians and Permanent Residency status holders
  - Two Cayman Airways outbound flights to Miami, Florida
- Nicaragua: Saturday, 18 April 2020
  - Two Cayman Airways flights to Managua, Nicaragua – no inbound passengers

All persons interested in taking advantage of these flights should book directly with Cayman Airways on 345-949-2311 or 1-800-422-9626 in the USA.

Persons who want to leave the Cayman Islands outside of these flights must contact the Emergency Travel Helpline on Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM by phone at 345-244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky). Tourism-related businesses are reminded that all air and cruise ports will remain closed for leisure travel until at least 31 May 2020.

Ticketing for breaches are in full effect. For details on ticketing for breaches of curfews, social distancing, non-essential outings and other regulations which incur fines, click [here](#).

**Important Guidelines:**

- All non-essential businesses must remain closed
- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 6:59PM
- Daily Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM
- Daily Exercise Time: 6:00AM – 6:00PM

A reminder that the Cayman Islands Centre for Business Development (CICBD), a unit of the Ministry of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure, will host a webinar this Friday, 17 April 2020 titled "[Supporting Businesses in a Time of Crisis](#)" in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

To view the "Dreaming of Being Reunited" video, please visit our sites:

- [YouTube](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Website](#)

Please subscribe to the official [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) page to be notified of key links, press briefings and updates. A FAQs page on the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism website may be found at: <https://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/ourcayman/covid-19-faq>.

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**For Infographic Blurb: 16 April 2020**

New Cases: 1  
Confirmed: 61  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 7

### **Shelter in Place Provisions Extended**

One (1) additional confirmed positive case of COVID-19 was announced today, bringing the total number of positive cases to 61 in the Cayman Islands.

In an effort to continue to suppress the spread of the virus, the Cayman Islands Government announced an extension of the *Shelter in Place* provisions for an additional 14 nights, beginning tomorrow, 17 April 2020 at 7:00PM and ending on 1 May 2020 at 5:00 AM. This announcement features notable revisions to the exercise guidelines, including an extension of the daily exercise curfew and a ban on using a vehicle to drive to an exercise location. Details on the extended *Shelter in Place* policy are as follows:

- All non-essential businesses must remain closed
- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 6:59PM
- Daily Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM
- Full 24-hour Hard Curfew in effect on Sunday, 19 April 2020 and Sunday, 26 April 2020
- New Daily Exercise Time: 5:15AM – 6:45PM
  - Driving to exercise is prohibited; biking is permitted
- Beaches are subject to full 24-hour Hard Curfew with public beach access and marine activities strictly prohibited.

His Excellency The Governor confirmed an outbound flight to Canada is being arranged for next week with further details to follow. The Canadian Government urges Canadian citizens who wish to be on that flight to register at the Registration of Canadians Abroad website. Only persons who have registered will be allowed on the flight.

All persons interested in taking advantage of the flights to Miami and Nicaragua this week should book directly with Cayman Airways on 345-949-2311 or 1-800-422-9626 in the USA. Flight details are as follows:

- Miami: Friday, 17 April 2020
  - Two (2) Cayman Airways outbound flights to Miami, Florida

- Nicaragua: Saturday, 18 April 2020
  - Two (2) Cayman Airways flights to Managua, Nicaragua

Persons who wish to leave the Cayman Islands outside of these flights must contact the Emergency Travel Helpline on Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM by phone at 345-244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky). Tourism-related businesses are reminded that all air and cruise ports will remain closed for leisure travel until at least 31 May 2020.

A reminder that the Cayman Islands Centre for Business Development (CICBD), a unit of the Ministry of Commerce, Planning and Infrastructure, will host a webinar tomorrow, 17 April 2020 titled "[Supporting Businesses in a Time of Crisis](#)" in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
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**For Infographic Blurb: 20 April 2020**

New Cases: 5  
Confirmed: 66  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 7

**New Trade and Business Licensing Regulations in Effect Through July 2020**

The Cayman Islands now has 66 positive cases of COVID-19, confirmed at today's community update, which announced an additional five positive cases since the last report.

New temporary economic relief provisions for businesses were shared on behalf of the Ministry of Commerce. The approved Trade and Business Licensing (Temporary Reduction in Fee) Regulations 2020 waives the payment of trade and business licensing application fees for businesses, effective 1 May to 31 July 2020; late fees will also be waived during the same time period. For additional information on these regulations, visit [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus) or the Department of Commerce and Investment website, [www.dci.gov.ky](http://www.dci.gov.ky), for trade and business licensing and other relevant information.

Non-Caymanians in need of support should complete and submit [this COVID-19 Support Application Form](#) as advised by the Ministry of Community Affairs, which continues to accept applications for temporary assistance. For more information, call 244-8000, Monday to Friday 10:00AM to 4:00PM, or email [CIGCOVIDSupport@gov.ky](mailto:CIGCOVIDSupport@gov.ky).

For Caymanians, support from the Needs Assessment Unit (NAU) is still available. Anyone seeking to access services from the NAU as a first-time client should first complete [this pre-assessment form](#). Contact [NAUInfo@gov.ky](mailto:NAUInfo@gov.ky) or 946-0024 for information.

The Ministry of Tourism reminds the accommodations sector that there is currently no collection of tourist accommodation taxes. As the Cayman Islands Government is currently reviewing policies, information should be forthcoming on the matter. Please continue to submit your tourist accommodation tax return form and any supporting documentation to [ar@caymanislands.ky](mailto:ar@caymanislands.ky), including submissions of NIL occupancy.

A successful repatriation flight to Canada took place today, and His Excellency The Governor confirmed additional flights to other countries continue to be negotiated. A British Airways airbridge to the United Kingdom (UK) will arrive Tuesday, 28 April 2020 and return to the UK via the Turks and Caicos Islands on Wednesday, 29 April 2020. Online booking procedures will be

announced in the coming days. Persons are reminded to use the Emergency Travel Helpline, available Monday through Friday, 9:00AM to 5:00PM by phone at 244-3333 or email at [emergencytravel@gov.ky](mailto:emergencytravel@gov.ky) to register requests for repatriation flights.

The *Shelter in Place* regulations remain in effect; visit [www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew](http://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus-curfew) for more information.

- All non-essential businesses must remain closed.
- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:01AM – 6:59PM.
- Daily Hard Curfew: 7:00PM – 5:00AM.
- Full 24-hour Hard Curfew on Sunday, 26 April 2020.
- New Daily Exercise Time: 5:15AM – 6:45PM, Monday through Saturday.
  - Driving to exercise is now prohibited; biking is still permitted.
- Beaches are in full 24-hour Hard Curfew with public beach access and marine activities strictly prohibited.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

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**For Infographic Blurb: 15 May 2020**

New Cases: 1  
Confirmed: 94  
Deaths: 1  
Fully Recovered: 55

### **COVID-19 Regulations Changes for Grand Cayman**

The Cayman Islands reported one (1) new positive case, bringing the overall total to 94 positive COVID-19 cases with 54 fully recovered. A new milestone has been reached in regard to testing, with approximately 9 percent of the population having been screened for the virus.

All airports in the Cayman Islands will remain closed to international leisure and non-essential travel until 1 September 2020, according to decisions taken by Cabinet. Official decisions regarding border opening will continue to be reviewed by the Cayman Islands Government and announced accordingly.

Approved travel to the Sister Islands is restricted to returning residents, medical travel and essential services. Adherence to the *Shelter In Place* regulations, which includes mandatory isolation periods, must be followed.

Significant updates to the current *Shelter In Place* regulations for Grand Cayman were announced during today's community briefing. Current regulations remain in effect this weekend, including the public holiday on Monday, 18 May 2020, with the amendments as follows:

- Removal of the 24-hour hard curfew on Sunday, 17 May 2020.
- Persons are now allowed to exercise for 90 minutes between 5:15AM and 7:00PM on Sunday, 17 May 2020.
- Public beaches remain on full 24-hour lockdown until Tuesday, 19 May at 5:00AM.

New regulations that come into effect Tuesday, 19 May 2020 will continue until Monday, 1 June 2020. Highlights of the new regulations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Masks are required when visiting an enclosed business such as a supermarket or bank. Proprietors are allowed within the regulation to refuse entry to persons who do not comply.

- Public transportation providers are allowed to operate, but must follow social distancing parameters of no more than 50 percent carrying capacity. Passengers and drivers are required to wear masks at all times.
- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:00AM – 8:00PM
- Daily Hard Curfew: 8:00PM – 5:00AM
- Exercise, including use of the public beaches on your surname day, is allowed, except on Sundays, for no more than two (2) hours daily.
  - The six-foot social distancing requirements remain.
  - Groups of no more than two (2) persons.
  - Driving to exercise locations will be permitted.
- Fishing – either from shore or while on a boat – is allowed, Monday (excluding the public holiday, 18 May) through Saturday, 5:15AM – 7:00PM.
  - No more than two (2) people per boat.
  - Leisure boating is not allowed.
  - Starfish Point, Rum Point and Stingray Sandbar remain off limits.
- Many businesses have been approved to reopen.
  - A reminder that businesses who fall into approved categories must request formal recognition by completing the application found at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/curfewtime>.

For specific details on all updates to the *Shelter In Place* regulations, please visit [www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus).

A repatriation flight from Grand Cayman to Manila, Philippines via London is scheduled for Saturday, 23 May 2020 (arrival 25 May 2020).

- This is for Filipino nationals and legal residents in the Philippines only.
- No separate visas will be needed.
- Passengers will remain airside at Heathrow Airport; there is no option to disembark.
- Passengers will go into quarantine on arrival in Manila until they test negative for COVID-19.
- Booking instructions will be sent to pre-registered persons.

Additional repatriation flights are still being coordinated. The online submission portal for all emergency or repatriation travel needs is available at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-travel-tourism>
- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
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**For Infographic Blurb: 19 May 2020**

New Cases: 17  
Confirmed: 111  
Deaths: 1  
Recovered: 55

### **Updated COVID-19 Shelter In Place Regulations for Grand Cayman**

The Cayman Islands reported 17 new positive cases of COVID-19 today, raising the total number to 111 positive cases out of 7,082 tested to date.

Updated *Shelter In Place* regulations for Grand Cayman came into effect today, Tuesday, 19 May 2020 and will continue until Monday, 1 June 2020. Highlights of the new regulations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Daily Soft Curfew: 5:00AM – 8:00PM
- Daily Hard Curfew: 8:00PM – 5:00AM
- Masks are required when visiting an enclosed business such as a supermarket or bank. Proprietors are allowed within the regulations to refuse entry to persons who do not comply.
- Exercise, including use of the beaches on your surname day, is allowed, except on Sundays, for no more than two (2) hours daily.
  - The six-foot social distancing requirements remain.
  - Groups of no more than two (2) persons.
  - Driving to exercise locations will be permitted.
- Fishing – either from shore or while on a boat — is allowed any day between 5:15AM and 7:00PM.
  - No more than two (2) persons per boat.
  - Leisure boating is not allowed.
  - Starfish Point, Rum Point and Stingray Sandbar remain off limits.
- Many businesses have been approved to reopen.
  - A reminder that businesses who fall into approved categories must request formal recognition by completing the application found at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/curfewtime>.

Public Transportation services resumed today as part of the new *Shelter In Place* regulations. Operators must adhere to specific guidelines:

- Operate at only half of the total seating capacity of the vehicle.

- Seating in the vehicle is staggered so that each passenger is able to distance himself or herself as far as possible from the other passengers and the driver.
- All persons shall wear masks or cloth face coverings.

Particular areas of the new regulations for Grand Cayman impact properties managed by stratas. The most relevant change is that strata pools and tennis courts are now open. For more information about COVID-19 regulations and stratas, please see infographic below and visit [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus).

While all airports in the Cayman Islands remain closed to international leisure and non-essential travel until at least 1 September 2020, according to decisions taken by Cabinet, an updated isolation policy for returning Caymanians, permanent residents and work permit holders has been confirmed on Friday, 15 May 2020. For more information on the policy visit [here](#).

Further repatriation flights are being coordinated. The online submission portal for all emergency or repatriation travel needs is available at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-travel-tourism>
- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

All are encouraged to support the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism's latest social media campaign. This week we are focusing on experiences like arts & crafts, mixology, wellness and a Friday happy hour music session. Join us for a Caymankind moment that you can share with your network.

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**For Infographic Blurb: 29 May 2020**

New Cases: 1  
Confirmed: 141  
Deaths: 1  
Recovered: 68

### **Updated COVID-19 Shelter In Place Regulations Put Into Effect**

The Cayman Islands reported one (1) new positive case of COVID-19 today, raising the total number to 141 positive cases out of 11,139 tested to-date.

Updated *Shelter In Place* regulations that allow for the expansion of activities will come into effect on Monday, 1 June 2020 and continue until Monday, 22 June 2020. The regulations will be adjusted on Sunday, 7 June 2020 to further ease restrictions in the community. Highlights of the new regulations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Monday, 1 June to Sunday, 7 June 2020
  - Daily Hard Curfew: 8:00PM – 4:30AM
  - All construction businesses may fully operate with social distancing protocols followed.
  - All retail and real estate businesses can fully operate, with masks required when visiting an enclosed business and social distancing protocols observed. The alphabet system applies for visiting these businesses.
  - Exercise permitted in any public place, including government walking tracks which will be reopened.
  - Open-air, no-contact sports, like tennis and golfing, are permitted with no more than two persons.
- Sunday, 7 June to Monday, 22 June 2020
  - Daily Hard Curfew: 10:00PM – 4:30AM
  - Gathering in groups of up to six (6) persons permitted.
  - Beach access permitted on Sundays for all persons from 5:15AM – 9:00PM.
  - Exercise permitted for two (2) hours each day from the hours of 4:45AM – 9:00PM.
  - Restaurants and bars allowed to open for outdoor dining under certain conditions – no more than six (6) persons at a table, tables spaced eight-feet apart, no person can be served indoors.
  - Restaurants can deliver until 11:00PM, with restaurant pickup allowed until 9:00PM.

- Boating, for fishing and leisure purposes, is permitted with no more than six (6) persons on-board; interisland travel, Starfish Point, Rum Point, Stingray City and Sandbar remain off-limits.

A repatriation flight to London is confirmed for Friday, 12 June 2020. Those who registered through the Emergency Travel Helpline will be contacted with details. Cayman Airways has announced three (3) additional flights to Miami on Friday, 5 June, Friday, 26 June and Friday, 3 July 2020. Contact Cayman Airways directly to book seats on these flights.

The online submission portal for all other emergency or repatriation travel needs is available at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-travel-tourism>
- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

Please subscribe to the official [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) page to be notified of key links, press briefings and updates. A FAQs page on the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism website may be found at: <https://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/ourcayman/covid-19-faq>.

###



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**For Infographic Blurb: 5 June 2020**

New Cases: 4  
Confirmed: 164  
Deaths: 1  
Recovered: 93

### **Deadline for Tourism Worker Assistance Extended**

The Cayman Islands reported four (4) new positive cases of COVID-19 today, raising the total number to 164 positive cases out of 13,947 tested to-date.

The Cayman Islands Government has extended the deadline for workers in the tourism industry to apply for financial aid until Sunday, 7 June 2020 at 11:59PM. To apply, visit <https://www.visitcaymanislands.com/en-us/ourcayman/tourism-registration>.

The updated *Shelter In Place* regulations will further relax beginning this Sunday, 7 June 2020, highlighted by the opening of open-air bars and restaurants. Details of the new regulations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Daily Hard Curfew: 10:00PM – 4:30AM
- Gathering in groups of up to six (6) persons permitted.
- Beach access permitted on Sundays for all persons from 5:15AM – 9:00PM.
- Exercise permitted for two (2) hours each day with up to five (5) other people from the hours of 4:45AM – 9:00PM.
- Restaurants and bars allowed to open for outdoor dining under certain conditions – guidelines can be found at <http://www.explore.gov.ky/curfewtime>.
- Boating, for fishing and leisure purposes, is permitted with up to six (6) persons on-board; interisland travel, Starfish Point, Rum Point, Stingray City and Sandbar remain off-limits.

Any persons interested in traveling on the repatriation flight to London on Friday, 12 June 2020 should visit <https://www.otairbridge.com/>. The online submission portal for all other emergency or repatriation travel needs is available at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-travel-tourism>
- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)

- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 12 June 2020**

New Cases: 1  
Confirmed: 187  
Deaths: 1  
Recovered: 115

**New Government Program Announced to Assist Those Affected by Pandemic**

The Cayman Islands reported one (1) new positive case of COVID-19 today, raising the total number to 187 positive cases out of 17,227 tested to-date.

The Cayman Islands Government announced new government programs today to assist those struggling as a result of the pandemic.

- The Ready to Work program will help with industry-specific training for Caymanian employees to prepare them for the work force, while offering employers a six-month subsidy for hiring Caymanians for open positions. Job seekers and employers who want more information on the program should contact [ready2work@gov.ky](mailto:ready2work@gov.ky) for more information.
- The CIG Cares Community Support Program will allow civil servants the opportunity to provide financial support to NAU's grocery voucher fund, which helps put food on the tables of vulnerable Caymanians. Civil servants can choose to voluntarily make a one-time payment or monthly donation to this program through a simple payroll deduction.

Please contact the online submission portal for all emergency or repatriation travel needs at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/travel>.

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- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-travel-tourism>
- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
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###



GRAND CAYMAN | CAYMAN BRAC | LITTLE CAYMAN

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**For Infographic Blurb: 19 June 2020**

New Cases: 2  
Confirmed: 195  
Deaths: 1  
Recovered: 143

## **Suppression Level 2 Facilitates Domestic Tourism**

The Cayman Islands reported two (2) new positive cases of COVID-19 today, bringing the total number to 195 positive cases out of 20,323 tested to-date. Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac are now at suppression level two (minimal suppression) with most businesses allowed to reopen per the changes in regulations which occurs Sunday, 21 June.

These changes now allow for domestic tourism businesses to reopen and operate. Licensed accommodation partners resuming staycations are reminded that all public health guidelines are in effect. To stay up-to-date with the regulations and protocols, [please visit here](#).

All tourism partners are encouraged to review [industry guidelines](#) for sanitation which have been developed by the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism (CIDOT). These best practices apply to the following sectors:

- Attractions
- Guest Houses/Apartments
- Tourism Accommodations
- Public Transport
- Restaurants
- Retail
- Tour Operators
- Dive Operators

For more information on the tourism sector sanitation guidelines, email [sanitation@caymanislands.ky](mailto:sanitation@caymanislands.ky).

Tourism partners who have work permit holders with work permits expired since the shelter in place orders came into force (27 March) are required to apply for a renewal by 30 June 2020 to be in compliance with the law. For general enquiries, call 945-9672 or go on website [www.worc.gov.ky](http://www.worc.gov.ky) or email [worc@gov.ky](mailto:worc@gov.ky).

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-travel-tourism>
- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>
- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 3 July 2020**

New Cases: 0  
Confirmed: 201  
Deaths: 1  
Recovered: 194

### **Additional Restrictions Eased Across Grand Cayman**

The Cayman Islands reported zero (0) new positive cases of COVID-19 today, keeping the total number at 201 positive cases out of 24,637 tested to-date.

The Cayman Islands Government announced additional restrictions will ease beginning Sunday, 5 July 2020, under the second phase of suppression level two (minimal suppression), pending the following of social distancing guidelines and wearing of masks when social distancing isn't possible. Details of the new allowances include, but are not limited to:

- Educational institutions and summers camps may commence full operations, with the exception of contact sports.
- Restaurants and bars permitted to operate both indoor and outdoor services.
- Public and strata gyms open for exercise.
- Persons who wish to travel interisland can notify the medical department to be tested for COVID-19 before travel, and if negative be transported directly to the airport without 14-day quarantine.
- Beginning Sunday, 19 July 2020:
  - Restaurants and bars permitted to allow dancing and karaoke.
  - Nightclubs permitted to open.
  - Contact sports can begin.
  - Groups of more than 10 persons allowed on boating vessels with Starfish Point, Rum Point, Stingray City and Sandbar open.

As of 1 July 2020, the Cayman Islands Government established Travel Time to coordinate and operate repatriation flights to, from and within the Cayman Islands. The online submission portal to apply for emergency and repatriation travel is available at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/traveltime>.

For official information on the Cayman Islands' ongoing response to COVID-19, please visit:

- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/faqs/covid-19-travel-tourism>
- <https://www.explore.gov.ky/government-covid19-policies>

- [www.gov.ky/coronavirus](http://www.gov.ky/coronavirus)
- [www.hsa.ky/coronavirus](http://www.hsa.ky/coronavirus)

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**For Infographic Blurb: 25 Aug 2020**

New Cases: 0  
Current Active Cases: 2  
Confirmed: 205  
Deaths: 1  
Recovered: 202

**Mask Requirements Reduced but Social Distancing Still Recommended**

The Cayman Islands reported zero (0) new positive cases of COVID-19 today, keeping the total number at 205 positive cases.

The Cayman Islands Government (CIG) confirmed that the islands remain at suppression level two (minimal suppression) albeit with further relaxation of specific regulations observed through 30 September, 2020. Details of the new regulations include, but are not limited to:

- Public gatherings have increased from 50 to 250 people
- The wearing of masks inside public places is no longer mandatory, except for the following: a healthcare facility, a residential home-care facility, a prison or place of detention, an airport, or public transportation (taxi, buses, school vehicles, etc.)
- The owners or operators of public places are prohibited from refusing entry to a person on the grounds that the person is not wearing or is wearing a mask
- Physical and social distancing requirements have been lifted, although people are encouraged to refrain from close social contact
- Sporting events are permitted, including up to 250 participants and spectators
- The ban on the rental of scuba or snorkeling equipment has been lifted under the compliance of the following guideline requirements:
  - Register with the Department of Environmental Health prior to renting any equipment to customers
  - Ensure that all shared scuba and snorkeling equipment is cleaned each day using an agent approved for use against coronavirus by the Director of Environmental Health
  - Where a person rents any shared scuba or snorkeling equipment to a customer, that person shall not rent the same shared equipment to another customer until three (3) days have elapsed
  - Comply with the written guidelines issued by the Director of Environmental Health
  - These regulations do not apply to dive tanks

- Boat operators and owners can carry up to 250 people or the boat's legal capacity, whichever is lesser
- The use of hookah, shisha pipes or water pipes remains banned

**COVID-19 Free Screenings**

COVID-19 screening is currently available to all members of the public. Book an appointment by visiting [hsa.ky/appointment](https://hsa.ky/appointment) and using the online calendar. Effective **1 September**, the COVID-19 clinic will move to the previous location of the Flu Clinic – on the side of the hospital facing the Seventh Day Adventist Church, to the far left of A&E.

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**For Immediate Release:**

**Celebrate Earth Day from Home, the Cayman Way**  
*The Cayman Islands Department of Tourism Offers Tips  
for At-Home Celebration, Conservation and Connection this Earth Day*



**Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands (16 April 2020)** – As a leader in conservation and environmental protection, the [Cayman Islands Department of Tourism \(CIDOT\)](#) is leveraging its local experts to share eco-friendly best practices and tips for individuals to use on Earth Day (Wednesday, 22 April 2020), in order to reconnect with nature and find ways to celebrate with loved ones the Cayman way.

Conservationists, officials and community leaders in the Cayman Islands agree that there has never been a better time to slow down and practice environmental mindfulness. With endless opportunities to take-on eco-friendly activities, such as maintaining at-home gardens to making healthy and delicious meals, cleaning up the local community, and using backyard florals to freshen up one's living space, the Cayman Islands serves as the perfect inspiration for those looking to infuse beauty into the world and protect the environment. From breathtaking stretches of white sand beaches to rugged cliffs and vivid underwater ecosystems – the beautiful environment is the heart of what makes the Cayman Islands a spectacular locale.

***Staying Connected with Nature and Each Other***

Knowing it may be hard for some individuals to get outdoors and explore during this time, the [Cayman Turtle Centre: Island Wildlife Encounter](#), Cayman's largest land-based attraction, recommends taking advantage of social media and virtual travel offerings to get a dose of Mother Nature. On Wednesday, 22 April 2020, Cayman Turtle Centre invites green thumbs around the world to participate in a special [tree planting event](#) for Earth Day. Organizers will be planting mangrove and other indigenous trees native to the Cayman Islands and recommend virtual participants to support local conservation efforts by planting local tree species at-home. Those without the means to plant a tree are encouraged to participate via social media.

“Earth Day is too important to miss, so we are inviting everyone to join in our efforts via social media,” said the Centre’s CEO, Tim Adam. “We’ve found that virtual connection is more important than ever, and since we are unable to organize any big public events, we are delighted to be able to carry on in this new way – allowing people from all around the world to participate in our events virtually and spread our mission of conservation far and wide.”

Technology provides a wonderful portal to the outdoors for those living in isolation, and experts urge consumers to utilize these tools to stay connected with family members. Whether video conferencing with friends while enjoying the crisp evening air in the backyard, planting flowers together virtually or sharing a digital cup of coffee while watching the sunrise – technology allows us to celebrate Earth Day together, despite the circumstances.

### ***Let the Sunshine In***

With more than 400 plant species native to the lush Islands, Caymanians are no strangers to natural beauty. [The Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park](#), located in Grand Cayman, is home to 65 acres of wildlife, culture and history, and according to general manager, John Lawrus, Earth Day is celebrated year-round. Lawrus points to nature as a remedy for cabin fever. In addition to taking some healthy time outdoors, another natural way to beat restlessness is to use time at home to improve upon living space.

“While there may not be room for everyone to cultivate a blossoming home garden, the simple reorganization of house plants at home or in the office may provide a feeling of positive change and refreshed perspective,” according to John Lawrus. “Plus, house plants have been proven to boost mood, productivity, concentration and creation, reduce stress and fatigue, and naturally purify indoor air.”

### ***Planting Seeds of Caymankindness***

While many beloved florals, such as Cayman’s national flower, the Wild Banana Orchid, are designed to thrive in the tropical Caribbean climate, consumers can plant a piece of Cayman in their gardens with wild orchid [starter kits](#). With many children participating in virtual learning, conservation specialists recommend home gardening as an opportune home-school lesson to help instill an appreciation for the environment in young children and help relieve anxiety.

“As we continue to navigate this time of isolation with strength and positivity, channeling pent-up energy into home gardening and spending time outside can be a significant stress-reliever, while contributing positively to the environment,” said Mrs. Rosa Harris, Director of Tourism for the Cayman Islands. “Now more than ever, it is important that we do our best to protect our communities by staying home while sowing seeds of hope and showing ourselves some *Caymankindness*. Celebrate Earth Day and start your veggie garden today.”

In fact, the physical and mental health benefits of gardening have been well documented. In addition to providing nutritious produce for healthful family dinners, cultivating a home garden – or even growing herbs and spices on a countertop – offers a variety of unexpected health benefits. Gardening and planting provide exposure to vitamin D, decrease dementia risk, offer mood-boosting benefits and help combat loneliness. Not to mention, extra time spent at-home allows aspiring foodies to get creative with fresh produce and recreate their favorite Cayman-inspired [recipes](#).

Together with on-island partners, the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism extends its heartfelt wishes to its *Caymankind* family throughout the world for a bountiful Earth Day and looks forward to the day our guests can return to share a meal and stroll through the beautiful natural wonders of our Cayman home.

**About the Cayman Islands**

Located 480 miles south of Miami in the vibrant tranquility of western Caribbean, this trio of tiny islands is a premier destination for tasteful travellers, adventurous divers, honeymooners and families alike. World-renowned for its idyllic beaches and recognised as a sophisticated, diverse and memorable tourist destination, the Cayman Islands offers spectacular recreational opportunities along with warm and impeccable “Caymankind” service. From large-group trips and business-focused getaways to ultra-luxurious escapes and multi-generational family vacations, the Cayman Islands provides every element needed to keep guests coming back for more. With an abundance of world-class dining options, a host of adventure activities – including snorkelling, diving, jet skiing, caving, and nature trails – and a variety of meeting spaces for groups large and small, the Cayman Islands is well-poised to host any type of traveller or special occasion.

Showcasing the Cayman Islands’ most distinct and beautiful natural landscapes, the Department of Tourism upholds its position as the Caribbean’s leading luxury lifestyle destination through its latest “Dream in Cayman” advertising campaign. From unmatched settings such as Cayman’s world-famous Seven Mile Beach and the iconic Stingray City sand bar, to unique and off-the-radar locations including Crystal Caves and a local backyard orchid garden, the captivating imagery combines a nod to the Cayman Islands’ unparalleled product and effortless allure with elements of high-fashion advertising to establish wanderlust among discerning travellers.

To learn more about the Cayman Islands, please go to [www.visitcaymanislands.com](http://www.visitcaymanislands.com); [www.divecayman.ky](http://www.divecayman.ky) or call your local travel advisor.

*This material is distributed by Coyne PR on behalf of the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism.  
Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.*

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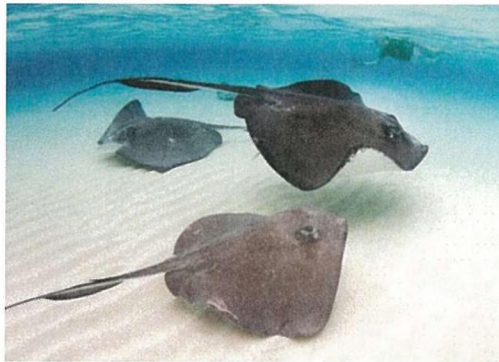


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**For Immediate Release:**

## **The Cayman Islands Works to Sustain, Support and Safeguard Beloved Tourism Experiences in Honour of World Oceans Month**

*Caymanian Ocean Champions Launch Essential Experiences and Observe Marine Sustainability to Preserve  
Future Memories in the Cayman Islands for Years to Come*



**Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands (4 June 2020)** – As a leading Caribbean destination, the Cayman Islands knows a thing or two about maintaining the beauty and diversity of the ocean environment across all three of its islands. In celebration of World Oceans Month in June, the [Cayman Islands Department of Tourism](#) (CIDOT) is partnering with local marine conservation experts to showcase the importance of maintaining a healthy underwater environment. The island destination, home to more than 119,000 square kilometers of national waters, approximately 365 dive sites and thousands of species of marine life, will provide virtual educational opportunities and eco-friendly tips that give future guests and locals the tools to help preserve treasures of the destination’s famous deep blue waters for years to come.

“Calling attention to the vital role the sea plays in our everyday lives, World Oceans Month serves as a reminder for global citizens to take an active role in fighting for the sustainable future of our oceans,” said Mrs. Rosa Harris, Director of the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism. “Here in Cayman, we celebrate the ocean and our seafaring roots, but this international celebration provides a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase the ways in which our partners are protecting Cayman’s natural resources and inviting consumers to participate at-home until we can be together again.”

### ***Little Cayman Offers Hope for Coral Reefs***

One of the world’s most sought-after dive sites and recently named a Mission Blue “Hope Spot,” Little Cayman is a paradise of coral and sand that is home to the [Central Caribbean Marine Institute \(CCMI\)](#), which protects threatened marine species and monitors pervasive ones. Little Cayman’s coral reefs are a

vibrant contributor to the island's rich biodiversity and CCMI has been a champion of reef resiliency for years, despite changing conditions – even increasing reef survival rates by 80 percent since its inception.

In celebration of World Oceans Month and the launch of Little Cayman's "Hope Spot," CCMI is inviting the public to improve their marine knowledge and stewardship by joining its virtual ocean initiative on June 8, 2020. Additionally, as part of the organization's "[We Need Healthy Reefs](#)" campaign, CCMI is hosting an underwater photography exhibition and auction, and launching a free and interactive ocean photography webinar. For more information and to register for the World Oceans Month events, individuals can visit the CCMI's [website](#).

### ***Safeguarding the Legacy***

As an island nation renowned for its exceptional recreational scuba diving, the Cayman Islands is host to a vibrant underwater ecosystem of coral reefs that provide never-ending opportunities for discovery. [Ocean Frontiers](#), a leading dive operator on Grand Cayman, continually plant and maintain coral nurseries, in order to cultivate healthy reefs that grow and fuel the local ecosystems, ultimately safeguarding the deep-rooted scuba diving culture of the Islands.

To engage ocean lovers in the process, Ocean Frontiers provides year-round opportunities for ecologists, divers, and tourists alike to participate in sustainability. Through unique lionfish culling excursions, responsible diving education, underwater webcams and [virtual nursery tours](#), the Cayman Islands is cutting-edge in its approach to ocean conservation.

### ***Sustaining Stingray City***

In the current tourism climate, Caymanians and visitors alike have been concerned for the lovable rays of Stingray City, Cayman's most popular tourist attraction. Officials feared that without ongoing and regular supplemental feeding and human interaction the stingrays would be unable to fend for themselves, however the site and its natural inhabitants has proven to be resilient.

While travelers are staying at-home, the Department of Environment (DoE) was sanctioned to monitor the site and provide daily feedings and human interaction for more than 20 stingrays. Despite initial concerns, the team has reported the rays are still strongly drawn to boat traffic and are gentle when engaging with humans, behaving just as they would under normal tourism conditions.

Though the lapse in international travel and uncertainty that permeates today's news cycle, the Cayman Islands is steadfast in its protection of its stingrays and marine environment – sustaining Stingray City for years to come. For a taste of Stingray City, videos of the quarantine feedings can be found [here](#).

Much like the rays of Stingray City and the resilient coral reefs that inhabit the beautiful blue waters of the Cayman Islands, the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism is eager to welcome back international guests and forge new connections and lasting memories created while experiencing the crystal clear Caribbean Sea for many, many years to come.

### ***About the Cayman Islands***

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**For Immediate Release:**

**Cayman Islands Department of Tourism Announces Postponement of  
20<sup>th</sup> Annual International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame Induction**  
*International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame Class of 2020 will be Honoured in 2021*

**Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands** (August 18, 2020) – The International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame’s milestone 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Induction, set to take place in the Cayman Islands on September 25, 2020, has been officially postponed to 2021. Cayman’s borders will remain closed until October 1, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; therefore, the [International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame](#) (ISDHF) Board of Directors and the [Cayman Islands Department of Tourism](#) (CIDOT) have made the decision to delay the 20<sup>th</sup> Induction Ceremony to ensure a proper in-person celebration can be held on-island for the Class of 2020 inductees, in lieu of a virtual event. The induction ceremony has been rescheduled for 2021 in Grand Cayman.

The ISDHF will forego extending additional invitations to potential nominees in 2021 to properly pay homage to the dive industry pioneers set to be inducted in 2020. The Class of 2020 – Tom Ingram, Jill Heinerth, Jim Gatacre and Avi Klapfer – will take center stage at an official reception in 2021, where they will be officially recognized and inducted into the ISDHF for their accomplishments in the scuba diving community.

“While this year’s ceremony was set to be a milestone for the ISDHF, the health and safety of our honorees, guests and staff is our highest priority, and we are following the recommendations of health experts to postpone the gathering,” said Hon. Minister of Tourism, Mr. Moses Kirkconnell. “We extend our sincere appreciation to the 2020 inductees who were primed to celebrate their accomplishment this year, and we look forward to applauding their lifetime achievements safely in person next year. Our celebration in 2021 will be even more special and sincerely *worth the wait!*”

ISDHF officials look forward to welcoming stakeholders, esteemed guests and inductees to a ceremony that will highlight the important cultural significance of scuba diving in the Cayman Islands, and set the stage for another 20 years of empowerment, achievement and innovation.

The ISDHF was established by the Cayman Islands Ministry of Tourism in 2000 and celebrates dive industry leaders who have contributed to the success of recreational scuba diving worldwide through innovation and advancements made in the areas of dive tourism, equipment design, dive safety, inclusivity, exploration, adventure, innovation and more.

To learn more about the 2020-2021 ISDHF inductees, please visit: [www.isdhf.com](http://www.isdhf.com)

**About the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame**

The International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame was founded in 2000 by the Ministry of Tourism of the Cayman Islands. Since the Cayman Islands is a leading pioneer in dive travel and is a premiere world destination for divers, it seemed only natural that the Cayman Islands should be home to a hall of fame honouring those people who have contributed the most to the sport of Scuba diving.

The mission of the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame is to honour those people who have helped to make the sport of Scuba diving possible, safer, more popular and more enjoyable. The annual induction ceremony takes place in the Cayman Islands every year during the annual induction ceremony.

**About the Cayman Islands**

The Cayman Islands features some of the world's best diving excursions, with each of the three islands offering different diving adventures for all skill levels. Having received countless awards for Best Overall Dive Destination in the Caribbean and Atlantic, the Cayman Islands is also home to the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame, recognising dive industry pioneers since its inception in 2000. The destination is also renowned for its calm clear waters, which offer superb visibility for snorkelling and other underwater experiences.

Located 480 miles south of Miami in the vibrant tranquillity of western Caribbean, this trio of tiny islands is a premier destination for discriminating travellers, divers, honeymooners and families. World renowned for its idyllic beaches and recognised as a sophisticated, diverse and memorable tourist destination, the Cayman Islands offers spectacular recreational opportunities along with warm, impeccable service. To learn more about the Cayman Islands, please go to [visitcaymanislands.com](http://visitcaymanislands.com) or [www.divecayman.ky](http://www.divecayman.ky) or call your local travel agent.

*This material is distributed by Coyne PR on behalf of the Cayman Islands Department of Tourism. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.*

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**14 April 2020**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*National Gallery Art Collection Moves Online*

Alongside the new National Gallery (NGCI) virtual exhibition tours and online education resources, NGCI staff have been working to transform how audiences can continue to enjoy the National Art Collection at the Gallery while its doors are closed. With support from the Fil Foundation, they have now digitized the entire collection online, creating a user-friendly database which visitors can access to research and explore Caymanian art.

The NGCI Collection has quadrupled in the past few years due to the generosity of private donors and with support from the Ministry of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing. Dating primarily from the late 1960s to the present, the works include a wide variety of media, from painting and sculpture to film, photography, new media art, intuitive art and contemporary craft, offering an unparalleled record of the Cayman Islands' rich visual arts history.

The new NGCI Collection Online project features over 200 artworks by more than 80 Cayman-based artists, reflecting the breadth and diversity of NGCI's holdings. Each artwork has a high-resolution image, a descriptive label, a biography of the artist along with exhibition links, and work is organised into five distinct easy-to-use categories: Early Pioneers and Intuitive Art, Realism, Cayman Modernism, Contemporary Art, and Traditional and Contemporary Craft. In addition, users will shortly be able to search by medium, period or style. The newly developed site offers teachers, students and members of the public unprecedented information and insights about Caymanian art and artists.

"Our collections project has been in the pipeline for several months, initially to provide access for the Sister Islands community, local schools and international researchers," says NGCI Director Natalie Urquhart. "This initiative has become all the more significant as museums around the world redirect

their cultural offerings online, opening up and democratising access to the arts at a time when restrictions to travel and freedom of movement have limited our ability to experience art firsthand. While we couldn't have envisioned that it would become the primary way for the community to visit the collection, we are glad to launch the NGCI Collection Online project as a source of inspiration in these unprecedented times."

Accompanying this new database are a wide range of online educational resources, downloadable lesson plans and art activity sheets that include information about art history and local artists under the umbrella of the NGCI, Dart-funded, Minds Inspired programme. These can be accessed via <https://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/learn/learning/school-teachers/teaching-resources/>. Throughout the shutdown period, the NGCI Education Department will continue uploading new resources to this page on a regular basis. Highlights from the Collection can also be viewed daily via the NGCI social media platforms #natgalcayman. To view NGCI's new Online Collections visit <https://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/see/collection/>

Persons seeking additional information about the Collection Online Project, or to research a specific artist, can email [assistantcurator@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:assistantcurator@nationalgallery.org.ky). For educational resources please email NGCI Education Coordinator Maia Muttoo at [education@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:education@nationalgallery.org.ky).

End

Word Count: 473

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Caption 1: New National Gallery Collection Online portal

Caption 2: Wray Banker's popular work 'Ode to Milo work' entitled "3 a Lick No Taws" (1999) can now be viewed online.

### **About the National Art Collection at the National Gallery**

Established in 1996, the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands (NGCI) is the country's leading visual arts museum and education centre, charged with promoting and encouraging the appreciation and practice of the visual arts in the Cayman Islands. Along with hosting temporary art exhibitions, education/outreach programmes, school tours, community festivals, and research projects, NGCI develop and management the National Art Collection which comprises 303 artworks.

The collection is also at the heart of NGCI's school's programme which is supported by Dart. These 'Minds Inspired – Active Learning' tours combine arts education with enriching creative experiences which foster creativity, help build self-esteem, and provide effective and invaluable explorations of culture, cultural heritage, national identity and community values.



MINISTRY OF  
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION,  
TOURISM & TRANSPORT  
CAYMAN ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

**For Immediate Release**

## **Cayman Islands Announces Phased Reopening of Borders from 1 September 2020**

**The Government deploys breakthrough wearable health-monitoring technology from  
BioIntelliSense to enhance safety for visitors and local residents**

**George Town, Cayman Islands (23 July, 2020)** The Cayman Islands Government has announced a phased reopening of its borders starting on 1 September 2020. As a jurisdiction with few cases of COVID-19 to date, the Cayman Islands is deploying groundbreaking technology for screening arrivals using a wearable health-monitoring device which facilitates a controlled, safe reopening of the jurisdiction.

As part of a comprehensive reopening strategy, the Cayman Islands Government is engaging BioIntelliSense, a US-based biotech company that produces medical-grade sensors for continuous health screening, to passively monitor incoming travellers for early symptoms associated with COVID-19. In addition to providing proof of a negative PCR test 72 hours prior to flying, international travellers can opt-in to wear the BioIntelliSense BioButton™ device that monitors their heart rate at rest, respiratory rate and skin temperature to enable earlier detection of symptoms associated with COVID-19.

In announcing the Islands reopening plans Deputy Premier and Minister for Tourism, Hon. Moses Kirkconnell stated "This advanced health screening solution enhances our reopening protocols, providing further confidence that we can once again welcome visitors to our shores while minimising the risk of introducing new cases to the local community. This is especially important while the pandemic is still widespread in the United States and elsewhere. Since March, we have worked hard to suppress the spread of the virus in the Cayman Islands, and protecting the health and safety of our people remains our top priority. Choosing to wait until September to begin the phased reopening will ensure that all of the necessary precautions are in place to restart our tourism economy safely and responsibly."

The Cayman Islands success in suppressing local transmission of the virus can be attributed to the swift closure of borders and subsequent introduction of stringent shelter-in-place regulations, combined with widespread testing. In April, the Cayman Islands Government was able to procure 200,000 test kits and has since tested more than a third of the population. Social distancing measures, good hygiene practices and wearing masks are now well-established in the community.

## **BioButton Health Sensors**

Chief Medical Officer Dr. John Lee has been trialling the technology, wearing a BioIntelliSense medical device for the past month. “I have been able to experience first-hand how unobtrusive it is to wear, and the accuracy of the data it provides. The primary advantage is the BioButton’s ability to provide an alert to any changes in vital statistics that could indicate trending towards a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, and provides Public Health the opportunity to intervene as soon as possible. BioButtons can also be used to facilitate isolation at home and will allow us to introduce enhanced contact tracing.”

The BioButton health sensors communicate via Bluetooth with the BioMobile™ smartphone app as well as BioHubs, which can be placed at the wearer’s accommodations to monitor the user’s whereabouts during a period of self-isolation. Proximity and duration to other BioButton devices can be reported to enhance contact tracing programmes.

BioIntelliSense’s FDA-approved, clinical intelligence technology also supports at-home remote care for patients requiring continuous medical monitoring. Philips, a global leader in health technology, recently announced its strategic collaboration with BioIntelliSense to incorporate biometric sensors into its remote patient monitoring programme. Since the outbreak of Covid-19, BioIntelliSense has been approached by multiple countries, government agencies and airlines interested in applying the technology to heighten travel safety.

“BioIntelliSense is excited to work with the Cayman Islands Government on creating a scalable technology-enabled response to monitoring for symptoms associated with COVID,” said Dr. James Mault CEO of BioIntelliSense. “The BioButton™ health screening and contact tracing solution will augment safety measures for early detection of COVID symptoms to enable proactive intervention and automated care pathways for residents, workforce and visitors.”

## **Phased Reopening**

In the first phase of reopening, visitors and returning residents must register with Travel Time for permission to travel on one of the government-arranged repatriation flights, or by private air. Travellers over the age of 10 must provide proof of a negative PCR test within 72 hours of travelling. Eligible travellers can either opt-in to wear a BioButton and self-isolate in their choice of residence for five days, or quarantine in a Government managed facility for 14 days. Those wearing a BioButton will have a second PCR test five days after arrival and, if negative, will continue their bio-monitoring for a further nine days without the requirement to self-isolate. Government’s Reopening Borders Committee (RBC) is finalising the details of phase one reopening protocols and will publish further information in the coming weeks. Details include how to secure PCR testing, arrangements for self-isolation, data privacy and management and programme fees.

Processes and protocols will be further evaluated and fine-tuned during phase one, while arrival numbers are still limited, to inform decisions on when and how the Cayman Islands moves to phase two of reopening.

“As we gear up for the controlled, phased reopening, hotels and other tourism partners have been putting in place new measures to increase sanitation and support social distancing requirements, as good hygiene practices remain our first defence against the virus, Minister Kirkconnell stated. “At the same time, we want to ensure the guest experience is at the same high standard that visitors have come to expect from the Cayman Islands. We are confident that we are worth the wait.”

Current information about the Cayman Islands Covid-19 response and suppression strategies is available at <https://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus>.

~ENDS~

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For immediate release**

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**CENTRAL CARIBBEAN  
MARINE INSTITUTE**



## **CCMI CONTINUES REEF LECTURE SERIES WITH A LOOK AT TWO DECADES OF REEF RESILIENCE**

*Dr. Gretchen Goodbody-Gringley to present findings from more than 20 years of reef monitoring efforts during online lunchtime lecture*

George Town, Cayman Islands; 13 July 2020 – The Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI) continues its popular Reef Lecture Series with an upcoming online presentation: ***‘Two decades of resilience on the reefs of Little Cayman’*** which will be hosted by recently appointed Director of Research, Dr. Gretchen Goodbody-Gringley.

Since 1999, researchers at CCMI have been monitoring the health of the coral reefs around Little Cayman Island by surveying various aspects of the community on an annual basis. Long-term monitoring studies such as this enable assessment of the resilience of the reef to changing conditions over time and also give a better understanding of the true impact of global climate change. Following the standardized protocol of the Atlantic and Gulf Rapid Reef Assessment (AGRRA), these surveys document patterns of local change over the last two decades and enable regional comparisons through the Healthy Reef Framework developed for evaluating the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef.

During this lunchtime lecture, Dr Goodbody-Gringley will share findings about the change over time for coral cover, coral composition, algae, and fish density and biomass from CCMI’s 20 year data set of annual reef monitoring activity. She will take participants through the findings contained in the recently released technical report, discussing the results and what they tell us about the stability of the coral and fish populations on Little Cayman.

The Reef Lecture will be held online on Wednesday, 22 July, starting at 12 noon local time (UTC -5). The event will be an online webinar, and registration is required. Thanks to the support of Healthy Reefs sponsors, there is no cost to participate; however, donations to CCMI are appreciated and will support the institute’s work for coral reef resilience, as we continue to discover which corals are resilient and can adapt to changing climate.

Members of the public can register to participate: <https://tinyurl.com/LittleCayman>.

*About the Speaker*

Dr. Goodbody-Gringley, CCMI's Director of Research, received her PhD from Harvard University in 2009, where her dissertation focused on coral reproductive ecology and genetic connectivity across the Caribbean. She completed her undergraduate degree in Biology at the University of Georgia and participated in the Three Seas Program through Northeastern University before continuing on to graduate school. After completing her PhD, she worked as a postdoctoral researcher at MOTE Marine Laboratory, where she developed on coral restoration techniques and examined the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. She then spent a year in Italy at the University of Bologna studying genetic connectivity of corals within the Mediterranean, before taking a faculty position at the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences. In Bermuda, Dr. Goodbody-Gringley's research focused on ecosystem function, the adaptation of corals to extreme environments, and the management of invasive lionfish. To conduct her research, she uses technical rebreather diving to access deep reef systems and determine their capacity to serve as areas of refuge under future climate change scenarios. As the Director of Research and Distinguished Scientist at CCMI, Dr. Goodbody-Gringley leads the Reef Ecology and Evolution Laboratory, where she continues to explore deep reef ecosystems and examine the resilience of coral reefs through adaptation and acclimatization.

*CCMI's Healthy Reefs campaign, including activities such as the Reef Lecture Series, are sponsored by Foster's, Ogier, Butterfield Cayman, Aureum Re, Dart, Cayman Islands Department of Tourism, and Knighthead Annuity.*

For more information about CCMI, upcoming events, and how to help protect our reefs, visit [www.reefresearch.org](http://www.reefresearch.org).

#### **ABOUT CCMI**

CCMI is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1998 to protect the future of coral reefs, envisioning a world with vibrant oceans and healthy coral reef ecosystems. We seek to be the Caribbean's premier marine research institute by delivering cutting edge research, transforming conservation strategy and developing education programmes of excellence – discovering and promoting real solutions to declining ocean health. Our plan is to invigorate key species and understand key ocean processes that drive reef resilience. We support early career scientists who are INNOVATING ways to improve coral reef health. We are TRANSFORMING conservation strategy and work to inspire the CHANGE that is needed to achieve our mission. CCMI are PIONEERS in the region working to reverse the declines of coral reefs.

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FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

## 'The Road Back to 500K Air Arrivals':

### Delivering the Plan for Tourism Resuscitation Reinvention in the Cayman Islands

**Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, (22 July 2020)** The Cayman Islands tourism industry has faced disruption in various forms throughout its history, from natural disasters, global economic recessions, to global crises; and has proven resiliency which has led recovery and future successes. Now, with the official launch of the Ministry and Department of Tourism's comprehensive strategic tourism reinvention plan named The Road Back to 500K (RB5), a blueprint has been laid for the phased return of tourism as the country moves to a new normal in a post-pandemic world of travel.

The Honourable Deputy Premier and Minister for Tourism, Mr. Moses Kirkconnell, launched the RB5 today. The plan aims to be a strategic pivot from the main tenets of the [National Tourism Plan \(NTP\) 2019 – 2023](#). The NTP was adopted in February of this year, just prior to the onset of pandemic response in the Cayman Islands which effectively ceased tourism operations in March. However, both the RB5 and the NTP were designed with the same principal goal: to lead tourism effectively, safely, responsibly, and sustainably, now and into the future.

The RB5, developed through extensive collaboration with private sector stakeholders, government partners and in-depth market research, identifies four priority areas that will guide the tourism sector to its return as a major pillar of the Cayman Islands economy. This tourism recovery strategy addresses methods to stabilise businesses; create new opportunities for displaced tourism employees; and creates a plan for the next two to three years, focusing on four priorities:

- **Reinvent for Readiness:** identify current stakeholder challenges and develop the best methodologies to reactivate the tourism sector in an effective and efficient return to be a top pillar of the economy.
- **Stimulate the Domestic Economy:** identify strategies to positively impact the country through domestic tourism as the Cayman Islands transitions through the phases of the COVID-19 crisis to recovery.
- **Regain Global Market Confidence and Market Share:** extensive global marketing and promotions of the best practices and methodologies put in place to ensure the Cayman Islands tourism products and services are operating with the highest safety and sanitation standards for accommodations, events, dive, tours and attractions, transportation, and culinary experiences.

- **Bolster Future Tourism Sector Employment:** this adaptation strategy will develop new definitions of roles within the industry, including the necessary retraining of tourism professionals to adapt to a new way of operating in the tourism market.

“The business of tourism is an undeniably strong sector, encompassing a plethora of industries that are directly tourism-based as well as those that feed into the industry through a variety of services,” said The Hon. Minister Kirkconnell. “I am confident that the RB5 plan provides the best way forward for a purposefully paced economic recovery that will see the country gradually return to the milestone years of record-breaking stayover and cruise visitation. This will be accomplished in a phased approach that includes creating more opportunities for Caymanians to be part of our tourism industry, embracing the opportunity to rebalance the workforce from majority work permit holders to having more well trained and highly qualified Caymanian faces delivering the Caymankind customer service we are known for as a Caribbean destination. We have seen the hardship caused for the more than 1,500 Caymanians who have dedicated their lives and livelihoods to this industry, many of whom were faced with unbelievable economic hardships once the difficult decision was made to close our borders. It is our responsibility now to drive efforts such as the RB5 and the NTP to deliver the benefits of this exceptionally well managed and sustainable tourism development plan are a pathway for long term success.”

While led by the Ministry and Department of Tourism, all stages in the development of RB5 included consultation and collaboration throughout government and private sector to ensure the plan has the broadest and most comprehensive impact for the people of the Cayman Islands and the tourism community. This included:

- Sector surveys for domestic economy stakeholder feedback
- Meetings with the accommodation, dive, and attractions sectors
- Meetings with the Cayman Islands Tourism Association and Chamber of Commerce
- Collaborations with the Public Transportation Board and Hotel Licensing Board on recommendations to support the tourism industry
- Developing sanitation guidelines for the tourism sector to safely welcome visitors back

Focusing on the way forward to methodically reopen the industry as the borders reopen, RB5 provides a controlled, phased approach, outlining best practices, new protocols and procedures, and critical policy considerations that will guide the Ministry and Department of Tourism, government entities, and all tourism stakeholders to success. To view the RB5 plan, visit: [OurCayman.ky](http://OurCayman.ky).

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**14 June 2020**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*National Gallery Launches New Online Exhibition – Art Under Lockdown*

*Art Under Lockdown* is an online exhibition intended to spotlight the creativity of artists and members of the public who have turned to making art as a means of expression during the current COVID-19 pandemic. Using the digital sphere as a way to share art at a time of lockdown and social distancing, the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands (NGCI) seeks to provide a platform for this outpouring of artistic creativity, and to further inspire the community through this exhibition as we continue to grapple with the short and long-term effects of the pandemic.

From family living rooms to children's bedrooms, garages to back yards, Cayman's artists – both established and emerging – have found innovative ways to adapt their workspaces to these new conditions, channeling their feelings through the medium of art. A total of 86 artists submitted work in response to NGCI's Open Call, ranging from student work by children as young as 12, entries by part-time hobbyists taking advantage of the additional time and fewer distractions that lockdown has afforded to many, as well as submissions by professional artists, many of whom feature prominently in NGCI's permanent collection. In the spirit of inclusivity and community all submitted entries were accepted, resulting in an eclecticism of theme and subject matter. The featured artworks consequently reflect the many different ways the community has responded to the pandemic: from moments of quiet introspection and feelings of isolation and fear, to a yearning for nature and the outdoors, through to expressions of gratitude, solidarity and social justice.

*Art Under Lockdown* showcases the fruits of these artistic labours, using digital technology to connect art and people in the most trying circumstances. Says the exhibition's Curatorial Statement, "As the public has come together to support one another, to give generously to those in need and to make collective sacrifices to overcome this pandemic, we have witnessed the remarkable creativity and resilience of our community. Captured through the eyes of artists, this online exhibit offers a portrait of an extraordinary moment in our history; a chance to celebrate the life-affirming power of art and creativity in the darkest of moments."

*Featured Artists:* Abigail Ebanks, Alta and Gordon Solomon, Amy Brown, Amy Jones, Arianna Wheeler, Asha Burton, Avril Ward, Barbie Bodden, Basil Humphries, Brian Tomlinson, Bridget Lott McPartland, Cameron Bridgeman, Carlos V. Garcia, Carol Love, Caroline Neale-Allenger, C.E. Whitney, Charles Long, Chris Humphries, Chris Mann, David Bridgeman, Debbie Chase van der Bol, Dory VanDonzel-Magnan, Erica Birch, Francesca Lindsay, Gabrielle Best, Gale Tibbetts, Giedrius 'Joe' Ploplys, Glory Nicholson, Gretchen B. Wendel, Heather Holt, Hermes H. Solomon-Hydes, J. Teresa Bodden, Jade Wilkinson, Janice Brown, Joanna Humphries, John Broad, John Reno Jackson, Joseph Betty, Juanique Mclean, June South-Robinson, Kaitlyn Elphinstone, Kathryn Elphinstone, Kay Smith, Kaydia Gouldbourne, Kerry-Ann Brown, Kerwin G. Ebanks, Lala (Maria Perla G. Datingaling), Lara Humphries, Larisa Sved, Linda W. Saporoff, Lori Peterson, Lucas Anglin, M.C. Rose-Smyth, Maggie Jackson, Marc Laurenson/STOAK'D, Marcia Codner, Mark Alexander Frazer, Martha Flores, Maureen Lazarus, Megan Ehman, Micky Ackley-Webster, Miralda Dzaghgouni, Morgan Olley, Nasaria Suckoo Chollette, Paige Jordison, Pam Kelly-Laurenson, Pascal Pernix, Randy Chollette, Raphael Leigh Powery, Ren Seffer, Rhonda Edie, Rufus Lovett, Sally Prior, Samantha Twiss, Sarah McDougall, Sarah Monro, Shane 'Dready' Aquârt, Simon Tatum, Simone Scott, Suvi Hayden, Suzette Hislop, Teresa Grimes, Tessa Hansen, Tom Girling, Wil Bignal, and Wray Banker.

*Art Under Lockdown* can be viewed online from 15 June to 31 August 2020, via the National Gallery's website:<https://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/whats-on/exhibitions/art-under-lockdown/>. The related exhibition programme formally launches with a Zoom reception on 18 June, which will feature a curatorial presentation and social event. Additional online events and lectures will continue through August. For more information email [assistantcurator@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:assistantcurator@nationalgallery.org.ky).

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Word Count: 591

Caption 1: Carlos V. Garcia, *Smiling After All* (2020)

Caption 2: Kaydia Gouldbourne, *No Boundaries* (2020)

Caption 3: Mark Laurenson, *Self Portrait, Covid 19* (2020)

Caption 4: Wil Bignal, *Pandemic Relief* (2020)

**About the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands' Virtual Programme**

Throughout lockdown the National Gallery team worked to expand NGCI's digital platforms in a commitment to provide inspiring virtual exhibitions, art information and educational resources online for the Cayman Islands community.

Four National Gallery exhibitions are available via the NGCI website as virtual tours, including NGCI's current exhibition, *Island of Women – Life at Home During Our Maritime Years*, which features 26 local artists. These can be accessed via <https://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/see/virtual-tours/>. These are designed to be self-guided, however guided online Curator Tours for schools and groups can be booked via [assistantcurator@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:assistantcurator@nationalgallery.org.ky).

Under the Teacher Resources section of the site, there are downloadable lesson plans and activity sheets for teachers and families, which include information about art history and local artists, along with suggested art activities designed to support National Curriculum subjects. These can be accessed via <https://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/learn/learning/school-teachers/teaching-resources/>. Throughout the shutdown period, the NGCI Education Department has continued uploading new resources to this page on a regular basis. Persons seeking additional information or resources relating to a specific artist or art theme are invited to email NGCI's Education Coordinator Maia Muttoo at: [education@nationalgallery.org.ky](mailto:education@nationalgallery.org.ky).

NGCI recently digitised their permanent collection through the new *NGCI Collection Online* project on the gallery's website. It features over 200 artworks by more than 80 Cayman-based artists, reflecting the breadth and diversity of NGCI's holdings. Each artwork has a high-resolution image, a descriptive label and a biography of the artist, together with exhibition links, and individual works are organised into five distinct, easy-to-use categories: Early Pioneers and Intuitive Art, Realism, Cayman Modernism, Contemporary Art, and Traditional and Contemporary Craft. In addition, users will shortly be able to search by medium, period or style. The newly developed site offers teachers, students and members of the public unprecedented information and insights about Caymanian art and artists. To view the collection visit: <https://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/see/collection/>.

New to NGCI during lockdown is the online series 'Artist Talks', which features short self-filmed interviews with artists from across the Cayman Islands. These provide insights into local artists' studios and their respective practices. The 'Artist Talks' series can be accessed via the NGCI Blog: <https://www.nationalgallery.org.ky/blog/>.

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## Public Service Announcement

24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### Reefs Go Live - Free modules, open-access for everyone

**Beginning on 27<sup>th</sup> March at 9:30am, CCMI will be releasing a weekly live education session each Friday as part of our Reefs Go Live programme.**

Starting with 'How Do Scientists Grow Coral', the module will include a 5-10-minute video and a 30-minute live question and answer session from CCMI's Education Coordinator, Maisy Fuller, and Marine Operations Coordinator, Giacomo Santoro. Supporting educational resources and activities for students can also be found online at [reefresearch.org](http://reefresearch.org) for extra projects!

The first of three modules, 'How do Scientists Grow Coral?' will include footage of researchers diving on the reefs in Bloody Bay Marine Park, where students will 'virtually' visit Little Cayman's coral nurseries. Students will be introduced to CCMI's coral reef research programme and learn what it is like to be a scientist. In the first module, students will get a brief history about why growing coral is much like gardening, what corals are, why corals are endangered, why it's necessary to grow corals in nurseries, and learn some basic scientific restoration methods.

Over the next three weeks, students will also learn how they can get involved in science. Topics such as endangered species, predators, coral bleaching, and climate change will be included.

Programme information will be shared via our website page:

<https://reefresearch.org/what-we-do/education/reefs-go-live/>

The direct link for the first lesson is: <https://youtu.be/Fik505SnAPw>

Reefs Go Live is CCMI's innovative live-streaming education programme that connects students to the ocean via live broadcasts with our researchers and educators from under the ocean. All broadcasts can be found [online](#) along with a host of teaching and student activities.

For more information about CCMI's education programmes, please contact [education@reefresearch.org](mailto:education@reefresearch.org). For information about sponsorship of Reefs Go Live, or media enquiries, please contact [Kholden@reefresearch.org](mailto:Kholden@reefresearch.org).