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DISCOVERY

CARIBBEAN, MEXICAN RIVIERA & PANAMA CANAL
2007/2008 CRUISES



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GRAND TURK

A cabana on one of many sandy beaches on Grand Turk

PORT OVERVIEW

Turks @ Caicos is an idyllic archipelago of islands and cays boasting 230 miles of white, sandy beaches and some of the world's choicest dive sites.

The main island of the collection is Grand Turk, where the capital, Cockburn Town, boasts charming frame houses with gingerbread verandas. Although modern conveniences have come to the island, the pace of life is slow here; on some parts of the island, you might see townfolk traveling on donkeys.



Crystal-clear waters surround the islands.

TURKS & CAICOS TOURISM BOARD



A colorful coral reef

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Fast Facts

CLIMATE

Easterly trade winds keep the air dry, especially in winter. Temperatures vary from 75°F in winter to a high of 95°F in the summer, with an average year-round temperature of 83°F.

LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the Turks & Caicos Islands.

LOCATION

The Turks & Caicos Islands lies 575 miles southeast of Florida, halfway between Miami and Puerto Rico, and 30 miles south of The Bahamas.

MONEY

The U.S. dollar is the legal tender. Traveler's checks and all major international credit cards are accepted throughout the islands.

POPULATION

Approximately 14,000 in all the islands

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HISTORY
LESSON

A STRING OF ISLANDS

Divers and beach lovers favor Turks & Caicos.



Turk's Head cactus

Turks & Caicos takes its name from two sources: the Turk's Head cactus and the words *caya hico*, which mean "string of islands" in the Lucayan language. The Lucayan and Taino peoples were the first inhabitants, but both had disappeared by the mid-16th century.

Many Flags

Like many Caribbean countries, Turks & Caicos has been ruled by an ever-changing series of nations. In 1766, after being controlled at various times by the Spanish, French and British, it became part of The

Bahamas — which abandoned it in 1848, when attempts to integrate failed. The islands were annexed to Jamaica in 1874, but were cut loose again after Jamaicans won their independence in 1962.

Warm Welcomes

Turks & Caicos has been a British Crown Colony since 1972. Despite all the changes in rule, Turks & Caicos has been stable for more than 250 years and is now a top destination for divers and beach lovers, especially families.

