



Quick Facts

Land Area:	430 sq. Km 166 sq. miles
Location:	The most easterly Caribbean island located at 13.1°N, 59.32°W.
Time Zone:	GMT – 4 hours Barbados does not observe daylight saving time.
Capital City:	Bridgetown
Climate:	Tropical Average Daytime High 70°-85°F 21°-30°C Relative Humidity 60-70%
Language:	English
Political Status:	Independent Member of the British Commonwealth
Government:	Parliamentary democracy
Governor General:	His Excellency Sir Clifford Husbands
Prime Minister:	The Honourable David Thompson, M.P.
Literacy Rate:	99.7%
UNDP Human Development Index 2008:	37th of 179 Countries 3 rd in Western hemisphere after Canada and USA
Population 2008:	275,300
Population Growth Rate 2008:	0.2%
Infant Mortality Rate 2008:	18.3 per 1,000 births
Life Expectancy:	76.6 years
Labour Force 2008:	143,800
Unemployment Rate 2008:	8.1%
% Real GDP Growth 2008:	0.7%

Per Capita GDP @ Factor Cost 2008:	US\$10,400
% Annual Inflation Rate 2008:	7.3%
Major Industries:	Tourism, Financial Services, Sugar, Agriculture & Manufacturing
Major Trading Partners:	CARICOM, USA, UK, Canada, Germany, Japan
Imports (CIF) 2008(P):	US\$1,746.5 Million
Domestic Exports 2008(P):	US\$263.15 Million
Tourist Arrivals 2008(P):	568,873
Currency:	Barbados dollar which is fixed at Bds\$2.00=US\$1.00
Measures:	Metric system

Public Holidays

There are twelve paid public holidays in Barbados each year. The list of holidays for July 2009 through December 2010 is below. **Note:** Where a public holiday falls on a Sunday, the holiday is celebrated on the following day.

Name of Holiday	Date in 2009
Emancipation Day	August 1
Kadooment Day	August 3
Independence Day	November 30
Christmas Day	December 25
Boxing Day	December 26

Name of Holiday	Date in 2010
New Years Day	January 1
Errol Barrow Day	January 21
Good Friday	April 2
Easter Monday	April 5
National Heroes Day	April 28
Labour Day	May 1
Whit Monday	May 24
Emancipation Day	August 1
Kadooment Day	August 2
Independence Day	November 30
Christmas Day	December 25
Boxing Day	December 26

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