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| Bahamas





Bahamas

The Bahamas, an archipelago of 700 islands less than 100km southeast of Florida, USA, has been independent since 1973. The Queen remains the head of state and the country is a firm member of the Commonwealth of Nations. When Columbus discovered the American Continent in 1492 his first landfall was in the Bahamas (on San Salvador Island). For the following five centuries The Bahamas became a British crown colony in 1718, when the British clamped down on piracy.

In terms of GDP per capita, The Bahamas is one of the richest countries in the Americas (following the United States and Canada), with an advanced economy focused on tourism and international finance. Its currency, the Bahamian Dollar (BSD), has been kept at a 1-to-1 peg with the US Dollar (USD) since 1966. The Bahamas is a predominantly Christian country (mostly Protestant and Catholic), with a population of



350'000. About 90% of the population identifies themselves as black and 5% as white. The official language is English.

Due to its welcoming climate, public safety, pleasant nature and absence of taxes a long list of celebrities have chosen to take residence or own a property in The Bahamas. Among them are Bill Gates, Sean Connery, Shakira, Johnny Depp, Mariah Carey, Tiger Woods, Beyonce and David Copperfield.

The Bahamas is a member of the United Nations (UN), Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and Organisation of American States (OAS).



Immigration

Financially independent individuals or investors who are legitimate owners of a residence in The Bahamas can be admitted to the country directly as permanent residents, and the country has a long history of wealthy foreigners choosing to make it their first or second home.



Program Features



Processing time
2-3 months



Investment of minimum
BSD 750'000 in real estate



Required documents include: Birth, and marriage or divorce certificates; certificates of criminal or police record from the country of origin and residence; two character references



Documents must be apostilled (if the issuing country is a signatory of the Hague Convention) or, if not, attested by a Bahamian consulate abroad.

Benefits



Permanent residents enjoy the friendly fiscal climate without income, capital gains, wealth, inheritance, gift and corporate tax. They can also make use of the excellent banking infrastructure as onshore customers.



Travel to the USA is facilitated by US immigration in The Bahamas. Arriving passengers from the Bahamas do not need to clear immigration after they land in USA.



Direct flights from many cities in USA, Canada, UK, Panama and Caribbean countries.

Disclaimer

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Government of The Bahamas
Department of Immigration
www.immigration.gov.bs



Antigua & Barbuda

Mr. Kevin Hosam
1 268 788 1234
kevin@ec-holdings.com

8 Columbus Drive, Hodges Bay
St. John's

Bahamas

Mr. Patrick Feuz
CFA, TEP
+1 242 603 5599
patrick@ec-holdings.com

Albany Financial Center, Suite 601,
South Ocean Boulevard, Nassau

Latvia

Ms. Baiba Krievina
Mag. iur, EMBA
+371 292 577 21
baiba@ec-holdings.com

Terbatas 14, Floor 4&5
LV-1011 Riga

Nigeria

Mr. Benedict Popo
LLB (Hons)
+234 1 632 3355
bpopo@ec-holdings.com

7 The Terraces
39b Rumens Road, Ikoyi, Lagos

Singapore (Head Office)

+65 6991 2345
info@ec-holdings.com

20 Cecil Street, # 14-01
S-049705

St. Kitts and Nevis

Mr. Telbert Glasgow
Ph.D., TEP
+1 869 469 5501
telbert@ec-holdings.com

Suite 7, Henville Building
P.O. Box 258, Charlestown, Nevis

St. Lucia

Mr. Jonathan McNamara
+1 758 451 7308
jonathan@ec-holdings.com

Almond Road & Flamboyant Drive
Rodney Bay Village, Gros Islet

Turkey

Mr. Güvenç Kentenci
+90 216 510 05 72
ketenci@ec-holdings.com

Gardenya Plaza 5, Floor 13
Atasehir, 34758 Istanbul

Vanuatu

Mr. Martin St.-Hilaire
CPA CA, MBA
+678 77 44 500
martin@ec-holdings.com

Govant Building, Lini Highway
P.O. Box 1276, Port Vila



Patrick Feuz - CFA TEP Partner

Patrick Feuz is a Swiss citizen and has been living in The Bahamas since 2011. He served as the CEO of Julius Baer Bank (Bahamas) Limited and Gonet Bank & Trust Limited (Bahamas). Patrick began his career in the 1990's at Swiss Bank Corporation in Zurich, Switzerland and acquired extensive knowledge and expertise in the field of international private banking at UBS, Credit Suisse, Julius Baer and Gonet in Switzerland, Latin America, the Caribbean and the USA. Patrick holds an MS in Business/Managerial Economics from the University of Zurich and is a CFA Charterholder. He also holds the Trust and Estate Practitioner designation (TEP). He is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of wealth management company Principal Global Advisors Limited in The Bahamas.