



EC HOLDINGS

RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP

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| Bahamas





Bahamas

This chain of 700 islands and 2,400 cays, just 50 miles (80km) southeast of Florida, is the home to the most pristine beaches in the world. Or, as retired NASA astronaut Scott Kelly put it, "the most beautiful place from space."

A British crown colony from 1718 until independency in 1973, the country keeps political and legal traditions that closely follow those of England (Westminster system, common law, Privy Council in London as the final court of appeal for The Bahamas). The Commonwealth of The Bahamas is a parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy. The Prime Minister is the Head of Government, while King Charles III remains the Head of State. The Bahamas has been a stable and uninterrupted democracy for over 300 years. The country is a committed member of the Commonwealth of Nations and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), with strong bilateral relationships with the United States and the United Kingdom.



The total population of 390,000 is predominantly Christian, and the official language is English. The Bahamas has the highest GDP per capita of all independent countries in the Latin American and Caribbean regions. Its advanced economy is heavily focused on tourism and financial services. The official currency is the Bahamian Dollar which has been pegged to the U.S. Dollar at a 1-to-1 exchange rate since 1966.

Bahamian citizens and residents enjoy a tax-neutral environment; there are no income, wealth, capital gains, inheritance, or corporate taxes.



Immigration

Financially independent individuals or investors who are legitimate homeowners in The Bahamas can be admitted directly as permanent residents. A residency allows individuals to live and work in the country.

The Bahamas is the most successful and only full-fledged international financial center in the Caribbean today, and the most tax and crypto-friendly jurisdiction in the Americas. Its unique geographical location off the coast of Florida makes it the ideal gateway to North and South America. Almost 100 years of thought, effort, and cooperation has produced ideal conditions for High and Ultra High Net Worth individuals, families, and businesses to manage their wealth efficiently in comfort and style, making The Bahamas their primary or secondary home.

Due to its welcoming climate, public safety, discretion, pleasant nature, and absence of taxes, a long list of celebrities, sports professionals, and billionaires have chosen to take residence or own a property in The Bahamas. Among them are Bill Gates, Joe Lewis, the late Sir Sean Connery, Nicolas Cage, John Travolta, Johnny Depp, David Copperfield, Shakira, Beyoncé, Shania Twain, Mariah Carey, Justin Timberlake, Michael Jordan, and Tiger Woods, to name just a few.



Program Features



Processing time:
2-3 months



Investment minimum:
BSD/USD 750,000 in real estate



Required documents include:
Birth and marriage or divorce certificates; certificates of criminal record from country of origin and residence; two character references; one financial reference indicating that the applicant is financially independent



Official 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 clients



Travel to the United States is facilitated by U.S. (immigration) pre-clearance at Nassau International Airport. Arriving passengers from The Bahamas do not need to clear immigration after they land in the USA



Direct flights from many cities in the USA, Canada, U.K, Panama, and Caribbean countries

Disclaimer

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Partner

Patrick is a Swiss citizen and has been living in The Bahamas since 2011. He is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Principal Global Advisors, a licensed asset management company in The Bahamas, the preeminent international financial center in the region. Previously, he served as the CEO of Julius Baer Bank (Bahamas) Limited and Gonet Bank & Trust Limited (Bahamas). Patrick began his career in the 1990s 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 U.S. He holds an MS in Business/Managerial Economics from the University of Zurich and is a CFA Charter holder. He also holds the Trust and Estate Practitioner designation (TEP).