

Q: What are your favorite things to do in and near Man-O-War?

A: Whether boating, beaching, dining, snorkeling, or just napping in a hammock, there is no shortage of fun and relaxing things to do in and near Man-O-War. On the "FAQs & Downloads" page of the website for our house, BeachHappyBahamas.com, you can download maps with suggestions for many of our favorite things to do and see in the area. There is also information to help with planning and logistics for your trip, a packing and provisioning list, boat and golf cart rental information, and more.

Q: Man-O-War sounds amazing, but how do we get there?

A: Book your flight into Marsh Harbour International Airport (MHH). After you clear Customs with your luggage, go outside and hire a cab (taxi drivers are standing by) to take you to the ferry landing (about 10 minutes from airport). Take the G & L Ferry to Man-O-War. If time allows, you can stop for groceries along the way to the ferry landing (see grocery question below.) If you are renting a powerboat, they may be able to meet you at the ferry landing with your boat.

Q: What is the Ferry Schedule?

A: Go to G & L Ferry's website (gandlferry.com) to check their schedule for Marsh Harbor (MH) to/from Man-O-War (MOW).

If scheduled times will not work, you can inquire about a special charter by emailing gltransportation2012@gmail.com or call, text, or WhatsApp to (242) 816-2628 or Grant at (242) 577-0611. Cost is \$25 per person/round trip for scheduled service. Inquire regarding special charter rates.

Q: Do you have a taxi driver that you recommend?

A: Yes, you can arrange in advance to have a taxi driver waiting for you. Here are two drivers with large, clean vehicles. We highly recommend them both. It is best to contact them with WhatsApp (see the WhatsApp question below).

Jeff Key (242) 357-6980 Jeff lives on Man-O-War. He is extremely helpful with information, help and advice. His van can carry up to 11 passengers.

Donna Burrows (242) 559-8304 Donna lives in Marsh Harbour. She is very professional and always on-time. Her vehicle carries up to 7 passengers, but she can also arrange a second taxi, if needed.

Q: Is there anything we should do before we arrive?

A: See the "Beach Happy Packing & Provisioning List" document on the "FAQ's & Downloads" page of our website for ideas of things you might want to bring with you – and what you can leave behind.

At least a week prior to your visit, please contact our caretakers, Charmaine (Char) and Glenn Albury (242) 458-3115 alburycharmaine@gmail.com. Please give them your flight information, your arrival plans (ferry vs. rental boat), and your arrival time. This will allow them to make sure the house is opened up and ready for your visit. Char typically likes to meet visitors at the dock when they arrive.

Q: What about groceries?

A: You can usually get just about all the groceries you need at Man-O-War Grocery. The grocery store is open 8 am – 6 pm Monday through Saturday. Please note that the store, as well as other businesses on Man-O-War, is closed on Sunday. Man-O-War Grocery has a very good selection, and if you do not see what you need, ask the clerk when the next boat/shipment is scheduled to arrive and come back then.

If time allows on your way to the ferry landing from the airport, you can stop at Maxwell's Supermarket in Marsh Harbour. Just ask your taxi driver to stop along the way. Have your grocery list pre-planned so you can be as efficient as possible. If you're planning to stop at Maxwell's, you might want to bring a few reusable grocery bags and/or soft insulated cooler bags.

On your trip to the ferry landing, you might also want to stop at a liquor store in Marsh Harbour for your favorite alcoholic beverages. Alcohol is not sold on Man-O-War, but you are welcome to bring your own with you (BYOB to MOW).

You may want to bring some meat from home with you. The best method is to freeze it in advance and check a cooler as your luggage. (Check your airline's size limit for checked bags.) You might also bring any specialty grocery items you don't want risk being without. You cannot bring any fresh produce into the Bahamas, and they will confiscate it at Customs. You will find fresh vegetables, fruit and leafy greens at the grocery stores, but you may have to be flexible with your menu plans.

The MOW Coffee Shop, open Tuesday through Saturday, has fresh pastries, hot breakfast items, and your favorite coffee drinks in a friendly café atmosphere. Be sure to also check out the adjoining Man-O-War Heritage Museum for a fascinating, hands-on look at the island's history.

Look for local specialties while on the island. Dock-n-Dine has casual dining right on the water, as well as ice cream, milkshakes, and more. Russell's will often have fresh bread that you can order. Homemade ice cream can be picked up from Walter & Winnie's driveway on most Saturdays. Ask Char about being added to MOW Eats Chat on WhatsApp, and you will be notified of opportunities for delicious island treats and home cooked specials.

If you feel like eating out, see the "Map of Restaurants & Dining Near Man-O-War" document on the "FAQ's & Downloads" page of our website for some suggestions.

Q: Can we rent a boat?

A: Yes, you will have lots of opportunities to explore the abundant reefs, other beautiful beaches, and nearby islands if you have a boat. Make your boat reservations as soon as possible since there are a limited number of rental boats in the area.

We highly recommend Conch Pearl Boat Rentals, which is located on Man-O-War. Contact Micah Albury at (242) 813-7392 or Dave Albury at (242) 577-5277. **Calling or messaging through WhatsApp is the best way to get in touch!** conchpearlboatrentals.com. Be sure to ask if you can use one of Conch Pearl's dock spaces for your rental boat. If you're renting a boat for your whole visit, Micah or Dave are often available to pick you up at the ferry landing with your boat (and take you back to the ferry landing at the end of your visit).

A few more boat rental places to try include Island Marine Boat Rentals (Hope Town), Cats Paw (Hope Town), Blue Wave Boat Rental (Marsh Harbour), Elbow Cay Boat Rentals (Hope Town), Barefoot Boat Rentals (Hope Town) and Dive Guana (Guana Cay). See the "Helpful Information about Boat Rentals, Dock Spaces, and Golf Cart Rentals" document on the "FAQ's & Downloads" page of our website for contact information.

Q: Where do we keep our boat?

A: If you rent your boat from Conch Pearl Boat Rentals, you can typically use one of their docks. Otherwise, you can use the Lower Public Dock or the Upper Public Dock (slips available on a first come - first served basis). You can also rent a dock at the Man-O-War Marina or with a local homeowner. We also have a mooring buoy in Eastern Harbour that you are welcome to use.

See the "Helpful Information about Boat Rentals, Dock Spaces, and Golf Cart Rentals" document on the "FAQ's & Downloads" page of our website for more information.

Q: Can we rent a golf cart?

A: Yes, you will love having the convenience and fun of having a golf cart during your stay.

Contact Ms. Shauna Hicks at Sojer Cart Rentals at <u>sojercarts@gmail.com</u> or by messaging/calling through WhatsApp (242) 812-0737 or (242) 458-3753. Or contact Ms. Ms. Nikita Reckley at Man-O-War Golf Cart Rentals at <u>mowgolfcarts@gmail.com</u> or via WhatsApp (242) 801-1576.

Q: Should we download WhatsApp?

A: We highly recommend you download this free App. Most of the folks on Man-O-War use it, so it will be very convenient to have before and during your stay. WhatsApp will allow you to message and call for free using WiFi at the house or via your phone's internet connection. If your family or friends back home have WhatsApp, you can easily keep in touch during your visit. (Note: make sure you initially activate your WhatsApp account before you leave the U.S. You cannot activate an account with a U.S. phone number from outside the U.S.)

Q: Is there internet at the house?

A: Yes, WiFi is available throughout the house via Starlink satellite connection. There is a range extender on the middle floor to improve service in the bedrooms. The network name and password information are located on the router box.

Q: Is electricity in the Bahamas as bad as we've heard?

A: It's worse. Unreliable is far too kind a description for the Bahamian power grid.

This is a big part of why we installed a whole-house solar power system at BEACH HAPPY. Our electrical power is provided by solar panels on the roof, which charge batteries on the ground floor. Please turn off bedroom air conditioners during the day in order to give the batteries time to recharge. Please turn off the upstairs air conditioner when you go to bed in order to conserve power in the batteries at night. This will make sure the batteries get fully charged and you have power (and bedroom air conditioning) all night, regardless of what might be going on with the local power grid.

In case of prolonged cloudy weather (or in case you forget to turn off the air conditioners), we are connected to the local utility as a backup power source. It's just not always reliable.

Q: Do you have any special stuff at BEACH HAPPY that kids might like?

A: For adventures in and on the water, we have a wide selection of masks, fins, and snorkels you can borrow, as well as kayaks (2), paddleboards (3), and surfboards (2). For beach games, we have Cornhole, Spike Ball, Kan-Jam, Ladder Golf, Bocce Ball, Horseshoes, and more. We have a basketball, volleyball, soccer ball, and football. (There is a basketball & volleyball court at the school, plus a softball field nearby.) For after-dark fun, the bunk room has a TV with DVD player and X-Box 360, along with a variety of movies and games. We also have a wide selection of board games, craft paints/brushes, a guitar, a ukelele, and a steel drum.

Q: Do you have a grill?

A: Yes, there is a propane grill on the top floor for guests to use to BBQ or cook their catch-of-the-day.

Q: Any advice about mosquitos?

A: Mosquitos are typically most active in the spring and summer, especially near sunset. Fortunately, BEACH HAPPY is tall enough that we don't usually get many mosquitos on the top floor. However, they do like to sneak their way into the middle floor bedrooms and ground floor bunkroom.

We have removable bug screens on each of the ocean-facing bedroom doors, in case you want to sleep with the doors open to listen to the ocean waves while you fall asleep (but would rather keep any nighttime insect visitors out). Feel free to take them off, if you would prefer. We also have mosquito nets for the beds on each of the middle floor bedrooms. They're easy to hang from the hooks installed on the walls. They are stored in the closets.

Q: Can we bring our dog?

A: Yes, with some advance planning you can bring your best friend along to the Bahamas. (Due to allergies, cats are not allowed.) BEACH HAPPY charges a \$200 pet fee and requires guests to remove all pet evidence and doggie DNA from the property before departure. Email us at BeachHappyBahamas@gmail.com to let us know you'd like to bring your dog with you, and we'll fill you in on the logistics of how to do it.

Please note that our golden retriever, Cody, lives with us at BEACH HAPPY much of the year. So if you happen to find some fur hiding in a corner (we hope you don't), please chalk it up as part of the experience.

Q: Can we add our hometown to your BEACH HAPPY Hometowns Signpost?

A: If you're up for it, please paint a driftwood sign for your hometown and add it to the BEACH HAPPY Hometowns Signpost in front of the house. During beach walks on your visit, keep your eyes open for a favorite piece of driftwood. We have paints and brushes for you in the living room on the top floor.

Q: Other suggestions?

A: Bring a good amount of cash (more than you think) for your taxi, your ferry, the Thirsty Cuda (floating snack/drink bar at Tahiti Beach), and some small cash for tips (e.g. the ferry staff that will help you load your luggage onto the boat). Credit cards are accepted in most stores and restaurants. The Bahamas accepts both U.S. dollars and Bahamian dollars, and the exchange rate is one-to-one. So there is no need to exchange money before arriving.

Check out the "Beach Happy Packing & Provisioning List" document on the "FAQ's & Downloads" page of our website for more suggestions of what to bring.

Q: What if we have a really big group, and we will not all fit at BEACH HAPPY? What if there are only a few of us, and we're looking for a smaller home? Do you have any recommendations?

A: We highly recommend SEA BISCUIT, which is located next door to BEACH HAPPY. This classic Man-O-War cottage sleeps seven (2 queen bedrooms plus 3 twin beds in the loft) and is located right on the beach. It is charming! Their website is SeaBiscuitBahamas.com Email the owners directly at SeaBiscuitBahamas@gmail.com

Q: If we want to return to BEACH HAPPY in the future, do we have to rent through VRBO?

A: In addition to renting through VRBO and Airbnb, you are welcome to contact us directly, BeachHappyBahamas@gmail.com, about renting BEACH HAPPY, and we can block out the dates that you request. If you would like to book directly with us, our nightly rates are slightly lower and it will save you from paying the extra fees and taxes that VRBO and Airbnb add. We keep the calendars on VRBO and Airbnb up to date, as well as on the "Reservations" page of our website. Those are all great places to see if the dates you want are available. Our website, BeachHappyBahamas.com, has more information about booking directly with us.