

U = Little Harbour

## Some of Our Favorite Things to Do Near Man-O-War Cay

**A = Beach Happy**. Home! Our happy place. Play on the beach. Kayak and paddleboard. Or just lay in the hammock and enjoy the view. There's no better place to spend time with family and friends. See "Some of Our Favorite Things to Do AT Beach Happy" for more ideas.

**B** = The Low Place. A favorite beach of both Man-O-War locals and visitors. A fun destination by golf cart or by boat. On the Sea of Abaco side, there is a protected cove with a sandy beach and a small gazebo. Perfect for snorkeling, picnicking, or lazing about in the water or on the beach. Always calm, even when seas are rough. Swim to the rocks to find lots of sea biscuits. See "Some of Our Favorite Things to Do in Man-O-War" for more ideas

**C = South Man-O-War Channel**. A great place for snorkeling, lobstering, or spear fishing. Lots of small coral formations along the south end of Man-O-War. A sure-fire location to find conch for dinner.

**D** = Sunken Barges. A great place for snorkeling or spear fishing. Two sunken barges within the channel just north of the harbor entrance to Man-O-War (26° 35.350' N 77° 00.346' W). Recommended for stronger swimmers only, as the water is about 25 feet deep at the barges.

**E = USS Adirondack and Man-O-War Train Wreck**. On the Civil War wreck of the USS Adirondack (26° 37.188' N 77° 00.210' W), eleven cannons, the mast, deck plating, and propulsion system remain. The Adirondack wrecked on the reef while unsuccessfully enforcing a Union blockade and was abandoned, with no loss of life. On the Man-O-War Train Wreck (26° 36.867' N 77° 00.116' W), you can explore the well-preserved, coral-encrusted remains of two late-1800's locomotives and their coal cars. The trains were on a barge, bound for Cuba and the Spanish-American War, that hit the reef and sank. Both wreck sites are directly off of the Low Place, in depths from 10 to 15 feet. The Adirondack is near the outside of the reef. The trains are near the inside of the reef. It's advisable to only visit the wrecks on a calm day and if you have a very good chart-plotter GPS. (Note: most rental boat companies do not allow you to take rental boats to this part of the reef.)

**F** = North Man-O-War Channel. Conch and sea biscuit bank. Typically, just on the Sea of Abaco side of the Fowl Cay islands, at the edge of where the sand and seagrass meet, you'll find lots of conch and sea biscuits. Pull snorkelers from a line behind the powerboat at low speed until you find it, then drift from there.

**G = Fowl Cay Reef Preserve**. Huge coral formations and lots of fish. Near the north end of the preserve, there are buoys to tie up to at some favorite snorkeling spots. Or you can just drop an anchor in a sandy spot and swim to nearby coral heads. Ideally, go with sunny skies and near high tide to make navigation through the coral heads easier. Note that Fowl Cay is a protected nature preserve. Look but don't touch. No fishing or taking souvenirs from within the Preserve.

**H** = **The Hot Tub**. A summertime favorite. On the Sea of Abaco side of the northernmost of the Fowl Cay islands, there is a small beach. During the summer, waves and tide often carve out a small pool in the beach near the rocks, which gets toasty warm at mid-day, especially at low tide. Enjoy exploring the island too, but be sure to bring footwear, as the coral is sharp and hot.

**I = The Lagoon**. Caribbean beach paradise and a local favorite (and a favorite of young sea turtles too). The Lagoon is a sandy white beach in a protected cove on the north end of Scotland Cay. Get there through the cut between Scotland Cay and Guana Cay. If you happen across it while snorkeling, a sunken car provides an interesting artificial reef. At low tide, walk across the sound to explore the nearby islands.

J = Guana Cay. A fun day trip. As far north as you're typically allowed to take a rental boat. Nippers and Grabbers, two great beach bars/restaurants, are a short walk from the public dock. Dive Guana is based here too – your best local option for arranging a SCUBA diving trip. If you go to Dive Guana, ask for Troy or Maria Albury. (Troy's aunt, Theresa, is our next-door neighbor at Beach Happy.)

**K = Johnny's Cay Reef**. A nearby spot for great snorkeling or spearfishing, and nobody seems to know about it. Huge, vibrant coral formations. Lots of fish and turtles. Sandy bottom only 10 to 15 feet deep. Go out the channel north of Elbow Cay, then anchor just behind the reef outside of Johnny's Cay. Protected from most wave directions. Ideally, go with sunny skies and near high tide to make navigation through the coral heads easier.

**L** = Hope Town. Fun town to explore. Park your boat at the public dock and walk north through town for shopping and restaurants. Logistically, the liquor store here is the easiest option for a beer and wine resupply. Climb the Hope Town Lighthouse for a spectacular view. Gas pumps for refueling your boat.

**M** = **Tahiti Beach**. A wide sandbar at the south tip of Elbow Cay. The white sand and blue water are breathtaking. It is above water at all but high tide. If you're lucky (or you check their schedule online and plan accordingly), the "Thirsty Cuda" floating barge might be there selling snacks and drinks.

**N** = **Abaco Inn**. Lunch and a view. A fantastic menu and a stunning view of the ocean. Ask for the bar menu and sit outside on the deck. A great place to stop on the way back from Tahiti Beach or Sandy Cay. Enter via the channel on the Sea of Abaco side and tie up at their dock. The Inn's two gift shops provide a fun shopping outing while you're waiting for your food.

**O** = Marsh Harbour Ferry Landing. AKA The Crossing. Where the G&L Ferry to/from Man-O-War leaves from. A great place to meet your rental boat or pick up late-coming visitors.

**P** = **Conch Inn**. Fantastic food. A great place for lunch or dinner. Owned by Man-O-War residents. You can arrange to leave your boat here if you need to run errands in Marsh Harbour.

**Q** = Mermaid Reef. A very easy reef for novice snorkelers and mermaids-in-training. Because it is in the Sea of Abaco, the water is usually calm, even when the Atlantic is stirred up. It's a short swim from a sandy beach at one of the resorts in Marsh Harbour, so you might encounter fellow snorkelers there even if there are no other boats.

**R** = **Boat Harbour**. A huge marina and hotel complex. Another option for refueling your boat or having a meal.

**S** = **Snake Cay**. Drift diving. Protected snorkeling area that is a great option if the ocean is rough. Follow the channel to the south of the Snake Cay spit. Lots of coral on the north side of the channel. At tide changes, the current rips through the channel, so you can drift dive easily (but make sure someone is in the boat to come pick you up).

**T = Sandy Cay Reef**. Diver's and snorkeler's heaven. Sea turtles, eagle rays, huge coral, lots of fish, and an occasional shark. A pristine reef. Probably the best snorkeling area in the Abacos. There are a number of buoys to tie up to right next to the reef. Make sure you go at slack tide (e.g. right around high tide or low tide), as the current at the reef can get pretty strong. Powdery white beaches across the channel to the east are a great picnic spot. Note that Sandy Cay is part of Pelican Cays Land and Sea Park, which is a protected nature preserve. Look but don't touch. No fishing or taking souvenirs from within the Preserve.

**U** = Little Harbour. A long day trip. As far south as you're typically allowed to take a rental boat. Pete's Pub, a great beach bar/restaurant, is here. Lots of local artwork is for sale. Typically, there are lots of young sea turtles in the harbor.