

St. John's, Antigua, Caribbean

Antigua's capital greets ships with two walk-off piers right in the heart of town — making it one of the Caribbean's most convenient ports. Beyond the duty-free quays, 365 beaches and a UNESCO World Heritage naval dockyard await.

Docked — Heritage Quay or Deep Water Harbour

Typical call: 7-9 hrs

Eastern Caribbean Dollar (USD widely accepted)

English

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:

Arrive:

All aboard:

Excursion:

Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Heritage Quay (walk-off to town) or Deep Water Harbour (~1 km from center)

Best For: Beaches, snorkeling, history (Nelson's Dockyard), and stingray encounters

Walk to center: 0 min from Heritage Quay; 10-15 min from Deep Water Harbour

Don't Miss: Nelson's Dockyard National Park & Shirley Heights Lookout

Getting around: Taxi \$12-15 USD · Rideshare not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Nelson's Dockyard & Shirley Heights** — UNESCO-listed English Harbour holds the only continuously operating Georgian-era naval dockyard in the world.
 - Stingray City Antigua** — Take a short boat ride out to a shallow offshore sandbar near Seaton's Village to wade in waist-deep water and hand-feed Southern stingrays in their...
- Beach Day — Dickenson Bay or Fort James** — Fort James Beach is the closest to the port (10-min taxi), with calm water and vendors.
 - Catamaran Sail & Snorkel** — Sail along Antigua's south coast to snorkel Cades Reef, one of the Caribbean's longest fringing reefs.
 - Rainforest Zipline Safari** — Fly through Antigua's interior forest canopy on a multi-line zipline course, then explore the island's rugged landscape on an off-road safari.

BEST WALKS

- Heritage Quay to St. John's Cathedral** 1.5 km · 20 min · Easy — Leave Heritage Quay heading east on Thames Street, passing Redcliffe Quay's colonial storefronts.
- Pier to Public Market** 0.8 km · 10 min · Easy — From Heritage Quay, head south on High Street into the heart of the local market district.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		82°	76°	16d
Jun		85°	78°	15d
Aug		86°	79°	21d
Sep		86°	79°	21d
Oct		85°	79°	19d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:51AM–6:23PM · Jun 5:33AM–6:42PM · Aug 5:50AM–6:32PM · Sep 5:55AM–6:08PM · Oct 6:00AM–5:45PM

Eastern Caribbean Dollar (USD widely accepted)

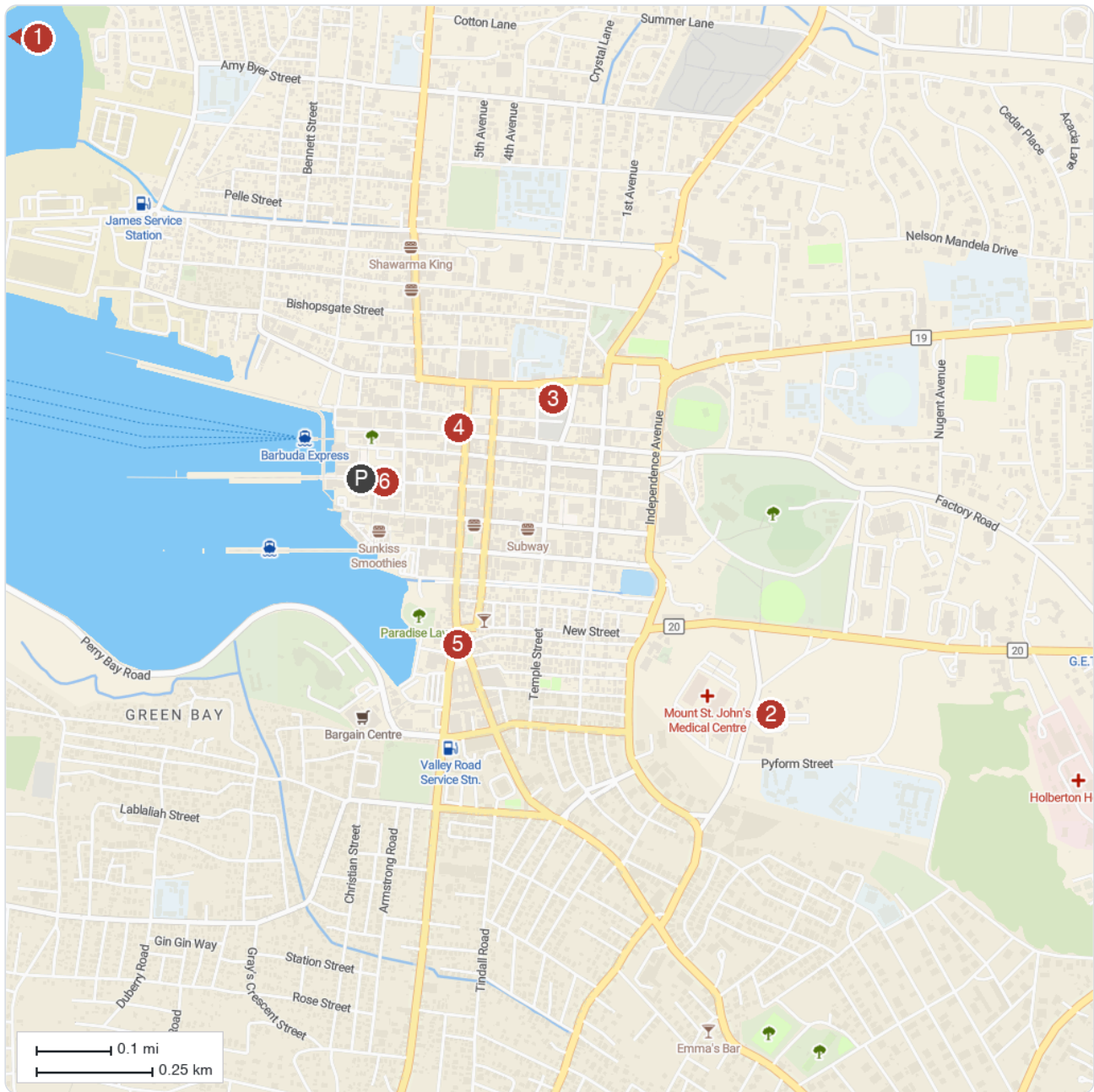
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- USD is king. Eastern Caribbean Dollars are the official currency but US dollars are accepted almost everywhere at a roughly 2.7:1 rate. Change is given in EC dollars — use them up before you leave.
- Negotiate taxis before you board. Rates are regulated but not metered. Agree on the price upfront. Shared taxis (route taxis) to beaches cost less but run on their own schedule.
- Fort James Beach is the easy beach call. Only a \$5-8 USD taxi ride from the pier, it's calm, quiet, and uncrowded compared to excursion beaches — perfect if you just want sand and a swim.
- No camo, ever. Antigua law prohibits civilians from wearing camouflage clothing or accessories. It's strictly enforced and applies to children too — leave any camo gear on board.
- Book Nelson's Dockyard early. It's about 30-40 minutes from St. John's and worth at least 2 hours on site. Combined with Shirley Heights, it fills a half-day — plan it as a morning activity to beat afternoon heat and crowds.
- Cades Reef is the best snorkeling. Shallower inshore spots can have low visibility; catamaran tours that go to Cades Reef on the south coast give you the real Caribbean reef experience.

St. John's, Antigua, Caribbean — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 1 Fort James | Historic fort ruins offering panoramic views of the bay. | 2 Holy Family Catholic Cathedral | Modern Catholic cathedral, a significant place of worship. |
| 3 Saint John's Cathedral | Iconic Anglican cathedral with distinctive twin baroque towers. | 4 Museum Of Antigua & Barbuda | Museum detailing Antigua and Barbuda's rich history and culture. |
| 5 VC Bird Monument | Statue honoring Vere Cornwall Bird, Antigua's first premier. | 6 Antigua Cruise Port | Main port for cruise ship arrivals and departures. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |