Infinity Bay 1003 Visitor's Guide

Thank you so much for booking with us! We are so excited for you to discover our favorite island. We have put a lot of love into our condo, and we hope you find it as special as we do. Here are a few tips and suggestions of some of our favorite things to see/do/eat! If you have any other specific questions, please do not hesitate to ask and we will do our best to help!!

Transportation

If you plan on staying on West Bay Beach to relax, swim, snorkel, and dive, you definitely don't need a car. But, if you're the type that likes to explore, there is plenty to see around the rest of the island. There are taxis and private drivers that can take you all around the island, but if you have a lot of people in your group this can get expensive. You can rent a car from one of the companies at the airport, which you can find by searching online, or if you join one of the many Roatan travel Facebook sites, there are many private rentals as well. If you just want a car to explore for just a day or two, there is also a car rental company in West Bay Mall, the shopping complex located on the road just a few minutes down from Infinity Bay, and another car rental place just inside the entrance of the Infinity Bay complex,. With these places, you can rent a car for a short period of time. Infinity Bay offers transportation to and from the resort for $15 roundtrip per person, and for a similar price, you can also hire a private driver to pick you up from the airport and bring you to our place.

If you are looking for a private diver, we recommend Jesi Alvarez with Roatan Driver (she's on Facebook- or contact her on whatsapp at +504 9542-6832). She is reliable and communicative and speaks great English. She will also add in a stop to the grocery store on the way to our condo, so you can stock up on supplies. Mention that you are staying with Becky Smith and she will make sure you are taken care of.

We have rented "island cars" in the past from a local named Leonardo +504-3246-1274. He also can be a private driver and he is very reliable, and a great communicator. He recently handled all transportation (airport transfers + excursions) for our group of 50 guests without any issues. If you rent from him, he will meet you at the airport with a car ready to go. His cars are much cheaper than the mainstream car rental companies. However, they are definitely "island style" and much more run down…we are fine with that, since we don't have to worry about our kids getting the car dirty and sandy, but it's not for everyone. He usually just accepts cash, but if you ask, it's possible he takes credit cards. He'll also stop at the grocery store on the way to the condo if you ask him ahead of time.

If you are looking for newer cars/suvs and want insurance and the ability to pay for car rental by credit card, we recommend Werner Leon Sun. His English is also very good. +504-9435-9696 whatsapp.

Food/Drinks

There are more restaurants than you will ever need located in West Bay Beach within walking distance of our condo. We also recommend taking a water taxi to West End to check out all of the restaurants there! You can't go wrong with most places to eat in Roatan, and we have found that food and drinks here are cheaper than most other islands we have traveled to. Here are a few of our favorites!

- **Bananarama**- Having little kids, our favorite place to eat/drink is Bananarama. It is right next door on the beach, super casual, very reasonably priced, and the food is yummy!! They have a white board and post 2 for 1 food and drink specials every day. They also have delicious pizza, so it's a favorite for our pickiest family members. They are super casual, and we can show up for lunch in swimsuits and the kids can play in the sand until their food is ready. They also have fun entertainment at night, including live music, karaoke and trivia nights. Our favorite drink on the island is also from here. Order a Bananarama, you won't regret it!! (They also make them virgin… our kids always ask to go back to Roatan to drink the Bananaramas!!)
- **Beachers**- A close second on West Bay Beach is Beachers. They are a short walk down the beach toward West End. Their coconut shrimp is delicious, and they have a lobster special on Monday nights where you can get a couple of lobster tails with sides for about $20. Get there early on Mondays because they fill up fast!!
- **Kristi's Island Restaurant**- Located right across the street from the Ocean One Complex, just outside of West Bay lodge. Owned by a couple of expats, their food is delicious. The restaurant is small though, so unless you are going on an off time, plan to make reservations for dinner!
- **Kismet**- If you're looking to get away from the crowds, check out Kismet at the Meridian at Lighthouse Point. This condo development is in a neighborhood up the hill past Infinity Bay resort and has a restaurant on the beach at the westernmost point of the island. They are open for lunch

and dinner. You can walk there, but it's about a 15 min long, hot, walk uphill. Otherwise, drive or take a taxi. The area is very secluded and it's especially nice on cruise ship days, when West Bay Beach gets more crowded. You can explore the beach and walk along the trail along the iron shore before or after your meal, and there are lots of gorgeous views and photo ops. We actually got married here!!

- **Luna Muna at Ibigari**- Still in the West Bay area, but not on the main West Bay beach, there is a cute boutique resort called Ibigari. They have an amazing restaurant…it's pricey, but worth it. We especially recommend it for brunch. The setting is gorgeous and the food is delicious!
- **Las Rocas**- All the way down at the end of West Bay beach, toward West End, is Las Rocas. You need to cross over the boardwalk on the end of the beach to get to it. Very yummy, very reasonable priced food for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Try the lobster burrito and the fish empanadas, you won't regret it! One thing to note, though- it can get very buggy, especially in the early evening.
- **The Drunken Sailor**- For a true hidden gem, check out The Drunken Sailor in West End. Walking by, this looks like one of the many little dive bars in West End, but this is actually an amazing little Italian restaurant owned by an Italian expat and his family. The food is authentic Italian, and super reasonably priced for what it is. The owner is frequently in the back cooking and will come out and explain the menu to you. This place is tiny, so we recommend either getting reservations or going early or at an off time.
- **Ginger's**- Located in Half Moon Bay in West End, they serve some of the best fresh fish on the island. They are another perfect location where you can order food and let your kids splash in the calm, shallow water while they are waiting for their meal.
- **Sundowners**- If you make it to West End, you have to check out Sundowners, as it's an icon. It's a 2-story bar, right on the water, that frequently has live music at night. This is where all of the divers and expats go every evening to hang out. We sipped drinks while our kids played in the shallow water with a couple of local friendly dogs. Sunset views from here are insane.
- **Sandy Buns**- Also located in West End…the best cinnamon bun you will ever have in your life. Trust us.
- **Lily Pond Garden**- This is another true hidden gem, located in West End. Most people who have visited Roatan have never heard of it. It is owned by an absolutely lovely man named Zack and his partner, who own a bed and breakfast and restaurant. The restaurant is very small and intimate and is reservation only. You can find them on facebook and message them through there or send them a message through WhatsApp. It is located all the way down West End road to the right, past sundowners, in the neighborhood section in the back of West End. The menu is very small but every single thing on it is carefully prepared and delicious. The fish they serve literally melts in your mouth. This is more of an adult restaurant, as the ambiance is much more upscale, but Zack was great with our 2 little kiddos, providing them with cooking utensils to play with during the meal, and introducing them to his dogs, fish, and bats (yes, bats!!)

Frequently Asked Questions About Roatan

How do you pay for goods, and what currency is accepted?

Currency & Conversion:

The US Dollar is accepted everywhere in Roatan, so no need to stress about exchanging money before you arrive. Occasionally, prices will be listed in Honduran Lempiras, but vendors will still take USD.

If you need to do a quick conversion, the rate is roughly 26 Lempiras to $1 USD — so something priced at 100L is about $4. There is also a converter calculator on every iPhone. If you open up calculator and hit the calculator icon and toggle on convert, you can automatically convert Lempiras to US dollars (or any currency)

Heads-up: If your dollar bill has even a small tear, it may be rejected. Bring crisp bills if you can!

Credit Cards:

Credit cards are accepted most placed, but not all. Your safest bet is using Visa and Mastercard. American Express is hit-or-miss, so best to have a backup.

Unlike in the U.S., vendors in Honduras rarely charge a credit card fee, and if you're paying in Lempiras, your credit card company will handle the conversion — usually at a better rate than the vendor would offer.

We highly recommend using a card with no foreign transaction fees, even if you're paying in USD, since those fees can still sneak in.

Tipping Tip:

When paying by card at restaurants, you'll usually need to tell your server the tip amount before they run the card, since there's often no line to write it in afterward. If you forget, cash tips are always welcome.

A good rule of thumb is to tip around 15%.

Small Bills Are Your Best Friend:

We always bring a stash of $1s and $5s — a few hundred dollars' worth — and it makes life so much easier. Local vendors and service staff really appreciate small bills, especially for tips, snacks, taxis, and quick purchases.

Sales Tax Surprise:

Just a heads-up — sales tax in Roatan is pretty steep, ranging from 15% to 19% depending on what you're buying. If a price doesn’t include tax, it can be a bit of a surprise at checkout.

Most vendors are great about letting you know whether tax is already baked into the price. When in doubt, just ask — no one likes unexpected math on vacation!

Conveniences

We recommend bringing all toiletries and staples you need from home, but in a pinch, they have everything you need. We recommend getting all convenience items and groceries at Eldon's, the big grocery store, on your way to our condo from the airport.

- **Fresco**- This is a fresh fruit and vegetable market located right across the street from the entrance to the Ocean One complex, just down the street from Infinity Bay. Very handy for picking up breakfast staples at snacks for the condo… and of course avocados for guacamole for evening porch hangouts!
- **Convenience/Grocery Stores** - There is a small (and very expensive) convenience store named Octopus which is located in the West Bay Mall, the outdoor complex of shops along the road just to the left out the entrance to Infinity Bay. There is a small grocery store located right next to Beacher's restaurant on West Bay Beach. They have staples and alcohol… again, not cheap, but very convenient. If you have a car, we recommend going to Eldon's, a large supermarket, which is located in Coxen Hole right by the airport. Alternatively, if you don't have a car, many private drivers or taxis will stop at the grocery store on the way to West Bay from the airport for only a few extra dollars if you ask them.

Activities

- **Snorkeling**- Some of the best snorkeling in the world is just down the beach from our place! When you get out to the beach, turn left and walk all the way to the end, where the rocks are. Enter the water here and swim straight out to the reef, and then go right. There is a huge reef that surrounds the island, and if you swim out, you get to a big shelf with a drop off. You can snorkel for hours there. Aside from fish and coral, we have seen squid, octopus, turtles, eels, and stingrays!! If you don't have your own snorkel gear, you can rent from any of the local dive shops, or there are vendors set up along the beach. Usually, you can negotiate for a weekly rate.
- **Diving**- If you are a scuba diver, you can't come to Roatan without diving. It is extremely affordable here, and the reef is super close, making for very short boat trips. You can do night dives, shipwrecks, drift dives, you name it. There are sooooo many dive shops around! On West Bay Beach, our favorite is West Bay Divers, although we have heard good things about Naboo and Infinity Divers as well.
- **Swimming with the Fishies**- In the same area by the rocks at the end of the beach, you can stand in the shallow water and be surrounded by colorful fish! those with little kids, this is always a highlight (and now anywhere we travel, they are always disappointed when they are not surrounded by fish in shallow water)
- **Dolphin Encounters**- Play with dolphins: Anthony's Key Resort has dolphin encounters, which we did even when our kids were babies. They are a dolphin research center, and the dolphins regularly get let into the ocean, and freely come back to the resort. There are multiple options, including a

dolphin experience for all ages where you stand in waist deep water and get to pet/ feed dolphins, there is a snorkel encounter, and even a dive encounter where the dolphins come out for a dive! This needs to be booked ahead of time online. Anthony's Key Resort is located in Sandy Bay, which is about 25 min from West Bay.

- **Snorkel Trips/Party Boats**- There are all kinds of snorkel trips and booze cruises that leave from the West Bay area. One of our favorites is the Mono Loco. They do snorkel tours, sunset tours, dinner cruises, etc. The food and drinks are fantastic and the trips are super fun…filled with music, dancing, and partying. Our kids loved it too!!
- **Cayos Cochinos**- If you have enough time, a day trip to the Cayos Cochinos is a can't miss trip. This is very weather dependent, as boats will only go if the weather is good, and it takes about 2 hours to get there. These tiny remote island have some of the most pristine and untouched snorkeling and diving we have ever seen. Most tours will also include a fresh fish lunch cooked for you by the locals. It's not cheap, but it's definitely worth it.
- **East End Tour**- This is something that we have never done, but we have heard from guests that this has been a highlight of their vacation. Most East End tours will give a boat ride through the mangroves, and then go out snorkeling…some even do a swim/snorkel with sharks encounter that is supposed to be amazing. Our guests have used Tyler Hynds with Eastroatan tours and have highly recommended his company.
- **Private Islands**- Explore a private island: There are multiple little islands that you can go to for a day trip… make sure you go on a non cruise ship day, as they get very crowded when the cruise ships are here, but tend to be empty most other times (you can google and look up cruise ship schedules online). Our current favorite is Brady's Cay. It's about a 40 min drive down past French Harbour, and when you get there, you park and take their little pontoon boat shuttle to the island. They have a restaurant, and you can spend the day playing on the beach, eating, and relaxing.
- **Fire Dancers**- A few times a night, fire dancers put on a free show on the beach in the evening, this happens on Sundays in front of Bananarama and Fridays in front of Infinity Bay (you can even watch the show from our porch!!). This is certainly something not to miss!
- **Crab Races**- On Sunday nights, the crab races are held at Bananarama. This is held in the evening, on the beach right in front of Bananarama. There are drink specials and live music, and people bet on hermit crabs, which then all race, and the winners get free drinks, etc at Bananarama. All proceeds go towards a nonprofit that helps infants of mothers with HIV.
- **Ziplining**- There are many zipline companies in Roatan, we have only done one so we can only review that one, but if you search online you will see plenty of reviews. We have gone to Mayan Jungle Canopy, and both of our kids, 2 and 5 at the time, were able to double-zip with us. Beware, it can get very hot, so we recommend going as early as possible. Also, be prepared to walk up a whole bunch of steps to get to the zip platforms. Mayan Jungle Canopy also has animal encounters where you can play with monkeys, hold, sloths, and feed birds. Mayan Jungle will also provide roundtrip transportation from our place if you request it!

- **Animal Encounters**- There are many animal encounters on the island, and we have only done a few. We especially like Gumbalimba Park, which is located right at the entrance to West Bay, and very close by. They have a great tour and you get to hold macaws, have monkeys jump on your head, and see iguanas. They are also our favorite as they are a true animal sanctuary….their monkeys and macaws are not caged and allowed to run free (you sometimes see the macaws flying around over the West Bay area).
- **Photography**- If you are interested in getting family photos done while on vacation, we can not recommend TKM Photography enough! The owner, Katrina, is a Canadian, and she takes amazing family photos at a much more affordable price than any photographers we have ever experienced in the US. She was patient and flexible with our 2 little kids, and even let us change and get some water photos! You can find them on facebook, or their website is tkmphotography.com

Please e-mail us anytime at with any feedback you may have at infinitybay1003@gmail.com or visit InfinityBay1003.com. We want to make sure that our condo provides you with the best vacation experience possible, and we would love any suggestions you have to make it better!

There are so many things we love about Roatan, we couldn't possibly include it all on here, but we hope that this is a good start, and helps you to create the most amazing vacation ever! Thank you for choosing our Infinity Bay 1003 for your Roatan vacation, we sincerely hope you will love Roatan as much as we do!!

Sincerely,
Becky, Nick, Jayden, and Juliette