



**12. CURRENT OCCUPATION**

**13. EMPLOYER'S NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER  
FOR STUDENTS, NAME AND ADDRESS OF SCHOOL / COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY**

**14. NAME OF HOTEL OR GUEST HOUSE ACCOMMODATION IN THE BAHAMAS OR NAME  
OF HOST OR COMPANY IN THE BAHAMAS AND CONTACT PERSON IN HOST COMPANY**

**15. FULL ADDRESS WITH TELEPHONE NUMBER OF HOTEL OR HOST IN THE BAHAMAS**

**16. PURPOSE OF YOUR TRIP : Please give details below:**

**17. FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR PROPOSED VISIT (Circle one)**

**CASH                      TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES                      CREDIT CARD                      BANK STATEMENT**

**18. OTHER CITIES YOU INTEND TO VISIT BEFORE OR AFTER VISITING THE BAHAMAS**

*I DECLARE THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE ALL PARTICULARS SUPPLIED BY ME ARE CORRECT AND COMPLETE AND TRUE IN SUBSTANCE AND I AM AWARE THAT ANY FALSE STATEMENTS WILL LEAD TO MY APPLICATION BEING REJECTED OR TO THE ANNULMENT OF A VISA ALREADY GRANTED.*

*PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY VISA GRANTED ON THIS APPLICATION WILL BE SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH THE IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS.*

**APPLICATION SHOULD BE MADE TO:**

**HIGH COMMISSION OF THE BAHAMAS  
10 CHESTERFIELD STREET, MAYFAIR  
LONDON W1J 5JL                      TEL: 020 7408 4488                      FAX: 020 7499 9937**

**REQUIREMENTS: VISA APPLICATION SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY TWO PASSPORT PHOTOGRAPHS, TRAVEL TICKET (S) OR CRUISE ITINERARY, TRAVEL DOCUMENT WHICH SHOULD BE VALID AT LEAST SIX MONTHS FROM DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM THE BAHAMAS, LETTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND PROOF OF FUNDS TO FINANCE THE TRIP. PASSPORTS MUST HAVE ONE COMPLETELY BLANK PAGE FOR ISSUANCE OF BAHAMAS VISA. APPLICATION TO BE MADE IN PERSON.**

**DATE OF APPLICATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**



## **DOCUMENTATION FOR VISA APPLICATION**

**\*\* APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT PHOTOCOPIES OF THEIR DOCUMENTATION – THERE IS A CHARGE MADE FOR PHOTOCOPYING AT THE HIGH COMMISSION – 25p PER PAGE.**

- 1) VISA APPLICATION FORM FULLY COMPLETED AND SIGNED
- 2) PASSPORT WITH SIX MONTHS VALIDITY FROM THE DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM THE BAHAMAS
- 3) ONE COMPLETELY FREE AND BLANK PAGE IN THE PASSPORT FOR THE BAHAMAS VISA STAMP
- 4) TWO IDENTICAL PASSPORT PHOTOS – COLOUR OR BLACK / WHITE
- 5) TRAVEL ITINERARY SHOWING A CONFIRMED BOOKING TO THE BAHAMAS  
**OR** TRAVEL TICKETS TO THE BAHAMAS  
**OR** CRUISE ITINERARY SHOWING A SCHEDULED STOPOVER IN THE BAHAMAS
- 6) ENTRY PERMIT / VISA FOR GREAT BRITAIN THAT SHOULD EXPIRE AFTER THE TRIP TO THE BAHAMAS
- 7) VISAS FOR ANY OTHER COUNTRY THAT MAY BE TICKETED *e.g. USA visa*
- 8) CURRENT LETTER OF EMPLOYMENT OR ENROLMENT IN SCHOOL OR COLLEGE
- 9) CURRENT BANK STATEMENT OR CREDIT CARD STATEMENT TO SHOW FINANCES FOR TRAVEL; CASH OR TRAVELLER'S CHEQUES MAY SHOWN TO THE VALUE OF \$200 USD / £100 GBP PER DAY
- 10) APPLICANTS WHO PRODUCE LETTERS STATING THAT THEIR TRIP IS BEING FINANCED BY A THIRD PARTY (EMPLOYER, PARTNER OR FAMILY MEMBER) MUST PRODUCE THE BANK STATEMENT OR CREDIT CARD STATEMENT FROM THE THIRD PARTY
- 11) CONFIRMED HOTEL BOOKING SHOWING APPLICANT'S NAME  
**OR** LETTER OF INVITATION FROM HOST IN THE BAHAMAS, STATING LENGTH OF STAY AND GIVING TELEPHONE NUMBER AND FULL ADDRESS OF THE HOST.

**As at 1 April 2009**



***EACH APPLICATION FOR A VISA IS EXAMINED INDIVIDUALLY AND ACCORDING TO BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS. THE HIGH COMMISSION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY VISA, OR TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION WHERE REQUIRED.***

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE VISA APPLICATION FORM FOR ENTRY TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS**

### **VISA HOURS – EXCEPT BAHAMIAN AND UK PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

Applications made between the hours of 10:00am until 1pm only.  
Passports collected between the hours of 2pm until 4pm only.

### **PROCESSING PERIOD**

Visa applications may take a minimum of 48 hours (two working days) to process up to a maximum of six weeks; it is advisable to apply well in advance of travel date, but applications may not be made before six weeks of the intended travel date.

***DOCUMENTATION - APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT PHOTOCOPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS. SERVICE CHARGES MAY APPLY WHERE FAXES OR TELEPHONE CALLS ARE REQUIRED FOR REFERRALS. ANY DOCUMENTS THAT ARE PHOTOCOPIED AT BAHAMAS HOUSE WILL BE CHARGED AT 25pence PER PAGE.***

***N.B. All documents are to be presented at the time the application is made; missing documentation may lead to denial of granting the visa.***

- \*\*Visa application form completed and signed by the applicant
- \*\*Passport; valid for at least six months after date of leaving The Bahamas; passport must have one completely blank page for issuance of Bahamas visa
- \*\*Two current passport sized photographs - black & white or colour
- \*\*Travel itinerary showing a confirmed booking to The Bahamas **OR** travel tickets **OR** a cruise itinerary showing a scheduled stop to the Bahamas Islands
- \*\*Proof of right of return to country of residence (e.g. residence permit, etc.)
- \*\*Transit visas for any country for which you may be ticketed (e.g. USA or UK visa etc.)
- \*\*Current letter of employment or enrolment in school or college
- \*\*Current bank statement or credit card statement to show finances for travel; cash or traveller's cheques may be shown to the value of \$200USD / £100 per day
- \*\*Confirmed hotel booking or letter of invitation from host in The Bahamas, stating length of stay and giving telephone number and full address of the host.

**VISA FEE: SINGLE ENTRY: £45 (exact change only)      VALIDITY: 3 months**

**NORMALLY, APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON. POSTAL APPLICATIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED FROM THOSE PERSONS WHO RESIDE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM BUT LIVE OUTSIDE OF LONDON. PLEASE INCLUDE A RECORDED STAMPED SELF- ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR THE RETURN OF THE PASSPORT. THE BAHAMAS HIGH COMMISSION WILL NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR PASSPORTS LOST IN THE MAIL. PASSPORTS FORWARDED FROM ABROAD WOULD NOT BE PROCESSED .**



File ref: LON/123/2

## ***INFORMATION FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS VISITING THE BAHAMA ISLANDS***

### **GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THOSE NATIONALS THAT DO REQUIRE VISAS AND THE REQUIREMENTS THAT MUST BE MET FOR THOSE NATIONALS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE VISAS.**

Applications are accepted between the hours of 10:00am until 1:00pm only, Monday through Friday, excluding Bahamian and British public holidays. Appointments are not necessary; for those persons in transit to another country within 24 hours, appointments may be requested to have the Bahamas visa processed within the working day (5 hour timeframe – lodged before 12noon and collected at 5pm).

The minimum processing time is **48 hours** (two full working days) once we are in receipt of the application with ALL eight pieces of documentation. This excludes Bahamian and British holidays. Some applications may take longer to process, therefore you are advised to apply up to four weeks before your travel date. Once your visa has been lodged, you would be given a receipt and informed of the collection date. The maximum time it would take to process a visa is 6 weeks. Successful applications are those, which are issued between 48 hours to 120 hours; full documentation must be submitted in order to be granted a visa within this time frame. Applications that are submitted with missing documentation may lead to the denial of granting the visa. It is strongly urged that potential applicants submit the full list of documentation required for a Bahamas visa.

We would require the following documentation: - return or onward ticket, or travel itinerary showing a confirmed booking or cruise itinerary to the Bahamas; two passport sized photographs (black and white or colour); current letter of employment or enrolment in school; passport, valid for at least six months from the date of departure from The Bahamas (machine readable passports are not required for entry to The Bahamas); transit visas or re-entry permit for any country for which you may be ticketed (e.g. USA or UK visa); proof of sufficient funds to finance the visit i.e. current bank statement or credit cards statement (cash or traveller's cheques may be shown to the value of 200USD / £100GBP per day); a letter of invitation if residing at a private address or a confirmed hotel booking. Applicants that produce letters from sponsors claiming to support their stay in The Bahamas must produce financial evidence such as a credit card statement or bank statement from the sponsor. For those persons who are not in active gainful employment, proof of support must be shown, as your trip to the Bahamas would be financed by some source- i.e. partners, family, friends, savings, etc. Proof of finances must be shown that you can financially support yourself whilst in The Bahamas. We would need a letter of support with either a bank statement or credit card statement for proof from the third party.

Applicants must produce photocopies of the documentation requested. Any photocopies made at the High Commission would be charged at £0.25pence per page.

Please be advised that the passport should have one completely free and clean page (no immigration stamps or other markings) for the visa to be issued.

The fee for a single entry visa valid for three months is £45 payable in cash or by postal order or banker's draft. Multiple entry visas are only granted to applicants that can meet the requirements and these applications would be referred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for approval; the fee is £55 six month visa. Postal orders should be made payable to: **BAHAMAS HIGH COMMISSION.**

All diplomatic visa applications that seek exemptions from producing normal documentation must be accompanied by a note verbal / diplomatic note from the relevant Consulate / High Commission / Embassy. The visas may be collected after 48 hours and are issued gratis. Diplomatic passports that are presented for visas without a note verbal / diplomatic note must be accompanied by the normal documentation (see above) and are charged at £45 per single entry.

Applications that are lodged by spouses must be accompanied by documentation proving your ties to the applicants (i.e. marriage certificates, copies of passport, adoption papers, birth certificates and so forth). Applications are not accepted by third parties who hold no relation to the applicant.

Please be advised that visas are issued based on nationality and type of passport held, not for the purpose of the trip, therefore business or transit visas are not issued. Kindly note that the visas are not issued at the airport or harbour dock and must be obtained before arrival in The Bahamas.

Applicants that reside in the United Kingdom only, may forward their visa applications **by registered or recorded delivery.** If the applicant is not present in the United Kingdom, they should contact **the British Embassy or British Consulate in** their country of residence in order to inquire as to whether they accept visa applications for the Bahamas. Applications should be lodged at least six weeks in advance before their travel date, as the applications would have to be referred to Nassau, The Bahamas for approval.

If **the British Consulate or British Embassy** in your country of residence does not accept applications for The Bahamas, then it is with regret that we advise that you would have to travel to any Bahamas Embassy in order to submit your applications **in person.** Overseas applications submitted by post or courier services **will not be processed.** If you do reside outside the United Kingdom and require a visa for your visit to the Bahamas and you intend to travel to the United Kingdom to apply for the visa, please be advised the High Commission **does not issue letters** stating that you are invited to come to London to Bahamas House for the visa. Requests for alleged **"letters of authorization or letters of permission"** would be ignored.

Nationals that do not require visas (see list below), may be landed by flight or vessel in The Bahamas and must meet the following requirements:

- 1) Passengers must have in their possession a passport with validity for six months after the date of intended departure from The Bahamas

- 2) A return or onward ticket if flying by commercial carrier, or a letter and copies of documentation from the pilot of a private aircraft that shows aviation approval to land in The Bahamas; or if travelling by private vessel, documentation from the captain; passengers travelling by commercial vessels should have in their possession a cruise ship voucher.
- 3) Documentation (visas or entry permit) for any other country for which one may be ticketed
- 4) Sufficient funds to finance the visit to The Bahamas (approx. \$200USD / £100 GBP per day)
- 5) A letter of invitation if residing at a private address or a confirmed hotel booking if applicable.

The validity on the traveller's passport must be six months from the date of ***departure from*** The Bahamas. The time allowance for leave to remain in The Bahamas would be granted by the Immigration Official at the border of entry. The High Commission has no jurisdiction over this department, therefore we cannot give determinations as to how long an individual may remain in the Bahamas.

Most visitors to the Bahamas do not require any special vaccinations by law. You are very welcome to seek the advice of a doctor, however, should you decide to obtain any vaccinations, that would be a private matter between the doctor and yourself.

Attached is a fact sheet on Immigration, which gives a ***listing of the nationals that do and do not require visas for entry/transit to The Bahamas***, in addition to an application form for your perusal, retention and dissemination if required. Also attached is a FAQ SHEET – a question and answer section that gives information on the entry procedures to The Bahamas in addition to giving responses to some of the most frequently asked questions concerning immigration and visa queries. Additional information may also be obtained from the following websites:

[www.mfabahamas.org](http://www.mfabahamas.org) [www.bahamas.gov.bs](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs) [www.bahamas.co.uk](http://www.bahamas.co.uk)  
[www.discover-the-bahamas.co.uk](http://www.discover-the-bahamas.co.uk)

We trust the above will be sufficient for your information; however, should you have any queries or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact The Mission in writing by <mailto:visainfobahamahouse@myway.com> facsimile (020 7499 9937 Attn: The Consular Section) or by email: [information@bahamas.co.uk](mailto:information@bahamas.co.uk)

## **NATIONALS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE VISAS**

AMERICAN SAMOA, ANDORRA, ANGUILLA, ANTIGUA & BARBUDA, ARGENTINA, ARMENIA, ARUBA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, AZERBAIJAN, AZORES, BAHRAIN, BANGLADESH, BARBADOS, BELGIUM, BELIZE, BERMUDA, BOLIVIA, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, BOTSWANA, BRAZIL, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, BULGARIA, CANADA, CAPE VERDE, CAYMAN ISLANDS, CHILE, COLOMBIA, COOK ISLANDS, COSTA RICA, CROATIA, CURACAO, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, DOMINICA,

ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, ESTONIA, FALKLAND ISLANDS, FIJI, FINLAND, FRANCE, FRENCH GUIANA, FRENCH POLYNESIA, GAMBIA, GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, GEORGIA, GERMANY, GIBRALTOR, GREECE, GREENLAND, GRENADA, GUADELOUPE, GUAM, GUATEMALA, GUYANA, HONDURAS, HONG KONG (HKSAR OR HK COF I), HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, JAMAICA, JAPAN, KENYA, KIRIBATI, KOREA-SOUTH, KUWAIT, LATVIA, LESOTHO, LIECHTENSTEIN, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBOURG, MACEDONIA, MALAWI, MALAYSIA, MALDIVES, MALI, MALTA, MARSHALL ISLANDS, MARTINIQUE, MAURITIUS, MEXICO, MOLDOVA, MONACO, MONTSERRAT, NAMIBIA, NAURU, NETHERLANDS, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, NEW CALEDONIA, NEW ZEALAND, NICARAGUA, NORFOLK ISLANDS, NORWAY, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, PANAMA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, PARAGUAY, PERU, PITCAIRN, POLAND, PORTUGAL, PUERTO RICO, REUNION, ROMANIA, RUSSIA, SAINT BARTHELEMY, SAINT HELENA, SAINT KITTS & NEVIS, SAINT LUCIA, SAINT MARTIN, SAINT VINCENT & THE GRENADINES, SAINT MARTEN, SAINT PIERRE & MIQUELON, SAN MARINO, SAO TOME & PRINCIPE, SEYCHELLES, SIERRA LEONE, SINGAPORE, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, SOLOMON ISLANDS, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SRI LANKA, SURINAME, SWAZILAND, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, TAHITI, TANZANIA, TOKELAU, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, TONGA, TURKEY, TURKS & CAICOS, TUVALU, UGANDA, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, URUGUAY, VANUATU, VATICAN CITY, VENEZUELA, VIRGIN ISLANDS (US & UK), WESTERN SAMOA, ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE.

## **NATIONALS THAT REQUIRE VISAS**

AFGHANISTAN, ALBANIA, ALGERIA, ANGOLA, BELARUS, BENIN, BHUTAN, BURKINA FASO, BURUNDI, CAMBODIA, CAMEROON, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHAD, CHINA (PEOPLES REP. OF), COMOROS, CONGO (DEM. POP. REP.), CONGO (REP. OF.), COTE D'IVOIRE, CUBA, DJIBOUTI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, EGYPT, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, ERITREA, ETHIOPIA, GABON, GHANA, GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU, HAITI, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REP.), IRAQ, JORDAN, KAZAKHSTAN, KOREA – NORTH, KYRGYSTAN, LAOS, LEBANON, LIBERIA, LIBYA, MACAU (CHINESE PPT.), MADAGASCAR, MAURITANIA, MICRONESIA, MONGOLIA, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, MAZAMBIQUE, MYANMAR, NEPAL, NIGER, FED.REP. OF NIGERIA, OMAN, PAKISTAN, PALAU, PALESTINE, PHILIPPINES, QATAR, RWANDA, SAUDI ARABIA, SENEGAL, SERBIA, SOMALIA, SUDAN, SYRIA, TAIWAN, TAJIKISTAN, THAILAND, TIMOR-LESTE, TOGO, TUNISIA,

TURKMENISTAN, UKRAINE, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES,  
UZBEKISTAN, VIETNAM, YEMEN, ZAIRE.

**DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR VISA APPLICANTS**

*\*\*Photocopies to be submitted*

-----VISA APPLICATION FORM FULLY COMPLETED & SIGNED  
-----PASSPORT WITH SIX MONTHS VALIDITY FROM THE DATE OF DEPARTURE WITH ONE COMPLETELY FREE AND BLANK PAGE FOR THE BAHAMAS VISA STAMP  
-----TWO IDENTICAL RECENT PASSPORT PHOTOS – B&W OR COLOUR  
-----TRAVEL ITINERARY SHOWING A CONFIRMED BOOKING TO THE BAHAMAS OR THE TRAVEL TICKETS OR THE CRUISE ITINERARY WHICH SHOWS THE DATE OF ENTRY TO THE BAHAMAS AND DATE OF EXIT FROM THE BAHAMAS  
-----ENTRY PERMIT OR VISA FOR ANY OTHER COUNTRY THAT YOU INTEND TO VISIT  
-----CURRENT LETTER OF EMPLOYMENT OR ENROLMENT IN SCHOOL/COLLEGE  
-----CURRENT BANK STATEMENT OR CURRENT CREDIT CARD STATEMENT  
APPLICANTS WHO PRODUCE LETTER STATING THAT THEIR TRIP IS BEING FINANCE BY A THIRD PARTY I.E. EMPLOYER, PARTNER OR FAMILY MEMBER MUST PRODUCE THE STATEMENT FROM THE THIRD PARTY  
-----CONFIRMED HOTEL BOOKING OR LETTER OF INVITATION WITH THE TELEPHONE NUMBER & ADDRESS OF THE HOST

**DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR NON VISA PERSONS TO BE LANDED IN THE BAHAMAS BY IMMIGRATION**

-----VALID PASSPORT WITH SIX MONTHS VALIDITY FORM THE DATE OF DEPARTURE  
-----A RETURN OR ONWARD TICKET IF FLYING BY COMMERCIAL CARRIER OR A LETTER AND COPIES OF DOCUMENTATION IF FLYING BY PRIVATE AIRCRAFT OR IF TRAVELLING BY PRIVATE VESSEL, DOCUMENTATION FROM THE CAPTAIN GIVING ENTRY & EXIT DETAILS OF THE VESSEL; PASSENGERS TRAVELLING BY COMMERCIAL CRUISE SHIP SHOULD HAVE THEIR VOUCHERS OR PASS BOOKS  
-----VISA OR ENTRY PERMITS FOR ANY OTHER COUNTRY THAT YOU WOULD BE VISITING  
-----SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO FINANCE THE VISIT (APPROX. \$100USD PER DAY)  
-----A LETTER OF INVITATION IF RESIDING AT A PRIVATE ADDRESS OR A CONFIRMED HOTEL BOOKING IF APPLICABLE.

\*\*\*\*\*PASSPORTS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO BE BIOMETRIC OR MACHINE READABLE AT THIS POINT IN TIME FOR ANY NATIONALITY

**BAHAMAS HOUSE  
10 CHESTERFIELD STREET  
LONDON W1J 5JL  
DIRECT TEL: 020 7659 0829  
FAX: 020 7499 9937  
\*\*\* INFORMATION CORRECT AS AT 1 APRIL 2009**