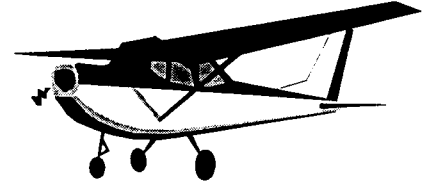




# Flying To The Bahamas Checklist



## Outward Bound – From United States

1. Must file an International Flight Plan to and from The Bahamas.
2. Must Have Coast Guard approved Life Jackets for each person aboard.
3. When flying to The Bahamas, it is mandatory to activate flight plan before leaving Florida. 122.2, 122.4 or 126.7 (Miami Radio) leaving Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, WPB, and 122.5 out of Ft. Pierce area.
4. Your first landing in The Bahamas must be at an official designated airport of entry in order to clear Bahamas Customs and Immigration
5. Prior to landing, close your flight plan on 124.2 or 128.0 (Nassau Radio). If unable close it, in the air, use **1-800-WX BRIEF** or **242-377-7116** on the ground by telephone. **In Exuma, 118.0 (Exuma Tower).**
6. Have all your documents prepared in advance. It makes life easier on everyone
7. Be cooperative with Customs and Immigration. They will assist you if you have any questions.
8. You can cruise the entire Bahamas with a C7A cruising form for private pilots, but your last point of departure from The Bahamas must be an airport of entry. They will give you clearance to leave the country.

## Inward Bound – To United States

1. Pilot must fill out one (1) copy of the Bahamas Customs C7 form for the private pilots and turn in the Bahamas Immigration carbon copy.
2. You must file an international flight plan (**1800-992-7433**) when leaving The Bahamas, put advise Customs in the remarks section.
3. Activate your flight plan with Nassau 124.2, 128.0 (Nassau Radio) or Freeport Radio. If unable, activate with Miami Radio 126.7 or 122.4. In **Bimini**, activate your flight plan on 122.1(Miami Remote **no voice**), listen on Bimini VOR 116.7
4. You must receive a discrete transponder code from FSS 126.7 or 126.9 (Miami Radio), before penetrating the ADIZ zone. This code is relayed to Customs. (Obtain code as early as possible)
5. Fly at higher altitudes for better radio reception, Flight following is nice to have after all the most important thing is safety. Flight following 121.0 (Nassau) or 125.7 (Miami)
6. Must land at an airport of entry on East Coast - Preferably Mia, FLL, PBI or Ft. Pierce
7. After landing, Go directly to US Customs
8. Take all baggage out of airplane, and have all necessary documents filled out ahead of time for Customs
9. Prior to Clearing Customs and Immigration close your flight plan

**For further information, please call 1-800-32-SPORT  
E-Mail [grolle@gobahamas.com](mailto:grolle@gobahamas.com)**



(C7A)

# BAHAMAS CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT INWARD DECLARATION AND CRUISING PERMIT FOR PRIVATE AIRCRAFT ENTERING THE BAHAMAS

1. This modified form of declaration under the Customs regulations is applicable only to private aircraft not carrying cargo and operated for pleasure and recreation only by a pilot who is not flying for reward or remuneration or for business purposes. Other aircraft must be reported on the General Declaration Form No. C7.
2. This form should be presented in triplicate at all Ports of Entry other than Nassau, West End and Freeport, where two copies will be sufficient.

Time of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Pilot \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Aircraft \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Registration \_\_\_\_\_ Reg No. \_\_\_\_\_

Customs Port of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_ From Where \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Crew \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Passengers \_\_\_\_\_

Stores on Board \_\_\_\_\_

List of Arms and Ammunition \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the above information is correct and that, except for the goods declared above and the bona fide baggage of the crew and passengers, no goods are being carried in the aircraft.

I further certify that -

- (a) The aircraft referred to herein is operated to and within The Bahamas solely for pleasure and recreation, by a pilot, who is not flying for reward or remuneration or for business purposes, and
- (b) To the best of my knowledge no person on board this aircraft is suffering from any contagious or infectious disease and neither was there any known epidemic at my port of Departure.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pilot and Date

Permission is hereby granted for the above described Aircraft to cruise The Bahamas for a period not exceeding

\_\_\_\_\_  
Official Stamp

(Sgd.) \_\_\_\_\_  
for Comptroller of Customs.

We welcome you to The Bahamas and trust you will have a pleasant cruise through our Islands.

This Cruising Permit should be retained until application is made for clearance from The Bahamas at which time it must be surrendered to Customs at your Port of Clearance. It should be produced on request of the commissioner or a Customs Officer at any place you may visit The Commissioner of Customs Officer as requesting will initial, stamp and return it to you. In the interest of your own safety you may wish to contact the proper official of any place you visit but this is not compulsory.



**BAHAMAS CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT  
AIRCRAFT GENERAL DECLARATION  
(OUTWARD / INWARD)**

Owner or Operator \_\_\_\_\_

Marks of Nationality and Registration \_\_\_\_\_ Flight No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Depart from \_\_\_\_\_ (Place) Arrival at \_\_\_\_\_ (Place)

**FLIGHT ROUTING**

("Place" column always to list origin, every en-route stop and destination)

PLACE	TOTAL NUMBER OF CREW	NUMBER OF PASSENGERS ON THIS STAGE	CARGO MANIFEST SHEETS ATTACHED
		Departure Place: Embarking _____	
		Through on same flight	
		Arrival Place: Disembarking _____	
		Through on same flight	

**Declaration of Health**

Persons on board known to be suffering from illness other than airsickness or the effects of accidents, as well as those causes of illness disembarked during the flight.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Any other conditions on board which may lead to the spread of disease

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Details of each disinfecting or sanitary treatment (place, date, time, method) during the flight. If no disinfecting has been carried out during the flight, give details of most recent disinfecting

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Crew member responsible

For official use only

I declare that all statements and particular contained in this General Declaration, and in any supplementary forms required to be presenters with this General Declaration are complete exact and true to the best of my knowledge and that all through passengers will continue have contained on the flight.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Agent or Pilot - In - Command

# Airport Information

in  
*The Islands Of The Bahamas*

<b>ISLANDS</b>	<b>Runway/length-width</b>	<b>Fuel</b>	<b>Port Of Entry</b>	<b>AUTHORITY</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
<b>Abaco</b>					
Gorda Cay - MYAG	2,400 x 60	no fuel	no	PVT	OWNERS USE
Marsh Harbour - MYAM	5,000 x 100	100	yes	GOVT	242-367-3884
Mores Island - MYAO	2,640 x 140	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-366-6100
Sandy Point - MYAS	4,500 x 100	no fuel	yes	GOVT	242-366-4044
Scotland Cay -	3,300 x 100	no fuel	no	PVT	242-367-2570
Spanish Cay - MYAX	5,000 x 80	no fuel	yes	PVT	242-365-0083
Treasure Cay - MYAT	6,500 x 150	100/jet	yes	GOVT	242-365-0605
Walker Cay - MYAW	2,200 x 80	100/jet	yes	PVT	242-367-2560
<b>Acklins</b>					
Spring Point - MYAP	5000 x 150	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-344-3666
<b>Andros</b>					
Andros Central	5,000 x 150	no fuel	no	PVT	CLOSED
Andros Town - MYAF	4,000 x 100	no fuel	yes	GOVT	242-368-2626
Congo Town - MYAK	5,300 x 100	no fuel	yes	GOVT	242-369-4733
Clarence Bain - MYAB	5,000 x 75	no fuel	yes	GOVT	242-369-0083
San Andros - MYAN	5,000 x 100	100/ fuel	yes	GOVT	242-329-2140
<b>Berry Islands</b>					
Chub Cay - MYBC	5,000 x 100	no fuel	yes	PVT	242-325-5788
Cistern Cay - MYBT0	2,400 x 100	no fuel	no	PVT	CLOSED
Great Harbour Cay - MYBG	4,536 x 80	no fuel	yes	PVT	242-367-8566
Lt. Whale Cay - MYBX	2,000 x 50	no fuel	no	PVT	242-329-2362
Big Whale Cay - MYBW	2,600 x 60	no fuel	no	PVT	242-359-3467
<b>Bimini</b>					
South Bimini - MYBS	5,600 x 100	no fuel	yes	GOVT	242-347-3101
Ocean Cay - MYBO	1,650 x 60	no fuel	no	PVT	242-347-2397
Cat Cay - MYCC	1,300 x 75	no fuel	yes	PVT	242-347-3565
<b>Cat Island</b>					
Arthurs Town - MYCA	7,000 x 150	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-354-2046
Cutlass Bay - MYCX	2,450 x 60	no fuel	no	PVT	242-359-3534
Hawks Nest - MYCH	3,000 x 100	no fuel	no	PVT	242-357-7257
New Bight - MYCB	5,040 x 100	no fuel	yes	GOVT	242-342-2016
<b>Cay Sal</b>					
Cay Sal - MYCS	2,000 x 100	no fuel	no	PVT	OWNER USE
<b>Crooked Island</b>					
Colonial Hill - MYCI	3,500 x 60	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-344-2599
Pitts Town - MYCP	2,240 x 60	no fuel	no	PVT	242-344-2507
<b>Eleuthera</b>					
Cape Eleuthera - MYEC	6,500 x 150	no fuel	no	PVT	CLOSED
Governor's Harbour - MYEM	8,500 x 150	Jet	yes	GOVT	242-332-2321
North Eleuthera - MYEH	4,500 x 100	100 fuel	yes	GOVT	242-335-1242
Rock Sound - MYER	7,200 x 150	Jet	yes	GOVT	242-334-2177

<b>Exuma</b>					
George Town - MYEF	8,000 x 150	100/jet	yes	GOVT	242-345-0607
Darby Island	1,500 x 100	no fuel	no	PVT	OWNER USE
Fowl Cay	1,300 x 40	no fuel	no	PVT	OWNER USE
Hog Cay - MYEY	2,500 x 100	no fuel	no	PVT	242-366-2123
Lee Stocking - MYEL	3,000 x 75	no fuel	no	PVT	242-358-4557
Little Darby Island	2,000 x 50	no fuel	no	PVT	OWNER USE
Norman's Cay - MYEN	3,000 x 70	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-357-8846
Rudder Cut Cay	2,700 x 100	no fuel	no	PVT	242-366-2639
Sampson Cay	2,400 x 60	no fuel	no	PVT	OWNER USE
Staniel Cay - MYES	3,030 x 75	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-355-2024
Farmers Cay	2,000 x 50	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-355-4002
Black Point - MYEB	2,683 x 60	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-355-3016
<b>Grand Bahama</b>					
Freeport - MYGF	11,000 x 150	100/jet	yes	PVT	242-352-6020
West End - MYGW	8,000 x 150	no fuel	no	PVT	CLOSED
<b>Inagua</b>					
Matthew Town - MYIG	7,000 x 100	100/jet	yes	GOVT	242-339-1254
<b>Long Island</b>					
Deadmans Cay - MYLD	4,000 x 100	100	no	GOVT	242-337-0877
Hard Bargain - MYLR	3,000 x 60	no fuel	no	PVT	242-337-3000
Stella Maris - MYLS	4,000 x 60	100/jet	yes	PVT	242-338-2012
<b>Mayaguana</b>					
Mayaguana - MYMM	7,700 x 150	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-339-3100
<b>New Providence</b>					
Nassau - MYNN	11,000 x 150	100/jet	yes	GOVT	242-377-6100
Paradise Island - MYPI	3,190 x 100	jet	yes	PVT	242-363-2845
<b>Ragged Island</b>					
Duncan Town - MYRD	3,800 x 75	no fuel	no	GOVT	242-344-1699
<b>Rum Cay</b>					
Port Nelson - MYRP	2,400 x 100	no fuel	no	PVT	242-357-1600
<b>San Salvador</b>					
Cockburn Town - MYSM	8,500 x 150	jet	yes	GOVT	242-331-2919

**Note:** The only official airports that have lights for night flying is Nassau and Freeport, but few Out Island airports have light for emergencies only.

# Most Frequently Asked Questions

## By Private Pilot

1. Is fuel available on all the Islands?  
- No. But you are never more than 20 minutes flying time away from fuel.
2. Which is the closest Bahama Islands to Florida Airports?  
-From Palm Beach, Miami /Ft. Lauderdale - Grand Bahama -60NM  
Bimini -46NM
3. What are the Proof of Citizenship requirements to enter The Bahamas?  
A. One of the following: - Passport  
- Birth certificate and Picture I.D.  
- Pilots License and Picture I.D.
4. Is there a landing fee for small single engine planes?  
- No landing fee for single engine planes on a pleasure trip at any Government owned airport. Landing fee may apply at private airports
5. What is the Custom charges if we land after five o'clock?  
- For non-commercial single or twin airplane there is **no fee**.
6. Do pilot and co-pilot pay departure tax?  
- Yes, all persons traveling must pay \$15 Government Departure Tax
7. Which lighted runways in The Bahamas allow Flying at nights? .  
-Nassau and Freeport are the two lighted runways that allow flying at night. All other airports require you to arrive and depart between sunrise and sunset. Few runways on the Out Islands have lights that are used for special use only.
8. Is there a charge for parking and tie downs?  
- No, there is no charge for tie down and parking at government airports. Tie downs are not available at all airports, and tie down fee may apply at private airports
9. What is the price of fuel in The Bahamas?  
- Fuel cost average around \$2.85 a gallon.
10. When do you need to file a DVFR?  
- When your flight will transit an ADIZ/DEWIZ area. As a private pilot there is a ADIZ between The Bahamas and Florida. (see Nav. Chart)
11. For DVFR flights the estimated time of ADIZ penetration must be filed at least 15 minutes prior to penetration. While flying contact Flight Service before penetration for a Customs squawk
12. Is "flight following" required for Bahamas flights?  
- It is not required, but would be nice to have. Miami Center will stay and hand you off to Nassau Approach.
13. Does the aircraft have to be equipped with an operable mode C transponder? A. - Yes, it is required.
14. Are any life jackets required?  
- At least one life jacket per person is required.
15. Is a life raft required?  
- It would be nice to have, but not required.
16. Do I need to file a flight plan to fly into the Bahamas?  
- Yes
17. Are you required to have a current Customs sticker on your aircraft to enter the U.S.?  
- Yes, it should be located near the left door. (Which can be purchased upon arrival in the U.S.)
18. What does ADCUS mean in the "Remark" section of the flight plan?  
- Advise customs, if you wish to have customs notified upon your arrival. However, this procedure entails the delaying of information and is not as timely or reliable as direct communication (telephone, radio).
19. When arriving in The Bahamas at a port of entry, what forms will I be required to submit?  
- Three (3) copies of C7A General Declarations form. If flying to other Bahamian ports, the C7A will be used as a cruising permit.
20. What forms do you need to present to Bahamas Customs upon departure?  
- You need to submit a completed C7 General Declarations/Outward Forms, Surrender copies of Immigration cards.
21. Is a cruising permit or transire needed to fly to other Bahamian ports?  
- Yes, the C7A will act as your cruising permit as a private pilot.
22. What type flight plan must you be on to return to the United States after dark?  
A. - You must be on an IFR flight plan.
23. What are normal hours of operation for U.S. Customs?  
- 9:00 am - 5:00 pm daily, FLL, FPE, and PBI open until 8:00 pm.
24. Can you return to The United States and clear customs after normal hours?  
- Yes, there is no extra charges if you arrive after regular business hours.
25. Which airports of entry in The Bahamas can I file an instrument approach?  
- Only Nassau and Freeport
26. What numbers must you call for weather information.?  
- Both in the U.S. and The Bahamas **1 (800) WX BRIEF /242-377-7178 /242-377-7116**.
27. Can I bring my pet(s) into The Bahamas?  
- Yes, You can bring pet(s) into the Bahamas, an Import Permit is required, call Agriculture **(242) 325-7502**.
28. Airports of Entry/Overflight Exemptions into the US?  
- Your landing must be at the designated airport nearest to the point of first border crossing, unless An overflight exemption has been granted to land at a Customs-served airport further inland.
29. There are five items to cover on your preparation for departure from The Bahamas for the United States.
  - \* Do your paperwork;
  - \* File a Flight Plan;
  - \* Make advance Customs notification;
  - \* Land at an Airport of Entry; and
  - \* Clear Customs
30. What pilot rating must I have to fly to Nassau and Freeport after sunset?  
-You must be an instrument rating pilot.

# FLIGHT PLAN PROCEDURE

All that is required for an aircraft to enter the Bahamas is an International Flight Plan, filed to any Bahamas airport of entry. Flight plans are mandatory for all operations at Nassau and Freeport, because of the density of traffic and the presence of FSS facilities at both locations. Operations between uncontrolled airports elsewhere in the Bahamas does not require a flight plan, however this protection is highly recommended when flying any appreciable distance over open water.

Freeport FSS traffic uses Freeport Radio 122.3. Operations within 50NM radius of Nassau use Nassau Radio 128.0. All other areas of the Bahamas are served by remoted transceivers of Nassau Radio 124.2. Remoted sites are located at South Bimini; Marsh Harbour, Treasure Cay; Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera; Georgetown, Exuma and Great Inagua. Nassau Radio is listening to six remote receivers simultaneously. Be patient, even though your receiver is silent. Always identify your location so that they know which remote is active. A good rule of thumb is to use 1000 MSL as a base communication altitude and add 80 feet to that base for each NM distant from the nearest remote site of 124.2.

It is the pilots' responsibility to cancel a flight plan, once initiated. If communication is lost, listen for another pilot using the frequency and ask for a relay. If all efforts fail, climb to the highest altitude possible and try again. Reverse course until communication is restored or land at a point where phone, ship to shore or HAM radio facilities are available. Failure to close a flight plan is a serious matter and will result in an expensive effort to locate the aircraft or prompt an air/sea rescue mission.

Leaving the Bahamas requires an International flight plan and a departure from a Port Of Entry to comply with Customs departure procedures. U.S. Customs/Immigration requires filing to a U.S. Port of Entry and notification of arrival, at least one hour in advance. Include in the remarks section of the flight plan the word "ADCUS." As soon as possible, during flight, contact U.S. FSS and give then your time of activation with Bahamian FSS, the number of passengers aboard, their country of nationality and your proposed ETA at U.S. customs. FSS will assign you a VFR Customs "SQWAK" code. Make note of this code since ATC may assign you another for flight operations. U.S. FSS is remoted on 118.4. at Nassau, 126.9 East of Freeport and 126.7 at Bimini.

The General Aviation Community is reminded that the U.S. Customs Private Flyer's Guide states "it is the ultimate responsibility of the pilot to ensure that Customs is properly notified of intended arrival." One hour before departure.

CAD FORM 63A1				DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION FLIGHT PLAN FORM				FILING TIME _____ SPECIALIST	
No. _____								DATE _____ INITIALS	
ARR. RPT. No. _____									
1. TYPE OF FLIGHT		RULES		2. ACFT. IDENT		3. ACFT. TYPE/ EQUIPMENT		4. TAS.	
INT'L		IFR						5. PT. OF DEP.	
INTER-ISLAND		VFR						6. DEP. TIME (UTC)	
		DVFR						ETD	
								ATD	
7. RTE OF FLIGHT									
8. ALT./LVL			9. DESTIN			10. EST. TIME ENR		11.	
						HOURS		MINUTES	
12. FOB		13. ALTERNATE		14. PILOTS FULL ADDRESS OR ACFT HOME BASE				15. SOB	
HOURS		MINUTES							
16. COLOUR OF ACFT				17. PILOTS SIGNATURE/DESTINATION CONTACT					
18. CLOSURE				19. NOTE: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AIR NAVIGATION (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) REGULATIONS 1961, PARAGRAPH 5 SUB-SECTION 2, ALL AIRCRAFT DEPARTING NASSAU INT'L MUST FILE FLIGHT PLANS IN PERSON WITH AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES. (PTO)					

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Flying the Bahamas is truly simple, well within the capabilities of the lightest single engine aircraft. Leaving the Florida east coast<first landfalls occur at Grand Bahama Island (60 NM) or Bimini (50 NM)>. Overlapping VOR/DME or NDB signals provide course guidance from the U.S. coast and throughout the most frequently traveled routes in the Bahamas.

Nassau and Freeport are major population centers. Nassau is our seat of government, the hub of commerce and airline traffic. Flight operations are conducted within the equivalent of a U.S. TCA. Freeport, on Grand Bahama Island, tower operation Control Zone. Nassau and Freeport are both busy airports with FSS facilities located in their main terminal buildings. All other airports in the Bahamas are uncontrolled.

Standard uncontrolled airport procedures are in effect; all pilots monitor blind transmission of position advisory and intentions on 122.8, left turns, pattern altitudes 1000 AGL. ATA operations require inbound traffic to come in low, with stated intentions and pattern position reports. Outbound traffic announces before occupying runway and departs straight out or with left turns, climbing immediately above pattern altitude. Runway operation must be "into the wind."

VFR night flying is prohibited in the Bahamas, during official sunset to sunrise. IFR is easily accomplished. Controlled airspace at Nassau, Freeport requires VFR minimums of 1500, 3 miles clear of clouds. Uncontrolled airspace at VFR minimums differ from U.S. requirements; 1000', one mile, clear of clouds and in sight of land or water.

## **MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS**

You must file a U.S. International Flight Plan before departing the U.S. and your first point of arrival must be at a Port Of Entry in the Bahamas. Each person aboard the aircraft must have proof of citizenship; passport, or copy of Birth Certificate and sufficient personal ID. Drivers license or voter registration cards are not sufficient. Return to the U.S. requires an International Flight Plan filed to the most convenient U.S. Airport of Entry and advising Customs of arrival ETA by including the word "ADCUS" in the remarks section. U.S. Customs requires one hour notice of arrival. Accomplish this by following the procedure outlined in the Flight Plan Procedure section of this publication. All planes must have transponder, survival gear, 12" numbers.