



O.W.C.C. Summer Tour
BARBADOS
2010

NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2010

NUMBER 9

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UPDATE

It was good to see such a lot of you at the 'Barbie' on Saturday 24th July With now only 6 weeks away the holiday seems to be looming too fast for some, and can't come soon enough for others. The number travelling has finally peaked at 56. The complex is full for the two weeks we are there. The following is a re-cap on one or two points from previous newsletters.



Luggage allowance*

Your luggage allowance is 1 piece*, weighing up to, but not more than 23 kilos When added together the three dimensions of any piece of luggage must not exceed 158cm (62in). Plus one piece of hand luggage weighing not more than 6 kilos (13lbs) with maximum dimensions of 23cm x 36cm x 56cm (9in x 14in x 22in)

Conformation has now been received from Virgin Atlantic that cricketers and golfers are permitted to take sports equipment not exceeding 23kilos Check-in for these items will be at the 'over-sized' baggage check-in at the airport. You are advised to check-in as early as possible

On arrival in Barbados your luggage will be collected and taken direct to your accommodation. This is of course **after** you have checked your baggage through baggage reclaim. It is usual that the porters in Barbados will charge 1B\$ per each piece of baggage (the porters will take you through customs quicker) It is advisable to carry one or two 1US\$ bills. Please make sure you have the correct labels on your luggage. We will be met by our Virgin Holiday Rep once we are land side please take instruction from them for onward transit to the resort.



*** Those of you on upgrades your hold luggage is double**



CAR HIRE



If you want a car please let me know by 11 October when you pickup your travel documents. It is unlikely you will be eligible for any discount once we get there. Remember the more cars booked the bigger the discount. For those of you who have already booked cars for 13 days These will be delivered to Europa Reception from 9am



on Wednesday 20th October

MOST IMPORTANTLY REMEMBER YOUR DRIVING LICENCE,

without it you will not be able to hire the car!

No Departure Tax

Those of you who have toured before will remember that a departure tax of B\$25 has been charged on our **departure** from the Island.

The good news is that this particular tax is now included in your air fare so no worries about keeping spare cash in your wallet until the end of the holiday.

What to wear - your smart new tour polo shirt perhaps! Light casual, tropical wear is recommended year-round. Evenings can be slightly more formal a jacket for men and a long flowery dress or evening ensemble for women is appropriate at elegant restaurants, concerts, or if you go for a drink in some of the five star Hotels.

Modesty in dress should be a general rule, whatever you bring. Barbadians are a stylish but conservative people. Bathing suits are unacceptable except around the beach or pool. Skimpy clothes look out of place in town, or at the bank and shops.

GIRLS, TOPLESS SUNBATHING IS NOT ALLOWED ANYWHERE ON THE ISLAND

Looking after yourselves



Good deals in sun tan lotions and 'mossy' sprays can be found in Boots the chemists in the Glades, Bromley usually in late September. If you leave it and buy these items at the airport then you will pay top prices. If your into buying on line then the Boots web site above may be well worth a visit. Although you may well do better going direct to the store for local 'special' deals. Because of the tropical climate we would recommend your pack a first aid kit con-

taining the following:- plasters, light bandage, surgical tape, antiseptic cream, and anti-histamine cream for bites and stings. Also if you suffer from headaches and hangovers then Alka-Seltzer and paracetamol should be added to the list. All the above will be much cheaper if purchased here in the UK.

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Tour tip.....

Those of you sharing an apartment why not share things like toothpaste, shaving foam, shampoo and the like. It makes life easier while your away and makes the bathroom less cluttered.

I was amazed to be asked on three separate occasions last Saturday if Barbados has soft toilet tissue the answer is yes they do. They also have big banana leaves and cocconut palms, and toilets that flush. and showers that have hot and cold water. I think that's enough of that.....

Apartment security.....

We strongly advise that you spend a few bajan dollars on an electronic safe key for your apartment to keep passport, money, and other valuables safe. Barbados has a low crime rate but we strongly advise you to take similar safety precautions as you do here in the UK Never never invite locals into your apartment at any time. The complex have security who patrol the area after dark.

Restaurant of the month.....



Live music, live sports, great food and the best atmosphere in Barbados. Established in 1974 the Ship Inn has it all. Located in the trendy St Lawrence Gap on the south coast of the island. You can enjoy a traditional Bajan buffet in the Captains Carvery, open for lunch and dinner. Or enjoy the casual a la carte dining on our deck in The Restaurant. For the late night munchies try Barnacle Bill's BBQ for fresh Char-Grilled, fish and chicken sandwiches, burgers and hot dogs. Open from 10:30 pm till the wee hours.

Cricket.....



We have two of the three Cricket Matches confirmed the dates are as follows:-

Tuesday 26th October - opposition CASOSA Cricket Club

Sunday 31st October - opposition CONRAD HUNTE SPORTS CLUB

The third game will be against either:-The Mount Gay North Stars or The Barbados Police XI date to be confirmed

The Games are limited overs and start at approx.12:30, The home team usually invite the team for drinks after the game. A coach will be available to convey the team and officials to and from the match. Spectators are more than welcome. It is hoped that all players will play at least two games For further details please see the tour Captain.



SMOKERS & SMOKING.....

As you smokers will already know Barbados are introducing a smoking ban similar to that here in the UK from 1st October 2010. If you are found smoking in public places (Shops, bars, restaurants etc) you will face on the spot fines. You will be allowed to smoke in the open air, beach, poolside etc. You are advised to adopt the same guidelines we have here. Those of you who intend to buy cigarettes, cigars or rolling tobacco at the duty free or on board the aircraft, please be aware that if the goods are seen by Barbados customs you will be charged duty. Please see me for any further guidance!

and finally

With only six weeks to go if you any queries concerning any part of the tour arrangements please do not hesitate to contact me. It is better to sort a small problem now, than waiting to sort a major problem later. Please remember that once we are in Barbados your organising committee will be on holiday as well as you, and although we don't mind giving advice at the bar or pool, we will not be available to book or organise your itinerary. We will leave that too our Virgin holiday rep. Who I am sure we will meet on the first day We will of course liase with you and the complex to help you settle in. And should we need to contact you as a group then we will leave notices of coaches departing for the cricket matches etc., on main notice board in Europa reception.

Kit Orders.....

For all those of who have ordered playing kit this will available for collection on 11th October you are reminded that payment is required by 10th September. Please call me if you need further advice on 07956 462 685

Dates for your diary

Ticket and Final Briefing Collection.....

These will be available on **Monday 11th October 2010 from 8pm**
at the Clubhouse at Hayes

Tuesday 19th October ?

Forget this date and you have a serious problem

**If you have any queries I will be pleased to answer them
call me on any of the numbers on the front page.**



Next suggested tour location

SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

January 2013 for 3 weeks

Interested ? Let me know



approx cost £4200 pp (saving £90 per month should cover it)