

# **ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

# **ABOUT ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA VACCINATIONS**

Antigua and Barbuda are considered part of the Leeward Island group, lying southwest of the Virgin Islands in the Caribbean Sea. Antigua, the largest of the group, consists of rolling hills, lush vegetation and 365 white sand beaches; Barbuda is 161 sq km and the terrain is largely scrubby. The islands' climates are similar: dry, with an average combined rainfall of 114cm per year, mainly during the rainy season (Sept – Nov). The trade winds, coolest from November to May, blow constantly and maintain a constant temperature of 23°C - 29°C.

### **OVERALL RISK**

Medium Risk - Preventable disease occur sporadically or at moderate levels. Consult a Travelvax clinic for your specific risk if travelling outside resorts, 5 star accommodation or for periods longer than a few days.

## **MALARIA RISK**

No risk to travellers.

# **VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES**

#### YELLOW FEVER

**Country requirement at entry:** A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required for travellers aged 1 year or over arriving from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers having transited for more than 12 hours through an airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission.

No vaccination certificate is required for direct travel from Australia or New Zealand.

### COVID-19

For the most up to date requirements for entry into Australia, go to Smartraveller.

Please click this <u>COVID-19 Travel Regulations Map</u> (IATA) to view the latest Antigua and Barbuda COVID travel requirements.

### **HEPATITIS A**

Moderate risk to travellers, vaccination recommended.

### **HEPATITIS B**

Moderate presence of Hepatitis B in local population. Vaccination would be recommended.

### **TYPHOID**

Moderate risk for most travellers. Vaccination recommended for travel to smaller cities, villages and rural areas outside usual tourist routes. Some medical conditions pre-dispose to infection; whether vaccinations would be recommended should be discussed with a medical practitioner. Consult a medical practitioner for your specific risk.

#### **INFLUENZA**

Year round risk present. Most common vaccine preventable illness in travellers. Vaccine recommended, effective for 1 year.

#### **RABIES**

Disease present. Recommendation for vaccination will depend on specific itinerary and activities planned. Generally rabies vaccination is advised for high risk individuals such as veterinarians or animal handlers, cavers. Additionally for higher risk travellers who plan: extended periods outdoors, rural travel, adventurous activities including bicycling; also expats or long-term travellers to endemic regions and children (risk of more severe or risk-prone bites and may not report contact at all).

#### **JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS**

No risk to travellers.

#### **POLIO**

No risk to travellers.

### **TICKBORNE ENCEPHALITIS**

No risk to travellers.

#### **MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS**

Low risk to travellers.

#### **CHOLERA**

No risk to travellers.

### OTHER DISEASES

#### TRAVELLERS DIARRHOEA

High risk. Travellers' Diarrhoea affects 20-60% of overseas travellers, food and water precautions are essential. Self-treatment medications may be recommended.

### **INSECT-BORNE DISEASES**

Low risk to travellers.

### **SCHISTOSOMIASIS**

No risk to travellers.

### STIs

Low incidence of sexually transmitted and blood-borne diseases. Safe sex and needle precautions should be followed by all travellers.

#### **ALTITUDE**

Altitude illness is a risk to travellers ascending higher than 2000 meters. Preventative medication is available. Consult a medical practitioner if ascending to 2000 metres or above.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### **PERSONAL SAFETY**

In order to check before and during travel for any high-risk areas visit the Smartraveller website. Avoid unnecessary displays of wealth or valuables and minimise the amounts of cash carried. Keep secure records of passport/credit card/licence numbers. For more safety tips visit: www.smartraveller.gov.au.

#### **MEDICAL CARE**

Comprehensive medical facilities available only in the major population centres and/or specific private clinics. Sterile surgical products (syringes/needles/sutures) are not always available. Check for any contacts supplied by your emergency assistance organisation (nominated by your travel insurer) or with IAMAT (International Association of Medical Assistance for Travellers).

### FIRST AID KITS & ACCESSORIES

Carry a basic <u>first aid kit</u>, customised to your activities. For longer stays consider a needle and syringe pack and medication for travellers diarrhoea.

More information on Antigua and Barbuda is available during your pre-travel consultation with Travelvax. Call 1300 360 164 for the location of the clinic nearest to you.