

# **BAHAMAS**

# **ABOUT BAHAMAS VACCINATIONS**

Lying about 300km off the south-eastern tip of continental United States, The Bahamas is made up of many islands. Daytime temperatures typically ranging between 15°C and 24°C, making the climate very even. The rainy season is generally from May to October, and the hurricane season extends from May to November. Visitors to The Bahamas during hurricane season are advised to monitor weather reports in order to be prepared for any potential threats.

# **OVERALL RISK**

Low Risk - Preventable disease at similar rates to Australia. Consult a Travelvax clinic for your specific risk based on the information set out below.

## **MALARIA RISK**

No risk to travellers.

# **VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES**

## **YELLOW FEVER**

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 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 COVID-19 Travel Regulations Map (IATA) to view the latest Bahamas COVID travel requirements.

## **HEPATITIS A**

Low risk.

#### **HEPATITIS B**

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

#### **TYPHOID**

Low risk for most travellers. 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**

No risk to travellers.

# **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**

Diseases such as <u>Dengue</u>, <u>Chikungunya</u>, <u>Zika</u> may be present. Seasonal risk will vary by country. Whether preventive measures will be recommended will depend on itinerary, length of stay, type of travel etc. and needs to be discussed with a medical practitioner. For those countries with disease present, risk is highest in urban and semi-urban areas, but may also occur in rural areas; <u>insect avoidance measures</u> are highly recommended all year round. Travelvax believes that the best defence is to understand their habits, dress properly and use an <u>effective insect repellent</u> in the correct manner. Consult a medical practitioner for your specific risk.

### **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 Bahamas is available during your pre-travel consultation with Travelvax. Call 1300 360 164 for the location of the clinic nearest to you.