

## Playground on land and sea

120 islands make up a 'necklace of gems' that form the Abacos; islands which to this day are an uninhabited paradise of islets, cays and beaches. The Abaco Islands are a sailing playground par excellence, yet there's even more to them than that. There's Marsh Harbour on Great Abaco, the bustling capital of this chain, and Treasure Cay, both packing a funky assortment of family-run hotels, villas, superb restaurants and lively nightspots.



### Picture-perfect villages

Nestling around these two thriving centres in outlying cays, are picture-perfect villages of white and pastel-coloured clapboard houses. On Elbow Cay, just a 20-minute water taxi ride from Marsh Harbour, you'll discover the enchanting New England-style, Hope Town, on an almost landlocked harbour, overlooked by a fabulously photogenic 120-ft candy-striped lighthouse. In a similar vein, Green Turtle Cay is another must-see while travelling amongst the Abacos. Islands in the chain are well-renowned for their stunning scenery and attractions.



### Sublime sailing

Marinas abound throughout the cays, and many are home to magnificent luxury yachts. Fishing and diving are also popular activities here. Deep-sea fishing generally takes place off the Abaco cays, where the drop-off from the reef to the Atlantic is steep, and the shallow marshy flats to the west of Great Abaco are ideal for 'bonefishermen'. Deep walls, reefs and a multitude of shipwrecks provide excellent diving territory right around the Abacos. The Islands are home to several excellent dive operators including [Brendal's Dive Centre International](#) on Green Turtle Cay, whose conch salad lunches and wild-dolphin spotting talents are as legendary as his dive experience.

### Unexplored until recently

Compared to their better know neighbours Eleuthera, Exuma and Nassau, the Abacos and islands surrounding them remained largely unexplored until the late 18th century, when the non-Indian population began to grow on this small island chain.

Source : <http://www.bahamas.fr/les-les/the-abacos/a-propos-des-abacos>