

INFORMATION ABOUT BONAIRE

Hello. We're Dan and Heidi, the owners of Kas di Bon Bes (House of Good Times). We hope you'll be our guests, that you'll enjoy the island and the house as much as we do, and that you'll want to return often. Here is some information about the island that we hope will be helpful:

Bonaire Marine Park

All of the waters surrounding Bonaire and Klein Bonaire are a marine park. The park is administered by a government agency called Stinapa. In order to use the water, you need to pay a fee to Stinapa. The fee entitles you to use the marine park for a year. The fee is \$45 for scuba divers and \$25 for everyone else. But the \$45 scuba fee also includes entry to the Washington/Slagbaai National Park. If you just pay the non-scuba marine park fee and want to visit the national park, you'll have to pay a separate \$20 park entry fee. You can pay your marine park fee at stinapa.bonairenaturefee.org/purchase.

Protecting the Reef

Coral reefs worldwide are under severe stress primarily from warming ocean temperatures and ocean acidification from agricultural runoff. But another danger to reefs comes from two chemicals that are commonly used in sunscreens – oxybenzone and octinoxate. Please use only sunscreens without those chemicals. They're usually labeled “reef safe” or “reef friendly”.

Activities and Sightseeing

Bonaire has a wide range of things see and to do. It is famous for its world-class diving and windsurfing, but there's also a lot more to see and do here.

Diving

One of the best things about Bonaire is how easy it is to dive here. While boat dives are available, there are many great dives that don't require a boat. There are 53 dive sites on Bonaire to which you can simply drive, enter the water from the shore, swim a bit, and you're at the reef. Maps of the island showing the dive sites are available, free, at car rental companies and dive shops. Dive site number 39, Chez Hines, is right here at our house. There are also some dive sites that are accessible only by boat, including 26 sites on Klein Bonaire. Any of the dive shops can arrange boat dives at the sites on the west side of Bonaire and on Klien Bonaire. It's also possible to dive on the east side, known (for good reason) as the wild side, but diving there is only by boat because the waves crashing against the rocky shoreline make shore diving there too dangerous. If you're interested in diving on the wild side, contact Wild Side Larry at Larry's Wild Side Diving (+599 790 - 9156 or +599) 780 - 9156, larry@larryswildsidediving.com, www.larryswildsidediving.com. The two dive shops most convenient to our house are a Buddy Dive shop about half a block away and a Dive Friends shop about two blocks away. To get to the Buddy Dive shop, turn left as you leave the house. The shop is the first building on your left immediately past the intersection of Punt Vierkant

(our street) and E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). The Dive Friends shop is at Delfin's Resort. To get there, turn right as you leave the house. The resort will be directly in front of you when you reach the point at which the road turns to the left. Both shops rent dive gear and provide air and nitrox. Both also provide diver training and certification. And both can arrange a "Discover Scuba" dive with a dive master for non-certified divers who would like to experience diving.

Snorkeling

Several of the dive sites have places that are shallow enough to provide great snorkeling. So if some in your group are divers and some are not, you can still all go together. The dive site island map shows which dive sites are also snorkel sites. There's also some pretty good snorkeling right off our house. The fish like to hide around and under the rocks just off the left side of our property as you face the sea. And sometimes you can also see a lobster there.

Windsurfing

Bonaire is probably the best place in the world for flat water windsurfing. The trade winds blow from east to west, so the windsurfing on most islands in the trade wind zone is on the western side of the island because the wind usually creates big waves on the eastern side. With the wind blowing offshore, some sailors, especially those with less experience, get blown farther out to sea than they would like. But at Lac Bay, on the eastern side of Bonaire, there's a reef that protects the bay, and so there is flat water sailing with the wind blowing onshore. And a large part of the bay is only about 2 ½ feet deep, so it's a great, safe place to learn. (There's also deeper water in part of the bay.) If you want to windsurf, we recommend Jibe City, where you can rent equipment, sail, and get instruction. To get there, turn left as you leave the house and then turn left again onto E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). In 0.8 kilometers, turn right onto Kaya Ir. Randolph Statius van Eps. Stay on that road for 7 kilometers, at which point you'll come to a "T" intersection where you have to turn either left or right. Turn left, and on your right you'll see first Sorobon Beach Resort and then Jibe City. You can check the wind speed before you leave the house at www.jibecity.com. You can get a wind forecast at www.windguru.cz/56. There's also a small rental and instruction operation a little past Jibe City called Tonky & Taty's Place where, in addition to windsurfing, you can learn to foil.

Kiteboarding

You can kiteboard, rent equipment, and get instruction at Atlantis Kitebeach. To get there, turn right right when you leave the house and then turn right again onto E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). The kite beach will be on your right in 8.8 kilometers. The kiteboarding operation is run by Kiteboarding Bonaire +599 701-5483 or +599 7864987 or +599 782-4608, info@kiteboardingbonaire.com, www.kiteboardingbonaire.com.

Landsailing (a/k/a Blokarting)

Put a sail on a go cart, and you have landsailing (also known as blokarting). You can check it out at www.landsailingadventures.com. You can reserve a cart at on the website or contact them

at +599 786-1572 or www.bonairelandsailingadventures.com. To get there, turn left when you leave the house and then left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Go 4.4 kilometers to the first roundabout. Take the first exit from that roundabout, which is Kaya Industria. Continue on Kaya Industria until you get to the next roundabout (0.6 kilometers) which is immediately past the Van den Tweel supermarket on your left. Take the third exit from that roundabout and continue for 11.5 kilometers. The landsailing operation will be on your right.

Stand-Up Paddle Boarding

For stand-up paddle boarding, contact Roan and Carla Jaspers at +599 701-5483 or info@supbonaire.com.

Horseback Riding (Including While the Horse is Swimming)

You can go horseback riding, and even ride the horse while it's swimming, at Rancho Washikemba. Check it out at www.ranchowashikemba.com. You can make a reservation at +599 700-2527, +599 786-7321, or info@ranchowashikemba.com. There's a map on the website that shows you how to get there.

Bicycling/Motorscooter/Motorcycling

Bike Rental Bonaire will deliver bikes, motorscooters, and electric bikes to the house. They have both street bikes and mountain bikes, and can provide you with a map of mountain bike trails. Check them out at bikerentalbonaire.com and contact them at +599 701-1441 or info@bikerentalbonaire.com. Scooters Bonaire rents bikes, motorscooters, and motorcycles. Check them out at scootersbonaire.com or contact them at +599 726-2000, +599 717-1818, or info@scootersbonaire.com.

Motor boating/Waterskiing/Wakeboarding/Sailing

You can rent motorboats for cruising, visiting Klein Bonaire, waterskiing, and wakeboarding from Blue Bay Bonaire, which is located at the Plaza Resort. Call +599 701-5500 or +599 701-3300, or go to bluebaybonaire.com. They can also arrange sailing trips.

Fishing

You can fish from the shore or from a boat. For shore fishing, there's a rod and reel in the utility room. There are two areas of the island's shoreline where fishing is not allowed, which are shown in red on the map on the following page. There is a bait shop a little bit north of Kaya Grandi (the main street of downtown Kralendijk). To get to the bait shop, turn left when you leave the house and then turn left again onto E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Stay on E.E.G. for 4.4 kilometers until you reach the first roundabout. Take the second exit from the roundabout and continue 0.4 kilometers to the "T" intersection in front of the soccer stadium. Turn left at the "T" intersection and stay on that road (which curves to the right) for 0.7 kilometers until you get to Kaya Grandi on your

left. Take a soft left onto Kaya Grandi. At the end of Kaya Grandi (which is only about two blocks long), you have to turn right or soft left. Turn soft left. There's a small street on your right about 0.3 kilometers from the end of Kaya Grandi called Kaya Carlos. (It's actually called Kaya Carlos something, but there's paint on the street sign that obscures the last name.) Turn right onto Kaya Carlos and the bait shop will be on your right. You can also arrange deep sea fishing with Captain Brian Boe at +599 785-0278 His website is flyingfishbonaire.com.



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Hiking

There are lots of hiking trails. You can find information about them at www.explore-bonaire.com/hiking-trails/?lang=en#.

Golf

There's a golf course on the island. For a tee time call +599 785-3232 or +599 717 8684. The course is about a ½ hour drive from the house. To get there, turn left when you leave the house and then left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Go 4.4 kilometers to the first roundabout. Take the first exit from the roundabout, which is Kaya Industria. Continue on Kaya Industria until you get to the next roundabout (0.6 kilometers) which is immediately past the Van den Tweel supermarket on your left. Take the third exit from the roundabout and continue for 1.4 kilometers until you get to another roundabout at which a Catholic Church will be on your right. Take the first exit from that roundabout, and then immediately turn right onto Kaya Nikiboko Noord. Continue for 0.5 kilometers on Nikki Boko Noord and then turn left. The street onto which you will turn left is Hanchi Ambolina, but there's no sign identifying it that can be seen in your direction of travel. The only sign is on a building wall that is only visible from the opposite direction of travel. You'll know where to turn because there will be a building on your left with sexy silhouettes on it (it's a brothel) and a sign on a building on your right that says "Island Boyz". Continue for 0.9 kilometers on Hanchi Ambolina until you come to a stop sign. There's a red house in front of you and a yellow house on your right. Turn right. The street is called Kaya Papa Cornes, but there's no street sign. (It's Bonaire.) Continue on Kaya Papa Cornes for 4.2 kilometers (about 5 minutes) until you come to a sign that says "golf" with an arrow pointing to the right. Turn right onto a dirt road and follow the "golf" signs for 4.9 kilometers (about 12 minutes) to the course.

Yoga

You can arrange yoga sessions at the house by contacting Elisabetta Maccari at +599 780-7362, elisabettamaccari.com, or betta@web.de. There are yoga mats in the utility room.

Massage

There are lots of places to get a massage. You can find them by Googling "massage Bonaire". You can also get a massage on the beach at Jibe City, but you have to book it there. To get to Jibe City, turn left as you leave the house and then turn left again onto E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). In 0.8 kilometers, turn right onto Kaya Ir. Randolph Statius van Eps. Stay on that road for 7 kilometers, at which point you'll come to a "T" intersection where you have to turn either left or right. Turn left, and on your right you'll see first Sorobon Beach Resort and then Jibe City.

Wild Animals

Bonaire is home to several native, and some non-native, species of land animals that you'll see all over the island. Some of the notable native species you'll see are flamingos, pelicans, yellow-shouldered Amazonian parrots, parakeets, iguanas, and various small lizards. Non-native species that

you'll see include donkeys and goats (both brought here by the Spanish in the 18th century). Places you're likely to see flamingos include the back road from Lac Bay to Kralendijk and Lake Gotomeer. To see flamingos on the back road to Lac Bay, turn left when you leave the house and left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Go 0.8 kilometers and turn right on Kaya Ir. Randolph Statius ven Eps. Go 6.2 kilometers and then turn left on Kayanda Sorobon and continue for 3.3 kilometers to a small lake where flamingos can usually be seen. The directions to Lake Gotomeer are in the section on Lake Gotomeer below.

Parrot Sanctuary

You can see and learn about parrots, about Bonaire's ecosystem, and about conservation efforts at Echo Parrot Sanctuary. Book a tour at +599 701-1188, echobonaire.org, or tours@echobonaire.org.

Donkey Sanctuary

The Spaniards brought donkeys to Bonaire in the 18th century, and they now roam free all over the island. There's a donkey sanctuary that brings in sick and injured donkeys and nurses them back to health. To get to the donkey sanctuary, turn left when you leave the house and then turn left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Go 0.8 kilometers and then turn right on Kaya Ir. Randolph Statius ven Eps. Continue for 2 kilometers and the entrance to the donkey sanctuary will be on your left. It's open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with the last entry at 4:00 p.m. Their website is <https://donkeysanctuary.org/en>.

Aletta's Goat Farm

You can visit a goat farm. Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Children under 12 \$7, everyone else \$15. +599 786-6950, semperkontentu.wixsite.com/goatcheese.

Punta Blanku Farms

Punta Blanku Farms is the largest supplier of eggs on Bonaire, You can arrange a visit by sending a message through its Facebook page or its website, puntablankufarms.com, or by calling +599 788-9000.

Salt Pans

Salt is harvested by evaporating seawater from large, shallow salt pans. Before the water evaporates, it turns beautiful colors. When the water has evaporated, the salt is scraped up and stored in huge piles until it is put on a conveyor belt to be loaded onto a ship. Turn right when you leave the house and then right again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). You'll see the salt mounds soon and arrive at the salt pans in 1.6 kilometers.

Slave Huts

The small huts in which slaves who worked the salt pans slept are still standing. There are two sets of them. To get there, turn right as you leave the house and then turn right again onto E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). You'll see the first set of huts (White Slave) in 6.6 kilometers and the second set (Red Slave) in another 4.9 kilometers.

Washington-Slagbaai National Park

Leave early in the morning to visit Washington-Slagbaai National Park. There are two roads in the park, each of which is a one-way loop, and you need time to complete the circuit and get back to the gate by 5:00 p.m. when the park closes. The longer road is the more scenic. The roads are unpaved, and parts of them are very rough. Don't go there in a regular car; take a pick-up truck. The land part of the park is well worth a visit, and there are also dive sites there. The park is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with the last entry at 2:30 p.m. Entry to the park is \$20 if you've paid the non-diving marine park fee and free if you've paid the diving marine park fee. Be sure to bring the QR code that shows that you paid your marine park fee with you. +599 788-9015, +599 786-5229, <https://stinapabonaire.org/washington-slagbaai>. To get there, turn left when you leave the house and then turn left again at E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Go 4.4 kilometers to the first roundabout. Take the second exit from the roundabout and go 0.4 kilometers to the "T" intersection in front of the soccer stadium. Turn left and stay on that road (which curves to the right) for 0.7 kilometers until you get to Kaya Grandi (the main street in downtown Kralendijk) on your left. Take a soft left onto Kaya Grandi. At the end of Kaya Grandi (which is only about two blocks long), take a soft left. Continue on that road for 1.9 kilometers to another roundabout. Take the second exit from that roundabout) for 11 kilometers, at which point you'll come to a sign directing you to turn right to get to Washington/Slagbaai. Turn right and continue to follow the signs for 7.5 kilometers to the park. (You'll pass through Rincon on the way.)

Klein Bonaire

Klein Bonaire is uninhabited. It has a beautiful beach, on which you can picnic if you like, and it has great snorkeling. It's one of the best snorkel spots to see sea turtles. If you can, you should go there on a day when there's no cruise ship here to avoid the crowd. You can find the cruise ship schedule by Googling "Bonaire cruise ship schedule". You can get to Klein Bonaire by renting a boat or by water taxi. You can rent a boat at Blue Bay Bonaire, which is located at the Plaza Resort. Call +599 701-5500 or +599 701-3300, or go to bluebaybonaire.com. Water taxis leave from Karel's Beach Bar on Town Pier in downtown Kralendijk at 10:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m., and 2:15 p.m. and return at 12:45 p.m., 2:45 p.m., and 4:45 p.m. The round trip fare \$10 for children 12 and under and \$20 for everyone else. +599 700-8080, <https://caribewatersportbonaire.com/water-taxi/>, caribewatersport@gmail.com.

Rincon

There are two big population centers on Bonaire – Kralendijk and Rincon. In Rincon, the main attraction is the Cadushy Distillery, which makes liqueurs and liquor from cactus. You can tour

the distillery and taste their products. +599 701-7011, cadushy.com, info@cadushy.com.

Lake Gotomeer

Lake Gotomeer is a beautiful lake on the north part of the island. No swimming or wading is allowed, but it's worth going there for the view. To get there, turn left when you leave the house and then turn left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Continue for 4.4 kilometers to the roundabout. Take the second exit from the roundabout and go 0.4 kilometers to the "T" intersection in front of the soccer stadium. Turn left. In 0.7 kilometers (after the road turns to the right), Kaya Grandi (the main street of downtown Kralendijk) will be on your left. Take a soft left onto Kaya Grandi. Continue on Kaya Grandi until it ends. (It's only about 2 blocks long). At the end of Kaya Grandi, take a soft left and continue on that road (Kaya Gob. N. Debrot) for 1.9 kilometers, at which point you'll come to a roundabout. Take the second exit from the roundabout and continue for 1.1 kilometers, at which point you'll come to a sign that tells you to continue straight to go to Lake Gotomeer and to turn right to go to Washington/Slagbaai National Park. Go straight for 1.8 kilometers until you come to a place at which there's a low stone wall with a sign that says "Traditional Stone Wall", another sign that says Doorgaand verkeer (through traffic) with an arrow pointing to the right, and another yellow sign that has a jeep symbol on it and two arrows pointing to the right. Turn right. In 2.5 kilometers you'll come to a scenic overlook of Lake Gotomeer with a parking lot and some benches. It's another 0.1 kilometers from the scenic overlook down to the lake shore, and the road hugs then lake shore for awhile. There's a very good chance that you'll see flamingos there. The road continues through Rincon. From there, there are signs for Kralendijk you can follow to get home.

Restaurants

There are a lot of restaurants on Bonaire. Here are some of our favorites (in alphabetical order):

The Beach at Windsock – Great for a casual lunch or dinner on the beach. It's on E.E.G. Boulevard about 1 kilometer north of the house. +599 701-7887.

Bon Tapa – Great tapas. In downtown Kralendijk. +599 701-1515, bontapa.com.

Brass Boer – Very creative (but also very expensive) – At Delfin's Resort. Turn right when you leave the house. The resort will be in front of you when you get to the point at which the road turns to the left. +599 715-5050, brassboer.com.

La Cantina – International cuisine with an in-house brewery. On Kaya Grandi (the main street in downtown Kralendijk). +599 717-3595, lacantinabonaire.com.

Capriccio – Great Italian food and wines. Turn left when you leave the house and then turn left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Continue for 4.4 kilometers to the first roundabout. Take the second exit from the roundabout and continue for 0.4 kilometers to the "T" intersection in front of the soccer stadium. Turn left, and continue for 0.4 kilometers and take a soft left just before

the road turns to the right. There's a blue building that will be on your right just after you've made the soft left turn. Turn left, and the restaurant will be on your left. +599 717-7230, <https://www.facebook.com/capricciobonaire/>.

Cuba Compagnie – It once served Cuban cuisine, but they kept the name after the chef who had cooked the Cuban food left and the restaurant was taken over by a chef who cooks pretty standard, and very good, international dishes. +599 717-1822, cubacompagniebonaire.nl.

Foodie's – The name says it. Very creative menu, well-executed. Turn left when you leave the house and then turn left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Continue for 0.8 kilometers and then turn right on Kaya Ir. Randolph Statius von Eps. Continue for 6.2 kilometers and then turn left on Kayinda Sorobon. The restaurant will be on your left in 0.6 kilometers. +599 717-5369, +599 796-3663, foodiesbonaire.com.

King Kong – Great carry out burgers 11:30-4:00 Tuesday through Saturday at a trailer on Bachelor Beach. Turn left when you leave the house, then left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Continue for 0.7 kilometers to Bachelor Beach on your left.

Lekker Thuis – At Red Palm Village Resort. Turn left when you leave the house and then left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). In 0.8 kilometers, turn right onto Kaya Ir. Randolph Statius van Eps. Stay on that road for 6.2 kilometers and then turn left on Kayinda Sorobon. In 5.1 kilometers the resort will be on your left. +599 700-3978, redpalmvillage.com/restaurant/?lang=en.

Mona Lisa – On Kaya Grandi (the main street in downtown Kralendijk). +599 717-8718,

Oscar's Lighthouse – Has both international and traditional Bonairean food. At Harbor Village Resort. +599 717-2009, oscarlighthouse.com.

Sorobon Resort – A great place for lunch on the beach. To get there, turn left when you leave the house and then turn left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Continue for 0.8 kilometers and then turn right on Kaya Ir. Randolph Statius von Eps. Continue for 7 kilometers and then turn left at the T intersection. The resort is the first building on your right.

La Terrazza – Italian -- Other than Thursday nights, there's no menu. They just keep bringing out delicious courses (paired with wines if you'd like) until you've had enough. Thursday night is pasta night – any pasta dish for \$15. The last Saturday of each month is a wine tasting dinner. It costs \$65 per person, for which you get four courses, eight wines, and an education. It's on Kaya Grandi (the main street in downtown Kralendijk). +599 701-4752, hotelislanderbonaire.com/la-terrazza.

More information on dining and activities on Bonaire can be found at foodbookbonaire.com and diningbonaire.fyi.

Shopping for Groceries, Wine, Beer and Liquor

Groceries

There are several large supermarkets within a few blocks of one another on Kaya Industria and one more near the others on Kaya Industria Paribas. To get to Kaya Industria, turn left when you leave the house and then left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Go 4.4 kilometers until you get to the first roundabout. The first exit from the roundabout is Kaya Industria. There are several supermarkets on that street. The one at the far end (0.7 kilometers from the first roundabout and just before you get to another roundabout) on your left is Van den Tweel, which has the largest selection, but also has the highest prices. Warehouse, Lucky, and BonDiGro have lower prices. Pietersz has a lot of bulk products, but also has some meats, like filet mignon and eye of round roast, that you may not be able to find at the other supermarkets. Pieterz is on Kaya Industria Paribas, which is the street that runs perpendicular to Kaya Industria starting directly across Kaya Industria from the entrance to Van den Tweel. There are also many smaller supermarkets all over the island, including one on E.E.G. Boulevard close to the house.

Gourmet Foods

For gourmet foods go to Canarbo. It supplies most of the high-end restaurants on the island, but also sells retail. It's on Kaya Industria. Turn left when you leave the house and then turn left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Go 4.4 kilometers to the first roundabout, and take the first exit from the roundabout, which is Kaya Industria. In 0.1 kilometers, it will be on your left. You won't see it from the road. Park, and walk into the self-storage area past the storage units and Canarbo is at the end.

Wine

Wine can be purchased at most grocery stores, but for better quality (not necessarily expensive) wine we recommend Best Cellars, Bottles, and Antillean Wine Company. All three are on Kaya Industria. Turn left when you leave the house and then turn left again on E.E.G. Boulevard (the main road). Go 4.4 kilometers to the first roundabout, and take the first exit from the roundabout, which is Kaya Industria. In less than 0.1 kilometers, Bottles will be on your left. In 0.1 kilometers, Antillean Wine Company will be on your left. You won't see it from the road. Park, and walk into the self-storage area and it will be on your right. It's only open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Continue on Kaya Industria until Van den Tweel supermarket is on your left, and Best Cellars will be on your right. You can also buy Italian wines at Capriccio. See the restaurants section for directions.

Beer

Brands like Amstel, Amstel Bright, Heinekin, Corona, and Polar can be found at any grocery

store. If you like craft beers, there's a good selection at Van den Tweel, and there's also The Brewery, a brew pub that brews its own beer. It's on Kaya Grandi (the main street of downtown Kralendijk).

Liquor

All of the grocery stores have liquor. If you're looking for premium brands, both Best Cellars and Bottles have them.