

# HOPIBONAIRE

We aim for your unforgettable vacation on Bonaire. Therefore, we would love to provide you with helpful information and good advice about your trip. We wish you lots of excitement and a wonderful time on Dushi Bonaire! Ayo!

## Arrival

- Upon arrival in Bonaire, your passport will be checked to ensure it is valid for at least six months, and if you have paid your Visitor Entry Tax. If your tour operator has not paid this tourist tax, it is best to pay the amount before departure on [this website](#). The funds are used for investments in education, infrastructure, tourism, and sustainability.
- Pay your *Stinapa Nature fee* online before you arrive, or you won't be allowed to enter the sea (Bonaire Marine Park)! You can also visit Bonaire's other national park, Washington-Slagbaai, after payment. The fee can be paid through [this website](#). The proceeds are used by Stinapa, a non-profit organization, to manage, maintain, and protect nature on Bonaire.

## Payment

- The US dollar is used for transactions on Bonaire. Although you can usually use ATMs or credit cards at most places, carrying some cash with you is always handy. There are plenty of ATMs available.
- Don't forget to activate worldwide coverage on your bank cards!

## Driving

- Arrange your rental car (or scooter) in advance. During peak season, there is sometimes a shortage of available rental cars.
- On Bonaire, we don't leave valuables in the car. We leave the car unlocked to avoid damage from attempted break-ins.
- Check [our website](#) for two enjoyable routes you can drive yourself. Download our special PDFs to your phone and hit the road!

## Traffic

- The maximum speed on the island is 60 km/h (40 mph). Due to the large number of roaming animals, adhering to this speed limit is crucial for safety.
- On Bonaire, through traffic has the right of way. What constitutes through traffic is not always clear, but that's not a problem. The atmosphere in traffic is very relaxed, and drivers often let each other go first.

## Footwear

- In this tropical destination, you naturally prefer to walk around all day in flip-flops or barefoot. However, when exploring nature, it's better to wear closed shoes. Bonaire has many cacti and thorny bushes, so getting a thorn in your toe or shoe sole is easy. Packing tweezers is therefore also advisable.
- When entering the sea, it's best to wear water shoes. Bonaire has only a few sandy beaches. The dead coral can be pretty sharp, not to mention the spines of the sea urchins that inhabit it.

## Entering the water

- Protect yourself from the sun, especially when entering the sea. Use reef-friendly sunscreen without oxybenzone to protect the coral reefs and marine life. Many people wear a UV shirt while snorkeling.
- The reef in the waters around Bonaire is protected. Touching or feeding the animals living there is prohibited. You are also not allowed to touch the corals. You cannot take away washed-up pieces of coral or shells.
- Consider buying a dive egg to safely store your car key, a copy of your driver's license, and your nature fee while in the water.

## Electricity

- On Bonaire, you mainly find American outlets with 127 volts. In places frequented by tourists, there are often also European outlets with 220 volts. We recommend packing a travel adapter for convenience.
- Bonaire is sometimes affected by power outages. Hotels, resorts, and shops often have emergency generators, but if you rent a cottage or villa, it's better to pack some candles or a lamp. Usually, the power is restored after a few hours.

## Mosquitoes and lembe lembe

- Especially in the winter months, there are many mosquitoes on Bonaire, which are also active during the day. Using DEET and sleeping under a mosquito net prevents a lot of itching.
- If there is little wind, and in sheltered places, you may experience lembe lembe. These fruit flies like to get into your eyes, ears, or nose. They are harmless but irritating. Finding a spot in the wind can provide relief.

## Food and drinks

- The tap water in Bonaire is of excellent quality and safe to drink. It is extracted from seawater.
- Several supermarkets on the island offer a range of products similar to Dutch supermarkets. Because most goods are imported to Bonaire, the selection and quality of fresh vegetables and fruits are sometimes a bit less, and the prices can be high.
- Bonaire has many good restaurants, often in beautiful locations. Especially during peak season, reserving a table a few days in advance is wise. This can usually be done online.

## Useful phone numbers

- Our phone number is +599 786 1734.
- In case of car problems, call your rental company or HB Road Service Bonaire: +599 785 2604.
- In case of emergency, dial 911.

