

Underwater Archaeology Field School Bermuda 2015

General Information

About Bermuda

Bermuda is an island about 20 miles long located 650 miles southeast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. The island was visited by Spanish mariners during the 16th century, but was not settled until a century later when English colonists started to migrate to the new world. For several hundred years, the island was used by navigators as a final sighting before they headed out across the Atlantic. Today, the islands treacherous reefs provide a rich repository of shipwrecks. The island's economy is based on tourism and offshore banking. The capital is Hamilton. The water is generally warm and clear.

Accommodation and Contact Information

During your stay in Bermuda you will be lodging at the National Museum of Bermuda /Bermuda Maritime Museum. The Museum is housed within the Old Royal Navy Dockyard and located at one end of Bermuda. The dockyard is surrounded on three sides by water.

Street Address:
National Museum of Bermuda
15 Maritime Lane
Dockyard
Ireland, Island.
Bermuda

URI in Bermuda

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box MA133
Mangrove Bay
MABX
Bermuda

Telephone Numbers

Accommodation: 441 234 0180

Museum Office: 441 234 1333

In an emergency the head curator's
home phone: 441 234 5973

Placing a call to Bermuda is no different from making a long distance call in the United States, simply use the same protocol. Remember, however, that Bermuda is one hour ahead of Eastern Standard Time.

Accommodations are provided at the Bermuda Maritime Museum's hostel. The museum will provide students with a key so that they can access the museum grounds after hours. A refundable \$20 security deposit is required for keys.

Kitchen facilities are available for meal preparation. Participants will assist in meal preparation and clean up on a rotational basis.

Travel and Transportation

There is only one airport in Bermuda. Field school participants entering the country from the United States must present:

- a US Passport, and
- a letter from Bermuda Immigration stating that we are allowed into the country in order to work alongside the Bermuda Maritime Museum (your instructor will arrange for the letters to be issued)

The instructors will co-ordinate travel arrangements from Bermuda airport to our accommodations.

Hiring cars in Bermuda is not possible. Only residents holding a Bermuda driving license are permitted to drive. Visitors can hire motor scooters, but anybody doing so must take great care. Bermudians drive on the left!!

Bermuda's bus service is extensive and affordable. You can take a bus from outside the museum and travel anywhere on the island. In addition, a fast and efficient ferry service connects Ireland Island with the capital, Hamilton, and drops passengers off downtown.

Safety and Medical Matters

Participants in the field school must have their own medical insurance. Those participating in the scuba diving option must also carry DAN insurance. Bermuda hospitals will not accept US Medical Insurance for outpatient injuries (too many visitors have departed the island leaving bogus insurance information). Students/staff should bring a credit card with space on

it to cover minor medical problems with a view to claiming their expenses back upon return to the United States.

Participants should bring any prescription medicine with them.

Hospital Information

King Edward VII Memorial Hospital,
Hamilton - Phone: 441-236-2345

Money Matters

Virtually all things cost more in Bermuda than in the US. Program participants should anticipate "needing" spending money for sightseeing, evenings, and lots of gifts for loved ones back home. U.S. dollars can be used in Bermuda. For those wishing to convert money, there is a one to one exchange rate between U.S. and Bermudan dollars. Credit cards (Visa and Mastercard) are, of course, accepted. Discover card is not usually accepted.

Carrying a lot of cash, is probably unwise. Traveler's checks are safer. There is a bank close to the Museum where you can cash them. Alternatively, you can use your ATM cards in Bermuda.

Laundry

The museum has laundry facilities. You may want to bring a small quantity of laundry detergent with you. It's a lot cheaper in the United States.

Electricity

The electrical system in Bermuda is the same as the US. The normal voltage is 110v.

What to Bring

Luggage:

Travel light. Try to limit your luggage to one bag, plus a dive bag for those selecting the scuba diving option.

Personal Items:

- Sheet
- Pillow Case
- Light Blanket or Sleeping Bag
- Clothes
- Swimsuit
- Toiletries
- Towel
- Laundry detergent (small box)
- Hat (very important for those days out on the water)
- Sun Screen (ditto)
- Rain Gear (optional)
- Small dry-box (a small container to keep personal items safe and dry while out on the boat. A tupperware box will do)
- **Very important: bring 2, 1-litre refillable water bottles.**

Documents and Financial Items

- Money
- Credit Card
- Passport
- DAN Insurance card
- Health Insurance Card (The Museum will want a photocopy)
- Diving "C" Card (The Museum will want a photocopy)

Diving Gear (scuba diving option)

- Mask
- Fins
- Snorkel

- Buoyancy Compensator
- Regulator (First Stage, Second Stage, Gauges, and Octopus) (put in carry-on)
- Wetsuit (The water will be about 70 degrees - you probably need at least a 3 mm shorty or farmer john. It's usually best to have something that covers your knees.)
- Weight belt (no lead required)
- Knife (don't put in carry-on!)
- Canvas Gloves (underwater work can tear up your hands)

Snorkel Gear (non-diving options)

Non-diving participants who would like to tow-board, and/or swim around the shipwreck sites should bring:

- Mask
- Fins
- Snorkel
- Weight belt (no lead required)
- Wetsuit (The water will be about 70 degrees - you probably need at least a 3 mm shorty or farmer john)

Stationary

- Pens
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Two note books (including one small one as a daily log)

Program Participants

The field school is offered by the University of Rhode Island but participants come from Universities all across the country, and beyond.

Instructors:

Dr. Rod Mather
Dr. James Allan
Dr. Steve Smith - DSO

Questions

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

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