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General

Barbados is an island nation located in the Caribbean Sea NE of Venezuela.

The climate is tropical with a rainy season from June to October.

The terrain is relatively flat, rising gently to central highland.

Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region B) is in effect. See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

Currency

The official unit of currency is the Barbados dollar, consisting of 100 cents.

Government

The government is a parliamentary democracy of 11 parishes. The government recognizes Queen Elizabeth II as its Chief of State.

The capital is Bridgetown.

Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

Jan. 1, New Year's Day; Good Friday; Easter; Labor Day; Nov. 30, Independence Day; Dec. 25, Christmas Day; and Dec. 26, Boxing Day.

Industries

The main industries are tourism, sugar, and light manufacturing.

Languages

The official language is English.

Time Zone

The Time Zone description is QUEBEC (+4).

U.S. Embassy

The embassy is situated in the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Building, Broad Street, Bridgetown. The mailing address is P.O. Box 302, Bridgetown, FPO AA 34055.