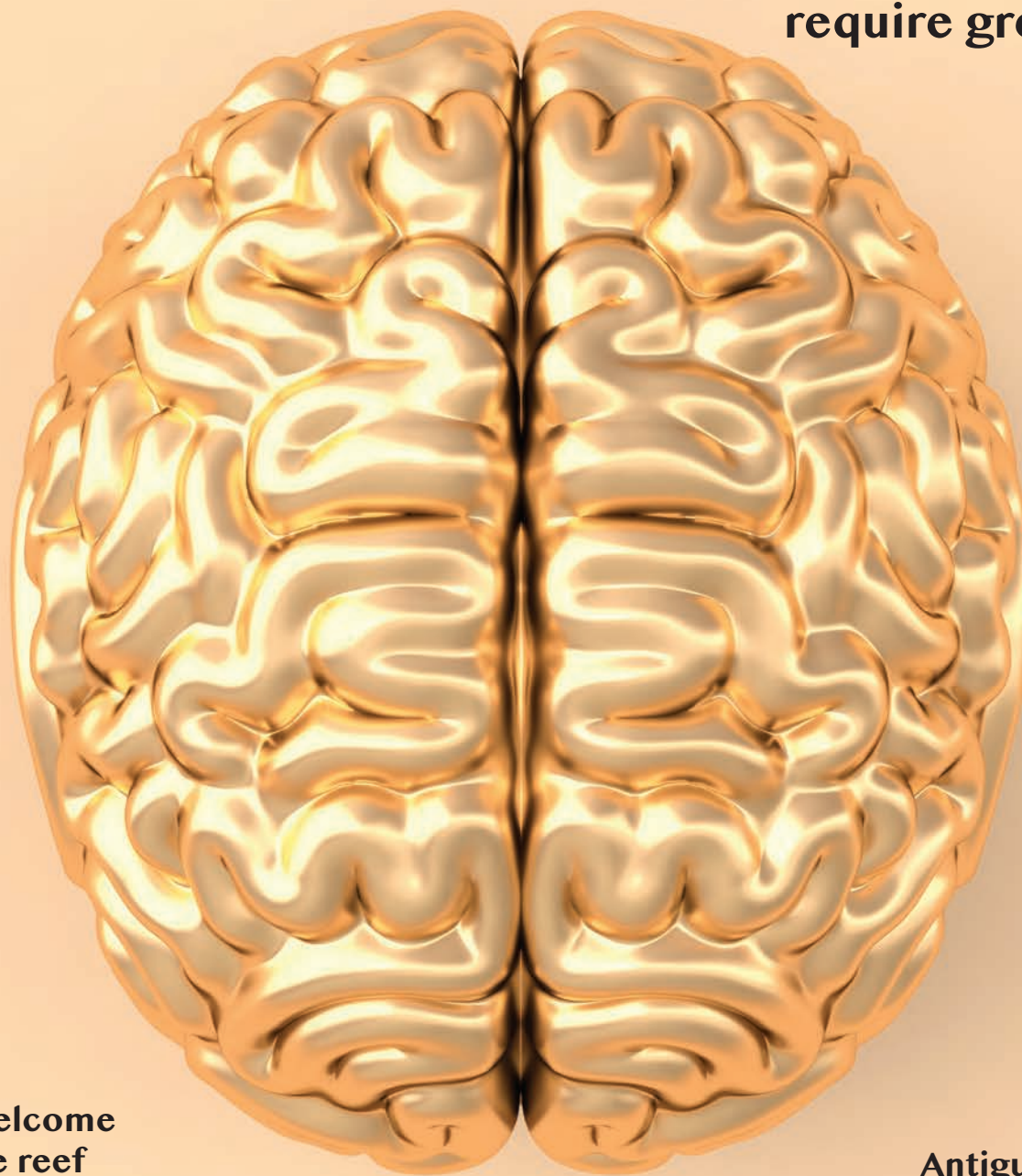


ISSUE 7 • MAY 2020

Antigua & Barbuda

THE CITIZEN

**Education: Great nations
require great minds**



**Lionfish
– the unwelcome
king of the reef**

**The new generation shaking
up the world of philanthropy**

**Antigua substitutes
for Neverland in
Oscar-nominated
director's new film Wendy**

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WELCOME



"Since there are few natural resources upon which our people can depend, the policy of my government has been to concentrate efforts into our human capital development."

I

welcome each and every potential citizen to our island country and invite you to examine every aspect of our recent development. Several factors make our island and its people very attractive; the greatest of which is the discernible commitment by our youth in the pursuit of formal education. It is very difficult for most visitors to believe that the grandparents of most of today's leaders had little exposure to formal education. During the elderlies' youth, primary and secondary schools were sparse across the country, except for a concentration in St John's.

The yearning for the best and most useful education and training was inculcated in our youth by parents and grandparents who set out to expand the poverty of choices. Last year, the University of the West Indies (UWI) a 70-year old institution and firmly planted in three campus countries in the English-speaking region, established its Fourth Landed Campus at Five Islands, Antigua. It was a moment to celebrate, historic in its importance and a giant leap for a small island state.

Since there are few natural resources upon which our people can depend, the policy of my government has been to concentrate efforts into our human capital development. All the engineers, educators, newspaper editors, medical practitioners, environmental scientists, legal luminaries, builders and architects, pilots and air traffic controllers, and other professionals which our country needs, are being produced by our own people's efforts. We are very resourceful.

I encourage you to open your hearts and to select Antigua & Barbuda citizenship. Furthermore, we offer a fourth option towards citizenship which allows the soon-to-be citizen to contribute to our UWI Fourth Landed Campus. Do come join us! Welcome!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Browne'.

Honourable Gaston Browne
Prime Minister



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

WELCOME TO THE BEAUTIFUL TWIN
ISLANDS OF ANTIGUA & BARBUDA



G

Great nations require great minds. The importance of education for man's development and thus the foundation for sustained economic growth has been known since ancient times. As Plato put it "If a man neglects education, he walks lame to the end of his life." With the recent opening of the fourth-landed campus of the University of the West Indies adding to six other higher education establishments in Antigua & Barbuda, this small island nation surprises once again with its wide educational offer. Indeed, one may say this is befitting the nation that has one of the highest economic growths in the region and as of December 2019 had US\$2 billion worth of investment projects in the pipeline.

Whether you wish your children to follow a world-class international baccalaureate programme or they plan to study at university, enter the world of hospitality or train to become a doctor, the educational offer covers every eventuality. Or maybe you are simply looking for well-qualified and trained employees for your business venture.

And no matter if you are investing, studying or holidaying in the islands, no-one needs to worry about the extra-curricular activities available. With an incredible climate, some of the best beaches in the world, crystal-clear waters providing every water sport you can imagine, friendly and welcoming locals and great infrastructure, leisure time is more than catered for. When you throw into the mix the stunning scenery, a wonderful varied cuisine, world-class restaurants and luxury hotels and resorts, you couldn't really ask for anything more.

As one of the best Citizenship by Investment (CBI) destinations in the Caribbean and in the top five of the Global Citizenship Programme Index in Henley & Partners' Global Residence and Citizenship Programmes 2018-2019 report, citizenship in Antigua & Barbuda allows visa-free travel to 165 jurisdictions including Hong Kong, Singapore, the UK and Schengen area. By investing in the University of the West Indies through the Citizenship by Investment Programme, a year's scholarship is given to a member of the family. ●

Antigua & Barbuda

THE CITIZEN

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info@cip.gov.ag

www.cip.gov.ag



For Investment Migration Council (IMC) membership enquiries, contact the Regional Representative Office at:

caribbean@investmentmigration.org

www.investmentmigration.org



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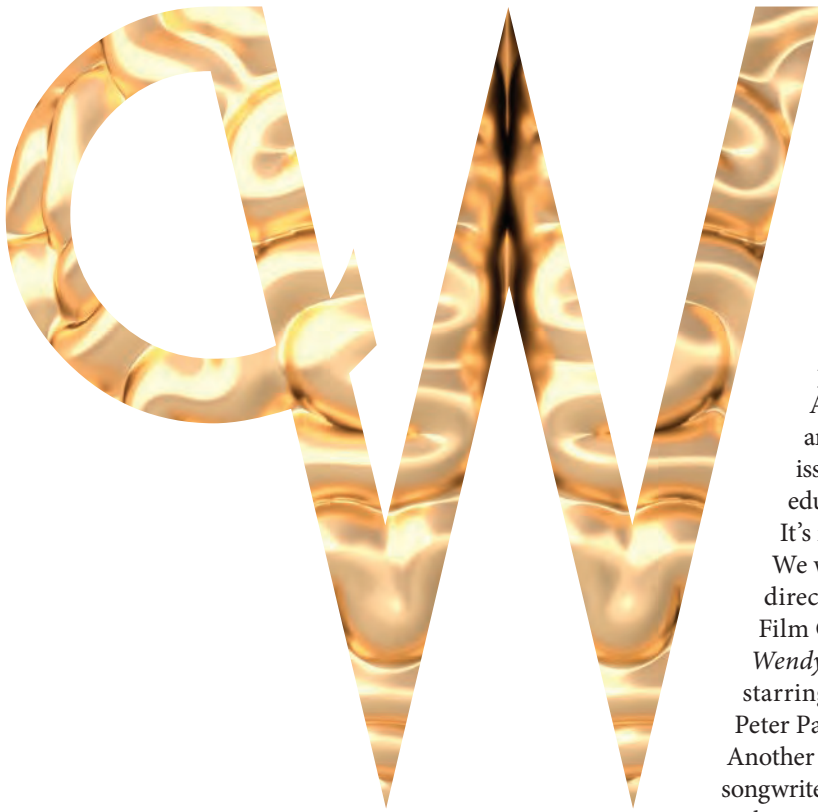
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Susan Brophy
Editor



welcome to issue seven of Antigua & Barbuda THE CITIZEN. We invite you to dig into this edition's mixture of features about our nation, the Citizenship by Investment (CBI) world and beyond.

Our Prime Minister, Gaston Browne, talks about how Antigua & Barbuda is a resilient nation, and ready to welcome tourists back in the near future. Our CBI experts have shared their thoughts and opinions about the sector, including how current events will refashion people's ideas about citizenship.

And as Antigua & Barbuda's economy is growing and diversifying, so is their education offer. This issue's cover story takes a closer look at just how education shapes society and economies for the good. It's not every day that Hollywood comes to Antigua.

We were lucky to catch up with Oscar-nominated director Benh Zeitlin and local producer and Antigua Film Commissioner, Bert Kirchner, to find out about *Wendy* which was filmed here in the islands and starring a talented local boy, Yashua Mack, in the iconic Peter Pan role.

Another homegrown talent, Grammy-nominated songwriter and musician Drastic, met up with us to talk to us about what makes him tick and tells us about his latest music collaborations with the likes of Wyclef Jean.

Although Antigua & Barbuda's sailing season was cut short in 2020, we celebrate the exciting events which took place on the islands' waters earlier in the year.

One of Antigua & Barbuda newest citizens, Belgian François Geleyns, reveals why moving here has changed his and his son's life so positively. Local photographer Yensa Werth showcases some of her images of the islands, capturing their colour and diversity. And in our conservation series, we look at how the stunningly beautiful but unwelcome guest, the lionfish, is a danger to the complex reef systems of the Caribbean, and what can be done to eradicate it. And last but not least, millennials often get a bad rap. However our ongoing series on philanthropy will show just how millennials may be the most generous generation in history. On behalf of the Select Publishing team, I thank all those who contributed with the magazine. Please enjoy!

CONTRIBUTORS



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Founder and President of Arton Capital, a leading global financial advisory firm, Arton has become a trusted adviser to governments around the world in attracting foreign direct investments by designing, structuring and implementing residence and citizenship by investment programmes. He is also the founder of the Global Citizen Forum, a platform which promotes global citizenship as a way of life.



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One of the world's foremost specialists in residence and citizenship by investment, with over 25 years in the Investment Migration field. He founded Latitude Consultancy Limited in 2017. The company has recently collaborated with the Investment Migration Council (IMC) in the establishment of its Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy.



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Executive Director of CEMS, the Global Alliance in Management Education. CEMS is a collaboration of academic and corporate institutions dedicated to educating and preparing future generations of global business leaders to enter into a multilingual, multicultural and interconnected business world through the CEMS Master in International Management (MIM).



Ahmad Abbas

Ahmad's journey in the investment migration industry started in Reach Immigration's research & development department analysing immigration programmes. His background in supply chain management led him to business development with Reach. Nonetheless, his admiration for the intricate details of investment migration led him to start publishing his views and opinions on the happenings of the industry.



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resilience and moving forward*

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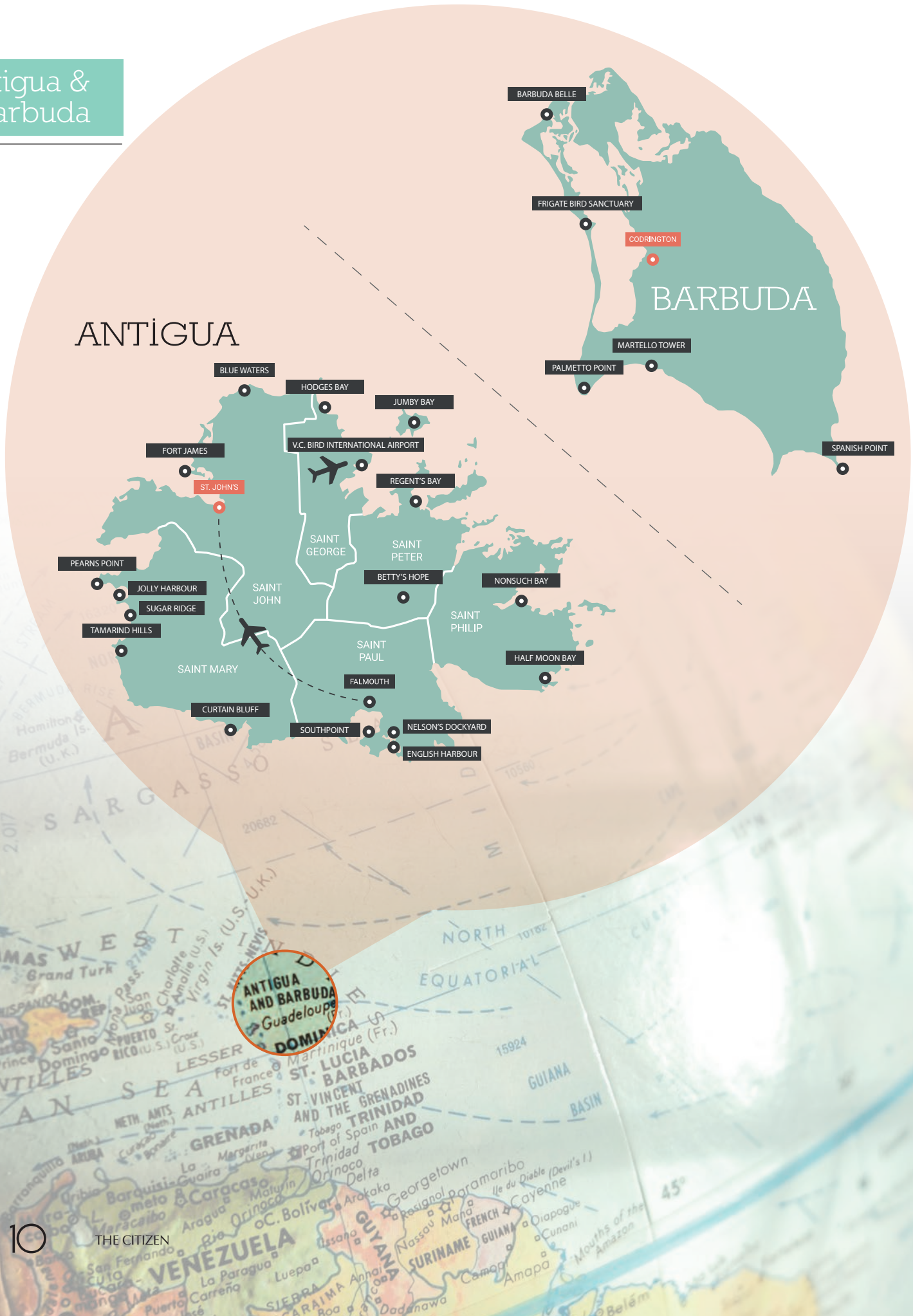
INTERVIEW

*Benh Zeitlin and Bert Kirchner
talk about new Wendy movie*

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Antigua & Barbuda



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CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT UNIT
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA



WE ARE READY WHEN YOU ARE

The Citizen reached out to Prime Minister Gaston Browne for a message of reassurance in light of the current situation.

Antigua & Barbuda's growth has been phenomenal over the last couple of years. What initiatives have been put in place for economic recovery?

My government has spurred hotel developers to continue construction of new properties and to upgrade existing properties throughout the crisis period. The plan is to ensure that hotels—the basis of tourism's success—can function normally by providing arriving passengers with the assurance of a safe environment. In addition, the government will pursue several capital projects to include repairs to government buildings.

Antigua & Barbuda received its 300,000th overnight visitor for the year on December 31st, reaching the milestone for the first time in the country's history. What approach are you taking to reopen the borders?

Our marketing machine is already rolling out a campaign to heighten confidence in the safety and beauty of our destination. Antigua & Barbuda expects to return to those 2019 numbers by 2021. An economic recovery committee made up of all sectors of the economy will also provide guidance to the government.

Acknowledging that the University of the West Indies' (UWI) fourth landed campus in Antigua is close to your heart, what role does it play within your vision of transforming Antigua & Barbuda into an economic powerhouse?

No country can expect to lead in economic performance unless its citizens can access tertiary education with ease. The UWI fourth landed campus in Antigua remains the uppermost concern, buttressed by heightened expectations. Whatever the cost required to train our youth, my administration will bear it. My government expects UWI to apply greater creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship for our youth which are key ingredients to support a vibrant economy.

The country's citizenship by investment programme (CIP) has continued to receive a steady stream of enquiries and its activity hasn't noticeably diminished. How is Antigua continuing to ensure the competitiveness and attractiveness of the programme in the current international climate?

We have experienced a robust CIP record by giving the



necessary assurances to the agents and the firms that advise those with an interest in a second citizenship. Our programme continues to attract high-net-worth individuals and fortunately interest has remained high, and is continuously increasing. The Antigua & Barbuda passport is still among the most attractive out there.

How challenging has it been to balance health and economy in this crisis situation?

It has been very challenging to engineer a balance between economic and health interests. My government's objective is to balance lives and livelihoods and to ensure that no-one - or very few people - in Antigua & Barbuda become infected by the coronavirus. Our task is also to ensure that workers can earn wages and salaries during this crisis, sufficient to feed and to house their families. The Cabinet which I lead must take all circumstances into account when determining how long or how severe the lockdown must be in fighting the spread of the disease.

Do you foresee diversification of productive industries as a result of this pandemic?

Yes. We have started to plan the economic diversification. The challenges of previous decades remain; however, new energy and creativity are being readied for the new world, especially in agriculture, light manufacturing and in the knowledge industries, as well as commercial technologies to include apps, blockchain technologies, and crypto currencies. We are also diversifying into cannabis and medical education and medical tourism.

Antigua & Barbuda is a resilient country and more than ever, open to business. What is your message to the world?

During the five decades since 1967, when development decision-making moved from the colonisers to the colonised, Antigua & Barbuda experienced incredible growth. Since 1981, when sovereignty and independence were achieved, the country's economy has grown ten times as large and productive. In the new era, post-Covid-19, when the world is likely to be reshuffled, our people's creativity and resilience will again be put on display. In 2018, Antigua & Barbuda experienced 7.4 percent growth, and our passport was ranked the 10th most powerful in the world. ●

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA Citizenship by Investment Programme

There are four types of investment which will qualify you for citizenship in the paradise islands of Antigua & Barbuda. As an applicant, you can choose between a contribution to the National Development Fund (NDF), to The University of the West Indies Fund, purchase property in a pre-approved real estate development, or invest in an approved business venture. As a candidate, you must be over 18 years of age, hold no criminal record and have excellent health. Upon successful application, you and your family will obtain a lifetime citizenship and enjoy travelling visa-free to 165 jurisdictions.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

The non-profit NDF was established to fund income-generating public sector projects, innovation in entrepreneurship and approved charitable investments. It is audited by an internationally recognised accounting firm and reports on its status are published each year.

If this is your investment of choice, you are invited to contribute USD 100,000 to the NDF, which is a one-time contribution for a family of four. Processing fees will be applied as indicated below.

For a single applicant, or a family of 4 or less:

- US\$ 100,000 contribution
- Processing fees: US\$ 30,000. See LTO*

For a family of 5 or more:

- US\$ 125,000 contribution
- Processing fees: US\$ 15,000 for each additional dependent over four people.

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES (UWI) FUND

This investment option serves as a mechanism to finance the new University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus. This contribution will also entitle one member of the family to a one-year scholarship, tuition only, at the University of the West Indies.

For a family of 6:

- US\$ 150,000 contribution
- Processing fees: US\$ 15,000 from the seventh additional dependent onwards.

INVESTMENT IN REAL ESTATE

You and your family can obtain citizenship by purchasing a property in Antigua & Barbuda. You may also benefit from rental revenue with this investment. To qualify for citizenship under this option, you must invest in a designated, officially approved real estate development worth at least US\$ 400,000, undertake a joint investment of US\$ 200,000 between two (2) related parties/ applications, or minimum US\$ 200,000 for a unit/share in an approved property.

You must own the property for a minimum of five years before selling it. At this time, owners may resell their units or shares to subsequent applicants as eligible investments. Processing fees will be applied as indicated below.

For a single applicant, or a family of 4 or less:

- Processing fees: US\$ 30,000. See LTO*

For a family of 5 or more:

- Processing fees: US\$ 15,000 for each additional dependent.

BUSINESS INVESTMENT

The Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU) after consulting with the Antigua & Barbuda Investment Authority (ABIA) approves businesses, whether existing or proposed, for the purposes of investment in business under the Citizenship by Investment Programme (CIP).

There are two business investment options:

- Invest at least US\$ 1,500,000 in a pre-approved business.
- Alternatively, at least two applicants can propose to make a joint investment in an approved business with a total investment of at least US\$ 5,000,000. Each investor must contribute at least US\$ 400,000 to the joint investment.

For a single applicant, or a family of 4 or less:

- Processing fees: US\$ 30,000. See LTO*

For a family of 5 or more:

- Processing fees: US\$ 15,000 for each additional dependent.

Please note that all four options also include a due diligence fee of US\$ 7,500 for the main applicant and spouse, US\$ 2,000 for any dependent child between 12-17 years of age and US\$ 4,000 for any dependent child/parent between 18-28 and 58 plus years.

** Limited Time Option (LTO) until 31st October 2020, US\$ 10,000 for children under 5 years, US\$ 20,000 for children aged 6-17 years.*

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

Citizenship by Investment Programme

Frequently Asked Questions

CITIZENSHIP BY
INVESTMENT
PROGRAMME

Why does Antigua & Barbuda have a citizenship by investment programme?

The programme was introduced to promote economic growth, attract real estate development, increase foreign direct investment to the country, support the development of infrastructure and provide for a sustainable future.

How many visa-free countries can I travel to as a citizen of Antigua & Barbuda?

You can travel to 165 jurisdictions without requiring a visa, including the EU and Schengen countries, Hong Kong and Singapore.

What is the processing time?

Processing your application should take from 3 to 6 months.

Who can apply for citizenship?

To apply for the citizenship programme in Antigua & Barbuda, you must be at least 18 years of age, be of a good character with no criminal record, and have good health.

Do I need to speak English to apply for citizenship?

You don't need to speak English to be an applicant.

Who can be included on the application?

Your dependent children under 28 and dependent parents over 58 can be included within the application.

How do you conduct the due diligence and vetting of applicants?

There are no interviews. However, all applicants undergo rigorous screening prior to consideration by the Citizenship by Investment Unit. Complete files will be forwarded to an international, unbiased third-party due diligence service provider who will conduct detailed background checks on all applicants before the application is approved.

What happens once my application has been accepted?

A certificate of registration of citizenship will be issued and submitted to the passport office. Your authorised agent/representative will forward your passports and Citizenship Certificate to you.

Do I need to travel to Antigua & Barbuda to complete the process?

The application process can be made from your country of residence. Once your application is successful and you have received your passport, you must travel to Antigua & Barbuda to take your oath or affirmation of allegiance. You are entitled to take up full-time residence in Antigua & Barbuda at any time you wish.

Does Antigua & Barbuda recognise dual citizenship?

There are no restrictions on dual citizenship in Antigua & Barbuda.

For how many years will my passport be valid for?

The passport will be valid for a period of 5 years and is renewable for a period of 10 years thereafter, provided that the requirements are met, which includes spending a minimum of five days in the country during this period after becoming a citizen.

Can I invest with my Bitcoins or other cryptocurrencies?

This is in the pipeline but has not yet been established.

In addition to the citizenship by investment programme does Antigua & Barbuda have a tax residency programme?

Antigua & Barbuda does not currently offer a tax residency programme.

For any additional questions, please contact an authorized representative, licensed agent or the CIU directly.

الحصول على جنسية أنتيغوا وباربودا عن طريق برنامج الاستثمار

كما يمكنك أيضاً الاستفادة من إيرادات الإيجار بفضل هذا الاستثمار. ولكي تكون مؤهلاً للحصول على الجنسية بموجب هذا الخيار، يجب عليك الاستثمار في مجموعة عقارية معينة ومعتمدة رسمياً لا تقل قيمتها عن 400.000 دولار أمريكي، إجراء استثمار مشترك بقيمة 200.000 دولار أمريكي لكل طرف/طلب من طرفين/طلبين (2) متراطين، أو ما لا يقل عن 200.000 دولار أمريكي لوحدة/حصة في عقار معتمد. ويجب عليك امتلاك العقار لمدة خمس سنوات على الأقل قبل بيعه، ويجوز حينئذ للمالكين إعادة بيع وحدتهم أو حصتهم لمقدمي طلبات لاحقين كاستثمارات مؤهلة. وسيتم تطبيق رسوم المعالجة كما هو موضح أدناه.

لمقدم طلب واحد أو أسرة مكونة من 4 أفراد أو أقل:
• رسوم المعالجة: 30.000 دولار أمريكي. انظر الخيار لفترة محددة*

لأسرة مكونة من 5 أفراد أو أكثر:
• رسوم المعالجة: 15.000 دولار أمريكي لكل شخص مُعال إضافي.

الاستثمار التجاري

تقوم وحدة الجنسية عن طريق الاستثمار - بعد التشاور مع هيئة الاستثمار في أنتيغوا وباربودا - بالموافقة على المشاريع التجارية، سواء كانت قائمة أو مقترحة، لأغراض الاستثمار في الأعمال التجارية بموجب برنامج الجنسية عن طريق الاستثمار.

هناك خياران للاستثمار التجاري:

• استثمار ما لا يقل عن 1.500.000 دولار أمريكي في مشروع تجاري معتمدة مسبقاً.

• كبديل لذلك، يمكن لطرفين على الأقل اقتراح إجراء استثمار مشترك في مشروع تجاري معتمد بمبلغ إجمالي لا يقل عن 5.000.000 دولار أمريكي. ويجب على كل مستثمر المساهمة بمبلغ لا يقل عن 400.000 دولار أمريكي في الاستثمار المشترك.

لمقدم طلب واحد أو أسرة مكونة من 4 أفراد أو أقل:
• رسوم المعالجة: 30.000 دولار أمريكي. انظر الخيار لفترة محددة*

لأسرة مكونة من 5 أفراد أو أكثر:
• رسوم المعالجة: 15.000 دولار أمريكي لكل شخص مُعال إضافي.

يُرجى الأخذ بعين الاعتبار أن جميع الخيارات الأربعة تشمل أيضاً رسوم العناية الواجبة بمبلغ 7500 دولار أمريكي لمقدم/ة الطلب الرئيسي/ة وزوجه/زوجته و2000 دولار أمريكي لأي طفل معال يتراوح عمره بين 12 و17 عاماً و4000 دولار أمريكي لأي طفل يتراوح عمره بين 18 و28 عاماً أو أب/أم يتجاوز عمره/عمرها 58 عاماً.

* الخيار لفترة محددة حتى 31 أكتوبر/تشرين الأول 2020، 10.000 دولار أمريكي للأطفال دون سن الخامسة، 200.000 دولار أمريكي للأطفال الذين تتراوح أعمارهم بين 6 و17 سنة.

هناك أربعة أنواع من الاستثمارات التي ستجعلك مؤهلاً للحصول على جنسية الجزر الفردوسية أنتيغوا وباربودا. عند تقديم الطلب، يمكنك الاختيار بين تقديم مساهمة لصالح الصندوق الوطني للتنمية أو صندوق جامعة الهند الغربية أو شراء ملكية في إحدى المجموعات العقارية المعتمدة مسبقاً أو الاستثمار في مشروع تجاري معتمد. وكمشرح، يجب أن يتجاوز عمرك 18 عاماً وألا يكون لديك سوابق جنائية وأن تتمتع بصحة ممتازة.

عند نجاح طلبك، ستحصل أنت وأسرته على الجنسية مدى الحياة وستستمتعون بالسفر بدون تأشيرة إلى أكثر من 165 ولاية قضائية.

تقديم مساهمة لصالح الصندوق الوطني للتنمية

تم تأسيس الصندوق الوطني للتنمية، الذي لا يهدف للربح، لتمويل مشاريع القطاع العام المدرة للدخل والابتكار في ريادة الأعمال والاستثمارات الخيرية المعتمدة. وتُراجع حساباته من قبل شركة محاسبة معترف بها دولياً وتُنشر تقارير عن وضعه سنوياً.

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إذا وقع اختيارك على هذا النوع من الاستثمارات، فيُطلب منك تقديم مساهمة قدرها 100.000 دولار أمريكي للصندوق الوطني للتنمية، وهي عبارة عن مساهمة تُقدّم مرة واحدة عن كل أسرة مكونة من أربعة أفراد. وسيتم تطبيق رسوم المعالجة كما هو موضح أدناه.

لمقدم طلب واحد أو أسرة مكونة من 4 أفراد أو أقل:

• مساهمة قدرها 100.000 دولار أمريكي
• رسوم المعالجة: 30.000 دولار أمريكي. انظر الخيار لفترة محددة*

لأسرة مكونة من 5 أفراد أو أكثر:

• مساهمة قدرها 125.000 دولار أمريكي
• رسوم المعالجة: 15.000 دولار أمريكي لكل شخص مُعال إضافي على أربعة أفراد

صندوق جامعة الهند الغربية:

يعمل هذا الخيار كآلية لتمويل حرم الجزر الخمس الجديد لجامعة الهند الغربية. وستخول هذه المساهمة أيضاً حصول أحد أفراد الأسرة على منحة دراسية مدتها سنة واحدة، تشمل رسوم التعليم فقط، في جامعة الهند الغربية.

لأسرة مكونة من 6 أفراد:

• مساهمة قدرها 150.000 دولار أمريكي
• رسوم المعالجة: 15.000 دولار أمريكي من الشخص المُعال الإضافي السابع فصاعداً.

الاستثمار في العقارات

يمكنك أنت وأسرته الحصول على الجنسية من خلال شراء عقار في أنتيغوا وباربودا.

الحصول على جنسية أنتيغوا وباربودا عن طريق برنامج الاستثمار أسئلة متكررة

الملفات الكاملة إلى جهة دولية غير منحازة تقدّم خدمات العناية الواجبة والتي ستجري تحريات مفصلة بشأن خلفيات المتقدمين بالطلب.

ماذا يحدث بعد قبول طلبي؟

سيتم إصدار شهادة تسجيل الجنسية وتقديمها إلى مكتب جوازات السفر. وسيقوم وكيلك/ممثلك المفوض بإرسال جوازات السفر وشهادة الجنسية الخاصة بك إليك.

هل يجب أن أسافر إلى أنتيغوا وباربودا لإكمال العملية؟

يمكن إجراء الطلب من بلد إقامتك. بعد نجاح طلبك وتلقيك جواز سفرك، يجب عليك السفر إلى أنتيغوا وباربودا لأداء اليمين أو تأكيد الولاء. ويحق لك الإقامة بدوام كامل في أنتيغوا وباربودا متى تشاء.

هل تعترف أنتيغوا وباربودا بالجنسية المزدوجة؟

لا توجد قيود على الجنسية المزدوجة في أنتيغوا وباربودا.

كم من سنة سيبقى جواز سفري ساري المفعول؟

سيبقى جواز سفرك ساري المفعول لمدة 5 سنوات وهو قابل للتجديد لمدة 10 سنوات بعد ذلك، شريطة تلبية المتطلبات التي تشمل قضاء خمسة أيام على الأقل في البلد خلال هذه الفترة بعد الحصول على الجنسية.

هل يمكنني الاستثمار بعملة بيتكوين (Bitcoin) أو غيرها من العملات المعماة؟

هذا الأمر ما زال قيد الإعداد ولم يتم تنفيذه بعد.

بالإضافة إلى برنامج الجنسية عن طريق الاستثمار، هل لدى أنتيغوا وباربودا برنامج للإقامة الضريبية؟

لا تقدم أنتيغوا وباربودا حالياً برنامجاً للإقامة الضريبية.

لماذا تملك أنتيغوا وباربودا برنامج الجنسية عن طريق الاستثمار؟

تم اعتماد البرنامج لتعزيز النمو الاقتصادي واستقطاب التنمية العقارية وزيادة الاستثمار الأجنبي المباشر في البلاد ودعم تطوير البنية التحتية وتأمين مستقبل مستدام.

كم عدد البلدان التي يمكنني السفر إليها دون تأشيرة كمواطن أنتيغوا وباربودا؟

يمكنك السفر إلى أكثر من 165 ولاية قضائية دون الحاجة إلى تأشيرة، بما في ذلك بلدان الاتحاد الأوروبي وشنغن وهونغ كونغ وسنغافورة.

كم من الوقت تستغرق معالجة طلبك؟

تستغرق معالجة طلبك ما بين 3 و6 أشهر.

من يمكنه التقدم بطلب للحصول على الجنسية؟

لتكون مؤهلاً لبرنامج الجنسية في أنتيغوا وباربودا، يجب أن يتجاوز عمرك 18 عاماً وأن تتسم بحسن الخلق وألا يكون لديك سوابق جنائية وأن تتمتع بصحة جيدة.

هل ينبغي أن أتحدث باللغة الإنجليزية لطلب الحصول على الجنسية؟

لست بحاجة إلى التحدث باللغة الإنجليزية للتقدم بالطلب.

من يمكن إدراجه في الطلب؟

يمكنك أن تدرج في الطلب أطفالك المعالين الذين تقل أعمارهم عن 28 عاماً ووالديك المعالين إذا كان عمرهما يتجاوز 58 عاماً.

كيف تُجرون العناية الواجبة وفحص الطلبات؟

لا تجري مقابلات. ومع ذلك، يخضع جميع المتقدمين بالطلب لفحص دقيق قبل دراسة ملفهم من قبل وحدة الجنسية عن طريق الاستثمار. تُحال

لمزيد من الأسئلة، يُرجى الاتصال بممثل مفوض أو وكيل مرخص له أو مباشرة بوحدة الجنسية عن طريق الاستثمار.



“ Offer your family mobility
insurance in today's
ever-changing
geopolitical landscape ”



АНТИГУА И БАРБУДА

гражданство по инвестиционной программе

Существуют четыре вида инвестиций, благодаря которым вы можете стать кандидатом на получение гражданства на райских островах Антигуа и Барбуда. Вы можете выбрать один из вариантов: безвозмездный взнос в государственный фонд экономического развития (NDF) или в фонд Университета Вест-Индии, инвестиции в недвижимость в один из одобренных правительством проектов или инвестиции в бизнес в одно из утвержденных коммерческих предприятий. Заявитель должен быть старше 18 лет, не иметь судимостей и иметь отличное здоровье.

При условии одобрения заявления, вы и ваша семья получите пожизненное гражданство и сможете наслаждаться безвизовым въездом в более чем 165 юрисдикционных территорий.

БЕЗВОЗВРАТНЫЙ ВЗНОС В ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ ФОНД ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОГО РАЗВИТИЯ

Некоммерческий фонд NDF был учрежден с целью финансирования предпринимательских государственных проектов, инноваций в предпринимательстве и одобренных благотворительных проектов. Деятельность фонда проверяется международно признанной аудиторской фирмой, ежегодно публикуется доклад о состоянии дел. Если вы выбрали этот вариант инвестиций, то вам предлагается внести в государственный фонд экономического развития NDF сумму в 100 000 долларов США, это единовременный взнос для семьи из четырех человек. Ниже указана сумма сбора за обработку данных.

Для одного заявителя или семьи из четырех или менее человек:

- Взнос 100 000 долларов США

Сбор за обработку данных: 30 000 долларов США. Смотрите предложение с ограниченным сроком действия*

Для семьи из 5 и более человек:

- Взнос 125 000 долларов США

Сбор за обработку данных: 15 000 долларов США за каждого дополнительного иждивенца.

ФОНД УНИВЕРСИТЕТА ВЕСТ-ИНДИИ (UWI):

Этот вариант инвестиции создан для финансирования кампуса Five Islands Университета Вест-Индии. Это денежное вложение дает право на получение стипендии сроком на один год (только плата за учебу) для одного члена семьи в Университете Вест-Индии.

Для семьи из 6 человек:

- Взнос 150 000 долларов США
- Сбор за обработку данных: 15 000 долларов США за каждого дополнительного иждивенца.

ИНВЕСТИЦИИ В НЕДВИЖИМОСТЬ

Вы и члены вашей семьи можете получить гражданство купив недвижимость в Антигуа и Барбуда. Выбрав этот вариант инвестиции, вы также сможете получать доходы от аренды. Чтобы стать кандидатом на получение гражданства в случае выбора этого варианта, вы должны вложить в один из официально утвержденных

объектов недвижимости не менее 400 000 долларов США, или два (2) ассоциированных лица/кандидата на гражданство могут сделать совместное вложение, минимальная сумма взноса каждого участника составляет 200 000 долларов США, также возможно минимальное вложение в 200 000 долларов США в долю официально утвержденного объекта недвижимости.

Вы сможете продать недвижимость не ранее, чем через 5 лет. По истечении этого срока, собственники могут перепродать объекты недвижимости или их доли последующим кандидатам на гражданство, как один из утвержденных вариантов вложений. Ниже указана сумма сбора за обработку данных.

Для одного заявителя или семьи из четырех или менее человек:

- Сбор за обработку данных: 30 000 долларов США. Смотрите предложение с ограниченным сроком действия*

Для семьи из 5 и более человек:

- Сбор за обработку данных: 15 000 долларов США за каждого дополнительного иждивенца.

ИНВЕСТИЦИИ В БИЗНЕС

Подразделение по вопросам инвестиционного гражданства (CIU) после согласования с Инвестиционным департаментом Антигуа и Барбуды (ABIA) официально одобряет коммерческие предприятия для программы инвестиционного гражданства (CIP). Это может быть как новый, так и уже существующий бизнес.

Существуют два варианта инвестиций в бизнес:

- Инвестировать как минимум 1 500 000 долларов США в одобренный бизнес.
- Другой вариант - это инвестировать в бизнес нескольким заявителям, общая сумма вложений должна быть не менее 5 000 000 долларов США. При этом каждый заявитель обязан вложить в общий проект не менее 400 000 долларов США.

Для одного заявителя или семьи из четырех или менее человек:

- Сбор за обработку данных: 30 000 долларов США. Смотрите предложение с ограниченным сроком действия*

Для семьи из 5 и более человек:

- Сбор за обработку данных: 15 000 долларов США за каждого дополнительного иждивенца.

Пожалуйста, обратите внимание, что для всех четырех вариантов необходимо оплатить сбор за прохождение проверки на благонадежность: 7 500 долларов США за основного заявителя, 7 500 долларов США за супругу(а), 2 000 долларов США за иждивенца от 12 до 17 лет и 4 000 долларов США за иждивенца от 18 до 28 лет и старше 58 лет.

* Предложение с ограниченным сроком действия до 31 октября 2020 года: 10 000 долларов США за детей младше 5 лет, 20 000 долларов США за детей 6-17 лет.

АНТИГУА И БАРБУДА

гражданство по инвестиционной программе

Часто задаваемые вопросы

CITIZENSHIP BY
INVESTMENT
PROGRAMME

Почему в Антигуа и Барбуда существует гражданство по инвестиционной программе?

Программа была создана для содействия экономическому росту, развитию рынка недвижимости, увеличения объемов прямых иностранных инвестиций в страну, поддержки развития инфраструктур и обеспечения надежного будущего.

Сколько стран я смогу посещать без визы как гражданин Антигуа и Барбуда?

Вы сможете посещать без визы более 165 стран, включая страны Евросоюза и Шенгенского соглашения, Гонконг и Сингапур.

Сколько составляет срок рассмотрения заявления?

Срок рассмотрения заявления может занять от 3 до 6 месяцев.

Кто может претендовать на получение гражданства?

Для того, чтобы претендовать на получение гражданства Антигуа и Барбуда вы должны быть старше 18 лет, иметь хорошую репутацию, не иметь судимостей и обладать хорошим состоянием здоровья.

Должен ли я владеть английским языком, чтобы претендовать на получение гражданства?

Для того, чтобы претендовать на получение гражданства вы не обязаны владеть английским языком.

Кто может быть включен в заявление?

В заявление могут быть включены финансово зависимые дети до 28 лет и находящиеся на иждивении родители старше 58 лет.

Как вы проводите проверку на благонадежность заявителей?

Личные собеседования не проводятся. Однако, все заявители проходят строгую проверку Подразделением по вопросам инвестиционного гражданства. Полностью укомплектованное дело передается в международную, объективную, независимую службу проверки на

благонадежность, которая проводит тщательную проверку личных данных всех заявителей.

Что происходит после того, как мое заявление получает одобрение?

Выдается справка о регистрации гражданства, которая передается в паспортную службу. Затем ваш уполномоченный агент / представитель отправляет вам ваши паспорта и свидетельство о гражданстве.

Для окончательного оформления дела мне необходимо лично приезжать в Антигуа и Барбуда?

Подача документов возможна из страны вашего проживания. После успешного разрешения вашего дела и получения паспорта, вы должны приехать в Антигуа и Барбуда, чтобы принять присягу или подтвердить подданство. Вы имеете право установить место постоянного проживания в Антигуа и Барбуда в любое время по вашему желанию.

Признает ли Антигуа и Барбуда двойное гражданство?

В Антигуа и Барбуда нет ограничений для двойного гражданства.

Сколько лет будет действителен мой паспорт?

Паспорт действителен 5 лет и он продлевается на 10 лет, при выполнении всех требований, таких как минимальный срок пребывания в стране после получения гражданства – пять дней.

Могу я инвестировать в Биткойнах или других криптовалютах?

Пока этот вопрос находится в работе, но пока ещё не разрешен.

В дополнение к программе инвестиционного гражданства существует в Антигуа и Барбуда программа налогового резидентства?

В данный момент в Антигуа и Барбуда не существует программы налогового резидентства.

Если у вас возникли любые другие вопросы, пожалуйста, свяжитесь с уполномоченным представителем, лицензированным агентом или напрямую с Подразделением по вопросам инвестиционного гражданства.

通过投资项目获取安提瓜和巴布达公民身份

有下列四种投资方式,可以让您有资格获得天堂般的安提瓜和巴布达岛国的公民身份。作为申请人,您可以选择向国家发展基金 (NDF) 捐款,向西印度群岛大学基金会捐款,在预先批准的房地产开发项目中购买房产,或投资于经批准的商业企业。作为候选人,您必须年龄超过18岁,无犯罪记录,身体健康。

申请成功后,您和您的家人会获得终身公民身份,并享有在超过165个国家旅行免签的优势。

向国家发展基金捐款

非盈利性质的国家发展基金的成立是为了为创收公共部门项目、创业创新和经批准的慈善投资提供资金。它由一家国际公认的会计师事务所审计,并且每年都会公布其财务状况报告。

如果这是您的投资选择,您需要向国家发展基金捐款十万美金,这是四口之家一次性的捐款数额。办理费用如下所示。

适用于单个申请人,家庭成员四人及以下:

- 十万美金捐款
- 办理费用: 三万美金 请查阅限期价格*。

适用于家庭成员五人及以上:

- 十二万五千美金
- 办理费用: 四人之外每增加一人,需多缴一万五千美金。

西印度群岛大学 (UWI) 基金会:

这一投资选项用于为西印度群岛大学的五岛新校区提供融资。这一捐款将使捐款家庭的一员可以获得一项为期一年的奖学金,即免除在西印度群岛大学一年的学费。

对于六口之家:

- 十五万美金捐款

第七位起:

- 办理费用: 每个增加成员需缴一万五千美金。

房地产投资

您和您的家人可以通过在安提瓜和巴布达购买房产来获得公民身份。您也可以通过此投资从租金收入中受益。为通过此项投资获得公民身份,您需要投资一个指定的,经官方批准的价值至少为四十万美金的房地产开发项目,可两 (2) 个关联方或申请人共同投资,每人投资至少二十万美金,或在被批准的房产项目中每人至少投资二十万美金购买一个单元/份额。

在出售房产前,您需要拥有它至少五年。在此期间,业主可以向后续的申请者转售房产单元或份额,作为后者的投资房产。办理费用如下所示。

适用于单个申请人,家庭成员四人及以下:

- 办理费用: 三万美金请查阅限期价格*。

适用于家庭成员五人及以上:

- 办理费用: 每个增加成员需缴一万五千美金。

商业投资

在与安提瓜和巴布达投资局 (ABIA) 协商后,投资公民部门 (CIU) 批准现有或提议的商业项目,以便外国人在投资公民计划 (CIP) 下投资。

有两个商业投资选项:

- 投资至少一百五十万美元给一项预先批准的商业活动。
- 或者,至少有两个申请人可以提议对经批准的企业进行联合投资,总投资至少为五百万美元。每个投资者至少支付四十万美金。

适用于单个申请人,家庭成员四人及以下:

- 办理费用: 三万美金请查阅限期价格*。

适用于家庭成员五人及以上:

- 办理费用: 每个增加成员需缴一万五千美金。

请注意,四个投资选项都包括主申请人和配偶的七千五百美元的尽职调查费,12-17岁的任何受养子女办理费用为两千美元,18-28岁的任何受养子女或58岁以上的受养父母每人费用为四千美元。

*2020年10月31日截止的限期价格 (Limited Time Option), 5岁以下儿童办理费用为一万美金, 6-17岁儿童的办理费用为两万美金。

通过投资项目获得安提瓜和巴布达的公民身份

问&答

CITIZENSHIP BY
INVESTMENT
PROGRAMME

为什么安提瓜和巴布达推行通过投资获得公民身份项目？

这个项目旨在增进经济发展,促进房地产开发,增加外国对本国的直接投资,支持基础设施建设并提供可持续发展。

作为安提瓜和巴布达公民,我可以免签到多少个国家旅行？

您可以去往超过165个司法管辖区,包括欧盟和申根国家,香港和新加坡。

处理时间有多长？

处理您的申请通常需要三至六个月。

谁可以申请公民身份？

申请安提瓜和巴布达的公民身份,您至少需要18周岁,无犯罪记录并且身体健康。

申请公民身份需要我会说英语吗？

申请人不需要会讲英语。

谁可以被包括在申请中？

您抚养的年龄小于28岁的孩子和赡养的超过58岁的老人可以被包括在申请中。

如何进行尽职调查和审查申请人？

没有面试环节。但是,所有申请人在获得公民身份前都要经过公民投资部门严格的筛选。完整的文件将转发给国际上公正的第三方尽职调查服务提供商,该服务提供商将对所有申请人进行详细的背景调查。

我的申请被接受后会发生什么？

将颁发公民身份登记证书并提交给护照办公室。您的授权代理人/代表将转发您的护照和公民身份证明给您。

我需要亲自到安提瓜和巴布达来完成手续吗？

申请环节可以在您的居住国完成。一旦您的申请成功并收到护照,您需要亲自到安提瓜和巴布达来宣誓或承认效忠。您随时可以定居在安提瓜和巴布达。

安提瓜和巴布达承认双重国籍吗？

安提瓜和巴布达对于双重国籍没有限制。

我的护照有效期为几年？

护照有效期五年,此后可续期10年,续期的前提是符合要求,包括在成为公民后在护照有效期间在该国度过至少5天。

我可以用我的比特币或其他虚拟货币投资吗？

这还在筹备中,但尚未实行。

除了投资计划获取公民身份外,安提瓜和巴布达还有税务定居计划吗？

安提瓜和巴布达目前不提供税务定居计划。

如有任何其他问题,请联系授权代表,许可代理或直接联系投资公民部门(CIU)。

LICENSED AGENTS

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Global Citizenship Partners: www.gcpantigua.com
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Bowen & Bowen: www.bowenbowenlaw.com
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FOCUS

by

Eric G. Major

CEO

Latitude Consultancy Limited for the
Investment Migration Council (IMC)

RCBI FIRMS SHOULD “KNOW THEIR ABC”

Twenty-five years ago, corruption was seen as the necessary price of doing business and something so deeply ingrained that exposing and fighting it was regarded as futile and even harmful. But thankfully, we live in a much different world today, with citizens, media and politicians in many regions actively condemning abuses of power.


Such change in attitude is partly due to the exposure of past scandals and their consequences. Indeed, even the biggest names in business have been tainted - pick your story: Airbus, Odebrecht, Bombardier, Siemens, Alcatel-Lucent; in all of these cases, paying bribes was viewed as the way to make the wheels of business turn. Did you know that certain bribes paid abroad were technically tax deductible for German companies until 1999? They could simply categorise them as “useful expenditures”, as long as those expenses were not incurred in Germany and there were no foreign state officials involved. In 2006, however, it became clear that Siemens, one of Germany’s biggest companies, was taking corporate bribery to a whole new level. For over a decade, it paid bribes to government officials and civil servants around the world, amounting to approximately US\$1.4 billion. While corrupt decision makers profited, citizens in the affected countries paid the costs of overpriced necessities such as roads and power plants.

In a more recent example, in January this year, Airbus agreed to a record-breaking settlement to resolve allegations of bribery with regulators in three countries. The plane-maker will pay a total of US\$4 billion to Britain’s Serious Fraud Office,

France’s Parquet National Financier and America’s Justice and State Departments. The size of the fine, which dwarfs other bribery-related settlements in recent years, reflects serious, wide-ranging allegations concerning Airbus’s use of external consultants to bribe customers to buy its civilian and military aircraft in a number of markets.

The engineering and airplane industries aren’t the only sectors that have business comingling with government to bring benefit to both. Now in its third decade of existence, the Residence & Citizenship-by-Investment (RCBI) industry may have demonstrated some questionable practices in its infancy years, but we can confidently say that it is now showing signs of maturity and credibility through the introduction of a new industry education and certification programme, as well as a new Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy (ABC Policy) which came into effect on March 1st 2020, both introduced by the Investment Migration Council (IMC).

Latitude Consultancy Limited assisted the IMC with the drafting of its new ABC Policy, which aims to support the industry in fostering an anti-corruption culture by providing its members and stakeholders specific guidelines on how to conduct



business at the highest international standards of integrity and honesty.

An ABC Policy is not only 'good practice', it's the law in many jurisdictions! For example, in the UK, bribery and corruption by individuals are punishable by both fines and imprisonment. Indeed, the UK Bribery Act 2010 is among the strictest international legislation on bribery. Notably, it introduces a strict liability offence for companies and partnerships failing to prevent bribery. The introduction of this law places a burden of proof on companies to show they have adequate procedures in place to prevent bribery. The Bribery Act also provides for strict penalties for active and passive bribery by individuals as well as companies.

Any RCBI company with a presence in the UK that is found to have taken part in bribery or corruption could face a steep fine, be excluded from tendering for public contracts and necessarily face damage to its reputation. RCBI firms should therefore take this responsibility very seriously.

We have identified the following situations to be of particular risk, where government officials may be tempted to request bribes, facilitation payments, contributions to political parties, unreasonable requests to cover travel and other expenses, etc.:

- Any RCBI staff that deal with speakers from government ministries whom they invite to speak at their events.
- Any RCBI staff that interact with government officials in the day-to-day management of submissions of applications for residence and citizenship programmes.
- Any RCBI staff that interact with government officials in the course of designing or implementing a residence or citizenship programme.

“[THE ABC POLICY] AIMS TO SUPPORT THE INDUSTRY IN FOSTERING AN ANTI-CORRUPTION CULTURE BY PROVIDING ITS MEMBERS AND STAKEHOLDERS SPECIFIC GUIDELINES ON HOW TO CONDUCT BUSINESS AT THE HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF INTEGRITY AND HONESTY.”

A good ABC policy should also address how to deal with gifts and hospitality benefits. Of course, reasonable gifts, hospitality or entertainment should be allowed for establishing a good business relationship or simply for marketing purposes. However, RCBI companies should refrain from offering any gift or hospitality to any public or government official which exceed a certain reasonable quantum decided by its board. We recommend under US\$250.

Before offering a gift or hospitality, the RCBI firms should always consider the reasons for this offer and whether objectively, a gift or an invitation could be perceived as being offered for an improper purpose. The RCBI staff should refrain from offering gifts or hospitality if the recipient would be given the impression that he/she is under an obligation to confer any business advantage or if there is a risk that the recipients' independence will be affected.

Given the media's attention and general angst towards the Investment Migration industry, it would be wise for RCBI firms to heed to the IMC's new ABC Policy. As representatives of Siemens and Airbus would attest, the penalties upon conviction can be quite crippling and should therefore make RCBI companies think twice before engaging in bribery and fraud. Know your ABC! ●

OPINION

by

Ahmad Abbas
Business Development Professional
of Reach Immigration

ANCIENT ROME: THE FORERUNNERS OF CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT

The premise of citizenship was cultivated many a millennium ago. To be a citizen is a term that has been defined time and time again throughout history.

It was Ancient Rome however, that truly defined citizenship. The Republic broke it down to a plethora of divisions; with the rights granted varying depending on the division or tier of citizenship a certain person possessed. The term Civitas, which means citizenship in Ancient Rome, was a coveted one. No other status in the world held as much grandeur as a Roman Citizen. The most powerful nation. The freest people. The centre of the world. All roads lead to Rome may be an adage in our time, but a couple of thousand years ago, it was the undeniable truth. It was then no surprise that Roman Citizenship was a coveted gem yearned for by all subjects who found themselves under the direct rule of the ever-expanding Roman Republic. Freedom of movement and mobility were not concerns back then; the sheer amount of benefits of the Civitas however, were; chief among them the right to work in the Republic's government and the eligibility for military service (both of which were accompanied by great honour and colossal riches).







BENEFIT AND DEVELOPMENT
ARE THE KEY WORDS AT PLAY.

—

The culmination of Roman Citizenship came under none other than Julius Caesar himself. The all-conquering general, consul, and eventual dictator paid excruciating attention to the granting of citizenship to those he had subjugated throughout his exhaustive and monumental campaigns. He would go on to lay the groundwork for the naturalisation of foreigners through a flexible and dynamic system that did not require any links such as language, residence location, or others.

At the apex of Julius Caesar's glistening career in the late 40s BC, the concept of granting citizenship by investment (CBI), or citizenship by benefit to the Republic, as it was referred to back then, was already effective and in full flow. Yet it was Caesar himself who saw its true value and went on to make it a cornerstone of his patronage of the Republic. Citizenship by benefit was mostly granted to aristocrats in exchange for funding or financial aid - much like the citizenship by investment (CBI) setup we can see in today's global market. In a structure similar to many citizenship by investment programmes, Roman citizenship aimed at gaining unencumbered funds that could be put to good use within the government's treasury for internal development of the Republic. We can see a similar structure within Antigua & Barbuda's citizenship by investment programme which has the sole aim of developing the country with the aid of its new citizens.

Benefit and development are the key words at play. They have been so throughout history and maintain that status

CITIZENSHIP BY
INVESTMENT ATTRACTS
THE SUCCESSFUL,
THE DARING, THE
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GLOBE HAS TO OFFER.

till this day. The dawn of the 20th century brought with it a complication of mobility issues, albeit making world travel much more streamlined. The internet soon came into play, making the world that much smaller. Passports

and citizenships became an integral part of social, political, and economic matters throughout the world. One thing remains constant however; all countries will always seek those who can benefit them. With a pervasive communication grid in place, opinions of all parties can be heard much louder. With blustrious opinions on every single matter pouring out from persons of note throughout the world, the granting of citizenship by investment was not spared this unceasing battering. A hot topic for many politicians; immigration and citizenship has been under the limelight in every political campaign and road show.

The opposition would batter the premise of citizenship by investment by using terms such as "citizenship for sale" or "our identity for cash".

Terms that would have shook Caesar and the Roman Republic to their core. To the Romans, the granting of citizenship was a testimony, an accolade, of the recipient's contribution and sacrifice to the Roman cause. There was no higher honour. Those who oppose the dogma of citizenship by investment do not factor in the positives but decide to outline what they perceive as negatives solely for the captivation of political backing.

It is outlandish to presume that the Roman Republic, a vast global dominating force that lasted between 753



IN A STRUCTURE SIMILAR TO MANY CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT PROGRAMMES, ROMAN CITIZENSHIP AIMED AT GAINING UNENCUMBERED FUNDS THAT COULD BE PUT TO GOOD USE WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT'S TREASURY FOR INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPUBLIC

BC to 1453 AD, would consider a philosophy that would harm it rather than benefit it. Citizenship by benefit was a foundation of the Republic's growth and expansion; it would be foolish to consider it as a hindering factor. Citizenship by investment attracts the successful, the daring, the distinguished. It aims to gain the best the globe has to offer. It is a two-pronged sword, benefiting the applicant as well as the granting country.

To Caesar and Rome, the granting of citizenship was not considered as a risk to the Republic in terms of losing their identity, but a way of spreading it. Romanisation of new territories was crucial, with Rome considering their way of life to be superior in every aspect. Thus, the more Romans there were, the better off the world was.

No citizenship by investment programme adheres to that mindset more than Antigua & Barbuda's CBI with the country setting a requirement for the applicant and their dependents who were granted citizenship to visit the blossoming country for five days within five years. This short amount of time is not meant for them to create actual links or documented ties to the country, but more so to create an emotional one.

Five days in Antigua & Barbuda are enough for one to get a taste of the culture, to experience the lifestyle, revel in the folklore, and absorb a bit of the identity. That in itself is a defining characteristic of the Antigua & Barbuda's CBI in which, much like the ancient Republic of Rome, they aim to spread their identity globally.

Granting citizenship, be it by investment or otherwise,

is a ploy for expansion, for gaining a loyal base of those who benefit the country. That was the ideology when Julius ruled supreme, and it remains the same till this day. Showing ties, or links, to the country does not need to come beforehand, but shall inevitably come afterwards. Granting citizenship will seemingly remain a debatable subject. The truth, however, is that it should be the absolute contrary. If any given nation on Earth is provided the chance to expand its base to those who shall benefit it, it must, as an obligation to itself and its wellbeing, jump on the opportunity to take them in. Julius Caesar may not have been the first to employ citizenship by investment; it had long been engaged before his time. He was nonetheless the one to perceive its benefit, and the one to harness the abundance of rewards that came with it.

We should follow by example one of the greatest minds, and subsequently one of the greatest nations, that our world has ever witnessed. The pathway to prominence for both the granter of citizenship as well as the grantee has never been so unhindered.

Julius Caesar was granted four triumphs for his military success with Rome. One may argue he should have been awarded a fifth for his reforms that were endeared by all its subjects.

It is by his footsteps that we must learn. As Caesar himself once said "Experience is the teacher of all things".

And what better experience is there, than that of the world's most prominent nation in history. ●



THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

by
Armand Arton
Founder and President
Arton Capital

THE NEW NORMAL LIFE AFTER THE PANDEMIC

A new era of interconnectedness,
adaptability and belonging

The aftershock of the Covid-19 pandemic has provoked a wakeup call to humanity, triggering a much-needed reflection on what it means to be human.

As a global citizen, I have had the pleasure of travelling extensively and discovering the fabric that connects people of all nations living on this planet. This has also generated a great sense of responsibility within me; both for our planet, and for one another. In the face of this epidemic, many have started to realize the significance that globalisation plays in our daily lives. The interaction and the collaboration of people, companies, organisations, and governments are crucial in developing sustainable and universal systems moving forward.

WE ARE CONNECTED

Although globalisation has helped generate incredible societal diversity, raised millions out of poverty, stimulated economies and innovation, it was clearly moving much faster than societies and institutions can adapt to. Now, governments are prompted to reprioritise their resources and productivity to consider the interest of more than just their own population.

This is especially true for global citizens who are embedded with the social conscience to see the world in its entirety as their home. Global citizens have been at the forefront of redefining a new era of citizenship and establishing a bond between person and nation. As demonstrated by the virus— which has unbiasedly infected over two million people worldwide— we are part of one and the same species. Our identities and lifestyles are no longer dictated by where we are born, but rather where we choose to expand our potential and contribute our assets. And this has challenged the status quo of citizenship.

Caribbean islands have been at the forefront of championing the value of this newfound era of global citizenship. The concept of Citizenship by Investment (CIP) originated in the Caribbean and has since been adopted across the globe.

The CIP industry itself attracts over US\$ 20 billion a year in foreign direct investments. Every year, new countries are drawn to the sustainable benefits offered by the industry, boosting tourism, infrastructure, employment, and the overall economy. From a



“Today, it has become evident that having multiple passports is much more effective in ensuring an alternative route to safety and security than holding a single powerful passport.”

philanthropic point of view, CIPs have also become a tool of independence for countries relying on NGOs for funding, while driving and improving the global socio-economic landscape.

Antigua & Barbuda is an excellent model of an empowered economy through the influx of funds from foreign investors. Through investments and donation contributions, global citizens have not only secured a future for themselves and their families but have also helped reinforce the local population through job creation, hurricane relief aid, funding of schools and supporting community initiatives.

WE ARE RESILIENT

More than anything, this pandemic has taught us how quickly things can change. The last few months have caused a substantial setback to the global economy. This economic shift has propagated uncertainty and fear of the future for many. But let's face it; this is not the first, nor will it be the last time humanity will be tested in this way.

When Hurricane Maria put Dominica in ruins in 2017, the devastation spurred an ambitious goal to fully adapt to climate change. Through CIP efforts and investments, Dominica is now working towards becoming the world's first hurricane-proof island.

Emerging from this pandemic stronger will entail putting

into motion sustainable and durable solutions from both an individual level and a governmental level.

Whether a financial crisis or another pandemic dawns upon us, our progressive and evolutionary nature will ensure that we come out stronger and more adapted to face the challenges ahead.

WE ARE GLOBAL

The way our civilisation will evolve after this pandemic will define the next century.

Prior to the pandemic, the World Openness Score*, as measured by the Passport Index, at an all-time high of 21,360, growing at a steady rate of 6% per year. Now it has decreased by over 58% to reach an all-time-low of 8,759.

Even the difference between strong and weak passports has evaporated as passport power has been equalised. Some of the world's strongest passports have fallen to the same level of some of the world's weakest.

Today, it has become evident that having multiple passports is much more effective in ensuring an alternative route to safety and security than holding a single powerful passport. Consequentially, what was once seen as a ticket to freedom, holding second residency and citizenship has become a ticket for survival.

WE ARE SOCIAL

Technology has enabled a network of digital connections around the world. Within a few short months, it not only became an essential extension of the human experience but has been critical in lifting the spirits of our global community. Everyone and everything are now online. From social connections, communications, and entertainment, to education and retail.

The concept of being social has become synonymous with a dominating online presence. For once, our alternative universe of social media has gained a meaning and started being used for real connections and for honest and sincere messages of solidarity. Working remotely has also given many the opportunity to reassess our business practices in place and the importance of social interactions in our daily activities.

TOGETHER, APART

Surviving and emerging stronger at the far end of this crisis will require thinking beyond the next few months. Perhaps even shifting our mindset altogether to adopt new ways we can maximise our time on this planet and secure a brighter future for the next generations. Although panic and fear have driven most of the conversations of turmoil in the past, today's conversation is marked with a strengthened culture of hope that survives beyond any borders. ●

* a global score that calculates the number of countries that can visit one another without a visa

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

by

Christian Nesheim
Founder and Editor
Investment Migration Insider

IN THE SHORT AND LONG TERM, WILL THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC MAKE INVESTING IN REAL ESTATE MORE ATTRACTIVE? The short answer is ‘probably’.



he long answer:

In the last month, I've probably had 60-70 conversations with investment migration professionals from – literally – every continent except Antarctica, including with Residence and Citizenship by Investment (RCBI) advisors, developers, and programme officials. All these chats give me data points that I use to form a global snapshot of the way the pandemic is affecting the investment migration market.

Almost unanimously, the citizenship/residence consultants I speak to say they are getting way more phone calls and emails than what's normal for this time of year, even from what we think of as “first-world” countries with good passports.

People everywhere are anxious, and many have seen their visa-freedoms severely restricted, a phenomenon they never expected to see and one that is totally new to them. People who were on the fence are not on the fence any longer.

So the demand is definitely still there.

At the same time, many applicants are pulling out. Notably, those prospective applicants who had significant exposure to equities. They are not as rich as they were before and many are perilously illiquid. Applicants in this category are telling themselves that now isn't the time to be spending money.

Other investors, however, are putting their golden visa plans on the backburner, not over a lack of cash but because they anticipate bargains in the months to come and don't want to buy at the peak of the market. This is probably a prudent move.

But even in the face of what will surely be a global recession, a drop in the nominal prices of housing isn't a foregone conclusion. In an economic downturn, all else being equal, property prices should fall as large segments of the population have less money to spend due to loss of income and a fall in the value of portfolios. Worsening economic prospects, in brief, puts downward pressure on the value of almost all kinds of assets that are not “haven” assets, like treasuries.

But all else is not equal.

During the crisis, central banks around the world have essentially committed to printing unlimited amounts of fiat



“Almost unanimously, the citizenship/residence consultants I speak to say they are getting way more phone calls and emails than what’s normal for this time of year, even from what we think of as “first-world” countries with good passports.”

currency (I hesitate to call it money), while governments have introduced trillions of dollars in rescue packages. The net effect of such measures is that the money supply is now expanding at a rate we have scarcely seen before in the industrialised world.

When new dollars enter circulation, all existing dollars lose a little bit of value in real terms. This, technically, is what we call inflation of the money supply (slightly different from consumer price inflation).

The large, multinational banks that are closest to the source of this newly conjured “money” will have the privilege of spending it and lending it out first, which means they get to spend it before it enters into general circulation. And that means they get to spend the money before it loses its value (must be nice).

More currency in circulation, in the absence of new products and services coming to market, puts upward pressure on the nominal prices of the kinds of assets you can’t simply wave a magic wand to make more of, like houses, gold, soybeans, bitcoin, or oil.

How the nominal prices of homes will fare in the next few months depends on which of these two forces – downward pressure due to less economic activity and upward pressure thanks to quantitative easing – is the stronger.

Here are three possible scenarios for what could happen to the nominal prices of global real estate:

1. The downward price pressure from reduced economic activity is stronger than the upward price pressure from money printing. In this case, property prices, even in nominal terms, will fall.
2. The upward price pressure from money printing is stronger than the downward price pressure from reduced economic activity. In this case, property prices in nominal terms will rise.
3. The two countervailing forces turn out to be about equal. In this case, property prices would remain largely the same. In nominal terms, anyway.

Whichever turns out to be the case, that the price of housing in real terms (i.e., adjusted for inflation) will fall in the near term is a virtual certainty. My bet is that they will fall in nominal terms as well.

But, if you are among those lucky enough to have been cash-rich at the time of the crash, you’ll probably want to use that cash to buy tangible assets at some point soon because the real value of the dollars/euros/yen/kroner in your current account is eroding by the day.

“But isn’t the dollar getting stronger?”

Well, relative to the other fiat currencies around the world, sure. Relative to actual stuff, no. As far as fiat currencies go, the dollar may be one of the best options in the near term, but that’s only because other currencies are losing their value in real terms even faster than the dollar. As long as the assets you hold are of the kind that can be supplied in unlimited amounts, you don’t want to hold too much of it for too long. But there’s another element that could make real estate-based residence and citizenship by investment programmes more attractive.

PRICE CUTS

In the long term, as each unit of currency gradually loses value (some faster than others), RCBI programmes around the world will raise their minimum investment requirements to adjust for inflation.

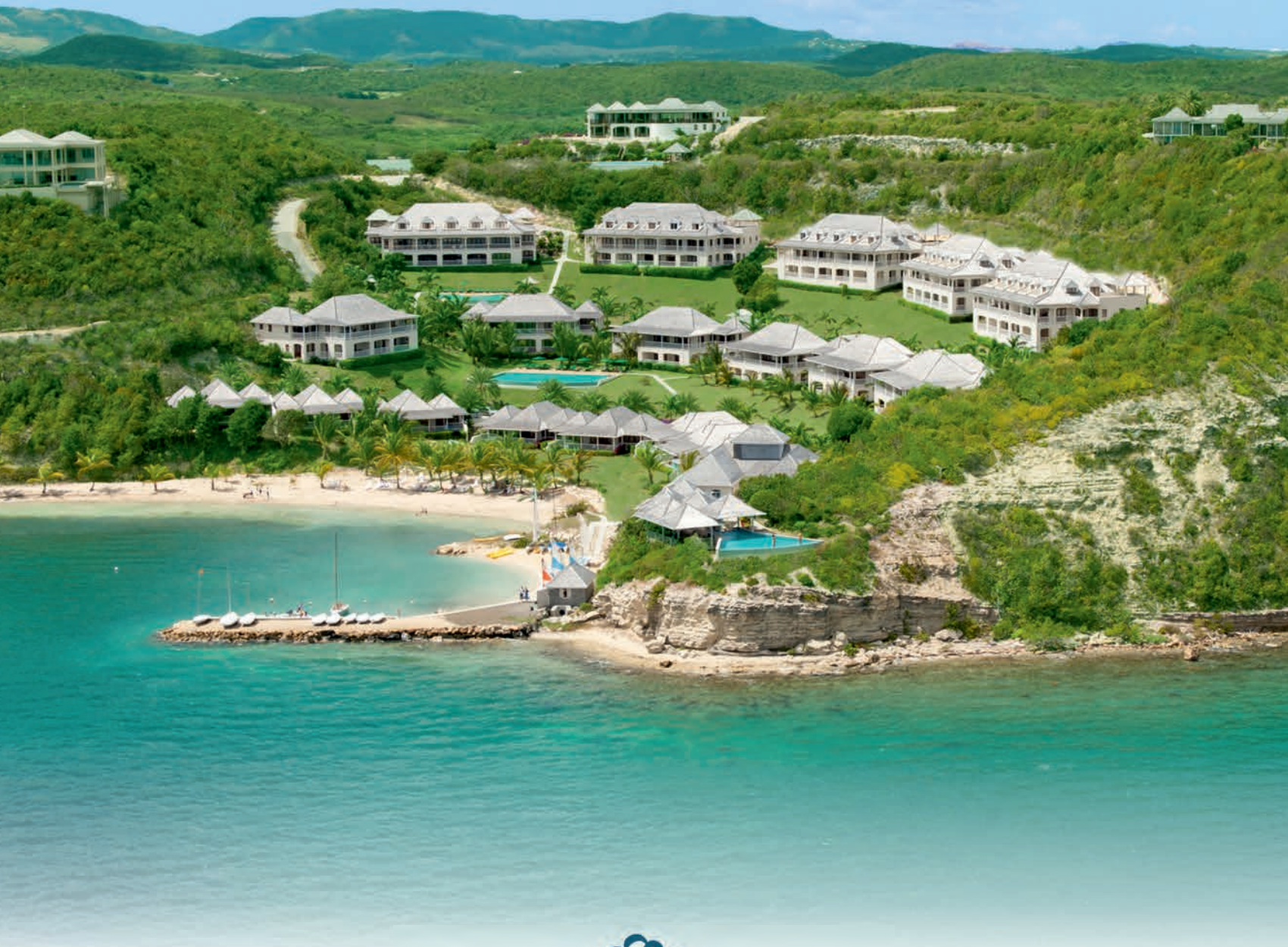
But that’s in the long term.

There are plenty of small and developing states with RCBI programs that need cash today. Especially those whose economies rely on tourism. Some of these jurisdictions have already begun to offer discounts on due diligence and government fees. Expect more of this in the near term.

CONCLUSION

So, will real estate-based RCBI programs become more attractive due to the crisis? If by “more attractive” you mean cheaper, the answer is probably yes. ●

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FOCUS



2020's

SHORT

BUT VERY SWEET, SAILING SEASON

As usual, the first few months of the year are a busy time for Antigua & Barbuda's sailors and yachters. Although participants and fans will now have to wait until 2021 to enjoy the islands' world-famous Antigua Sailing Week, Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta and other major events that usually take place, the waters around the twin islands have been busy so far in 2020. As one of the top sailing destinations worldwide, the steady trade winds and stable weather conditions between December and May ensure optimal conditions for competitive and leisure sailing alike. Whetting the appetite of local sailors for what was to come later in the season, the year kicked off with the annual Round the Island Race in January; a fun, anticlockwise circumnavigation of the island in which the winners take home the skipper's weight in rum.

Moving into February, teams from 37 nations descended on Antigua for the 12th edition of the Royal Ocean Racing Club's RORC Caribbean 600. As the only offshore sailing event in the Caribbean, the event is held in association with the Antigua Yacht Club and starts and finishes in Fort Charlotte near English Harbour, taking in some of the most stunning sailing grounds in the world. As the name suggests, the event is a 600-mile race around the Caribbean, passing 11 spectacular Caribbean islands as far as St Maarten in the north and Guadeloupe in the south. Weaving through these magical islands, the teams navigate turquoise seas and regularly spot whales, dolphins and turtles. By night, the boats continue racing under the twinkling stars of a velvety Caribbean sky.






—

This year's event attracted a spectacular fleet of 73 boats from around the world with over 700 competitors. As overall winner Tilmar Hansen succinctly put it; "It's a race to get addicted to." And with the event guaranteed to take place in Antigua for the next five years, the event will continue to be enjoyed by enthusiasts from the world over. A few weeks later, a fleet of incredible vessels sailed to the islands for the 10th anniversary of the Antigua Superyacht Challenge. As the largest collection of superyachts that have ever raced in the islands, the 2020's record entry had 15 superyachts and four J Class boats. The magnificent fleet takes part in four days of racing and is an exhilarating, but friendly and fun event for the participants with no overall winner and whose class winners' prizes are barrels of rum. Even the most dedicated and competitive sailor knows that the après-sail entertainment is almost as important as the racing afloat and the Superyacht Challenge doesn't disappoint in this regard. It is not for nothing that Antigua's buzzing, but laidback nightlife is

legendary amongst the yachties who flock here from all over the world.

And the aquamarine waters of Antigua aren't just reserved for yachts and sailing boats. Hot on the heels of last year's triumph of the record-breaking Antigua Island Girls, the island greeted the competitors of the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge on their arrival to its shores. AKA The World's Toughest Row, the 3,000-mile race is a gruelling cross-Atlantic row from the Canary Islands to historic Nelson's Dockyard in Antigua where the teams are all given a true hero's welcome. The teams set out on December 12th, and the first rowers arrived on Antigua's shores 32 days later, with the final duo arriving in March, a total of 86 days after the start. One half of this pair's 64-year old rower broke the records by becoming the oldest woman to row any ocean.

Although the sailing calendar was brought to a premature halt this season, you can be rest assured that Antigua's world-class sailing events will be back next year, bigger and better than ever. ●

A high-angle photograph of a woman walking away from the camera on a modern outdoor terrace. She is wearing a white halter-neck bikini top, a long red and white patterned sarong, and a wide-brimmed white sun hat. The terrace is paved with large, light-colored square tiles. To her left is a long, narrow rectangular swimming pool with clear blue water. In the background, there is a covered outdoor lounge area with a dark brown slatted roof. Inside this area, there is a long white sofa with striped cushions, a round dark wooden table with food and drinks, and a white built-in bench. The terrace and lounge area are situated on a cliff overlooking a vast, clear blue ocean under a bright sky. The overall atmosphere is one of luxury and relaxation.

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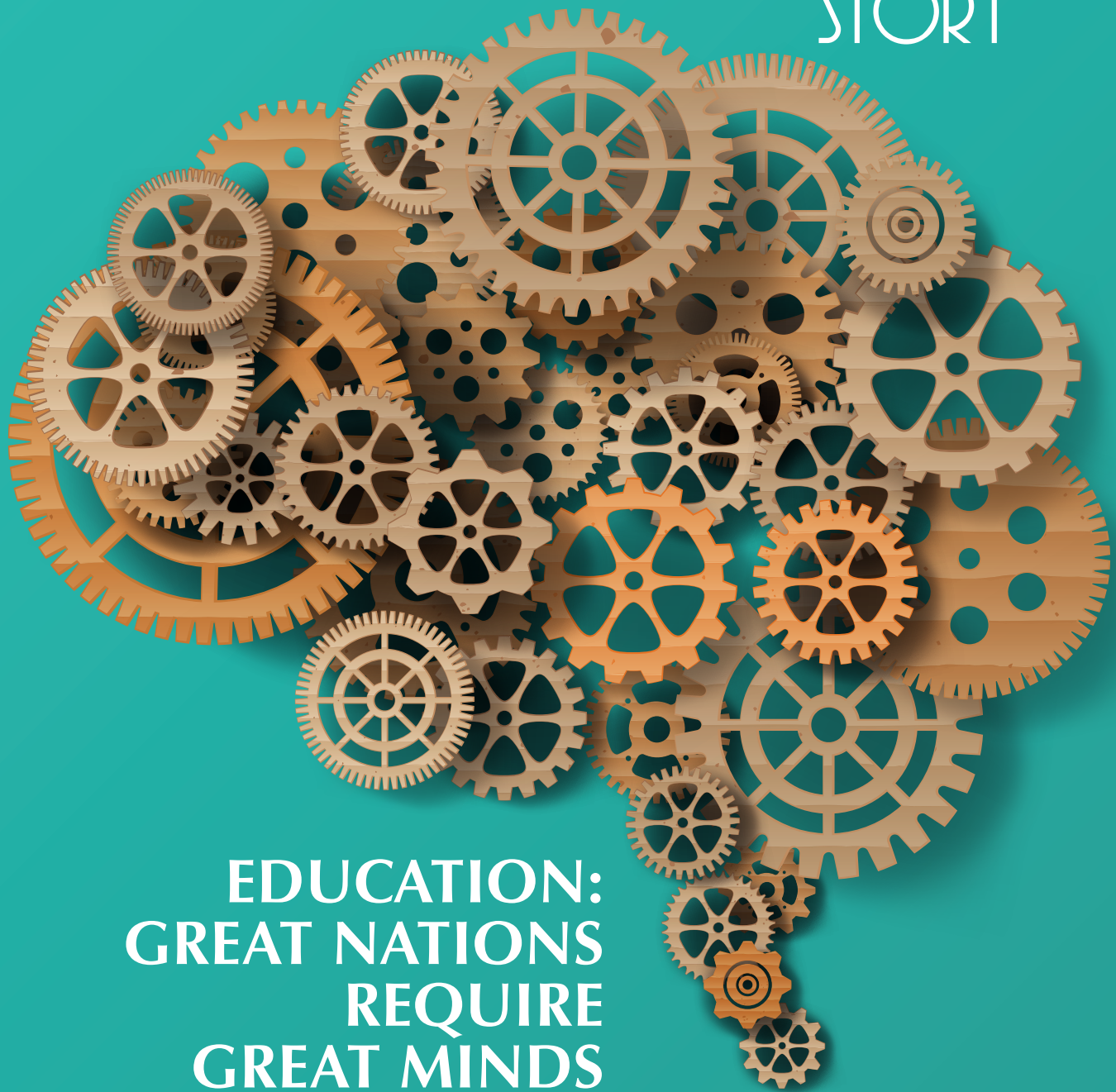
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EDUCATION: GREAT NATIONS REQUIRE GREAT MINDS

"We recognise that a better educated, better skilled, more knowledgeable people, will not only benefit from the opportunities in a growing economy, they will also contribute to its widening and strengthening."

PRIME MINISTER GASTON BROWNE

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL


Education is one of the fundamental factors of development, whether it be human, economic, social, or political. And it's a given that no country can achieve sustainable economic development without substantial investment in its human capital. An investment as vital as investing in infrastructure or equipment, the education and training of a country's workforce is a major factor in determining how well the country's economy will perform. A more educated workforce equates to one that is more mobile, adaptable and able to innovate; all crucial in developing the economy of a nation. Economists like Paul Romer have always argued that skills beget more skills and new ways of doing business that cause a knock-on effect in the economy as a whole. Indeed, there is a clear relationship between governments' education expenditure and GDP across a large sample of different countries. There is no doubt that Antigua & Barbuda has a clear vision about the importance of its human capital development. As a testament to its determination to grow its robust education system to complement its economic development, EC\$1.7 billion (US\$630 million) was allocated for education and science in 2020's budget. A huge ongoing investment established the fourth landed campus of the University of the West Indies last year, increasing the islands' education portfolio. And as the twin-island nation is gaining traction in the growing science, renewable energy and wellness sectors, this diversification is requiring new skills and knowledge. As Prime Minister Gaston Browne outlined in the 2020 budget speech, "My government is determined to give every person who wants it, the opportunity to climb the ladder to self-improvement, to betterment and to progress. That is why we have placed such great emphasis on improving education and expanding access to all."

One of the arguments in favour of citizenship by investment programmes, like the one found in the twin islands, is that they attract global talent who in turn bring new business, ideas, and innovation to a country. Clearly, an important consideration for potential investors is whether they can find the skilled and trained employees necessary to successfully carry out whatever their business activity may be. And since they often arrive with a family in tow, quality of life also factors into their decision-making; a good local education system often high on that list.

And it's not just the general economic growth of a nation that is given a push by education investment. A report by Noah Berger and Peter Fisher for the Economic Analysis and Research Network has shown that high-wage states in the United States are those that have a well-educated workforce. This demonstrates the correlation between education attainment (in this case) of the state's labour force and the average wages of that state. Furthermore, with higher salaries, workers contribute more through taxes over the course of their lifetimes. This boosts the coffers of the government allowing more investments in health, social care, and of course education.

"Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family."

KOFI ANNAN



"My government is determined to give every person who wants it, the opportunity to climb the ladder to self-improvement, to betterment and to progress. That is why we have placed such great emphasis on improving education and expanding access to all."

EDUCATION IS KNOWLEDGE. KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

Education plays a major role in the growth and progress of both a society and the individual. "Education is a fundamental human right and essential for the exercise of all other human rights," is at the heart of UNESCO's mission, and rightly so. By enriching people's understanding of themselves and the world, education cannot fail to improve the quality of lives and afford benefits to society.

Through the creation of resilient, curious, and imaginative people, education builds on itself; in turn creating a greater capacity to educate others and generally nurturing a culture that puts value on learning. Not only does it play a crucial role in securing social progress, but it leads to contributions in the fields of arts, literature, science and technology, establishing a well-rounded and stimulating community. Beyond this, it can encourage peace. Whilst so many world problems and disagreements have their basis on a lack of understanding, cultural knowledge can translate into greater empathy between nations and different so-called social strata, as well as aid in tackling discrimination and

social exclusion of minorities and promoting human rights. And indeed there can be no doubt that education is the very soul of democracy. Evidence shows that citizens with a higher educational level tend to take a more active part in civil society in terms of collective decision making. Unquestionably, education plays a central role in democracy itself. Greek philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle realised that if decisions are to be made by the masses, then having educated citizens is crucial. As Mary Marcy writes in the Liberal Education journal, democracy requires "individuals who are able to think, reason, analyse, and reflect with discrimination and care." Likewise, democratic values like liberty, equality, justice and dignity must be applied to education to make it meaningful and useful.

Opening doors to a better life, building confidence and breaking down barriers means education is the most empowering force in the world. As 16th-century philosopher Francis Bacon said, "Knowledge is power". And never have truer words been spoken.


CHALLENGING BRAIN DRAIN

Migration has always formed part of human history and there have always been those who feel the need to spread their wings or flock to pastures new for a myriad of reasons, whether economic or otherwise. And although long known as the curse of small states, an exodus of the so-called best and brightest is almost unavoidable. “Brain drain” was first coined by the British Royal Society to describe the outflow of scientists and technologists from the UK to North America in the 1950s and early 1960s. Although this dispels the myth that human capital flight is exclusively the domain of smaller nations, there can be no doubt that small states inevitably get hit hardest. Around five times harder than developing countries according to a 2009 report by Docuquir and Schiff, while they suffer up to twelve times more brain drain than high-income countries. With its dominance of small states, the Caribbean has naturally experienced an elevated percentage of this highly educated emigration. Nevertheless, brain drain shouldn’t always be thought of as doom and gloom. Remittances sent by emigrants back home can provide a balancing effect through increasing the inflow of hard currency into the country. And of course, the international mobility of workers can improve the flow of knowledge throughout the world. Bearing this in mind, it is fair to say that limited high-skilled emigration can be beneficial for growth and development for many nations. Nevertheless, it can’t be ignored that for the vast majority of small developing countries, skilled emigration rates significantly exceed the optimal.

Once young people from small island states leave their country’s shores to seek education elsewhere, they often don’t look back. The challenge is to get them to return through job opportunities or simply not lose them in the first place – and for that educational opportunities are key. With many young people lacking the financial means to study abroad in the first place, an accessible educational offer in their home country is necessary to narrow the gap between the haves and the have-nots, giving everyone a fair shot at bettering themselves.

Unquestionably, small countries like Antigua & Barbuda do not have the economic capacity to offer all the job opportunities sought by its citizens. But through economic diversification, things are changing. As its economic offer increases, the country has been wise in simultaneously investing in its education system to nurture homegrown talent who have the capacity to propel economic change going forward.

A strong educational system combined with an attractive lifestyle – like that on offer in the twin islands – are the ingredients to ensuring that a country becomes a serious contender when someone is considering where to carry out their studies. Marry that with economic opportunities and jobs and that talent is likely to remain in that nation for many years to come.



"Inclusive, good-quality education is a foundation for dynamic and equitable societies."

DESMOND TUTU

A KEY ROLE IN SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT

As climate change is being felt across the globe and the long-term devastating impact can no longer be avoided or doubted, environmental education is key to a better future for everyone. In a small island nation like Antigua & Barbuda where sustainable development and the environment are top of the agenda, it is vital that current and future generations gain a true understanding of the natural world and the dangers it faces. Over the past years, humans have lost sight of the importance of nature and with catastrophe staring us in the face, the question now being asked is how environment and sustainable development can be included in the education system.

The belief that "conservation starts with education" has been firmly rooted in a wealth of programmes worldwide and is considered the most effective tool in the promotion of sustainable development. Although catching them young is important to install lifelong learning and awareness, that doesn't mean that the older generations should be neglected though. Continual education geared towards a range of age groups, either through traditional educational establishments or through local non-governmental organisations or private companies, is now being embraced.

Through environmental education, the world populace can be educated about how to adopt a more sustainable development model. And as young people's interests are piqued through this learning, it is paving the way for future environmental stewards, experts and decision-makers who will help solve the critical environmental problems of the future.

A TIME OF GLOBAL CHALLENGE REQUIRES GLOBALLY MOBILE LEADERS, DEVELOPED THROUGH AN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

This is a unique period in world history which requires exceptional leaders who can overcome major political, economic and environmental challenges.

The perceived stability of historical superpowers is being contested by new political and economic powers and we are facing an age of dynamism in international relations. We can expect more regional collaboration such as ASEAN and Mercosur to develop and more individual countries – India, China, Brazil and soon maybe Indonesia or Nigeria – to play even

bigger roles in global politics.

This is compounded by technological advancements on a scale matching that of the industrial revolution of the late 19th century; networked production, 3D printing, self-driving cars, artificial intelligence, and more are sure to disrupt old industries and see new ones thrive at a rapid rate.

At the same time, ecological impacts such as global warming and water shortages are sadly becoming all too visible and affect us all. Energy-wise too, the end of the fossil fuel era is

about to come, threatening the global business community but also creating opportunities for new players.

The modern world is by now like a village; and while everyone is connected virtually, everyday life is still affected by local politics, language, culture, laws, and geography. This presents another enormous challenge for the next generation of business leaders, who must be globally minded, while sensitive enough to know when it is appropriate to act “locally”.

So, how can we make sure our leaders

are globally mobile and have the skills to tackle these considerable challenges?

Our best hope, as is confirmed by the history of human development, is to invest in the international education of future generations, to ensure that leaders of tomorrow can thrive in this age of conflicting dynamism and disruption.

For aspiring leaders, this means going out of their comfort zone; living and studying for a few months in a foreign environment at an early stage in their career, learning more than one language fluently and becoming immersed in different cultures. It involves experiencing the limitations of their own world view, acknowledging what they didn't know about the other place before, their wrong preconceptions, and most of all, coming back changed as a new and more resourceful person.

To achieve this vision of internationally educated global leaders, we must first break the

The time has come when a world in turmoil needs internationally educated, inspired leaders who can build bridges across the divides that separate us and break down borders.

silos of topical academic teaching, by channelling subjects such as philosophy, psychology, political science, and computer science into business teaching.

We must open up the classroom much more to an exchange with practitioners and influencers in different domains and industry, but also NGOs, regulators and maybe artists.

We must find a good balance of using technology-enhanced teaching with sophisticated in-class discussion, which may mean accepting other educational providers outside universities as legitimate partners, in a flexible lifelong learning

environment. Universities should also imitate the realities of the working world with different forms of learning such as group work, online or blended learning and simulations. The time has come when a world in turmoil needs internationally educated, inspired leaders who can build bridges across the divides that separate us and break down borders. These future leaders will understand the rapid rate of technological, economic and political change and importantly looking beyond profit maximisation towards creating long-term value for an interconnected society.

Global mobility will always remain key in this, as human interaction will never be substituted by the internet and has always been key to the survival of humanity.

*by Roland Siegers,
Executive Director of CEMS
(Global Alliance in
Management Education)*



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Over a period of 40 years, people having access to quality education can help a country raise its gross domestic product per capita by 23 percent.

Education is the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 4; to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning."

International students increase the social and cultural diversity of campuses, enriching the research and learning environment and helping home students to develop internationally relevant skills.

Some of the earliest universities in the world were Sumerian scribal schools, which were created soon after 3500 B.C. These universities were called eduba.

If all students in low-income countries gained basic reading skills, 171 million people could be taken out of poverty.

Children who have participated in early childhood development such as preschool are more likely to achieve higher education and make more money as adults.

The Antigua & Barbuda government provides scholarships to 1,600 young people in various degree programmes.

International student numbers are anticipated to rise to eight million by the year 2025.

Education in Antigua & Barbuda is compulsory and free for children between the ages of 5 and 16 years and based on the British educational system.

The number of students earning a degree outside of their home country has tripled over the past 25 years.

The oldest, continually operating school in the world is the University of Karueein, founded in A.D. 859 in Fez, Morocco. Originally a mosque, it was founded by a woman, Fatima al-Fihri. The oldest university is usually considered to be Nalanda University in India, founded in the 5th century AD.

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YENSA WERTH

*Born and raised in Antigua to
an Antiguan mother and an
American father, Yensa Werth's
passion for photography began
at the tender age of 13.*







In 2015, she received a BFA in Professional Photography from Brooks Institute in Santa Barbara, California. It was during these studies that Yensa developed her distinctive style of layering photographic images over each other, creating art which she calls "Culture in Layers". After seven years in the United States, she is now living back in Antigua and continues using this technique to create artwork that showcases the islands' culture and beauty.

As well as these unique pieces, she mainly specialises in wedding photography and portraits; although in Yensa's own words, she also loves capturing "travels, food, culture, and all the worldly adventures in-between."



To view more of Yensa Werth's work go to
www.yensawerth.com
or @yensa.werth



You come from a creative family with your mother an interior designer and your father an architect. Why did you choose photography as your creative outlet?

I would say that photography chose me. When I was younger, I wanted to be a triple threat as a singer, dancer and actor. However, as soon as my father lent me his camera when I was 13 years old everything changed direction and a new passion emerged.

In what way does your dual heritage reflect in your photography?

I embrace both cultures through my photography. I have a first-world approach of photographing digitally and I delight in capturing the simple and colourful Antiguan lifestyle.

How did your "Culture in Layers" technique come about?

We are fortunate in Antigua to have so many opportunities to capture colour, movement, culture, and nature. In order to create a story, I thought that using this layering technique used in Photoshop that I learned in University was the best way to create a metissage 'painting' of life in Antigua.

In 2015 you started the "Love yourself" series. Can you tell us

more about it and why this series is so close to you heart?


Throughout my life, love was either quite heavy or at times absent. I never realised that I gave so much love to other people around me and yet completely forgot about loving myself. This series is dedicated to people who have a difficult time loving themselves. It is a reminder that we are worth the love we give to others.

Who has been the biggest influence in your photography and why?

Nature has been my biggest influence and inspiration. I am a plant lover and natural light is everything. We are fortunate here in Antigua & Barbuda to have some of the best light and I take advantage of this.

People come to Antigua & Barbuda from all the world to gain creative inspiration from the natural beauty to be found here. What inspires you the most in the twin islands?

Antigua & Barbuda has a community that embraces you with open arms and a heart full of love and protection. The moments within these twin islands can be raw and there is something special that happens here. Freedom lives here. The culture and simple living are what inspire me. ●



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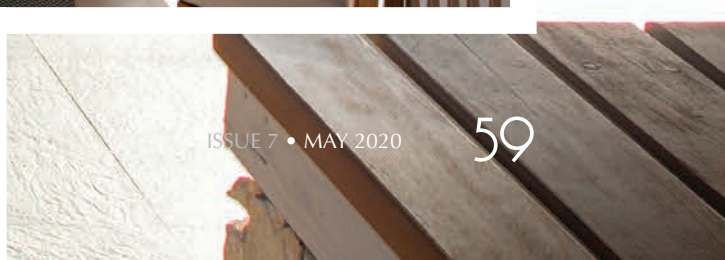
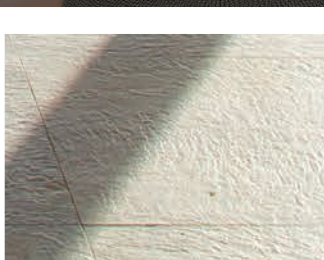


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THE NEW GENERATION: SIGNALLING A NEW WAVE OF PHILANTHROPY

Young people have always wanted to shake things up and do things differently than the generation that came before them; whether that be in fashion, art or music. And now it seems philanthropy has joined those ranks.


Back in 1911, one of the most influential and innovative philanthropists of all time, Andrew Carnegie, reached the ripe old age of 76 before starting his private foundation. That was generally how it went; work hard, make your fortune and then engage with philanthropic giving later in life when you have more time on your hands. Today's movers and shakers in the non-profit world, however, are often considerably younger and at the height of their career. And with the rise of technology, a new generation of newly minted billionaires has emerged who have committed themselves to initiatives like the Giving Pledge or Founders Pledge whereby high-net-worth individuals (HNWI) promise to give away fortunes to charitable causes. But it is not just the super-rich younger generation who are making these changes. If we are to believe the popular narrative, millennials are a self-absorbed "me me me generation". But when we look at their relationship to philanthropy at least, nothing could be farther from the truth. According to the Case Foundation's Millennial Impact Report from 2015, during the previous year, 84 percent of millennial employees gave to charity and 70 percent of them donated more than an hour to a charitable cause. Given that they are often still struggling with the burden of student debt, and home and car ownership often still eluding them, this level of millennial giving is significant and debunks most stereotypes. Attaching the theory that people give more as they

get older, this may well prove to be the most generous generation in history.

Although the causes to which they give are not glaringly different to those the previous generations funded – education has always been at the top of the list – it is how they are giving that is changing. Goldseker and Moody's book, *Generation Impact: How Next Gen Donors Are Revolutionizing Giving*, outlines how younger philanthropists are reshaping philanthropy through means of an "impact revolution" by placing transparency and accountability at the forefront of their money-giving decisions – in other words funding things that truly work rather than things that sound like a good idea.

As well as ensuring their money is being used wisely, this new generation of givers no longer wants to write a cheque and sit back; they want to get their hands dirty by becoming firmly involved with the causes they support. As Kevin Washington, President and CEO of the YMCA says "[Young people] are eager to shape the communities we all live in and know they can make a difference with more than financial contributions – from volunteering to signing a petition to organising a rally and more."

And this philosophy is also fast gaining traction in the realms of the super-rich. According to Wealth-X's report, *The new normal: trends in UHNW giving 2019* – which studied ultra-high-net-worth individuals under 45 – this generation of givers have a more targeted approach to their philanthropy than their predecessors. They are also allocating their time and skills like never before, whether this means sitting on a board, mentoring staff or using their own networks to make a difference.



This new generation of givers no longer wants to write a cheque and sit back; they want to get their hands dirty by becoming firmly involved with the causes they support.

Undoubtably, the biggest disruptor of charitable giving has been the growth of technology and social media. Allowing instant access to information and indeed gratification, this digital revolution has changed the world around us and introduced a new wave of philanthropy. Young people accustomed to living out their lives in the digital landscape can access philanthropic data and see what their peers are up to at a mere tap of a button, giving rise to the growth of peer-to-peer fundraising efforts and crowdfunding. Accordingly, a study by Giving Tuesday shows that in the United States, 48 percent of young people discover non-profits through social media. But although being connected and more tech savvy means young people have greater awareness about global

issues, this doesn't necessarily translate to donations. As Goldseker and Moody say in their book, "The next generation will likely know more about hunger in South Sudan than they know about hunger in South [Philadelphia]." However, given the desire of young philanthropists to have a hands-on experience, any causes that aren't in the donor's backyard are often overlooked in preference to initiatives found closer to home, thus bringing about what can be described as a global giving paradox. To solve this paradox, creative mechanisms like impact investing are beginning to come into their own. This new style of philanthropy is found at the crossroads of entrepreneurship and finance and allows investors to truly interact with a business model or idea. With philanthropy often having a limit when it comes to scale and efficiency, impact philanthropy allows long-term, scalable and sustainable projects whilst generating measurable social and environmental benefits and financial returns (although the latter isn't the main focus). With 93 percent of US millennials believing that the social or environmental impact of their investments is important, according to research from US Trust, sustainable fundraising will certainly be a trend going forward. Indian philanthropist Naveen Jain once said; "True philanthropy requires a disruptive mindset, innovative thinking and a philosophy driven by entrepreneurial insights and creative opportunities." It seems that the new generation of philanthropists are doing just that. ●

A man with dark skin, a beard, and dreadlocks is lying on his back on a lush green lawn. He is wearing sunglasses and has his eyes closed, appearing to be in a state of relaxation or meditation. Above his head is a large, light green thought bubble containing text. The background is filled with dense green foliage and bright red flowers, possibly bougainvillea, under bright daylight. The overall mood is peaceful and artistic.

ARTS & CU LTU RE

I hear
music in my head.
I hear the instruments.
Then I'll hook up with a
musician and tell him what
I'm hearing instrument-wise.
We put the song together
piece by piece like a puzzle.
Sometimes it takes three
months. Sometimes
an hour.



As a songwriter, musician, producer, athlete, husband and father, two-time Grammy-nominated artist Art Philip AKA Drastic forms part of a group of talented musicians that call themselves Them Island Boyz.

I'm still trying to do my part
by putting Antigua on the map.
Everyone knows the music of
Jamaica and even the Virgin
Islands, but I want them to know
what Antigua is all about. And I
feel I can do that.





Born in Antigua surrounded by music that his father, a church choir and music leader, brought home with him, Drastic began his professional music career in 2007 when he won the Virgin Islands Idol competition. Over the past few years, Drastic has collaborated with other notable musicians such as Sean Kingston, Spragga Benz, Destra, Surwayne Winchester, Honorebel, Jemere Morgan, Patrice Roberts, Ricardo Drue, Richie Loop, Shal Marshal, and Jah Cure, a Jamaican reggae star.

His songs and music videos have received a number of awards and chart appearances in the Caribbean and beyond. In 2015, Jah Cure's album *The Cure*, in which Drastic wrote "No Friend of Mine", was nominated for a Grammy in the recording industry's most prestigious awards. Jah Cure's album *Royal Soldier* was also nominated for a Grammy in 2019, seeing Drastic receive his second nomination for penning the title track in addition to "Brighter Day".

As well as performing in international carnivals over the last couple of years, he reached the finals of the Antigua Groovy Party Monarch competition last year. In January this year, Drastic released his highly anticipated *15 Grams Mixtape*. A lot of additional exciting projects are being cooked up for the rest of 2020, like the recently released single "Show Up" in collaboration with internationally renowned musicians Wyclef Jean and Noah Powa. ●

What does music really mean to you?

Music is a part of me and a way of life. I cannot imagine life without it.

How would you describe your music?

My music can be described as a fusion of Caribbean and mainstream musical elements - melodies and grooves that will lift your mood and make you feel inspired, motivated, happy or even sad depending on the story being told. With every song comes a different mood. My music is versatile.

Who are your musical influences?

Rock City, Papa San, Akon, Sean Paul, Bob Marley, Chris Brown, Rihanna, Lauryn Hill, Kanye West, 50 Cent and Lester Lewis

Your music – and music videos – have won several awards and your song writing has even

been nominated for a Grammy. How important are accolades to you?

I'm grateful because God gave me a gift, and I'm able to do what I love for a living. I owe it all to the creator and to my parents for exposing me to music and arts at an early age. The accolades are just a bonus. I don't let the titles and awards get to my head. I'm simply dedicated to my craft and enjoy doing what I love doing.

How does Antigua inspire your music?

Antigua & Barbuda is one of the most beautiful places on earth and I was blessed to grow up here. Everything about life in Antigua serves as some sort of inspiration one way or the other and eventually is manifested in my music. For instance, in some songs I may not be singing dialect, but you'll definitely hear my accent. I'm from the land of 365 beaches. That's inspiration for every day of the year.

We all took a pause, but we are now ready to welcome you back!

Health, wellness, and hospitality have always been our priority. And with 365 pristine beaches to choose from, we are here to help you find your own slice of heaven on our powder-white sands lapped by transparent turquoise waters. All the while soaking up some much-needed Vitamin D.

Our chefs are here to boost your health with the best of Caribbean cuisine; fresh tropical fruits and juices, locally farmed produce and freshly caught seafood, prepared with love and care in our world-class restaurants and laid-back beach bars.

Our island is here to satisfy your sense of adventure through activities like paddle boarding from bay to bay, snorkelling on one of the technicolour reefs or kite surfing in steady trade winds on wilder beaches. Or stimulate your senses and connect with nature by hiking on one of the trails crisscrossing the island enjoying the lush greenery and hidden coves only reachable by foot.

And we will not neglect your mind and soul either; yoga or meditation on the beach with the sound of the waves lapping on the shore will restore your inner peace and melt away your stress.

We are here to ensure your wellbeing every moment of the day.

Your health and wellness are our responsibility. **We are ready when you are.**




ANTIGUA
AND
BARBUDA
The beach is just the beginning...



NEW CITIZEN

Our latest new citizen, Belgian François Geleyns hails from Uccle and Waterloo, south of Brussels. Having worked in high-end real estate for many years, he also published restaurant guides on Brussels, Knokke-Heist and St Tropez. Now living on our paradise island, we met up with him to find out what prompted his move from Europe to the Caribbean and why he decided to become an Antigua & Barbuda citizen.

"We'd heard that Antigua was a very safe island with a great educational offer, and once we came here, we didn't need to look elsewhere."

When did you become an Antigua & Barbuda citizen?

After receiving my passport at the beginning of 2019, I came to live in Antigua at the end of August last year. I've now been living here for seven months.

Why did you decide to become a citizen of the twin islands?

The main reason was that my ex-wife and I felt that too many negative things were happening in Europe and we wanted to live elsewhere. We also wanted to give our son a better life; somewhere that is safe and where there are fantastic outdoor activities for children to do like sailing. Good schooling, a nice climate and good connectivity were also high on our list. We chose Antigua and it was a great decision, both for him and for us!

Did you consider becoming a citizen of anywhere else other than Antigua & Barbuda?

We'd heard that Antigua was a very safe island with a great educational offer, and once we came here, we didn't need to look elsewhere.

What has your experience living here been like so far?

I would say that Antigua is a true paradise and the local people are incredibly nice and welcoming. I have nothing but great words to say about it.

Your son is at Island Academy. How does schooling here compare to back in Belgium?

He absolutely loves his school. It is very different to his school back in Belgium. Before leaving for Antigua, we placed him in an international school in Belgium for six months in order to prepare him. However, since it wasn't an English-speaking environment, he arrived in Antigua with absolutely no knowledge of English. Despite that, in seven months he has learned the language and now speaks English better than I do!

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What do you like to do in your spare time in Antigua?

I really do such a variety of things. I enjoy going to the beach with friends or going boating in these amazing surroundings. Every day is different. When you wake up in the morning in Antigua with nothing to do, something will pop up and you will suddenly have plans! It is a very social place thanks to a great mix of both local and international people, and I love that about the island. It is a total contrast to my life back in Belgium where I was constantly stressed due to working all the time.

What did you do in your free time before coming to Antigua and how has that changed?

I've always liked moving from place to place and since Antigua is so well connected, I continue to regularly travel.

I used to be an avid Harley Davidson fan and organised road trips in the USA and Europe for groups of riders. However, I gave up that hobby for my son's sake around a year ago due to the danger on the roads. Hunting also used to be one of my passions, but naturally I don't do that any longer in Antigua.

My life has completely changed now for the better, and although I can't do some of the things that I did in my previous life, there are so many other great things and new hobbies to get involved in on this beautiful island.

Would you recommend Antigua to your friends?

Yes, absolutely. I know a lot of people in Belgium and a few of them are already interested in exploring investment opportunities, citizenship or simply purchasing property in Antigua, which would enable them to spend a few months here every year.

In fact, a friend of mine is currently on the island investigating opportunities and visiting plots of land and houses. He was originally interested in investing in the Dominican Republic, but after visiting Antigua, he changed his mind. When he saw photos of me here in Antigua, he decided to visit the island for a week, and now he is certain that he will be returning! ●

An underwater photograph showing a large, dense school of lionfish swimming in clear blue water. The fish are silvery with dark stripes and prominent spines. In the upper right, a sea urchin is visible. The water surface is visible at the top, with sunlight filtering through. The overall scene is dynamic and captures a large aggregation of these often-misunderstood marine animals.

CONSERVATION

LIONFISH:

THE UNWELCOME
KING OF THE REEF





Floating above the technicolour reef, the lionfish's beautiful plume of featherlike fins ebb and flow in the gentle Caribbean current. But this exquisite but dangerous creature no more belongs in these waters than the lion after which it is named.

Indigenous to the Indo-Pacific region, here in the Caribbean and Atlantic waters this spectacular fish is an alien invader whose voracious and insatiable appetite is causing havoc to the region's reef ecosystems. Back in its native waters, the biggest danger these fish pose is to unsuspecting divers who may inadvertently touch one of the beautiful but venomous spines which cause an extremely painful and potentially lethal sting. There they form part of the natural order where predators such as sharks and groupers keep their numbers in check. However, in the foreign habitats they have encroached, neither their prey nor potential predators recognise them, leaving them free to decimate fish populations in the reefs where they are found.

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA IS WORKING TO PROTECT THEIR CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEMS WHILST CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES. THE INTERNATIONAL LIONFISH DERBY IS ONE OF THE INITIATIVES THAT WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE EVERY YEAR.

It is estimated that a single lionfish can kill off over 80 percent of marine creatures on a reef within five weeks. Not surprising when it is able to devour 20 smaller fish in just half an hour and its stomach can expand over 30 times its normal volume. It's not difficult to see why these fish are being called the most devastating man-made marine invasion in history. And a man-made problem it is. The most bandied-about theory is that 1992's Hurricane Andrew caused the glass of a shoreline-based aquarium to shatter, thus releasing its contents - including its resident lionfish - into the ocean. Whatever really happened, the lack of genetic diversity found by scientists in captured lionfish suggests that the invasion comes from just a small pool of fish which indeed supports this man-made theory. In the Caribbean region, densities of 450 lionfish per acre of reef - three times that found in their native range - are not uncommon. So how did this small number of released lionfish multiply into such a problem

in relatively few years? With sexual maturity reached at a year and the production of two million eggs a year over their average 15-year lifespan, only rabbits can be described as rivals in procreational ability.

Additionally, not only have lionfish been identified as eating over 70 different types of fish, invertebrates and molluscs, they also crucially devour reef-grazers such as parrotfish whose job is to feed on algae which would otherwise smother corals. This causes a knock-on effect on ecosystems beyond those that the lionfish have pervaded. They are equally at home in the brackish waters of mangroves where the nurseries of many reef-fish species are found. Here the gluttonous lionfish are capable of killing off juvenile specimens before they've even had the chance to reach the reefs.

With all this evidence to hand, it is certain that the point of no return for the eradication of these creatures has long passed; but keeping their numbers in check is a necessity if Caribbean reefs are to be saved. Encouraging people to catch them is the first step in this uphill battle. Living on reefs and not easily attracted by bait, the most effective way to catch them is by using spear guns and hunting them one by one, reef by reef. Not the easiest of tasks and certainly not attractive to fishermen in the absence of an economic incentive.

With a number of restaurants in the twin islands and beyond offering the delicacy on their menus, one way is to encourage fishermen to diversify away from exclusively native species and include lionfish in their daily catch.

Commanding relatively high prices and being an extremely tasty fish with numerous health benefits such as low mercury levels and high levels of Omega 3 fatty acids, means that lionfish can be an attractive option for fishermen and consumers alike. However, it remains to be seen if lionfish fishing can be commercially viable given the challenges of catching them in the first place.

In any case, educating restaurateurs that lionfish can be prepared safely and easily, and convincing consumers that they are not only completely safe to eat, but a delicious and sustainable alternative to other fish on the menu is vital before the

FEMALE LIONFISH
BECOME SEXUALLY
MATURE AT
APPROXIMATELY
ONE YEAR OLD AND
CAN LIVE IN THE
WILD FOR UP TO 15
YEARS.

LIONFISH HAVE
BEEN SPOTTED AT
DEPTHS OF OVER
300 METRES.

THEY CAN EAT 70
DIFFERENT SPECIES.

IN WARM
CARIBBEAN
WATERS, FEMALE
LIONFISH CAN
RELEASE ANYWHERE
BETWEEN 4,000
AND 30,000
UNFERTILIZED EGGS
EVERY FOUR DAYS
OR TWO MILLION
EGGS PER YEAR.

THEY HAVE 18
VENOMOUS SPINES
THAT CAUSE A VERY
PAINFUL STING.

IT IS ESTIMATED
THAT LIONFISH
HAVE BEEN ABLE
TO POPULATE A
MILLION SQUARE
MILES OF OCEAN IN
10 YEARS.

THEIR SLOW
MOVEMENT AND
SEAWEED-LIKE
APPEARANCE
PROVIDES THEM
WITH A NATURAL
CAMOUFLAGE,
AND THEY ARE
NOT RECOGNISED
BY THEIR PREY IN
THE ATLANTIC LIKE
THEY ARE IN THEIR
NATURAL PACIFIC
AND INDIAN
OCEAN HABITATS.

A SINGLE LIONFISH
CAN REDUCE
THE NUMBER OF
JUVENILE NATIVE
FISH ON THE REEF
BY 80 - 90% IN JUST
FIVE WEEKS.

reefs reach the tipping point from which they cannot recover.

One creative and proven-to-be-effective method of reducing lionfish numbers is through the introduction of lionfish derbies; usually single-day competitions to collect and remove as many fish as possible, whilst diving or snorkelling, with prizes for the winners. Several of these have already taken place in Antigua and international tournaments will be taking place each year going forward. As well as vitally reducing the numbers of lionfish (and being a fun day for all), they are also the perfect opportunity to educate the general public about the safe hunting, handling and cooking of these creatures at the same time as demonstrating the environmental and economic benefits that catching the fish can provide. And these derbies are indeed effective; evidence from the Bahamas has shown a 65 percent decline in the local lionfish population and a 50 percent reduction in average species size after a series of derbies has taken place.

As well as the lionfish's tastiness, their beauty may also be the salvation of the reefs. The same natural beauty which gave rise to these lionfish to be kept as pets in the aquariums from which they were released, also makes for stunning jewellery; allowing non-divers to make a difference too. These statement pieces have the additional advantage of being the perfect conversation starter about the importance of removing the invasive fish when curious people ask about the unusual and alluring designs.

With technological solutions to the problem continuously being developed such as remote-controlled underwater robots to literally vacuum up the lionfish found at depths to which recreational divers cannot descend, no-one is throwing in the towel just yet.

One thing that is clear is that these visitors to Antigua & Barbuda's waters are here to stay whether they are welcome or not. It is now up to all stakeholders to come together to try and keep their numbers as low as possible. So, what are you having for lunch today? ●

PROPERTY FEATURE



SUGAR RIDGE

Sugar Ridge offers 54 fully serviced home sites, all with stunning sea views in a private gated community.

Plots can be purchased allowing you to design and build your Caribbean dream home or select one of three, four or five-bedroom Sugar Ridge homes.



Soak in your own plunge pool
and enjoy panoramic views of the Caribbean Sea and the
property's 43 acres of lush indigenous flora and fauna.
First-class service and luxurious amenities
define every experience at Sugar Ridge.
The \$50 million resort includes
two restaurants and
lounges, and three
pools.



www.sugarridgeantigua.com



An aerial photograph of a tropical beach. The top half of the image shows deep blue ocean water transitioning into a shallow turquoise lagoon. A wide, white sandy beach occupies the middle section. Three small, white sailboats with blue accents are beached on the sand. The bottom section features several palm trees, lush green foliage, and white lounge chairs. A large, dark, circular object, possibly a thatched umbrella, is visible near the bottom center.

“ A second citizenship and property investment can be an essential component in your wealth preservation strategy ”



INTERVIEW

THE TWIN ISLANDS STAR IN HOLLYWOOD PRODUCTION

If asked to sum up Antigua & Barbuda in one word, a lot of visitors to the islands' shores would more than likely use the word "magical". It is no surprise then that Oscar-nominated writer-director Benh Zeitlin chose the twin islands as one of the locations for the fabled Neverland in his second feature film, *Wendy* which he jointly wrote with his sister Eliza. The film, which hit cinemas in the United States after premiering in the Sundance Film Festival in January and in Antigua mid-March, is Zeitlin's newly reimagined telling of the 1890 JM Barry classic Peter Pan told from Wendy's perspective.

37-year old Zeitlin's first foray into feature films, *Beasts of the Southern Wild*, resulted in no less than four Oscar nominations in the 2013 Academy Awards, including those of Best Picture and Best Director as well as taking home the prestigious Grand Jury Prize at Sundance the same year. Taking more than seven years to bring to fruition, *Wendy* is the young filmmaker's second labour of love and like its predecessor, unbound by the usual Hollywood storytelling restrictions.

Using unknown and untrained child actors, *Wendy* once again demonstrates Zeitlin's love of plucking local kids from obscurity and placing them in starring roles in his movies to give them a truly authentic feel. Like Oscar-nominated and Louisiana-native, Quvenzhané Wallis, (the youngest Best Actress nominee in history) from *Beasts of the Southern Wild*, Zeitlin has once again turned to unprofessional child actors in casting *Wendy*. As well as talented 10-year old Devin France who plays the title role, the film's Boy who Never Grew Up is played by six-year old Yashua Mack, who was discovered in a Rastafarian community in Antigua; the first black actor to play this iconic role and a source of pride for Antiguan.

The landscapes of Antigua & Barbuda and neighbouring island Montserrat are undoubtably also the stars in this international production.



The landscapes of Antigua & Barbuda and neighbouring island Montserrat are undoubtedly also the stars in this international production. Neverland has captured readers imaginations for over a century as an island of lagoons, magic and mystery, and the majestic beauty of the landscapes of the islands certainly lives up to this description in *Wendy*.

Although much of the shooting took place on Montserrat where the ominous volcano plays a vital role in the film's story, the iconic landmark Hell's Gate in Antigua's North Sound, Pearn's Point and the caves and frigate bird colony in Barbuda also play a significant role. Some of the breath-taking cinematography was shot by local cinematographer Shabier Kirchner, whose father Bert Kirchner is Film Commissioner for Antigua & Barbuda as well as the production's local producer and played an instrumental role in getting the movie made in the islands. Indeed with a significant homegrown crew and cast, the film was a true Antiguan effort.

As a testimony to the strong ties with the twin island nation, the movie's Antiguan premiere on 14th March was attended by Benh Zeitlin himself and the newest local hero Yashua Mack. Robert de Niro also attended the glittering event along with a who's who of the twin islands.



The Citizen caught up with **Benh Zeitlin** and **Bert Kirchner** before the event to hear about how and why the movie got made in the twin islands.

Why did you choose Antigua & Barbuda and Montserrat for the location of your Neverland?

The first reason was because of Montserrat's volcano which is the source of youth in the movie. As the film is very much around the theme about how to grow up, but not get old, we found that there are people in this part of the world who seem to have that figured out.

Filming on location can be a logistical minefield. How was your experience in the twin islands?

Making a movie like this had never been done before in Antigua, so we needed a real community to come together who knew the local landscape. In both Montserrat and here, Bert (Kirchner) and his son were part of this incredible group of allies who helped us work out the production.

You discovered unknown child actor Yashua Mack in Antigua. How important was it for you to have a local child play the role of Peter Pan?

We wanted to find children who still use nature as a playground and whose imaginations feed through animals and plants. After months and months of searching, we were about to go home and rethink the whole casting issue, when someone pointed us towards this Rastafarian community on the island where we found Yashua. When we did the casting with him, that was really the moment we knew the film was getting made.

Wendy took you seven years to make and so was obviously a labour of love. Why did it take you so long?

We used an unconventional method of

adapting the film to the locations and actors. When we met Yashua he was only five years old and couldn't read or swim yet, so it took us two years to get him to grow up a bit. I have no regrets as it was the most fun time of my life!

What would you say to other productions that are looking at Antigua as a potential location?

It's a wonderful place to make a movie. It has a unique mix of ingredients – on one hand there is a feeling of remoteness, but on the other hand, with its international airport and shipping experience, you can mount something massive. The locations are unique and there are extremely talented technicians and professionals here.

In your downtime during the production, did you discover any



favourite spots on the island?

There were two central locations, one of which was Hell's Gate and the other, an incredible rock near Pearn's Point which is a natural phenomenon.

We also spent a lot of time at Bert's (Kirchner) place, Papa Zouk, which became our clubhouse.

What else would you like to say about your movie?

I would like to express my extreme gratitude to Bert and the island in getting this film made. It would never have happened without Antigua & Barbuda and I don't think it could have been done anywhere else. And I hope that Yashua Mack becomes a local hero. My dream is that when people think about Peter Pan that they no longer imagine a little British child but rather this incredible young Rasta boy. ●

Yashua Mack



Bert Kirchner, Producer of Wendy and Antigua Film Commissioner

Bert, how do you feel that *Wendy* is finished and being premiered in Antigua?

I'm very happy. But more than that, I am extremely proud as an Antiguan to present this movie because the movie was not only filmed partially on our island but also by Antiguanians who were working as support crew. Even one of the main characters, Peter Pan, is played by an Antiguan. The director of photography is my son, I was the producer and the production company was Wadadli Productions, another Antiguan company. So with all due respect to Fox Searchlight Pictures, the mother company, it almost became an Antiguan film.

Do you think that Antigua could increase productions thanks to the spotlight it's received from *Wendy*?

My role is to develop the islands as a film production destination, and I think we have been fairly successful. As well as *Wendy* there are several big productions in the pipeline.

How does Antigua facilitate productions' logistics?

Film production isn't new to our shores, so there are many Antiguanians with experience as well as film industry people who have now chosen to live on the island. Productions can save a lot of money by not having to fly a whole crew into the country from elsewhere.

What incentives do the twin islands offer for film production?

We don't offer incentives like some islands do, but since there are no

location fees or work permits, and productions don't have to pay to import goods that are needed, they probably save around 20 percent in the end.

You also own Papa Zouk Rum Shop. Why is it so legendary on the island?

I've had the place for over 20 years and it's where I first met Robert de Niro when he came to celebrate his birthday years ago. Papa Zouk started as a place where we would get together at the weekend, fry up some fish, smoke some cigars, drink some rum and talk about politics. Today it's a rum shop where coincidentally you can get seafood. One day I asked my dishwasher to fry up some fish and now she is probably the best seafood chef on the island! We also probably have the largest rum collection in the Caribbean.

Where does the name Papa Zouk come from?

Papa Zouk was an old man in Dominica, where I had a dive shop when I first moved from Germany. He was deaf, unable to speak and extremely poor. He slept on a mattress in a hotel where he did odd jobs. It was a miserable existence, but this guy who had nothing was the happiest person I had ever met. He fascinated me and taught me a lesson that life shouldn't be about chasing the buck but about chasing happiness. Although he was deaf, he still danced to zouk (French Creole) music and so everyone started calling him Papa Zouk. When he died, I thought he must live on. By naming my place Papa Zouk, it means that he is still living in some way. ●



UWI

FIVE ISLANDS CAMPUS
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
WEST INDIES

We're growing to better serve the Caribbean

As the only Caribbean university to be ranked among the best in the world, we at **The University of the West Indies (UWI)** are proud of our legacy of Caribbean service and leadership.

Envisioned as a development hub for Antigua and Barbuda and the OECS to increase higher education access, our newest campus at **Five Islands, Antigua and Barbuda** offers a range of degrees and certificate programmes in Health and Behavioural Sciences; Humanities and Education; and Management Sciences and Technology.

As we invest in the region, we welcome your support.



Caribbean's #1
Latin America's Top 2%
World's Top 4%

Discover more about
The UWI Five Islands Campus at
fiveislands.uwi.edu





“Explore, experience, live
and invest in Antigua & Barbuda”

WORTH NOTING



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA NAMED CARIBBEAN DESTINATION OF THE YEAR

At the Caribbean Travel Awards 2020, the twin islands were named Caribbean Destination of the Year thanks to the islands' successful marketing campaign, incredible beaches, UNESCO World Heritage Site, increasing visitor arrivals, and its tourism offer with a slew of hotel developments in the pipeline.



SHEER ROCKS NAMED BEST RESTAURANT IN THE CARIBBEAN

Caribbean Journal, the world's largest website focusing on travel and tourism in the region, has named Antigua's Sheer Rocks as the Caribbean's new number one restaurant for 2020. The restaurant is located at Cocobay Resort on the island's west coast and is known for its jaw-dropping view and incredible food and cocktails.





SUGAR RIDGE WINS AWARD IN THE 2019 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY AWARDS

Sugar Ridge Resort was named the Best Mixed-Use Development and the Best Residential Development in Antigua in the prestigious 2019 International Property Awards which celebrate the highest level of achievement by companies operating in all sectors of the property and real estate industry.



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA RANKED FIRST IN THE CARIBBEAN NATIONALITY INDEX

Antigua & Barbuda has taken first spot in the Caribbean for its quality of nationality. The country has an overall ranking at number 45 in the Quality of Nationality Index formulated by Dr Christian H Kälin and Professor Dmitry Kochenov with a value of 47.7%. Taking into account internal (such as the economic situation, human development, and peace and stability) and external factors (visa-free travel and the ease of settling abroad), the index is the first of its kind to objectively rank the quality of nationalities worldwide.

TALISKER WHISKY ATLANTIC CHALLENGE TO CONTINUE TO FINISH IN ANTIGUA FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS

Tourism officials have renewed the contract for the world-famous Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge to culminate in Antigua for the next five years. The 3,000 nautical-mile race that starts in the Canary Islands and ends at Nelson's Dockyard in Antigua, is dubbed "the world's toughest row" and puts the twin islands in the international spotlight each year. Last year's Team Antigua Island Girls contributed to the attention the islands received as the first all-female Caribbean as well as the first all-black team to ever cross the Atlantic by rowboat.



NEW SUSTAINABLE HOTEL BRAND NEEM AVENUE DRAMATICALLY CUTS SINGLE USE PLASTIC IN THE CARIBBEAN

Hotel Toiletries Brand Neem Avenue has launched in the Caribbean and aims to eliminate over 100,000 single-use plastic bottles in Antigua by December 2020. The average hotel bathroom throws away almost 1,000 single-use plastic bottles a year. Neem Avenue produce natural, organic products which are inspired by the Caribbean's ingredients, oceans and fragrances and are supplied in unique, large refillable bottles in hotel rooms. The brand has already been introduced in Blue Waters Resort & Spa with great feedback and there are plans to expand into other hotels in the Caribbean in the near future.





TWIN ISLANDS TO RECEIVE FUNDING FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT BY THE ADFD

In the seventh cycle of the IRENA/ADFD (Abu Dhabi Fund for Development/International Renewable Energy Agency) Project Facility, it has been confirmed that US\$ 105 million has been allocated for eight renewable energy projects in developing countries.

This cycle represents a record level of funding since the facility was launched. Antigua & Barbuda will benefit from this initiative enabling it to continue its adoption of renewable energy and low-carbon sustainable economic development.

THE RORC 600 WILL BE HOSTED IN ANTIGUA FOR ANOTHER FIVE YEARS

The government of Antigua & Barbuda has also secured the continued hosting of the prestigious RORC (Royal Ocean Racing Club) 600 for the next five years which adds to the busy calendar of sailing events held in the twin islands each year. The 100th anniversary celebration of the event will take place in 2025. This year, teams from 39 nations and over 74 vessels descended on Antigua for the 12th annual race.



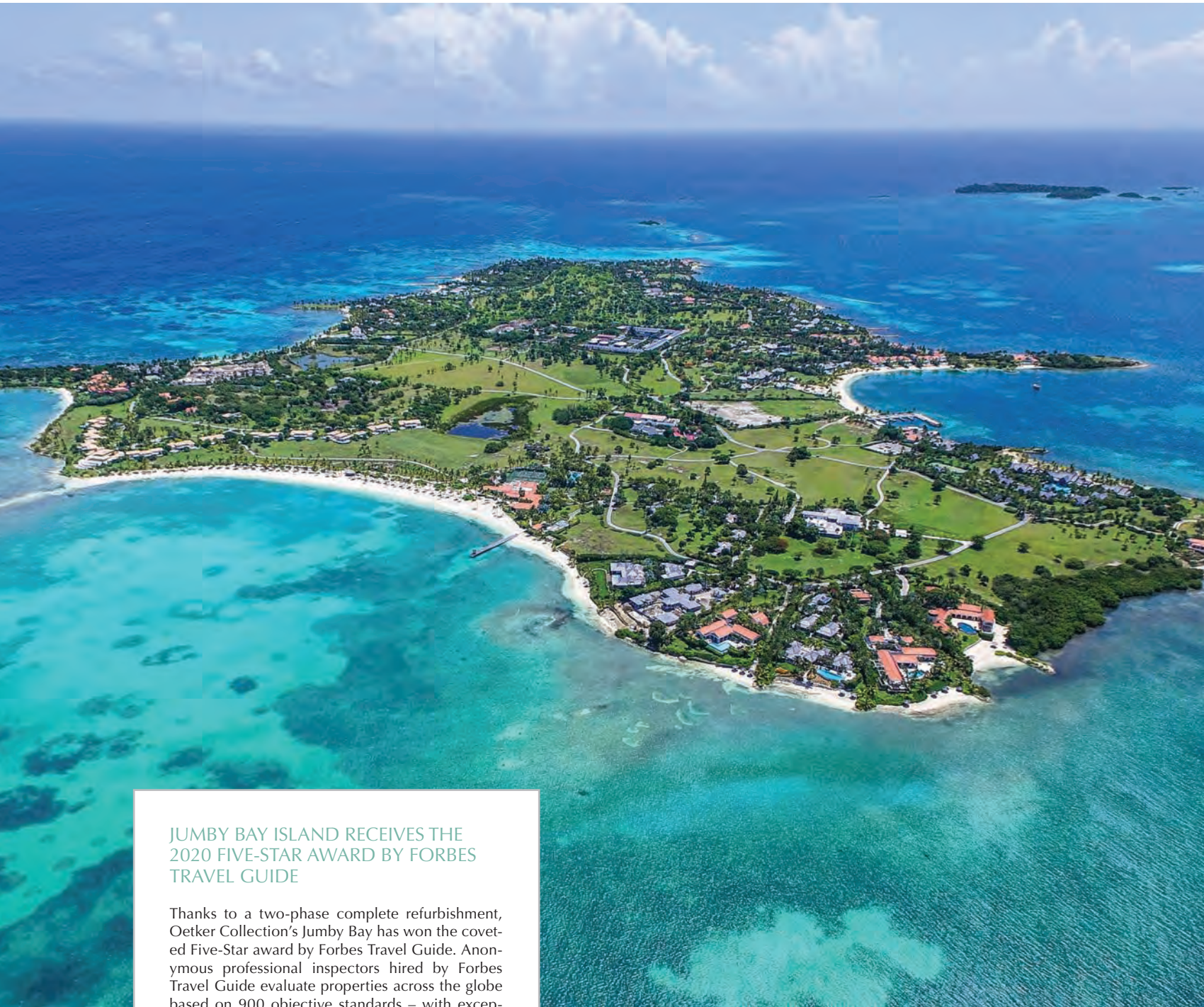
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA HAS STRONGEST PASSPORT IN THE OECS

The Antigua & Barbuda passport is now the strongest in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) thanks to recent visa-waiver agreements with nations such as the United Arab Emirates, India and Russia. As well as the countries of the EU including the UK, citizens of the twin islands have visa-free entry to 165 jurisdictions including 124 sovereign states, 13 British Overseas Territories, 10 overseas Departments and Collectivities of France, six Dutch territories and three other European countries.



MORE ACCOLADES FOR ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

At the 2019 Caribbean Tourism Organisation's (CTO) Media Awards held during the World Travel Market in December in the UK, the Antigua & Barbuda Tourism Authority (ABTA) won several awards for Best Social Media Campaign, Best Broadcast Feature, and Best Consumer Feature.



JUMBY BAY ISLAND RECEIVES THE
2020 FIVE-STAR AWARD BY FORBES
TRAVEL GUIDE

Thanks to a two-phase complete refurbishment, Oetker Collection's Jumby Bay has won the coveted Five-Star award by Forbes Travel Guide. Anonymous professional inspectors hired by Forbes Travel Guide evaluate properties across the globe based on 900 objective standards – with exceptional service a key metric for the awarding of this honour.

SEVERAL ANTIGUAN PROPERTIES WIN AT WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS 2020

In the 2020 World Travel Awards, it was prizes all around for Antiguan properties. Jumby Bay Island won Antigua & Barbuda's leading resort while Blue Waters Resort & Spa and The Inn at English Harbour won best hotel and best boutique hotel respectively.

In recognition of its eco credentials, Curtain Bluff took home the honours for the Caribbean's Leading Green Resort while Sandals Grande Antigua Resort & Spa was named the Caribbean's Most Romantic Resort.

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA REACH TOURIST MILESTONE

On 31st December 2019, the twin islands received its 300,000th stay-over visitor for the year. This was the first time in the islands' history that this milestone has been reached and represented a new tourism record. The country experienced year-over-year growth every month in 2019, with increases in tourism arrivals from all the key markets; in particular the US, Caribbean and the UK.

EDUCATION FEATURES PROMINENTLY IN 2020 BUDGET

In January's 2020 Budget, Prime Minister Browne announced that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology would be receiving the highest allocation of the EC\$1.7 billion Budget. This allocation is in line with the government's commitment to education to help continue the nation's trajectory of economic growth and foreign investment. Receiving a total of EC\$151.6 million (US\$56 million), including EC\$18 million (US\$6.6 million) for the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus, the money is planned to be used for the expansion and refurbishing of schools and colleges and the awarding of scholarships.

ANTIGUA OPEN LIONFISH DERBY TO TAKE PLACE ON A YEARLY BASIS

The twin islands plan a yearly international lionfish tournament which will consist of a two-day festival in conjunction with the derby. Targeting the removal of shallow-water lionfish as well as increasing their commercialisation, there will be large cash pay-outs for the winners who catch the largest number of fish. Attracting the attention of professional and recreational divers, lionfish hunters and vendors, the events will bring the lionfish issue into the spotlight and educate the public about the importance of marine conservation. As well as family activities, music and mini lectures, there will be lionfish cookoffs with some of the islands' top chefs.



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ECONOMIC OFFICE ESTABLISHED IN THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE)

During a recent visit to Dubai, Prime Minister Browne established Antigua & Barbuda's first ever economic office in the country. The plan is to upgrade the office to an embassy in the future. As well as the UAE being a "mover and shaker" in the region, Antigua & Barbuda have received interest from UAE investors in various projects, including Marriott Courtyard and the One & Only.

Dubai is also one of the best market-places for the Citizenship by Investment programme outside of China.



TWIN ISLANDS WELCOME 241 NEW CIP CITIZENS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2019

The Citizen by Investment Unit (CIU) has announced that 241 people became Citizen by Investment (CIP) registered citizens of Antigua & Barbuda in the first six months of 2019.

The figures for the second half of the year are expected to be released later this year.

TWIN ISLANDS RANK HIGHLY IN 2019 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The United Nations' Human Development Report (HDR) has ranked Antigua & Barbuda 74th out of 189 countries, placing the twin-island nation in the high human development category. The HDR is a holistic way to measure countries' progress beyond only economic growth. The report, which was published in December, presents the 2018 Human Development Index (HDI) for 189 countries and United Nations recognised territories.

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA IN TOP THREE OF FASTEST-GROWING ECONOMIES IN THE REGION IN 2019

According to the Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean's (ECLAC) Preliminary Overview of Latin America and the Caribbean, Antigua & Barbuda was the third-fastest growing economy in the region in 2019 with 6.2% growth. Only Dominica and Anguilla had more growth than the twin islands.

ANTIGUA FEATURES IN US REALITY PROGRAMME

Below Deck, a popular reality programme shown on Bravo, was recently filmed in Antigua & Barbuda. The show chronicles the lives of young crew members who reside aboard a superyacht while it takes on charters in tropical locations around the globe. The new season is due to be broadcast later this year and will highlight the many attractions of Antigua while capturing the ups, downs and dramas of the crew of the MY Seanna.

NEW DORMITORIES TO BE BUILT AT THE UWI

The construction of new dormitories at the University of the West Indies (UWI) Five Islands Campus will commence in the near future. The idea is that the dorms will be ready for the arrival of OECS students at the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year in September. The project will cost EC\$10 million (US\$3.7 million).

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NEW TOURISM SHOWS LAUNCHED

With the surge of new “virtual” holidays, ABTA has launched two tourism shows on Facebook and Instagram. The first, In the Mix on every Thursday at 10am, features the islands’ best mixologists shaking up some delicious island cocktails. Wadadli Eats is shown on Fridays and showcases some of the finest chefs demonstrating delicious recipes to get viewers in a Caribbean mood no matter where they are watching from.

NEW LOGO FOR ANTIGUA & BARBUDA CARIFESTA FESTIVAL

The new logo for Antigua & Barbuda CARIFESTA XV has been unveiled. The next edition of the pan-Caribbean festival will take place in Antigua in August 2021 and is a celebration of the region’s culture. The logo incorporates several of the islands’ national symbols such as the majestic frigate bird and the legendary black pineapple; considered the sweetest pineapple in the world. The windmill represents the sugar production from colonial times, whilst the green blades of the mill demonstrate the islands dedication to climate change and reducing their ecological footprint.





ROYAL CARIBBEAN PLANS BEACH CLUB IN ANTIGUA

In February 2019, Royal Caribbean International signed an agreement with the government to develop its first Royal Beach Club in Fort James, customised for its cruise guests. Set along more than half a mile of glorious beachfront, and with plans to include private cabanas, swimming pool with swim-up bar, and a variety of locally inspired experiences, the property will provide Royal Caribbean's signature service and amenities.

BARBUDA'S FIRST OCEAN FESTIVAL A GREAT SUCCESS

Barbuda hosted its first ever Ocean Festival last November. A collaboration between the Waitt Institute's Blue Halo Foundation and the Barbuda Fisheries Division together with BarbudaGO, a non-governmental organisation, the event promoted fishing regulations at the same time as having a great day out. Well-known chefs from the island got together with locals to enjoy a seasonal lobster and conch cookoff and a swimming competition also took place. The event was successful in involving the local community to come together and protect their lagoon and ocean which is vital for the future of the island.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HOSTED AT THE UWI FIVE ISLANDS CAMPUS

The first conference to be held at the UWI Five Islands Campus since its inauguration in September 2019, took place in January. The conference on migration policies was organised by the European-Latin America and Caribbean (EU-LAC) Foundation. The two-day event played host to delegates, including representatives of the Antigua & Barbuda government, experts from Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, international organisations, the private sector, academics and activists. The conference was aimed at improving migrant policies and fostering closer connections between states of origin and their migrants.

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A man and a woman are walking hand-in-hand on an airfield. The woman is wearing a beige cardigan over a white top, a matching skirt, and a large white and orange tote bag. The man is wearing a brown V-neck sweater over a light-colored shirt and khaki pants. They are both smiling and looking at each other. In the background, there is a private jet and a blue car. The scene is set against a clear blue sky.

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