

Caribbean Move Planner Checklist (USA)

A printable planner for Americans moving to the Caribbean. Work top to bottom: confirm the route first, then the island, then the paperwork.

Step 1 · Confirm your route

- ☐ Check eligibility for citizenship or residency by descent (parent or grandparent born in the Caribbean).
- ☐ Check marriage or family sponsorship options through a spouse, parent or child.
- ☐ Check work permit or employer sponsorship possibilities for your profession.
- ☐ Check self-employment, investor or business licence requirements.
- ☐ Check retirement, pensioner or income-based residency thresholds.
- ☐ Check digital nomad / remote-work stamps (Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Dominica, Montserrat, Curaçao).
- ☐ Check citizenship by investment minimums (Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia).
- ☐ Check whether a CARICOM skills certificate applies to you.

Step 2 · Shortlist islands that support your route

- ☐ Confirm the route exists in each shortlisted country and read the official requirements page.
- ☐ Compare cost of living, healthcare quality and school options for your family.
- ☐ Check flight connections to the US cities you will travel back to.
- ☐ Note any minimum physical-presence or renewal conditions.

Step 3 · US-side obligations

- ☐ Plan for continued US tax filing on worldwide income while living abroad.
- ☐ Note FBAR / FATCA reporting for any Caribbean bank account you open.
- ☐ Arrange private international or local health cover — Medicare generally does not cover care abroad.
- ☐ Research vehicle import duties and returning-national concessions.
- ☐ Identify every document that will need an apostille.

Step 4 · First six months

- ☐ Month 1: confirm route, shortlist islands, price the total move (not just the application fee).
- ☐ Month 2: order vital records, request apostilles, start the FBI or state police clearance.
- ☐ Month 3: gather financial evidence, health cover quotes, employer or business documentation.
- ☐ Month 4: submit the application through the correct authority or licensed agent.
- ☐ Months 5-6: arrange shipping, schooling, housing and banking; prepare for interview or biometrics.

Important note

Island Legacy Consultancy provides consultancy and preparation support only. We do not guarantee visa, residency or citizenship approval, and this checklist is general information rather than regulated immigration or legal advice. Requirements, costs and timelines change by country — always confirm current rules with the relevant authority or a regulated adviser.