WELCOME TO THE TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS. PLEASE ENJOY OUR BEAUTIFUL ISLANDS AND HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS. HELP US TO KEEP IT THIS WAY BY ABIDING BY THE FOLLOWING NATIONAL PARK RULES AND ETIQUETTE GUIDELINES. PLEASE USE YOUR COMMON SENSE AND PRESERVE OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

#### **NATIONAL PARK RULES & ETIQUETTE**

- 1. Do not litter: Please remove all your trash including cigarette butts. Be mindful of the wind blowing trash into the sea.
- 2. It is illegal to remove corals, sand, shells and wildlife, whether dead or alive, from the beach or ocean.
- 3. No fishing of any kind is permitted in protected areas including 'catch and release' or conch and lobster fishing.
- 4. Do not feed the wildlife including fish, birds and reptiles.
- Do not walk on the sand dunes, please stay on the walkways and watch out for iguana burrows on the uninhabited cays.
- 6. Dogs must be on a leash.
- 7. No open fires without a DEMA license.
- Please keep noise to a minimum and be conscious of other National Park users.

#### **SNORKEL & DIVE ETIQUETTE**

- Do not stand on or touch the coral; it is a living animal and you will harm it.
- Watch your fins when snorkeling or diving; try to keep your body flat and your fins up to prevent coral damage. Also try to avoid kicking the sand so that the fine particles do not smoother and choke the living coral.
- Do not feed, harass or remove the marine-life, even if it appears dead.
- 4. Please use biodegradable suntan lotion whenever possible.
- 5. Allow adequate time for suntan lotions to soak into skin before going into the water.
- 6. Swimmers and snorkelers should watch out for boats at all times and stay out of boat access lanes (marked by red and green markers) that go out at right angles from the beach in the Grace Bay area. Safe swimming areas are marked by lines of white buoys in front of most of the hotels/resorts.

To see the full list of TCI Environmental Laws and Regulations including the Turks and Caicos National Park and Fisheries ordinances please visit: www.environment.tc

#### **BOATING REGULATIONS & ETIQUETTE**

- 1. Follow boating 'Rules of the Road' at all times.
- 2. Watch out for other users such as divers, snorkelers, kayakers, paddle-boarders and sailing craft.
- *3.* Jet skis or similar PWC are not permitted within protected areas.
- 4. There is a speed limit of 15mph in all National Marine Parks except in a designated water ski zone.
- Within protected areas, waterskiing and other towing sports are only permitted inside designated areas and it is a legal requirement for these vessels to have a dedicated crew member to act as a spotter.
- 6. Vessels must use the boat access lanes when approaching the beach in Grace Bay on Providenciales.
- For safety reasons it is highly recommended that all vessels reduce speed to 5mph or less when operating within approximately 330ft or 100m of the shoreline anywhere in the Turks and Caicos Islands.
- 8. The Leeward-Going-Through (or Leeward Channel) is a natural harbour containing several docks and marinas. It also lies adjacent to the Princess Alexandra Nature Reserve, a natural nursery ground and wildlife habitat. Proper boating etiquette and the 'rules of the road' dictate that all vessels treat this channel as a no wake zone and travel at 5mph or less from one end of the channel to the other.
- 9. Do not anchor on coral reefs or grass beds. Please use permanent moorings where available. When using an anchor, place it in clear sand only. If possible, swim the anchor and chain down to ensure a proper placement.
- Use the correct mooring for the size of vessel and allow plenty of scope to avoid unnecessary wear and tear of mooring line and pin.
- 11. It is not permitted to anchor within 300ft of a mooring.
- 12. Fishing of any kind in a protected area and from a designated dive or snorkel mooring is illegal.

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# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION FOR VISITORS AND RESIDENTS



### PROVIDENCIALES, TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.

## **MAP OF PROTECTED AREAS IN & AROUND PROVIDENCIALES**

