

Passenger Picks

www.PassengerPicks.com

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About My Hobby:

My name is Val Kegel, and my goal is to add value to your vacation experience. I've been flying Cayman turnarounds for five years now. During that time I've asked hundreds of passengers' four questions:



- Where did you stay on the island?
- What businesses gave you the best service?
- What was your favorite restaurant experience?
- What was your favorite activity or hidden surprise that you would like to do again?

Their opinions are printed here. One thing about passengers...they'll always tell you "what's hot and what's not!" I've received such good advice; I had to share it; thus the beginning of this *Fun Fact Sheet*, which led to my website: passengerpicks.com. You can only put so much on one page! *I only ask, please pay your experience forward and contact me at passengerpicks.com & place a comment on "Island Buzz", or email me at passengerpicks@gmail.com with pictures and more advice for future travelers.*

General Advice:

- Go to my web site www.Passengerpicks.com & get all the info on Cayman - check **Island Buzz**, **Best Values** and **front page specials** for the latest news.
- Plan **Georgetown** shopping days opposite cruise ship schedules...available at Kirk Freeport, or at www.caymanport.com/shipschedules.php
- Rent a Car from **Andy's**. Most reasonable and reliable. Andy's has a frequent user discount.
- Public transportation is easy: look for white vans \$2.50 US or \$2.00 CI. Just raise your hand!
- Use **Lime!** for local and long-distance calls in the Cayman Islands. Free Wi-Fi at GCM airport!
- Turn off smart phones, or place on airplane mode to avoid expensive roaming charges.
- In baggage claim, pick up *Destination Cayman & Good Taste: Key to Cayman* magazines.
- In grocery store pick up copies of *What's Hot*, or *The Observer* for weeks happenings & discounts. Tons of coupons in *Cayman Activity Guide*.

Top Mini Trips:

- Rum Point:** Hop in your rental car and head to Cayman's quiet north side, a favorite for locals and visitors. On the way check out **Wreck Bar**, a Rum Point landmark for lunch, "Mud Slides", and frosty drinks on the beach. Eat at **Kaibo Bar & Grill** - try the grilled Mahi-Mahi sandwich! Also eat at **Rum Point Pier** - excellent viewing huge tarpon & few barracudas.
- Go To Hell:** Just north of Seven Mile Beach in West Bay. Visit the tacky gift shop, see "the devil" himself. Behind the shop, see the thousand-year-old calcareous rock, blackened by fungus, leading to its name. Be sure to mail a postmarked card from Hell!
- Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park.** Nature and Beauty at its best
- Turtle Farm** at Boatswains Beach: new 30-acre marine theme park & expansion of the *Cayman Turtle Farm*, where sea turtles conservation is a priority.
- Black Pearl:** world's largest skate board track & great wave machine water park, near Savannah!
- Camana Bay:** this lively town is just minutes east of Seven Mile Beach and is thriving with fine food, entertainment, fashion and fun. **Black Trumpet** is a must for lunch!
- Caybrew** - Has a brewery you can tour. FREE BEER! Try their newest brew: *White Tip*. Ask for Toni, she gives a great tour! Near Savannah.

Shopping:

- Georgetown** - Duty Free shopping at its best.
- Kirk Freeport** – The best reputation on the island for fine jewelry, watches and perfumes. They take excellence to the next level!
- Tortuga Rum Factory** – The best rum cakes in the world, hand glazed with a ladle of oak barreled aged rum from an old family recipe. Take the tour! (not far from the airport)
- Every Bloomin' Thing** - gifts, floral designs, & garden center.
- Pure Art** - a favorite for all kinds of art treasures!
- Camana Bay** - just minutes east of Seven Mile Beach.

Fishing:

- Real Esea Charters** - offers deep sea fishing as well as inshore and offshore reef fishing. You can have it arranged to have your catch cooked up at Morgan's Harbor Marina and Restaurant.
- Captain Marvin's** – offers deep sea fishing to search for that big marlin, tuna or wahoo; or the reef for grouper, snapper, and jacks.

Top Attractions:

- World Famous Stingray City** – in 2-6' of water, or at a 12' dive site, everyone-w/ or w/o snorkel can feed, kiss & swim w/friendly Southern Atlantic stingrays. **Captain Marvin's** boat with a restroom, & a photographer who burns photo CD's on the boat. **Tours Cayman** boat for family friendly pricing & meet their trained green moray eel. Will pick you up!. *Always book in afternoon to avoid cruise ship crowds.*
- Bioluminescence Tour with Cayman Kayak** - Short Rum Point kayak ride is rewarded with an enchanting display of underwater light created by plants/creatures.
- Cayman Helicopter** A must aviation adventure! See the island from the best view and get the best photos.
- Bio Boat Tour with KiteHouse** For the whole family with relaxing trip under the stars don't miss the mysterious disco shrimp. Mike is so informative!
- Cayman Sea Elements Mangrove & Sea grass Snorkel Tour** - experience beautiful mangrove forests *Boat Tour* or guided *Mangrove & Sea grass Tour*.
- Dolphin Cove** - Fulfill your dream of swimming with Bottle Nose Dolphins at their Caribbean home.
- Spirit of the West** – Trek along the beach atop one of their magnificent horses, experience ride of a lifetime!
- Kittiwake** - Decommissioned US naval ship sunk off SMB 1/5/11. Snorkel at 15 feet, dive at 50 feet! One of Scuba Diving Magazine's "World's 16 Best Wreck Dives". Dive it with **Dive Tech**, or **Ocean Frontier**.

Diving/Snorkeling:

- Recommended Dive Operations** - **Dive Tech** (West Bay) well organized outstanding technical divers, at **Cobalt Coast Dive Resort**; **Ocean Frontiers** (East End); at **Compass Point Dive Resort**, enjoy full valet diving experience, take the Green Shorts challenge! **Red Sail Sports** has many locations at several resorts **Don Fosters** (south of Georgetown) will pick you up and custom make your dive experience. Great rates on 2 or 1 tank dives. Ask for Sergio or Cally.
- Best Dive Sites** – (Divers note: the North Walls are considered the best of the best walls to dive)
 - ✓ **Babylon** and **Julie's Wall** - on the north side.
 - ✓ **Trinity Caves** - off the north end of 7 mile beach, a maze of canyon trails at 60 to 100 ft.
 - ✓ Go to passengerpicks.com for more dive sites.
- Best Snorkeling** - Eden Rock, Sunset House, Cobalt Coast, Light House Point Turtle Reef, Smith Cove beach, Treasure Island Beach, Rum Point, Pirates Inn, Parrots Landing, Coconut Harbor, Cemetery Reef, Frank Sound, Governor's Reef by Westin. My favorite Cayman Snorkel site is: snorkelblog.tumblr.com



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Best VALues:

- Use **Lime!** for cell phone needs.
- **Best Breakfast Deal - Cimboco** \$5 for 5 items M-F! Also **TimBucTuu** \$5 all you can eat pancakes.
- **Coconut Joes** - All you can eat pancakes for \$5 until 12/1. Taco Tuesday, Fish Friday. Happy Hour VALues
- **Guy Harvey's** - Special \$9.99 meals all year long. Great for Families! Ask for Bruno
- **Tortuga Rum Cake** best price at Tortuga Rum stores w/Cayman Activity Guide 11% off coupon.
- The **Hot Food Bar** at **Kirks Foods** and **Fosters Foods** for a quick, reasonable take out. Supermarkets
- **Sunshine Grill** for best burgers and fish taco's.
- For best affordable ocean view **Alfredo's** (West Bay); and **Over the Edge** (north side) most popular.
- **Italian Kitchen** – (east end) family friendly, great food.
- **PRIME** Little ones eat for free come with appetite!
- **Deckers** All you can eat Lobster Tues & Sat

Top Dining:

- **Best Steak: Copperfalls** - has amazing service. Bartender Sergio is hands down best on island. The best steak you'll ever put in your mouth.
- **Osetra Bay** – Romantic sophisticated dining experience. Passengers say great choice for last night on island, but excellent any night. Ask for James.
- **Agua Restaurant** - great seafood, superb ceviche, Tuna Tartar outstanding. Big buzz - Sunday Brunch!
- **Best French: Guy Harvey** - a definite French influence, strongly infused with Caribbean flavors. Chef Bruno personally picks fish to insure the freshest.
- **Tukka** – A mixture of Caribbean/International dishes with an Aussie fusion twist. Dine on the Ocean front balcony or on the beach. It truly is the Island side of Cayman.
- **Best Italian: Casanova's** - Awesome water front dining, family friendly focus. **Ragazzi** has a following of it's own, a must try!. **Edoardo's**, and **Pappagalio**.
- **la Dolce Vita** –Excellent authentic Italian cuisine, incredible ocean view. Fresh pasta made every day!
- **Luca** – Everything made fresh from breads, to pastas, to desserts. Has best wine select on on island.
- **Blue Cilantro**- newest restaurant, hearing great things
- **Agave Grill** - best Mexican, Tequila shrimp quesadilla!

- **Lobster Pot**- favorite fish & lobster dishes, great lunch specials, unique conch fritters, fabulous ocean view.
- **Best Oriental: Bamboo** - Great sushi and martini bar. Also good is **Yoshi Sushi** for sushi; and **Thai Orchid**.
- **Periwinkle** – family friendly, outdoor amphitheater movie for kids, simple, authentic Italian cuisine, at Ritz.
- **Ortanique** - (Camana Bay) - Full Moon Night Reservation required sells out fast!
- **Roland's Garden!** NOT a restaurant, you eat what the German 5 star retired chef cooks. Pay him what you think the experience is worth! New Lawrence Ave. loc.
- **Best Seafood: Calypso Grill** - best crab cakes, all the fish entrees superb, don't miss Sticky Toffee Pudding.

Best Breakfast:

- **Cimboco** - Five items for \$5.00. Best skillet.
- **Coconut Joes** best hash browns, \$5 all u eat p-cakes.
- **Eats** - family friendly. Good value.
- **Treats** - best French toast, superb pancakes.
- **TimBucTuu** - Stop b4 turtle farm. Great egg wraps.

Best Brunch:

- **Agua** –Outstanding Sunday brunch. Fresh, cold buffet w/lots seafood, hot buffet, champagne or Bloody Mary.
- **Luca** – A great Sunday choice. Beach views. More breakfast-type foods, with a more intricate menu.
- **Tukka** - East End Brunch has really taken off.
- **Guy Harvey** - Has an awesome authentic local Caribbean brunch at a great price. Georgetown.
- **Westin** - always a favorite, continues to wow the crowds with their famous brunch.

Best Lunch:

- **Sunshine Grill** - Best burgers & fish tacos, family friendly, free ice cream cones. Try famous Pain Killer.
- **Black Trumpet** - Best deli on island, get their famous corn beef and cookies to die for. Camana Bay.
- **Hard Rock** - An outstanding burger. Families love the memorabilia, hats and great milk shakes. Georgetown.
- **Guy Harvey** - Has great seafood and you can't beat their \$9.99 lunch specials. Georgetown.
- **Tiki Beach Bar and Grill** - Best oceanfront lunch environment, great for families! Seven Mile Beach.
- **Cracked Conch/Mucabuca** – snorkel/lunch it with a relaxing ocean view. Best conch on island.
- **Sunset House** Great Caribbean fused Indian food!
- **Al La Kebab** – best healthy wraps and sandwiches.
- **Morgan's Harbor** - Excellent seafood, ceviche. For lunch: "Jerk Burger" with a fresh blackberry mojito!

- **Michael's Genuine** - great salads, sandwiches, pizzas
- **Hemmingway's** – great lunch specials.
- **Abacus** - A local favorite, food is Fabulous!

Best Deli and Bakeries

- **Best Deli: Black Trumpet** - when in Camana Bay, must stop at this Deli. Get the Corn beef and COOKIES. Only NYC compares to this awesome deli.
- **Best Bakery/cakes - Cayman Cupcake** Check out my website - see variety they can do for your event.
- **Treats** – Best cheesecake and wedding cakes, passengers love their waffles and pancakes.

Local Cuisine:

- **Chicken Chicken** - family restaurant famous for its delicious, Caribbean Wood Roasted Chicken.
- **Champion House, Vivine's, Arlene's** great local flav!
- **Norma Jean's BBQ** Thu, Fri, Sat at West Bay public dock. Her dad **Chef John's** BBQ at Seven Mile and east end. Best BBQ sauce on island.

Best Bar & Grill - Happy Hours:

- **Fidel Murphy's** - best Irish bar and beef stew.
- **Breezes** – fun countdown to sundown, live bands.
- **Kaibo Bar & Grill**, and **Wreck Bar** at Rum Point.
- **Tiki Beach Bar and Grill** - best Ocean front environment. Best for families! Love their Latin Night!
- **Calico Jacks** - best beach bar and volleyball, beautiful sunsets, delicious local dishes and entertaining staff.
- **Wine Down** - best wine bar (Governor's Square).
- **Michael's Genuine, Mucabuca, Royal Palms, Hard Rock Café, Karma** have the best Happy Hours.
- **Hammerheads** and **Rackams** - best Sports Bars.
- **Legenz** and **Dog House** (home of 3 lb. burger) are the Best Sports Bars where the local's hang!

For more details on everything in this *Fun Fact Sheet* and more, go to www.passengerpicks.com.

Emergencies:

Chrissie Tomlinson Private Hospital has a 24 hour emergency facility with fast service, on-site pharmacy, and they have a follow-up well service that will check in on you. Phone: (345) 949-6066.

Disclaimer: Passenger Picks suggestions are not endorsed by Delta Airlines or Val Kegel, but by frequent visitors to Cayman Islands.