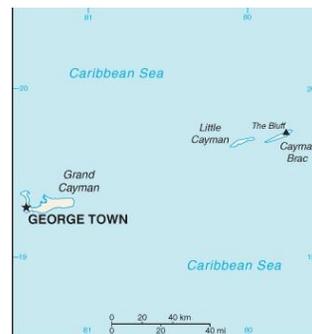


# CAYMAN ISLANDS



## INTRODUCTION

The Cayman Islands were colonized from Jamaica by the British during the 18th and 19th centuries and were administered by Jamaica after 1863. In 1959, the islands became a territory within the Federation of the West Indies. When the Federation dissolved in 1962, the Cayman Islands chose to remain a British dependency.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

Queen ELIZABETH II  
represented by Governor Martyn ROPER

### Head of Government

Premier Wayne PANTON

### Government Type

Overseas Territory of the UK with limited self-government; parliamentary democracy

### Capital

George Town

### Legislature

unicameral Legislative Assembly (21 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 264 sq km  
Land: 264 sq km  
Water: 0 sq km

### Climate

tropical marine; warm, rainy summers (May to October) and cool, relatively dry winters (November to April)

### Natural Resources

fish, climate and beaches that foster tourism

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

dominant offshore banking territory; services sector accounts for over 85% of economic activity; recently adopted a fiscal responsibility framework to combat tax evasion and money laundering; large tourism sector; does not have any welfare system; high standard of living

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$4.591 billion (2018 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$71,550 (2018 est.)

**Industries** - tourism, banking, insurance and finance, construction, construction materials, furniture

**Agricultural products** - vegetables, fruit, livestock, turtle farming

**Exports** \$421.9 million (2017 est.)

recreational boats, gold, broadcasting equipment, sulfates, collector's items (2019)

**partners:** Netherlands 82%, Spain 11% (2019)

**Imports** \$787.3 million (2017 est.)

recreational boats, ships, gold, refined petroleum, cars (2019)

**partners:** Netherlands 56%, US 18%, Italy 8%, Switzerland 5% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

63,130 (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

1.87% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

mixed 40%, White 20%, African descent 20%, expatriates of various ethnic groups 20%

### Language

English (official) 90.9%, Spanish 4%, Filipino 3.3%, other 1.7%, unspecified 0.1% (2010 est.)

### Religion

Protestant 67.8%, Roman Catholic 14.1%, Jehovah's Witness 1.1%, other 7%, none 9.3%, unspecified 0.7% (2010 est.)

### Urbanization

urban population: 100% of total population (2021)  
rate of urbanization: 1.13% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

### Literacy

98.9% (2007)

