

Natural-Hazard Island Guide

Breakdown of Selected Risk Factors

Wondering how to avoid calamity on your next island vacation? The charts below look at some of the best and worst destinations for several environmental and logistical hazards - high winds, sunburn, inaccessible airports and shark attacks. To find out how 40 popular islands fared overall in our rankings, see [The Wall Street Journal's complete Natural-Hazard Island Guide.](#)

Average Wind Speeds

Windiest	Average Wind Speed (mph)	Callest	Average Wind Speed (mph)
Aruba	17.2	Tuvalu	6.1
British Virgin Islands	16.1	Dominican Republic	5.9
Bonaire	15.9	Lombok (Indonesia)	5.6
St. Lucia	15.3	Sulawesi (Indonesia)	5.2
Galapagos (Ecuador)	15	Sri Lanka	3

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Quickest Getaways

These 10 non-U.S. islands have the greatest number of direct flights available from the U.S.

Island	Direct flights from U.S.
Bahamas	135
Aruba	65
Bermuda	61
Jamaica	57
Grand Cayman (Cayman Isl.)	39
Barbados	35
Curacao	15
St. Lucia	13
Dominican Republic	10

Source: Eclat Consulting

Shark Attacks

Island	Attacks in 2004
Hawaii	3
Reunion Island (France)	3
Bahamas	1
Fiji	1
Cuba	1

Source: Florida Museum of Natural History

UV Risk

UV radiation is a risk factor for skin cancer and other illnesses. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Global Solar UV Index measures radiation on a scale of 1 ("low") to 11+ ("extreme").

High-UV Exposure	Index in January	Low-UV Exposure	Index in January
Galapagos (Ecuador)	13	Martha's Vineyard (U.S.)	2
Tahiti	13	Azores (Portugal)	2
Lombok (Indonesia)	13	Sicily (Italy)	2
Bali (Indonesia)	13	Prince Edward Island (Can.)	1
Mauritius	13	Corsica (France)	1
Fiji	13		

Source: NOAA