



## Fact Sheet: Overview of the Cayman Islands

**Capital** ..... George Town, Grand Cayman (GMT-5; -6 GMT during daylight savings).

**Location** ..... The three Cayman Islands – Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman – are located in the western Caribbean, about 150 miles south of Cuba; 460 miles south of Miami, Florida; and 167 miles northwest of Jamaica.

**Population**..... 60,413 in 2015.

**Reference terms**....The correct way to reference the Cayman Islands as a country is as '*the Cayman Islands*' or '*Cayman*'. Any other reference – including '*the Caymans*' or '*Grand Cayman Islands*', is incorrect.

**Currency**..... The Cayman Islands dollar (CI\$). It is on a fixed exchange rate to US dollar (US\$1.20=CI\$1.00).

**Status** ..... British Overseas Territory

**Government** ..... Head of State: Queen Elizabeth II  
Queen's Representative: Her Excellency the Governor,  
Helen Kilpatrick  
Elected Premier: Premier, the Hon. Alden McLaughlin  
Parliamentary democracy with judicial, executive and legislative branches:

The Judiciary comprises the Summary Court, which hears civil and criminal matters; the Grand Court; which hears applications for judicial review, cases on criminal, civil, family and estate matters and appeals from the Summary Courts. In addition to the general Civil and Criminal Divisions, it has three specialist Divisions: the Admiralty Division, the Family Division and the Financial Services Division.

The Court of Appeal is the highest court in the Cayman Islands in which civil and criminal appeals from the Grand and Summary Courts can be heard. The Privy Council is the highest court from which an appeal from the Court of Appeal can be heard.

The Legislative Assembly of the Cayman Islands is a unicameral legislature of 18 elected representatives for the Islands' six districts, and two ex-officio members who are appointed by the Governor, the Deputy Governor and the Attorney-General.

Cabinet comprises three official members and five elected members, chaired by the Governor. Government accumulates revenues through consumption-based measures (e.g., import duties, fees, etc.).

**Industries** ..... Financial services and tourism are the largest revenue earning sectors. Major trading partners are the U.S., Canada, U.K., EU and CARICOM countries.

### **Economic Indicators (2015)**

Nominal GDP ..... CI\$2.76 billion  
GDP per capita in real terms: ..... CI\$46,774  
GDP growth in real terms ..... 2.0 per cent  
Total imports ..... CI\$763 million  
Inflation: ..... (-2.3) per cent  
Unemployment rate..... 4.2 per cent



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Revised December 2016