

# CURAÇAO

12°06'22"N 68°56' 06.8'W

## COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Curaçao is a unique island in the Southern Caribbean, Located 35 miles off the northwestern coast of Venezuela. It is an autonomous country within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The island has an open and market driven economy where foreign investors are allowed to own property.

The economy of Curaçao is quite diversified with tourism, a highly developed international financial sector, logistics, oil processing and ICT as the most important economic pillars. The island also has good physical infrastructure, including many natural harbors, an upgraded airport, stable telecommunication and Internet connections. All this makes Curaçao a safe, secure and successful environment for investors.

**CAPITAL:**  
Willemstad

**POPULATION:**  
158,986

**SIZE:**  
171 sq. miles

**CURRENCY:**  
1 US\$ = 1.78 ANG  
(Netherlands Antillean Guilder)

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Due to Curaçao's strategic geographical position, sunny weather and sophisticated infrastructure, the island of Curaçao is able to offer trusted and value generating business and investment opportunities.

The island is often referred to as a destination for tourists in search of a different kind of experience (e.g. Eco, cultural, cruise, health and yachting tourism). Based on this, Curaçao is able, on the one hand, to accommodate (Greenfield) marinas and, on the other hand, to offer multiple investment and business opportunities regarding hotel and resort development and other tourism niche products like golf, medical and MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions).

Plenty of opportunities for both top segment and boutique hotel operators and investors are still available. The city center has specific waterfront sites and monumental existing buildings that respectively are ideal for boutique hotel development and can be easily converted in to exclusive properties. Outside the city center are a variety of specific site locations for new hotel developments for all types of tourists.

As Curaçao is large enough to accommodate multiple marinas, it can also tailor to multiple markets and yachting related services.

Curaçao's crystal clear blue oceans, colorful buildings, well-educated multilingual work force and a state of the art telecommunication infrastructure make it a unique destination for the film industry. The island has already been the site for various films and international TV programs. Curaçao is also home to one of the most advanced and modern data centers in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Curaçao is the base of several Transnational Education (TNE) institutions and facilities offering a wide range of programs to students from Europe, the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean. The government of Curaçao supports the development of the Transnational Education on the island. It has adopted the UNESCO guidelines for quality provision in cross-border higher education and facilitates the exchange of knowledge and information between the institutions and relevant economic sectors.

## INVESTMENT INCENTIVES

Curaçao offers a range of general incentives supporting international business and investments including:

- Tax incentives on inward capital investment
- Investment allowances
- Expatriate exemptions on income tax
- Tax holidays for substantial investments in local start-ups
- An investment permit that also allows residency, including family members.

Special tax incentives are available for enterprises that focus on exports or on doing business abroad, such as an export regime or a Free Zone.

These are part of a wide range of legal and financial benefits, which include asset protection, tax minimization, privacy and investment diversification. There are also incentives supporting companies that establish IT centers.

## OTHER INTERNATIONAL BENEFITS

Curaçao is one of the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) and as such has preferential access to the European Union. Products that are manufactured in Curaçao obtain preferential duties when imported

into the EU, having met certain criteria. Curaçao is also included in the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), a trade program initiated by the United States to facilitate economic development and exports from Caribbean Basin countries. The CBI provides duty-free access to the U.S. market for most goods.



**CINEX**  
CURAÇAO INVESTMENT & EXPORT  
PROMOTION AGENCY



## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Curaçao Investment and Export  
Promotion Agency (CINEX)**

AmiDos Building  
Pletterijweg 43, 1st floor  
T: +599 9 462 14 44  
M: +599 9 560 01 00  
info@curinvest.com  
office.curacao@curinvest.com  
www.curinvest.com

**Curaçao Tourist Board (CTB)**

Pietermaai 19, P.O. Box 3266  
T: +599 9 434 82 00  
info@curacao.com  
www.curacao.com