



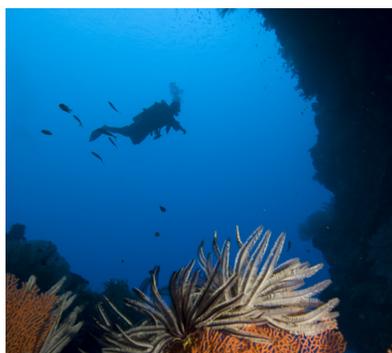
About Guam



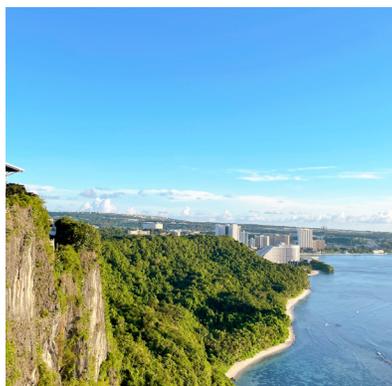
• AMERICA'S HIDDEN GEM

Guam, a US island territory in Micronesia, is located about 5,800 miles west of San Francisco, California and 1,600 miles east of Manila, Philippines. It is the largest, most populous, and southernmost of the Mariana Islands. Guam is about 9 miles wide and 30 miles long, covering about 212 square miles.

This picture-perfect island with lush tropical terrain along with urban areas within the island make it a desirable US destination for any traveler's bucket list. With its rich cultural heritage, pearly white beaches, vibrant food scene, tax-free luxury shopping, and jaw-dropping sunsets, Guam truly is *America's Hidden Gem*.



This lesser known Micronesian paradise was formed by the union of two volcanoes. A limestone in the plateau northern and southern sections of Guam joins the extinct volcanoes. Guam sits at 13.4443° north latitude and 144.7937° east longitude - about 250 miles southeast of the Marianas Trench, the deepest trench in the world. It is a diver's dream complete with wrecks, underwater caves, exotic reef systems, temperate tropical weather. Due to Guam's location on the other side of the International Date Line, it also happens to be referred as where "America's Day Begins".



• PEOPLE

The population of Guam is 154,000 (2020 US Census Bureau). Primary ethnic groups are CHamoru (37%), Filipino (26%), Pacific Islander (7%), Caucasian (7%) and other Asian ethnicities including Japanese, Korean and Chinese.

Over eighty-five percent of the population is Roman Catholic; the remaining percent is Presbyterian, Buddhist, Jehovah's Witness and Seventh Day Adventist.

• CLIMATE

The weather on Guam is warm throughout the year with less humidity from November through March. The mean annual temperature near sea level is about 81 F (27.2 C), with monthly means ranging from 80 F (26.7 C) in January to a little over 82 F (27.8 C) in June. Guam's climate is characterized by two distinct seasons: a dry season from January to May and a rainy season from July to November. June and December are transitional months. The easterly trade winds, usually between 4 and 12 miles per hour (mph), are dominant throughout the year.

• LANGUAGE

English and CHamoru are the official languages of Guam.



• GOVERNMENT

Guam is an organized, unincorporated territory of the United States, governed under the Organic Act of Guam, passed by the US Congress and approved by the president in 1950 - making all those born on Guam, US citizens.

It is ruled by a civilian government with three branches: executive, legislative and judicial. Guam's capital village is Hagåtña. Though it is the second smallest village, it is one of the island's major commercial districts.



● GENERAL INFORMATION

Time: Guam observes Chamorro Standard Time Zone (ChST). ChST is a United States time zone which observes standard time ten hours ahead of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC+10:00). Guam is only two hours ahead of the Philippines (PST).

Electricity Voltage: The electrical current is same as the US. Standard voltage is 110 V and the frequency is 60Hz.

Currency: The currency is the US Dollar. Banks and ATMs are available throughout the island. The Guam International Airport and some hotels offer foreign currency exchange.

Wi-Fi Rental: Ecom offers wi-fi rental; reserving online 24 hours prior to your Guam arrival is recommended. Pick up the device at airport booth or schedule hotel delivery.

http://guamecom.com/en/guamwifi_charge

● OUR HISTORY

The indigenous CHamorus, the first inhabitants of Guam, were expert seamen who built fast sailing outrigger canoes called proas for travel and trade with the surrounding islands. They navigated by the stars, waves and ocean flora and fauna with ease. It was believed that they traveled from Southeast Asia by canoe to the island more than 3,500 years ago. In addition to their seafaring tradition, the CHamoru people were expert weavers and pottery makers which are evidenced in their cultural artifacts and architecture that still exist today.

Guam's history is also one of multi-colonialism, with the last 400 years of Guam's history marked by administrations of three different colonial powers: Spain, the United States and Japan. The ceding of Guam to the US as an unincorporated territory after the Spanish-American War in 1898 introduced CHamorus to democratic principles of government and the modern American lifestyle, while keeping them subjects of a sometimes oppressive US Naval administration. Guam also had a unique position in World War II, when Japan invaded the island shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. For the next three years, Guam was the only US territory occupied by Japanese forces until the Americans returned in 1944 to reclaim the island. The political maneuverings after World War II and the post war buildup led to even more expansion of US military interests in Guam and the rest of Micronesia, with Guam becoming a hub for economic and commercial development. Today, it has a diverse population that enjoys a rich, multicultural, modern and urban lifestyle, yet continues to carry the indigenous spirit, language and culture of its people.

● TRAVEL TO GUAM

Guam is located in close proximity to many Asian countries including Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, and Taiwan. The average travel time to Guam from these key cities is 3.5 to 4.5 hours. It is the closest US destination in Asia.

The AB Won Pat Guam International Airport is located only two miles from Tumon Bay hotels. Air service to Guam is provided by the following carriers: United Airlines, Philippine Airlines, Japan Airlines, Korean Air, Jeju Air, Jin Air, and T'Way Air.





• ENTRY AND EXIT FORMALITIES

Entry requirements for Guam are the same as for any US destination. US citizens 18 years of age or older traveling domestically to Guam are required to present a REAL ID; or a valid US federal or state-issued photo ID and an original or certified copy of their birth certificate.

All eligible international travelers traveling to Guam without obtaining a US visa must complete Form I-736 for each trip. Citizens or nationals from one of the twelve countries participating in the Guam and Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI) visa waiver program (*Australia, Brunei, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan and the United Kingdom*) who travel to Guam or CNMI are required, with a few exceptions, to present a signed paper copy of the I-736 form upon arrival.

For any of the following conditions, an I-736 is not required:

1. If a traveler holds a valid visa for travel to the US.
2. If a traveler is a citizen of Australia, Brunei, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, or the United Kingdom and has a current ESTA enrollment.
3. If a traveler from PRC holds a valid visa for travel to the US and has a valid EVUS enrollment.

I-94 customs forms are no longer being accepted.

International travelers are advised to review the latest information released from official sources such as the US Department of State and the US Department of Homeland Security. The citizens of the Philippines who plan to travel to the United States for tourism purposes need to apply for a US Visa. <https://ph.usembassy.gov/visas/>

• ACCOMMODATIONS



Luxurious international-standard hotels are set in landscaped gardens on the beaches of Tumon Bay, the island's premier resort destination. A few hotels are also located in the southern and central parts of the island, along with a number of bed & breakfasts that can be searched on platforms such as Vrbo or Airbnb.

• ATTRACTIONS



Guam, an island rich in the Hafa Adai spirit, is filled with beauty, history and cultural tradition. Explore its beauty from the top of Two Lover's Point, one of the most iconic sites, offering lookout points that provide breathtaking views of the Philippine Sea over a plunging cliff face. Stop by Fort Santa Agueda / Fort Apugan, the only surviving Spanish fort in Hagatña, to observe the northern topography of Guam with its raised limestone plateau. Head south of the island to the CettiBay Overlook for a gorgeous view of the bay and surrounding foothills.

For adventure-seekers, plan a hike and visit one of Guam's 32 waterfalls or even the highest mountain on earth, Mount Lamlam. If that sounds unbelievable, consider that the mountain's base starts in the deepest part of the ocean, the Marianas Trench. Even though Lamlam (or "Lightning" in the Chamorro language) just only about 1,300 feet out of the water, technically speaking it beats out the more famous Himalayan peaks known for their imposing height.

Evidence of Guam's rich history lie in sites such as the Plaza de España, Latte Stone Park, War in the Pacific National Historical Park, the Guam Museum and the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral Basilica, most of which are located in Guam's capital city of Hagatña.

The Chamorro Village's Wednesday Night Market also located in Hagatña is an excellent display of Guam's cultural heritage in food, music, art and dance in one spot. From Yigo to Malesso, each of the 19 villages in Guam brings unique attributes to the island's culture that visitors should experience.

• TAX-FREE SHOPPING

Guam's robust shopping and high end retail scene includes international fashion houses, world-renowned brands, friendly retail staff and exciting tax-free deals, especially during holiday season at year's end.

Tumon is undeniably the center of Guam's fashion and shopping universe, with a numerous collection of boutiques within several stores including The DFS Guam Galleria, The Plaza along The Pleasure Island strip and the Tumon Sands Plaza. A brief walk or trolley ride along Pale San Vitores Road offers access to a world of style within the span of just a few blocks. Here luxury, elegance and fashion forward trends come together in air conditioned harmony, and the tune is always a sweet one.

Beyond Tumon, Guam has more shopping in store with three large malls: The Agana Shopping Center in Hagåtña, Guam Premier Outlets in Tamuning, and Micronesia Mall in Dededo. Each of these malls has a distinct flavor, and a different shopping experience is waiting within each. With an amazing amount of retail space to satisfy even the choosiest visitor to our shores, whatever one is looking for, it's a good bet they will find it on Guam.

Plus, American chains such as Ross Dress for Less, Kmart, and Home Depot will be sure to delight the savvy shopper. Guam has an ace in hand that makes it an irresistible winner with international shoppers: shopping on Guam is duty free. Tax free shopping just makes the game more exciting.

• ADVENTURE

The island's ocean is an open playground to water sports enthusiasts who enjoy swimming, windsurfing, kavaiking, snorkeling, jet skiing, kite boarding, parasailing and diving. The best snorkeling spots for both beginners and experienced snorkelers are on the protected reefs of the Tumon Bay Marine Preserve, the Piti Bomb Holes and in the southern village of Merizo. For divers, Guam's diving environment is rated the top twenty percent in the world. Because of the island's close location to the Marianas Trench, Guam has one of the richest and most diverse coral reef areas in the United States. Plus, Guam is the only place in the world where divers can touch shipwrecks from two different World Wars at the same time.



Guam is also golfer's paradise with seven picturesque golf courses: LeoPalace Golf Resort, Onward Talofoto Golf Club, Starts Guam Golf Resort, Onward Mangilao Golf Course, Guam International Country Club, Windward Hills Country Club and Country Club of the Pacific. These courses feature various degrees of difficulty and are located in magnificent spots throughout the island.

For the daredevil visitors, get a spectacular bird's-eye view of Guam with a tandem skydiving adventure.



• TRANSPORTATION

Most hotels have courtesy vehicles for airport transfers. Hotel hotline telephones are located at the airport outside the customs exit. Major international and local car rental firms operate from counters at the airport, in hotel lobbies, and other locations around the island. Rates are comparable to the US, and most companies accept major credit cards. A valid US or international driver's license is required.

Taxis and shuttles are readily available at hotels and major shopping centers. To identify pick-up and drop-off points for shuttles, look for the bus signs at designated points.

• WEDDING

Guam's white sand beaches are lined with one-of-a-kind wedding chapels for visitors who dream of having a destination wedding. There are also countless wedding companies and boutiques that can assist in making your wedding dream a reality. Guam also is the first US territory and only place in Asia Pacific (other than Taiwan) to recognize same-sex marriage.



GUAM AMERICA'S
hidden gem



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