BARBADOS

BRIEF

Official Name: **Barbados**
Area: 431 sq. km. (166 sq. mi.)
Capital: Bridgetown (pop. 30, 000)
Population (2005 UN estimate) 272, 000
Currency : Barbadian Dollar
Terrain: generally, low-lying, with highest elevation 405 m. (1, 330 ft.)
Climate: Semitropical
Airport: Grantley Adams International Airport

Source: *CRNM Information Unit 2008*

MAP

Source: Google Maps (2008)

HEAD OF STATE:

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
H. E. Sir Clifford S. Husbands, GCMG, KA
(Governor-General)

HEAD OF GOVERNMENT:

The Hon. David H. Thompson, MP
(Prime Minister)

Government

Type: Constitutional parliamentary democracy

Independence: **30th November 1966**

Branches: ***Executive***--Governor General (chief of state, representing British monarch), Prime minister (head of government), cabinet.
Legislative--bicameral Parliament (21 appointed senators, 30 elected representatives).
Judicial—Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) in Trinidad and Tobago, High Court (Supreme Court and Court of Appeal), and magistrates' courts.

Administrative Subdivisions: 11 parishes and the City of Bridgetown

Political Parties: Barbados Labour Party (BLP), Democratic Labour Party (DLP) and People's Empowerment Party (PEP)

International Treaties and Trade Agreements

TRADE AGREEMENTS IN FORCE

MULTILATERAL

World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreements

CUSTOMS UNIONS

Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

CARICOM – Dominican Republic

PARTIAL PREFERENTIAL AGREEMENTS

CARICOM – Colombia
CARICOM – Venezuela

TRADE AGREEMENTS SIGNED, BUT NOT IN FORCE

PARTIAL PREFERENTIAL AGREEMENTS

CARICOM – Costa Rica

BILATERAL INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS

CARICOM – Costa Rica

Source: http://www.sice.oas.org/agreements_e.asp

RNM CONTACT - BARBADOS

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URL: http://www.foreign.gov.bb

Important Links

GOVERNMENT PORTAL:

http://www.barbados.gov.bb

LINKS TO GOVERNMENT:

Barbados Government Information Service – http://www.barbados.gov.bb.bgis
Ministry of Tourism – http://www.barmot.gov.bb
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade & International Business – http://www.foreign.gov.bb
Ministry of Labour – http://www.labour.gov.bb
Ministry of Environment – http://www.environment.gov.bb
Ministry of Commerce, Consumner Affairs and Business Development – http://www.commerce.gov.bb
Barbados Investment and Development Corporation – http://www.bidc.com

LINKS TO PRIVATE SECTOR:

Barbados Chamber of Commerce and Technology –http://www.bdscham.com
Barbados Tourism Investment Incorporated – http://www.barbadostourisminvestment.com
Barbados Vacation Travel Guide and Business Directory – http://www.accessbarbados.com
Caribbean Development Bank – http://www.caribank.org
University of the West Indies (Cave Hill Campus) – http://www.uwichill.edu.bb

WTOTRADE POLICY REVIEW:

Barbados:

- Secretariat report
- Government report

Media Institutions

Caribbean Media Corporation – http://www.cananews.net
Barbados Nation – http://www.nationnews.com
Barbados Advocate – http://www.barbadosadvocate.com
Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation – http://www.cbcbarbados.bb
StarCom Network – http://www.starcomnetwork.net