



GRAND CAYMAN

Comments are by CruiseCritic.com members & friends collected by 'DarryDFL' & 'PegEggFL'.

Names in single quotes are screen names.

Click on any blue, underlined text to go to its link.¹



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BUS

► 'DarryDFL', December 16, 2009: Catch the public bus about 2 blocks north and across the street from the Tender Terminal in George Town. Turn left as you exit the terminal. It's ½ block north of Fort George (a park). The Bus Depot has a sign (photo by 'ChefWoz'). A public "bus" is a 9-passenger van, but they run about every 10-15 minutes.



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All drivers speak English, but most drivers are from Jamaica. Drivers wait until there are at least 6 passengers. It couldn't be easier to use. We told the driver where we wanted to go and he dropped us off — specifying where to be to get the ride back. And when we were ready to leave, we walked out to the unmarked bus stop and waved when the driver beeped his horn. At one point, the driver stopped the van and backed up to pick up a daily passenger who had not reached the bus stop yet. This is not a “big city” bus service. The drivers know their regulars, and respect them.

HELL

► ‘DarryDFL’, Dec/16/09: Hell is at NW corner of island, north of 7 Mile Beach. It is “40th & Plumb” (40 miles from nowhere and plumb out in the sticks). The main road ends, but the journey continues. It took about 20 minutes to get there. The public bus costs \$2.50-per-person, but taxies cost \$4-per-person. Hell is visited to get a stamp on a passport. However, the Post Master in Hell, says the stamp is now illegal and can result in your passport being confiscated; but, since tourism is the biggest industry, I doubt that would happen. The local (and only store) will stamp your passport for a tip (50¢ per passport suggested).



7 MILE BEACH

► ‘DarryDFL’, Dec/16/09: The public bus is \$2.50-per-person, but taxi cost \$4-per-person. It has very soft sand and is a shallow beach. It has restrooms where you can change and covered picnic tables with benches. You can see your ship to the south. The water is a pale, clear blue; but, not a lot of fish come very close to the beach. There are no lifeguards. Bring water to drink.

STINGRAY & ISLAND TOUR

<http://www.nativewaywatersports.com/tours.htm>

► ‘Sky616’, August 18, 2009: [Discussing what a parent could do with a 3½-year-old.] I know my son is not small as he is 8, but he can't swim either. He tries but doesn't really get far. Anyways, we are doing the Stingray and Island Tour through Nativeway on Grand Cayman. It does go to stingray city for a

little while but then the island tour goes to the turtle farm, the town of Hell, the rum factory and 7 Mile Beach. I recommend it.

➤ 'DilmaLuvs2Cruise', Aug/18/09: We sailed on the Freedom last year in Oct. My daughter was 3½. We did the Captain Marvin Stingray City with her and then to the beach. She loved the stingrays, and the water there is not that deep, plus she had a life jacket on. I couldn't get her away from the kid's program to go to the other islands.

TURTLE FARM

➤ 'Radio', Aug/6/09: The cost of a bus ride to the Turtle Farm was only \$5 round-trip. It only took about 15 minutes to get there. They have moved the Turtle Farm across the street from where it was the last time I was here. *Hurricane Ivan* destroyed the farm in 2004, and it was rebuilt a few years ago. It is very nice and much larger than it used to be. It is now in the Boatswains Beach area of Grand Cayman. The cost is only \$18 for the main exhibit which includes the Turtle Breeding Area, Hatchling Display and pickup tanks, and the education center. You can also do the \$45 tour which includes all of the above plus access to the Beach Snorkel Lagoon, Breakers Beach Lagoon (a large freshwater pool), the Caribbean Aviary, and the nature trail. We just paid the basic fee, but they let me walk around the whole park, to take a few photos. There are Iguanas everywhere.