



# THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

Americans in Alliance with the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland



## Britannia in Bermuda Arts, Architecture & Culture in Paradise

December 5 – 9, 2024

## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

**EXPLORE** continuing ties between Bermuda and Britain in the UNESCO-listed Town of St. George—the oldest continuously operating English town in the Western Hemisphere

**DELIGHT** in exclusive tours of festively decorated British colonial private homes during the much-anticipated annual Bermuda National Trust Christmas Walkabout, a spectacular event featuring dancers, musicians, and carolers

**GATHER** for a special holiday bell choir performance at St. Peter's Church, the oldest Anglican church outside of Britain, where Jane Austen's brother was married in 1807

**ATTEND** exclusive events, including a boat cruise, behind-the-scenes visits to artists' private homes, and a farewell dinner at the private Coral Beach and Tennis Club with special guests

**DISCOVER** Bermuda's rich artistic legacy through private museum tours led by directors and curators, including a special director-led inside look at the 2024 Bermuda Biennial at the Bermuda National Gallery

**MEET** Bermudian artists and learn about their creative processes during intimate gatherings, such as a lecture by an award-winning documentary filmmaker and tea with a renowned dollmaker

**HONOR** centuries of fallen British military heroes on a poignant visit to "The Glade," the island's most significant historical cemetery

**JOIN** the executive director of the St. David's Island Historical Society (*pending confirmation*) to learn about Bermuda's early English settlers on an exclusive visit to one of Bermuda's oldest farmhouses

**SAVOR** a candlelit private dinner in one of Bermuda's oldest British colonial homes, Vermont, an elegant 18th-century, Georgian-style home maintained by the Bermuda National Trust

**SPEND** four nights at the glamorous Hamilton Princess & Beach Club, and join a curator to peruse the hotel's art collection featuring works by Picasso, Matisse, British street artist Banksy, and a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II by Andy Warhol

Dear Royal Oak Members and Friends,

This December, please join us for a warm, festive escape before the holiday rush. You're invited to enchanting Bermuda, an island of pink-sand beaches and clear blue waters. This British Overseas Territory offers a taste of the U.K. off America's Eastern Seaboard.

On this exclusive four-day program, you will experience one of the island's most eagerly anticipated annual events, the Bermuda National Trust Christmas Walkabout, during which residents open their candlelit, charmingly decorated British colonial houses for your delight. These 17th- and 18th-century heritage homes are part of the UNESCO-listed Town of St. George, the oldest continuously operating English settlement in the Western Hemisphere, founded in 1612.

During the Walkabout, we have reserved seats for an inspiring bell choir performance at St. Peter's Church, the oldest Anglican church outside the British Isles. Imagine sitting in the very church where the brother of Jane Austen got married in 1807! Throughout this journey, we'll be welcomed into historic properties, including an inside look at one of Bermuda's oldest farmhouses, dating to 1640, and a candlelit dinner at Verdmont, an early 18th-century Georgian-style house, enjoying Bermudian cuisine and island music.

Bermuda's landscapes have attracted visionary painters for centuries, including Georgia O'Keeffe and Winslow Homer. Museum directors will guide us through collections showcasing this artistic legacy, including a special tour of the Bermuda Biennial at the National Gallery. We'll also meet renowned contemporary Bermudian artists, attend a lecture by an award-winning filmmaker, and have tea with a celebrated dollmaker whose works are displayed at the White House and Buckingham Palace.

We'll even wake up each morning to contemporary art at Bermuda's "Pink Palace." Our accommodations are at the Hamilton Princess Hotel & Beach Club, featuring works by Picasso, Matisse, Banksy, and Damien Hirst, plus a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II by Andy Warhol.

Along the way, gather for exclusive events, from short, scenic boat cruises to a farewell dinner at the exclusive Coral Tennis and Beach Club. **To reserve your place**, please contact our tour operator Arrangements Abroad at 212-514-8921 or [trips@arrangementsabroad.com](mailto:trips@arrangementsabroad.com). We hope you can join us for this close-to-home holiday celebration of Bermuda's arts, architecture, culture, and British history.

Sincerely,



Ian Murray  
Executive Director  
Royal Oak Foundation



Bermuda National Trust Christmas Walkabout, Town of St. George,  
© Bermuda Tourism Authority



# Britannia in Bermuda Arts, Architecture & Culture in Paradise

December 5 – 9, 2024



Carter House Museum, St. David's Island, © Bermuda Tourism Authority

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5: DEPARTURE / HAMILTON, BERMUDA

Welcome to Bermuda! Upon arrival, transfer to the Hamilton Princess Hotel & Beach Club, the "Pink Palace." Enjoy a private reception at the hotel this evening. R

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6: HAMILTON / ST. DAVID'S ISLAND / TOWN OF ST. GEORGE

On a private tour with a local curator, peruse the Hamilton Princess's extensive art collection. Displayed throughout the hotel, it includes works by enigmatic British street artist Banksy and other icons such as Pablo Picasso, René Magritte, Henri Matisse, Andy Warhol, Jeff Koons, KAWS, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, and Yayoi Kusama.

After lunch at leisure and some free time, venture to St. David's Island at Bermuda's southeastern extremity. Enjoy a late-afternoon guided visit to the Carter House Museum, meeting docents and the executive director of the St. David's Island Historical Society (*pending confirmation*).

The beautifully whitewashed Carter House dates to 1640, making it one of Bermuda's oldest farmhouses and an exceptional example of early Bermuda vernacular architecture. Delve into the culture and history of the St. David's Islanders through artifacts and exhibits on whaling, piloting, fishing, boat building, farming, and sailing.

While here, enjoy a cup of tea and finger sandwiches with a St. David's-born artist famous for her dolls created from palm fronds and banana leaves. Her dolls and other artworks have been featured in the collections of Buckingham Palace, Oprah Winfrey, and the White House, alongside archives and museum collections.

Board *Honey Badger* for a short yet scenic cruise across to St. George's Harbour and the UNESCO-listed Town of St. George and its Town Square. Experience the seasonal festivities at the annual Bermuda National Trust Christmas Walkabout, one of the island's most exciting events, with open houses, musicians, dancers, and carolers.

Conclude the Walkabout at St. Peter's Church, the oldest Anglican church outside the British Isles, where we have reserved seats for an inspiring bell choir performance. This evening, gather for a welcome dinner at a private home. B,T,R,D

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7: HAMILTON

Start the day on a short walk along mosaic-lined pathways in Queen Elizabeth Park, stopping to admire its lush garden and large poinciana tree. Then transfer to the downtown area of Hamilton, Bermuda's capital, established in 1793 and known for its colorful architecture. At the City Hall, meet with the town crier for an official welcome to the city.

Continue to the Bermuda National Gallery for a private tour led by the director. Take an inside look at the 2024 Bermuda Biennial, the Gallery's flagship exhibition in which Bermudian contemporary artists submit works for an international juried process overseen by curators from around the world.

After lunch at leisure, join the curator and executive director at the Masterworks Museum of Bermuda Art for a private tour of the gallery in the museum, whose collection includes works by Winslow Homer, Georgia O'Keeffe, and several British artists including Henry Moore. Stay for refreshments and listen to a lecture from a Bermudian visual storyteller and award-winning documentary photographer on the island's forgotten and neglected sites.



St. Peter's Church, Town of St. George, © Bermuda Tourism Authority



Commissioner's House, National Museum of Bermuda,  
© Bermuda Tourism Authority

Then the president of the Bermuda Friendly Societies Association will join us at the museum to discuss the role of friendly societies, which emerged in the mid-19th century to promote pride, mutual aid efforts, and self-reliance among members of Bermuda's newly freed Black working class.

In the early evening, transfer to Orange Valley to the private 19th-century home of a Bermudian author and historian to view his extensive collection of treasures. Make your way to Verdmont, an early 18th-century house owned and maintained by the Bermuda National Trust. After enjoying cocktails and the woodland gardens, sit down for a special candlelit dinner inside this elegant Georgian-style home, the perfect backdrop for an evening of wonderful Bermudian cuisine and the sounds of island music. B,T,D

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8: HAMILTON

Wake up for a morning visit to Tankfield, a lavish private 18th-century home, followed by a meeting with a Bermudian artist and a special viewing of local artwork. Then visit the Royal Naval Dockyard, built in the 19th century and once Britain's largest naval base outside the U.K. Today, the Dockyard serves as a hub of the Bermudian arts scene. After lunch, enjoy an exclusive visit to the National Museum of Bermuda to experience exceptional marine artworks and a mural painted by Bermudian artist Graham Foster.

Later, pay a visit to "The Glade," Bermuda's most significant cemetery, which is dedicated to those who died in service of the British military. Then discover one of Bermuda's most idyllic yet unusual properties, Sea View, an 18th-century oceanside home where David Bowie and Iman once resided. It is now home to an award-winning artist, and you will go behind the scenes in his gallery and lovely gardens.

This evening, gather for cocktails and a farewell dinner with some special Bermudian guests at the private Coral Beach and Tennis Club. B,L,R,D

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 9: HAMILTON / RETURN

Transfer to the airport this morning for your flights home. B

**DISCLAIMER:** *The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the Royal Oak Foundation and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms).*

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### HAMILTON PRINCESS HOTEL & BEACH CLUB

Overlooking the stunning blue waters of Hamilton Harbour sits Bermuda's iconic "Pink Palace," where you may enjoy views of the beautiful boats passing by. This urban oasis features stylishly appointed guest rooms; a stunning infinity pool with uninterrupted views of Hamilton Harbour; exceptional restaurants; and remarkable art collections with works by artists including Picasso, Magritte, Matisse, and British street artist Banksy.



Hamilton Princess Hotel & Beach Club, photo by Fairmont



Yayoi Kusama sculpture, Hamilton Princess Hotel & Beach Club

### PROGRAM RATE

**\$6,799 per person, double rate**

**\$7,999 single rate**

### RATE INCLUDES

- Four nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, T= Tea R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATE** International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



Masterworks Museum of Bermuda Art, Hamilton, © Bermuda Tourism Authority

**ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION**  
**BRITANNIA IN BERMUDA: ARTS, ARCHITECTURE & CULTURE IN PARADISE ▪ DECEMBER 5 – 9, 2024**  
**RESERVATION FORM**

To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; email: [trips@arrangementsabroad.com](mailto:trips@arrangementsabroad.com); or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Address  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (home) (business)  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Fax E-mail  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Hotel room preference  One bed  Two beds  Single  
 I wish to share a room with \_\_\_\_\_

**FORM OF PAYMENT**

Enclosed is my check (payable to Arrangements Abroad)  Debit card  Credit card

Name on credit card  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card number  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3- or 4-digit security code Expiration date  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see [www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms](http://www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms) to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required) Date  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (required) Date  
 \_\_\_\_\_