

# Caribbean Islands/ Central American Countries Bordering Gulf of Mexico Firearm Laws/Information

Last Updated: **1/25/2026** Links Checked: **1/25/2025**

**Note:** Handgunlaw.us put together this listing as we have received questions about these places. Mainly from U.S. boaters. This is just a start for your research into the Firearms Laws and or Regulations further. We highly recommend before transporting a firearm to any country in the Caribbean or Central America to contact authorities there and make sure you understand their Laws/Regulations on firearms and Ammo. From all we have seen in researching every country in the Caribbean and Central America all have Laws/Regulations on bringing firearms/ammunition into their country. Most require you declare them upon entry while others require entry paperwork before entry. Some don't allow them at all. It can be done but you must follow the Rules/Regs! Breaking another countries Laws/Regulations could result in heavy fines and even prison sentences. Then you have the Laws of the USA on exiting the country with firearms. **Know before you go!**

## U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

### Guidance for U.S. Persons Traveling Outside the U.S. with Firearms and/or Ammunition

Any time a person departs the United States by any means or method of transportation, and is traveling with firearms and/or ammunition in their possession, the person must comply with all applicable laws and regulations governing the lawful exportation of these controlled items.

All persons who intend to travel from the United States to a foreign country with firearms and/or ammunition are reminded that both the permanent and temporary exportation of these items are subject to federal export licensing regulations. The export regulations for handguns, rifles, associated parts and components, and related ammunition are found in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations ([ITAR](#)) administered by the Department of State's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls ([DDTC](#)). The export regulations for sporting shotguns (barrel length of 18 inches or more), muzzle loading firearms, associated parts and components, and related ammunition are found in the Export Administration Regulations ([EAR](#)) administered by the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security.

Export regulations require that prior to traveling outside the United States with firearms and/or ammunition all departing persons must obtain a valid and appropriate DDTC or BIS export license or qualify for a valid DDTC license exemption under [22 C.F.R. 123.17 - 123.18](#) or a valid BIS license exception under [15 C.F.R. 740.14\(e\)](#).

Before exporting any firearms and/or ammunition with a valid DDTC or BIS export license or a qualifying license exemption, the traveler, or an agent acting on the traveler's behalf, **must file** the Electronic Export Information (EEI) using the [Automated Export System](#) (AES) or the Internet-based system [AESDirect](#) which is publicly available and free of charge. In addition to filing the EEI in [AES](#) or [AESDirect](#) prior to export, all firearms, ammunition and additional mandatory documentation (e.g., certifications, foreign import permits, proof of AES filing; such as the Internal Transaction Number) must be presented to U.S. Customs and Border Protection ([CBP](#)) authorities for visual inspection at the port of departure from the United States.

Homeland Security Investigations ([HSI](#)) is the primary federal law enforcement agency responsible for investigating international smuggling operations and enforcing U.S. export control laws. Failure to comply with the federal regulations governing the temporary and permanent export of firearms and/or ammunition from the United States (including the proper filing of EEI) may result in the detention, seizure, and forfeiture of improperly declared firearms and ammunition and could further subject the traveler to arrest and criminal prosecution by HSI special agents for violation of federal export and/or arms smuggling laws. Any assistance you can give Handgunlaw.us would be very much appreciated. [admins@handgunlaw.us](mailto:admins@handgunlaw.us)

<https://www.handgunlaw.us>

## **BATF and Traveling With Firearms in the Caribbean**

### **Admiralty & Maritime Law Guide (Codes/rules)**

**Noonsite.com** bills themselves as “The Ultimate Cruisers Planning Tool” and has very good information on cruising and entering other countries.

**International Air Transport Association (IATA)** Info on Travel/Custom Regulations for all Countries

**Cruisers Forum** Cruising Boats, Cruising People, Cruising Answers (Boaters who have been there.)

**Guns on Boats** (The Coastal Passage) | **Guns and Cruising** (Sailing Totem)

### **Anguilla**

**Government of Anguilla Customs Forms**

**Anguilla Firearm Licenses** (Anguilla Government Info)

**U.S. Dept of State** (Info on Firearms and other Travel Information)

**Anguilla Customs** States: “may not carry any form of firearm, spear guns etc.”

### **Antigua and Barbuda**

**Yacht Entry and Clearance Procedures** (Antigua and Barbuda Marine Association) | **U.S. Dept of State**

**Antigua and Barbuda Firearms Act of 2017** | **Antigua & Barbuda Customs and Excise Div.**

### **Aruba**

**Aruba Customs listing what is Allowed/Prohibited to bring into Aruba.** (VisaHQ)

### **Bahamas**

**Firearms Statutes Chapter 213** | **Arriving by Boat** (U.S. embassy in the Bahamas Information)

**Rules For Entering The Bahamas By Boat** (Information from BoatUS)

### **Barbados**

**Barbados Firearm Laws Chapter 179**

**Do not Enter Barbados per ATF**

## **Belize**

[Firearms Act Chapter 143 Revised 2000](#)

[Firearms Act Amendment 2018](#)

## **Bermuda**

[Prohibited and Restricted Goods](#) (Bermuda Gov.)

(Includes Firearms, Ammunition, Knives, Self Defense Sprays, Stun Guns & Others)

[Bermuda Customs and Immigration](#) | [Bermuda Online](#) | [U.S. Dept. of State](#)

## **Bonaire, Saba and St Eustatius/Statia** (Formally the Netherlands Antilles)

Bonaire, St Eustatius and Saba (the so-called BES-islands) became part of the country of the Netherlands as extraordinary overseas municipalities. Thus their laws most likely follow the Netherlands Statutes/Regulations which makes possession of firearms very difficult.

[Permit for Weapons and Ammunition](#) | [Information for Bonaire](#) | [Saba](#) | [St. Eustatius/Statia](#)

## **British Virgin Islands**

[U.S. Dept. of State](#) (Info on restricted Items.)

[Prohibited Items](#) (VisaHQ)

## **Cayman Islands**

[Cayman Islands Firearms Law 2008](#)

[Customs Guide](#)

[Royal Cayman Islands Police Services Checklist of Firearms License Applicants](#)

## **Costa Rica**

[Costa Rico Weapons and Explosives Law](#) (Translation)

[New Gun Control Law in Costa Rica](#) (From COSTARICOLAW)

[Guns in Costa Rica – Ownership and Registration](#) (From COSTARICOLAW)

## **Cuba**

The U.S. Government has banned all U.S. private boat travel to Cuba.

<https://www.handgunlaw.us>

## **Curacao**

Curacao has become an autonomous country within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Curacao Customs info is in Dutch and I have translated a small portion of their brochure.

[Curacao Custom](#) states: Products Requiring an Import License/Exempt Products Requiring a Written Statement: Firearms and Ammunition. [Permit for Weapons and Ammunition](#)

## **Dominica**

[Dominica Firearm Laws](#)

| [Dominica Port of Entry Customs Protocols](#)

## **Dominican Republic**

[Customs Guide Dominican Republic](#) Prohibited items : Firearms, ammunitions, explosives, guns,

## **El Salvador**

[El Salvador Customs](#) (VisaHQ) A special permit is required from the Ministry of Defence before being able to import Guns, Explosives or Ammunition into the country.

[U.S. State Dept. El Salvador Information](#) (Firearm require Permit prior to entry)

## **Grenada**

[Clearance Procedures When Arriving by Private Boat](#) | [Customs & Immigration](#) | [Customs Regulations](#)

## **Guadeloupe**

[Guadeloupe Customs](#) (VisaHQ)

## **Guatemala**

[Guatemala Arms and Ammunition Law](#) (Spanish) (VisaHQ)

| [Guatemala Customs](#)

## **Haiti**

[Haiti Customs](#) (VisaHQ)

Haiti Customs States: Prohibited Weapons and ammunition – unless prior permission has been obtained

## **Honduras**

[Article 292](#) (of the Honduras Constitution) The manufacture, import, distribution and sale of arms, ammunition and similar articles is reserved as an exclusive right of the armed forces.

[Honduras Custom Regulations](#)

## **Jamaica**

[U.S. Dept. of State](#) (Info on Restricted Items.)

[Jamaica Firearms Act](#)

[Jamaica Firearm Licensing Authority](#) (Information Links)

## **Martinique**

[World Wide Mover SIVA Martinique Customs](#) Firearms heavily restricted item

Martinique, like nearby Guadeloupe, is an overseas “Department” of France. (Everything is in French.) We can’t find any official information only second hand info stating they restrict guns. We believe travel to Martinique etc would be like traveling to Europe and a permit issue by Martinique would most likely be required before entering with a firearm.

## **Mexico**

[Mexico : Firearms Restrictions and Licensing](#)

[Mexico Entry Requirements](#) & [Mexico’s Strict Gun Laws](#) (From [Mexperience](#))

## **Montserrat**

[Montserrat Firearms Act](#) (2019)

## **Nicaragua**

- Restricted are all kinds for firearms and hunting arms and an import license is required.

Info is hard to come by and taking a firearm into Nicaragua we believe would be “Importing a firearm.” These two links both state the above. [Nicaragua Customs VistaHQ](#) | [Import Requirements and Documentation](#)

<https://www.handgunlaw.us>

## **Panama**

[U.S. Dept. of State](#) (Info on Restricted Items.)

## **St Kitts and Nevis**

[U.S. Dept of State](#) States: Do not enter Saint Kitts and Nevis with firearms or ammunition without prior express consent from the government of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

## **St Lucia**

[St Lucia Firearm Act](#)

## **St Maarten & St Martin**

Entry Requirements and [Customs in St. Maarten/St. Martin](#) State: may not carry any form of firearm, spear guns etc.

## **St Vincent** (Formally St Vincent and the Grenadines)

[Firearms Act of 1995](#) | [Firearms Act Amendment 2010](#) | [Application to Carry a Firearm](#)

## **Trinidad and Tobago**

[Trinidad and Tobago Firearm Act 16.01 of 2011](#)

[Trinidad and Tobago Firearms Act Amendment of 2019](#)

## **Turks & Caicos Islands**

[Turks & Caicos Islands Customs Allowances](#) state: You may face fines and/or incarceration if you bring in any of the following without prior approval:

- Banned weapons (including firearms, firearm parts, ammunition, and 'Hawaiian slings etc.

[Port of Entry Information](#)

[Yacht & Cruising Guide](#)

## Puerto Rico & U.S. Virgin Islands

These are Possession of the USA and are not the same as traveling from one state to another. Do be aware that both PR and USVI have firearm laws that may mean registration/declaration etc when entering. Do check with them before taking a firearm to either of these locations. You can view the [Puerto Rico](#) and [U.S. Virgin Islands](#) pages at <https://www.handgunlaw.us> by clicking on their names which will give you links to official government sites in those Possessions and other firearms information.

**Note:** If you have any informational links that you believe would add to this listing please send that link/s to [admins@handgunlaw.us](mailto:admins@handgunlaw.us) Thank You!

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