

# Metal Detecting the Islands of the Caribbean and Locations around the Atlantic.

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## **General Information:**

Surf conditions for water hunting in the Caribbean are unpredictable. The trade winds are active in late fall & winter. (50 foot seas) Surf is up in the Southern Caribbean. In the far eastern Caribbean and Atlantic the seas are fairly calm in late June to early Sept. This past week in Porto Rico winds 20 knots & 3 foot surf. (Nov.)

Be very careful on some of the islands about going it alone. 40% unemployment and very small police force etc.

1. Key points on hot and cold spots to detect from my prospective.
2. Tips on controlling cost
3. Good , Bad & Ugly

## **Grand Cayman**

Legal to hunt

Seven Mile beach is the most popular spot – 20 min bus ride from the ships \$10 –bring a towel to set on. Group tours start at \$42 & includes beach chair ,transportation & a fruit drink . Mixed results as far as finds. Very expensive island . You must take a tender to the island.

## **Aruba**

Legal to hunt

Eagle Beach is your best bet if you are going to Aruba on a cruise ship. It's a 5 min cab ride (\$20 RT) from the cruise port. I'm told that some of the hotels are picky about hunting their beach , but if you are in the water they can't say much?

## **Bonaire**

Legal to hunt.

Bonaire is a beautiful island. Didn't do any hunting there. Talked to a hunter who hunted a beach and had no luck. He was using a Minelab30/30. The island is a big dive spot not really a sun bathing island.

## **Grenada**

Legal to hunt

Took a tour that ended on a hotel beach. The hotel policy is you can hunt the beach ,but if you find anything you are to turn it in to the front desk. RIGHT I will take a water taxi from the cruise port across the bay to Grand Anse beach next time. Reports are it's full of trash. Granada is a very poor island.

## **Martinique**

Legal to hunt

Take a water taxi from the cruise port to the beach( \$7 one way). Takes a half hour to get to the beach. Port time is short. Cruise ships have just started to go there in numbers.

## **St. Martin**

Legal to Hunt

You can see the beach area on the Dutch side of the island from the cruise ship , but it would take at least an hour to walk to it. Water taxi will take you there for \$5. Didn't hunt there but it did look a good beach and the bay water was calm for water hunting. The French beach and the famous air port beach are several miles away. French beach is a nude beach. Dutch beach cost \$20 for beach chairs , umbrella, and a bucket of beer or cokes. Euro is their coinage

## **San Juan Puerto Rico**

Legal to hunt

Season starts in Nov. and goes to March – rain goes through every day. Hunted hotel beaches for 3 days lots of coins no jewelry to speak of. Surf was 3-5 feet One hunter tried for 2 days to hunt water & could only get out a few feet. Was told by locals that the best beaches to hunt are out near the airport where the locals go on weekends. Bus fare is cheap to get around San Juan.

## **Cartagena**

Legal to hunt

Didn't hunt, but rode in a tour bus by the beaches that are lined around the city on the bay side. The beaches are fairly close to the tender terminal.

## **Costa Rica & Panama**

Toured the areas and didn't hunt – Not sure what the restrictions are about hunting. In fact I didn't really see any good beaches at either of these countries.

## **Grand Turk**

Legal to hunt

Beach is right by the cruise port. Fact is they make you get out of the water when a cruise ship is docking or leaving. Lots of coins on the beach, no jewelry. Water hunting wasn't bad in Nov. just hard to hunt in the water because of all the people. It's the only thing to do on the island so both of the cruise ships in port dumped their cruisers on the beach.

## **Antigua**

Legal to hunt

Beach tour was OK found lots of trash and a few coins. Beach facilities are old- Hotel beaches would be much better to hunt. Surf was up in Nov.

## **St. Thomas VI**

No metal detecting at Megans Bay – it's a park – Great spot but you can't detect. Megans Bay is where the cruise line tours go. Most of the other beaches on St Thomas are OK to hunt. I've read that Emerald Beach & Brewer Beach are good spots.

St. John is a Nation Park ? / protected island no hunting. Other virgin islands I don't know about.