



Guernsey

The Bailiwick of Guernsey is a group of islands within the Channel Islands. Guernsey is a beautiful, vibrant and safe place to live, a thriving and entirely modern community that maintains a healthy respect for its culture and traditional values. Situated in the Bay of St Malo, Guernsey is geographically close to France, being only 27 miles from the Normandy coast, and 70 miles from mainland Britain. Guernsey's loyalty, however, is to the British Crown, although the island is a self-governing jurisdiction.

Part of the Duchy of Normandy from before the Norman Conquest of England, the Channel Islands were retained by the Kings of England when Normandy was lost in 1204. Guernsey and Jersey have remained as two separate crown dependencies, each with their own laws and customs based originally on Norman practice. Effectively independent, yet coming under the protective wing of the British Government, Guernsey is a part of the British Isles but not the United Kingdom. The UK Government is responsible only for the Bailiwick's international representation and defence.

The island is approximately 9 miles by 6 miles (just over 25 sq miles) with a population of

over 62,000. The capital, St Peter Port, is unique with its cobbled streets and a mixture of small boutiques and other main stream shops and banks. In addition there are many restaurants, bistros and cafes offering a wide range of cuisine with many featuring fresh local seafood. Some 18,500 people live in St Peter Port.

Guernsey offers a completely different way of life. The island has stunning views from the cliff paths, beautiful walks, sandy beaches and cycle routes. Sport is an important part of life in Guernsey, as well as the arts. There is a vibrant voluntary sector. The churches play an important part in Guernsey's life; attendance is still proportionately higher than in England.

The economy was primarily based on agriculture and tourism in the last century, but Guernsey is now a major international finance centre.

Communications between Guernsey and the UK are excellent – whether through high speed internet or through air links to England. It is also possible to reach Guernsey by sea. The Deanery pays an annual grant towards the cost of off-island travel.

On-island health care is very good, and

residents have access to specialist services in the UK when this is necessary. The Deanery of Guernsey pays for health insurance cover for clergy and their resident dependents. Guernsey is not part of the UK's National Health Service.

The educational provision, at primary and secondary level, is also of a high standard; young people from Guernsey are able to attend UK universities. As Guernsey students are not eligible to apply for funding from the UK Student Loans Company, Guernsey's Education Department supports students choosing to study at university through a means-tested grant scheme. The amount of funding received (towards the cost of tuition fees, living costs in the form of a maintenance grant and travel costs) depends on a number of factors, including an assessment of parental income.

Channel Island clergy are paid an additional sum to the diocesan stipend (currently a 22% uplift), to take account of the higher cost of living in the islands.

More information about living in Guernsey can be found later in this document.



THE DEANERY OF GUERNSEY

Since the time of Queen Elizabeth I, the deaneries of Guernsey and Jersey have been annexed to the Diocese of Winchester. More recently, under an agreement with the Archbishop of Canterbury, episcopal care has been provided by the Right Reverend Trevor Willmott, the Bishop of Dover. Parish share is paid to Canterbury Diocesan Board of Finance, and Guernsey representatives attend the Canterbury Diocesan Synod; the Diocese of Canterbury, in turn, supports the mission and ministry of the Church of England in Guernsey and Jersey through its advisers in safeguarding, mission and ministry. As Guernsey is not part of the UK, the Church of England's Canons and Measures do not automatically apply here. There are, for example, no parochial church councils and incumbents hold their office under freehold (rather than Common Tenure). Guernsey's Ecclesiastical Court (over which the Dean presides) issues faculties for work in church buildings and marriage licences. The rectors of the ten ancient parishes still have a significant role in Guernsey life. There are fourteen ecclesiastical parishes in Guernsey; these, along with the parishes in Alderney and Sark, comprise the Deanery of Guernsey.

More information can be found at www.churchofengland.org.gg



Living and working in Guernsey

LIVING IN GUERNSEY

The information in this appendix is believed to be correct at the time of writing (March 2016). However, candidates are advised to consult the States of Guernsey website (www.gov.gg) and make enquiries as necessary. Having recently moved to Guernsey, the Dean will be happy to answer any general questions from his experience.

External transport

Getting to Guernsey is easy, whether this be from the UK, international locations, or just between the Channel Islands.

By air

Guernsey has regular flights to a range of UK and other European destinations. Guernsey flights from London Gatwick take as little as 45 minutes, with those from regional airports taking upwards of 30 minutes. Regular flights operate from major UK airports all year round, as well as some additional seasonal services further afield.

The following airlines provide regular flights from Guernsey to a number of destinations (which can be checked on their websites):

- Aurigny
- Flybe
- Blue Islands

The website visitguernsey.com provides a useful route finder which gives details of the airlines and the locations they serve.

By sea

There are regular ferries to Portsmouth and Poole, as well as Jersey and France. Ferries to Guernsey from the UK take as little as three hours. A traditional ferry operates in all weathers, and all-year-round, from Portsmouth.

There are also regular ferries from Guernsey to Sark and Herm.

Immigration and Nationality

There are no restrictions on British Citizens, persons who otherwise have the right of abode in the United Kingdom and Islands under the provisions of the Immigration Act 1971 or nationals of European Union or European Economic Area member states taking up residence or conducting business in the Island (subject to the Housing Control regulations).

HOUSING CONTROL LAWS

Due to the size of the Island and the density of the population, there are strict controls on who may occupy dwellings in Guernsey. There are two categories of dwellings: 'open market' which are freely available for

occupation and 'local market' which may be occupied only by persons with residential qualifications or by licence holders.

The Deanery of Guernsey will ensure, as part of the appointment process, that a priest appointed to a post in Guernsey (together with his or her spouse and any dependent children accompanying them) will have the appropriate permission to occupy the house provided for them. However they will only gain permanent residential qualifications if the priest remains in post for 15 years. Any children will only qualify in their own right for continuing residence in Guernsey if they are first resident in Guernsey with their parents, as minors, and have 15 years residence in a 25 year period.

RIGHT TO WORK LAW

There is a 'Right to Work' law in Guernsey. This means that if a person wants to take up employment or self-employment in Guernsey or wishes to change jobs in Guernsey he or she must have a valid Right to Work document (issued by the Housing Department) confirming that he or she is lawfully housed. The Deanery of Guernsey will assist with the provision of this as part of the appointment process.

PRICES

Prices of commodities are generally competitive to those in the United Kingdom, but value added tax and other forms of sales taxes are not payable in Guernsey. However, the prices of certain commodities, particularly food and fuel, may be higher than in the United Kingdom.



INCOME TAX

The standard rate of Income Tax is 20 pence in the pound. There is no capital gains tax, capital transfer tax, estate duty, inheritance tax, purchase tax, turnover tax, value added tax or wealth tax in Guernsey.

www.gov.gg/tax

SOCIAL SECURITY

All residents of Guernsey and Alderney are required to register with the Social Security Department. Contributions for employed persons are collected through their employer's payroll system (by the Church Commissioners for Anglican clergy). Benefits paid include those related to sickness, old age pension, healthcare, long term care, maternity, bereavement and unemployment.

www.gov.gg/article/119722/Social-security-contribution-rates-and-payments

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

www.gov.gg/article/119655/Imports-Exports-Immigration-and-Emigration

HEALTH

General: The average life expectancy at birth is 80 years, slightly higher than that of the UK.

The States of Guernsey spend more on health and social care than on any other area of government, reflecting the high standard of these services within the Island and the value placed on ensuring healthy living.

The healthcare system in Guernsey is different to that of the National Health Service (NHS) in the UK. All primary care is provided on a private basis whilst some secondary care and specialist services are free. Specialist (secondary care) services are only accessed via a referral from a GP. There is no reciprocal health agreement between Guernsey and the UK so it is advised that prospective residents consider taking out health insurance (for clergy and their families, this is arranged and paid by the Deanery of Guernsey).

GP visits, A&E visits, ambulance use and physiotherapy requested by the GP incur a charge – but this charge is covered by the health insurance scheme.

Everyone who normally lives in Guernsey and is registered for the payment of Social Security contributions is covered by the 'Specialist Health Insurance Scheme' and so may receive specialist care and treatment free of charge.

The Medical Specialist Group consultants provide the emergency and elective specialist medical services for the Bailiwick



of Guernsey. These consultants provide the majority of medical services, including surgery, undertaken at the Island's hospital.

Children's health: There are a number of services available to help if you want to raise a family in Guernsey:

- Health visiting is a universal service offered to all families with pre-school children
- The School Health Service is committed to promoting and maintaining the health of school age children
- The Children's Dental Service provides a

dedicated dental service for pre-school and school age children with particular needs, and dental health screening of children at their 3 year developmental check and also at 5, 10 and 12 years of age in school, together with a programme of oral health promotion.

EDUCATION

General information

Guernsey offers an excellent education system with free schooling for all students up to the age of 18. There are also three grant-aided private colleges on the Island.

www.education.gg

CARS AND DRIVING IN GUERNSEY

Registering a car: Any car brought into the island, that has previously been registered in another jurisdiction, must be re-registered in Guernsey within 14 days of arrival.

Driving licence: New residents to the Island, who already have a driving licence issued in another jurisdiction, will need to apply to exchange their foreign licence for a Guernsey licence within one year of arriving.

www.gov.gg/article/120228/Driving-and-vehicles



PHOTOGRAPHY

Courtesy of
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