XIPHIAS Immigration

COUNTRY BROCHURE



CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT | COUNTRY GUIDE

Antigua & Barbuda Citizenship by Investment

Antigua & Barbuda offers four citizenship-by-investment routes: a USD 230,000 National Development Fund contribution (the same for any family size), the University of the West Indies Fund, approved real estate from USD 300,000, or business investment from USD 1.5 million. The passport is visa-free to the UK with an ETA; US entry is partially suspended under Proclamation 10998.

PROGRAMMES	CAPITAL	CURRENCY	LANGUAGE
3	St. John's	XCD (East Caribbean Dollar)	English

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Updated 1 October 2026
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Antigua & Barbuda at a glance

CAPITAL **St. John's**	POPULATION **95,000**
LANGUAGE **English**	CURRENCY **XCD (East Caribbean Dollar)**
TIME ZONE **Atlantic Standard Time**	CLIMATE **Tropical; warm, sunny, and breezy year-round**
PROGRAMMES WE ADVISE ON **3**	LAST UPDATED **1 October 2026**

Overview

The Antigua & Barbuda Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programme offers four routes: a USD 230,000 contribution to the National Development Fund (the same amount whatever the family size), a USD 260,000 contribution to the University of the West Indies Fund for a family of six or more, approved real estate from USD 300,000 held for five years, or a business investment of USD 1.5 million as a sole investor (or a USD 5 million joint investment with at least USD 400,000 per investor). Citizens must spend at least five days in Antigua & Barbuda during the first five calendar years after citizenship and take an oath or affirmation of allegiance. The passport is visa-free to the UK with an ETA, but US entry has been partially suspended under Presidential Proclamation 10998 since 1 January 2026, and Canada requires a visitor visa. The Citizenship by Investment Unit does not publish a processing standard; timelines vary by case.

Key points

- Visa-free to the UK with an ETA; Schengen visa-free access currently in place, subject to the EU's revised visa suspension mechanism.
- US entry partially suspended for Antiguan nationals under Proclamation 10998 since 1 January 2026; existing valid visas continue to be honoured.
- Residency requirement: at least 5 days in Antigua & Barbuda within the first 5 years after citizenship.
- Four investment routes: National Development Fund (USD 230,000), University of the West Indies Fund (USD 260,000, families of six or more), approved real estate (USD 300,000) or business investment (USD 1.5 million as a sole investor).
- Family-friendly: spouse, children up to 30 if financially dependent, parents aged 55 and over, and unmarried siblings.
- No tax on worldwide income, inheritance, capital gains or wealth, making Antigua & Barbuda a tax-efficient jurisdiction.

Programmes in Antigua & Barbuda



Business Investment – Antigua & Barbuda Citizenship by Investment (CBI) Program

Antigua & Barbuda citizenship through an approved business investment: USD 1.5 million as a sole investor, or a USD 5 million joint investment.

From USD 1,500,000



National Development Fund (NDF) – Donation Route

A one-time USD 230,000 contribution to Antigua & Barbuda's National Development Fund — the same amount whatever the family size.

From USD 230,000



Real Estate Investment – Antigua & Barbuda Citizenship by Investment (CBI) Program

Antigua & Barbuda citizenship through government-approved real estate from USD 300,000, with a five-year resale bar.

From USD 300,000

The five Eastern Caribbean programmes compared

	Antigua & Barbuda	Dominica	Grenada	Saint Lucia	St Kitts & Nevis
Donation, single	USD 230,000	USD 200,000	**USD 150,000**	USD 240,000	USD 250,000
Real estate from	USD 300,000	USD 200,000	USD 220,000	USD 300,000	USD 325,000
Holding period	5 years	3 years	Confirmed per project	Confirmed per project	**7 years**
US E-2 treaty	No	No	**Yes**	No	No
UK	Visa-free + ETA	**Visa required**	Visa-free + ETA	**Visa required**	Visa-free + ETA
US entry	**Partly suspended**	**Partly suspended**	Normal	Normal	Normal

	Antigua & Barbuda	Dominica	Grenada	Saint Lucia	St Kitts & Nevis
Canada	Visa	Visa	Visa	Visa	Visa
Residency after grant	**5 days in 5 years**	None	None (per CIU)	None	None

What the table shows

Grenada is the only one of the five that is simultaneously a US E-2 treaty country, free of any US entry restriction, and still visa-free to the UK. If the United States is your objective, that is the deciding factor. Whether an individual qualifies for an E-2 visa is decided by US consular officers.

Dominica and Saint Lucia have both lost UK visa-free access — Dominica in July 2023, Saint Lucia in March 2026, both expressly because of their citizenship programmes.

Antigua and Dominica are both under US Presidential Proclamation 10998 since 1 January 2026, which suspends immigrant entry and the B, F, M and J categories.

No Caribbean citizenship-by-investment passport gives visa-free entry to the United States.

Passport-power rankings

Headline counts of visa-free destinations are compiled annually and change quickly, as the UK changes above show. XIPHIAS advises on the specific destinations that matter to your family, checked at the time you apply.

What this does to an Indian passport

India does not allow dual citizenship. Section 9(1) of the Citizenship Act 1955 provides that a citizen of India who voluntarily acquires the citizenship of another country **ceases to be a citizen of India**. Acquiring any Caribbean citizenship is voluntary, so your Indian citizenship ends **automatically on the day it is granted** — no Indian decision, no discretion, no deferral. The Indian passport must be surrendered and a Surrender Certificate obtained.

You can then apply for **Overseas Citizen of India** status. The Ministry of External Affairs states plainly that OCI is not dual citizenship: no vote, no constitutional posts, no equality in public employment, and **no acquisition of agricultural land, farmhouses or plantation property in India**.

This is a **replacement** for your Indian citizenship, not an addition. Plan around that.

How the application works

1. **Consult with XIPHIAS to assess eligibility and select the best investment route (National Development Fund, UWI Fund, approved real estate or business investment).**
2. **Prepare all required documents, including medical records, notarised agreements and proof of funds; undergo due diligence and, if requested, an interview.**
3. **Submit the application through XIPHIAS to the Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU) for review and approval in principle.**
4. **Complete the selected investment upon approval in principle.**

5 **Take the oath or affirmation of allegiance, receive your certificate of citizenship and apply for your Antigua & Barbuda passport.**

General requirements

- Minimum age: 18 years to qualify for Antigua & Barbuda Citizenship by Investment (CBI).
- Clean criminal record and verifiable source of funds.
- Completion of investment via the National Development Fund, UWI Fund, approved real estate or business route.
- Valid travel documents, medical certificates, and health declarations.
- Full compliance with nationality, legal, and sanction requirements.
- Citizens must spend at least 5 days in Antigua & Barbuda within the first 5 years after citizenship.

Questions clients ask

How long does the Antigua & Barbuda Citizenship by Investment process take?

The Citizenship by Investment Unit does not publish a processing standard; timelines vary by case, document completeness and due diligence. XIPHIAS confirms the expected timeline for your file before submission.

Can I include my family in the Antigua & Barbuda CBI application?

Yes. The Citizenship by Investment Unit's dependants rules cover a spouse, children up to 30 if financially dependent (any age with a disability), parents aged 55 and over who are financially dependent, and unmarried siblings of the applicant or spouse.

What are the main investment options for Antigua & Barbuda citizenship?

A National Development Fund contribution (USD 230,000), the University of the West Indies Fund (USD 260,000 for a family of six or more), approved real estate (from USD 300,000) or a business investment (USD 1.5 million as a sole investor, or a USD 5 million joint investment).

Are there residency requirements for Antigua & Barbuda citizenship?

Yes. Citizens must spend at least 5 days in Antigua & Barbuda within the first 5 years after citizenship is granted.

Official sources: US Department of State — treaty countries (Grenada E-2, in force 3 March 1989); UK Government — check if you need a UK visa; UK Government — electronic travel authorisation (ETA); Federal Register — Presidential Proclamation 10998 (16 December 2025, effective 1 January 2026); Government of Canada — find out if you need a visa; Citizenship Act 1955, Section 9(1) — Government of India; Government of India — passport surrender certificate; Ministry of External Affairs — Overseas Citizenship of India scheme; OECS — regional CBI standards.



XIPHIAS Immigration

NEXT STEP

Discuss your Antigua & Barbuda options with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will compare the Antigua & Barbuda routes that fit you, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

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