

Vacation Guide

Bermuda offers wide variety of local goods local

HAMILTON, Bermuda — Visitors to Bermuda never turn down an offer of a larger shopping bag. That's because there are just too many good things to fill it with, especially the locally made products that are unique to the island.

Local artisans and manufacturers produce and export a vast array of quality goods, with the articles fashioned from the island's beloved endemic cedar tree perhaps being the foremost.

More than a dozen Bermudian craftsmen turn out hand-made cedar articles that can be found in most of the island's major retail outlets, as well as in the specialty shops. Items range from table lamps to standing floor lamps (approx. \$30 to \$50) to napkin holders and serving trays (\$5 to \$30); from candle stick holders and jewelry boxes (\$4 to \$45) to picture frames and book ends (\$10 to \$30). In among all these items are also found handbag handles, bowls, notepad holders, ashtray holders and much, much more.

The unique cedar item, though, is the Friendship Goblet (registered trademark). Turned on the lathe from a single block of cedar, each goblet has either one or two rings around the stem. The ring symbolizes eternity and goblets having one ring are given in token of friendship. Those with two rings are given as wedding gifts. Made in three heights, the prices range from \$12 to \$19.

Another popular product unique to the island is Bermuda Gold. Not a precious metal but instead a smooth liqueur made from loquats, Bermuda Gold is the only alcoholic beverage made on the island. Loquats, an abundant small, yellow fruit, are processed and blended with four other natural fruit concentrates and cane alcohol. Now available in the United States and Canada, Bermuda Gold is a traditional local drink. Islanders pour it over ice, add a twist of lemon and affectionately call it "A Shipwreck."

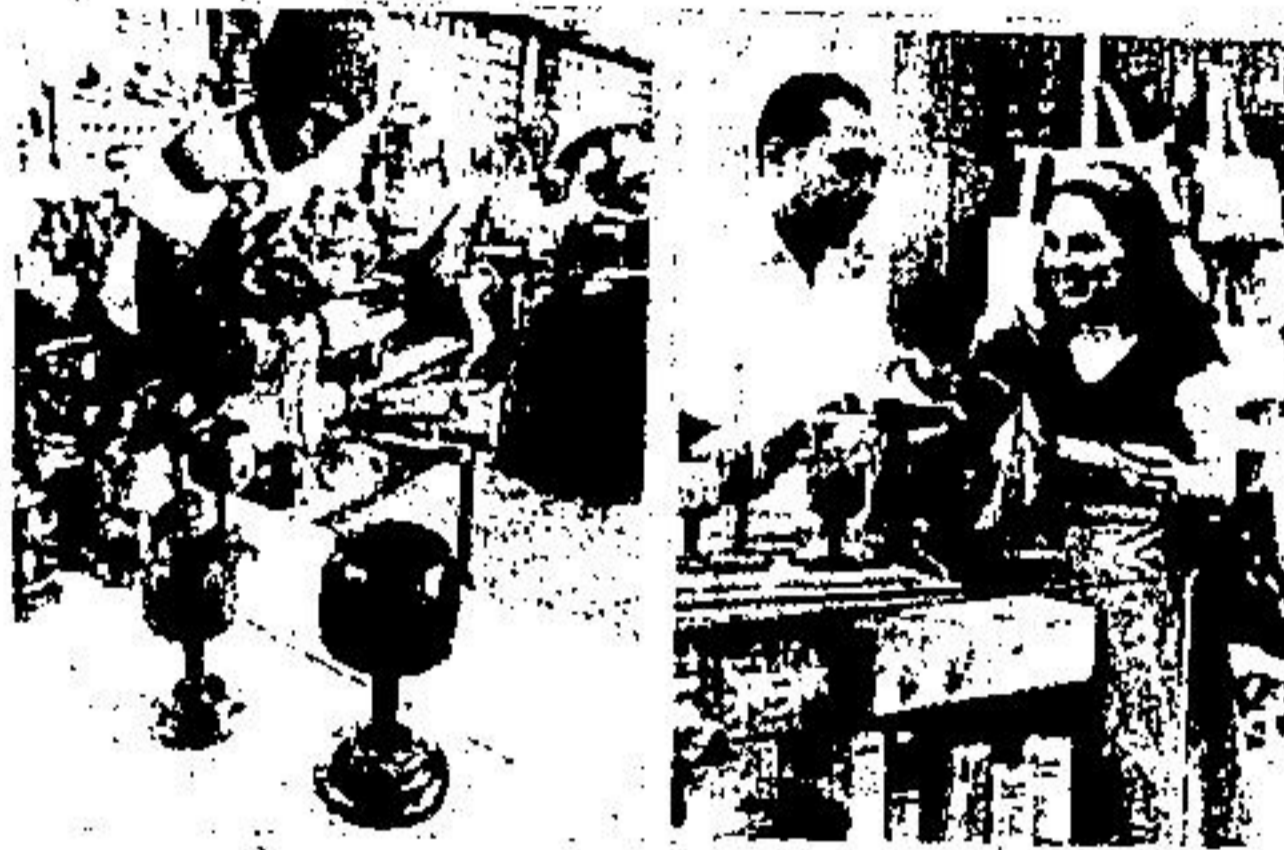
Bottled in pint and fifth sizes, Bermuda Gold sells for \$8.40 over the counter in all of the island's liquor stores, but tourists can take advantage of the various in bond package deals available, paying only \$6.10 per fifth.

Another Bermudian-made liquid refresher — although it is not brewed for drinking — is Royall Lyme, an all-purpose cologne that is distributed throughout the United States and Canada and parts of Europe. It is one of the three lotions blended, bottled and packaged on the island by the same company. Royall Spycy and Royall Bay Rhum are the others. Available in four sizes (2-4-8-10 oz.), the largest sells for \$12 on the island and \$19.50 abroad.

When it comes to bottling scents, though, it is the Bermuda Perfume Factory that has the most fame. Opened in 1931 in an old Bermudian farmhouse (built circa 1750), the Bermuda Perfume Factory each year welcomes more than 75,000 tourists who have the chance to see the fragrances being made and bottled. The essences are created from five local flowers: Bermuda Easter lily, oleander, jasmine, sweet pea and passion flower. A sixth fragrance — a shaving lotion — is made from cedar sawdust. Packaged under the brand name Lill, the complete line is on sale at the Factory, plus in all the major retail stores on the island. A large mail order business goes on throughout the year, too. Fragrances range in sizes from one gram to one ounce (\$3 to \$14), with three-bottle packages available.

Another perfume company produces three fragrances under the brand names of Fragilique, Coralique, plus a cologne and after shave lotion for men called Bermuda Sovereign. Sizes range from one-fifth of an ounce (\$3.95) to three-bottle gift sets (\$10.85).

One of Bermuda's hottest



HAMILTON, Bermuda — The "Made In Bermuda By Bermudians" stamp can be found on many handcrafted and manufactured items. The most unique of all the island-made products, though, is the Friendship Goblet (registered trademark), fashioned from a single block of Bermuda cedar. Each goblet is turned on the lathe (left) and has either one or two rings around the stem. A single-ring goblet is given as a token of friendship, while a double-ring goblet is given as a wedding gift. The rings symbolize eternity. After the finishing touches are put on the goblets, they are distributed in retail outlets throughout the island (right), and sold with other locally-made merchandise.

homemade items — is the condiment called Outerbridge's Original Sherry Peppers. Made from hot bird peppers soaked in medium dry sherry that has been spiced, sherry peppers have become a national tradition, found in nearly every restaurant and home kitchen on the island. Bermuda fish chowder or conch stew without a few shakes of sherry peppers is like springtime without flowers, so some islanders claim. So popular is the condiment that it is widely distributed throughout the United States and Canada. Three other companion condiments — a bloody Mary fix, a liquid mustard and a rum pepper sauce — round out the Outerbridge line. Each is available in a 5 oz. bottle for \$2.95. The sherry peppers also come in a 5 oz. cruet for \$4.

In addition to the cedar products made on the island, pottery, candles and straw goods are also hand crafted by local artisans. At the Bermuda Pottery, a wide

selection of hand-made items can be found at a multitude of reasonable prices. While no exporting is done, the shop — staffed by all Bermudian potters — welcomes special orders. The stipulation is that the tourist placing the order must pick it up before leaving the island.

At the Bermuda Candle Factory, the artisans turn out a wide variety of original shapes that are sold on the site or in many of the island's leading stores. Located in a large renovated coal shed overlooking St. George's Harbour, the Bermuda Candle Factory is one of three adjacent shops producing locally crafted goods. It is the only candle-making operation in Bermuda.

Next door is Bermuda Beauty Crafts, the island's only straw goods factory. Hand-made carrying bags and purses are available in a bevy of sizes, shapes, floral patterns and prices. Doing a limited export business, the shop is a major supplier for many of the large island

stores. Goods are sold at the factory, too.

The third tenant is craftsman Roland E. Jones whose intricate cedar work includes such items as large serving trays with inlaid maps of Bermuda. Jones also does a lot of custom work, promising he can produce anything from cedar, including toothpicks.

Of all the island's artisans, though, it is perhaps Marie Gleeson who is the most renowned. For more than 45 years, she has been making dolls but not ordinary dolls. Hers are fashioned from the indigenous plants of the

island: leaves of the palmetto palm, bababa and screw pine trees, plus coconut fibre and several varieties of flowers. Doll collectors throughout the world have beaten a path to her much-knocked-on door and she has always been able to oblige by filling every order — although it might take a few months due to the backlog of orders.

What it all comes down to is that for such a small place, Bermuda offers the world a broad range of quality home-made goods that say "Made in Bermuda by Bermudians."

Way to wrinkle-free packing

Whether suitcase or trunk, satchel or back pack, makes no difference . . . packing can be a bother.

There are two common forms of packing. One is the folding method where clothing is neatly folded in much the same way as a professional laundry might do.

The other method is the rolling method. This technique was perfected by the military to assure the maximum utilization of space and to eliminate

wrinkling. The specifics of this method are as follows:

- 1) Fold the clothing in much the same way as the laundry service would do. Make sure all collars, sleeves etc. are tucked away.
- 2) Fold again in half vertically.
- 3) Then roll the clothing tightly hand-over-hand starting with the collars (pants start with the top) tucked neatly under the first roll.



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