

Warwick Parish

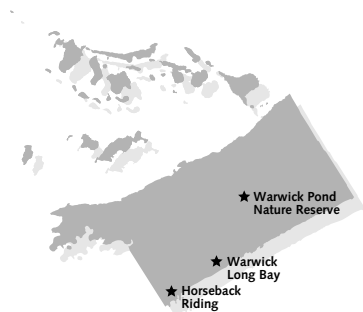


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HIGHLIGHTS

- Take a leisurely walk on the dazzling sands of **Warwick Long Bay** (opposite)
- Enjoy **horseback riding** (p115) along the scenic south shore
- Spot Bermuda's only 'wild' flamingo on the edge of **Warwick Pond Nature Reserve** (opposite)



■ POPULATION: 8587

■ AREA: 2.12 SQ MILES

Beautiful beaches and a central location are just part of Warwick's appeal. No place in all of Bermuda is more than an hour away from it and the bus service in the parish is among the most extensive and frequent in Bermuda. All of that also makes it an ideal place to call home and, not surprisingly, Warwick is the second most populated parish in Bermuda.

But it's not just locals who have taken a fancy to the parish. Movie stars, from silent-film actor Charlie Chaplin to thriller-movie star Michael Douglas, have landed in Warwick as well. Chaplin opted for the quiet windswept south shore, while Douglas lives in a 200-year-old mansion overlooking the north shore.

The north side of the parish enjoys fine water views of the islands in the sound, and it's sprinkled with fine period homes. But it's the south side that visitors flock to. It lays claim to those lovely pink-sand beaches on the cover of tourist brochures. Collectively they offer beachgoers a delightful range of options, from the quiet little coves at Astwood Park, Jobson Cove and Chaplin Bay to the long, splendid stretch of open shoreline at Warwick Long Bay.

Although you don't need to stay in Warwick Parish to use the beaches, all served by the South Rd bus route, Warwick has some choice accommodation options. Instead of major resorts there are inviting guesthouses and apartment-style places. This is an area best suited for visitors who want to prepare their own meals. Restaurant choices are limited, but most accommodations are equipped with kitchens.

Information

Warwick Laundromat (☎ 236-5403; 15 Ten Pin Cres; ☹ 7am-9pm Mon-Fri, 6am-9pm Sat & Sun) Off Middle Rd just east of the bowling alley.

Warwick Post Office (☎ 236-4071; 70 Middle Rd) On the corner of Khyber Pass.

White's Pharmacy (☎ 238-1050; 22 Middle Rd; ☹ 8am-9pm Mon-Sat, 1-5pm Sun) At White's Supermarket.

Sights

WARWICK LONG BAY

This splendid **beach** (South Rd), with its confetti of pink sand speckled with bits of white coral, extends unbroken for half a mile. It's a real beauty. Because it's open to the ocean, it often has more surf action than other beaches in the area and can be a good place for bodysurfing. It's also a fine choice for those who enjoy long beach strolls. When it's calm there's decent snorkeling on the reef, which is about 75 yards from the beach.

If you arrive at the east side of Warwick Long Bay, you'll find several short footpaths that lead from the parking area down to the beach. Better, however, is the entrance at

the west end of Warwick Long Bay, as the walkway from the parking lot leads west to a rocky outcropping that separates the expansive beach from a run of smaller coves and bays.

Jobson Cove, just minutes from the west-side parking lot, is a delightful little cove with a small white-sand beach that's nearly encircled by shoreline rocks. Because of its protected waters, Jobson Cove is popular with families that have young children. Next is Stonehole Bay, which has a wider beach and bright turquoise waters, followed by the adjacent Chaplin Bay, which has inviting double coves and is broader still. All are connected to one another by a footpath forming part of the South Shore Park Trail (p122), which extends from Warwick Long Bay along the shoreline into Southampton Parish all the way to Horseshoe Bay.

WARWICK POND NATURE RESERVE

Bermuda's second-largest freshwater pond is the centerpiece of a 9-acre **nature reserve** (nr Middle Rd & Tribe Rd No 3; admission free; ☼ sunrise-sunset) teeming with birds.

HIKING

A section of the **Railway Trail** (p34) traces the length of Warwick Parish two miles from west to east, running between Middle Rd and South Rd. En route it passes on the south side of Warwick Pond Nature Reserve and the Belmont Hills Golf Club.

Sleeping

Clairfont Apartments (☎ 238-0149; www.clairfontapartments.com; 6 Warwickshire Rd; studio/1-bedroom apt \$130/150; 🏠 🚿 🚿) Beautiful roomy apartments, a cheery resident manager and just a 10-minute walk to the beach combine to make this a clear winner. For what you get this is one of the best deals on the island, but book well in advance as there's a steady stream of return guests. Each of the eight units is a bit different but all have full kitchens and little extras including DVD players and Internet access (if you bring your own computer). The corner units are particularly roomy and one even has a fireplace.

Vienna Guest Apartments (☎ 236-3300; www.bermuda1.com; 63 Cedar Hill; apt winter/summer from \$110/130; 🏠 🚿 🚿) This place is so hospitable that it's a bit like staying with your favorite uncle. Leopold Kuchler, who doubles as the Austrian honorary consul, welcomes all international visitors and provides little extras like taking you to pick up groceries on your first night. The six apartments each have a full kitchen, a bedroom with both a queen bed and a single bed, and a living room with a sofa bed. It's in a quiet upscale neighborhood, a bit off the beaten track but on a bus route.

Surf Side Beach Club (☎ 236-7100, in the USA ☎ 800-553-9990; www.surfside.bm; 90 South Rd; r winter/summer from \$150/275, with kitchen \$195/325; 🏠 🚿 🚿) Large, well-appointed units and a quiet setting with a private beach await at this small resort on the southeastern edge of Warwick Parish. The rooms, many with dazzling balconies perched above the ocean, are twice the size of a typical hotel room. The suites are even larger and, considering the parish's limited dining options, are the best way to go as they have full kitchens. The beach offers good swimming and the facilities include a sauna, hot tub and spa.

Granaway Guest House & Cottage (☎ 236-3747; www.granaway.com; 1 Longford Rd; r winter/summer from \$100/130, cottage \$150-220; 🏠 🚿) Treat yourself to ocean views out the front and a lovely

poolside garden at the rear in this classic manor house built in 1734. Opt for one of the five atmospheric guestrooms in the main house or splurge on the cottage, which has hand-painted Italian tiles, a full kitchen and a fireplace – and yes, it dates to colonial times as well. Breakfast is included with the guestrooms.

Sandpiper Apartments (☎ 236-7093, in the USA ☎ 800-637-4116; www.bermuda.com/sandpiper/index.htm; 10 South Rd; apt winter/summer from \$100/140; 🏠 🚿) This small apartment complex, at the east side of Warwick Parish, offers 14 pleasant units, each with full kitchens, two double beds and a single sofa bed. There are also a couple of larger units that have separate living rooms and can sleep up to four people for \$50 more. The only drawback is that it's not close to a beach, although it is convenient for the bus.

Syl-Den Apartments (☎ 238-1834, in the USA ☎ 800-637-4116; syl@bsbp.bm; 8 Warwickshire Rd; apt \$110-160; 🏠 🚿) Adjacent to Clairfont Apartments, the five units in this place aren't as cushy as their neighbor's, but they make a fine alternative choice. Each is modern and comfortably furnished, with all the essentials including phones and full kitchens. There's a pool and sundeck, and the beach at Warwick Long Bay is within walking distance.

Blue Horizons (☎ 236-6350, in the USA ☎ 800-637-4116; blu@bspl.bm; 93 South Rd; s/d \$80/100, apt \$150-270; 🏠 🚿) This little family-run place, painted ocean blue, has five comfortable units ranging from a straightforward room suitable for a couple to apartments that can accommodate a small family. Rates are the same year-round, making it particularly good value in

O'NEILL'S INTERLUDE

Famed American playwright Eugene O'Neill had a house on Harbour Rd in Warwick for a time, and it was here that he wrote *Mourning Becomes Electra*, *Lazarus Laughed*, *Strange Interlude* and *The Great God Brown*. O'Neill's daughter Oona, who married silent-film actor Charlie Chaplin, was born in Bermuda in 1925.

For a good read that details the author's life on the island, pick up a copy of the biography *Eugene O'Neill & Family; the Bermuda Interlude*, by Joy Bluck Waters, whose family lives in the house O'Neill once owned.

the summer. Although it's on busy South Rd, the house is set back far enough to be beyond the sound of traffic.

Marley Beach Cottages (☎ 236-1143, in the USA ☎ 800-637-4116; marleybeach@therock.bm; South Rd; apt winter/summer from \$130/210; 🏠 🚿) Fall asleep at night to the sound of the surf at these bluffside units scenically set above a private sandy beach. The unit interiors are simple and a bit worn, but the grounds are beautiful and the staff is as hospitable as they come. All units have kitchens and there's a heated whirlpool perfect for stargazing.

Astwood Cove (☎ 236-0984, in the USA ☎ 800-637-4116; www.astwoodcove.com; 49 South Rd; studio winter/summer from \$110/150; 🏠 🚿) This place sports a fine location opposite Astwood Park and 20 studios equipped with everything you'll need right down to the wine glasses. Other perks include verandas, barbecue grills, a sauna and a coin laundry. Plop down an extra \$10 and get yourself a 2nd-story unit with a cathedral ceiling and water view.

Eating

RESTAURANTS

Paw Paws (☎ 236-7459; 87 South Rd; lunch \$10-15, dinner \$16-26; 🍷 11am-10pm; 🏠) This cheery pub-like restaurant serves up good food and provides the parish's only moderately-priced option. Lunch, served until 5pm, features fresh salads, sandwiches with fries and a couple of simple hot dishes. At dinner there are steaks, pastas and the like, but go for one of the house specials: shark steak in Creole sauce or 'Paw Montepan' – a baked green papaya (paw paw) dish with ground beef, cheese and tomato.

Palms Restaurant (☎ 236-7100; Surf Side Beach Club, 90 South Rd; breakfast & lunch \$7-16, dinner \$27-37; 🍷 breakfast, lunch & dinner; 🏠 🚿) Poolside and with an ocean view, the Palms catches the south shore mood. The only hotel restaurant in Warwick, the Palms serves three meals a day, with breakfast options from cereal to eggs Benedict, and lunch the expected menu of salads and light fare. At dinner the chef shines with innovative flair – to spice up the night, try the tequila-seared tiger prawns or the coconut curry rockfish.

Brenda's Poolside Diner (☎ 236-7807; 93 South Rd; snacks \$5-8; 🍷 lunch) Roadside in front of Blue Horizons, this simple snack bar has hot dogs, burgers, fries and other simple eats.

GROCERIES

The most central grocery store in the parish is **Haywards Supermarket** (☎ 232-3995; 49 Middle Rd; 🍷 7am-7pm Mon-Sat), which also sells hot take-out items around lunchtime. The other options are **White's Supermarket** (☎ 238-1050; 22 Middle Rd; 🍷 8am-9pm Mon-Sat, 1-5pm Sun), at the west side of the parish, and **Lindo's Family Foods** (☎ 236-1344; 128 Middle Rd; 🍷 8am-7pm Mon-Sat), at the east side of the parish.

Getting There & Around

Warwick is crossed from east to west by three main roads: Harbour Rd on the north shore, Middle Rd through the interior and South Rd along the south shore. There's no bus service on Harbour Rd, but there is public ferry service to the City of Hamilton from the northeast side of the parish.

BOAT

The Pink Route of the public ferry (p154) connects the City of Hamilton with Warwick, making a 30-minute roundtrip loop from Hamilton that stops at Darrell's Wharf, near the intersection of Harbour and Cobbs Hill Rds, and at Belmont Wharf, near the Belmont Hills Golf Club.

The first ferry leaves Hamilton at 7:15am and takes 15 minutes to reach Belmont Wharf, another five minutes to reach Darrell's Wharf and another 10 minutes from there back to Hamilton. The ferries run on weekdays about once every half-hour, with the last ferry leaving Hamilton at 8:20pm. On Saturdays the schedule is similar except that the first ferry out of Hamilton is at 8:15am. On Sunday the service is less frequent and operates from 10am to 7pm.

In addition, during the middle of the day most Warwick ferries on the Pink Route also stop at the Paget wharfs of Lower Ferry, Hodson's Ferry and Salt Kettle. The fare between any two points on the Pink Route is \$2.50.

BUS

Bus No 8 travels along Middle Rd to Warwick Pond and the village center, while bus No 7 travels along South Rd to Astwood Park and Warwick Long Beach; both of the routes connect Warwick with the Royal Naval Dockyard (\$4.50, 35 minutes) to the west and the City of Hamilton (\$3, 25 minutes) to the east. Both buses operate once

every 15 minutes during the day Monday to Saturday and about once every 30 minutes in the evening and on Sunday.

Bus No 7 operates weekdays from around 7am to 10pm (last bus out of Hamilton is at 9:15pm; last bus from the Dockyard is

at 10:20pm), from 8am to 10pm Saturday and 9:30am to 6pm Sunday. Bus No 8 operates from 6:45am to around midnight Monday to Saturday and 8am to 11pm Sunday. For more information on public buses, including passes, see p155.