

## Mermaids, Bahama Mamas & EBay

Submitted by the Editor

While in Nassau I had the pleasure of going on a harbor cruise operated by Seahorse Sailing Adventures. After boarding a custom built Catamaran, we set sail on about an hour and a half journey giving us fantastic views of the Atlantis Paradise Island Resort, historical sites (including the old lighthouse built in 1817 that we passed entering and leaving port) and multimillion dollar celebrity homes, one of which belonged to Oprah Winfrey. Other celebs that own homes and property in the Bahamas include Tiger Woods and Johnny Depp, just to name a few. We also learned that academy award winning actor Sidney Poitier (think movie and song "To Sir With Love") was from the Bahamas, and I invite you to check out his fascinating biography at: [Sidney Poitier | Biography, Movies, & Facts | Britannica](#). But thereby I digress.

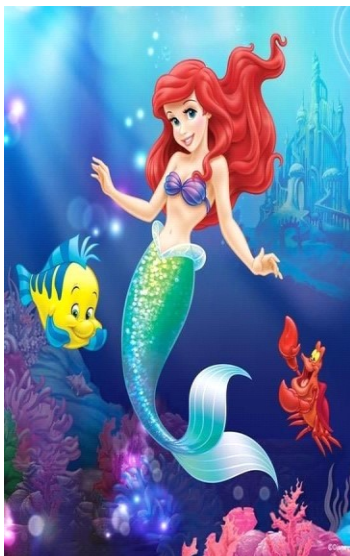
Chris, a native Bahamian, was our tour guide and two lovely young ladies served a variety of juices, sodas and adult beverages. It seemed the most popular drinks were ones affectionately called Bahama Mamas, consisting of two types of rum (golden and coconut) and fruit punch. Before proceeding I must say something about the Bahamian accent so you can imagine what I'm about to describe. It's kind of similar to Jamaican but not quite as strong or pronounced. So with that being said, about fifteen minutes into the cruise, when the Bahama Mamas were freely flowing, Chris (using a bullhorn) starts a dialog about mermaids that went something like:

**Chris:** Has anyone seen any mermaids yet?

**Passengers:** A few laughs, but mostly polite denials of any sightings.

**Chris:** Don't worry ladies and gentlemen, after another Bahama Mama or two, you will! Or at least think you do!!

This resulted in enthusiastic applause and hysterical laughter from the passengers as the magical elixirs were beginning to take effect. Now I don't recall any mermaid sightings but in short order there were a great many people singing, dancing, and clapping their hands to tunes such as Bobby McFerrin's "Don't Worry Be Happy".



Before we knew it, it was time to head back to the pier. A few minutes out Chris once again took to the bullhorn with another announcement. "Ladies and Gentlemen, it's been our pleasure to have you aboard. Please check for personal belongings and valuables such as smart phones and cameras before disembarking. And if in a few hours you discover that you did leave something aboard, please check on EBay and you will probably see it for sale, at double the price you paid for it!"

Needless to say, the crews tip jar was nicely funded by the end of the cruise.