

# HARNEYS



## Corporate Services

## Welcome to Harneys Corporate Services

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**Harneys Corporate Services** is a leading provider of corporate and trust services in the British Virgin Islands (BVI) and Anguilla.

With over 30 years of experience and 10,000 companies under our administration, we have earned the trust and loyalty of our clients through-out the world.

Our experts teams consist of lawyers, accountants, trust officers and company secretaries, and are divided into the following specialist areas:

- Company Formation
- Company Administration
- Private Client Trusts and Fiduciary
- Investment Funds
- Insurance Management
- Legal Services

Harneys Corporate Services is a member of the Harneys Group. The close integration of the Group's knowledge management, IT and compliance systems enables us to offer clients a seamless service, drawing upon resources from our affiliated legal practice and international offices to deliver a product tailor-made to each client's individual needs.

A large proportion of our clients consist of professional intermediaries such as lawyers and accountants, and we attract the offshore business of some of the largest law firms and financial institutions in the world.

We have teams of specialists on hand to deliver fast and efficient service to commercial resellers of companies and a team specifically dedicated to servicing clients who are new to the incorporations procedure in the BVI and Anguilla.

Our online corporate management service allows clients to access information about their companies for whom we act as registered office and registered agent.

## Locations

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### British Virgin Islands

The BVI, a British Overseas Territory, is a group of about 40 islands and cays located approximately 60 miles East of Puerto Rico in the Caribbean Sea. The BVI has gained a reputation as the world's leading offshore corporate domiciles. Combining a safe, politically stable environment with a legislative framework developed in close consultation with the private sector, the BVI offers:

- One of the most popular and long established International Business Companies Acts in the world, with over 600,000 companies having been incorporated
- A zero tax rate, with no income, wealth, capital gains or estate tax for offshore entities
- Effective regulation
- A proven legal and court system based on the British legal system and English common law
- No exchange controls, with the US dollar being the legal tender
- Modern communications infrastructure and easy access through excellent flight Connections



## Locations

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### Anguilla

Anguilla, a British Overseas Territory, is the most northerly of the Leeward Islands in the Eastern Caribbean. Anguilla's Commercial Online Registration Network (ACORN) has provided the jurisdiction with an innovative computerized company registration service that allows for instant incorporation of companies, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. A discrete, low-key financial services jurisdiction, Anguilla offers:

- A zero tax rate, with no income, capital gains, estate or other forms of direct taxation imposed on individuals or corporations
- Effective regulation
- A proven legal and court system based on the British legal system and English common law
- No exchange controls. The Eastern Caribbean (EC) dollar is the legal tender and is pegged to the US dollar. The US dollar is also acceptable island-wide
- A comprehensive and innovative package of financial services legislation
- Ready availability of client's choice of company name, including Chinese character names



## **Locations**

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### **London and Hong Kong**

Through Harneys' law offices in London and Hong Kong initial legal advice is available on the structuring of Trusts and companies in the BVI and Anguilla to suit every client's individual needs. The London and Hong Kong offices provide a convenient point of contact between Harneys Corporate Services and clients in Europe and Asia.

## Services

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### Company Formation

Harneys Corporate Services has a dedicated company formation team specializing in the incorporation of British Virgin Islands and Anguillan companies.

Up-to-date technology infrastructure enables us to meet our clients' needs quickly and without compromise. An online link to the British Virgin Islands Registry of Corporate Affairs and Anguilla's Commercial Online Registration Network (ACORN) provides a comprehensive name-checking facility allowing immediate determination of availability of a proposed company or limited partnership name. Incorporation documents can typically be prepared and filed within 24 hours. The incorporation kit is usually dispatched via courier 5 business days after the initial filing.

Ready-made shelf-companies are also available for immediate purchase.

Our company formation services include:

- Name checks with free 10 day reservation period for approved names
- Incorporation of IBC and BVIBC companies with standardized or customized Memoranda and Articles of Association
- Formation of Limited Partnerships
- Initial organization of companies
- Facilitation of Apostilles and legalisation of documents
- Facilitation of banking arrangements
- Provision of company kit which includes:
  - Certificate of Incorporation
  - Registry stamped copy of the Company Memorandum and Articles of Association
  - Appointment of first directors
  - Organising resolutions
  - Share certificates
  - Register of Shareholders

## Services

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### Company Administration

At Harneys Corporate Services our teams of lawyers, trust officers and company secretaries oversee the affairs of over 10,000 companies, providing BVI and Anguillan Registered Agent and Registered Office facilities along with the full range of company secretarial services including:

- Updating of registers of directors, officers and members
- Issuance of registered agent certificates
- Preparing resolutions
- Assisting with Apostilles and legalisation of documents at various embassies and consulates
- Attending to the restoration of companies that have been struck off
- Filing of articles of continuation and inter-agent transfer of companies
- Assisting with the issuance of share certificates
- Liaison with the Registry of Corporate Affairs regarding:
  - filing of annual fees
  - amendments to Memorandum and Articles of Association
  - name changes
  - issuance of Certificates of Incorporation
  - Certificates of Good Standing
  - Certificates of Tax Exemption
  - Certificates of Dissolution

## Services

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### **Private Client Trusts and Fiduciary**

Harneys Corporate Services offers a private client service which provides a wide range of fiduciary support services and trust advice to those clients who require more than the simple provision of a registered office and registered agent for their companies in the British Virgin Islands and Anguilla.

- The Trust & Fiduciary team offers the following services:
- Corporate directorships
- Individual directorships
- Signatories on bank accounts
- Custodianship of documents
- Corporate trusteeships for British Virgin Islands trusts; and
- Liquidation advice and support services.

## Services

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### Investment Funds

Harneys Corporate Services has a dedicated Investment Funds and Regulatory Team which supports approximately 800 regulated funds and fund management companies established in the BVI. The team forms the nucleus for all investment fund companies, fund managers, fund administrators, limited partnerships, insurance companies, banks and trust companies for which Harneys Corporate Services acts as Registered Agent. Backed by the expertise of the Harneys Investment Funds legal team, they act as a liaison between these regulated entities and the BVI Financial Services Commission on ongoing regulatory issues and statutory filings. Other services include:

- Structuring and incorporation of investment funds
- Maintenance of books and records to include Share Registers, Registers of Directors, etc.
- Acceptance of service of process
- Attending to the annual renewal of licenses, certificate of recognition/registration for all regulated entities
- Provision of directorship services.

## Affiliated Services

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### Legal Services

Harneys Corporate Services benefits from its close association with the law firm Harney Westwood & Riegels. The firm is the oldest and largest legal practice in the British Virgin Islands, and is consistently ranked as the leading law firm in the jurisdiction by the major international legal directories.

The firm's depth of expertise in the British Virgin Islands market is a result of its intense jurisdictional focus, its close involvement with the legislative development process, and the quality and experience of its lawyers.

Harneys lawyers are available to advise on all matters relating to British Virgin Islands and Anguillan companies. Specialist practice areas include:

- Admiralty & Shipping
- Banking & Finance
- Corporate & Commercial
- Insolvency
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation
- Local Business, Property and Tax
- Investment Funds and Regulatory
- Trusts, Wills and Estates Affiliated Services

## Affiliated Services

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### **Insurance Management**

Harneys Corporate Services is closely affiliated with the group's insurance management practice.

Harneys Insurance provides a full range of captive insurance management services, including:

- Risk Management Consultancy
- Risk Financing Consultancy
- Captive Insurance Feasibility Studies
- Captive Insurance Formation and
- Captive Insurance Management

These services can be extended to companies, associations and individuals that are motivated to reap the benefits of increased risk retention.

## Key Contacts

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