

Harry's Nitery

HARRY'S NITERY
THIS NITERY OPENS AT 9 PM
TOURISTS ONLY
THEY COME BY BOAT.
THEY COME BY AIRPLANE.
THEY COME BY BALLOON.
BUT ALL OVER THE CARIBBEAN
EVERYONE COMES TO HARRY'S NITERY.
MENTIONED IN A REUTERS
DISPATCH ON CENSORING



We stand and read the signs in front of Harry's. It is a two story building with a balcony, inside, very dim, a chandelier with what might be glass drops, the whole building flimsy, the entrance through a door in a board fence to the left that appears to open into a courtyard.

“Bridgetown, the capital, has the Caribbean’s naughtiest nightspot. Harry’s Nitery, the proprietor, Harry, is out more or less permanently on bail, appealing his various convictions for being too naughty. About the only thing the police cannot charge him with is overdoing the striptease — the girls simply walk out naked to start with. Anything that happens after that is up to the audience’s whim”.

“There’s no striptease at Harry’s —the girls walk on naked.”

The above comments came from various publications depicting the sixties establishment. The above photo is of Violet Bourne’s Bar but looked like Harry’s (*could not find any photo of Harry’s*). My memory of the visit to Harry’s in 1969 was something you did once. I remember it was more of a show than a bar. Patrons gathered for showtime, entry fee was paid, you were given a bottle of beer, and you entered a room with chairs along the perimeter and against the walls. After being seated in the dimly lit room several ladies would enter and dance in the center. The ladies would dance singularly and together. The together dancing was not the foxtrot. They would not always stay in the center but venture out to the perimeter. The finally had each of the lovelies go around the room and bounce on your lap. Some would position that refreshment we received upon entry exactly right as they bounced. I was glad that I finished my beer earlier. I remember the attendees being tourists of various ages and gender, all wanting the experience of going to Harry’s Nitery... once.
