

Biography



Henry Mander

Partner | Cayman Islands

📞 +1 345 815 2927

✉️ henry.mander@harneys.com

Expertise

Private Wealth , Trusts , Private trust companies , Wills , Probate & letters of administration , Trusts & private client litigation

Henry Mander is a leading trust practitioner, with over 20 years offshore and onshore experience in the international private client industry, and is the global head of our Trusts and Private Wealth groups. He is ranked in the top band in both Cayman and BVI for private client/trusts by Legal 500 and Chambers High Net Worth, the leading directories in this field.

Henry advises both private and institutional clients, including banks and trust companies, on all aspects of Cayman and BVI trust law. He has a broad range of trust and estate planning experience, including the creation, administration and termination of complex international trusts and advising on the mechanics for effective succession planning for high net worth individuals and families.

Henry has a particular expertise in the use of STAR trusts and VISTA trusts for clients in emerging markets, specifically Latin America and the Far East. Recent instructions have also involved sophisticated planning involving Private Trust Companies in both Cayman and BVI. The majority of Henry's practice involves working with clients' onshore advisors, especially lawyers and accountants, to ensure that the most advantageous Cayman or BVI trust vehicle is established. In recent years, Henry has also acted as expert witness and as court-appointed representative for certain beneficiaries in various complex international trust proceedings.

Henry joined Harneys in the BVI in January 2011 before relocating to the Cayman Islands later that year. He previously worked in the private client departments of London firms Boodle Hatfield and Farrer & Co.

Henry is a full member of the Society of Trust & Estate Practitioners (STEP) and has sat on the STEP Cayman Islands Council, including its legislative sub-committee, since 2014. He is one of the contributing editors to British Virgin Islands Commercial Law, Sweet & Maxwell, now in its fourth edition.

Recommendations

Henry is recognised as a leading individual in both the Cayman Islands and the BVI Trusts/Private Client rankings. Clients say he is "always available, provides practical advice and excellent solutions", another says he is "very much respected, quite rightly, as a clever and measured partner of wide experience".

- Legal 500, 2024

Henry is recognised as a Band 1 lawyer.

Sources say: "Henry is knowledgeable and also very personable. He is very good with clients face to face, and he also has global awareness." and "Henry is absolutely on the ball, he is extremely smart and comes up with very unique solutions."

- Chambers HNW, 2023

Henry is recognised as a Global Elite Lawyer.

- Legal Week – Private Client Global Elite, 2019-24

Henry is recognised as a legal individual in both the Cayman Islands and the BVI Trusts/Private Client rankings.

- Legal 500, 2023

Henry has been recognised as a Thought Leader in Global Elite – Private Client and Private Client guides.

- Who's Who Legal 2023

Henry is recognised as a Band 1 lawyer. He is described as a "top-class trust and equity adviser" who is "highly knowledgeable, technically excellent and can always be depended upon to provide timely, expert advice on difficult issues."

- Chambers HNW, 2022

Henry has been recognised as a Thought Leader in Global Elite – Private Client and Private Client guides.

- Who's Who Legal 2022

Henry is recognised as a leading individual for BVI Trusts/Private Client. Sources say he is "capable, experienced and responsive" and "brilliant and engaging and an excellent resource in Cayman". "He is a go-to legal expert on BVI and Cayman trust law."

- Legal 500, 2022

Henry is recognised as a legal individual in both the Cayman Islands and the BVI Trusts/Private Client rankings.

- Legal 500, 2021

Henry Mander is "very impressive and known to be an expert in offshore matters," and "a very good international lawyer." A source further highlights Mander's strength in cross-border, matters saying that "he has a real strong position in the Asian and Latin American markets." An industry commentator observes: "He is very well respected for his work in offshore matters and he is a really strong practitioner." Sources note that "he is a real gentleman" who "brings real understanding and maturity to cases."

- Chambers HNW, 2020

Henry was ranked as a "thought leader" in both the Global Elite and Private Client categories.

- Who's Who Legal, 2020

Henry is recognised as a leading lawyer and commended as "a leading Cayman non-contentious trust lawyer whose commercial and highly knowledgeable advice is invaluable to clients".

- Citywealth

Henry is recognised for his "really good technical knowledge". Clients find him "very easy to work with", "enthusiastic about the work he does", and "responsive and proactive". "He's very bright and has good commercial understanding of the transaction. His response time is excellent," one client said. "He is responsive

and proactive, he is able to explain complex matters in a simple way. I particularly appreciate the responsiveness and timeliness of the work," said another.

- Chambers HNW

Henry is recognised as a "leading individual". A source said: "Henry Mander is the ideal private client lawyer: a perfect blend of charm, understanding, legal knowledge and intellectual ability. He is also a pleasure to deal with and has built a very good team in Cayman from scratch, which is not easy to do." Another added: "Henry Mander is a pleasure to deal with - great legal skills, but also commercial with a view to getting the deal done."

- Legal 500, 2020

Henry is ranked as a Leading Lawyer by Legal 500 in both the Cayman Islands and the BVI, and is described as a lawyer who is "one of the most knowledgeable advisers in the industry", "extremely efficient" and very responsive". "Almost always available to deal with client matters, gives undivided care to his clients and is very knowledgeable" was another comment; the guide has previously recognised Henry's "supreme promptness and in-depth, practical and reliable knowledge". Henry has also been noted for "valuing his relationship with clients, his integrity and always providing good advice". The Trusts and Private Wealth teams which Henry leads are also ranked in Band 1 in the British and Cayman Islands guides.

- Legal 500

Bar Admissions

British Virgin Islands
2011

Cayman Islands
2011

England and Wales (not practising)
2003

Education

College of Law (LPC)
2000

College of Law (CPE)
1999

University of Oxford (MA)
1998

"... one of the most knowledgeable advisers in the industry", "extremely efficient" and very responsive".

Legal 500