



# SHORE EXCURSIONS

**15**  
nights

**STAR FLYER**  
**Westbound Las Palmas - St. Maarten**

<b>10 November</b>	<b>Las Palmas (Gran Canaria), Spain</b>
11 November	Puerto de Valle Gran Rey (La Gomera), Spain
12-24 November	At sea
<b>26 November</b>	<b>Philipsburg, St. Maarten</b>

## What you need to know before booking your shore excursion:

- All our tours are offered with English speaking guides.
- The length of the tours and time spent on the sites is given as an indication as it may vary depending on weather, sea and traffic conditions and on the group's pace.
- The level of physical fitness required for our activities is given as a very general indication. Passengers should be fit and active to join tours which include hiking, biking, snorkelling, boating, or similar activities.

## How you can book your shore excursions:

- You can book shore excursions onboard, using our "sign-up lists" available at the library.
- In order to provide the best service and to avoid disappointments, please book your shore excursions as early as possible: places are limited and there is a booking deadline for each port.
- A minimum number of participants is required for tours; if the required number is not attained, the tour may be cancelled.

## Important notes:

- Departure times of the tour are mentioned on the daily program of each port.
- The Captain reserves the right to alter the itinerary in order to suit wind, weather and local conditions.
- Cancellation and changes are possible until the booking deadline. After the booking deadline, 100 % cancellation fees will be charged.
- All information concerning excursions is correct at the time of printing. However, Star Clippers reserves the right to make changes, which will be relayed to passengers during the Cruise Director's onboard information sessions. Last updated tour descriptions are available in a file at the library.

Date of last update : 5<sup>th</sup> of May2023

### PUERTO DE VALLE GRAN REY (LA GOMERA), SPAIN

#### Scenic Gomera

Duration: 04:30

Price: 55 €

Min 15 / Max 40 participants

Transportation: air-conditioned motorcoach

Activity level: easy

The island of La Gomera, which forms an almost perfect circle, is the second smallest of the Canary Islands. San Sebastian, the capital of the island (approximately 6.000 inhabitants), is a picturesque village and harbor. It was here that Columbus loaded his ships with food supplies and water before setting sail for America. Before the voyage he and his crew attended mass at the little church of La Asuncion, still in use, to pray for a safe passage.

During the course of this leisurely excursion, you will discover the scenic north side of the island and the beautiful National Park where you will learn about the local flora and fauna.

Your guide will accompany you on a short and easy walk through one of the oldest laurel forests in the world; a green mass of prehistoric vegetation which has survived to this day thanks to the extraordinarily temperate climate. The area was classed as a national park in 1981, and a UNESCO world cultural heritage site in 1986.

The tour continues with a panoramic drive for a visit to the Juego de Bolas (Parque Nacional del Garajonay Visitor Centre). Here you will find a wealth of information concerning the geology, climate, flora and fauna of the park. At the "House of Memory" you will learn about traditional culture with exhibits including the interior of a rural house, agricultural equipment, a cellar, and traditional ceramics. Continue passing by Agulo to Hermigua, a beautiful green valley known for its mild climate, water filled ravines, and banana plantations. Here you will get a chance to visit a handicraft center with displays of local pottery, utensils and looms which give a good idea of how the inhabitants used to live.

Drive back to Valle Gran Rey to the port.

Please note: This excursion includes a long drive on mountain roads.



**PHILIPSBURG (SINT MAARTEN)****Scenic island tour (ending at the airport)**

Duration: 03:30 approx.

Transportation: air-conditioned vehicle

Price: 59 €

Activity level: easy

Min 15 participants

Saint Maarten is one of the most unique destinations in the Caribbean. Since 1648 the island has been divided between the French and the Dutch with both sides maintaining their very distinct personality and heritage. The French side, Saint Martin is quiet and refined with gorgeous white beaches, French cuisine and sophisticated resorts.

The Dutch side of Sint Maarten has a more obvious Caribbean flavour with its brightly coloured buildings and tropical flair. St Maarten's capital is Philipsburg which bustles with duty free shopping, quality dining and an active nightlife. Practically, the whole island's economy is based on tourism with around 70% of the population working in the tourist sector. The island is also duty-free, which of course enhances its attractiveness for tourists. Both the French and the Dutch sides of the island benefit from the sandy beaches and coves which create an ideal environment for swimming, snorkelling and water sports.

Departing the Harbor at 9am, you will be dropped off in nearby Philipsburg for a one-hour browsing and shopping on famous Front Street (shops open at 9 am) or for a leisurely stroll along the boardwalk to enjoy the turquoise waters of Great Bay. After enjoying the Dutch Capital, you will be driven past the salt ponds, once the main source of revenue for the island to Oyster Pond, where you will cross the border to the French side.

Following the road to the charming village of Oyster Pond you will arrive at Coralita lookout point. Here kite surfers can often be photographed catching the waves, while in the distance the island of St Barth can be seen. After a short stop the journey continues to Orient bay, the Saint Tropez of the Caribbean, well-known for its clothing optional beach.

The drive continues further through the picturesque countryside of French St Martin past the village of Grand Case, the gourmet Capital of the Caribbean with its many restaurants, alive with creole culture and a local community vibe. Entering Marigot, the capital of the French side of St. Martin, the tour will stop for a 1-hour break giving guests the time for some more souvenir hunting, duty free shopping and/or time to enjoy a coffee in a typical French café.

Leaving the charming French capital of Marigot you will be driven through Bellevue on the way to the border where you will cross back the Dutch side of the island. Then you will cross the Simpson Bay causeway, the newest and longest bridge on the island.

Following along airport road and the runway you will arrive at 12h30 at Juliana International airport.

Please note: This tour is suitable only for guests who have flights leaving St Maarten after 3:30 pm.

