

Bridgetown, Barbados – Captain's choice – Grenada – Tobago Cays Kingstown, St. Vincent – Port Elizabeth, Bequia – Fort de France & beach stop, Martinique – Marigot Bay & Soufriere, Saint Lucia – Bridgetown, Barbados

All tours are offered with English speaking guides. The length of the tours or time spent on sites is given as an indication as it may vary depending on the road, weather, sea and traffic conditions and the group's pace. Minimum number of participants indicated per coach or group.

The level of physical fitness required for our activities is given as a very general indication without any knowledge of our passenger's individual abilities. Broadly speaking to enjoy activities such as hiking, biking, snorkelling, boating or other activities involving physical exertion, passengers should be fit and active. Passengers must judge for themselves whether they will be capable of participating in and above all enjoying such activities.

Please remember that islands in the Caribbean have a subtropical climate. Heavy rainfall may have a negative impact on roads and access to sites such as beaches. If this is the case excursions will be modified accordingly. Hiking paths may become muddy and slippery.



Excursions including snorkelling may have to be modified (change of location) without compensation if the organiser and/or captain of the boat judge that local conditions are not consistent with passenger safety.

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.

The information provided on the tours is designed to help you select the shore excursions most suited to your interests.

However please note that all shore excursions listed on our website may be subject to changes and modifications without prior notice.

The tour descriptions include approximate durations and rates will be advised prior to the departure date.



Barbados

Flavour of Barbados (Island Discovery tour ending at the Airport)

By air-conditioned vehicle

Min 20 participants, maximum limited

Duration approx 4h30

Price TBA

Your tour starts along the famous West Coast of Barbados, allowing you to catch a glimpse of the lives of the rich and famous who own villas there. Along the route you will pass through Hometown and Speightstown two typically charming Caribbean towns. Next you will head inland and your first stop will be at Farley Hill National Park with its Great House ruins and vibrant gardens with a large variety of plants and trees and a spectacular view of the East Coast. Enjoy a leisurely stroll through the park before going on to discover the East Coast up close.

Moving on from here you continue along the coast for a while with another picture stop at Bathsheba, the famous surfing spot in Barbados. From here you will head up the hill again to your next stop at St. John's Parish Church which offers incredible views of the picturesque East Coast. Enjoy this breathtaking scene one last time, from 800 feet above sea level. The church building and grounds are a treasure belonging to the Barbados National Trust.

A short scenic drive will take you to your lunch stop at Sunbury Plantation. This Great House was originally built over 300 years ago and it is magnificently furnished giving a real insight into the life of a wealthy planter. Discover all its treasures before enjoying a sumptuous buffet lunch in the courtyard.

From here a short drive will take you to the Airport where you will find your luggage ready to be checked in.

This tour can only be done by guests who have flights leaving Barbados after 3 pm. You will be transferred to the airport just after lunch and arrive there by 1.30 pm at the latest.

Lunch is included during the tour but drinks will be at your own expense.

Your luggage will be loaded on a separate luggage truck and delivered to the airport at the end of the tour.

Beach Break at Copacabana

Transfer by air-conditioned vehicle

Min 10 participants, maximum limited

Price TBA

How about enjoying your last hours in the Caribbean on a beautiful beach in Barbados, soaking up the warm sunshine before heading back home?

The beach facility is a 15 minute drive from the Harbour. Your luggage will be stored on site and you can just relax in a sun lounger on the beach.

Transfers to the airport will be provided at two pre-arranged times in order for the guests to make the most of their last day (1st one at 12.45 pm, second one at 2.15pm) the airlines require guests on international flights to be at the airport at least 2h30 hours prior to their flight departure)

The rate includes all transfers (port/beach/airport) the storage of luggage assisted by luggage attendant

Light lunch is included as well as two drinks

One beach chair and a shared umbrella, shower facility and washrooms are available

Copacabana is NOT a hotel or a resort but strictly a beach bar

2 towels will be provided by guest – 1 for the beach and one to dry off after the final shower



Grenada

Grenada, “the spice island”, has more spice per square mile than any other place in the world. The island is fragrant with cocoa, nutmeg, cloves, ginger and vanilla, to name but a few. Despite the abundance of such crops, Grenada is very diverse in its general make-up. The island is volcanic in origin and boasts lush mountains, rain forests, volcanic crater lakes, mangroves, beautiful beaches and delicate coral reefs. Grenada’s history is similar to its neighbours. Columbus discovered it in 1498 and named it Conception. However, its lush green hills were so evocative of Andalusia that Spanish sailors, no doubt yearning for their homeland, changed the name to Granada. The French called it La Grenade, but it was the British who gave the island the name used to this day, “Grenada”. The French and British battled for the island for almost 100 years before it was eventually ceded to the British in 1783. Grenada achieved independence in 1974. Several years later an attempt was made to establish a Communist state, which ended in the famed invasion of 1983. Although Grenada does cater heavily to tourism, there is a strong push to maintain the natural environment with one-sixth of the island’s land devoted to parks and nature sanctuaries.

Eco Trek at Bamboo Fall

Transfer by van to the departure point of the walk

Duration 4 hours

Min 20 participants, maximum limited

Price TBA

This activity is physically challenging

This excursion is a must for all Nature lovers; it is a wonderful journey of discovery starting at St George’s and following steep winding roads culminating at the rain forest peak, an amazing spot some 1900ft above sea level. This is Grand Etang Forest, a sanctuary and nature reserve located in the islands Central Mountain Range. Here lush vegetation, towering mahogany trees, ferns and colourful tropical flowers provide a vivid background to a wide cross section of bird and animal life.

If you enjoy trekking, then you will love the trail through the rainforest to reach Bamboo falls. The trek will take you over a private plantation where you will see nutmeg, cocoa, bananas, and many other vibrant tropical plants. It can be muddy and slippery, especially if it has rained recently, so please choose your foot wear accordingly.

Bamboo Falls is known as one of the most famous and beautiful of all Grenada’s waterfalls and is certainly worth the 30 minute trek to get there.

Enjoy unspoilt nature at its finest and join us on this unforgettable Eco trek.

Fresh local organic orange juice will be available on your return to the Cruise Terminal.

Minimum age for participating in the excursion: 8 yrs old.

Please note that although the hike is not very difficult, Rain forest terrain is muddy and can be slippery. Sturdy hiking shoes or sports shoes are recommended. You must be physically fit to participate to that tour.

Don’t forget to bring a bathing suit and towel if you want to go for a dip in the falls.

We recommend you bring a bottle of water for the hike.

Before arriving to the fall you will have to cross a river and have your feet up to the knees into the water.

Walking on possible muddy path is part of the challenge of this tour



Nutmeg and Falls

By air conditioned van or coach

Duration 4 hours

Min 20 participants, maximum limited

Price TBA

The west coast of Grenada boasts a number of distinctive features which are characteristic of the island: spices and cocoa at the Dougalston Estate, nutmeg in Gouyave and in the tropical heights, waterfalls and of course plantations.

The excursion starts from St George's, taking the northern coast road along the Caribbean Sea. One tranquil fishing village follows another, and the beaches form an extended ribbon of coral and volcanic sand. Life goes on at a gentle laid back pace, typical of the Caribbean. However in Gouyave fishing is not the only source of income; this small town houses a hidden treasure, well protected by high walls: the Nutmeg cooperative plant.

A visit to the Nutmeg cooperative plant is like taking a step back in time some one hundred years. There are no machines or conveyor belts, the precious spice is processed first to last by the nimble fingers of the kind-hearted "mamas". Here women reign supreme, humble and conscientious, they are the Guardians of the Nutmeg tradition. Grenada's enviable position as the second exporter of nutmeg in the world is no doubt thanks to the tireless work of these women and others like them.

After Gouyave the next stop is the Dougalston Estate, another piece of Grenada's history, founded in 1700. During your trip to this historic cocoa plantation you will discover the wonderful range of precious scents and spices to be found on the island.

Before returning to the ship, we will take a look at the Concord waterfalls and see the nutmeg and cocoa trees that flourish on the hillside, rivalling the tropical luxuriance of the nearby forest.

This Excursion can be organised in the opposite direction.

You will get the opportunity to swim at the waterfall site

Make sure you have proper shoes as the terrain may be slippery.

The drive from The Carenage (St George's) to the Dougalston Estate will take 50 minutes.

You will visit both a Nutmeg Cooperative (40 mins) and, after a 20 minute drive, Concord Falls (45 minutes)

The drive from Concord Falls to St George's takes 50 minutes.

The "Mamas" or the workers at Dougalston Estate work to a fixed timetable and so, depending on the time of your visit, you may not actually see them on the job. Most of them start working very early in the morning and go back home early afternoon.



Shadowfax Sailing

By sailing boat

Duration 5h30

Min 15 participants, maximum limited

Price TBA

LATE LUNCH AFTER THE SNORKELING ACTIVITIES

Join us for an unforgettable sailing excursion from St George's Harbour to Hog island. Cruise along the scenic south west Caribbean coast of Grenada towards Point Salines, the southern most point of the island, before an exhilarating sail upwind on the Atlantic side to reach the secluded Island of Hog.

Before leaving Hog Island there will be a snorkelling stop on submerged statues by sculptor Jason de Caires Taylor, before you get back on board for the relaxing one hour sail back to St George's.

Here, a delicious Lobster lunch will be cooked and served while you sit back and enjoy a welcoming Champagne drink. Then you can choose either to swim and relax, or explore the secrets of this "Robinson Crusoe" island.

Included in the excursion:

A full complimentary bar with rum punch, sodas, juices and mineral water

Snacks: fruit, French bread and cheese

A glass of champagne and two glasses of wine during lunch.

Traditional Grenadian fish broth, cooked on the beach

Lobster lunch consisting of grilled lobster, potatoes, green salad and garlic bread

High quality snorkelling equipment, instructions and a guided snorkel tour

This excursion is not recommended for guests who suffer from sea sickness and those with mobility problems

Guests must be good swimmers to participate in the tour

Please do not forget your swim suit, towel, sun glasses and plenty of sun screen.

Available but NOT included :

Spirits and beer

Sea Riders

Shuttle bus to the marina

Minimum 6 participants (3 boats), maximum limited

Duration 2h45

Price TBA

Get ready for some wet and wild fun when you explore the island on Sea Riders fast, two person inflatable motorboats.

You will pilot your own boat on this exhilarating adventure that includes a stop with snorkeling. The Sea Riders base at St George lagoon is a short drive from the ship.

Upon arrival you will be welcomed by our friendly and enthusiastic team who will give you an information briefing on how to operate the boats, before you head off across the Caribbean side of Grenada. Follow your guide, passing large yachts in Port Louis Marina and inside the charming Carenage of St George's before entering the Caribbean Sea. After a trip alongside the picturesque and colourful coastline, you will stop at your snorkeling destination. Here you can choose to snorkel on submerged statues by sculptor Jason de Caires Taylor or swim prior to your return to the base and then on to the cruise ship terminal.

Sea Riders Boats accommodate up to two persons.

All drivers must be at least 18 years old.

Supplied safety vest must be worn at all times.

Wear a swimsuit and bring a towel and adequate sun protection.

Women who are pregnant may not participate on this tour.

Snorkeling equipment is included.

The minimum age required to participate is 14 years old.

The combined maximum weight limit on an E-Sea Rider Boat is 400 pounds.



Tobago Cays

Tobago Cays is comprised of four virtually deserted small islets within Horsehoe Reef. These islets are enormously appealing for those who love underwater exploration. Tobago Cays is a national park with some of the best snorkelling and diving in the world. Divers can glide over the dramatic natural architecture of Horsehoe Reef with its swirling shades of blue, gold, brown, turquoise and green shimmering beneath the surface. There are picnic and camp sites and beautiful protected anchorages for an overnight yachtstop.

Discover the Southern Grenadines

By Sailing catamaran

Min 20 participants, maximum limited

Duration 3 hours

Price TBA

Cruise through the crystal blue waters and sparkling white sand beaches of the Marine National Park of Tobago Cays. Our first stop is at the Horseshoe Reef for snorkeling and swimming then on to view the exclusive Palm Island Resort. This will be followed by a rum punch and swim stop at the sparkling white sand beach of Mayreau, Salt Whistle, one of the top 10 beaches in the Caribbean. Swim and snorkel as much as you want on this truly memorable tour. You will be back at the beach for the ship's barbecue (weatherpermitting)

Wear swimwear, suntan lotion, hat, comfortable footwear and light clothing.

Duration depends on sea's condition

Take your snorkeling equipment with you

The boats for this excursion come over from St Vincent and the crossing to Tobago Cays depends very much on conditions at sea. Consequently, the excursion may have to be cancelled in case of rough seas.

This tour is designed for experienced snorkelers.

During the snorkelling expedition at Tobago Cays' coral reef, you must always use the ladder at the back of the ship to climb on board.

You will have to wear a life jacket when snorkeling around the Tobago Cays coral reef.

Saint Vincent

Just 18 miles long, St. Vincent is amazingly diverse in its make-up. The island seems to have it all with beautiful beaches, coral reefs, high peaks, verdant jungles, fruitful valleys, waterfalls and a volcano.

It is believed St. Vincent could have been inhabited as far back as 5000 BC by Indians from South America. In more recent times the Carib Indians, also from South America, struggled with the Europeans to retain sovereignty of St Vincent and resisted longer than on any other Caribbean island. St. Vincent was also the scene of much conflict between the British and French with the Caribs often getting involved as well. Many of the battles resulted in great human casualties. The British gained control in 1796 and ruled the island until 1979. St. Vincent has also suffered many natural disasters including severe hurricanes, volcanic eruptions and fires. Tourism reached St. Vincent late, although yachtsmen and divers have long been familiar with the island's outstanding bays and coves that offer some of the best diving in the Caribbean. Despite growing tourism on St. Vincent, the island still preserves all of its natural beauty and is one of the most enchanting islands in the Caribbean.



Garden of Eden

By air conditioned van or motor coach

Min 7 participants, maximum limited

Duration 3h30

Price TBA

Enjoy a tour through the capital, Kingstown, with its colonial and modern architecture before starting the scenic drive through the Mesopotamia Valley of St Vincent. The Marriaqua valley, with its volcanic richness, offers a spectacular panoramic view of what is often referred to as the "island's breadbasket". Banana plantations, nutmeg, cocoa, breadfruit, coconut and a multitude of root crops have thrived here for generations. You will visit the Montreal gardens, one of the two premier showplaces of the island's flora. The gardens contain a wide range of tropical plants. In this tranquil, magical setting, admire the flourishing bougainvilleas, frangipanis, hibiscus and the delicate wax like blooms of the anthurium lilies. The gardens offer an excellent view over local farmland and the distant sea. After the visit you will get back on the coach and continue your scenic drive, travelling through quaint villages and getting a true glimpse of every day life in these rural communities, where farmers work on the hillsides using machetes. Finally the drive takes you along the picturesque Atlantic coast and a breathtaking hilltop view of the capital directly above the cruise ship berth.

For persons who have difficulty walking there are approx 100 steps in different areas not all together.

Reef life tour

By boat

Min 15 participants, maximum limited

Duration 3 hours

Price TBA

Depart from the cruise Terminal and cruise along the striking leeward coastline passing Fort Charlotte, fishing villages and tropical bays as we head into the bay, home to the country's oldest coconut plantation, Mount Wynne.

At Mt Wynne beach enjoy snorkeling and /or beach combing at its best. Here the therapeutic black sand makes a stunning backdrop for the huge sea fans and the sheer variety of tropical fish will delight you. St Vincent boasts some of the finest and most diverse coral reefs in the Eastern Caribbean.

Have some refreshments while soaking up the sun and fun.

Take your snorkeling equipment with you

Wear swimwear under casual clothing, suntan lotion, hat, comfortable footwear



Dark View Falls

Transfer by van or minibus

Min 10 participants, maximum limited

Duration 4 hours

Price TBA

Escape and enjoy our twin falls an experience uncommon for one site!

This tour takes you on the Leeward Highway out of Kingstown passing the Botanic Gardens and over the ridge overlooking Kingstown and Camden Park Bay. Drive through exotic coves and fishing villages, like the village of Layou where the Ruthland Vale Sugar Works gives you a good idea of just how profitable sugar was during the early history of the country. As is evident in the name of towns and villages (Troumaca, Petit Bordel and Chateaubelair), the flavor of the French is still here as a reminder of historic times.

Home of Dark View Falls, Chateaubelair lies at the southern foot of the volcano. The coast here is rugged and photogenic with dramatic hill and mountain outlines, cliffs and beaches. Dark View Falls is a unique attraction not yet fully explored. The geology and hydrology giving existence to the falls and the vegetation are also part of the site's heritage. Lava and pyroclastic flow produced the rock formations that sustain the cascading waters of the falls.

There are two trails to both the upper falls and the lower falls. The trail leading to the lower falls is relatively flat and easily accessible with a footbridge constructed of bamboo. The lower falls is a shower falls, very refreshing to sit under. The trail from the lower falls to the upper falls is 520 ft. long with a little more hiking. This one has a larger pool for swimming. The major element of the heritage product at Dark View Falls is its two waterfalls. Come and experience two falls in one day.

Outdoor shoes or sneakers are recommended

Casual dress wear, bathing suits and towels are recommended. All tours are subject to change in content and timing depending on weather conditions.

In case of bad weather and rain, only the lower waterfall will be accessible

It is a long panoramic bus tour to the falls

There is approx 1.5 hour drive to the waterfalls, you will spend one hour total there depending on the pace of the group.



La Soufrière Volcano hike

Transfer by van, then on foot
 End of the tour in Bequia (return by ferry)
 Min 7 participants, maximum limited
 Duration 8 hours (excluding the transfer back to Bequia)
 Picnic included
 Price TBA
 Difficult hike!

Experience the volcanic nature of Saint Vincent by taking a tour to La Soufrière, one of the most studied volcanoes in the world, which rises to a peak of 4048 ft. (1200m) above sea level.

This tour takes you along the picturesque Windward coast of St. Vincent. The coastal highway runs alongside the Atlantic Ocean passing through banana, coconut and arrowroot plantations, and travels through the Byera Tunnel, which was built in 1813 to open the Carib lands to settlement.

The road to La Soufrière leaves the coastal highway at Rabacca and travels through the Orange Hill banana and coconut plantation to where the foot trail begins. This challenging and exhilarating hike takes 2 ½ hours and includes resting stops at the river bed and Jacob's Well.

The foot trail leads you through a canopy of bamboo ridges, lowland forest with patches of cultivation and then into tropical forest. Here you will penetrate a wonderful wilderness of tree ferns, tall trees with bromeliads, lianas and moist shade dappled with sunlight. You will emerge from the shade into an area of vegetation stunted by altitude, breeze and frequent cloud cover and continue to an alpine-like zone before the last stretch of scree leading to the crater itself.

The drive to the foot of La Soufrière Volcano takes about 1h30

The hike to the top takes about 2h30 up and 2 hrs down (depending on the pace of the group)

You will take the same path to get back down to the foot of the volcano

You will take a public ferry back to Bequia in Kingstown (approx one hour)

A light jacket or sweater is recommended at the top of the volcano

Children younger than 14 are not accepted on this tour

Outdoors shoes or sneakers are recommended on the tour

Your guide will hand over your picnic lunch and 2 bottles of water at the beginning of the tour; we recommend you take a back pack with you to carry it all during the hike

Your picnic will consist of sandwiches or cold meat and fruit

Toilet facilities are available at the departure point

It is a 3 mile (4.8km) hike. The trail starts at 1200 ft (365m) and climbs to 4048 ft. (1200m)

The hike is strenuous, guests must be in good physical condition

Most of the trail is shaded until you get to the area of low growth vegetation where you are exposed to the sun for about a 1/2 hr, but at this point the wind is cool and very enjoyable and the scenery is amazing.



Bequia

At only seven square miles, Bequia is the largest of the Grenadines. The northern most of the chain, it lies just nine miles off the coast of St. Vincent. The island's history is one of shipbuilding and refuge. The French, British, Spanish as well as a motley assortment of pirates all sought shelter in its natural harbour. The shipbuilding industry was second only to the lucrative whaling business. During its heyday, there were nine whaling stations on the island. Only one remains today. The Scottish were actively involved in both industries, thus 10% of today's population is of Scottish descent. Life in general has not changed much during the past few centuries in Bequia. Fishing is still the main source of income followed by tourism. Bequia's serene, easy-going atmosphere is enhanced by beautiful deserted beaches, brilliant coral reefs and tranquil lagoons, making it a true island paradise.

Magical coast of Bequia

By speed boat

Duration 3 hours

Min 15 participants, maximum limited

Price TBA

Enjoy a scenic tour of this exclusive Bequia's coast line with breath taking views of Moon hole, Semplers Cay, Middle Cay and Petit Nevis. You can snorkel at Petit Nevis enjoying the vividness and beauty of the underwater marine life. Then on to the exotic and secluded white sand beach, Princess Margaret here you will swim, beach comb and enjoy sipping on some rum punch.

On the way back, the ride will take you along the coast of Port Elizabeth waterfront.

Bring your snorkeling equipment from the ship

There are no changing facilities so a swimsuit should be worn under casual clothing. There are no toilet facilities.

Take a towel, sun block and walking shoes that you do not mind getting wet (optional – Cap / Hat).

Drinks onboard are complimentary

You can purchase as well drinks at Jack's beach bar

This tour is subject to weather conditions.



Island of the Clouds

By jeep

Duration 3 hours

Min 10 participants, maximum limited

Price TBA

That is the original Arawak name for Bequia; it is also often described as the Caribbean's best kept secret or the Caribbean "as it used to be". The sleepy, traditional small town atmosphere in Bequia is due to the fact that it is small (population around 5000) inaccessible and largely undeveloped for tourists.

In fact it is a real Star Clippers' island; a yachters paradise with a proud tradition of yacht building, secluded beaches, unspoilt natural beauty, and a sense of freedom and authenticity.

The tour begins at Port Elizabeth, the island's lively capital, which boasts a number of shops, restaurants and guest houses, a delightful harbour and a friendly laid back truly "Caribbean" atmosphere.

Our one hour jeep tour is a great way of exploring the island and getting a feel for the terrain. As you leave Port Elizabeth and head off towards Mount Pleasant, you will get a magnificent view of Admiralty Bay, Bequia's famous yachting anchorage. Mount Pleasant itself, with its grassy slopes and grazing cattle, is where nostalgic settlers from Scotland and Ireland came to live and tried to recreate a little piece of their homeland. On a clear day there are excellent views of the Southern Grenadine Islands from Mustique, where Princess Margaret had a holiday home, as far south as Carriacou.

After some island gazing it's time to meet the locals as we make our way back down to our starting point for a two hour walking tour of Bequia. On the tour you will get to visit a few local rum shacks. Rum shacks are locally owned small businesses and are licensed to sell alcoholic beverages as well as soft drinks. They are just as community focussed as an English pub and it is a great way to meet the locals. This is not a rum tasting tour, although you can buy a drink if you wish, it is all about going off the beaten track and getting some real Bequia spirit (pardon the pun!) There will be about one mile of easy walking from Port Elizabeth to Hamilton. As you walk along the sea front you will see boats being repaired and the brightly coloured and uniquely decorated rum shacks which are so much a part of island life. There will be some interactive fun and games on the way, which may take the form of a scavenger hunt, tracking down local landmarks (a breadfruit tree or a traditional sailing boat), learning some of the local lingo or discovering hidden treasures. There will also be a stop at a model boat shop. Bequia has a fine tradition of boat building going all the way back to the 1800's and was known as the Boat building capital of the West Indies; you can see the same pride in good craftsmanship in these unique handmade model boats.

The tour ends back in Port Elizabeth, where you will catch the tender boat back to the ship.

One hour jeep tour to the hilly side of the island to see where the settlers from Scotland and Ireland lived
The shops are "off the beaten track" but the environment is safe, and people are friendly
Get a chance to experience the Bequia way of life at first hand and hang out with the locals at a rum shack
Visit a model ship workshop



Martinique

The island of Martinique, along with Guadeloupe, is France's westernmost "department". Martinique is not a colony, but actually a part of France, much like a state. The natives are considered French citizens. Martinique has been one of the few islands in the Caribbean that has always remained under the French. It holds a special place in French history being the birthplace of the Empress Josephine, consort of Napoleon Bonaparte. Although mountainous and volcanic in its composition, Martinique was originally named "the island of flowers" by the Carib Indians. The fertile soil on the island yields flowers and fruit like poinsettias, hibiscus, bougainvillea, bananas, papaya and pineapples. The agriculture of Martinique only accounts for part of its natural beauty as the coastline boasts beautiful beaches and coves.

Botanical Gardens of Balata

By air-conditioned motor-coach and on foot
Minimum 15 participants, maximum unlimited
Duration 3 hours
Price TBA

Leaving Fort de France, you will take the Trace Road opened by the Jesuits in the eighteenth century. This is really a track rather than a road and runs between enormous bamboos and giant arborescent ferns and lianas.

The Botanical Garden of Balata, a marvellous garden, is now open to the public after 20 years of ground preparation and the careful collecting of flowers and plants by owner Mr. Jean Philippe Thoze, a botanical and landscape gardener. Walk under the trees and you will discover a multitude of botanical plants and flowers, a harmonious mix of colour and form judiciously placed to delight the eye. The reception hall is located in an authentic Creole house which has been lovingly renovated.

On the way back, you will drive through Fort de France for a panoramic tour and discover the main monuments of this city such as the Fort Saint-Louis, a Vauban style 17th century military edifice, the "Place de la Savane" just below the Fort, former Place d'Armes, with its majestic trees – royal palms and tamarinds, the statues of Belain d'Esnambuc and Joséphine Tascher de la Pagerie, Napoleon Bonaparte's wife, and the Bibliothèque Schoelcher, designed by the architect Henry Picq, contemporary of Gustave Eiffel. The bibliothèque (library in English) was dismantled and transported to Martinique from Paris after serving as the Canada Pavillion at the 1898 World Expo.



Fort de France food safari

Walking Tour

Minimum 8 participants, maximum 10 per group

Duration 2h30

Price TBA

A unique Food Safari for all you culinary globetrotters.

Seriously what better way to get to experience a new culture than by tasting all the local specialities?

A walking tour through the heart of Fort de France is the ideal way of getting to know this vibrant creole capital. Groups are kept deliberately small so as to ensure a really personal, tailor-made experience.

During the tour you will absorb many fascinating facts about Fort de France, its history, architecture and local customs, interspersed with tidbits of gossip as you eat your way through to a deeper understanding of the “Island of Flowers” as Martinique is sometimes known.

All the tasting stops have been carefully curated to highlight the best of Fort de France cuisine, including traditional pastries and sweets, local ice cream, sugarcane juice, and visits to shops only patronised by the locals. There will also be a delicious savoury special at the end of the tour.

To whet your appetite, there will be two different food stops before you head off to that mecca of local cuisine, Fort de France’s colourful food market. The air here is redolent with the scent of spices: cinnamon, vanilla and saffron, and the bustling atmosphere, lilting creole accents, and stalls overflowing with exotic fruit and vegetables combine to make this an extraordinary multi-sensory experience. Your guide will give you an insider’s view of the market, revealing all its little secrets and pointing out local specialities.

You will walk past the Old Courthouse where there is a statue in honour of the French journalist and politician Victor Schoelcher who was the driving force behind the abolition of slavery in France. You will also be able to admire the impressive architecture of the Schoelcher Library which houses many books written by and belonging to the great man. The library building is a weird and wonderful mix of Romano-Byzantine, Art Nouveau and Neo-Egyptian styles, first presented to the public in Paris and then dismantled and shipped over to Martinique. The tour will take you to downtown Fort de France where you will see the cathedral dedicated to St Louis. The cathedral dates back to the late 19th century and is built in the Romanesque revival style. It is actually the 7th church to be built on the site as all previous versions were destroyed by natural disasters.

The tour ends up on picturesque Savannah square, where your very last food tasting will be enjoyed picnic style in the park, just watching the world go by. Iguanas are frequent visitors to this pleasant shady park so you may well get some unexpected company.

This tour does not include any inside visits

The tour cannot be offered on Sundays and Mondays



Tragedy in Paradise : Saint Pierre & Mount Pelée

Transport by motor coach

Min 15 participants, maximum limited

Duration 3h30

Price TBA

Nature has blessed the island of Martinique with green mountains, lush rain forest, crystal clear water and tranquil beaches. The scenery, both inland and on the coast, is stunningly beautiful and it is easy to understand why the first inhabitants, Carib Indians, called their island home "Madinina" or the Island of Flowers.

As you travel along the coast road you will discover a sprinkling of small fishing villages, particularly in the Bellefontaine area; on certain days the locals set up stalls by the side of the road selling fresh fish.

Our first stop will be St Pierre, the oldest and at one time the most important town on the island, known as the "Paris of the Caribbean". Alas no more, tragedy struck on a May morning in 1902 when the Mount Pelée volcano erupted killing 30.000 people in a matter of minutes. Your guide will tell you the fascinating story of the doomed city and the miraculous survivor Louis Auguste Cyparis. The Bible tells us that "the evil deeds of the wicked will ensnare them", but Louis Auguste proved to be an exception to the rule. A notorious trouble maker and drunken reprobate, Louis was doing time for grievous bodily harm when the volcano erupted, and had been placed in solitary confinement; while his fellow citizens were dying like flies all around him, he was protected by the thick walls of his prison cell and was found by rescuers three days after the eruption, badly burnt but very much alive. He went on to live for another 27 years. After being pardoned for his crimes Louis became something of a celebrity, touring with Barnum's circus where he was billed as "The man who escaped doomsday".

Brooding Mount Pelée looms over the town and although it is now dormant, (the last volcanic activity was in 1932) there is an air of underlying menace in its majestic beauty.

Saint Pierre has been partially rebuilt but the ruins of the old town are still visible. You can walk up the steps leading to the old theatre, look at the prison cell which kept Louis August Cyparis safe and see the charred remains of the église du fort church. At the site of the Maison Coloniale de Santé, the first psychiatric hospital in the Antilles, you can still see the individual cells and the metal restraint chairs. Walk up the steep incline of "Monte au Ciel" street and try to picture it as it once was, a lively and popular venue where soldiers on leave and sailors would come to enjoy wine, women and song, and more often than not, a rowdy punch up at the end of the evening.

During the eruption about forty ships sank in the bay, and these wrecks are now prized diving sites.

After the visit you will drive to Carbet beach, with its black volcanic sand and limpid waters, for a short photo opportunity.

Our last stop will be the Neisson distillery in Carbet. This family run distillery started operations in 1931 and produces internationally renowned prize-winning rum, distilled in the best island traditions. You will follow the whole production process from the fields of sugar cane to the maturing cellars and end up with a rum tasting to get a feel for the finished product. There will be time to buy a bottle of your favourite rum if you want to, before boarding the coach for the return journey to Fort de France via the coast road.



Southbound Discovery tour

By Catamaran

Departure from Fort de France, Return to Grande Anse

Min 22 participants, maximum limited

Duration: 5 hrs

Lunch included

Price TBA

The adventure starts from Fort de France and will take you across Flemish Bay. This is one of the most beautiful bays in the Caribbean, named after the Dutch refugees who arrived in Martinique after being expelled from Brazil in the 17th century. Fort de France Bay has a well-deserved reputation as a biological treasure trove. You will sail along the coast close to the islet of Ramier, with a stop at Anse Noire where you get to explore and discover a fascinating array of marine life. On board you will find everything you need for snorkelling, for those who want them, flippers, scuba masks and tubes; you can also bring the equipment you have been using on Royal Clipper.

The limpid turquoise waters are teeming with marine life and your friendly skipper will be happy to tell you about the different species you will encounter, including parrot fish, surgeon fish, trumpet fish and moray eels. Green sea turtles also enjoy the calm shallow waters of the bay and come here to feed, so you may well get to swim with these graceful and gentle creatures. A unique privilege.

After a fun filled morning of snorkelling, relaxing or swimming you will be more than ready to enjoy a delicious home cooked meal prepared on board. Not just a snack but a proper meal with starter, main dish, dessert, coffee and a drink.

The catamaran continues on a southerly course heading back to Grande Anse.

This tour is not suitable for guests with mobility problems or who suffer from sea sickness

Participants must be good swimmers

To ensure your security and comfort the Captain may, at any time, decide to take a different route, if sea conditions are unfavourable

Please take a swimsuit, shady hat and sun protection

Saint Lucia

A lush island of tropical beauty, St. Lucia is part of the Windward Islands. Its 238-square miles are covered with rain forests, banana plantations, palm-lined beaches, mountains and even a drive-in volcano. Like many of its neighbours, St Lucia was a hotly disputed territory, with Britain and France battling for possession. Indeed, the island changed hands no less than 14 times, earning it the nickname of "the Helen of the Caribbean". The English eventually gained control until independence was granted in 1979. St. Lucia has also had its share of natural disasters, including several fires and hurricanes. Though tourism is now the island's economic backbone, sugar cane was the primary industry from the 1800's to 1960. Among St. Lucia's most noted attractions are the Pitons, two volcanic cones rising up from the sea that have become a symbol of the island itself. Today, St Lucia offers its guests a wide range of natural charm with beautiful beaches, lush scenery, fishing villages unchanged by time and friendly Caribbean hospitality.



Soufrière Tour and Caribbean Coast (ship in Marigot Bay)

By air conditioned mini van

Min 12 participants, maximum limited

Duration 5 hours

Price TBA

Lunch included

Departs from Marigot Bay, ends in Soufrière

Departing from beautiful Marigot Bay, you will travel along the western coast, bypassing the fishing villages of Anse la Raye and Canaries, before the descent into the town of Soufriere. The sight of the majestic Pitons, two great peaks which have come to be a symbol of the island itself, will fill you with awe. Arrive at the Villa des Pitons (or similar) for a delicious Creole lunch. Nestled on the hillside this enchanting resort affords a spectacular view of St. Lucia's rain forest.

Your journey will continue to an award winning historical site, the Soufriere Estate's Diamond Botanical Gardens, Waterfall & Mineral Baths. Established in 1745, it is one of the oldest estates on the island and was a portion of the 2000 acres of land that was granted to the owners by King Louis XIV in 1713 in recognition of their services to the Crown & Country. A guided tour takes you through the beautiful Botanical Gardens and the falls which cascade down through mineral-streaked rock walls and jungle thick ferns. The water forms a stream that flows through underground pipes to a series of baths at different temperatures. These mineral baths were originally built in 1784 by the Baron De Laborie and were restored in 1925 by the owners of the estate. These hot mineral springs are enjoyed today for therapeutic bathing. The gardens themselves are quite beautiful and after your guided tour there will be an opportunity to purchase a postcard or small souvenir before departing. Driving up through lushly verdant rainforest you will enter the world's only drive-in volcano, La Soufriere. The roads lead you right up to the remnants of a volcanic crater; a moonscape of barren earth and gravel where pools of muddy water bubble and belch out clouds of steam and a smell of sulphur pervades the atmosphere.

After your informative tour you can enjoy a warm refreshing dip in the sulphurous pool below the bridge.

Passengers should note that the road to Soufriere is very winding so people who suffer from motion sickness should take necessary precautions before the tour.

A buffet lunch will be provided

Beverages are not included during lunch but you will be offered a welcome drink

Please note that the sulphurous water in the swimming pool can cause a chemical reaction; if you wish to bathe please do not wear any jewellery or light coloured swimsuits which could be damaged. Swimming goggles come in handy, as the water may irritate the eyes, and plastic sandals are also useful.



4x4 jeep safari (ship in Marigot bay)

Min 10 participants, maximum limited

Duration 3 hours

Price TBA

A combination of fun, history, sightseeing and a change to see the island from a totally different perspective!

Take off in your jeep and embark on your journey where you will see in the valley banana plants swaying in the breeze and you enjoy a bit of off road experience whilst driving through many communities and the view of our tallest mountain on island – Mt. Gimie.

Stop along the route for a chance to sample refreshing coconut water and other seasonal fruits. Your forest adventure begins as you arrive at the start of your short hike which takes you along a river to a typical local waterfall of water cascading over the rocks, set in the lush greenery of the surrounding vegetation. Enjoy a cool dip in the river before heading back to the jeep for a drive to the nearby quaint and rustic fishing village of Anse la Raye. Interact with the villagers and stroll around the waterfront and maybe a chance to see the fishermen pulling in their catch for the day. Visit the historical Roman Catholic village church, one of the oldest churches on the island. On your return journey, drive along a coastal road enjoying the scenery with elevated sea views, just perfect for photos.

A final stop at the Marigot Bay viewpoint is made and an opportunity to purchase some of the most delicious local sauces on island. Even our local beer – Piton and rum punch. Drive to your ship, with wonderful memories of a fun-filled day!

Participants with walking difficulties must be able to negotiate steps on/off the vehicle

Participants should wear comfortable shoes – preferably with rubber soles

Participants who are pregnant should not participate in this tour

The water at the waterfall is not crystal clear at all times especially when it rains and the river carries top soil and silt which makes the water seem unclean. However it is perfectly safe to swim or take a quick dip.

The walk to the waterfall is 15 minutes approx. each way.

Due care must always be taken on the trail over uneven, rough ground and natural rocks and if it has rained the ground can be slippery and persons should take care.

Be prepared to get your feet/shoes wet when going through the stream.

Participants should remain seated when driving along the roads

La Soufriere – Natural Attractions (ship in Soufrière)

By air-conditioned mini-van

Min 10 participants, maximum limited

Duration 3 hours

Price TBA

This tour begins with a leisurely drive through the town of Soufriere, bypassing the town square and the Cathedral. Your journey will continue to the Sulphur Springs, known as the world's only drive-in volcano. This historic site is the result of volcanic eruptions over 300,000 years ago. The sulphurous atmosphere is immediately apparent and sulphur water has been proved to have many medicinal properties, so don't be afraid to breath deeply and inhale the sulphur laden air. The Botanical Gardens and Diamond Baths are very famous, and it is said that Josephine de Beauharnais, later the Empress Josephine, wife of Napoleon, bathed in the waters. Admire the tropical plants along the pathway and the magnificent waterfall before getting back on the bus.

After a short drive you will arrive at the Villa des Pitons Restaurant for complimentary drinks and enjoy local rum or fruit punch while relaxing on the verandah. Be sure to have your cameras at the ready, the view of the two majestic twin peaks soaring out of the sea at Soufrière Bay makes for a splendid photo opportunity. The tour ends with a short drive down to the jetty where your ship awaits.



Hotwire Pitons Zip line Ride (ship in Soufrière)

By air-conditioned mini-van

Min 12 participants, maximum limited

Duration 2h30

Price TBA

This unforgettable experience complements the popular Soufrière excursion and will enhance your enjoyment of the eco tour. The fun filled activity combines the adrenaline rush of zipping under the sheer Petit Piton, with breathtaking views of the historic town of Soufrière and the Caribbean Sea.

Depart ship and take a short drive through the rustic town of Soufriere up to the Hotwire Zipline Adventure Park at Morne Coubaril Estate in Soufriere. On arrival you are taken for a guided tour of this working plantation through a small village of huts made from sticks, modeled on those inhabited by the local population two hundred years ago. The surrounding gardens are well stocked with the plants and flowers indigenous to the island. Your guide will then lead you up the estate driveway to manioc house where you will learn how cassava bread is made.

The grandeur of estate house is next and offers great photo opportunities before you enjoy another live demonstration. You will learn about the process of de-husking a coconut and oven drying copra, before sampling some coconut water and jelly.

After enjoying the bay view from the point (do not forget to bring spare batteries for your camera), you will get the opportunity to taste a ripe cocoa bean at the cocoa and coffee house before seeing the process of fermentation and bean drying, and the cocoa dance used to polish the dried beans. The highlight of the tour is our mule driven sugar cane mill and the chance to enjoy some delicious fresh cane juice.

After the tour, you will be equipped with harness, helmet and gloves and be given a safety briefing and training demonstration before setting off on your zip line adventure. The first platform offers a panoramic view of the bay and the awe inspiring Pitons. While you whizz safely between giant Banyans, your experienced guides will provide a running commentary on the eco-system and the spectacular views provided by this zip line trail, built to US standards.

Eight zip cables move you effortlessly through the estate and you can take your own aerial photos of the Piton and town below, before being carried into a canopy of banyan, coconut, plum and mango trees and across a bamboo-shadowed gorge. The zip lines offer a total immersion in the natural environment.

After your Zip line Adventure you will be escorted to a typical local restaurant to enjoy some refreshment including juice made from fruit produced on the estate. Table settings are simple yet tasteful, and the chairs are all hand-made. The restaurant is surrounded by gingerbread cottages which house our gift shop and washroom facilities. You can purchase a limited offering of alcoholic drinks and sodas at our open-air bar, or choose from a selection of ice cream. Browse our shelves for tasty food products which are made right here on the estate; there is a myriad of locally manufactured goods on offer, so you are sure to find exactly the right souvenir to take back to the ship.

This excursion combines the adrenaline rush of zipping as well as a short sightseeing tour

This tour is not suitable for pregnant women, persons with heart or respiratory conditions and children under 8yrs old

Jeans or bermuda length shorts are recommended as well as sneakers or sandals (NO flip-flops, only closed shoes), and shirts with short sleeves (NO sleeveless tops)

Helmet, hairnet and gloves are provided, participants will have to sign a waiver



Morne Choval horse ride

Transfer by van
 Min 4 participants, maximum limited
 Duration 2 hours
 Price TBA

Depart the Soufriere dock for a drive through the town of Soufriere and up to Morne Coubaril Estate/Morne Choval Stables. Arrive Morne Coubaril Estate/Morne Choval Stables for your Horse Riding adventure.

After a short briefing, ride back in time through Morne Coubaril's botanical 18th Century plantation. View the replica Carib village and hilltop views of Petit Piton, Soufriere town and the Qualibou volcano. It's all about seeing, smelling and tasting. After your Horse riding, you are escorted to a rustic restaurant for a refreshment. Depart Morne Coubaril Estate for your drive to the Soufriere docks and return to ship via tender.

Children must be minimum 10yrs old to participate to that tour
 10 minutes drive from Soufriere to Morne Coubaril Estate
 After a 20minutes briefing, you will start your Horse Ride adventure (Approx. 60 minutes)

A refreshment will be offered at the end of the tour

We recommend you to wear light, comfortable clothing and closed toe shoes – preferably with rubber soles. Long pants, jeans or ¾ pants.

Guests should also pay close attention at the briefing to ensure they fit within the correct category of riders, i.e. inexperienced or experienced in order for the guide to ensure the appropriate horse is allocated for the ride.

Soufriere Whistle stop & Tet Paul Nature trail

Transfer by air-conditioned vehicle and then on foot
 Duration: 2 hours
 Min 10 participants, maximum limited
 Medium level activity tour
 Price TBA

Set off from Soufrière Dock for a short drive through the town before going “Back to Nature” on the Tet Paul Trail.

The Tet Paul Nature Trail is a guided hike with knowledgeable and friendly island guides. As you follow the trail through some really spectacular scenery your guide will fill you in on the island's flora and fauna, folk remedies, local customs, history and island life, to make this not just a nature walk but a really interactive cultural experience.

The views all along the hike are out of this world and so it comes as no surprise to find that the trail features its very own “Stairway to Heaven”. Make sure you bring your camera because there are so very many wonderful photo opportunities. Breath-taking sights include the majestic Pitons, two mountainous volcanic rock formations, the far away Island of St Vincent, and the lush southern side of St Lucia including Jalousie Bay. You will also see Fond Gens Libre or valley of the Free, a safe haven during the slave revolt of 1748, Choiseul, Maria Island and the town of Vieux Fort.

At Kaye Kassav or Cassava House, as it's known in English, you will find out how the Amerindians cultivated and processed the root vegetable Cassava and you will even get a “hands on” practical experience.

Traditional House, set alongside the trail, will give you an insight into how the ancestors of today's St Lucians once lived. Local residents are dedicated to preserving their heritage and are always delighted to take visitors back in time and talk about their rich cultural history.

At the end of the trail there will be time to relax and enjoy some local refreshments and snacks before heading back to the Soufrière dock where the ship will be waiting.



The nature trail takes you through rain forest, uneven terrain, dirt tracks, narrow paths and in some areas up fairly steep slopes

As a rough guidance the trail is considered to be of easy to moderate difficulty depending on your own level of physical fitness. The Tet Paul Nature Trail hike can take about 45 minutes to complete depending on the group's pace, but you will want to take your time and not rush.

There will be many stunning photo opportunities and beautiful views from various lookout points on the way.

The trail may be muddy if there has been some rain and inclines are moderate to steep.

There is limited shade on this excursion so please bring sunscreen, a sun hat and insect repellent.

Guests should wear light, comfortable clothing and appropriate walking/hiking shoes.

A beverage and snack will be served at the end of the tour.

