



LA MARTINIQUE

THE PERFECT DIVING DESTINATION

DIVING GUIDE
AND DIRECTORY





Fall in love with Martinique's rich and diverse flora and fauna as you explore the Island's world-class dive sites.

Divers of all experience levels can easily explore Martinique's magical coral reefs and enjoy water temperatures of 80 to 86 degrees, excellent visibility, and abundant sea life. It's also the perfect destination for safe family diving, with activities available for all ages.

Martinique boasts a wide selection of accredited diving clubs, most of them PADI and/or CMAS certified, and an array of fabulous, well-protected diving spots, including Saint-Pierre's Bay in the north with its famous shipwrecks, and in the south, the legendary Diamond Rock (*Le Rocher du Diamant*)—a real monolith in the sea. No two sites are alike!

MARTINIQUE'S TOP DIVE SITES



1 Le Rocher de La Perle

Level 1 Experienced | 130/165 feet max | [Dominica Channel](#)

La Perle is a basalt island in the Dominica Channel, about 2,600 feet from Anse Couleuvre. Features include 82-to-131-foot dropoffs and diverse fauna such as barracudas, blue runners, red snapper, parrotfish, fusiliers, and beacon fish. No anchoring due to shifting currents.

- Rock + Dropoffs
- Strong current

2 Le Récif du Sous-Marin

Level 1 | 85 feet max | [Halfway between La Perle and the coast](#)

Shaped like a submarine's conning tower, Le Récif du Sous-Marin was formed from the basaltic flow of Mount Pelée. The reef is full of underwater tunnels and crevices where you'll find hatchetfish, crawfish, hawksbill sea turtles, and gorgonians. Anchor at the upper part of the flow at 16 feet deep.

- Rock + Caves
- Strong current

3 La Citadelle

Level 1 | 200 feet max | [Le Bourg du Prêcheur](#)

La Citadelle's coral plateau descends gradually to 98 feet before plunging to 197 feet. Along dropoffs and black sand plateaus, you will see big parrotfish, sea turtles, mutton snapper, crawfish, blue runners, wahoos, and barracudas, plus volcanic bombs, sponges, and gorgonians. Anchor on the sand bank or access the site from the coast.

- Rock + Dropoffs
- Sand plateaus

4 Les Jardins du Prêcheur

Level 1 | 115 feet max | [Le Bourg du Prêcheur](#)

Les Jardins du Prêcheur consists of three masses of rock: Les Jardins, with turtles and coral gardens; La Caye Maréchal, with crater sponges along a sand bank that slopes from 26 to 56 feet before becoming a 115-foot wall; and Le Mât, with two coral plateaus separated by a 49-foot sand bank. Anchor close to the beach or access the site from the coast.

- Rock + Caves

5 Les Canyons de Babodi

Levels 1 and 2 | 200 feet max | [Le Bourg du Prêcheur](#)

Les Canyons de Babodi are underwater gorges formed by Mount Pelée's eruptions, with ravines more than 328 feet long and up to 98 feet wide. See yellow scroll corals, sea pens, and stingrays, along with old anchors left behind by captains who used Babodi as an unauthorized landing stage. Anchor on the sand bank or access the site from the coast.

- Rocks + Dropoffs
- Sand plateaus

6 Le Tombant de Baradi

Level 1 | 180 feet max | [South of le Bourg du Prêcheur](#)

In front of Sainte-Philomène district, 66 feet from the coast, Le Tombant de Baradi has large rocks populated by sponges, gorgonians, and spiral tubeworms, a 180-foot wall covered with sea pens, and pelagic fish, snapper, and spotted eagle rays. Anchor on the sand or access the site from the coast.

- Rock + Dropoffs

7 Les Sources Chaudes

Level 1 | 165 feet max | [Between Le Prêcheur and Saint-Pierre](#)

Les Sources Chaudes is an eroded lava flow with sponges, coral, dog snapper, barracudas, rainbow runners, wahoos, and eagle rays. Depending on the time of day, you can descend to 164 feet along the north side of the flow, or to 148 feet along the steeper south side. No anchoring; access the site from the coast.

- Rock + Dropoffs

8 Le Biscaye

Level 2 Experienced | 125 feet max | [Middle of the harbor](#)

Le Biscaye, a 141-foot-long three-masted schooner built in 1878, sunk on its way back from Saint-Pierre et Miquelon and now lies at the bottom of a dropoff. Around the wreck, you'll see moray eels, soldierfish, and crawfish—and a huge anchor at 98 feet deep. Anchorages available for all wrecks in the harbor.

- Three-mast shipwreck

9 Le Roraima

Level 2 Experienced, Level 3 | 180 feet max | [Middle of the harbor](#)

After the eruption of Mount Pelée in 1902, Le Roraima, a 361-foot-long steamboat, was on fire for three days before sinking. The shipwreck is broken in three; inside the middle piece, you can see the chimney hole, catheads, and boilers in the engine house. With its steel hull covered in cnidarians, the wreck is one of the most striking sites of Saint-Pierre. Anchorages available for all wrecks in the harbor.

- Shipwreck

10 L'Amélie

Level 1 | 40 feet max | [South of the harbor, towards Anse Turin](#)

The decayed remains of L'Amélie, a three-masted boat that sunk in 1902, are scattered across a bed of posidonia at 33 feet. You'll see hatchetfish, soldierfish, tropical soles, garden eels, and moray eels lurking around the wreck. Anchorages available for all wrecks in the harbor.

- Three-mast shipwreck

11 Cap Enragé

Level 1 | 85 feet max | [North of Case-Pilote](#)

An excellent site for first dives, Cap Enragé features sponges and small reef fish at 7 feet. Descend to 49 feet to navigate tunnels, canyons, and caves, where you'll see feather gorgonians, turtles, angelfish, scorpionfish, and barracudas. Anchor on the north side ("La Piscine") for first dives; easy drift dives are possible on the south side.



12 Le Nahoon

Level 2 | 115 feet max | [La Pointe de la Baleine / Le Cap Salomon](#)

Le Nahoon is a 115-foot-long, steel-hulled, three-masted sailing boat that sank in 1993. Admire the well-preserved helm, propellers, engine house, and foremast—which still stands upright to 33 feet under the surface—along with the yellowhead jawfish swimming around the wreck. Anchorage tied to the prow.



13 Le Cap Salomon

Level 1 | 135 feet max | [North of La Grande Anse d'Arlet](#)

At Le Cap Salomon, explore coral-covered rock slides in the northern cove known as "La Piscine," or head south to the colorful Salomon gardens. Look for spider crabs, rock lobsters, bream, bonito, and coral reef fish. Many anchorages available at 33 feet, depending on where you dive.



14 La Pointe Burgos

Level 1 | 180 feet max | [South of La Grande Anse d'Arlet](#)

At La Pointe Burgos, follow the gentle slope of the coral plateau down to 131 feet, where it suddenly drops off to 180 feet. Along the way, admire sea bream, grunts, platax, mackerel, bonito, barracudas, stingrays, and eagle rays. Two anchorages available, at 20 feet and 49 feet.



15 Les Grandes Jorasses

Level 2 | 200 feet max | [Beyond La Pointe Burgos dropoff](#)

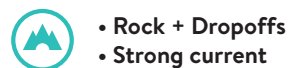
Named after a mountain in the Alps, Les Grandes Jorasses is a range of terraced coral plateaus stretching down to 200 feet. You'll see bigeye trevallies, mackerel, wahoos, and eagle rays as you navigate the strong current. Anchor at 59 feet to access the dropoff.



16 Le Rocher du Diamant

Level 1 Experienced | 200 feet max | [Near Pointe du Diamant](#)

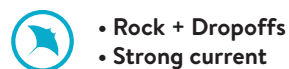
The most popular dive at Le Rocher du Diamant, or Diamond Rock, departs from the northern cave known as "La Piscine": from there, descend 49 feet to find a massive vertical rift in the rock, with rays of light shining through. You'll spot crawfish and rock lobsters in this spectacular setting. Anchorages include two at La Piscine and several others on the west.



17 Le Banc du Diamant

Level 2 | 165 feet max | [Southeast of Le Rocher du Diamant](#)

Dive from the southeastern tip of Le Banc du Diamant, whose rock mass reaches up to almost 20 feet under the surface. You'll find trevallies, barracudas, and large antique anchors here. Anchorage tied at 39 feet, but drift dives recommended due to the strong current.



18 Le Tombant de l'Église

Level 1 | 165 feet max | [La Grande Anse Diamant](#)

Less than a mile from the coast, Le Tombant de l'Église is a 984-foot-long coral plateau featuring colorful reefs and clear water. Diverse fauna includes rock lobsters, hawksbill turtles, trumpetfish, porcupinefish, boxfish, cleaner shrimp, grunts, and crawfish. From 33 feet, the plateau descends gradually to 115 feet before a dropoff to 164 feet. Anchorage at 49 feet.



19 La Grande Caye de Sainte-Luce

Level 1 | 115 feet max | [East of Sainte-Luce](#)

An excellent spot for a night dive, La Grande Caye de Sainte-Luce is a 656-foot-long reef featuring impressive star coral, staghorn coral, and feather gorgonians at 16 feet deep. Follow the gradual descent to 115 feet and look for parrotfish, butterflyfish, wahoos, moray eels, squid, rock lobsters, and lanternfish. Many anchorages available near the isolated danger mark.



20 Les Trois Vallées

Level 1 | 100 feet max | [South of Sainte-Luce, west of Sainte-Anne](#)

Les Trois Vallées consists of three coral plateaus separated by two 164-foot-wide sand strips. Follow their slopes down to 100 feet to see gorgonians, sponges, queen conchs, spider conchs, wahoos, mackerel, and barracudas. Many anchorages available, including one at 49 feet.



21 Le Tombant des Sorbes

Level 1 | 150 feet max | [South of Sainte-Anne Bay](#)

Located one nautical mile off Pointe Dunkerque, Le Tombant des Sorbes features a dropoff to 150 feet that brings you close to the Atlantic Ocean. Swim past angelfish, mutton snapper, dog snapper, and sea bream. Anchor at 43 feet, above the small sailboat wreck.



22 Le Domingo

Level 2 | 85 feet max | [South of Pointe des Salines](#)

Le Domingo is one of the rare dive sites located entirely in the Atlantic Ocean. You'll find this sand plateau 1,640 feet southwest of L'Îlet Cabrit, at a depth of about 65 feet. Low visibility and strong open ocean currents make this a challenging dive, but you'll have the chance to spot stingrays. One anchorage available, but drift diving is more common.



DIVE CENTER DIRECTORY

📞 TO CALL FROM THE US, PLEASE DIAL 011 596 BEFORE THE INDICATED PHONE NUMBER.

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tropicasub@orange.fr

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ABOUT MARTINIQUE













With awe-inspiring natural beauty, a rich cultural history, warm welcome, distinctive culinary delights, and superb rums, the French Caribbean Island of Martinique stirs passion.

Martinique, ranked among the most alluring and enchanting destinations in the world, is part of France and boasts modern and reliable infrastructure—roads, water and power utilities, hospitals, and telecommunications services all on par with any other part of the European Union. At the same time, Martinique’s beautifully unspoiled beaches, volcanic peaks, rainforests, 80+ miles of hiking trails, waterfalls, streams, and other natural wonders make the Island a true gem of the Caribbean.

Martinique has a cachet all its own; an endearing West Indian warmth in its personality, a special spice in its music and dance, its local dishes, cultural heritage, and way of life. It is an island with style and so much more.

A special place, with so much to offer—*Martinique c’est magnifique!*

-  Crystal clear waters & majestic landmarks
-  A world of green with lush vegetation
-  Superb cuisine with sophisticated flavors
-  The rum capital of the world
-  Events and festivals all year long
-  A rich history and vibrant culture
-  Shopping heaven
-  Headquarters for romance
-  Fantastic diving experiences
-  A surfer’s heaven

ESSENTIAL FACTS

LOCATION — Nestled in the heart of the Lesser Antilles between Dominica and St. Lucia, Martinique lies 1,965 miles from New York, 1,470 miles from Miami, 425 miles from San Juan, 4,261 miles from Paris and 2,257 miles from Montréal.

SIZE — 436 square miles (50 miles long and 22 miles across at its widest point), or 1,128 square kilometers.

POPULATION — 413,310 inhabitants

CAPITAL CITY — Fort-de-France

CURRENCY — Euro

LANGUAGES — French, Creole, and English

CLIMATE — Temperatures average 79°F with two regular alternating wind currents (les Alizés) keeping the island cool.

WATER TEMPERATURE — 82°F year-round

ELECTRICITY — Voltage is 220 AC. Visitors traveling with hair dryers, electric shavers, and other appliances made in the US will require power adapters.

BANKS — Banks in the capital are generally open weekdays from 7:30 to noon and from 14:30 to 16:30.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS — Valid ID card or passport for EU nationals. Valid passport required for US citizens and citizens of all other countries.

SAFETY — About 20 hospitals and clinics across the island, including a university hospital center with a hyperbaric chamber.

HEALTH — No vaccinations are necessary, but mosquito repellent is recommended. Don’t forget your sunscreen! Beware of manchineel trees, highly toxic trees found along the beach and marked with a red band.

ACCOMMODATION — Choose from a wide range of lodging options: luxury, budget, and mid-range hotels; vacation villages; tourist residences; furnished tourist apartments; bed and breakfasts; quality campgrounds; and villa rentals.

Find the accommodation that suits you at us.martinique.org

GROUND OPERATORS — These Martinican ground operators can provide land services such as accommodation, sightseeing tours, transfers from airport to hotel, limos, taxis, and so on.

Coeur des Îles — coeurdesiles.travel/martinique
Passion Outremer — passion-outremer.com

TOP US PICKS CAR RENTALS — International car rental services operate in Martinique. Rent a car and enjoy the freedom to come and go as desired.

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