

# FOR NATURE LOVERS

Volcanoes and Forests of Mount Pelée and the Pitons of Northern Martinique listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

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# FEEL THE WAVES OF NATURE

### WITH AWE-INSPIRING NATURAL BEAUTY, A RICH CULTURAL HISTORY, AND WARM WELCOME, THE FRENCH CARIBBEAN ISLAND OF MARTINIQUE STIRS PASSION.

UNESCO added the entire island of Martinique to its World Network of Biosphere Reserves, which promotes biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. In addition to its remarkable geology, the island has an abundance of beautifully unspoiled beaches, volcanic peaks, rainforests, waterfalls, streams, and other natural wonders that make it a true gem in the Caribbean.

Discover tailor-made tours: martinique.org/en/trips



With more than 155 miles of hiking trails linking beaches, tropical forests, and mountains, Martinique offers visitors the chance to explore an incredible array of natural landscapes. Enjoy a leisurely walk along the Presqu'île de la Caravelle peninsula, discover the desert-like scenery at the Savane des Pétrifications, or choose one of several paths leading up the 4,580-foot Mount Pelée.



Martinique offers an incredible array of water activities. Looking for an escape? Take an excursion to the surrounding islets or the white sandbanks. If you're a thrill seeker, try flyboarding, wakeboarding, surfing, or kitesurfing. For a unique experience, go deep-sea fishing, kayaking through the mangroves, or learn to sail a yole, a type of sailboat you won't find anywhere else.



White-sand beaches dot the entire southern Caribbean coast, while the southern Atlantic coast has clear waters with a secluded lagoon feel. In the north, travelers will find unique black-sand beaches. The coast is accessible all over the island, with numerous secluded bays, all of which are open to the public. Experience crystal-clear water with a temperature of 79 to 86 degrees Fahrenheit.



# **BALATA GARDENS**

This three-hectare park holds 3,000 types of indigenous flora and fauna—including some 300 species of palm trees—just outside of Martinique's capital. Follow the multilingual markers through Jean-Philippe Thoze's landscaped gardens, rolling green fields, and ponds dappled with water lilies and lotus flowers. The suspended paths and bridges provide an aerial view of the gardens.



# DOMAINE D'ÉMERAUDE

Domaine d'Émeraude, a 24-hectare nature park in northern Martinique, is a must-visit for anyone looking to immerse themselves in the island's exceptional biodiversity. Stroll along more than two miles of footpaths in the landscaped forest, home to over 100 indigenous species, then check out the interactive exhibits at the pavilion to learn about Martinique's natural history.



A tombolo is a natural phenomenon in which the tide goes out and reveals a sandbar that connects the mainland to a neighbouring islet. This occurs spectacularly in Sainte-Marie, on Martinique's Atlantic coast, where the sandbar stretches more than 200 m to link Petite-Anse beach to the islet of Sainte-Marie. From November to April, the winds and ocean currents move the sand and alter the coastline, causing the tombolo to appear at the end of the year—and disappear four months later.

# **AN ISLAND TO "DIVE" FOR**

### 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.

For a list of certified diving clubs, visit: martinique.org



## IDEAL FOR FAMILY DIVING

Martinique is an ideal destination for family and accessible diving, with plenty of sites that are safe for beginners and activities available for children eight and up. Dive in total safety with all sanitary facilities meeting European standards.



The island counts over 20 accredited diving centers, most of them PADI- and/or CMA-certified. The island's diving professionals offer a wide range of personalized services to meet the needs of beginners and experienced divers alike. Your Martinique diving experience will give you a unique glimpse into the secrets of the ocean.



When Mount Pelée erupted in 1902, the city of Saint-Pierre and its harbor were destroyed—but this devastating event has since transformed the area into one of the most rewarding dive destinations in the Caribbean. Eleven turn-of-the-century ships rest at depths ranging from 50 to 265 feet, offering novice and experienced divers a glimpse into Martinique's rich history.

## THE DIAMOND ROCK

The most popular dive spot is at Le Rocher du Diamant, departing 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. It is one of the most beautiful dive sites in the world.



# A RICH UNDERSEA ENVIRONMENT

The south of Martinique offers stunning beaches with pure white sand bathed by warm clear Caribbean water. Marine life is abundant. Divers can expect to see exceptionally well-preserved and protected flora and fauna, corals, sponges, all kinds of tropical fishes, barracudas, rays, turtles, dolphins and more!



# AN EXCLUSIVE SNORKELING EXPERIENCE

The Anses-d'Arlet town, along the Caribbean coast, is the best place in Martinique for snorkeling and to spot green sea turtles. Almost all the snorkeling spots on the island are freely accessible from the shore. No two sites are alike, but what they do have in common is excellent visibility and water temperatures of 79 to 86 degrees Fahrenheit.

# **DISCOVER LA MARTINIQUE**



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 $^{*}\mbox{Connecting flights}$  in Montreal also available from Ottawa and Quebec City.

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START PLANNING : martinique.org

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