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mffoto/Shutterstock.com



Shaiith/Shutterstock.com



mffoto/Shutterstock.com

Sun-drenched and palm-fringed, the island of Saint-Martin/Sint Maarten is one of the most beautiful in the eastern Caribbean. It also has a dual personality: the north of the island is a little outpost of France, and the south side oozes the warmth of the Dutch. The border between them is basically non-existent, and visitors are free to enjoy everything from water sports and cultural festivals to shopping.

Featured



Bernard's Tours

This is a great opportunity to take part in outstanding individual or group ...



Hope Estate Archaeological...

At this site, archaeologists have excavated artifacts including pottery and ...



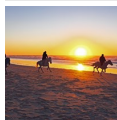
Quartier-d'Orleans

Quartier-d'Orleans is a little piece of 17th-century France. Also known as t...



Fort Amsterdam

Located between Great Bay and Little Bay in the southern part of the island,...



Seaside Nature Park

At Seaside Nature Park, there is something for everyone to enjoy whether you...

Top 5



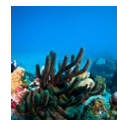
Fort St. Louis

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Saint Martin Carnival

Saint Martin Carnival is one of the island's cultural highlights, where loca...



Octopus Diving and Snorkeling

Swim with turtles, lionfish, lizardfish and other colorful sea creatures. Yo...



Philipsburg

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Marigot

The capital of Saint Martin has rows of patisseries and smart bistros that s...



THE ISLAND



Steve Heap/Shutterstock.com

Hundreds of islands form the Caribbean, but none are quite so enigmatic as St. Martin and St. Maarten. The island is one of the smallest to ever be divided, with residents of both the French and Dutch sides working together in mutual friendship and respect.

Culturally, St. Martin and St. Maarten, which caught the eye of the Dutch and the French after Columbus discovered the island in the 15th century, are quite different. St. Martin has some of the most chic fashion shops and restaurants in the Caribbean and beaches elegant enough to rival those in Cannes and Saint-Tropez, while St. Maarten has the serious work and play ethics of its fellow countrymen.

For the visitor, this means there's lots to do, such as dining out on French à la carte cuisine and wines one day and sampling fresh pastries inspired by the finest Dutch chefs the next. Enjoying activities like horseback riding and water sports and exploring breathtaking beaches and scenery are other options to fill your day.

DO & SEE



Earthscape/Shutterstock.com

St. Martin has a rich and interesting history, which can be seen today in its unique cultural heritage. Visit St. Maarten Museum and some of the many historical sites to learn more about the island's history and its impact on modern life. However, do not forget to take some time to relax while you enjoy the unspoiled beauty of the island's many beaches.

Fort St. Louis



Fort St. Louis is the largest historical monument in St. Martin and is named after King Louis XVI of France, who built a settlement to protect Marigot during his reign.

Photo: ATJA/Shutterstock.com

Address: Marigot Bay, Saint Martin

Saint Martin Carnival



Saint Martin Carnival is one of the island's cultural highlights, where locals and tourists get together in the streets to sing, dance, make music, throw confetti and have a good time watching the colorful and lively parade.

Photo: Aquarimage/Shutterstock.com

Address: 60E A. T. Illidge Road, Over the Pond

Phone: +1 721 520 5030

Internet: www.sxm-carnival.com

Email: sxmcarnival@hotmail.com

Octopus Diving and Snorkeling



Swim with turtles, lionfish, lizardfish and other colorful sea creatures. You will be provided with top notch diving equipment;

professional underwater cameras can be rented in order to capture this unique experience.

Photo: bcampbell65/Shutterstock.com

Address: 3 Rue Petite Plage, Saint Martin

Opening hours: Daily 9:00 - 17:00

Phone: +1 721 588 8245

Internet: octopusdiving.com

Email: info@divesintmaarten.com

Philipsburg



The capital of St. Maarten is the central point for shopping and the local cultural scene. Tucked in the southeastern part of the island between Great

Bay and Great Salt Pond, the city has been a major commercial hub for the island since the 17th century.

Photo: Sean Pavone/Shutterstock.com

Address: Philipsburg, Saint Martin

Marigot



The capital of Saint Martin has rows of patisseries and smart bistros that sit side by side with luxury fashion houses and colonial

architecture. Take a stroll on Rue de la République with its 19th-century traditional facades and visit one of the many historical buildings like Marigot Church, the Old Prison or Durat Bridge.

Photo: Darryl Brooks/Shutterstock.com

Address: Marigot, Saint Martin

Quartier-d'Orleans



Quartier-d'Orleans is a little piece of 17th-century France. Also known as the French Quarter, this fishing village is located on the

east coast and is believed to be the first French settlement on the island.

Photo: Gino Santa Maria/Shutterstock.com

Address: Quartier-d'Orleans, Saint Martin

Soualiga Destinations Boat Tours



This thrilling boat tour will take you to some great spots around St. Maarten and the knowledgeable staff will tell some interesting

stories about the island. Snorkeling in the clear blue sea and have lunch at a beach side restaurant will wrap up a perfect day.

Photo: bcampbell65/Shutterstock.com

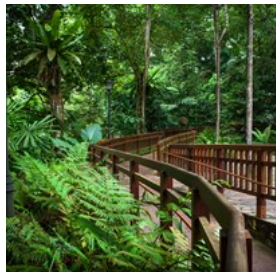
Address: Juancho Yrausquin Boulevard, Philipsburg

Phone: +1 721 553 6550

Internet: www.soualigadestinations.com

Email: bcass1111@gmail.com

Loterie Farm



Loterie Farm is a private nature reserve and the perfect spot for an ecological adventure and a gourmet experience.

Dine and drink some wine or participate in one of the numerous outdoor activities like climbing, hiking or gliding over the treetop canopy.

Photo: [N8Allen/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/author/N8Allen)

Address: Rue du Pic Paradis, Rambaud

Opening hours: Sunday - Tuesday: 09:00 - 17:00, Thursday -

Sunday: 09:00 - 22:00

Phone: +590 690 28 84 66

Internet: loteriefarm.com

Email: info@loteriefarm.com

Bernard's Tours



This is a great opportunity to take part in outstanding individual or group tours. On the half-day trip led by competent guides you will

discover all the major sites of the island and learn its long and rich history.

Photo: [Naeblys/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/author/Naeblys)

Address: Res les Surettes, Marigot

Opening hours: Daily 07:00 - 21:30

Phone: +1 954 376 6582

Internet: www.bernardstours.com

Email: info@bernardstours.com

Hope Estate Archaeological Site



At this site, archaeologists have excavated artifacts including pottery and ruins of the ancient Arawak village. Delve into

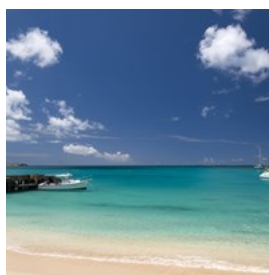
the history of this ancient village built around 500 BC and learn about the culture of the people that lived here.

Photo: [Openfinal/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/author/Openfinal)

Address: Grand Case, Saint Martin

Internet: caribya.com/grand.case/hope.estate

Grand-Case



Grand-Case has gained the status of St. Martin's gourmet capital. A number of world-class restaurants are located in traditional huts and the

village is home to the last remaining wattle houses. In January, a Caribbean jazz festival with bands and orchestras takes place.

Photo: [Photostravellers/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/author/Photostravellers)

Address: Grand-Case, Saint Martin

Border obelisk



Back in 1648 the French and Dutch signed a contract dividing the island into two parts. Since then, the two sides

have lived in peace and harmony. Apart from the language, the only indicator of the border is a border obelisk marking 300 years of peaceful coexistence by the two nations.

Photo: [fotofactory/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/author/fotofactory)

Address: Union Road, Saint Martin

Opening hours: Open 24/7

National Nature Reserve of Saint Martin



A true oasis of fauna and flora, the triangle-shaped Reserve covers over 3000 hectares of sea and land including the islands off the east coast: Pinel

Island, Petite Clef, Green Cay and Tintamarre.

With its rocky coasts, cliffs and beaches, the reserve is home to a host of different species like seabirds, iguanas, sea turtles, and dolphins.

Photo: Irina Markova/Shutterstock.com

Address: Anse Marcel, Saint Martin

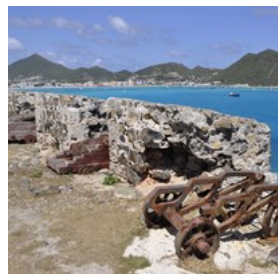
Phone: +33 5 90 29 09 72

Internet: reservenaturelle-saint-martin.com

Email: direction@rns.m.org

More Info: Résidence les Acacias.

Fort Amsterdam



Located between Great Bay and Little Bay in the southern part of the island, Fort Amsterdam dates back nearly four centuries. It was

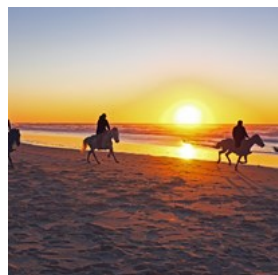
constructed by Dutch settlers who claimed the island in 1631 and utilized shortly thereafter in battle with Spanish occupiers.

Photo: Nenad Basic/Shutterstock.com

Address: Little Bay Road, Philipsburg

Opening hours: Open 24/7

Seaside Nature Park



At Seaside Nature Park, there is something for everyone to enjoy whether you love the water or you're more of a landlubber. Some of their

more popular activities include guided horseback riding tours across the beach, snorkeling in the waters of Cay Bay and hiking tours through the park.

Photo: Steve Photography/Shutterstock.com

Address: 64 Cay Bay Road Cay bay SX, Cay Bay Rd., Cole Bay

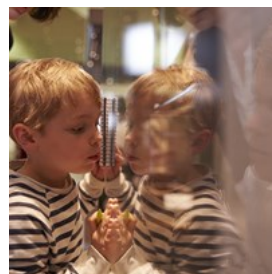
Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 08:00 - 16:00, closed on Sunday

Phone: +1 721 544 5255

Internet: www.seasidenaturepark.com

Email: info@seasidenaturepark.com

St. Maarten Museum



The exhibits at St. Maarten Museum provide insight into the cultural heritage and the natural history of the island.

Learn about the people

who helped shape St. Maarten into the place it is today and about its industry, geography, plants, and wildlife.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: 7 Front Street, Philipsburg

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 10:00 - 16:00, closed on Saturday and Sunday

Phone: +1 721 542 4917

Internet: www.museumsintmaarten.org

Email: heritage@caribserve.net

Yoda Guy Movie Exhibit



Film buffs will really get a kick out of visiting the Yoda Guy Movie Exhibit, which houses a number of pieces of movie memorabilia. Some

pieces are works created or co-created by the artist and owner Nick Maley, who has worked on films like Star Wars, Superman and Highlander.

Photo: [picicato/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)

Address: 19A Front Street, Philipsburg
Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 09:30 - 17:00, Saturday:
11:00 - 16:00, closed on Sunday
Phone: +1 721 542 4009
Internet: netdwellers.com/mo/ygme/index.html
Email: ygme@netdwellers.com

BEACH LIFE



jessicakirsh/Shutterstock.com

Ranging from long stretches of sand fringed by palm trees to coves to dunes that attract families and sun worshipers, the beaches on St. Martin and St. Maarten are white, sandy and inviting. The largest are on the French side, and many are naturist, while St. Maarten has many pretty coves.

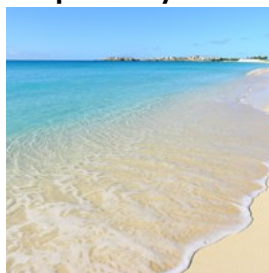
Maho Beach



Along the coast from Fort Amsterdam in St. Maarten, Maho Beach is surrounded by rocks, which makes it a fun location for exploration, hiking, and snorkeling. The beach is very close to the Princess Juliana International Airport and a popular site for plane spotters, so come here and be dazzled by the KLM Boeing 747 landing right overhead.

Photo: Steve Heap/Shutterstock.com
Address: Maho Beach, Saint Martin

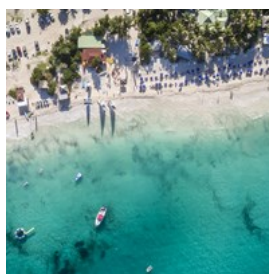
Simpson Bay



Those who love secluded beaches will certainly adore Simpson Bay. Shaped like a half moon and covered with the finest white sand, the beach is part of a protected lagoon, one of the largest in the Caribbean.

Photo: Earthscape/Shutterstock.com
Address: Simpson Bay, Saint Martin

Orient Beach



Orient Beach is known as the Saint-Tropez of the Caribbean. The stretch of sandy beach with rows of colorful deckchairs is the perfect location to relax and unwind; furthermore, the tree-lined promenade boasts a lot of nice bars, restaurants and beach activities.

Photo: thierry dehove/Shutterstock.com
Address: Orient Bay Beach, Saint Martin

Mullet Bay Beach



Mullet Bay's calm, clear waters make it one of the most popular beaches on the island. Chairs and umbrellas are available for rent, and a small BBQ stand will spoil you with ribs, chicken and drinks right on the beach.

Photo: Photostravellers/Shutterstock.com
Address: Mullet Bay Beach, Saint Martin

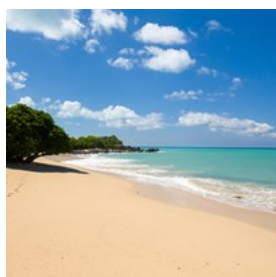
Pinel Island



Located in Orient Bay, just a short boat ride from the Cul de Sac in the Marine Park of St. Martin, Pinel Island is a popular choice for families and snorkelers. There are several kid-friendly activities, and even three restaurants if you get hungry while you're here.

Photo: Colin D. Young/Shutterstock.com
Address: Îlet de Pinel, Saint Martin

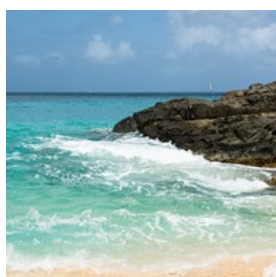
Happy Bay Beach



Happy Bay Beach is one of St. Martin's best-kept secrets. Avoid the crowds on this quiet, secluded, clothing-optional beach, accessible by a short walk along the bluff.

Photo: Steve Heap/Shutterstock.com
Address: Happy Bay, Saint Martin

Baie Rouge



Located in a residential area away from the commercial hotels, Baie Rouge, or "Red Bay", owes its name to the slightly reddish color of its sand. This beach features some stunning multicolored rocks and cliffs, and the crystal-clear water makes it a favorite among snorkelers.

Photo: Zina Seletskaya/Shutterstock.com
Address: Baie Rouge, Saint Martin

Cupecoy Bay



The shaded caves and the low, scenic sandstone cliffs that rise up behind the beach have charmed tourists and visitors since forever. This secluded spot hardly gets crowded, so don't miss the chance to relax and unwind in solitude.

Photo: BlueOrange Studio/Shutterstock.com
Address: Cupecoy Bay, Saint Martin

Guana Bay Beach



Located on the Atlantic side of the island, with huge waves lapping onto the shore, Guana Bay is a favorite spot for surfers. Although close to Philipsburg, this expansive, sunny beach is usually relatively quiet.

Photo: Darryl Brooks/Shutterstock.com
Address: Guana Bay, Saint Martin

DINING



Igor Dutina/Shutterstock.com

Visitors to Saint-Martin and Sint Maarten will be spoiled with all of their choices when it comes to dining out. For lovers of French cuisine, there is probably nowhere else in the Caribbean where you can dine on à la carte and French-inspired

gourmet food at such reasonably inexpensive prices. The food is usually al fresco or located on the beach, with fine wine lists to accompany the meal.

Look out for the wonderful aromatic Creole and Caribbean cuisine, or taste some other popular cooking styles, such as Mexican, Indonesian, and Italian. Most restaurants have a varied menu of meat, fresh fish, and shellfish dishes, while beach bars with non-stop barbecues offer spicy chicken and fish dishes cooked with traditional Caribbean recipes.

Izi Restaurant



Decorated to a style reminiscent of Italian architecture and decor, this restaurant serves fine Italian cuisine, including authentic pasta dishes with sauces. All dishes are prepared and cooked using ingredients imported from Italy.

Photo: Timolina/Shutterstock.com
Address: 67 Welfare Road, Philipsburg
Opening hours: Closed on Monday, Tuesday - Sunday: 11:00 - 22:30
Phone: +1 721 544 3079
Internet: www.izirestaurant.com

Coco Beach



Located near the Esmeralda Resort, this beachfront cafe-restaurant provides its clientele with fresh snack food and beverages at reasonable prices from sunrise to sunset. The homemade flavored rum is the perfect touch to make your day.

Photo: Vitaly Titov/Shutterstock.com
Address: Orient Beach, Orient Bay
Phone: +590 590 873 462

Bamboo



If you are a sushi lover, then you can't absolutely miss this popular Tiki garden. At Bamboo, you will be served generous portions of sushi and a wide selection of exotic cocktails. Steak, chicken and shrimp dishes are also available.

Photo: funkyfrogstock/Shutterstock.com
Address: Welfare Rd, Simpson Bay, Sint Maarten
Opening hours: Sun-Wed 6-11pm, Thu 6pm-12am, Fri-Sat 6pm-2am
Phone: +1 721 523 1508
Internet: www.bamboo-sxm.com
Email: info@bamboo-sxm.com

L'Effet Mer



L'Effet Mer serves fabulous French cuisine overlooking the beach. Enjoy casual but elegant dining with inventive dishes and a wonderful wine selection.

Photo: CCat82/Shutterstock.com
Address: 48 Boulevard Grand Case, Saint Martin
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 12-2pm, 6-10pm
Phone: +590 590 870 565

Le Tropicana



This waterfront bistro has been a mainstay of Saint Martin's culinary scene for many years and its French cuisine has definitely become a must-try for many tourists heading there. They

also offer a full selection of continental dishes, from appetizers to dessert. Table reservation is recommended, since the restaurant usually gets very crowded.

Photo: Joshua Resnick/Shutterstock.com

Address: Rue de Sandy Ground, Marigot

Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 08:00 - 14:00 / 18:00 - 23:00, closed on Sunday

Phone: +590 590 877 907

More Info: Marina la Port Royale.

Bistrot Caraïbes



With its impeccable professional service as well as local cuisine at its finest, Bistrot Caraïbes will not fail to impress you. They boast a wide selection of lobster dishes, such as lobster Thermidor, lobster soup and grilled lobster, so make sure you don't miss any of their specialties. Their ginger flavored rum will be the pleasant final touch to your experience.

Photo: Somkiat Insawa/Shutterstock.com

Address: 81 Boulevard de Grand Case, Grand Case

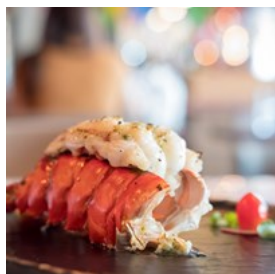
Opening hours: Daily 18:00 - 22:00

Phone: +590 590 290 829

Internet: www.bistrot-caraibes.com

Email: bistrotcaraibes@yahoo.fr

L'Auberge Gourmande



Wonderful flavors, authentic service, comfortable atmosphere and attentive and charming staff, that is what L'Auberge

Gourmande is all about. They serve excellent French fare like escargot, lobster bisque and frog legs.

Photo: Moomusician/Shutterstock.com

Address: 89 Boulevard de Grand Case, Grand Case

Opening hours: Daily 17:00 - 22:00

Phone: +590 590 87 73 37

Internet: www.laubergegourmande.com

Email: reservations@laubergegourmande.com

La Villa Restaurant



If you are searching for a magical place to have an intimate dinner, then there is no need to look any further: La Villa has everything you would expect from a classy restaurant. Caribbean specialties meet here with traditional French cuisine, creating a unique combination of flavors.

Photo: creativesunday/Shutterstock.com

Address: 93 Boulevard de Grand Case, Grand Case

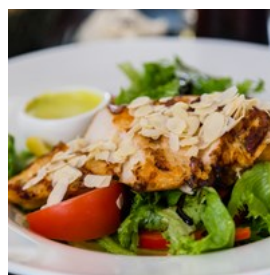
Opening hours: Monday - Tuesday: 17:00 - 22:00, closed on Wednesday, Thursday - Sunday: 17:00 - 22:00

Phone: +590 590 523 659

Internet: www.lavillasxm.com

Email: fclavilla@hotmail.fr

Vesna Taverna



Your taste buds will want to savor whatever delectable treat finds its way to your table at Vesna Taverna. Once a humble bagel house, this place has now become a St. Martin institution serving up full, hearty breakfasts as well as lunch and dinner. Vesna Taverna's rich and varied menu includes Greek food as well as Caribbean and American dishes.

Photo: Ekaterina Barochkina/Shutterstock.com

Address: 18 Airport Road, Saint Martin

Opening hours: Tuesday - Saturday: 07:00 - 22:00, Monday - Sunday: 07:00 - 16:00

Phone: +1 721 524 5283

Internet: www.vesnataaverna.com

Piazza Pascal



Piazza Pascal provides a romantic, al fresco dining experience with delicious Italian cuisine. The renowned service will tempt you with

world-famous recipes: lasagna, pasta, risotto, meat and fish dishes; everything here is to die for.

Photo: Champiofoto/Shutterstock.com

Address: 101 Boulevard de Grand Case, Grand Case

Opening hours: Monday - Tuesday: 17:30 - 22:00, closed on Wednesday, Thursday - Sunday: 17:30 - 22:00

Phone: +590 590 87 39 21

Internet: www.piazzapascal.com

Email: piazzapascal@yahoo.com

Mario Bistrot



Many who come to Mario's are instantly hooked thanks to the unpretentious atmosphere and creative contemporary cuisine

infused with both Asian and Caribbean flavors. It is a favorite dining option for both locals and tourists alike.

Photo: YANG YIDONG/Shutterstock.com

Address: 56 Rhine Road, Saint Martin

Opening hours: Closed on Monday, Tuesday - Saturday: 18:00 - 23:00, Sunday: 12:00 - 15:30

Phone: +590 690 77 72 44

Internet: www.mariobistrot.com

Le Piment



Word of mouth has brought fame to this bustling eatery in Orient Bay, and tourists return time and again to savor some classics of Italian

and French cuisine at great prices. The laid-back atmosphere and the attentive staff will make your experience truly memorable.

Photo: Jacek Chabraszewski/Shutterstock.com

Address: Place du Village, Saint Martin

Opening hours: Tuesday - Sunday: 18:00 - 22:00

Phone: +590 590 524 312

Email: hervepiment@gmail.com

CAFES



merzzie/Shutterstock.com

Saint-Martin and Sint Maarten are dotted with cafes and informal restaurants where you can enjoy snacks and beverages while gazing at the stunning panorama. Most of the popular beaches have their own cafes, usually serving local fresh products, while some other great spots offer several hidden treasures just waiting to be discovered.

Bikini Beach



There is no better place to experience the real Caribbean atmosphere while sipping on a cocktail at sunset. At this cafe you can either

choose to relax and have lunch on the terrace or savor some fresh snacks and beverages right by the beach.

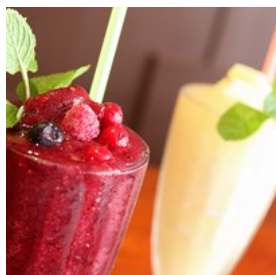
Photo: Makhh/Shutterstock.com

Address: Orient Beach, Orient Bay

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 09:00 - 21:00, Saturday - Sunday: 09:00 - 22:00

Phone: +590 590 77 3990

Top Carrot



Enjoy your meal at Top Carrot on a terrace complete with palms and shrubs. The menu here is varied and includes many vegetarian dishes and

drinks; their juices and smoothies are among the best you will find on the island. This venue also features a small ethnic shop with souvenirs, jewelry and books.

Photo: Leelakajonkij/Shutterstock.com

Address: Simpson Bay Yacht Club, Saint Martin

Opening hours: Daily 07:30 - 17:00

Phone: +1 721 544 3381

Cafe Atlantico



Freshly baked bread, french baguette, café au lait or crêpes are just some French delights offered at this cheerful little spot, perfect to start

the day in the right way.

Photo: Olena Mykhaylova/Shutterstock.com

Address: 51 Airport Road, Simpson Bay

Opening hours: Monday 06:00 -15:00, closed on Tuesday, Wednesday - Saturday: 06:00 - 15:00, Sunday: 06:00 - 13:00

Phone: +1 721 545 2663

Internet: cafeatlantico.restaurantwebexperts.com

Zee Best



The island's best almond croissants, traditional french pastries, breakfast sandwiches, fresh juices, coffees, and bread can be enjoyed at Zee Best.

Photo: Yuliia Mazurkevych/Shutterstock.com

Address: Welfare Rd, Simpson Bay, Sint Maarten

Opening hours: Daily 7:30am-2pm

Phone: +1 721 544 2477

Internet: www.zeebestrestaurant.com

Email: info@zeebestrestaurant.com

La Sucrière



If you are looking for a casual coffee with authentic French pastries, search no further: La Sucrière is a great place to have

breakfast with baguettes, croissants and quiches while sitting on a terrace overlooking the lagoon.

Photo: pixinoo/Shutterstock.com

Address: 130 Welfare Road, Philipsburg

Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 06:00 - 19:00, Sunday: 06:00 - 18:00

Phone: +1 721 544 3549

Email: contact@la-sucriere.com

Karakter



Karakter, located a short walk from the pristine waters of the Caribbean Sea, opens for breakfast, lunch and dinner, offering guests predominately western cuisine with dishes cooked to-order by the chef. Some attractive menu items include grilled lobsters, crabs, burgers, ribs and multiples seafood specialities, as well as vegetarians options such as ratatouille. Live music plays mostly on weekends.

Photo: binik/Shutterstock.com

Address: 121 Simpson Bay Road, Simpson Bay

Opening hours: Daily 07:30 - 22:00

Phone: +1 721 523 9983

Internet: karakterstmaarten.com

Carousel Gelateria Bar



This lovely bar serves up over 30 different ice-cream flavors - all made in-house. Pick your flavors and go for a ride on the adjacent carousel (which was imported from Italy).

Photo: all_about_people/Shutterstock.com

Address: 60A Welfare Rd, Cole Bay

Opening hours: Closed on Monday, Tuesday - Thursday:

14:00 - 22:30, Friday - Sunday: 14:00 - 23:00

Phone: +1 721 544 3112

Sunset Bar and Grill



This modest bar on Moho Beach is a mecca for those looking to spot some spectacular landings. Alongside the stunning view, it offers a wide selection of sandwiches, salads, and the

best burger on the island. Sipping on a beer on the breezy terrace while looking at planes soaring overhead is just the perfect way to wrap up the day.

Photo: Solarisys/Shutterstock.com

Address: 2 Beacon Hill Road, Simpson Bay

Opening hours: Daily 07:30 - 23:00

Phone: +1 721 545 2084

Internet: sunsetsxm.com

Freedom Fighter's Ital Shack



The friendly staff of Ital Shack will serve you homemade vegan and vegetarian food; everything here is home-cooked and prepared with local products. Whether you're coming for breakfast or lunch, healthy tidbits and a laid-back atmosphere will always welcome you.

Photo: adrenalinerushdiaries/Shutterstock.com

Address: 7 Bush Rd, Sint Maarten

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7am-6pm, Sat 7am-1pm

Phone: +1 721 542 0055

Internet: sxmfreedomfighters.com/restaurant/

Email: theitalshack@gmail.com

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Sean Pavone/Shutterstock.com

Nightlife in Saint-Martin and Sint Maarten is synonymous with long, refreshing cocktails on the terrace before dinner, followed by relaxing meals of French and Caribbean-inspired cuisine. Although, visitors often head for the casinos and beach bars to enjoy livelier evenings of music and savour local drinks. The island has 12 casinos - all on the Dutch side.

Diamond Casino



This casino in the heart of Philipsburg welcomes every gambling man with more than a hundred ultramodern slot machines and seven table games, including roulette, blackjack, Caribbean poker and three card poker.

Photo: 18percentgrey/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1 Front Street, Philipsburg

Opening hours: Daily 11:00 - 03:00

Phone: +1 721 543 2565

Internet: www.diamondcasinosxm.com

Email: gmcloney@diamondcasinosxm.com

Lazy Lizard Beach Bar & Grill



At this family-owned open-air bar and grill you can enjoy great views while eating fabulous food and sipping specialty cocktails. Located right on the beach, the Lazy Lizard earned its reputation over the years and is now a favorite of both locals and tourists.

Photo: verca/Shutterstock.com

Address: 29 Front Street, Philipsburg

Opening hours: Monday - Thursday: 10:00 - 15:30, Friday: 10:00 - 15:00, closed on Saturday and Sunday

Phone: +1 721 520 4653

Dinghy Dock Sailors Bar



This fun and casual place will delight your taste buds with a huge selection of BBQ food and craft beers, including their own IPA. The friendly staff and the relaxed atmosphere of the Dinghy Dock Bar will make you feel at home.

Photo: lunopark/Shutterstock.com

Address: 46 Airport Rd B, Simpson Bay, Sint Maarten

Opening hours: Daily 11am-12am

Phone: +1 721 524 4792

Karakter



Located just in the middle of Simpson Bay littoral zone, this little gem combines great seafood and drinks with live music sessions. The staff even provides its clientele with chairs and umbrellas to enjoy the turquoise waters and the fine sand, thus enhancing the whole experience.

Photo: Arina P Habich/Shutterstock.com

Address: 121 Simpson Bay Road, Simpson Bay

Opening hours: Daily 09:00 - 22:00

Phone: +1 721 523 9983

Internet: karakterstmaarten.com

Email: info@karakterstmaarten.com

Grand Case Tuesdays – Harmony Nights



Every Tuesday night (from 6–10:30 pm), from January to April, Grand Case -- a small town on the French side of the island -- hosts Les Mardis

de Grand Case. Also known as Harmony Nights, it is a street fair with local music, arts and crafts exhibitions as well as traditional dance shows. Street food, beach-facing restaurants, drum beats, and booths selling trinkets will surely make your day.

Photo: Jakez/Shutterstock.com

Address: Grand Case, Saint Martin

Internet: www.grandcase.com/harmony.html

The Red Piano Lounge



This waterfront lounge packed with quality music, spirits and cocktails of any kind offers one of the best places to have fun in St.

Maarten. Check out their upcoming events and have a whale of a good time.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com

Address: Billy Folly Road, Koolbaai, Sint Maarten

Opening hours: Daily 19:00 - 02:00

Phone: +1 721 527 4266

Internet: www.theredpianosxm.com

The Palms



Here at The Palms, size doesn't really matter; this little restaurant offers many options in a range of culinary styles, including some old family recipes to die for. Come here and savor their renowned specialties, like the drunken ribs and the jerk chicken wrap, or just join the karaoke contest and showcase your talent.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Address: 25 Airport Road, Simpson Bay

Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 11:30 - 22:00, closed on Sunday

Phone: +1 721 554 2375

Internet: www.thepalmssxm.com

Email: ThePalmsInSXM@gmail.com

Dirty Sanchez Crew Bar



Take a break from exploring the busy town of Philipsburg at Dirty Sanchez Crew Bar. They are located right on the beach at the Waterfront Boardwalk, and the bikini-clad bartenders mix up classic cocktails using a blend of unique ingredients.

Photo: Kar Tr/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boardwalk, Philipsburg

Phone: +1 721 524 2741

Email: szekfum@yahoo.com

SHOPPING



Evangeline Addison/Shutterstock.com

St. Martin and St. Maarten are a shopper's duty-free paradise, especially for high couture fashion from French and Italian houses, jewelry, leather goods, fragrances from the world's top perfumery companies, fine porcelain, crystal and handcrafts.

Passengers from ships touring the Caribbean are drawn to the shops around Front Street in Philipsburg. On the other side of the island, Marigot gathers numerous chic shops and boutiques, and the waterfront West Indies shopping mall proves a temptation for shoppers. If you are looking for local handicrafts and produce, then head for the Marigot Market, where you can purchase tropical fruits, spices, freshly caught fish and unique souvenirs to bring home.

Ma Doudou



The island paradise of St. Martin has become synonymous with the good life. Remember the time you spent soaking in the sun with a drink in hand with a bottle of rum in a number of flavors. All rums are made by local craftsmen using traditional methods.

Photo: alexpro9500/Shutterstock.com

Address: Rue de Terrasse, Cul-de-Sac

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 08:00 - 15:00, closed on Saturday and Sunday

Phone: +33 590 873 043

Internet: www.rhummadoudou.com

Email: info@madoudou.fr

Tijon Parfumerie



Tijon Parfumerie is famous for their perfumes made in St. Martin and inspired by the natural Caribbean islands.

Discover the process of making perfumes and create your own personal fragrance by choosing from over 300 oils and extracts.

Photo: Africa Studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: Route de l'Espérance, Grand Case

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 09:30 - 17:00, closed on Saturday and Sunday

Phone: +590 690 227 470

Internet: www.tijon.com

Email: info@tijon.com

Marigot's Marina Port Royal



Marigot is a Caribbean hub of elegance, luxury and hi-tech equipment. Due to its tax-free status, it has become a duty-free shopping heaven. The

Marina district boasts a host of little restaurants ready for the lunch crowd, as well as high fashion hot spots where boutiques sell everything from designer clothes to jewelry.

Photo: Uber Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Marina Port Royal, Marigot

Phone: +590 590 77 31 26

Internet: www.marinaportlaroyale.com

Email: info@marinaportlaroyale.com

Front Street and Back Street



On the Dutch side of the island, Front Street and Back Street in Philipsburg are the alternative to Marigot's French boutiques. The

promenade along the waterfront is lined with a vast range of restaurants and bars as well as boutiques, jewelry stores and souvenir stalls selling perfumes and clothing.

Photo: blurAZ/Shutterstock.com

Address: Front and Back Street, Philipsburg, Saint Martin

The Marigot Market



For those looking for some hustle and bustle, the lively Marigot Market is the place to go. It can be best described as a melting pot of colors and

smells located in open Creole huts along the waterfront. Locals sell fruit and vegetables, spices, local meats and fresh fish as well as handicrafts. Make sure to sample some flavored rums.

Photo: jeff gynane/Shutterstock.com

Address: Boulevard de France, Saint Martin

Ballerina Jewelers



Ballerina Jewelers is located right off of where the cruise ships land in Philipsburg. They are known for their attentiveness to detail

and to the customers' needs. Their collection of jewelry is unparalleled on the island and features several unique pieces.

Photo: Maria Sbytova/Shutterstock.com

Address: 56 Front Street, Philipsburg

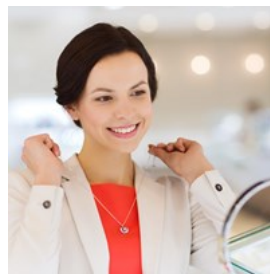
Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 09:00 - 18:00, Sunday: 10:00 - 16:00

Phone: +1 721 542 4399

Internet: www.ballerina-jewelers.com

Email: infosxm@ballerina-jewelers.com

Joe's Jewelry



Joe's is an international jeweler offering fine jewelry from three locations in St. Maarten. Although Joe's deals in jewelry from around the

world, the shop is locally-owned, and this is apparent in every facet of their business.

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com

Address: 60 Front Street, Philipsburg

Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 09:00 - 17:00, closed on Sunday

Phone: +1 721 543 7020

Internet: www.joesjewelry.com

Email: online@joesjewelry.com

Sint Maarten Guavaberry



Rum-based liquors have been the main business of the island for decades and are part of its tradition. Here at Sint Maarten Guavaberry you

can retrace the evolution of this historical trade by purchasing and sampling quality homemade rums as well as a variety of fruit liqueurs and hot sauces.

Photo: Jozef Sowa/Shutterstock.com

Address: 8-10 Frontstreet, Philipsburg

Phone: +1 721 542 2965

Internet: www.guavaberry.com

Email: manager@guavaberry.com

Bedazzled Jewelers



Bedazzled is a small boutique jewelry shop whose owner has years of experience in the jewelry industry. Let him and his trustworthy staff guide

you on your search for the perfect piece of jewelry.

Photo: haveseen / Shutterstock.com

Address: 94 Front Street, Philipsburg

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 09:00 - 17:45, Saturday: 09:30 - 17:45, Sunday: 10:00 - 14:00

Phone: +1 721 542 1724

Internet: www.bedazzledjewelers.com

Email: kenny@bedazzledjewelers.com

JN Jewelers



Located in the bustling commercial center of Philipsburg, JN Jewelers has made a name for itself throughout the world. They have been

around since 1986, and owner Niranjan Motwani strives to provide a personalized experience to everyone who walks through his doors.

Photo: Maria Sbytova/Shutterstock.com

Address: 43 Front Street, Philipsburg

Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 10:30 - 22:30, Sunday: 16:30 - 10:30

Phone: +1 721 545 2287

Le West Indies Mall



If you are looking for a shopping experience like no other on the French side of the island, look no farther than Le West Indies Shopping Mall.

Located on the waterfront in Marigot, this

shopping center provides shoppers with the opportunity to explore high-end shops and eat in classy restaurants while taking in the beautiful and fascinating architecture of the building itself.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com

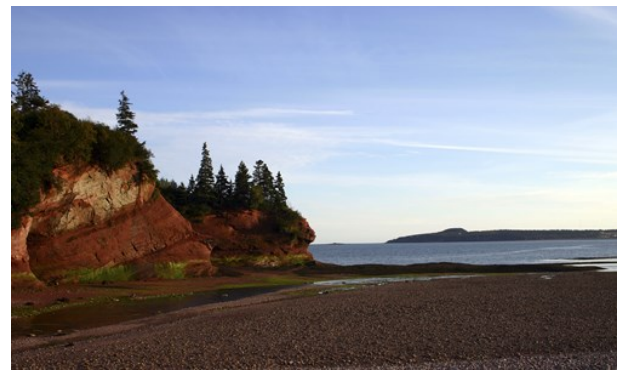
Address: Rue de la République, Saint Martin

Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 10:00 - 20:00, closed on Sunday

Phone: +33 5 90 51 04 19

Internet: www.lewestindiesmall.blogspot.com

TOURIST INFORMATION



bellajay/Shutterstock.com

Princess Juliana International Airport (SXM)



St. Martin and St. Maarten are served by the Princess Juliana International Airport (SXM), which is located 15 km west of Philipsburg

and near Simpson Bay. The Grand Case Airport, in the north of the island, is used only for regional flights.

Taxi services are provided outside both airports. There are also rental cars available and some hotels will arrange transfers.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Airport Road, Simpson Bay

Phone: +1 721 546 7542
Internet: www.sxmairport.com
Email: info@SXMairport.com

Passport / Visa



Upon arrival at Princess Juliana International Airport all passengers must present an Embarkation and Disembarkation card,

generally handed out in the plane before landing. A valid return or onward ticket and a reservation for an accommodation in St. Martin must also be presented.

A passport that is valid upon entry and for the duration of stay is required to enter St. Martin; if you come from a country whose citizens require a visa, you must have a valid visa sticker in your passport and the passport must be valid for 3 months after the intended stay. If you are not sure whether or not you need to apply for a visa, we recommend you to contact the embassy or consulate in your country.

Visitors and goods can travel freely between the French and Dutch sides of the island.

Photo: [TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/photo/tuktuk-design)
Internet: www.sintmaartengov.org/Government%20Forms/travelguide.pdf

Time Zone



AST (Atlantic Standard Time) UTC/GMT - 4h

Photo: [Jacky Co/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/photo/jacky-co)

Best Time to Visit



The best time to visit St. Martin is between May and June or November and mid December: torrential rains are not frequent in these weeks

and airfare and room prices lower consistently. The weather on the island is generally pleasant throughout the year, but bear in mind that the rainy season starts in June and protracts until the end of October. Try to avoid the period between winter and spring, which is peak season in St. Martin; the island gets very crowded and prices rise dramatically.

Photo: [VectorA/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/photo/vectora)

Public Transport



Hiring a car is the best way to get around.

Motorcycles and mopeds are also available for hire, or you can just hop on a jitney – the usual mode of

transport for islanders, which is an inexpensive way to explore the island. Group taxis (minibuses) cover most areas of the island, however, there is no strict schedule.

Photo: [Pierre-Luc Auclair](https://www.shutterstock.com/photo/pierre-luc-auclair)
Internet: www.stmartinisland.org/st-martin-st-maarten-travel-information/getting-around-st-martin-island

Taxi



Taxis can be hired at Princess Juliana International Airport and at all major hotels. They have no meters, but drivers must follow

official rates for travel throughout the island.

Marigot: +590 590 875 654
Philipsburg: +1 721 542 2359
Princess Juliana International Airport: +1 721 546 7713

Grand-Case Espérance Regional airport: +590 590 875 303

Photo: ArrivalGuides

Post



The main post office is located in Philipsburg, while a postal branch is located on the French side of the island. Post collections and delivery

times vary but are always on display at post offices.

Photo: Andy Fuchs

Address: 2 N. Debrot Street, Philipsburg, Saint Martin

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 08:30 - 15:30

Phone: +1 721 542 2289

Email: info@pssnv.com

Pharmacy



Pharmacies are located throughout the island:
Maho Pharmacy Rhine Road, St. Maarten +1 721 545 3200
Simpson Bay Pharmacy 68 Welfare

Road, St. Maarten
+1 721 544 3653

Grand Case Pharmacy
Grand Case, St. Martin
+590 590 877 746

Photo: Gemma Garner

Address: Rhine Road, Saint Martin

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 08:00 - 19:00, Saturday - Sunday: 09:00 - 12:00

Phone: +1 721 545 3200

Internet: mahopharmacy.com

Email: info@mahopharmacy.com

Telephone



Country code for French St. Martin: +590. Country code for Dutch St. Maarten: +1 721. Calls between the two countries are

international.

Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity



220 volts (50 Hz) in St. Martin. 110 volts (60 Hz) in St. Maarten.

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population

40,733 (2019)

Currency

The official currency of the French side of the island, Saint-Martin, is the Euro, while the Dutch side, Sint Maarten, uses the Netherlands Antillean guilder, pegged at 1.80 per US dollar.

The US Dollar is also accepted everywhere on the island.

Opening hours

Shops are generally open from 8:30am-5pm with a lunch break of around two hours. Banks are generally open on the French side from Monday to Friday 8:30am-1:30pm and on the Dutch side from Monday to Friday 8:30am-3:30pm. Some banks are open on Saturday 8:30am-12pm.

Internet

www.stmartinland.org

Newspapers

The Daily Herald

Le Pelican

St Martins Week magazine

St Maarten Nature Magazine

St Maarten Events
San Martin News Network

Emergency numbers

Ambulance: 912
St. Maarten Medical Center: 910
Police: 911
Fire: 919
Coast Guard: 913

Tourist information

Office du Tourisme St Martin/St Maarten
Route de Sandy Ground, Marigot 97150, St Martin
+590 590 875721 or +590 590 875643

St. Maarten Tourism Board
6 Juancho Yrausquin Blvd, Sint Maarten
Mon–Fri 8am–5pm



Atlantic Ocean

Caribbean Sea

