

# Sample 3-Week Itinerary of Martinique

Weekend visits to Guadeloupe, Dominica & Mt. Pelée

\$ 5785 for groups of 19 or more participants



Martinique, a rugged Caribbean island that's part of the Lesser Antilles

An overseas French colony, Martinique is a curious medley of French and West Indian influences.

## Saturday, Day 1

**Fort de France, the bustling capital of Martinique**

Famous for its colonial past, Fort de France is a major city in the Caribbean that is famous for exporting sugar, rum, tinned fruit and cacao to various parts of the world.

In-transit from home country. Pick-up on arrival in Fort de France airport. Transfer to Les Trois-Ilets.

**Les Trois-Ilets, the culturally rich resort town**

The very fact that Les Trois-Ilets happens to be the birthplace of Josephine, Napoléon Bonaparte's first wife, has earned it a place in the world map.

Check into a hotel and rest. If time permits, explore Les Trois-Ilets and the nearest sea-beach.

## Sunday, Day 2

**Activities in Martinique**

10:00am: Travel to Cap Chevalier on the beach of Anse Michel and embark on a kayak tour, covering the lagoon of Baie des Anglais, the Fonds Blancs mangrove and the natural reserve of L'Ilet aux oiseaux.

2:30pm: Lunch break

4:00pm: Take a sunbath, followed by a dip in the transparent ocean water. Enjoy water sports including snorkeling.

6:00pm: Go back to the hotel.

7:00pm: Have dinner on your own and after retire for the night.

## Monday to Friday, Day 3 to Day 7

**Weekday Activities in Martinique**

Each day 10:00am: French classes

Each day 12:00 pm: Lunch break

Each day 2:00pm: Volunteer service learning activities

Starting 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on various days of this week: Visit the Savane des Esclaves, a re-created "free" slaves' village on Tuesday. Visit the Cane Sugar Factory on Thursday. Eat dinner independently either at 6 pm or 7pm, depending upon their schedule of activities.

## Saturday, Day 8

**Activities in Martinique**

9:30 am: Visit Balata Church, created in the image of Sacre-Coeur church in Paris. It affords stunning views of Fort-de-France.

11:00am: Visit the beautiful Balata gardens. Take a walk in it, while observing the exotic plants and flowers in the beautifully sculpted Jardin de Balata.

12:30pm: Lunch break

2:00pm: Visit the historical town of St. Pierre and the volcanological museum as well as the ruins of the theater. Take short trips to the nearby fruit market and the old stock market.

5:00pm: Return to the hotel in Fort- de -France, have dinner on your own and retire for the night

## Sunday, Day 9

**Activities in Martinique**

9:30am: Start the day with a tour of the (Le Musee de la Banane). Marvel at the dizzying number of banana trees and learn about the properties of bananas.

11:00am: Visit St. James Distillery & Rum Museum and learn about their backgrounds and how they are contributing to the economy of Martinique.

1:00pm: Lunch break

2:00pm: Visit Caravelle Peninsula. Wild and untouched, this territory is remarkable for its wide range of landscapes.

3:30pm: Travel to Château Dubuc, an old sugar plantation house built in the 18th Century and now a listed historic monument.

5:30pm: Return to the hotel, have dinner on your own and rest

## Monday, Day 10 to Thursday, Day 13

**Weekday Activities in Martinique**

Each day 10:00am: French classes

Each day 12:00 pm: Lunch break



Each day 2:00pm: Volunteer service learning activities

Starting 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on various days of this week: They will visit the Memorial de l'Anse Caffard home to the memorial sculptures of the slaves who died the night of April 8, 1830 on Tuesday after volunteering. Eat dinner independently either at 6 pm or 7pm, depending upon their schedule of activities.

#### Friday, Day 14

Trip to Guadeloupe, a cluster of islands on the south Caribbean Sea

Guadeloupe is dotted with sugarcane fields, long beaches and encompasses the famous Carbet Falls and the volcano La Grande Soufriere.

9:00am: Take a ferry to Pointe-a-Pitre Guadeloupe and start the journey to the islands.

3:00pm: Lunch upon arrival.

4:30pm: Visit the history museum of Memorial Acte, giving an insight into Caribbean's slave trade & indigenous people.

7:00 pm: Check into a hotel and retire for the night.

#### Saturday, Day 15

Activities in Guadeloupe

10:00am: Spend the day at the lap of nature. Visit Parc des Mamelles, le Zoo de Guadeloupe, a sprawling zoo featuring 85 species from the Caribbean & Guyana.

1:00pm: Lunch break

2:30pm: Visit the Jardin Botanique de Deshaies, a beautiful lush green botanical garden.

5:00pm: Cap off the tour with a visit to Plague de la Perle and take advantage of its soft golden sand and clear turquoise water.

7:00pm: Return to the hotel, have dinner on your own and rest.

#### Sunday, Day 16

Trip to Dominica Island, the "Nature Isle of the Caribbean

Wedged between the French islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique, Dominica Island is famous for its breathtaking natural environment.

7:30 am: Take a ferry to the Roseau port at the Dominica Island. Enjoy the stunning view on the way.

9:30 am: Immerse in the culture of the indigenous tribe of Kalinago Territory upon reaching the island.

1:00pm: Lunch break

3:00pm: Take a tour of the Roseau part of the island. Take in the beauty of the houses that were built in the 1800s. Many of them are listed in the National Historic Register. Visit the magical Botanical Gardens later on.

6:00pm: Check into a hotel.

7:00pm: Have dinner and retire for the night

#### Monday, Day 17

Dominica- Martinique

8:30 am: Visit Morne Trois Pitons National Park, a luxuriant tropical park and a World Heritage Site. Enjoy various stops along the way.

3:00pm: Reach Roseau port and start for Martinique.

5:30pm: Check into the hotel.

7:00pm: Have dinner and rest.

#### Tuesday, Day 18 to Thursday, Day 20

Weekday Activities in Martinique

Each day 10:00am: French classes

Each day 12:00 pm: Lunch break

Each day 2:00pm: Volunteer service learning activities

Starting 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on various days of this week: On Wednesday, in the evening, after volunteering, participants will visit the bustling market in Fort de France to learn about local goods and practice conversational France. Eat dinner independently either at 6 pm or 7pm, depending upon their schedule.

#### Friday, Day 21

Trip to Mt. Pelée, Martinique's infamous volcano

The volcano, once described as a gentle giant, wrought havoc in 1902, claiming thousands of lives, as it unleashed its wrath on the town of St. Pierre.

10 am: Travel to Mt. Pelée.

12:30pm: Lunch break

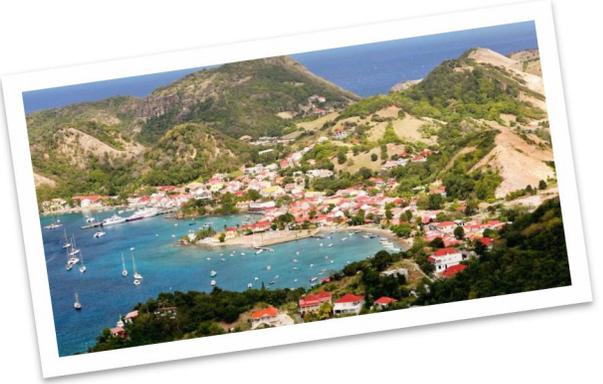
2:00pm: Hike up the volcano or swim through a beautiful river gorge that lends the area a character. Visit the ruins of the former capital in the town of St. Pierre and learn about the volcano.

5:30pm: Start for Les Trois-Ilets.

7:00pm: Dinner break. Retire for the night.

#### Saturday, Day 22, Return to the US

Prior to departure, if schedule permits, students will experience a pottery demonstration by a local artist in Village de la Potterie at Les Trois-Ilet.



[www.xploreo.com/custom](http://www.xploreo.com/custom)

[customtrips@xploreo.com](mailto:customtrips@xploreo.com)

Price includes all in-country costs but not international airfare. Chaperons' costs are not included in the price but if they are to be included the price would increase between 5-10% for each additional chaperon, depending on the group size. Prices are:  
\$5785 19-more participants \$6385 15-18 participants \$6985 10-14 participants