

**Basse
Terre**

Majestic

**Grande
Terre**

Fascinating

**Marie
Galante**

Authentic

**Les
Saintes**

Dazzling

**La
Désirade**

Surprising

Vacay in the Guadeloupe Islands



Your Mini Guide



**GUADELOUPE
ISLANDS**
French Caribbean





EDITORIAL BY CHAIRMAN Ary CHALUS

The Guadeloupe Islands: an archipelago of five main islands, Basse-Terre, Grande-Terre, La Désirade, Les Saintes, Marie Galante and a multitude of islands and islets. Often described as a small paradise, our islands are fortunate to be full of extraordinary natural diversity in both heritage and aesthetics.

Moreover, each island possesses its own people, landscapes, culture & traditions and is an invitation to experience new and unique experiences.

Thanks to a strengthening air service, the Guadeloupe Islands are becoming increasingly accessible, with sustained development in the Americas, France and the Caribbean. Accommodation is provided by the ever-expanding Guadeloupean hotel offer. As it grows, it continues to expand its ambition in both upmarket design and quality. Nestled at the 4 corners of the archipelago, our charming accommodations with high standards of comfort and service are becoming more numerous.

We look forward to welcoming you in our archipelago and hope you will return again and again.

Nou kontan vwè zòt,

Ary Chalus

President of the Regional Council of Guadeloupe
Chairman of the Guadeloupe Islands Tourist Board.



Welcome to the Guadeloupe Islands!

We are very happy to offer you this mini guide.

If you are a first timer, there is no

doubt you will find our insider tips useful.

We have tried to make it as practical as possible
by covering the essentials such as tips about driving,

where to go out, what to do and more.

Be ready to sit back, relax, and enjoy "La Belle Vie"
in the Guadeloupe Islands.

Enjoy your Vacay!!!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Guadeloupe Islands



@guadeloupeislands



@visitguadeloupe



Guadeloupe Islands



UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

Visit us at:

www.guadeloupe-islands.com

OUR 5 TIPS



TIP 1 TAKING A CAB

Unlike cabs on most Caribbean islands, the majority of taxis in Guadeloupe are metered. An additional 40% surcharge is added to fare between 9:00pm and 7:00am everyday as well as on Sundays and holidays. If the car is not metered, travelers are advised to agree on a fare with the driver prior to leaving. Note that credit card are not always accepted thus, make sure to always carry some change with you. Also, be aware that your cab driver may not be familiar with English, so it is recommended to write down the address on a piece of paper.

Recommendations on average taxi ride fees (one way)

AIRPORT - POINTE-A-PITRE	: 20 €	AIRPORT - SAINTE-ANNE	: 67 €
AIRPORT - LES ABYMES	: 20 €	AIRPORT - BASSE-TERRE	: 122 €
AIRPORT - LE GOSIER	: 25 €	AIRPORT - DESHAIES	: 92 €
AIRPORT - BAIE-MAHAULT	: 25 €	AIRPORT - BOUILLANTE	: 82 €
AIRPORT - SAINT-FRANÇOIS	: 82 €		



TIP 2 USEFUL GPS APPS

You have opted for a car rental to discover the islands like a local! Download our favorite navigation app. Available on iOS and Android.



TIP 3 PLUGGING YOUR STUFF

We have the same voltage than in mainland France (220V) so make sure to bring a couple of adaptors.



TIP 4 HOW TO GET EUROS & BEST WAY TO PAY

Euro is the official currency in France. The currency exchange kiosk will be about to close at your arrival. We recommend to arrive in Guadeloupe with some change in order to be able to pay for your taxi ride from the airport to your accommodation, and for any other small expenses you might have, such as first taste at our delicious pastries in a "boulangerie"! For the rest of your trip, you can withdraw money from ATM's ("Distributeur de billets" in French) at the airport and numerous other locations on the archipelago. You will be asked to enter your pin number at the ATM at all times. In malls, restaurants and stores major credit cards are accepted. Note that you debit card will go through as credit while on the islands.

Bonjour!

TIP 5 BRUSH UP ON YOUR "FRANÇAIS"

Your basic French will take you a long way! However, do not worry if you don't speak French as Guadeloupeans are always happy to help even if it is with a broken English! They may feel shy and self-conscious at first to speak English as it is not their forte, but here is the best way to approach them: just tell them in French "Je ne parle pas beaucoup le Français" (meaning "I don't speak a lot of French"). By doing so, you are opening yourself to them and the communication will easily follow, trust us! Also, the magic word in Guadeloupe is "BONJOUR"! It will soon become a funny game to you. We say "Bonjour" at all time to everyone that crosses our path, crazy right? This is how we acknowledge each other. If you are asking for something and you have never met the person before, what do you say? BONJOUR! Oui, Oui!

Driving

This denotes a one-way street. Do not enter.



Blue and red sign indicates you are entering a "No Parking" or "No Waiting" zone.



It means that you are on a priority route and have priority over other drivers on intersecting roads.



Circular arrows in an isosceles triangle indicate that you are entering a roundabout. Keep right. Yield to all drivers already in the roundabout.



If the triangle has an "x" it means you are coming to a junction where traffic on the right has priority.



This sign means that you are coming to a junction of a minor crossroad. You have priority.



This sign identifies scenic viewpoints.





ISLAND HOPPING

Do you know what makes a stay in the Guadeloupe Islands so unique? It is because there is not ONE Guadeloupe, but **an entire archipelago of contrasts formed by FIVE ISLANDS**. All are located within 20-45 mins from each other, allowing for a premier island hopping experience. The largest islands, Basse-Terre and Grande-Terre are connected by a bridge and modern smooth roads reminiscent of highways in France. The outer islands, Marie-Galante, Les Saintes, and La Désirade are connected by an efficient ferry service, the furthest being 45 minutes away. You can Island Hop just for the day!



Round-trip ferry **tickets range from 25€-45€**. Every day, ferry companies connect Grande-Terre and Basse-Terre to Marie-Galante, Les Saintes, La Désirade or Petit-Terre natural reserve. Ferries depart from the following ports: Pointe-à-Pitre, Trois-Rivières or Saint-François. **You can book online or buy a ticket at the counter a hour before departure.**



Getting around

Basse
Terre
Guadeloupe

Grande
Terre
Guadeloupe

Marie
Galante
Archipel

Les
Saintes
Archipel

La
Désirade
Archipel

FERRY COMPANIES

L'Express des Iles

Bergevin seaport
Pointe-à-Pitre
Tel: +590 590 91 52 15
www.express-des-iles.com

CTM Deher

Trois-Riveres seaport
Tel: +590 590 99 50 68
reservation@ctmdeher.com
www.ctmdeher.com

Jeans for Freedom

Bergevin seaport
Pointe-à-Pitre
Tel: 0825 01 01 25

Beatrix

14 rue du Phare
Trois-Rivières
Tel: +590 590 25 08 06
billetterietroisrivierepic@gmail.com

Val Ferry

Bergevin seaport
Pointe-à-Pitre
Tel: +590 590 91 45 15
www.valferry.fr

Cromartrile

Saint-François seaport
www.comatrile.com

TAKING THE BUS IN THE GUADELOUPE ISLANDS

KARU'LIS



Awesomeness:

Public transportation is getting better and better in Guadeloupe! If you are located in Le Gosier, Pointe-à-Pitre, Les Abymes, or Baie-Mahault, you will come across modern buses for sure. The bus ride is maximum 1.80 € one way, and the network connect the main cities to Pointe-à-Pitre city center, Destreland's mall, the hospital, activity zones and to the airport (note that the last departure from the airport is at 5:30 PM). All stops are clearly identified on board so you will not feel lost.

www.karulis.com

Shopping



WHERE TO SHOP IN THE GUADELOUPE ISLANDS

You will find your favorite French brands in our modern shopping malls. From *Mango* to *Lacoste*, take the opportunity to buy French and European fashion at the Paris price point. For grocery shopping we have CARREFOUR as well as other large supermarkets such as GÉANT CASINO, or CASINO. Our biggest mall is **DESTRELAND** with 180 boutiques located in Baie-Mahault.



French Pharmacies

You'll find them everywhere on the islands. Time to stock up on your favorite French beauty products and more!



Local flavors

Our vibrant and colorful markets are the best places to shop for local products. The Sainte-Anne market is open everyday all day. Do not mis Friday night market in Le Gosier and of course the Saint-Antoine market in Pointe-à-Pitre.



What to bring home

Basse
Terre
Haiti

Grande
Terre
Guadeloupe

Marie
Galante
Antilles

Les
Saintes
Guadeloupe

La
Désirade
Guadeloupe

GIFTS TO TAKE HOME

Visit our different markets to buy unique jewelry, sarongs, spices, clothes, chocolate, colorful homemade rum punches, local hot sauce, fruit jams and our international award winning rums. Be ready to bring the Guadeloupe Islands back home with you!

Chocolate delights

Visit "La Maison du Cacao" and discover the original flavor of chocolate, a variety of freshly made organic chocolate, cocoa beans, cocoa liquors and incredible chocolate cakes.



Spice it up!

In any of our colorful markets, you will find amazing spices that will give a French Creole touch to your dishes. Also look for our local hot sauce in supermarkets. "Dame Besson" and "Man Fédé" are excellent brands.

Savory coffee

Take home our 100% Arabica coffee, "Bourbon Pointu" type. The quality is comparable to Jamaica's Blue Mountains. Production quantities are now very small, hardly coping with the local demand.

Rum, rum and more Rum!

"Rhum Agricole" is specially coveted for its pure and unique flavor, as a result of its distillation process, using fresh sugar cane juice as opposed to molasses. We have nine distilleries: Bologne, Damoiseau, Bellevue, Pere Labat, Bielle, Domaine de Severin, Longuetau/Karukera, Reimonenq and Montebello. Taking home some of our international award winning rums home is a must.

What to do

Basse
Terre
Hagaitie

Grande
Terre
Fouquieray

Marie
Galante
Achoyette

Les
Saintes
Désirade

La
Désirade
Serpieraye



CHOOSE FROM A PLETHORA OF ACTIVITIES

The islands of Guadeloupe offer countless activities and adventures for all ages and tastes. From green to blue activities, cultural to culinary, sporting to wellness and shopping to architecture/heritage, our French Caribbean archipelago has an experience for everyone. With its natural assets, safe environment and modern French infrastructure, the Guadeloupe Islands are just the perfect Caribbean gateway for outdoor activities! Discover the five islands by sea. Make our friendly rain forest your own. You can also travel through time on our coffee trails, sugar cane fields, enjoy memorable rum tastings and so much more! We offer more than 100 activities so please make sure to download the free mobile app **THE GUIDE GUADELOUPE**.

*Highly functional and informative, the Guide Guadeloupe put our archipelago at your finger tips. The app is free and 100% offline! **THE GUIDE GUADELOUPE** by Jean-Marc Claret.*



Blue Activities

DIVING

LES HEURES SAINES
Rocher de Malendure
Bouillante, BASSE-TERRE
Tel: +590 590 98 86 63
www.heures-saines.gp

GLASS BOTTOM SEA BOAT

LE NAUTILUS
Malendure Beach
Bouillante, BASSE-TERRE
Tel: +590 590 98 89 08
www.lesnautilus.com

CATAMARAN EXCURSION

PARADOXE CROISIERES
Discover Petite-Terre
Marina, Saint-François
Tel: +590 590 88 41 73
www.paradoxe-croisieres.com

WALE WATCHING

EVASION TROPICALE
Rue des Palétiéviers
Bouillante, BASSE-TERRE
Tel: +590 590 92 74 24
www.evasiontropicale.org

Green Activities

With 77% of its territories classified as a Natural Reserve, the Guadeloupe Islands are definitely an Eco-Tourism destination. Environmental interests have always been at the heart of the concerns of the Guadeloupean authorities, who consider the protection of the ecological heritage a priority: protecting sea turtles for 35 years, installing national days dedicated to cleaning sea beds, the coastline and rivers. The Guadeloupe archipelago is also a proud UNESCO BIOSPHERE RESERVE since 1992. With over 110 miles of hiking trails spread all over the archipelago, the Guadeloupe Islands can easily be explored by foot. One the most scenic hikes is La Soufriere, a gently active volcano, reaching 4,800ft!

HIKING

VERTS INTENSE
Contact Laurence
Saint-Claude, BASSE-TERRE
Tel: +590 690 55 40 47
www.vert-intense.com

BOTANICAL GARDEN

JARDIN BOTANIQUE
Villiers, Deshaies
BASSE-TERRE
Tel: +590 590 28 43 02
www.jardin-botanique.com

ZIP LINING

LA TAPPEUR
Route de la Traversée
Pointe-Noire, BASSE-TERRE
Tel: +590 690 44 17 51
www.le-tapeur.fr

HORSEBACK RIDING

RANCH DES 2 ILETS
Metiviers Bas Vent
Deshaies, BASSE-TERRE
Contact: Louisbert
Tel: +590 590 28 51 93



CULTURAHOLIC

Located in front of the harbor overlooking the Caribbean Sea, Pointe-à-Pitre is the beating heart of the Guadeloupe Islands. Soak up the lively atmosphere of the city nicknamed the **New Orleans of the Caribbean**. Admire the French Creole architecture, or shop for spices at the **Saint-Antoine market**. Discover the history of the city by visiting **St-Pierre and St-Paul Cathedral, the Saint John Perse Museum**, and its traditional Creole houses. Step back in time and visit the **Memorial ACTe Museum** part of UNESCO Slave Route Project, a global initiative to promote the rapprochement of people through the shared legacy of slavery. If you are up for it, delve into “Gwo Ka”, our traditional music and dance now part of the **UNESCO list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity** since November 2014.



Some other cool cultural things to do:

- Visit one of our forts: Fort Delgres in Basse-Terre, Fort Napoleon in Les Saintes or Fort Fleur d'Épée in Le Gosier.
 - Check out our Amerindian encaved rocks park in Trois-Rivières (call: +590 590 92 91 88)
 - Take a Gwoka class at Akadémiduka in Pointe-à-Pitre (call: +590 690 64 16 51)

AGRO-TOURISM



Agro-tourism is a strong asset for our archipelago, here is what you can do:

- Visit and enjoy rum tastings at one of our 9 RUM DISTILLERIES
- Rediscover the natural flavor of cocoa at LA MAISON DU CACAO in Pointe-Noire
- Step back in time and visit our self-sustaining coffee plantation, LA GRIVELIERE, located in Vieux-Habitants
- Shop for fresh ingredients and take a cooking class with Chef Ruddy Colmar in Saint-François at Au Widdy's restaurant.

A CARIBBEAN DESTINATION FOR FOOD

In the Guadeloupe Islands, "culinary scenes" are a way of life. Time honored cooking traditions of French and Creole dishes, co-exist deliciously with contemporary styles and flavors- producing mouthwatering specialties called Nouvelle-Creole cuisine - a modern interpretation of Creole dishes enjoyed by both locals and visitors. Sea-to-table and Farm-to-table dishes are the norm in the Guadeloupe Islands. Your Mahi-Mahi, lobster and even seaweed goes from the ocean to your plate in a mere few hours, resulting in a delicious awakening of your taste buds. With more than 250 restaurants across the archipelago you will be in good hands with us! Also, do not forget to taste our local delicacies such as *Bokit*, *Sorbet Coco*, or *Tourment d'Amour*.

CHEZ SYLVIE - \$\$

Traditional French Creole Cuisine
Right on the Malendure Beach,
Bouillante, BASSE TERRE
Tel: +590 590 26 27 17 (lunch only)

L'AMER - \$\$

Traditional French Creole Cuisine
Facing the bay of Deshaies
7 rue de la Vague Bleue
www.l-amer.fr

LE RIVAGE - \$\$

Traditional French Creole Cuisine
Right on the Bananier Beach
Capesterre Belle Eau, BASSE TERRE
Tel: +590 590 86 02 40

LA RHUMERIE DU PIRATE - \$\$

Traditional French Creole Cuisine
Route de la Pointe des Chateaux
Saint-François, GRANDE TERRE
www.larhumeriedupirate.com

AN CHODYE LA - \$

Soup Restaurant (cozy ambiance)
Open Thurs - Sat only
Pointe-à-Pitre GRANDE TERRE
Tel: +590 590 82 59 72

L'ORCHIDEA - \$\$\$

Nouvelle Cuisine Creole, Semi-Gastronomic
Overlooking the Golf course
12 Lotissement du Golf, Saint François
www.orchidea-restaurant.fr

Make sure to download the
FOODILES app on your phone
to find the restaurants near you.



TI KAZ LA - \$\$

French and Creole Fusion
10 Rue Benoit Cassin (right on the beach)
Terre-de-Haut, LES SAINTES
Tel: +590 590 99 57 63

CHEZ HENRI - \$\$

Traditional French Creole Cuisine
8 Avenue des Caraïbes
Saint Louis, MARIE GALANTE
www.chezhenri.net

AU WIDDY'S - \$\$

Contemporary French Creole Cuisine
Located at the Marina
Saint-François, GRANDE TERRE
www.auwiddys.com

COCO KAFE - \$\$\$

Contemporary French Creole Cuisine
Gosier Marina (next to the Auqarium)
Le Gosier, GRANDE TERRE
www.coco-kafe.restaurantguadeloupe.biz

D'LICES - \$

Street food restaurant
Bourg Gosier
Le Gosier, GRANDE TERRE
Tel: +590 690 67 29 28

Basse
Terre
Haitian

Grande
Terre
Frustrating

Marie
Galante
Authentic

Les
Saintes
Fragging

La
Désirade
Surprising

NIGHTLIFE

You will find your happiness in Grande-Terre and particularly in the cities of Le Gosier and Pointe-à-Pitre where the nightlife is concentrated. **The Marina of Pointe-à-Pitre** will become your favorite spot with its trendy restaurants, bars, lounges and clubs. Note that we also have two casinos, one in Le Gosier and another one in Saint-Francois. Here is a list of cool places to hang out at:



ZOO ROCK CAFE

Marina Pointe-à-Pitre
Bar, Restaurant and Club
Music: Top 40's, Electro,
International



LA BOCA

Marina Pointe-à-Pitre
Tapas bar with music
on Thursdays
Music: Salsa, Caribbean



PURE

PURE LOUNGE

Rue F. Fresneau,
Baie-Mahault
Bar lounge
Music: Hip hop, R'n'B, Zouk,
Reggea Dance Hall, Soca



L'APPART

Rue Becquerel
Baie-Mahault
Bar lounge
Music: R'n'B, Zouk, Reggea
Dance Hall, international



LE PETIT NEW YORK

Saint Felix Beach, Gosier
Bar
Music: Hip hop, R'n'B,
Afrobeat



EDEN LOUNGE

Restaurant - libe - Tapas

Rue Gothland, Baie-Mahault
Restaurant Lounge
Music: Zouk, Hip hop, R'n'B,
International

Calendar of events

Basse
Terre
Habitat

Grande
Terre
Excavations

Marie
Galante
Authentic

Les
Saintes
Diversity

La
Désirade
Surfing

JANUARY

- ♦ Carnival in Guadeloupe: every Sunday in one city

FEBRUARY

- ♦ Fat Sunday : carnival parade in the streets of Pointe-à-Pitre
- ♦ Fat Sunday : carnival parade in the streets of Pointe-à-Pitre
- ♦ Ash Wednesday : carnival parade in the streets of Pointe-à-Pitre and Basse-Terre

MARCH

- ♦ Open de Guadeloupe (Tennis) - Le Gosier
- ♦ Mid-Lent Thursday - carnival parade

APRIL

- ♦ Guadarun : marathon traveling across the archipelago of Guadeloupe
- ♦ Crab Fest - Morne a l'Eau (Grande-Terre)
- ♦ Fete a Kabrit - Beauséjour (La Désirade)
- ♦ Fish and Sea Fest - Saint-Francois (Grande-Terre)
- ♦ Karujet - Jet ski World Championship

MAY

- ♦ Terre de Blues Festival - Marie Galante
- ♦ FEMI - International Film Festival in Guadeloupe
- ♦ Eritaj Festival - Petit-Canal (Grande-Terre)
- ♦ Fo An Fanmi at Fleur d'Epee Fort (Grande-Terre) and Delgres Fort (Basse-Terre)
- ♦ Open de Saint-François (Golf)



JUNE

- ♦ Tour de Marie Galante (Cycling Race)
- ♦ Pool Art Fair

JULY

- ♦ Tour de Guadeloupe in Traditional Sailboat
- ♦ International Zouk Festival
- ♦ All Day In Music Festival (Saint-François, Grande-Terre)

AUGUST

- ♦ Cooks Fest (Pointe-à-Pitre, Grande-Terre)
- ♦ Tour de Guadeloupe (Cycling race)
- ♦ Karukera One Love Music Festival

SEPTEMBER

- ♦ Heritage Day

OCTOBER

- ♦ Volcano Trail (Basse Terre)
- ♦ Creole Day "Kreyol in Mouvman"

NOVEMBER

- ♦ Celebration of All Saints Day
- ♦ Arrival of the Route du Rhum Sail Race in Guadeloupe (every 4 years)
- ♦ International Film Festival on Human Rights

DECEMBER

- ♦ Chanté Nwèl (christmas carols)
- ♦ Jou a Tradisyon: Christmas market
- ♦ IloJazz (Pointe-à-Pitre, Grande-Terre)



#Guadeloupe Islands
#MeetTheLocals
#LiveLikeALocal
#FrenchCaribbean
#Archipelago



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