

The TOP 10

THINGS TO DO IN ST MAARTEN



*You don't want to miss these things during your stay in
"The Friendly Island"!*

INTRO

Have you ever been bored during vacation? Frustrating Ugh? You only have free time for yourself but you don't know what to do. Believe it or not, It will never happen in St Marteen! This small Caribbean island has so many things to offer. You can find diverse things to do, that can accommodate all your tastes.

In the next pages we share with you the top 10 things to do in St Marteen. You will see that being in St Maarten will be better than what you can imagine.



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#1 PINEL ISLAND

Pinel Island is a small island a few miles away from "Cul de sac" on the French side of St Marteen. It really worth going there to relax and admire Paradisiac landscapes. You can take a taxi boat that will bring you on the island in a about 10 minutes and that costs \$10-12. Or if you feel in great shape and more adventurous you can also rent a kayak to navigate to the island. The water there is quiet and crystal blue.

It is a great place to picnic but you can also eat in one of the two restaurants there : "the Yellow beach" and "Karibuni". You can also rent lounge chairs and an umbrella for \$25 per couple. Depending on your order, the restaurant can install the small round table right in the clear blue water for you to enjoy your food and drinks.

If you want to walk and discover the island a little more there are some paths that are great to visit the natural reserve. If you plan the walk across the island, don't forget to bring some comfortable shoes!



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#2 MAHO BEACH

Maho Beach is known for being the closest beach from the airport and for being the must go place to see planes land and take off. About every 5 minutes a plane come or leave from the island and it is something very impressing to see you don't want to miss it. When big airplanes take off some people like to hang on the airport barrier to feel their jet blast. If you are adventurous and decide to do it, be aware because you might really fly away, and some accidents has already happened, so hang on tight. The best thing to do is the stay on the beach just behind the plane that is about to take off, and in the worst case you might fall into the warm water of Maho beach.

And for the less adventurous or the ones that just want to chill out, you can go to Sunset bar & grill bar and have a nice drink while you admire the planes that land and take off, and watching some funny and excited people on the beach.



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3 PIC PARADIS

Pic paradise is the highest point of St Maartin's island. From there you can get a great panoramic view of the island. To reach the peak of the mountain you have to hike. You'll see that it will be a great hiking as you will stand in the middle of the wild nature that is a small jungle. But don't worry you will find a nice path to walk on. You just need some good shoes, a big bottle of water to hydrate yourself, and don't forget your camera, to catch some unforgettable picture memories. You have two options: you can walk from the bottom of the mountain until the top or you can also drive until a certain point and then walk about 5 minutes to the top. If you decide to drive, be careful because the road there is very narrow and sloping. And once you arrive to the tip of the road there is no parking, but 2 or 3 spots where you can stay a little while.



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#4 LOLO RESTAURANTS

Most of the Lolo restaurants are located on the main strip of Grand Case. But what is a Lolo? It is a rudimentary food establishment that grill the food on a barbecue grill made out of a barrel. They are known for their tasty and cheap food, their Caribbean authenticity and their simplicity. The barbecued meat is very delicious and it really worth going there.



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#5 PHILLISBURG

Phillisburg is the main town of St Maarten Dutch side, and it is also its capital. This is the go to place for duty free and sales-tax-free shopping. You can find all sort of things there such as european and Caribbean style outfits, jewelry, perfume and more. There is also a very nice board walk by the beach where you can relax, eat in one of the numerous restaurants or even rent a jet ski.



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#6 MARIGOT MARKET

Marigot market is the largest open-air market in the Caribbean. There you will find fresh fish, tropical fruits and vegetables, spices, meat, rums, handmade caribbean clothings and souvenir, and many other local products. There are over one hundred stands run by welcoming ladies that will give you a smile on your lips..

After wandering in search of typical objects to take away as a souvenir, it is always nice to take a break in one of the typical restaurants of the market.



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#7 FORT LOUIS

By going to the top of Fort Louis you will get an amazing panoramic view on Marigot, le lagon de Simpson Bay, Simpson Bay, Anguilla, les Terres-Basses et la Baie Nettlé. You will have to take a few stairs to reach the top, and on your way you will find some very helpful panneaux explicatifs bilingues permettant une visite culturelle.

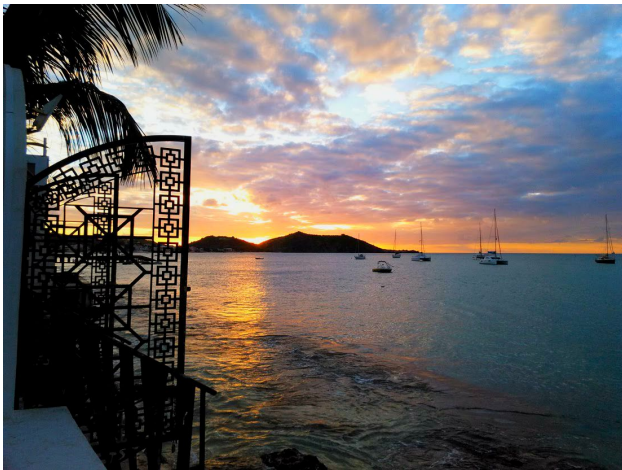
Fort Louis have beautiful ruins and its canons are still there. It was built in 1767 and was named after the famous king of France. It's purpose was to protect the settlement at Marigot from foreign invaders.



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#8 GRAND CASE

Grand Case is located on the French side of the island, not too far from Marigot. This small city is known for its culinary restaurants located on its mile-long main street and beach bars. Grand case restaurants give to St Maarten the name of "gourmet capital" of the caribbean. Grand Case is also great for those who prefer quiet beaches. Indeed is has a mile long sandy beach with quite calm water that is great for swimming.



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#9 ORIENT BEACH

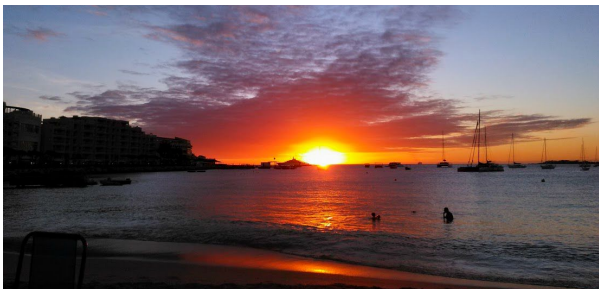
Orient beach has a 2 mile long beautiful sandy beach. It is the most popular and busiest beach on the island and might be the most famous beach in the whole Caribbean. You will find many beach bars and restaurants directly located on the beach. You can also find many water activities such as jet ski, paragliding, sailing boats and some kids activities.



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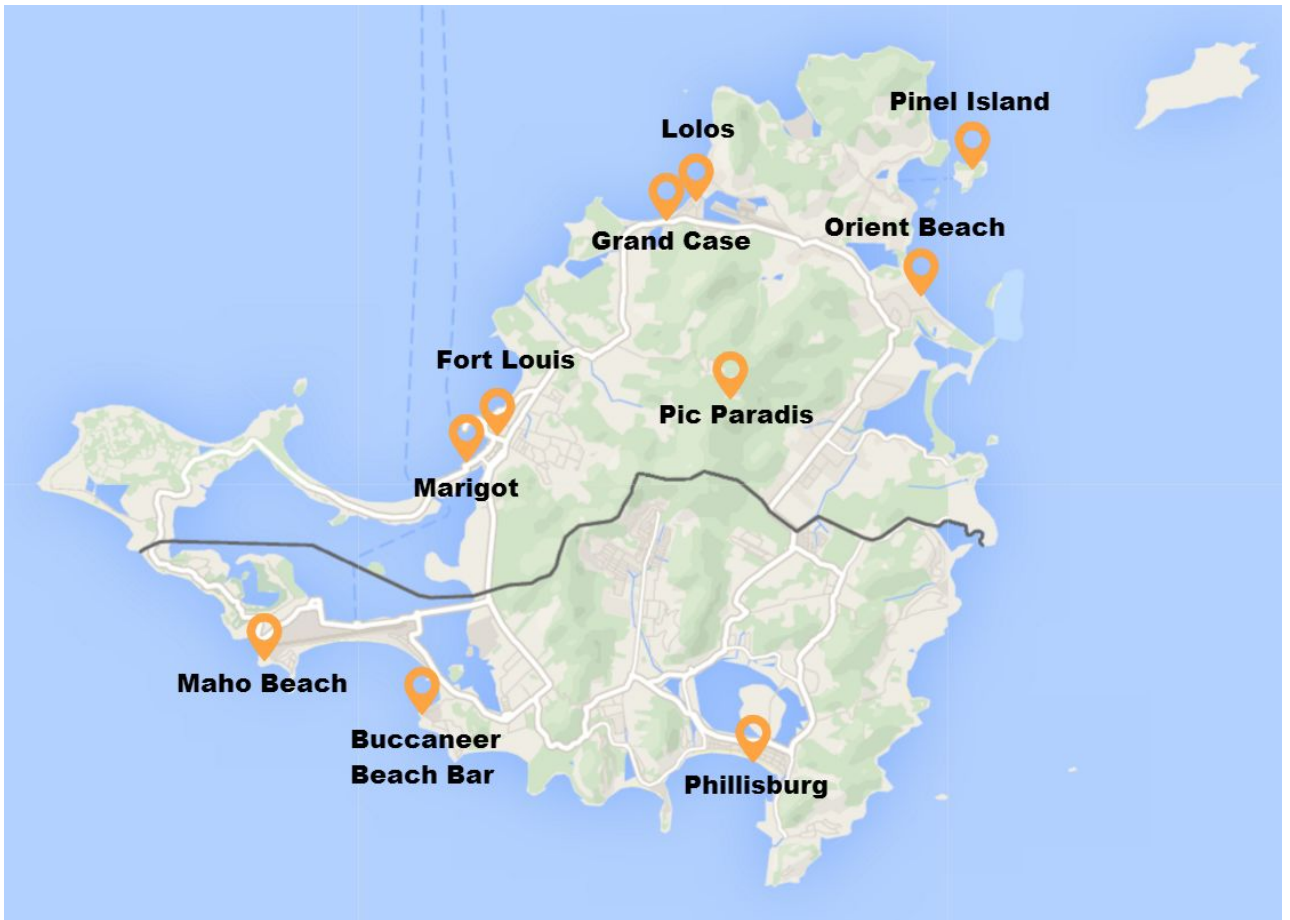
#10 BUCCANEER BEACH BAR

Buccaneer beach bar is located in Simpson Bay on the Dutch side of the island. The best time of the day to go to this beach bar is just before sunset. Begin your night by admiring the amazing sunset. Begin by relaxing on a beach chair on the beach and if you are lucky the massage lady will pass by and offer to give you a massage. Just imagine admiring the sunset while receiving a great "aloe vera" back or feet massage! When the night comes you can chill at the bar, eat and drink while you listen to a great band playing some nice caribbean music. A little later people working at the bar will fire up the two big metallic balls on the beach. It is very nice to see and to sit by, but just be careful not to come to close.



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THE MAP



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ENJOY YOUR TRIP!

Our Top 10 is done, we really hope that you will enjoy your trip, and we would love to hear from you. If you discover other things that you think deserve to be in our Top 10 please feel free to let us know! Enjoy your vacation!

Don't miss a bite from us!
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