



DESTINATION GUIDE: ST. BARTHS

A tropical paradise in the French West Indies



St. Barths, also known as St. Barts, St. Barth, or St. Barthelemy, is a peaceful, laid-back island located in the French West Indies, often referred to as the “Gem of the Caribbean”. It is a haven for those seeking complete relaxation with a touch of French chic.

What WIMCO Can Do For You

From our headquarters in the US, we are in constant communication with our team members and associates in St. Barths, ensuring that we have the kind of local knowledge, insights and contacts required to create a memorable vacation for you.

Once you book a villa or hotel with us, WIMCO’s Concierge Services team jumps into action - booking your international and local flights, setting-up airport arrivals service and rental cars, pre-stocking your villa with groceries or arranging private chef service, making restaurant reservations, recommending local sights and activities and so much more. You are in good hands.

Looking to consult with a Villa Specialist?

WIMCO.COM | INFO@WIMCO.COM | 1-800-932-3222

About the Villas

When talking about villa rental options on St Barths, you'll often hear one of WIMCO's villa specialists say "there is a villa for everyone".

Whether you're looking for a deluxe villa with a spectacular view, a romantic retreat in the hills, or something in between, you'll find just what you need in our portfolio of over 500 private villas. With choices from classic West Indian architecture, to modern abodes, locations with great breezes, or ones with all-day sun, your options abound. With the expertise of our seasoned villa specialists, you'll be get advice not only on villas, but also on which regions of the island may be best suited for you and your group, and on what to see and do. Relax, you are in good hands.



Things To Do

St Barths is known for its casual chic vibe, the pristine beaches, fun bistros like Nikki Beach, Pearl Beach and Bagatelle, and highly-rated, yet relaxed restaurants, such as Mayas, Isola and Bonito. For the active travelers, there are tennis courts, surfing and kite boarding, sailing all manner of craft, and hiking up the craggy volcanic hills.



Beach Life

Three of St Barths best beaches (Saline, Gouverneur and Colombier) do not have a single hotel, restaurant or house along their shores - paradise! When visiting those beaches, you'll need to bring your own food and beverages - a small price to pay for a serene day on the beach. For those seeking more action, head to St Jean Beach where popular beach bars like Nikki Beach, Pearl Beach, L'il Rock and The Sand Bar offer an exciting range of foods and beverages, along with people-watching opportunities.

SALINE

Saline Beach lies on the southern shore of St Barths. To reach it one drives along the salt pond of the same name, passing popular local restaurants L'Esprit and Grain de Sel, ending up in a small parking lot set back in the dunes. From there it is a gentle 5-minute walk through tropical rain forest, winding between two sand dunes then down to the secluded and totally undeveloped Saline Beach. Enjoy the sweet sound of silence here, with not a home or hotel or restaurant in sight. There is a coral out-cropping straight off the beach on the left side, ideal for snorkeling. There aren't any services here, so pack in your own food and beverages.

ST. JEAN

St Jean Beach is St Barths' most popular beach. The iconic Eden Rock Peninsula, home to Eden Rock Hotel, juts out into St Jean Bay, dividing the beach in two. The smaller eastern side is calm and sheltered, and one can often spot sea turtles there. It is a great spot for young children to play in the sand and snorkel. This part of the beach is also home to Nikki Beach – a rollicking beach bar open from 11am to 7pm seven days a week. Two watersports huts rent out jet skis, wind surfers, catamarans, standing surfboards, and kite boards. The westward end is home to Pearl Beach and L'il Rock beach bars.

GOUVERNEUR

One of the quieter beaches, Gouverneur Beach has relatively few visitors and possesses exquisite views of other islands.

SHELL IN GUSTAVIA

Easily accessible by foot, Shell Beach is unique in that it is the only beach "in town," just a short walk from the heart of Gustavia, the capital city of St Barths. It is a protected beach with gentle surf, making it an ideal beach to take young children. Home to Shellona Beach bar, a great place to watch the sunset.

COROSSOL

This narrow beach lies in front of the tiny fishing village of Corossol. The calm waters make it an ideal beach for families with young children. It lies across the bay from Gustavia, affording one a view of scores of sailboats and yachts moored there.

PETIT CUL DE SAC IN TOINY

A favorite of locals, this tucked away beach has tranquil waters, beautiful white sandy beaches, and is good for snorkeling. You'll spot large conch along the sea bottom, and sea turtles.

MARIGOT BAY

Marigot Bay Beach is a narrow beach within a small cove and is exceptional for swimming and snorkeling. The beach is seldom busy because it is rarely visited by tourists, but visitors can catch a break from the hot sun in the towering palm trees that line the narrow beach. The bay is a protected marine sanctuary so you may spot sea turtles and conch.



Dining & Drinking Out

St. Barths has dozens of restaurants, representing culinary delights from all over the world. The local cuisine revolves around French and Creole influence, however there are many other international foods present, such as Italian and Asian.



GREAT FOR GROUPS

When dining out with a group of friends and family, here are a few favorites:

- Bagatelle - Waterfront location with great drinks, food, DJs and dancing.
- Bonito - Unmatched views of the harbor and venezuelan spins on ceviches and tartares.
- Eddy's - traditional Creole cuisine in a garden-like setting.
- La Guerite - Mediterranean menu with sophisticated ambiance; waterfront location.
- Le Ti St. Barths - Dinner, drinks and a cabaret show.
- Nikki Beach - Lunch only, DJs, themed parties, and excellent sushi right on St. Jean Beach.
- Shellona - Beach club setting with Mediterranean dishes and DJs.
- Tamarin - Exquisite tropical ambiance with gourmet fare suited for both vegetarians and meat lovers.

GREAT DRINKS

Swing into some of these spots for a pre or post-dinner cocktail:

- 25 Quarter - Specialty cocktails and appetizers and famous rum selection.
- Bagatelle - Waterfront location with great drinks, food, DJs and dancing (on tables!)
- Bar de l'Oubli
- Bête à Z'ailes ("Bazbar") - Fresh sushi, cocktails and live bands.
- Le Ti St. Barths - Dinner, drinks and a cabaret show.
- Sayolita - A relaxed bar that feels like Mexico; offers beers and light bites.

DATE NIGHT DINING

Our picks for a romantic dinner date:

- François Plantation - Elegant French fare and an adjoining backgammon and cocktail bar.
- Le Toiny - Elevated French classics by a supremely talented chef while DJ plays fun, mellow music.
- L'Esprit - Small but gourmet menu in a garden setting next to Saline Beach.
- L'ilRock - Casual feet in the sand vibe with simple menu.
- L'Isola - Candle-lit restaurant with very highly praised Italian dishes.
- Maya's - Dinner Menu changes nightly, with a focus on local ingredients.
- Santa Fé - A client favorite, with unobstructed views of neighboring islands.

BEACHFRONT LUNCH

There are plenty of places to dine with your feet in the sand. Here are a few:

- Aux Amis at Le Barthelemy - A relaxed beachfront lunch with healthy options and pizzas.
- La Case de l'Isle - A chic dining scene at Flamand's Cheval Blanc.
- La Langouste - A bit of old St. Barths and the perfect grilled lobster.
- Le Toiny Beach Club - Lunch in the sand as you watch the surfers.
- Manapany - Relaxed waterfront bites and light fare.
- Mango at Hotel Christopher - Fresh salads and grilled fish overlooking the surf.
- Pearl Beach - A beachfront spot that caters to easy lunches or a party-like atmosphere.
- Plage at Le Sereno - Enjoy Mediterranean brasserie food (burrata pairings, light pastas).
- Shellona - Beach club setting with Mediterranean dishes and DJs.



GREAT FOR KIDS

Here are some excellent places to go with the little ones:

- Grain de Sel - Salads and burgers for lunch and dinner.
- Hotel Christopher - Dinner is quieter and more suited for hotel guest or those staying nearby.
- L'Entracte - Family-friendly with reasonable prices in the heart of Gustavia.
- L'ilRock - Feet in the sand with a casual menu.
- L'isoletta - Salads and pizza by the slice.

DINING IN?

The WIMCO Reservations desk is happy to arrange private chef service in your villa, grocery delivery or make restaurant reservations.

Shopping

Chic concept stores and one-of-a-kind boutiques make St. Barths the best island for shopping in the entire Caribbean. Shopping around for designer clothing, home goods, local art, jewelry and more.



Activities

There's always plenty to do among the tropical landscapes and in the the crystal clear waters. Whether you're looking for a day of fun in the sun, or a relaxing recharge in an exotic Caribbean setting, St. Barths has the perfect activity for you.



JET SKI TOUR

One of the best ways to see St Barths is from the waters that surround it. Reserve a two hour jet ski tour, an ideal way to stay cool and have fun.

ENJOY A SUNSET CATAMARAN CRUISE

Reserve with Jicky Marine. You can also book a 1/2 day trip to Colombier beach with them which includes snorkeling. Both include a champagne toast.

HIKE TO COLOMBIER BEACH

Drive down to Flamands, take a left turn at the T intersection at the bottom of the hill, and continue to the end of the road, just past the small hotel named Auberge de la Petite Anse. Park on the side of the road. The hike in takes about 20 minutes. There are no services or facilities of any kind at the beach, so plan ahead, and bring water and snacks.

HIKE THE COTE SAUVAGE IN TOINY

Drive over the mountain at Grand Fond and head down toward the sea. You will come to a dog-leg turn to the left. Do not make the turn, but park your car to your right in the small car park (4 cars). Walk past the turn and take the path on your right that goes between a stone wall and the brush. When you come out on the stone beach, turn right and follow the shoreline until you reach the end of the beach, then take the path that winds up the hill along the coast.

St Barths' Events and Festivals

Whether it's a holiday celebration like Mardis Gras, an internationally renowned Regatta festival or film and music fest, St. Barths celebrates like no other. Join locals and travelers from all over the world for exclusive events throughout the year.



ST. BARTH GOURMET FESTIVAL: NOVEMBER

Consider a fall trip to St. Barths to experience the celebrated St. Barth Gourmet Festival (formerly known as the Taste of St. Barths). Celebrated guest chefs from around the world team up with local restaurants for fabulous tasting menus, cook-offs, and friendly competition.

ST. BARTHS CHRISTMAS VILLAGE IN GUSTAVIA: DECEMBER

A festive area is set up on the dock at the port of Gustavia featuring local artisans' work, food stands showcasing local St. Barths' cuisine, and a special area for children to meet Santa Claus on Dec 20th. There is a best Christmas tree contest.

ST. BARTHS BUCKET REGATTA, MARCH

A three-day invitational regatta with 48 of the most impressive mega-yachts in the world, all at least 100ft long, including many classic wooden racing boats. You can view many of the participating boats in Gustavia Harbor after 5 pm most days. Join the race and celebrate after each day with your crew with many sponsored events.

LES VOILES DE ST. BARTH REGATTA APRIL

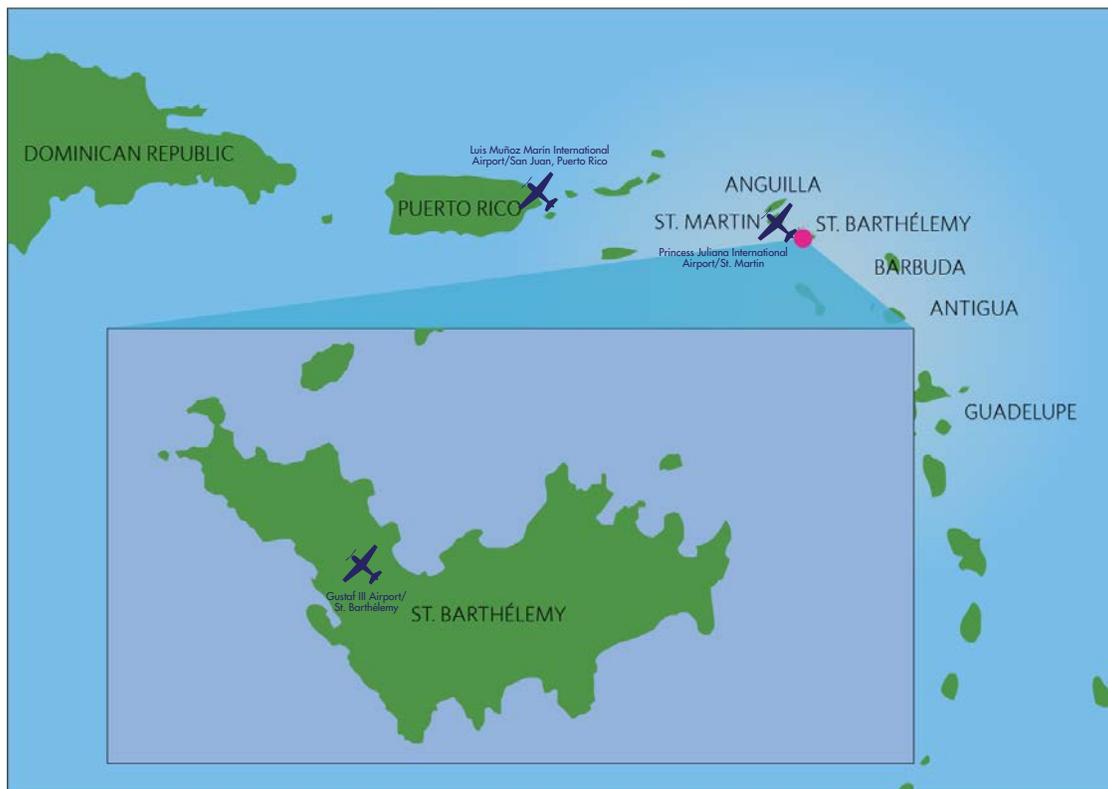
An important stop on the Caribbean regatta circuit, the "Les Voiles de St. Barth" regatta will include over 70 boats, divided into six classes from classic sloops to mega yachts. The results from each days racing are posted in the events tent on the Quai in Gustavia, where you can also enjoy live music each night.

New Years Eve Celebration

Ring in the new year in a tropical paradise. Live music and celebrations across the island. The New Year's Eve Regatta, a sailing race organized for fun around St. Barths. Fireworks at midnight over the harbor in Gustavia. Live entertainment in some restaurants.



Whatever your interests and desires, the WIMCO team is at your service 24/7. We look forward to traveling with you!



Getting There

Flying to St. Barths involves at least one connection since the island's tiny airport can't accommodate planes any larger than a 19-seater. Conveniently scheduled flights are available from Puerto Rico (SJU), St Martin (SXM, SFG) and Antigua (ANU). Leave it up to WIMCO's experienced trip specialists to help you to book your international and inter-island flights.

Fly from San Juan: Save Time by cutting out a connection when you fly through San Juan, PR (SJU). There are daily nonstop flights from JFK, BOS, LAX, DFW, PHL (and many other major airports) into San Juan. Connect in San Juan to Tradewind Aviation for a 75 minute flight to St Barths. Private charter options available on Tradewind Aviation and Air America.

Fly from St Martin: WINAIR flies to St Barths in 15 minutes from St Martin. It departs hourly in peak season from the Juliana International Airport (SXM) on the Dutch side of the island. St Barth Commuter also flies from St Martin to St Barths, leaving from the airports in Juliana (SXM) and Grand Case (SFG). Call Wimco for the most up-to-date pricing, schedules and ticketing.

Fly from Antigua: This new service makes traveling from London and the UK a breeze. Fly London to Antigua directly and then choose the scheduled service from Tradewind Aviation or St Barth Commuter for a short flight to St Barths.

