

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY (10 NIGHTS) - EXCURSIONS



For my trip from Thursday 26 December to Sunday 5 January 2025 visiting Haiti, Puerto Rico, St Maarten, St Lucia, Antigua, and St Kitts and Nevis.

SHORE EXCURSIONS

Date	Excursion	Time	Duration	Cost
28/12/24	Labadee Historic Walking Tour (Labadee, Haiti)	9.00 am	1 Hour	\$26.89
28/12/24	Labadee Traditions (Labadee, Haiti)	11.00 am	2 Hours	\$82.91
29/12/24	Ghosts & Legends of Old San Juan (San Juan, Puerto)	2.30 pm	3.5 hours	\$85.00
30/12/24	Catamaran Sail and Snorkel (Philipsburg, St Maarten)	12.00 pm	2.5 Hours	\$112.79
31/12/24	Amazing Jeep and Catamaran (Castries, St Lucia)	9.30 am	5 Hours	\$158.06
01/01/25	Antigua Land and Sea (St John’s, Antigua)	9.45 am	6 Hours	\$215.33
02/01/25	Caribbean Scenic Rail & Sail (Basseterre, St Kitts & Nevis)	8.30 am	4 Hours	\$294.71

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY (10 NIGHTS) - EXCURSIONS

Cruise Day 3: Saturday 28 December 2024

Location: Labadee, Haiti

Landside: 7.00 am to 4.00 pm

First excursion.

Labadee Historic Walking Tour

Duration: 1 hour

Time: 9:00 am – 10.00 am

Cost: \$26.89 AUD (Paid)

Overview

Immerse yourself in the history and culture of Labadee on a walking tour of the island. Your Haitian historian will fill you in on prominent events that impacted the land and its people over the past 500 years. See what Christopher Columbus and his men saw when they landed in the New World. Visit the ruins of Nellie's Tower and marvel at Dragon's Rock, where you can hear the sound of a breathing dragon.

Highlights

- Labadee: Learn unique facts about the history of this intriguing island nation on a comfortably paced walking tour.
- Nellie's Tower: Explore the ruins of a Trading Post dedicated to a tenacious entrepreneur of old.
- Dragon's Rock: Listen for the sound of breathing at this beautiful, haunting configuration of shoreline rocks with crashing waves.

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY (10 NIGHTS) - EXCURSIONS

Cruise Day 3: Saturday 28 December 2024

Location: Labadee, Haiti

Landside: 7.00 am to 4.00 pm

Second excursion.

Labadee Traditions

Duration: 2 hours

Time: 11.00 am - 1:00 pm

Cost: \$82.91 AUD (Paid)

Overview

Explore Haiti's rich colonial heritage and folkloric traditions on a two-hour tour that includes a scenic boat ride to historic Norm's Place guest house, where you'll see a massive earth oven and watch cultural performances. Cast away on a motorboat across clear waters along the northern coast of Haiti. As you admire verdant hillsides, your informative guide will share an overview on the island's history and explorers like Christopher Columbus. Then view artefacts at Norm's Place, an old colonial house turned boutique hotel situated on the bay.

View Old World Haitian furniture and war weaponry in the house before being awed by the sheer size of the grounds' "lacho" earth oven. This huge furnace, commissioned by Henri Christophe, leader of the Haitian Revolution, was used to produce the materials that built La Citadel in the 1800s. At the artisan market you can browse and shop for wood sculptures and other locally made crafts before delving into Haitian voodoo culture. As the beat of the drum sounds, you'll watch a cast of locals conduct sacred ceremonies and perform bamboo stick dancing in true "Rara" festival fashion. Soak in Haiti's unique cultural offerings before heading back to your ship.

Highlights

- Labadee: Enjoy a 15-minute boat ride off Haiti's mountainous coastline checkered with fascinating historical commentary by your knowledgeable guide.
- Haitian vodou: Delight in a line-up of live cultural shows and wood carving demos in the artisan village.
- Norm's Place: View colonial furniture, weaponry from the Haitian Revolution and a gigantic earth oven at this waterfront guest house.
- Beer Tasting: Complimentary tasting of Haiti's Prestige beer will be provided upon request.

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY (10 NIGHTS) - EXCURSIONS

Cruise Day 4: Sunday 29 December 2024

Location: San Juan, Puerto

Landside: 2.00 pm to 9.00 pm

Only excursion.

Ghosts and Legends of Old San Juan

Duration: 3.5 hours

Time: 2.30 pm - 6:00 pm

Cost: \$85.00 AUD (Paid)

Overview

Step back in time – if you dare – as seen on ABC’s “Shark Tank”, on an immersive journey to uncover the intriguing, haunted heritage of Old San Juan, as you become captivated by the city’s incredible ghost stories and supernatural tales.

Highlights

- Just a short walk from port brings you to the Plaza Colon and Teatro Tapia, where you stop in front of the theatre and discover the entities haunting the oldest operating stage in the Americas.
- Head to the oldest prison in Puerto Rico, where secrets, ghosts and a storied history are waiting to be uncovered. Likewise, immerse yourself in the legendary origins of Capilla del Santo Cristo de la Salud, a small miraculous chapel from the late 1700s.
- At La Fortaleza, find out who haunts the oldest continuously used governor’s mansion in the Americas, before continuing to the Catedral de San Juan Bautista – the second oldest church in the Western Hemisphere.
- Next, stop by the Hotel El Convento, a former convent converted to a spooky luxury hotel, where the head nun reportedly still stalks the hallways.
- At the Castillo de San Felipe del Morro, step into the oldest standing fort in San Juan, where you can hear more about the soldiers who wander the grounds to this day. More ghostly tales await at the Cementerio Santa Maria Magdalena de Pazzi, one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the Caribbean.
- Head to the Cuartel de Ballajá, one of the area’s best examples of 19th-century Spanish architecture and learn what spirits might still roam this former Spanish barracks turned US military hospital after WWI.
- Discover an interesting blend of history, art, and melancholy hauntings at the Gallery Inn, before concluding your paranormal odyssey at the Castillo de San Cristobal. Listen to one of the island’s tragic love stories before walking back to port and your awaiting ship.

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY (10 NIGHTS) - EXCURSIONS

Cruise Day 5: Monday 30 December 2024

Location: Philipsburg, St Maarten

Landside: 9.00 am to 6.00 pm

Only excursion.

Catamaran Sail and Snorkel

Duration: 2.5 hours

Time: 12.00 pm – 2.30 pm

Cost: \$112.79 AUD (Paid)

Overview

Discover the perfect blend of relaxation and adventure, as you soak in the natural beauty of St. Maarten both above and below the water's surface.

Highlights

- Begin your adventure by boarding a purposefully designed sailing catamaran in Phillipsburg and enjoying a leisurely sightseeing cruise along the stunning coast of St. Maarten, with panoramic views of the shoreline.
- Drop anchor at a sheltered location, as the experienced crew assists you with proper snorkelling equipment and provides a brief orientation to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.
- Dive into the crystal-clear waters to explore the vibrant and colourful tropical marine life that calls these waters home.
- After snorkelling, re-board the catamaran and relax on deck, enjoying complimentary rum and fruit punch, while taking in the coastal sights and the rhythms of the Caribbean.
- Upon returning to shore, you have the option to explore Phillipsburg further or indulge in some shopping, making the most of your time in this beautiful destination.

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY (10 NIGHTS) - EXCURSIONS

Cruise Day 6: Tuesday 31 December 2024

Location: Castries, St Lucia

Landside: 8.00 am to 6.00 pm

Only excursion.

Amazing Jeep and Catamaran

Duration: 5 hours

Time: 9.30 am – 2.30 pm

Cost: \$158.06 AUD (Paid)

Overview

See St. Lucia from all angles as you ride in a safari Jeep through the rugged outback and past small countryside communities, then sail on an exclusive catamaran and stop for a refreshing swim in the Caribbean Sea.

Highlights

- Board your 4x4 safari Jeep and zoom out to Morne Lay-by, where you stop for hilltop views of the Castries and the harbor.
- Continue on to Sarrot Banana Plantation to see lush crops with flowering fruits, and then to the picturesque Margot Bay.
- See traditional fishing villages, the mix of black and brown sugar sand beaches, and the famous Pitons.
- Climb aboard your catamaran and set sail along the island's dramatic coastline.
- Stop at Anse Mamin for a swim in the Caribbean Sea, and then climb back onboard for a rum punch as you sail back.

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY (10 NIGHTS) - EXCURSIONS

Cruise Day 7: Wednesday 01 January 2025

Location: St John's, Antigua

Landside: 8.00 am to 6.00 pm

Only excursion.

Antigua Land and Sea

Duration: 6 hours

Time: 9.45 am – 3.45 pm

Cost: \$215.33 AUD (Paid)

Overview

Discover the best of Antigua both by land and by sea, as you journey into the heart of the island and uncover centuries of history at the English Harbor, which includes the famed Nelson's Dockyard and Shirley Height's Lookout, before traveling to the capital of St. John's and exploring the coastline by catamaran.

Highlights

- Begin your tropical adventure with an air-conditioned ride through Antigua's countryside, rich in daily West Indian life, on your way to Nelson's Dockyard, the only working Georgian dockyard in the world and a UNESCO World Heritage site built in 1725.
- Enjoy an informative walking tour through the dockyard, as you explore British naval artifacts from the 18th century and browse the on-site gift shop for an unforgettable souvenir.
- After, continue to Shirley Heights Lookout, a former signal station, where you can admire the picture-perfect views of Nelson's Dockyard and the beautiful English Harbor. Next, head through Fig Tree Drive and marvel at Antigua's lush rainforest, before arriving at the island's southern coast.
- Here, hop aboard a spacious catamaran and set sail across the crystal-clear waters of Antigua, as you glide along the coastline and pass by landmarks, including five-star hotels, secluded beaches and impressive homes.
- Delight your taste buds with a delicious Caribbean lunch aboard the catamaran, complete with baked chicken, garlic bread, macaroni cheese pie and an open bar. With your appetite satisfied, sit back, relax and take in the stunning rural sights, as you circle the island and return to port.

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY (10 NIGHTS) - EXCURSIONS

Cruise Day 8: Thursday 02 January 2025
Location: Basseterre, St Kitts & Nevis
Landside: 8.00 am to 5.00 pm

Only excursion.

Caribbean Scenic Rail & Sail

Duration: 4 hours
Time: 8.30 am – 12.30 pm
Cost: \$294.71 AUD (Paid)

Overview

See virtually all of St. Kitts on a unique tour that combines a sightseeing train ride and a catamaran sail. Travel in custom railcars on a line built a century ago to carry cane from plantations to sugar factories.

Enjoy views of lush fields, mountains, historic estates, and countryside, as well as engaging commentary, choral entertainment, and complimentary drinks. Complete the circle around the island via catamaran, cruising along the scenic southwestern coast.

Highlights

- Sightseeing Train: Discover St. Kitts's natural beauty and history on a commented 18-mile ride on a historic rail line.
- Custom Railcars: Enjoy breezes from the open-air upper level and cool comfort, vaulted windows, drinks, and musical entertainment below.
- Catamaran Sail: Complete your island tour with vistas of the southwest coast from the water and light refreshments.