

PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS

Arrive: 0800 Monday, 18 March
Onboard: 1800 Monday, 18 March

Brief Overview: Mauritius is a small multicultural island in the Indian Ocean that has reaped the rewards of increased development in the past decade due to its famed cobalt blue seas, white sandy beaches and luxury hotels. There you'll find an enchanting blend of Indian, Chinese, African, French and British influences, which fuels its eclectic cuisine and music, among other things. Although a prime location for sunbathing and swimming, the island offers ample additional activities with its historic sites, cultural diversity and geographic variation.



Mauritius is one of the wealthiest countries in Africa, yet you'll notice the relaxed charm and friendly co-existence of its warm and welcoming inhabitants. Off major shipping routes, Mauritius remained uninhabited until the 16th century, allowing it to develop into one of the world's biodiversity hotspots. It is encircled by the world's longest unbroken coral reef and therefore has become a major scuba and snorkeling destination. The island also lends to superb hiking, mountain climbing and ecotourism opportunities. The breezy north is ideal for watersports, such as kite- and windsurfing; the east has a wilder coastline and fewer resorts; the west enjoys magnificent sunsets, rolling waves, and is home to the mercantile capital, Port Louis. There is something for everyone to enjoy in this mini paradise.

The smells, noises and bustle of the mercantile capital **Port Louis, Africa's** wealthiest city, are never far away, while the busy garment markets in the Central Plateau towns of **Quatre Bornes** and **Curepipe** and **Black River Gorges National Park's** dramatic virgin forests give the lie to Mauritius being just another beach destination. But what beaches! From the stunning sand-rimmed lagoons and popular wide public beaches to the picturesque islands off the country's coastline, there's truly something for everyone here. Add to this the joys of Chinese, Indian, French and African cuisine, the rousing beat of séga music and the infectious party spirit of the locals, and you soon understand why Mauritius really is so many people's idea of paradise on earth.

IMPORTANT: If you registered in one of the following courses, you have a field lab on the specified day.
Do not make any other travel plans as this is a designated class day in port for your course.

Port Louis, MAURITIUS			Monday, 18 March
MAUL1	SEMS 3595	Professor Greenfield	Sociology of Tourism
MAUL2	PHIL 1510-102	Professor Harmon	Classical Asian Philosophy
MAUL3	EVSC 2050-502	Professor Sobey	Introduction to Oceanography (Section 2)
MAUL4	ECON 2020	Professor Ullerich	Principles of Economics: Macroeconomics
MAUL5	BIOL 1559-104	Professor F. von Hippel	Marine Biology (Section 2)

Day 1: Monday, March 18

MAU 103-101

CATAMARAN ESCAPE

Full day



Enjoy a day of fun and relaxation as you soak up the sun while discovering the beautiful scenery, unique wilderness, peacefulness and tranquility of the west coast. Drive west to Black River to board your catamaran. After embarking, sail towards Tamarin Bay to see the dolphins in their natural habitat. From

Tamarin the catamaran will sail to the south, anchor in the crystal clear water for a swim and snorkeling, a great opportunity to glimpse the amazing beauty of the underwater world. After the snorkeling break, head towards Crystal Rock where a BBQ lunch will be served on board. Next, take a shuttle boat to Ile aux Benitiers to enjoy sunbathing on the beach, or swimming in the azure lagoon, the choice is yours. Following the visit of Ile aux Benitiers, cruise back to Black River.

Please note: Participants should wear light clothes (depending on the weather), and carry a beach towel, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, swimsuit, and camera if desired. Please refrain from drinking alcoholic drinks prior to swimming. Guests must be physically able to board the catamaran.

STANDARD PRICE		Early Booking
Adult	\$96	\$91
Child	\$48	\$45.50
TIME		
	Date	Time
Depart	March 18	0845
Return	March 18	1700
HIGHLIGHTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Coast Catamaran Cruise – offers a fantastic experience of nature, beautiful lagoons, dolphin encounter, relaxation and enjoyment Lunch included 		

MAU 101-101

NORTH ENCHANTMENT

Half day

Discover fascinating Mauritius as you step into the past. Visit Port Louis, the buzzing capital city of Mauritius, a blend of modernity, culture and traditions. Drive by the palm lined Places D'Armes, the imposing Government House, the St Louis Cathedrale, the pagodas, mosque, hindu temples, French colonial buildings and the Champ de Mars, the second oldest race course in the



world. Enjoy an uphill ride to La Citadelle (also known as Fort Adelaide), built by the British to guard the harbor against enemy attacks. Perched five hundred feet on top of the Small Mountain hill, the fort offers a panoramic view of Port Louis.

Next, visit the Pamplemousses Botanical Garden, one of the oldest gardens in the southern Hemisphere. It was renamed in 1988 as "Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden" in honor of the first Prime Minister and Governor General of Mauritius. Built by the French naturalist Pierre Poivre in 1767, the garden is home to more than 500 species of plants and flowers including the unique giant Victoria Amazonica water lilies, a spice garden and the Talipot Palm which blossoms once every 60 years before dying. Pamplemousses is one of the wonders of the world and a must visit for the botanical minded.

Please note: Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes.

STANDARD PRICE		Early Booking
Adult	\$30	\$29
Child	\$15	\$14.50
TIME		
	Date	Time
Depart	March 18	0900
Return	March 18	1300
HIGHLIGHTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pamplemousses Botanical Garden Scenic views from La Citadelle, an old British fort overlooking the main port 		

MAU 105-101

MOUNTAIN & BEACH

Full day

Start the day with a thrilling hiking experience at Le Pouce, the third highest mountain in Mauritius, peaking at 812m. The first person to climb Le Pouce, "The Thumb Peak" is accredited as Charles Darwin. Here in Mauritius, the climbing of the Pouce is a must do. It is both spectacular and accessible to almost everybody. Starting from St. Pierre, the track progresses up the southern flank becoming rougher as it steepens. There is always a cool breeze blowing on that slope of the mountain; making even the hottest summer days bearable. Le Pouce is usually a 2 to 3 hour walk



depending on the weather conditions, with beautiful views over the central plateau of the island. The walk is relatively easy for a mountain, with several vistas before reaching the Esplanade where you can decide to continue to the summit or not. The reward in reaching the thumb is the panoramic view over Port Louis, its harbor and the encircling hills: a 360 degree feast. Proceed next to Eureka Colonial House for a delicious Creole Lunch in picturesque green surroundings. After lunch, drive to one of the stunning beaches of the island, Flic en Flac, for some free time to relax, sunbathe and swim before returning to the ship.

Please note: Hiking duration will be between 2 to 3 hours, depending upon the weather conditions. The hike will be steep and strenuous thus making this tour ill-suited to those with limited mobility/endurance. Participants should wear hiking shoes, long pants, rain jacket, jumper or sweatshirt; and bring mosquito repellent, small backpack, cap or hat, sunscreen, towels, swimsuit, a spare set of clothes and a waterproof camera if desired.

STANDARD PRICE		Early Booking
Adult	\$127	\$121
Child	\$63.50	\$60.50
TIME		
	Date	Time
Depart	March 18	0900
Return	March 18	1730
HIGHLIGHTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hiking Le Pouce - A 360 degree panorama from the top of the third summit of the island Lunch included 		

MAU 102-101

SCENIC SOUTH

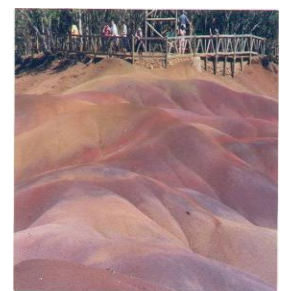
Full day



This trip highlights the most spectacular and unspoiled natural beauty of the island of Mauritius. Enjoy a breathtaking photo stop at Trou aux Cerfs, a 605m high dormant volcano located in Curepipe. This huge volcanic crater is 85 m deep and 200m wide. From the viewpoint of the crater you enjoy a spectacular view of the island. Next visit Grand Bassin, also known as the Ganga Talao, a holy place for Mauritians of the Hindu Faith. The lake rests in the crater of an extinct volcano. Hindus believe that the lake water communicates with the water of holy Ganges of India. Drive through Plaine Champagne to the panoramic viewpoint of Black River Gorges, the deepest gorge in Mauritius. Continue down the fertile valley to the magnificent waterfall and the stunning seven-colored earth of Chamarel, a spectacle of nature. The multicolor volcanic ashes (red, brown, violet, green, blue, purple and yellow) form a natural design of seven shades that not even torrential rain and climatic conditions can wipe away.

Drive to the Morne Brabant Peninsula on the south west tip of the island, a village with a rich cultural history. Morne Brabant Mountain, inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2008, was used by slaves as a place to hide from their owners. After the abolishment of slavery in Mauritius, an expedition made their way to the mountain on 1st February 1835 to tell the slaves that they were free. However, the slaves misunderstood and jumped off the mountain to their deaths to avoid enslavement again. Since then, this day is memorialized as the Annual Commemoration of the Abolition of Slavery by Mauritius. Conclude the tour with free time at a beautiful lagoon for relaxation, sunbathing and swimming in the azure water. The return trip takes you along coastal roads which pass through fishing villages and the famous salt pans of Tamarin.

STANDARD PRICE		Early Booking
Adult	\$71	\$68
Child	\$35.50	\$34
TIME		
	Date	Time
Depart	March 18	0915
Return	March 18	1700
HIGHLIGHTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trou aux Cerfs – Dormant volcano Chamarel, seven-colored Earth Le Morne Brabant Peninsula (Morne Brabant Mountain – World Heritage Site and Le Morne one of the most splendid beaches on the island) Lunch included 		



MAU 107-101**GLASS GALLERY AND MINI SAFARI****Full day**

Your journey starts at the Mauritius Glass Gallery. Marvel at the age-old art of glassblowing, transforming 100% recycled molten glass into objects of thrilling beauty. Browse around the museum and admire the creative touch of these local craftsmen. Visit the Hands of Fame museum a unique and constantly evolving exhibition of hand-castings sculpted from famous personalities like JP Belmondo, Katrina Kaif, Chris de Burgh, Nana Mouskouri and many more... who have visited Mauritius and supported the "Helping Hands" charitable foundation.

Next visit the Casela Leisure and Nature Park, opened in 1979 and renovated in 2001. The park is a real animal sanctuary located beside the Rempart Mountain in West Mauritius with panoramic views of surrounding landscapes. Embark the mini safari bus for a unique photo safari through the Yemen natural reserve park.

On the safari bus trip you will discover the beautiful nature of the Yemen nature reserve while observing the wild animals (zebras, kudus, springbucks, blesbucks, impalas, elands, oryx, Java deer, the axis deer, ostriches, nandus, emus, Guinea fowls, monkeys, ducks and many more) in their natural habitat. The safari tour is a trip of about 45 minutes. Afterwards drive to the Flic en Flac beach for free time to enjoy the white sand, the sun and the crystal clear turquoise lagoon.

Please note: Participants should wear lightweight clothing (depending on the weather) and comfortable walking shoes; and carry a beach towel, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, swimsuit, and camera if desired. Lunch is at your own expense.

STANDARD PRICE		Early Booking
Adult	\$48	\$46
Child	\$24	\$23
TIME		
	Date	Time
Depart	March 18	0930
Return	March 18	1630
HIGHLIGHTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauritius Glass Gallery- sole eco-friendly Glass Gallery of Mauritius • Mini safari at Casela Leisure and Nature Park- Splendors of Nature 		

MAU 104-101**TEA ROUTE****Full day**

Start the tea route at "Domaine des Aubineaux" and its gardens. Domaine des Aubineaux is a colonial house built in 1872, which has been converted into a museum dedicated to the history of Mauritian Tea. Discover furniture dating back to the 17th century, and a great collection of photos of colonial houses which have been demolished. After the visit to the house, continue the tour and visit its gardens.



While strolling in the Camphor tree garden, admire the diversity of exotic plants as well as trees of the endemic forest. The tour continues with a visit to Bois Chéri, the first and biggest tea producer in Mauritius, operating since 1892. Tour the factory to learn the history of tea and also visit the tea production museum. Today, Bois Chéri produces a new range of flavoured teas, green teas and herbal teas. You may taste them during your visit at the chalet, while enjoying a great panoramic view of the beautiful south coast of the island. Proceed to the final stop of the Tea Route at the Saint Aubin house. Built in 1819, it has been home

to several managers of the sugar estate, before being renovated in the 90's to preserve a part of the Mauritian heritage. The estate produces sugar canes, which are processed to make sugar as well as the delicious agricultural rum. Learn about the manufacturing process during a visit to the rum distillery. Next, enjoy a visit to the Anthurium and the Vanilla Plantation. Discover the interesting transformation process of the vanilla orchid: from the flower to the aromatic pod.

Please note: Participants should wear lightweight clothes (depending on the weather), and bring along sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, mosquito repellent, and comfortable walking shoes. Timeline for tours may vary.

STANDARD PRICE		Early Booking
Adult	\$87	\$83
Child	\$43.50	\$41.50
TIME		
	Date	Time
Depart	March 18	0930
Return	March 18	1730
HIGHLIGHTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided tour of Domaine des Aubineaux • Visit a colonial mansion-museum built in 1872 • Guided tour of Bois Cheri tea factory • St. Aubin rum distillery and Vanilla plantation • Lunch included 		

MAU 109-101

ILE AUX CERFS

Full day



Situated on the east coast of the island, Ile aux Cerfs, known as the “Mini Eden”, is a beautiful paradise island. Once you reach the isle you will be welcomed by a sega show and a refreshing fruit cocktail. Afterwards you will have time to explore the island at your

leisure. You can also take advantage of the wide range of facilities on the island and the various water sports activities (payable directly). Around noon time, a delicious BBQ lunch is served at one of the beach restaurants. After lunch you will have more time to explore the island at your leisure.

STANDARD PRICE		Early Booking
Adult	\$105	\$100
Child	\$52.50	\$50
TIME		
	Date	Time
Depart	March 18	0945
Return	March 18	1715
HIGHLIGHTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the “Mini Eden” - Ile Aux Cerfs 		

Please note: Lightweight clothing, comfortable shoes, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, a small backpack, a cap or hat, towels, a swimsuit, a set of spare clothes and a camera are recommended.

MAU 106-101

MAURITIUS ECOSYSTEM

Full day

Start the day with a drive to the South of Mauritius, a part of the island that has kept a feeling of “old Mauritius.” The first stop is at Pointe Jerome where you will discover a unique islet called Ile aux Aigrettes, a nature conservation site run by the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation. The island shelters the last remnants of the coastal forest. A guided tour will show off the hard work involved in returning this islet to its natural state and in the conservation of all the endangered species and plants. Visit the indigenous plants nursery, and try to spot the giant tortoise rare Pink Pigeon, the Mauritius Kestrel and the endangered skinks.



STANDARD PRICE		Early Booking
Adult	\$66	\$63
Child	\$33	\$31.50
TIME		
	Date	Time
Depart	March 18	1000
Return	March 18	1630
HIGHLIGHTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ile aux Aigrettes- an authentic nature reserve Vanille Réserve des Mascareignes - Mauritius sole Crocodile Park and see the Giant Tortoises 		

Next, head to the Vanille Réserve des Mascareignes to discover an amazing balance of flora and fauna. Opened in 1985, the park occupies the valley of a former vanilla growing area, and functions as a tropical rain forest with exotic palms, freshwater streams and local flora and fauna. The park is the brainchild of Owen Griffiths, an Australian zoologist, and his Mauritian wife who discovered that the area was suitable for the farming of Nile crocodiles. The first crocodiles, one male and four females, were imported from Madagascar and their offspring placed in heated indoor nurseries for one year before they were released into ponds. The crocodiles are kept in secure enclosures, according to age, until they reach maturity. The site is home to a collection of monkey, deer, giant tortoise, tenrec, rabbits, bats, wild pigs, colorful butterflies, and a giant Telfair Skink which is indigenous to Round Island.

Please note: Participants should wear lightweight clothing and comfortable close-toed shoes; and bring along sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, mosquito repellent, and a waterproof camera if desired. Lunch is at your own expense.

Start your tour with a visit to Marie Reine de la Paix, a huge area of greenery on Signal Mountain with an open church overlooking the city of Port Louis. Erected in 1940, the Priest James Leen used to go here to pray for Mauritius to be spared during World War 2. Since then it has become a place of great spiritual significance. Seven terraces interspersed with patches of flowers of all colours and 82 steps of hard rock lead to the church and a beautiful view of the city.



Proceed to the octagonal Chinese pagoda for another picturesque view. In its interior splendid red and golden decoration and thick clouds of incense await the visitor. On the altars the believers deliver oblations to their gods and their ancestors.

STANDARD PRICE		Early Booking
Adult	\$47	\$45
Child	\$23.50	\$22.50
TIME		
	Date	Time
Depart	March 18	1000
Return	March 18	1615
HIGHLIGHTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marie Reine de la Paix • Chinese Pagoda • Jummah-Mosque • Tamil Temple Kaylasson • The Hindu temple Maheswarath • Chateau de Labourdonnais 		

Next, visit the Jummah-Mosque, a magnificent white building with decorated towers, where believers come together five times per day to do their prayers. The trip continues to the Tamil Temple Kaylasson, a wonderfully ornate complex with colorful domes and carved gods on different tiers. The temple was built around 1854 according to the rules of Dravidian architecture for sacred buildings. The temple complex was built in the shape of a human body, with the main areas representing the heart and the brain. Then visit the Hindu temple, Maheswarath, one of the largest temple complexes in Mauritius. Built in the late 1850s in honor of the Gods Shiva, Vishnu, Krishna, Brahma, Ganesha, and Muruga, the temple is an impressive site. The temple buildings are bright white and colorfully painted. At the entrance is one of the most beautiful banyan trees on the island. The last stop is Labourdonnais, a chateau at the heart of a magnificent natural estate. Here you will discover the Mauritian lifestyle during the colonial era of the 19th century. This grand mansion built in 1859 has been restored to its original splendor.

Please note: Lightweight clothing, comfortable shoes, sunscreen and mosquito repellent are advised. Leather shoes and belts should be removed when entering religious places. Lunch is at your own expense.