

STAR CLIPPER
TREASURE ISLANDS
FALL 2014 – WINTER 2015

St. Maarten – Anguilla – Virgin Gorda – Norman Island – Tortola, Soper’s Hole – Jost van Dyke – St. Kitts – St. Barts – St. Maarten

All tours are offered with English speaking guides. The length of the tours is given as an indication as it may vary depending on the road, weather, sea and traffic conditions.

SAINT MAARTEN

Scenic transfer to the airport
By air-conditioned vehicle
Minimum 15 participants, maximum unlimited
Duration approx 3h30
39 Euros per person

Saint Maarten is one of the most unique destinations in the Caribbean. Since 1648 the island has been divided between the French and the Dutch with both sides maintaining their very distinct personality and heritage. The French side, Saint Martin is quiet and refined with gorgeous white beaches, French cuisine and sophisticated resorts.

The Dutch side of Saint Maarten has a more obviously Caribbean flavour with its brightly coloured buildings and tropical flair. St Maarten’s capital is Philipsburg which bustles with duty free shopping, quality dining and an active nightlife. Practically, the whole island’s economy is based on tourism with around 70% of the population working in the tourist sector. The island is also duty-free, which of course enhances its attractiveness for tourists. Both the French and the Dutch sides of the island benefit from the sandy beaches and coves which create an ideal environment for swimming, snorkelling and water sports.

Departing the Harbor at 8h45 am, guests are dropped off in nearby Philipsburg for a one-hour browsing and shopping on famous Front Street (shops open at 9 am) . After enjoying the Dutch Capital, guests are driven past the salt ponds, once the main source of revenue for the island, guests head towards Oyster Pond, past the lookout where kite surfers can be photographed catching the waves, and continuing onto Orient Bay, the St Tropez of the Caribbean and well known for its “clothing-optional” policy. Breathing in the stunning views of the open Atlantic and the shimmering hills of St Barth in the distance; with a little time to feel the white sand between their toes, guests are then taken further through the picturesque countryside of French St Martin to the village of Grand Case, the gourmet capital of the Caribbean and home to 40 restaurants, alive with Creole culture and a local community vibe.

Entering Marigot, the capital of the French side of St. Martin, the tour will stop for a 1 hour break giving guests the time for some more souvenir hunting, duty free shopping and/or time to enjoy a coffee in a typically French café.

Leaving the charming French capital of Marigot guests cross the French drawbridge driving through Sandy Ground and Nettle Bay before reaching Terres Basses, home to the rich and famous and their private villas. Leaving Terres Basses guests will cross the border once again, providing a breathtaking view over Cupecoy, before passing through Sint Maarten’s Mullet Bay golf course, and onto Maho, a popular nightlife spot. The tour ends at PJI Airport by 12h30 pm ready for departing flights



ANGUILLA

Anguilla, the most northerly of the Leeward Islands, is located at latitude 18°N and longitude 63°. It is bound by the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean and is 16 miles long and three miles across at its widest point. The island enjoys low humidity, refreshing trade winds and an average monthly temperature of 80°F. The island is low-lying and ringed with 12 miles of spectacular, white sand and coral formations, which make up 33 beaches and coves. Surrounding the island is a reef system and seven islets and cays, excellent for diving and snorkeling. The waters are clear and range in colour from blue to aquamarine.

The island has been inhabited since 1300BC. The first Europeans arrived around 1564 and were part of a French expedition. That's when the island was given its name, meaning "eel", because of its elongated form. The British first occupied Anguilla in 1650. The present population of approximately 8500 is of West African and European descent. Many of the family names on the island are of English, Welsh and Irish origin. The dry climate does not lend itself to farming and eventually the islanders turned to the sea, becoming shipbuilders, sailors and fishermen. Today, water sports are one of the main attractions of the island. Diving, snorkeling and sailboat racing are enjoyed by islanders and visitors alike. The local government, concerned with retaining the island's natural resources and inherent beauty, has kept growth to a slow pace and therefore has not allowed casinos. You will find the surroundings peaceful, the service superb and the people friendly. The island is known as a retreat for celebrities and it is sometimes called the "South Beach" of the Caribbean.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Made up of some 40 islands, the British Virgin Islands were once referred to as the least important place in the British Empire. Apparently, little thought was given to the matter before this statement was made. The BVI's, with their astounding and varied beauty, are nothing short of a picturesque paradise. Although the Spanish used the islands briefly, notoriety came from famous pirates such as Blackbeard, Norman and Jost Van Dyke. These legendary marauders used the islands as a base from which to launch attacks and as their own safe-haven. The BVI's were not actually settled by Europeans until the 1600's when the Dutch arrived. They were soon joined by the English and in 1672, England formally annexed the islands. Sugar plantations and rum manufacturing were soon the primary industries on the islands. After the abolition of slavery, the islands lucrative businesses began to falter and many of the expatriates began returning to England, leaving the land to their former slaves. There was little or no change on the islands until 1950, when a local government was installed by the islanders, but to this day the BVI's remain part of the English Commonwealth.

The BVI's have a growing reputation, particularly with the yachting crowd, for being among the most beautiful and scenic islands in the Caribbean. The beaches, with crystal-clear waters and powdery white sand, have been noted as some of the most exquisite in the world. The islands also have lush mountains and rain forests as well as arid locations. The combination of both makes the BVI's a Caribbean paradise.



VIRGIN GORDA

This half-mountainous, half-flat “Fat Virgin” with a scrawny neck lies a few miles northeast of Tortola. Though it’s home to just 1500 people, it has some of the Caribbean’s most amazing sights. The Baths are a surreal collection of gigantic granite boulders strewn across blindingly white palm-lined beaches at the southwest end of the island. Tide and wave action turns caves into baths and back again, eroding a snorkeling playground of crevices and pools. The island is seven miles long and the northernmost half is mountains with a peak of 1370 feet high, while the southern half is relatively flat. There are some 20 secluded beaches. On the southeast tip is Copper Mine Point, where the Spaniards mined copper, gold and silver until about 400 years ago. The remains of a mine built by Cornish miners in 1838 are being restored as funds permit. The rocky facade here is reminiscent of the Cornish coast of England. The amateur geologist will find stones such as malachite and crystals embedded in quartz. All land on Virgin Gorda over 1000 feet is now a National Park where trails have been blazed for walking.

The Baths

By open-air safari buses

Minimum 15 participants / Max: 120

Duration: 3h30

34 Euros per person

The Baths are a series of small sea pools lying beneath a canopy of giant granite boulders. These sheltered light-filled grottoes create a unique setting in which to swim and explore. Open-air safari buses will bring you to the entrance of the Baths. A path winds down to a beautiful sandy beach where you will have plenty of time to swim or snorkel in emerald clear waters or just relax in the warm Caribbean sun. A trail leads through the boulders to another equally beautiful beach at Devil’s Bay. Swim and bask in the sun at your leisure.

Upon your return to the car park, gazebo and your waiting bus, you will be served a complimentary refreshing fruit or rum punch by your driver. On the way back to the port, several stops will be made for photo taking as the tour bus travels the twisting road to the crest of the mountain from where your ship is revealed in Gorda Sound.

- We recommend wearing comfortable walking shoes, as the footpath to the Baths is uneven.
- The footpath is approx 250 meters up and down.
- Persons participating in this tour should be energetic and physically able.
- Bring your swimwear, towels, sunscreen
- Drivers act as guides during this tour.
- The ship is anchored at Gorda Sound, you will be transferred by tenders to Guns Creek Bay to board your vehicle.
- Cold refreshments, snacks and souvenirs are available for purchase at the Baths.

NORMAN’S ISLAND

This island is reputed to be the Treasure Island of Robert Louis Stevenson fame. The floating bar/restaurant, William Thornton II, is anchored in the Bight of Norman to the north of the island. The William Thornton I, a converted 1910 Baltic trader, sank in 1995. You will also find the Billy Bones beach bar, open for lunch and dinner; but otherwise, the island is uninhabited. On its rocky west coast there are caves where treasure is said to have been discovered many years ago. There is excellent snorkeling around the caves and the facing reef slopes downward to a depth of 40 feet. Be careful if you encounter some of the wild cattle grazing on the island, as their tempers are unpredictable. Off the northwest of Norman Island there are sharp pinnacles of rock sticking out of the sea in contrast to their near neighbor, the gently curved



Pelican Island. Together they offer the diver and snorkeler a thrilling labyrinth of underwater reefs and caves.

SOPER'S HOLE

Soper's Hole is a kind of tropical urban "gunk hotel", a nautical term for a delightful spot to anchor. The locality manages to retain its quaint charm while at the same time being a hub of activity. Surrounded by small mountains like Frenchman's Cay, Soper's Hole imparts a feeling of peace and serenity and yet at the same time there is a beguiling hint of anticipation for it is the "gateway" to a sea of islands (such as St. John) and holds the promise of upcoming adventure.

JOST VAN DYKE

This four mile long island, named after a Dutch pirate, is truly a "barefoot" paradise, known by travelers the world over for its casual lifestyle, protected anchorages, fine beaches and beachfront restaurants and bars. A favourite destination for Yachties, Jost Van Dyke adjoins the tropical isles of Green Cay and Sandy Spit.

SAINT KITTS

Originally called the "fertile isle" by the Carib Indians, St. Kitts (officially named St. Christopher) still fits the description. A mountainous island of volcanic origin its slopes rise up to almost 4000 feet, providing an ideal climate for abundant vegetation and one of the Caribbean's largest rain forests. St. Kitts also has the distinction of being one of the only islands the French and British ever shared. This lasted only long enough to ward off the Caribs and

the Spanish before they turned on each other. Possession of the island changed several times between the two before the British took final sovereignty with the Treaty of Versailles. The British also used St. Kitts as a mother colony of sorts, sending parties out to other nearby islands to begin colonization. In many ways, St. Kitts has changed little since those days. It has never developed into a tourist mecca as some of its neighbours have, and sugar is still its primary source of income just as it was in the 17th century. St. Kitts gained independence in 1967 with its sister island of Nevis, just 2 miles off the southern coast; and has since been striving for controlled development in an effort to maintain its original attributes. Today the island still remains quiet in comparison to other Caribbean nations, but St. Kitts and Nevis are beginning to gain recognition for exactly that reason. They are very much alive with their own unique characteristics, serene atmosphere, beautiful unspoiled scenery and palm-lined beaches.

The essential St Kitts Tour

By air-conditioned mini-van

Minimum 8 participants/ Max unlimited

Duration: 3h30

42 Euros per person

This could very well be the Caribbean's most memorable island tour. It includes Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park, Romney Gardens, Caribelle Batik Studio and an interesting drive through Basseterre. Brimstone Hill Fortress is perched on a 40 acre hill-top, 780 ft above sea level. For three hundred years it has borne witness to innumerable sea battles between the British and the French, more than at any other place in the two nation's naval history. The first cannons were mounted on Brimstone Hill in 1690 as the English and French fought for control of the island. The next 200 years saw the intermittent construction of an amazing work of architectural and engineering genius. This magnificent structure is the second largest of its type in the entire



western hemisphere and one of the best preserved. Its spectacular panoramic views include coastline, country side and five neighbouring islands.

The Brimstone Hill Fortress, also known as The Gibraltar of the West Indies, is of world heritage value and is a recommended must-see for all visitors to St. Kitts. No visit to St. Kitts is complete without a visit to Romney Gardens and Caribelle Batik Studios. This 10-acre garden setting is quite simply stunning. It is at this glorious location that local artists produce the fabric and apparel for which Caribelle Batik has become widely acclaimed. The garden setting and picturesque experience is a photographer's dream and will be remembered by visitors for years to come. You will also get to drive through beautiful Basseterre. This historic Capital City is a perfect example of an original Caribbean town. Observe the traditional French architecture and Victorian structures. Old churches, West Indian cottages and a former slave market are also included in this interesting driving tour of Basseterre.

Safari Island Drive

By open safari vehicle

Minimum 10 participants/ Maximum 20

Duration : 3h30

42 Euros per person

You will ride in a comfortable open safari vehicle, and enjoy the beauty of this most scenic of the smaller Caribbean islands in a full island tour. After driving through town you will proceed westward to the renowned Caribelle Batik and Romney Manor Gardens. Here you will have some time to enjoy this spectacular location and see examples of batik work.

Then you will re-board the vehicle and continue your scenic ride around the island, as your entertaining and knowledgeable guide points out places of historical and cultural interest. Information will be presented on historical Old Road Village, where the British first landed, on Middle Island and on the world famous Brimstone Hill Fortress as you drive by. Your next stop will be at Gibbon's Hill, from

where visitors can see the Atlantic Waters meeting with the Caribbean Sea in a splash of waves that never ceases to fascinate visitors. The island tour continues to Black Rocks where another stop will be made to enjoy this natural wonder and to stretch your legs. Afterwards you will take the the Kim Collins Highway to Frigate Bay and the scenic look out at Timothy Hill before returning to your ship with a host of memories and, hopefully, some excellent photos.

- This tour does not stop at Brimstone Hill Fortress.

St. Kitts Scenic Rail Tour

By rail and road

Minimum 20 participants/ Maximum 50

Duration : 3h30

77 Euros per person

This national rail tour runs a complete circle around the island allowing visitors the opportunity to see the entire country by rail and by road. No trip to this two-island federation is complete without the experience of traveling on the new St. Kitts Scenic Railway, one of the most beautiful train rides in the world. This one-of-a-kind narrow gauge railroad was built almost a century ago to deliver sugar cane from the fields to the sugar mills in the capital city of Basseterre. This still operational railway now provides a fascinating way to see the entire island from the comfort of double-deck railcars built specifically for touring the island of St. Kitts. All guests will have a seat on both levels of the railcar. The upper level features a spacious open-air observation deck with panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. The lower level provides air-conditioned comfort with expansive vaulted windows. Island ambiance is evoked with comfortable rattan furniture, complimentary specialty drinks, island music and a colourful narrative history of the Caribbean.

The railway hugs the northeastern coastline with rippling fields of sugarcane stretching from the shoreline up to the mountains. The high volcanic



mountain ranges, coated with lush green rainforests, rise nearly 4000 feet above sea level. The train rolls across tall steel bridges spanning deep “ghuts” or canyons, and winds through small villages and farms. Your railway conductor will point out old sugar estates, abandoned sugar mills and windmills while giving insight into the island’s unique history. Your experience is complimented by a scenic bus drive on the Southern coast. Enjoy the excellent vistas of Brimstone fortress, the British “Gibraltar of the Caribbean” and Middle Island where Thomas Jefferson’s great-grandfather is buried; and the neighbouring island of Nevis where American statesman and first Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, was born. A truly unique experience! All aboard the St. Kitts Scenic Railway!

- The actual ride by train is approx. 2 hours and the train is very slow.
- The island tour is completed by a bus drive back to the ship.
- Very leisurely tour – no walking included at all.

SAINT BARTHELEMY

The Island of St Barthélemy, commonly known as St. Barts, is located at 18° N 63°W, in the north eastern corner of the Caribbean Sea. Steep hills divide the island into several valleys, usually open to the sea on one side. Each valley is distinctive with unique variations of topography, flora, density of settlement and character of architecture. This diversity creates the illusion of being on a much larger island. The shoreline includes 14 beaches of various sizes, all covered with gleaming white sand. Many are protected from ocean swells by a fringing reef all by law, are public and free. Several offshore areas are included in a marine reserve.

Discovered by Columbus in 1493, St. Barts is part of the French West Indies. Today it is a small piece

of France in the Caribbean, some 4400 miles from Paris. It has long been a Caribbean hideaway for the rich and famous, but the island does have other distinguishing features. It is the only Caribbean island to have a Swedish heritage, if only partially. Louis XVI ceded the island to Sweden in exchange for trading rights elsewhere. St. Barts has been, and remains primarily French, and today is a province of Guadeloupe. Though only eight square miles in size and despite an increasing flow of tourists, some of the island’s villages still maintain traditional dress and customs from 17th century France. The capital Gustavia, surrounds a harbour of picture book beauty, lined with boutiques and cafés. St Barts with its mountainous landscape leading down to picturesque azure water coves and beaches is undoubtedly one of the jewels of the Caribbean.

ATV Adventure St. Barts

5 ATVs available

Maximum: 2 passengers per vehicle, 55 Euros per person

Single occupancy: 110 Euros per person

Duration of the trip: 2 hours

Take a magical trip of exploration and adventure and discover St. Barts aboard your own personal ATV vehicle.

Leave behind the picturesque harbour of Gustavia in the direction of the airport through the “col de la Tourmente”. You may even cross the path of an aircraft coming in to land on the minuscule runway – a feat which requires much skill on the part of the pilot as well as a special license.

The drive continues via the valley of “Petites Salines” to arrive in “Grand Fond” overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Enjoy the dramatic scenery dominated by the island’s highest mountain, “Morne Vitet” (286 m), and the lush green valley contrasting with the raging foam flecked waters of the ocean below. The trail continues round the coastline towards Toiny.



Next you will pass the famous flower filled cemetery of Lorient, the little resort of St Jean with its shops and restaurants. Then up to the top of "Lurin" before making your way down to Gustavia

- At the end of the tour you will still have time to explore Gustavia
- Helmet and goggles must be worn during the entire ride
- The ATVs used for this tour are automatics and can carry one driver and one passenger
- the itinerary may be amended without further notice depending on traffic, roads conditions etc...
- Participants must wear shoes or tennis shoes, no open-toed footwear
- There is storage at the back of the vehicle for your personal belongings
- Participants must not be suffering from head, neck, back, leg or knee injuries
- Participants must have a valid driving license and a credit card for the deposit (€750 maximum deductible in case of any damages to the ATV). There is a waiver to sign before departure.
- Minimum age requirement for the driver: 18 years of age
- Minimum age for the passenger: 12 years of age
- Maximum weight per vehicle: 150kg
- The pace of the tour depends on the participant's way of driving

Sailing the Leeward Coast of St. Barts

Minimum 10 participants / Maximum : 15

Duration: 3 hours

80 Euros per person

All aboard for a relaxing tour sailing round the island, to give you the chance to admire the beautiful scenery. Then the captain will drop anchor in the bay of his choice so you can enjoy some leisure time. Sunbathe, swim from the boat into the warm sheltered waters of the bay, snorkel, lounge on the trampoline net, or just read a good book in the shade of the bimini. The crew will serve refreshments before you set sail back to Gustavia.

- Swimsuits, T-shirts, sun glasses, towels and sun screen are all highly recommended
- Snorkelling gear is available on board
- The itinerary is subject to weather conditions.
- After the tour, you will still have time to stroll around Gustavia



St. Bart Yellow Semi-Submarine**Minimum : 10 / Maximum 22****Duration: 1 hour****44 Euros per person**

After boarding the submarine, you will take your seats on deck for the safety briefing and some interesting insights into the marine life you will see during the trip. When the vessel reaches the harbour mouth you can either go down into the tunnel like hull to view marine life through underwater windows or stay outside on the upper deck. Don't forget to keep a watchful eye open for the green turtles which live in the clean blue waters of the harbour.

After about five minutes, the vessel will pass over the wreck of the 50 ft island freighter "Marignan" which was sunk during the infamous hurricane Luis in 1995. Whilst your semi-sub continues on its way the atmosphere in the tunnel will be enhanced by relaxing sea music. The vessel will cross the south eastern edge of the Saint Barth Marine Park and you will be amazed at the succession of underwater marvels that parade before your eyes. The sea is filled with colourful coral reefs which are "patrolled" by schools of Sergeant Major fish. The return journey ends at the tender pier in downtown Gustavia.

- The hull has 11 large windows below water level on each side. Plus one in the front and one at the back, a total of 24 windows
- There is a toilet onboard
- The Marine Park has been established for some years now and marine life is getting more and more abundant. Guests usually get to see a wide variety of fish as well as turtles and stingrays.

