Southbound through the Caribbean

Guadeloupe, Dominica, Martinique
Fri 24 January 2020 ⇆ Fri 31 January 2020

Come on board for an unforgettable discovery voyage from Guadeloupe through the Caribbean island world of the “Windward Islands”, which lie here like a string of pearls in the turquoise sea. Marie-Galante, Terre-de-Bas and Dominica appear one after the other as tropical dream islands on the horizon in front of our ship's bow. From here, the mild trade winds will push us towards Martinique, the "flower island", which is the destination of our cruise.

This is where you will go on board: Pointe-à-Pitre / Guadeloupe

Our crew will welcome you on board in the port of Pointe-à-Pitre. Embarkation takes place at 19:00 hours. Afterwards, there will be dinner together in the comfortable lounge, where you will quickly feel at home on the Eye of the Wind's deck and soon get to know your fellow sailors.

The butterfly-shaped island of Guadeloupe is influenced largely by French, African, as well as East and West Indian cultures. This mixture is especially evident in the architecture, which ranges from the French colonial style to the Hindu temple. Be enchanted by a fascinating blend of exotic smells. The cuisine of the Antilles is characterised by fruits, spices, coconuts and seafood of all kinds.

For nature lovers, Guadeloupe – or "Emerald Island" – is a green paradise where you can discover the largest national park in the Caribbean with the highest waterfalls of the Antilles, a treetop path, mysterious mangrove forests, and a lush plant and animal life.

The island's airfield is located around three kilometres from the port and is the destination of many international flights. Please feel free to contact us – we will be happy to assist you with the individual planning of your arrival and departure.

Our sailing waters: The Windward Islands in the Caribbean Sea

We will set course for Guadeloupe's southern neighbouring islands in the Caribbean Sea. You will get to know the Eye of the Wind as a seaworthy and reliable ship that has proven itself in all weather conditions. You can help actively with the sailing manoeuvres or just relax and watch. The setting and trimming of the sails during the days at sea will become an ever more fascinating spectacle from a long-gone seafaring era.
Island hopping, anchor bays, time on shore

The Eye of the Wind is not a ship that likes to lie idle in the harbour, so it’s time to cast off the lines the next day. After receiving safety instructions and an introduction to sailing by the ship’s crew, you will soon be able to take part in sailing yourself – no previous knowledge is required.

There will be some stopovers during the cruise, either at a port or in a sheltered bay. Where we go ashore depends on the wind and weather conditions, and is decided at short notice by the captain, who will take your wishes into account whenever possible. This ensures that your sailing trip is a pleasant mixture of adventure, relaxation, active participation and pure enjoyment. Possible stops en route are:

Îles des Saintes: Caribbean splendour above and below the water

The archipelago south of Guadeloupe is a colourful scenic panorama. In the village of Terre-de-Haut, it is well worth going for a stroll along the main street with its countless shops, cafés and restaurants. If you want to shop "Caribbean", this is the place to go! With a rented scooter, you can drive up to the Fort Napoléon further north, which is surrounded by a huge cactus park with big iguanas. From up here, you can enjoy spectacular views of the bay.

For water-sports enthusiasts, a variety of activities from diving to kite surfing is on offer. A ride with the Eye of the Wind’s dinghy from the natural harbour at Terre-de-Haut to the exceptionally beautiful, uninhabited neighbouring island of Îlet à Cabrit gives you a real adventurous feeling from the time of the explorers and the Buccaneers. When snorkelling in the shallow and crystal clear water, the underwater rocks reveal a variety of tropical fish and maritime vegetation.

Dominica – the natural beauty of the Caribbean

The island of Dominica is the botanical garden of the Caribbean. It bears the unofficial nickname "Nature Island" due to its lush and diverse flora and fauna. Turquoise water, green palm forests and white beaches make up the charm of this region. Our tip: In the morning hours, go for a two-hour guided rowing boat ride up the Indian River and through mangrove forests. The boat tour can also be combined with a tour of the island and a visit to the reserve of the Caribe Indians. The island capital, Roseau, is a typical Caribbean city that invites you to stroll and do some shopping.

This is where you will disembark: Fort de France on Martinique, the "flower island".

Our journey ends in Fort de France port on Martinique. The French overseas départment also bears the name "Flower Island" and reflects the tropical side of France – 14 degrees north of the equator and almost 7000 kilometres from Paris.

Do not miss renting a car in Martinique to explore the north of the island right up to the green rainforest wilderness of Morne Rouge on the Route de la Trace, a route created by the Jesuits. The church square of the Sacre Coeur de Balata offers a stunning view of the mountainous tropical island. After a few minutes’ drive, you will reach the Botanical Garden, which charms its visitors with a stunning variety of tropical flowers and plants.

Our tip: Before you set off home, try the island’s speciality: Rum punch – it is said to be the best in the whole Caribbean.
Seven good reasons to go

• Island hopping to some of the most scenic beaches, coves and ports of the Windward Islands
• Across the Caribbean Sea aboard a windjammer with a young and friendly crew
• A relaxing holiday in a mild climate and with a lot of Caribbean flair
• Active sailing and manoeuvering on a 100-year-old tall ship ... feel free to participate!
• Attractive ports of embarkation and debarkation: Guadeloupe and Martinique
• Excellent onboard cuisine, delicious meals from morning to evening
• Well-balanced ratio between time at sea and time for shore leave

Journey time
Friday 24 January 2020 ⇒ Friday 31 January 2020

Services included

• 7 nights’ accommodation aboard the tall ship Eye of the Wind.
• Accommodation in a comfortable double cabin with hot and cold running water, shower, toilet, and air conditioning (single cabin surcharge).
• Full board (including all meals, soft drinks, coffee & tea).
• Lounge with TV/DVD and extensive on-board library.
• The tour price includes VAT.

Not included

Arrival and departure, shore excursions and alcoholic beverages. We gladly assist you in the individual planning of your arrival and departure. Please contact us if necessary in a timely manner.

Please consider the following notes on the itinerary

The indicated ports are optional. The ship’s management reserves the right to change the itinerary at short notice depending on wind and weather conditions.

Basic travel information (non-binding information, subject to change)

Guadeloupe
Official website: www.guadeloupe-islands.com
Language: French
Currency: Euro
Avg. sunshine hours per day: 7
Traffic: right-hand driving

Martinique
Official website: https://us.martinique.org/
Language: French
Currency: Euro
Avg. sunshine hours per day: 8
Traffic: right-hand driving

Photo credits courtesy of Frank Anders; H. P. Bleck; Photos de Martinique

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