

MARINA FOCUS

Stretching down the eastern Caribbean from Martinique and St Lucia to the Grenadines and Grenada, the Windward Island chain remains remarkably unspoiled. Both Grenada to the south and Martinique to the north make great launch pads for a charter through the Grenadines, and with their fine marinas, there is always something to do before you set sail on your journey.

BY MARINA MICI



PORT LOUIS MARINA, GRENADA

CARIBBEAN MARINAS

PORT LOUIS, GRENADA

The verdant island of Grenada became known as the Spice Island of the Caribbean in the 19th century. Since then it has had its share of drama, but the island has been spared the negative impact that mass-tourism has brought to some of its neighboring islands. Instead, Grenada has welcomed sustainable and sophisticated developments, including the lively marina village and waterfront development of Port Louis.

SPORT & LEISURE

La Source offers a plethora of sports activities, from volleyball and tennis to archery and acrobatics, as well as watersports and spa facilities. *Contact Adolf Fratton, +1 473 444 2556.*

For tennis fans, the floodlit Tanteen tennis courts are a five-minute walk from Port Louis.

Book a lesson with local coach *Richie Hughes, +1 473 405 1754, richierich500@hotmail.com.*

Alternatively, golfing enthusiasts can book in at the Grenada Golf Course & Country Club. Just five minutes drive, the course offers a challenging nine-holes with fantastic views over the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean. *Contact General Manager Ian Winsborough, +1 473 444 4128.*

The waters surrounding Grenada are perfect for sportsfishing enthusiasts and Gary Clifford is the expert on where to go. *Contact Gary Clifford, +1 473 407 4688.* If you are still on the island on a Sunday, then join the locals for a session of beach volleyball on Grand Anse Beach at 4pm.

CULTURE

Local guides can take you hiking around the

mountains, rivers, waterfalls and rainforests that fill the verdant interior of the island. Annandale Falls, Seven Sisters Falls, and Mount Carmel Waterfall are all well worth a visit, while the Grand Etang Forest Reserve in the heart of the island is one of the finest natural areas in the whole of the Caribbean.

Those interested in the history of the island plantation can take a tour of the Belmont Estate. Originally a spice plantation, the estate now produces the famous Grenada chocolate. *Contact tour guide Telfor Bedeau, +1 473 442 6200.*

DINING

The Victory Bar & Grill is currently the only restaurant within the marina while the 1782 Restaurant & Bar is under construction (opening October). The new restaurant will be managed by Uli Kuhn, who currently manages the Aquarium



RELAXING POOLSIDE, PORT LOUIS MARINA

AFTER DARK

The island has several bars and nightclubs where you can join in the spirit of local life. Most are located just a short hop from the marina – try the Bananas Nightclub for local rum and reggae or Karma on the Carenage. Sea Port across the lagoon has live bands on a Sunday night (and karaoke on a Saturday).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Port Louis currently operates 30 berths for superyachts above 98’/30m and an additional 129 berths for yachts under 98’/30m. South of the hurricane belt, berths are available for visiting yachts, seasonal rental, annual berth holders, and on a 30-year term. Grenada is

served by international flights direct from Miami, New York and London.

RECOMMENDED

Snorkeling around Moliniere Bay is a unique experience with an underwater gallery of sculptures, created by Jason Taylor, anchored 15’/4.5m below the surface. This is quite an eerie experience, should you not be forewarned of their presence.

For further information on Port Louis, visit www.portlouisgrenada.com or contact *Danny Donelan*, +1 473 435 7 432, danny.donelan@cnportlouismarina.com.

– the island’s best-known restaurant. Sunday afternoon at the Aquarium Restaurant is the place to be for a barbecue accompanied by live reggae and calypso right on the water’s edge. *Contact Manager Uli Kuhn, +1 473 444 1410.*

For the best local food, BB’s Crabback is just a short tender ride across the lagoon - a fantastic setting amid the Georgian architecture of the Carenage in the capital of St George. *Contact Restaurant Manager Brian, +1 473 538 0955.*

The La Luna Resort & Spa is where you will find Italian cuisine served in the Tahitian-styled restaurant. Spend the day at the pool and spa, or simply book in for dinner. *Contact Karen Brizan, +1 473 439 0001.* The neighboring Beach House is another great option with a fantastic menu. *Contact Stanley Minors, +1 473 444 4455.*

For those looking for a relaxed affair with dinner and drinks, Grand Anse serves up a couple of venues. Start off in Carib Sushi before moving on to La Tortuga Wine Bar.



HOME FOR THE NIGHT, PORT LOUIS MARINA

MARINA FOCUS



CAP EST LAGOON RESORT AND SPA



BÉLEM RESTAURANT, CAP EST LAGOON RESORT

MARIN YACHT HARBOR, MARTINIQUE

Drawn by its combination of French flair and Caribbean warmth, Martinique attracts yachting enthusiasts wishing to combine a few days ashore before setting sail to explore the Grenadines island chain. The island is abounded with spectacular hills, mountains and coastlines on the southern stretch of which lies the Marin Yacht Harbor.

SPORT & LEISURE

Sailing, snorkeling, diving, kayaking and fishing are among your many watersports options when you visit Martinique. The prestigious Golf Country Club de la Martinique promises 18-holes of challenging play. Located close to the capital Fort-de-France, the Robert Trent Jones golf course is laid out on a magnificent site of 63-hectares. Lakes, trees and bunkers are skillfully distributed and demand skilled concentration on the 18-hole course. *Contact Director Philippe Barclay, +596 596 68 32 81, barclay.philippe@cg972.fr.*

Explore the island by helicopter, canoe, kayak, mountain bike or horse, or take a bracing hike to discover its tropical rainforest, world-famous volcano, alpine peaks, rocky hills and virgin beaches. Take a hike along the Route de la Trace that winds from coast to coast through the island's volcanic, forested interior and brings you to the stunning gardens of Jardin de Balata.

CULTURE

The island is replete with history. On the undeveloped southern tip of Martinique, Le Rocher du Diamant is a strategic site that saw the French and

British fighting against one another in the early 1800s. Here you will also find the island's best beach – Grande Anse des Salines.

Stroll around the beautiful gardens that surround the 18th-century house on the Musée de la Pagerie. A former colonial sugar estate, the plantation was home to Napoleon's Empress, Josephine.

DINING

The cuisine in Martinique is a fusion of African and French, with many Creole dishes transformed into French-style mousselines, terrines and gratins. Chef Nathanael Ducteil, a native of Martinique, trained with the French culinary master Alain Ducasse, and has returned to the island to his position of head chef at the restaurant at the Plein Soleil Hotel. The young chef applies French techniques with local produce to create a contemporary menu that has helped to make the restaurant the most popular fine-dining establishment on the island. *Contact Nathanael Ducteil, +596 596 38 07 77.*

The sea-facing Le Zanzibar restaurant in Le Marin serves African, Indian and Asian dishes. A bustling venue, Le Zanzibar attracts both the yachting crowd and locals. Try and catch the live bands and Sunday-night beach parties organized at the venue. *Contact Restaurant Manager Michel Bernard, + 596 596 74 08 46.*

A drive northeast to François delivers you to the Cap Est Lagoon Resort and Spa and the acclaimed restaurant, Bélem. *Contact Restaurant Manager Nelly Limier, + 596 596 54 80 80.*

To sample French Creole cuisine, Ti Toques restaurant just across the road from the marina is said to be the most authentic. *Contact Restaurant Manager Bernard Nasta, +596 596 74 72 32.*

AFTER DARK

The nightlife is very relaxed on Martinique, but small reggae clubs and beach bars make for a fun evening where you can really join in the spirit of local life and culture. If you want to add a touch of live entertainment to your evening, make sure you pay a visit to Calebasse Café in Marin, a very vogue, cosy spot that features Cuban, Jazz and French music.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Marin Yacht Harbor is located in a large protected bay at the southern part of Martinique. The harbor has 20 berths over 82'/25m, 10 of which are to host yachts that are between 98'/30m and 180'/55m. The marina is conveniently located between the airport and the diving spots of southern Martinique.

RECOMMENDED

Certified divers should explore the wreck of Nahoon. Lying just off Martinique, the three-mast lighthouse boat is 118'/36m underwater and inhabited by barracudas. Alternatively, Les Grandes Jorasses is a wonderful coral staircase also perfect for an afternoon dive. *Contact dive instructor Jérôme Fayon at Aqua Sud, +596 596 76 51 01.*

For further information on Marin Yacht Harbor, go to www.portmarin.com or contact Eric Jean Joseph, +596 596 748 383, port.marin@wanadoo.fr.