SHOPPINGMPARADISE ST. MAARTEN

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HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

CAPITAL

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Philipsburg is the capital of Dutch St. Maarten; Marigot is the capital of French St. Martin.

GLANCE

LOCATION

The island is 144 miles east of St. Thomas. Nearby are the islands of Anguilla (9 miles away) and St. Barts (21 miles away).

SIZE

The island has a total area of 37 square miles: 16 square miles on the Dutch side and 21 square miles on the French side.

POPULATION

Approximately 32,000 people live in Dutch St. Maarten and 25,000 people live in French St. Martin.

LANGUAGE

The languages of St. Maarten and St. Martin are Dutch, French and English.

CURRENCY

The official unit of currency is the Netherlands Antilles guilder (NAf) and the French franc (F). U.S. dollars, travellers checks and credit cards are widely accepted.

TIME ZONE

St. Maarten is on Eastern Standard Time.

TOURIST INFORMATION

In Philipsburg, the Tourist Information Bureau is on Cyrus Wathey Square, at the cruise ship tender pier.

It. Maarten is the smallest island in the world to be divided between two sovereign powers, the current boundary a result of numerous wars between great European powers in the 17th century. Ownership of the island is split between the Dutch and French, yet no rift exists between the peoples of these cultures. The island's inhabitants are quite proud of their nearly 350-year history of peaceful co-existence.

According to legend, Columbus discovered the island in 1493 on the feast day of St. Martin of Tours. During the 140 years that followed, the Spanish, French and Dutch disputed possession, or at least the right to use the resources, of St. Maarten/St. Martin.

On March 23, 1648, a treaty was concluded atop Mount Concordia delineating the boundaries of the island. The Dutch received 16 square miles and the French received 21 square miles, owing to the latter's superior naval presence in the region when the treaty was signed. The French and Dutch were not always as neighborly as they are today the territory underwent 16 changes of flag from 1648 to 1816, with France, Holland and even Britain claiming it at times.

The establishment of sugarcane plantations during the late 1700s inevitably brought with it slavery. The exploitive colonial system remained intact and prospered as long as there were slaves; however, once slavery was abolished (in 1848 on the French side and in 1863 on the Dutch), the economy suffered greatly. The island became mired in a depression that lasted until 1939, when all import and export taxes were rescinded and the island became a free port.

Thereafter, St. Maarten/St. Martin developed as a hub of trade in the Caribbean; the most dramatic advances were made in the late 1950's with the opening of the airport. In the 1960's, 1970's and 1980's, hotels began to proliferate around the island and more cruise ships began to visit. Today, the island's appeal is stronger than ever.



1. AMSTERDAM DIAMOND GALLERY

Rediscover the Old World of Diamonds in this spectacular tribute to Amsterdam - a major diamond-cutting center. The professional and knowl-edgeable staff will help you choose from the largest selection of loose diamonds and settings. Feast your eyes on the latest designs of precious gemstone and diamond jewelry made with Italian gold & platinum for men and women.

John Hardy: Hand made sterling silver and 18K iewelry from Bali.

Nagalle: Beautiful and unique jewelry inlaid with precious Australian Opal in combination with tanzanites and other gemstones.

Microcord by Jeffrey Roberts: Stunning diamond necklaces or earrings featuring diamonds suspended from a virtually invisible microfilament cord

Watches: Authorized agents for Wittnauer, Alfex, Sector, Festina, Skagen and Harley Davidson. Don't miss the second floor showroom filled with

special collection of Italian gold, sterling silver, precious and semi-precious gemstone jewelry priced under \$299! Loose gemstones as low as \$5 per Ct. Open until 7:00 p.m.

2a/b. DIAMOND CREATIONS

Diamonds, diamonds & more diamonds can be found at one of the largest loose diamond centers in the Caribbean. No matter what your budget, Diamond Creation's expert sales team will guide your through their selection of loose diamonds, in every shape, size, color and clarity. A Gemological Institute of America graduate gemologist grades all of their diamonds and appraisals accompany every sale. Their selection of diamond jewelry can not be beaten. Check out the tennis bracelets starting at \$299! They also carry an extensive colored gemstone collection, featuring tanzanites, rubies, emeralds and sapphires as well as designer Italian goldavailable at the lowest prices! Fantastic deals on designer timepieces by Wittnauer, Festina and Skagen. GIA certified diamonds, 30 day guarantee, lifetime upgrade, trade-ins and a New York based customer service center:1-800-51-jewel. Their aretwo locations on Front-street. FREE pair of diamond stud earrings for visiting! (One per cabin). Open until 7:00 p.m.

3a/b. GOLDFINGER JEWELRY

As the official Rolex retailer in St. Maarten, Goldfinger carries their entire line. Their selection of the latest Swiss watches include Concord, Movado, Omega, Tag Heuer, Tissot, Rado, Swiss Army, and Raymond Weil. They're the exclusive agent for Corum watches and also carry a beautiful 18K platinum jewelry line. And be sure check out their exquisite 14K and 18K gold jewelry with precious stones including diamonds, sapphires, rubies, emeralds and tanzanite. Goldfinger Jewelry also carries a great selection of Dupont pens, leather wallets, lighters and accessories. Open until 7:00 p.m.

4. LAST MANGO IN PARADISE

Ever had a CARIBBEAN SOUL you could barely control? Then don't miss the largest selection of Jimmy Buffet CDs, videos and books this side of Margaritaville. Last Mango In Paradise carries the latest and greatest CARIBBEAN SOUL T-shirts and merchandise for adults and kids. Don't miss this opportunity to have your picture taken with St. Maarten's famous Sharkman

5. THE GUAVABERRY SHOP AND TASTING HOUSE

Visit the most photographed spot on the island! Come and see the beautiful Caribbean Gingerbread House and enjoy free samples of many wonderful West Indian rums and delicious spice and fruit liqueurs, including the island's specialty - St. Maarten Guavaberry Liqueur (with the famous head of Old Man Guavaberry on the front). The juicy guavaberries grow in plantations on the island and are added to oak aged rums using a traditional recipe which dates back hundreds of years. Taste a true part of St. Maarten culture! Open until 8:00 p.m.

6a/b. DEL SOL

T-shirts and Accessories

See their vibrant line of state of the art fun shirts and accessories which come alive in the sunlight. Hat's, totes, jewelry, nail polish, markers, sunglass-es and backpacks. Add color to your life today. Open until 8:00 p.m.

7. DUTCH DELFTS BLUE GALLERY

This tasteful and inviting shop features a beautiful collection of the very finest Dutch Delfts Blue porcelain, all of which is hand-painted in Holland. Blue, green, poly-chrome & Imari Japanese available. Everything comes with a certificate of authenticity guaranteeing the product is 100% hand-painted using the age-old procedure of the Delft masters. Most of the pieces are one-of-a-kind.

8. ORO DE SOL

Quality Jewelry and Watches

Oro de Sol offers exquisite 14K and 18K jewelry with precious gemstones, with savings of up to 40% below stateside prices. Fabulous Swiss watches include Cartier, Ebel, Bulgari, Chopard and Tiffany. Member of the Jewelers of America. Every purchase comes with an unconditional guarantee. Open until 6:00 p.m.

9. COLOMBIAN EMERALDS INTERNATIONAL

Fine Jewelry and Watches

One of the world's foremost emerald jewelers, Colombian Emeralds International specializes in emeralds direct from the mines of Colombia. They're also one of the most popular fine jewelers in the islands, known for have a wide selection of quality emeralds, diamonds, tanzanite, sapphires and multi-precious jewelry, from the affordable to the fabulous. They carry Italian and designer gold jewelry styled in the latest European designs, famous name brand Swiss watches at significant savings, and a great selection of the Waterford Crystal and Lenox lines. They have an excellent 30-year plus reputation for quality, value and service, backed by international guarantees, certified appraisals, a 90-day coverage against damage, loss or theft, as well as a U.S. Service Center. U.S. resi-dents get extra values NOW: This is your chance to acquire fabulous duty-free savings without spending your vacation cash. Get credit and wear your new jewelry home today. Ask about their special DUTYFREE.COM credit plan: no payments and no interest for up to one full year - a CEI exclusive.

10a/b/c. OMNI

Jewelry

Gold is the word at Omni! This store retails gold bracelets, chains and rings in great volume at super-low prices. A favorite among the crew on board nearly every cruise ship, don't miss Omni for great gold specials! Pick up a complimentary cup of rum punch during your visit. Locations also in St. Thomas. Open until 8:00 p.m.

11a/b/c/d. JOE'S JEWELRY INTERNATIONAL Fine Jewelry and Watches

5 Locations: Stunning jewelry at stunning prices. Joe's has a large selection of certified loose diamonds, tennis bracelets, emeralds, imperial topaz, tanzanite, 14K & 18K gold, platinum and men's jewelry. FREE tanzanite perfume available with every purchase of tazanite.

Designer Jewelry: John Bagley: creator of the fine opal inlay from Australia. Cornelis Hollander: innovative jewelry designs including the Spectrum Award winning ring awarded by Debeers "Diamond of Distinction". SoHo: 18K enchanting enamel and diamond Italian jewelry with a lifetime warranty

Watches: Authorized dealers for Swiss timepieces by Jaguar, ESQ, Locman, Versace, Festina, Roamer, Eterna and Porshe Design.

Joe's offers a lifetime workmanship warranty, upgrades and trade-ins. Joes refuses to be undersold. U.S. service centers are available. Open until 8:00 p.m.

12. MAJESTY JEWELERS

Majesty - a landmark in quality and service. House of Tanzanite: Majesty offers the largest and most unique selection of tanzanite jewelry designed for the Alberto Collection. Experience the vibrant deep blue to soft purple colors of this mystical stone from Africa in beautiful settings. Each piece comes with a lifetime workmanship warranty

Kabana: From the masters of inlay jewelry, treat yourself to the natural green-blue Australian opals set with tanzanite and other gemstones. Enjoy the original designs with a certificate of authenticity from Kabana. Siera Collection: This full line of fine diamond jewelry available from Siera includes their invisible settings. Choose any shape and size from their loose diamond inventory and have it mounted in one hour. Discover the latest trends in tennis bracelets to suit your tastes. Steven Douglas: View this designer jewelry made into

an exquisite sea life collection set in opals and pearls. Watches: Authorized dealers for respected timepieces like Cyma, Universal Geneve, Zodiac, Seiko, Citizen and YSL.

Check out their fine collection of quality emeralds as well as full range of rubies, sapphires and other gems in 14K and 18K gold and platinum. Discover nature's lustrous gift of Tahitian and cultured pearls available at Majesty Jewelers. Open until 8:00 p.m.

13. BYE-BYE

T-shirts and casual wear Exclusive original T-shirts. shorts and clothing souvenirs with beautiful Bye Bye designs. Bye Bye stocks the highest quality materials. Locations throughout the Caribbean and Mexico.

14. PEARL GEMS

Pearl Gems is renowned for carrying the largest selection of pearls in the Caribbean as well as a full line of jewelry at excellent prices. Pick your own pearl strand and have it strung into any length with a clasp of your choice. Don't miss their stunning selection of black pearls from Tahiti in earrings, rings and breathtaking enhancers. Don't miss Pearl Gems for quality jewelry at competitive prices.

15. BOOLCHAND'S

Sixty years after the opening of the family's first bazaar on Curacao, Boolchands continues its tradition of dedication and commitment to offering quality merchandise at excellent prices.

Watches: Movado, Concord, Sector, Krieger, Skagen, Guess, Seiko, Swiss Military, Citizen, Michelle, Esquire, Fossil, Wittnauer and Aflex. Jewelry: Kabana 14K & 18K gold jewelry

Leather Accessories: Adolfo, Versace, Dooney & Bourke, Fossil

Sunglasses: Rayban, Guess, Sting and Police Electronics: Sony, JVC, Pioneer, Panasonic, Nintendo and Nokia

Cameras: Olympus, Canon, Pentax, Minolta and Nikon

16. LITTLE SWITZERLAND

Known through the world as the leader in Caribbean duty-free shopping. A jewelry selection that made them famous: gold, emeralds, sapphires, rubies and diamonds. Crystal and china from the finest manufacturers in the world. Leather, collectibles, gifts and accessories. Full international guarantees, certificates of authenticity and impec-cable customer service. *Watches:* Omega, Tag-Heuer, Baume & Mercier, Rado, Swiss Army, Breitling and Movado. *Jewelry:* Fine selection of 14K and 18K gold jewelry with quality gemstones. Wide selection of pearls. *Crystal:* Swarovski, Da-um, Lalique, Baccarat, Orrefors, Kosta Boda and Waterford. China: Christofle, Rosenthal, Royal Copenhagen, Aynsley and Herend. Figurines: Lladró, Hummel and more.

17. GURLINK

Fine jewelry

Gurlink has a wide range of beautiful, quality watches and jewelry to suit any budget. They carry emeralds, tanzanite, sapphires, rubies and diamonds. Gurlink also carries Kreiger, Wittnauer, Seiko and Swiss Military watches. Gurlink's friendly staff will help you find exactly what you want. Öpen until 7:00 p.m.

MAARTEN



18. CARIBBEAN TRENDS T-shirts and Souvenirs

Caribbean Trends is a quaint little store filled with Dutch cheeses, chocolates, T-shirts, souvenirs, beach sarongs and accessories. Located just to the right of the town pier, it's the perfect place for a cool beverage.

19. JOE'S T-SHIRT FACTORY OUTLET T-Shirts & More T-Shirts (upstairs)

Considered by many to be the T-shirt warehouse of the Caribbean, this is the store to buy all your souvenir items in St. Maarten. T-shirts, shorts, tank-tops, sweatshirts, cover-ups, caps, children's T-shirts and many more. Check their store specials: 3 T-shirts for \$10 (selected styles). Joe's Tshirt Factory Outlet is located on the square, upstairs across from the courthouse.

20. KAY'S FINE JEWELRY

At Kay's, the more you buy, the more you save. Choose from their huge selection of settings in rings, earrings, pendants and a variety of items in diamonds. They stock a large selection of loose diamonds, emeralds, tanzanites, sapphires, rubies and precious genstones such as Imperial topaz, blue tourmaline and Alexandrites. Be sure to check out their incredible selection of diamond tennis bracelets, and their watches by Kreiger, Catena and Seiko. They also have an in-house workshop where you can have your stones set while you wait. Open until 7:00 p.m.

21a/b. SUPER JEWELLERS

With a huge variety of goods and gifts, Super Jewellers is sure to have what you're looking for. Jewelry: Check out their selection of diamonds, emeralds, rubies, tanzanites - all in 14K and 18K gold. They also have close-out prices on Mallorca

pearls, direct from Spain. Watches: With special deals on watches by Wittnauer, Roben dino, Edox, Daniel Mik, Azzaro, Citizen, Anne Klein, Bullova, Swiss Army and Swiss Edition. They're sure to have your favorite

Electronics: Visit Super Jewellers for a vast selection of brands on the latest models of camcorders, cameras, digital movie cameras, SLR cameras, DVD players and binoculars.

Sunglasses: Shield your eyes with sunglasses by Versace, Escada, Quick Silver and Gucci.

22. TANZANITE INTERNATIONAL

Featuring loose tanzanite, a gemstone of many shapes and sizes ranging from the softest purple to the strongest blue, this store is one of the largest tanzanite houses in the Caribbean. Choose from tanzanite, ruby, emerald, sapphire, diamond, Italian gold, amethysts, and blue topaz jewelry. Have it custom mounted before your ship sails. Purchases from Tanzanite International come with a thirty-day guarantee, lifetime upgrade, and a New York based bustomer service center.

23. LITTLE EUROPE

Watches and Fine Jewelry

One of the island's largest and oldest jewelry and watch stores, Little Europe is the place to buy world famous watches such as Concord, Movado, Piaget, Philipe Charriol, Gucci and Fendi. Their designer jewelry lines include Saiden Gang, Ash Grossbardt, Charles Krypell, Kabana, Roberto Coin and Aaron Basha. Hummel and Naó fig-urines, Majorica Pearls, Philipe Charriol leather goods, and Fendi are also available. Open until 7:00 p.m.

24. PARCEL PLUS (second floor) See back of map



DIAMOND CASINO Enjoy the best gambling in town!

Gamble or not, get your free gift and complimentary drinks • Buy \$20 tokens or play \$20 at the • tables and receive a free T-shirt • Relaxed atmosphere • Best restroom in town • ATM, Comcheck and trav-elers checks accepted • We love winners • Make an excellent choice for a good time and play at Diamond Casino.

DINING

A. BELGIAN CHOCOLATE SHOP

At the Belgian Chocolate Shop, discover the secrets of this chocolate maker as you watch him prepare more than 30 different treats and flavors. They have special, insulated boxes to protect your treats from melting on the way home. Stop by and taste a free sample when you visit the Belgian Chocolate Shop in the Old Street Mall.

B. DANIELLA'S COURTYARD Cool and classy: Cool for the atmosphere (fully air-con-ditioned), classy for the neo-Mediterranean ambiance and decor. The menu is a perfect fusion of world cuisine and ethnic touches from West Indian crab cakes and Cajun blackened shrimp to thai chicken salad and tradi-tional shepherd's pie. Lunch starting at \$5.95. Outdoor patio dining also available. Opens at 11:30 a.m.

C. KANGAROO COURT CAFÉ

Colorful eatery in a 19th-century salt weigh station. This courtyard cafe is complete with umbrellas, greenery and a soothing waterfall. Enjoy lunch under the almond trees for under \$10 - choose from sandwiches, salads, pastries, a pasta special. Cool off with fruit frappes, iced cappuccinos, ice creams and more. Look for the giant mango-berry colored coffee cup on the roof.

D. REGGAE CAFE

For a fun Caribbean experience, eat at the colorful Reggae Café! Sink your teeth into one of their specialties, or try their famous frozen drink the Reggae Rainbow (prepared with or without rum).

E. THE THREE LADIES RESTAURANT Located inside the historic Holland House Hotel, this fabulous restaurant on the beach offers daily lunch specials, Caribbean BBQ and frozen drinks. Free e-mail is available.



MORE ABOUT ST. MAARTEN

SHORE EXCURSION DEPARTURES Please check your tour voucher for the correct meeting time and location for your tour. Your shore excursion team will direct you to your transportation.

TRANSPORTATION

The basic means of transportation are taxis. The following fares are from the cruise ship terminal and are one-way fares for one or two people: Mullet Bay: \$12.00 Marigot: \$12.00 Dawn Beach: \$15.00 Orient Beach: \$18.00 Divi Little Bay: \$6.00

Fares for three or more people are set at a per person rate: Mullet Bay: \$4.00pp Marigot: \$4.00pp Dawn Beach: \$4.00pp Orient Beach: \$4.00pp Divi Little Bay: \$4.00pp

SHOPPING

There are about 500 duty-free shops on the island of St. Maarten, and prices are often 25% to 50% below those in the U.S. and Canada. Without question, the world of jewelry and watches is premier on the Dutch side of St. Maarten. Friendly competition between merchants guarantees excellent prices on emeralds, diamonds, rubies, and sapphires as well as pearls, gold and silver. Look out for the latest styles in designer jewelry and some of the worlds finest watches. Be sure to try a bottle of St. Maarten's own guavaberry liqueur. The guavaberry (not related to the guava) is exclusive to this island.

STORE HOURS

Monday - Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Most shops are open whenever there's a cruise ship in port.

BANK HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There are numerous banks located in and around Front Street.

POST OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The main post office is a five minute walk from the cruise ship pier.

AIRPORT

The Princess Juliana Airport is approximately a 20 minute ride from the pier.

PHONE LOCATIONS

Telephones are located at the end of the cruise ship piers.

EMERGENCY

In case of an emergency, dial 5-22222.

Note: The information in this port guide is subject to change without notice. We apologize for any inconvenience, but Disney cannot accept responsibility for any such alterations. Thank You.



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For more information on this port of call, please refer to SHOPPING IN PARADISE, your in-cabin publication.

GUARANTEE

Shop with confidence at each of the recommended stores on this map. All merchants on this map have been carefully selected and have paid a promotional fee to Onboard Media for inclusion in this program. Each merchant offers a 30 day guarantee. Excluding buyer's negligence or buyer's remorse, this guarantee ensures buyers that all participating merchants will repair or replace any unsatisfactory item. For purposes of determining quality and value of jewelry, only appraisals from independent graduate gemologists, not affiliat-ed with any retail jeweler, will be acceptable. Please inquire about individual store return policies before finalizing any purchase. If you become aware of a problem during the cruise, please contact the Port & Shopping Lecturer for immediate assistance. If a problem arises after the cruise but within 30 days of the purchase date, contact the merchant directly and send a copy of all correspondence to Onboard Media Customer Relations. To expedite your claim, please include the store name, date of purchase, copy of receipt, any relevant documents, and a written description of the claim. Onboard Media, 960 Alton Road, Miami Beach, FL 33139: www.onboard.com.

FIFTH AVENUE AND RODEO DRIVE, NOW APPEARING ON FRONTSTREET

Right at the intersection of Fantasy and Desire is one of the world's great shopping experiences - a little store called Little Switzerland. There you'll find savings on an enormous selection of duty-free watches, jewelry, crystal, china, figurines, giftware, accessories and fragrance. (And, it's a lot closer than New York or LA).



GO A LITTLE OVERBOARD

{ In St. Martin } Frontstreet, Philipsburg • Rue de la Republique & Rue de la Liberte, Marigot St. Thomas St. Croix St. Barth St. Kitts & Nevis Antigua St. Lucia Aruba Curacao Alaska Barbados