

# #EXPLORE LA RÉUNION / WITH TOURIST OFFICES

# whether exploring alone,

as a couple or with family or friends

simply follow this guide!

//2







# Looking to get away from it all? Keep it simple: just stay here!

Reunion Island boasts a thousand different facets and just as many ways to explore them.

There are exceptional people to meet, stunning stories to hear, great places to discover, secrets to swap and experiences to share...

From the heady heights of Le Maïdo to the rocky point of Cap Méchant, from old-school Chinese corner-shops in Saint-Benoît to restaurant kitchens in the heart of Cilaos, your experts from the Reunion Island Tourist Offices have travelled the length and breadth of the island to unearth the island's best spots to compile this very brochure.

Whether embarking on a sporty weekend, taking a rejuvenating break, spending fun times with friends, building memories with the family, meeting up with loved ones or simply recharging those batteries on your own, this guide provides a myriad of ideas for a 100% local and authentic trip.

Please place your trust in our Tourist Office teams - we're here for you!

And now, the real change of scenery begins, here in your own back yard...



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The Reunion Island Explorers' Guide, 2022 Edition - ISSN in progress

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THE SOUTH

# The 7 Atmospheres of Reunion Island

Just like the people, weather, food and landscapes... Reunion Island is a place of stunning diversity, of which we are naturally proud!

**THE WEST** 

And this is a real rarity for any holiday destination. There are very few spots around the world where you can enjoy a fresh fruit cocktail with your feet in the sand by the lagoon in the morning, then hit the road for a lunchtime picnic up in the hills, take an afternoon stroll in the cool mountain forests before finishing the adventure with a night in one of the island's three cirques\*, far from the hustle and bustle of modern life.

THIS is where our island stands out from the rest!



From the rugged coastline down south to the sheer ramparts of the Cirque de Cilaos.

From the capricious volcano of Piton de La Fournaise to the calm and authentic mood up in the hills.

From the nightlife of Saint-Denis to cultural discoveries of the island's heritage in the north.

From the lush nature in the east to the cool revitalising waters of its countless pools and waterfalls.

From the hiking trails in Mafate to the warm and festive

Reunion Island is home to a variety of different atmospheres, To be enjoyed by one and all...

vibe along the west coast...

Whether with family, friends or on your own: Explore Reunion with the help of your experts!



THE HILLS

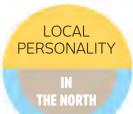


#### \* Cirques = natural volcanic caldera

# 'Mamie' (Granny) Georgette

For Mamie Georgette products, check out:

- Ecobox in Le Brûlé (Route des Azalées in Le Brûlé)
- Her small shop (by appointment only) 0692 87 43 40
- La Cave du Grand Marché 18 Rue du Maréchal Leclerc, Saint-Denis



his excellent chef offers home-made preserves and other products, in a traditional style sure to remind you of your mum's home cooking. Those who enjoy duck will be tempted by her specialities, such as smoked duck breast or duck with vanilla, but this lady from St Denis has also concocted a wonderful array of lentils, syrups and jams which will brighten up every meal. At 74 years of age, complete with apron and warm welcoming smile, Georgette is ever-present, even though it is her son Stéphane Déna who has officially taken over the family business. It's not much of a surprise that Mamie Georgette can't keep out of the kitchen, sneaking in a little extra turmeric when she can...

Mamie Georgette has always lived in Saint-Denis. After having lived for a while in Moufia, the search for a large piece of land to farm led her to move to the village of Le Brûlé, where she has lived ever since. But she knows the north of the island like the back of her hand, as she comes down to the coast regularly, either to Saint-Denis or to Sainte-Marie, where she was born. She loves the peace and calm of certain places there, and the easy way of life. However, she still says that "everywhere on this island seems great to me!"

# Mamie Georgette's favourite spot:

In Sainte-Marie, I often head to Bois Madame. There's so much space, it's the perfect place for a family gettogether, for either a picnic or a walk. We're out in the fresh air for a while, it does us the world of good...



THE NORTH COAST //8

# The best spots along the North Coast

THE STUNNING DIVERSITY THAT OUR ISLAND HAS TO OFFER IS CONCENTRATED
HERE ALONG THE NORTH COAST. THIS IS A PLACE WHERE AUTHENTICITY BLENDS WITH MODERNITY
AND THE CITY RUBS SHOULDERS WITH NATURE. WHETHER YOU'RE INTO GOOD FOOD,
SPORTS OR NIGHTLIFE, FROM SAINTE-SUZANNE TO SAINT-DENIS, THIS REGION OF
THE ISLAND IS BURSTING WITH SECRET SPOTS AND ACTIVITIES TO ENJOY.
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR INSPIRATION. KEEP READING!

#### **BRASSERIE LES DALONS\***

Let Jonathan, Joris and Thibault join your band of buddies for a morning workshop of beer-brewing! If you want to discover brewing techniques, come up with your own beer recipe and leave with a sample of your own making, the three 'Dalons' will soon be your BFFs! You can visit the brewery, taste the products, and 3 weeks later, pick up your own bottles!

\* dalon = friend

Brasserie Les Dalons in Sainte-Marie: 0262 93 26 05

ALCOHOL ABUSE IS DANGEROUS FOR YOUR HEALTH, PLEASE CONSUME IN MODERATION



Maison Carrère! This is the home of the 'Beau Pays' Tourist Office, the ideal place to get all the advice and recommendations you need. This traditional Creole house can be visited free of charge and will give you a better understanding of late 19th century life among the local bourgeoisie. Along with the famous Rue de Paris, it remains a key place to see when visiting Saint-Denis



Looking for a little greenery? Take a guided tour of one of the island's oldest Creole gardens, here in La Vallée Heureuse. In this remarkable garden, let yourself drift away along garden paths lined with magnificent azaleas ancient camellias.

Keep your eyes open, as some endemic orchids are hidden everywhere. And the kids will be amazed by the sheer size of the Chinese bamboos to be heard creaking at the slightest gust of wind...

\* vallée heureuse = happy valley

LA VALLÉE HEUREUSE\*

#### THE DUGAIN FOREST

Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and in the heart of the National Park, the Dugain forest, located up in the hills of Sainte-Suzanne, is a jewel of natural biodiversity. Chassalia and cheesewood plants, ferns and orchids. **The plant life here is exceptionally rich**. It is private land, and access is regulated, so please book in advance. One of Reunion's truly unique places!



Did you know that the north coast was home to an ashram? Not far from Cascade Délices in Sainte-Suzanne, take a stroll around this unique place where you'll learn a vast amount about the Hindu way of life. Themed mornings are organised regularly, a unique experience to share with others.

Saint-Denis

#### **VISITING BAS DE LA RIVIÈRE**

The Bas de la Rivière district in Saint-Denis is one of the city's oldest. It is bursting with surprises, with cultural heritage and hidden gems to discover if you head off the beaten track with the association Pti Colibri!

Sainte-Marie

Sainte-Suzanne

#### WHITE WATER COURSE

For an original (and bumpy!) kayaking experience, head to the Stade en Faux-vives in Sainte-Suzanne! **Unique on the island**, this artificial river is perfect for all kinds of water sports all year round, and at very affordable prices too.



TAKE FLIGHT WITH THE PAPANGUES\*

from the surrounding terminals, organising

\* papangue = Réunion harrier, an endemic bird

As Reunion's Roland Garros airport is located on

the north coast, several service providers operate

microlight flights across the island. This really is a stunning experience and a great new way to discover our island. Seen from the sky, Reunion is even more beautiful, you'll see for sure!

Photography excursions, paintball, quad biking and even a mega zip-line: the sky's the limit here in the North! To check out these activities, head to Domaine La Paix in Sainte-Marie. Are you brave enough to whizz down the mega 766-metre zip-line?

#### **DESRUISSEAUX VANILLA PLANTATION**

On the north coast, the vanilla plant is everywhere. Come and meet Jismy Desruisseaux on his Bourbon vanilla farm, established in Sainte-Suzanne back in 1877. Learn all about this famous black gold, from the bud to the pollination process... And fill your shopping bag with delicacies from the shop!



# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER**







For a surprise lunch for two, why not check out the Domaine du Moka restaurant in Sainte-Marie. This exceptional place is a spectacular setting for a lunchtime meal for two. The architecture and panorama are both splendid, as is the top-notch Creole 'bistronomy' cuisine, sure to satisfy the heartiest of appetites. Bon appétit!





#### **MACATIA\*-TASTING** IN ST DENIS

Downtown Saint-Denis is full of excellent gourmet addresses. Whether you fancy a classic breakfast, a quick elevensies or a top-of-the-range brunch, mornings are sure to keep your taste buds happy here in the island's main town!

\*macatia = Reunionese brioche





-DAY 2 -A CAPITAL

IDEA!

#### DOMAINE DE **BEAUBASSIN**

To embark on this particular adventure, head for the hills of Saint-Denis to discover the awesome Domaine de Beaubassin. Here, Monique welcomes you into her home for a guided tour of her authentic Creole house, steeped in history. Walk through the front gates of the estate and you'll be transported to another era!







#### An extra tip +

a friend.

#### 11H 'DELICIOUS' **CASCADE\* DÉLICES**

A RETREAT IN INDIA

Let's start off this unusual day

in the North with a yoga class

in a unique place: an ashram!

Come and visit this calm place

of worship in Sainte-Suzanne to better understand the Hindu

way of life. Several activities are organised there, such as an introduction to yoga or Indian calligraphy workshops. A unique experience either alone or with

Chinmaya Mission Réunion - Tel: 02 62 58 24 39

Right next to the Chinmaya Mission Reunion Ashram, there is the beautiful Cascade Délices. Easy to walk to, and the cool waters are particularly invigorating!

\* cascade = waterfall

#### **ANY FISH BITING TODAY?**

To finish the day here on the north coast, take a stroll along the charming port of Sainte-Marie. At the end of the day, the walk along this coastal path is simply lovely. You can meet some fishermen and if you feel like it, why not cast a line or two yourselves!?

#### A COSY NIGHT **IN SAINT-DENIS**

18H

The main town boasts a wide choice of trendy accommodation! Whether you prefer modern condos in the city centre or bungalows with typical architecture up in the hills, you're sure to find the romantic cocoon you're looking for!



#### **AN AFTERNOON** AT THE MUSEUM

14H

For the rest of today's programme, you simply have to see Rue de Paris! The town's most iconic street is home to the most beautiful buildings. Among them, the Léon Dierx museum is splendid. Before admiring the art collections inside, why not stop to take a few snaps in front of the building, surely one of the city's most beautiful façades.

Léon Dierx Museum - Tel: 02 62 20 24 82



#### Accommodation in 'Le Beau Pays'





All about Saint-Denis

#### ALL CONTACT INFO

Accommodation in the north Discover the city of Sainte-Marie





THE NORTH COAST //12

# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER**



# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER**





For those looking for unusual and discreet places to stay, you'll love this little gem, located in Sainte-Suzanne. This 5-star villa awaits you for a romantic getaway in the lap of luxury! This cosy setting is ideal for a relaxing getaway for two.

64 Rue Raymond Vergès, Sainte-Suzanne - Tel: 06 93 64 47 22 Capacity: 1 double room Three 100% romantic places to stay

#### VILLA DES CANNES

This charming guest house is surrounded by sugar cane fields in Sainte-Marie: welcome to Villa des Cannes! This accommodation boasts three meticulously decorated guest rooms. Elegantly blending contemporary and traditional inspiration, all rooms are spacious and comfortable. The owners will welcome you with open arms, and are happy to suggest a number of walks to do in the vicinity.

17 Route du Paradis, Sainte-Marie - Tel: 06 92 06 45 22 Capacity: 3 double rooms

From €280 for a minimum of 2 nights, including breakfast





To be sure of a truly memorable experience for two, choose Villa Marie Lucie in Saint-Denis. Fully renovated with taste, respect for sustainable materials and a large dose of Creole spirit, this historic building is perfect for a timeless get-away. It has a number of different facilities, including a swimming pool and a gym. Finally, there is also a concierge to ensure that your stay goes smoothly. Just check it out, you'll love it straight away!

3 Rue du Général de Gaulle, Saint-Denis - Tél.: 06 92 25 78 47 Capacity: 4 double rooms From €850 for the whole villa



#### For thrill-seekers, the north coast has some great surprises in store for you!

If you're not afraid of heights, you simply have to check out this climb from Cap Bernard to La Montagne. Supervised by a climbing instructor, participants climb a volcanic rock face, enjoying a breath-taking view of Saint-Denis and the Indian Ocean at the same time. Kids aged 6 and above can join in, and no climbing experience is required!

An unusual activity for some truly magical memories!

Adventures Réunion - Tel: 06 92 35 30 35 www.adventures-reunion.com/fr/escalade-a-saint-denis-974/ From €40 for a 3-hour outing (free photos included)

#### **BEAUSÉJOUR SPORTS CLUB**

This stay in the north of our island really is ideal for sports enthusiasts, and another unusual place to see is the Beauséjour Sports Club in Sainte-Marie. Here, the lush green setting boasts stunning panoramas, the ideal spot to play tennis, squash or golf. Either on your own or with a partner, why not hone those skills or try a new sport by signing up!

Beauséjour Sport Club Golf - Tel: 02 62 67 10 81 - www.bsc.re From €12 per hour to rent a court



#### An extra tip+

The Beauséjour Sport Club also has a restaurant, ideal for lunch to get some of those calories back - pretty convenient, right?



#### LA SPHERE - A GREAT PLACE TO RELAX!

Snow cabin, neurospa, floatation bath, sensory isolation, whirlpool, aquabike, hydro-massage bed... Shall we continue? La Sphère is THE new secret place to be for those looking to relax in Saint-Denis. This exceptional place is open to anyone with a subscription which gives you unlimited access to all facilities. Unlimited happiness does exist after all!

La Sphère - Tel: 06 93 21 47 99 - www.lasphère.com From € 59.90 /month

# WITH THE FAMILY







#### SPLISH-SPLASH IN THE NORTH!

Some good news: during the school holidays, the Aquanor waterpark opens at 10 am. This spot is the perfect place to cool off with the whole family. Waterslides, massage jets, bubble benches, jacuzzis and, of course, the 25-metre long swimming pool. There is something for all water-lovers here in Champ Fleuri. There are even aquabike, aquafitness and baby swimming sessions with parents.

Aguanor - Tel: 02 62 20 10 10

#### An extra tip+

If you getting hungry, Aquanor has its own snack bar, ideal to feed the kids!

ALL CONTACT INFO

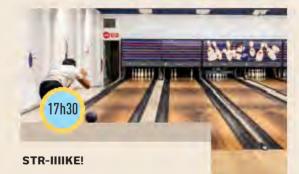
Great leisure activities to do in Le Beau Pays





Just a few minutes' walk from Aquanor, take a walk across the park in La Trinité. There is even a great playground for children. It's a really relaxing place for a breath of fresh air. Everyone is bound to enjoy it, both big and small!





After your family stroll in La Trinité, why not continue this sporty day out at Bowling City! Located just a few minutes on foot from the park, this is the ideal spot to end the day with the family. Put on your best bowling shoes for a super-fun evening out. It doesn't matter if you get a strike, a spare or gutter - the main thing is to spend a cool moment together, right?

Bowling City - Tel: 02 62 41 56 27



#### ON THE BACK OF A PAPANG\*

ON THE BACK OF A PAPANG\* After a great night all together, a new and unusual activity awaits the whole family this morning: a cable car ride, but without any snow? It's possible with Papang, the island's first urban cable car. It has been running since March 2022 and we tried it out with our own families. It's a very practical and original means of transport, and the view from the cabins is breath-taking. It gets our thumbs up!

\*papangue= Reunion harrier



**LUNCH ON THE GO** 

Head for the Barachois for a much appreciated lunch break. There are several playgrounds and swings to keep the kids busy. You can either take the time to sit down and eat in on the terrace, or just opt for a take-away to be enjoyed under the trees facing the ocean. The choice is yours!



**ON YER BIKES!** 

-DAY 2

Are you ready for a sporting activity for all the family? The coastal path is ideal for a family cycling excursion. It is pretty much flat, completely safe and means you can discover the northern coast of the island in an original way. This cycle path connects Saint-Denis to Sainte-Suzanne along the ocean. Depending on your level, you can start the route wherever you like. The more athletic among you will want to start at the Barachois, while others can begin the walk at the Sainte-Marie seafront for example. Don't miss the railway tunnel under the Sainte-Suzanne lighthouse. The scenery is amazing!

# Our advice

If you don't have a bike, simply contact one of the electric bike rental companies in town. They can even deliver them directly

Yellow Bike Reunion Tel: 06 92 32 60 65 or 06 92 32 17 02

ALL CONTACT INFO

The must-see places in Le Beau Pays



# WITH THE FAMILY







L'ESCAPADE BELLEPIERRE

Head up to the hills where you'll be charmed by this warm guest house, up in the Bellepierre district of Saint-Denis. In the heart of a tropical garden, this delightful villa blending contemporary audacity and authentic elegance is a perfect place to stay with the whole family. All in all, there are four spacious and tastefully decorated rooms. And wow, the stunning swimming pool area and Jacuzzi... there's something for everyone!

192 Allée Des Tonazes, Saint-Denis - Tel: 02 62 24 71 16 Capacity: 4 rooms, one of which can accommodate 3 people From €120 per night



#### LE CRÉOLIA

For this establishment, we're staying up in the hills of Saint-Denis - the panorama is amazing! Le Créolia Hotel is one of the most spacious and well-equipped on the island. It has 108 rooms and a gigantic swimming pool of over 500m<sup>2</sup>. Kids will love it!

1414 Rue du Stade, Saint-Denis - Tel: 02 62 94 26 26 Capacity: 4 rooms, one of which can accommodate 3 people From €120 per night



#### Extra tip from your expert at the Beau Pays Tourist Office

"Don't miss out on a cocktail at the end of the day on the terrace; the view as the sun sets is simply splendid."

#### **TULIP INN SAINTE-CLOTILDE**

If you'd rather stay down by the coast, the Le Tulip Inn in Sainte-Clotilde is the ideal hotel for a city break in Saint-Denis. Comfortable and modern, the rooms are spacious and the outdoor swimming pool is ideal for relaxing after a hike or an afternoon of sport! If possible, choose the rooms on the pool side.

31 Av. Leconte de Lisle, Saint-Denis - Tel: 02 62 97 77 77 Capacity: 65 rooms - From €69 per night

# WITH THE FAMILY en famille



THE NORTH COAST //17

#### **OUE FAIRE DANS LE NORD EN FAMILLE**



'SEVI' is the nickname given to the Sainte-Suzanne kayaking centre. The town is already well-known for its natural pools and waterfalls, but it's now possible for visitors and school children to try out Reunion's only white water sports centre, or Stade en Eaux Vives.

This 250m long artificial 'river', whose flow is controlled remotely, is perfect for canoes, rafts and kayaks for a wet and bumpy ride! Fun to be had by all!

Sainte-Suzanne White Water Centre Tel: 06 93 01 39 06 - www.facebook.com/sevi974 From €6 per activity

#### IMMERSE YOURSELVES IN THE ISLAND'S HISTORY

The Bas de la Rivière district of Saint-Denis is full of historical gems. Take a guided tour through the area and learn all about what used to be an industrial and commercial district. Admire the Ti Kat Sou garden and staircase, the industrial buildings, the river banks and skills of local inhabitants, together with a knowledgeable and eager guide. After your visit, there are a number of natural pools to visit as you walk up the river.

Pti Colibri Association - Tel: 06 92 33 11 93 www.pticolibri.re/page/426281-presentation €8 for a guided tour (€5 for reduced rates)





If you're looking for a welcoming, gourmet experience, Jacky is on hand! This activity first involves a visit to the market in Le Chaudron, accompanied by this Cordon Bleu chef, where you'll learn where to get all the right ingredients. After this authentic stroll, **head over to** Jacky's place in Sainte-Suzanne, don your aprons and get cooking! Discussions will come to life and pots and pans will bubble and sizzle. And after the cooking, it's time to get stuck in! At the table, you will spend a great family moment in a truly convivial atmosphere. That's what Reunion is all about!

Far Far Kréol - Tel: 06 93 02 41 74 www.reunion.fr/organisez/nos-experiences/atelier-de-cuisine-reunionnaise/ From €39 (free for kids up to 11)

# 48 HOURS ALONG THE NORTH COAST







#### **GET YOUR SKATES ON!**

Saint-Denis is home to a huge skate park, complete with bowl and ditch, a real haven for any pack of skaters!
Separated into several different sections, this place is the perfect playground for skateboarding and rollerblading. Many locals flock here at the end of the day and at weekends. And just above the skate park you'll find the Parc de la Trinité, a great spot for those who like a jog (or a napl). There's something for everyone!

The best way to visit the main city with friends is by using the council's self-service bicycles, the 'Vélocéan'. Available at the Barachois and the Jardin de l'État, take your whole gang of friends on a tour of the city centre of Saint-Denis on these electric (thank goodness!) bikes. Atop your steed you'll whizz down Rue de Paris, past the religious buildings in the town centre such as the Noor-e-Islam Mosque, and along the

Barachois and its coastal cycle path.

Vélocéan

ALL CONTACT INFO

Fancy a drink\*? Contact info here





centre of Saint-Denis, rue Amiral
Lacaze! This is where the Dalons, local
beer brewers\*, have opened their tasting
house. Kick the evening off in this warm
and trendy urban vibe. Pizzas, live
concerts, table tennis and a range of good
local draught beers are on the programme
of this friendly and must-visit bar!

\* dalons = friends

Tasting House - Bar Dalons - Tel: 06 93 52 04 80
\*Alcohol abuse is dangerous for your health, consume in moderation



# GET WITH THE BEAT SOMETIMES ON SUNDAYS!

During the day, as well as in the evening, why not enjoy some music at the Barachois to the rhythm of the kayamb and rouler\*?! After a good breakfast in town, simply stroll along the Saint-Denis coastline, guided by the music. All day long until late at night, locals and visitors gather round the musicians to listen, sing and soak up some Malova\* vibes.

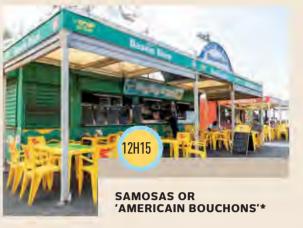
\* local idiophone & drum \* Maloya = local ancestral music

#### An extra tip+

On the other days of the week, several 'boules' areas will be great fun for your gang. Or you can go for a run along the coastal path: a great way to detox after a big night out on the town!







There are several snack bars facing the ocean down on the Barachois, perfect spots to enjoy a good 'americain bouchons' with your buddies, complete with a stunning ocean view! By the way, how do you eat your dumplings? Do you prefer them cut up or left whole in your sandwich? Hey, we're not gonna judge!

\* sandwich américain bouchons = baguette with steamed dumplings, fries and melted cheese



# ALL CONTACT INFO Snack bars in the North



Our ideas for nights out in town



#### **ART IN THE CITY**

Not far from the Barachois, the Cité des Arts regularly organises live events, either plastic or visual arts. A place of creation, exhibitions and also learning, as several workshops are organised for budding artists. Don't hesitate to take a look at the programme and list of events if you are visiting Saint-Denis!

La Cité des Arts - Tel: 02 62 92 09 90



THE NORTH COAST //20

# AMONG FRIENDS OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS IN THE NORTH







**OUE FAIRE DANS LE NORD EN FAMILLE** 



Are you looking for accommodation, far away from the downtown hustle and bustle that can accommodate the whole gang? Le Colonial in Sainte-Marie is the ideal address! Located on the first floor of the owners' house, you can enjoy this spacious 3-bedroom flat with 2 bathrooms, a private lounge and a fully equipped kitchen. The accommodation is tastefully decorated and has everything you need for a successful stay. The swimming pool is just for you guys, and the owners will be happy to welcome you with a warm smile and a hearty breakfast.

22 Rue Louis Stephen, Sainte-Marie - Tel: 06 92 11 42 38 Capacity: 7-8 people
From €169 per night for 2 people and €259 for 7 people

#### THE DINA MORGABINE \*\*\*

ollowing the lead of its little brother in Saint-Gilles, a second Dina Morgabine hotel now stands on the Saint-Denis waterfront. With a contemporary design, this unusual establishment with its comfortable and trendy rooms is great for trips with friends here in the capital! Its restaurant has already earned a solid reputation among foodies, and wow, what about that rooftop swimming pool?!

Surely the number one spot for photos to post online!

1 Rue Issop Ravate, Saint-Denis - Tel: 02 62 50 01 92

Capacity: 80 rooms

From €115 per night per double room





#### LES TERRASSES DE NIAGARA

Located on the Domain de Marancourt, Christelle welcomes you in one of the two bungalows with typical Creole architecture and a spectacular view of the Niagara waterfall. Each bungalow has 2 double bedrooms, a fully-equipped kitchen and a large, tastefully decorated living room. An ideal starting point for visiting Sainte-Suzanne and its many natural pools and waterfalls. And for the more romantic among you, Les Terrasses de Niagara also has a treetop wooden cabin!

12 Chemin Marencourt, Sainte-Suzanne - Tel: 06 92 22 37 40

Capacity: 4 people per bungalow / 2 people in the treetop cabin

From €110 per night (minimum 2 consecutive nights)



Mira Camalon is a ceramic artist based in Saint-Denis. She is passionate about working with stoneware and exhibits a splendid array of pottery, recognised by the *Institut National des Métiers d'Art* in Paris. During this packed workshop, you will be able to learn all the secrets of ceramic arts. Your initiation will start off by preparing the clay, followed by the moulding and then, at the end, you'll take home your own work, straight from the kiln! A unique activity to experience with friends and an unforgettable moment spent with a truly passionate artist! The workshop and exhibit are at 3 Rue Sainte-Marie in Saint-Denis.

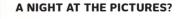
Workshop information and bookings: Tel: 0262 41 83 00 info@lebeaupays.com

#### **ESCAPE WITH FRIENDS!**

Ready to get those neurones firing? Saint-Denis is home to several escape games that will delight lovers of enigmas and puzzles of all kinds! You can choose to play an FBI agent to save President Kennedy, slip into the boots of a sheriff or help Thomas Edison do battle with his competitor Tesla... One thing is certain: this activity will put your relationships with your friends to the test!

Get Out La Réunion - 18 Av. de la Victoire, Saint-Denis Tel: 06 92 32 10 07 - www.lareunion.getout.fr





Brand, spanking new: Cinépalmes in Saint-Denis has opened a cinema on the Barachois! With its 6 rooms, cutting-edge sound system and restaurant, this new mecca for lovers of the 7th art is ideal to visit with friends! For film buffs, one room is entirely dedicated to art house films. For the others, don't worry, you'll always get to see the latest blockbusters for memorable evenings out.

Cinépalmes Saint-Denis - Tel: 02 62 23 43 53 - www.saint-denis.cinepalmes.com From €6 per session

# **EATING OUT**BON APPETIT EVERYONE!





#### L'ATELIER\* DE BEN

Here, you will be welcomed by Benoît (who else?) for a real gourmet experience! Some say that his restaurant is one of the very best on the island... This chef's cuisine is surprising, the result of blending flavours from around the world and from our fertile local soil. The dishes are refined and elaborate, and with such meticulous service, this place is particularly popular for foodies - don't forget to book ahead!

\* atelier = workshop

12 Rue de la Compagnie, Saint-Denis - Tel: 02 62 41 85 73 Dishes from €29 By booking only!



FOOD'S READY!

Eating out in Le Beau Pays



#### LA CHEMINÉE DE LA MARE

For lovers of good grills, barbecues and traditional cuisine, La Mare in Sainte-Marie is the place to be! This welcoming restaurant cooks up authentic Creole cuisine with gargantuan portions. At lunchtime, people flock here for its top-notch grills. It's easy to find - just follow the La Mare chimney stack, part of the huge building which used to be part of the former sugar cane factory.

9 bis Rue André Lardy la Mare, Sainte-Marie - Tel: 06 92 43 73 63 Dishes from €6 Reserve before 10:30 am!



#### **LE CARRÉ**

To enjoy French or Creole cuisine in a trendy atmosphere, pull up a seat at Le Carré in the centre of Saint-Denis. This restaurant's vibe is very pleasant, both on the terrace and indoors. The cuisine is tasty and colourful, with a strong emphasis on fresh produce.

And the presentation of each dish is so elegant and sophisticated, it is a delight for the eyes as well! A wonderful gourmet place!

10 Rue Roland Garros, Saint-Denis - Tel: 06 92 26 98 12 Dishes from €17

# Marie

Restaurant Chez Marie Local 28, port area, Saint-Gilles les Bains Tel: 0262 24 08 87



arie is a proud supporter of the island's west coast. Having set up shop on the port of Saint-Gilles back in 1985, the older ones among us will surely remember her food truck from which she would sell sandwiches, filled rolls and 'américain bouchons gratinés'\*! In the 2000s, she was able to move into premises at the marina of this seaside resort, and Chez Marie was founded! Since then, her small business has become a landmark for locals and tourists alike, as well as scuba divers, fishermen or simple passers-by. Her cuisine is local and fresh, with fish being the main feature. Born in La Saline-les-Hauts, she would often spend vacations down by the coast when she was younger. Back then, the setting was quite different but Marie still lives just above

Saint-Gilles, in a place that still has the vibe of a small fishing village. Even though she loves the beautiful beaches at Trou d'Eau, you'll rarely catch her lounging around there! This little lady loves walking, and particularly enjoys hiking in Ravine Saint-Gilles.

 $\ensuremath{^{\star}}$  baguette with steamed dumplings, fries and melted cheese

#### Marie's favourite spot



The footpath from the Roches Noires bus stop which leads up to the Teat de Plein Air. It's a lovely and pleasant walk and some parts are still unspoilt. It's up to you to find them!



# The best spots along the West Coast

THE WEST COAST IS THE ISLAND'S PICTURE POSTCARD PLACE...
HERE, THE SUNSHINE BEATS DOWN ALL YEAR ROUND! WITH YOUR FEET IN
THE SAND AND A COCKTAIL IN YOUR HAND, WELCOME TO THE PLACE TO BE
FOR RELAXING AND CHILLING OUT. BUT THERE'S PLENTY MORE BESIDES!
HERE IS A SELECTION OF 10 SPOTS & EXPERIENCES TO TRY OUT
DURING YOUR TRIP!

#### **BOUCAN BEACH**

Unsurprisingly, we kick off our tour with one of the island's most beautiful beaches: Boucan Canot. While the more energetic among you can have a game of beach tennis, the rest of you can lie down on your towels and soak up the sun. **No hassles!** 

400

#### THE PORT OF SAINT-GILLES

Seadogs and mermaids, step this way! Here in the port of Saint-Gilles there is a wide array of water sports activities to try out all year round. Scuba diving, boat or jet-ski outings, parasailing, deep-sea fishing. Here in the west of the island, water is a way of life!

# SNOOZING UNDER A COCONUT TREE Did you know that the west coast was

Did you know that the west coast was home to the island's first inhabitants? The well-known Tour des Roches and its water mill is a really refreshing place to visit during the hot season. Sports enthusiasts can hike up to Bassin Vital and back, while others can settle down under the coconut trees for a relaxing nap (but watch out for falling coconuts).

Saint-Gilles-les-Bains

#### WILD WILD WEST

The end of the day is the best time to visit the savannah of Cap Lahoussaye. During the dry season, the scenery is almost African - but don't worry, you won't see any lions or giraffes! Instead, mount your steed and go horse-riding to appreciate the full beauty of this exotic decor!

La Possess

# THE LUSH VERDANT TREASURES OF THE WEST COAST

For a change of scenery, head off to the Étang Saint-Paul Nature Reserve. Here, the atmosphere is one of mangroves, aquatic plants, absolute silence and, with a bit of luck you might spot a few papangues\*. A lush natural environment to be preserved.

\* papangue = Réunion harrier, an endemic hird

**PUSH OPEN THE DOORS OF HISTORY** 

under a radiant sun during the day, Villa

Rivière is an architectural gem that will

make you want your own luxury

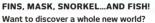
Either lit up by candlelight at night or

#### ANNUAL EVENTS IN THE WEST

This dynamic and lively part of the island is where some of the biggest annual events take place: the Francofolies, Grand Boucan, Réunion Métis and Expobat. Did we mention that we like to let our hair down here?

#### FRIED OR SCRAMBLED?

Is there a more heavenly setting for a brunch than with your feet in the sand? Whether you prefer heated rice or pancakes, coffee or tea, brunch on the west coast is always enjoyable when looking out across the lagoon.



Forget about style and don your snorkelling gear to explore the sea bed of the lagoon in Saline-les-Bains. One word of advice: beware the colourful Picasso triggerfish, they have a tendency to nip at you if you get too close to them!

#### PASS THE SALT, PLEASE!

Pointe au Sel is a lovely spot for **an ocean walk on volcanic rock.** If you are lucky, you will be able to see the salt being harvested in the huge salt pans. When the waves are rough, check out the 'Souffleur' water spout in nearby Saint-Leu and admire the ocean spray as it rockets skwwards!

### **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER** 48 HOURS OF PURE HAPPINESS



-DAY 1 THE WEST =





#### RELAXING MASSAGE BY THE SEA

To recover from all that excitement, why not treat yourself to a 100% relaxing massage right next to the lagoon. Under a wooden shelter, in a deserted cove or even in the water itself, this heavenly setting is ideal for recharging those batteries.

Massage à la plage - Saline Les Bains Tel: 06 92 49 15 54





just what you need on

page 28.

# 11H

ALL CONTACT INFO

(in season)!

Air lagon - Tel: 06 92 87 52 87

WHERE WE BELONG!

To start this rather unusual day out, your wake-up call is pretty early, but it's totally worth it, we promise! This west coast getaway kicks off with a paragliding trip in Saint-Leu! The view from up in the air is truly spectacular. Keep your eyes open: you might even spot a turtle or, better still, a whale

Scuba diving



#### **FINDING NEMO**

After having enjoyed a fresh salad at Boucan beach, your next appointment is with the turtles as you try out scuba diving for the first time!

That's right, the west coast is not all about lounging around!

Bulle d'Air Jean Cardon Tel: 06 92 27 44 54



#### PAULO'S GREEN FINGERS

After a good night's sleep and a fresh breakfast, Paulo welcomes you to his garden of a thousand secrets. He is a real personality here in the west, working hard to preserve and promote our island's natural heritage.

There are more than 350 species to admire here... And we'll test you all at the end!

Le Jardin de Paulo - Tel: 06 92 12 23 12





12H

#### MON COCO SI TI AIM À MOIN...

...saute la rivière, vien embrasse a moin! This classic Reunionese song\* takes on its full meaning as you stroll hand in hand through the coconut grove in Saint-Paul. It's a great spot to enjoy a lunchtime takeaway meal, followed by a lovely nap...

\* "Hey honey, if you love me, then hop across



#### ANY CITY WITH STREET ART IS A **LIVELY CITY**

Fancy going hunting for Gouzous\* or admiring huge frescoes done by local artists? Head straight for Le Port! This town is home to around forty works which you can discover with a guide, either on foot or by bike. Pretty practical, right? \* Gouzou = cute yellow graffiti figures

to be found all over Reunion

Zarlor Street Art Guided Tour Tel: 02 62 42 31 31



ALL CONTACT INFO

Takeaway food

Guided tours and good tips





## **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS** IN THE WEST



# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES** IN THE WEST





The island's only Relais & Châteaux establishment, the Blue Margouillat \*\*\*\* has everything you need for a romantic and luxury getaway. This huge but charming Creole house boasts a splendid view over the Saint-Leu lagoon, a classy vibe and a great team that takes care of everything. A real must!

6 Impasse Jean Albany, Saint-Leu - Tel: 02 62 34 64 00 Capacity: 12 rooms and 2 suites From €154 per night / 'Grand Large' room, breakfast €25/pers

#### LA VILLA DE LA PLAGE

A charming guest house with your feet in the sand, literally! Delphine welcomes you into her pretty family home, set amidst a tropical garden just off the beach in La Saline. Swimming pool, wooden treetop platform, and the chance to go paddling or kayaking in the lagoon: a magical break for two. And the massages there are simply divine!

52 Route du Trou d'eau - La Saline les Bains Tel: 02 62 618 816 / 06 92 668 632 Capacity: 4 double rooms

From €175 per night, including breakfast for 2 people





#### **POZ LAGON**

Charming wooden bungalows raised up on stilts, a private Jacuzzi and only a 10-minute walk to the beach... Welcome to Poz Lagon, a small, unspoilt piece of paradise located in La Saline-les-Bains.

Bob and Pascal welcome you for a romantic getaway. Hand in hand as you walk on the sand, your eyes gazing out to the horizon...

89 Rue des Scalaires, La Saline les Bains - Tel: 06 92 60 70 99 / 06 92 64 77 29

Capacity: 22 double bungalows

From €170 per night, including breakfast for 2 people



# YES. YOU CAN!

This is one of the most beautiful experiences on offer here on the west coast: being in the water, nose to nose with a dolphin! All year round there are special boat trips, all rigorously respecting the specific approach and observation guidelines in place. A moment of magic, reserved for those comfortable in the water.

Duocéan - Tel: 06 92 44 30 11 www.duocean.com From €75 for a 3 hour speedboat trip



If you want to surprise your other half, we have the perfect activity for you! Why not try a parasailing trip for two?! From your comfy perch 70 metres above the lagoon, you'll get an unparalleled view across the west coast. You can even opt for the 'sunset' option, with a glass of champagne in hand. Could life BE any better?

Parasail Réunion - Tel: 06 92 90 09 02 Saint-Gilles les Bains marina www.parasailreunion.fr From €150 for a trip for two





#### **UNDERWATER EXPLORATION**

Swap your hiking boots for fins and treat yourself to some snorkelling! And for those who like to make the least effort, you can even try out the electric underwater scooters for a truly magical discovery of this underwater world.

Cap Rand'eau - Tel: 06 92 29 35 96 - www.caprandeau.com

From €20 for a supervised snorkelling excursion, €60 for water scooter trips

WITH THE FAMILY 48 HOURS WITH YOUR GANG



- DAY 1 -EVERYONE IN THE WATER!





9H



#### A MOMENT **OF CLARITY**

Bertrand awaits your gang for your first see-through kayak experience. So many fish whizzing underneath - young kids even have fun counting them. Keep your eyes wide open!

14H



Kayak Transparent Réunion Tel: 06 92 30 74 74



# 11H

#### **SUNDAY SHOPPING**

A pair of flip-flops for junior, a trendy rattan flowerpot for dad and a bottle of Geranium essential oil for mum... The Rodrigues Mall market is the ideal place to do some shopping. And, of course, don't forget to bring back some samosas and bonbon piments\* to enjoy all together on the beach.

\* bonbon piment = spicy chickpea fritter

Rodrigues Mall Market - every Sunday morning



# - DAY 2 -LOUNGING AROUND ON THE WEST COAST

#### **HELLO, SAILOR!**

Your next appointment: a **cruise** along the coast, starting at the port in Saint-Gilles. Budding sailors will be thrilled to hop on board such a big boat. With its 10-metre bay window to observe the fish underwater, the boat's viewing room below deck is simply magical.

Le Grand Bleu Rachel Payet - Tel: 02 62 33 28 32





This morning, let's head down to the lagoon for an early morning swim! There's nothing better to wake up the whole family and avoid the hottest and busiest time of the day. Early morning is probably the best time of the day to swim there!



An extra tip from Stacy, west coast tourist advisor.

"Explore without walking on coral, play but don't take anything home, and admire without disturbing anything: these are the guidelines for respecting the Marine Reserve. Their charter provides all you need to know about safe swimming and snorkelling practices. Don't hesitate to drop in to have a read!"

#### **PAPER CHASE 2.0**

After a post-lunch nap in the shade of casuarina trees, everyone can get out their phones and set off on a free interactive treasure hunt in the heart of Saint-Gilles. Find hidden clues, point your compass in the right direction, listen to audio podcasts, visit a number of local shops - Saint-Gilles is your family playground!

Simply install 'Baludik' on your phone and search for the 'Discovering Saint-Gilles' tour

ALL CONTACT INFO

**Snorkelling spots** 





16H

#### **HEROES IN A HALF-SHELL**

From green to hawksbill and loggerhead to olive ridley, why not come and meet our fabulous collection of sea turtles? Facing the Saint-Leu lagoon is Kélonia, the island's marine turtle sanctuary, perfect for an exciting and educational experience. During the walk, young and old alike can admire these marine reptiles and learn all about the preservation of this protected and particularly vulnerable species.



#### **AN ICE CREAM WITH A VIEW**

No beach getaway is complete without... an ice cream! Several artisanal ice-cream shops can be found here, either just next to the sea front in Saint-Paul, in the heart of Ermitage or on the beach in Boucan Canot.

Vanilla, mango, strawberry guava - good luck deciding on a flavour!



Top artisanal ice cream shops

Things to see and do in the West





## WITH THE FAMILY **OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS** IN THE WEST



## WITH THE FAMILY **OUR ACTIVITY IDEAS** IN THE WEST





**DINA MORGABINE** 

Treat yourself to this trendy hotel, with its chic and offbeat decoration located in La Saline. The kids are going to just love the swimming pool, while parents can (in turn!) enjoy the spa for a moment of gentle relaxation. Several rooms and flats have been specially designed for families with children.

80 bis Rue des Engagés, Bruniquel, La Saline Les Bains Tel: 02 62 61 88 88 Capacity: 73 rooms From €205 per night for the 'Dina Family' deal (breakfast €16/pers)

#### LES CRÉOLES

With its forty rooms laid out around the pool, Les Créoles is a great place for your gang to enjoy the west coast. The hotel is located just a stone's throw from the lagoon, and many shops and restaurants are also within walking distance. Any stay at Les Créoles is sure to be a relaxing

43 Avenue de Bourbon - Hermitage - Tel: 0262 265 265 Tel: 0262 618 816 / 0692 668 632 Capacity: 42 rooms and studios



#### An extra tip+

Food lovers will be in paradise here! The Iloha's pastry chef, Julien Leveneur, was crowned French Dessert Champion in 2022. A good opportunity to try out the whole dessert menu, right?

#### **ILOHA SEAVIEW HOTEL**

Looking down towards the ocean and the bay of Saint-Leu is the beautiful Iloha Hotel. Its lush green garden, two swimming pools, spa and restaurants make it the perfect setting for unforgettable family moments. Ideal for large groups, the family bungalows can easily accommodate everyone.

44 Rue Georges Pompidou, Pointe des Châteaux, Saint-Leu - Tel: 02 62 34 89 89

From €230 per night in a family bungalow for 4 to 6 people (breakfast €19/pers)



## THE SEAFRONT

#### An easy walk by the sea.

For a family outing, go for an easy walk along the coast. In Le Port, the coastal footpath is particularly popular with walkers, both young and old. The panoramic view looking out across the Indian Ocean is stunning, the footpath is well equipped for pushchairs and there are even water jets and fountains to cool you down, perfect for when it gets hot!

West Coast Tourist Office www.ouest-lareunion.com From €38 for a guided tour, drink included

#### WELCOME TO THE FUTURE... **UNDERWATER**

The Sealife Visiobul is a strange-looking boat that stands out from afar! With its huge porthole, your whole gang can admire a full panorama of underwater life. With a little luck, the little mermaid will join you for a magical encounter. "Under the sea, under the sea - darling, it's better down where it's wetter, take it from me!"

Sea Life Concept Réunion - Tel: 02 62 24 49 57 Saint-Gilles-les-Bains marina www.visiobulsealife.com From €35 for a visiobul trip (€20 for children under 12)





#### **MINI CATAMARAN**

What about a trip out to sea in a mini catamaran? Ideal for families, these boats offer a more private cruise here on the west coast. What could be better than cold drinks and snacks while watching the dolphins?

Croisières Australes - Tel: 06 93 02 41 74 - www.bellile.re From €50 for a half-day cruise (€25 up to 12 years old)

**AMONG FRIENDS** 48 HOURS ALONG THE **WEST COAST** 

**OUR FAVOURITE SPOTS FOR A MEMORABLE STAY** 











In this heat, it's best to go easy on the calories! There are several salad bars to be found between La Possession and Saint-Leu you'll be spoilt for choice! From mixed salads to vegan wraps and chicken poke bowls, when you eat healthy, you can eat as much as you want!

14H



A CHILLY START

Your friends will be surprised by today's first activity, and so much the better! Head up to Éperon, not far from the craft village - did you know that this spot is home to one of Reunion's oldest lava tunnels? As you venture underground, you'll also go back in time, to 350,000 years ago... Enough to make you feel very, very small indeed.

Ricaric - Tel: 06 92 86 54 85

ALL CONTACT INFO

Restaurants on the west coast



Water sports and activities



#### JET-SETTING!

This is the activity you've all been waiting for! Jet-skiing! You can choose a 50-minute ride from the beach of Boucan and Cap La Houssaye and back, or if you're in the mood for a longer adventure, the 2-hour ride will even take you as far as the pretty beach of Étang Salé. Ready for some serious thrill-seeking?!

Jetski 974 - Tel: 06 93 01 58 85



#### TI ROULE... THE PLACE TO BE

If you are in the area on Saturday or Sunday evenings, drop in for a drink at Ti Roule in Saint-Leu! This beachside bar is a real institution - every weekend sees an array of Maloya, Sega and Reggae soul groups take to the stage, beautifully setting the mood! Great music, great vibes, surrounded by your best buddies - this is the life!



#### **LET'S GO COCO-NUTTY!**

On Friday or Saturday mornings, while the rest of your friends sleep off the night before, you early birds can go for a walk through the heart of the stunning Saint-Paul market. Don't miss the market's star attraction, Bruno's coconut cutting demonstrations! With a glass of fresh coconut milk in one hand and a platter of fresh fruit in the other, sit down on the beach in Saint-Paul for a tasty breakfast. The perfect way to get some vitamins down you!



A busy schedule today! A few laps of the pool, then a little sunbathing, gossiping with your friends, followed by a morning nap on a lounger in the sun and finally, a refreshing lunch by the pool... Why not prolong your vacation with a stay on the west coast? Opt for a relaxing day at one of the hotels that offer all-day packages with access to their pool. But don't forget to book!



#### **OUT OF AFRICA**

That's enough relaxing, on your feet! Time for the whole gang to put on their trainers for a short hike across the savanna. A great way to stretch the legs! The path from Cap La Houssaye starts with a tough climb, but the landscape is splendid at the time of the year when the tall grass has turned yellow in the sun.



theatre in Reunion Island! Tonight, let's meet up for a concert at the Teat Plein Air in Saint-Gilles. With musicians on fire on stage and stars burning bright in the night sky, we'll be sure to dance the night away!

Teat Plein Air - Tel: 02 62 41 93 25



ALL CONTACT INFO

Accommodation on the west coast



THE WEST COAST //35

# AMONG FRIENDS OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS IN THE WEST



AMONG FRIENDS

OUR IDEAS FOR

ACTIVITIES IN THE WEST



THE WEST COAST //37



Are you looking for a place to stay with your friends? Les Gîtes de Boucan Canot is the perfect place to stay. Located just 1 km from Boucan beach, there are even two swimming pools available! Each bungalow is tastefully decorated and comfortable, and can accommodate 2 to 4 people.

225 Chemin de la Vanille, Boucan Canot - Tel: 06 92 65 13 91 Capacity: 28 people From €1000 per week for a 4 person bungalow.

#### LA RÉSIDENCE LES LATANIERS

Head off to Saint-Leu to check out these charming furnished holiday homes that have plenty of room for all the gang. Completely independent, you can choose between bungalows with private garden and veranda, or apartments with balconies to enjoy the view.

It also has a stunning infinity pool, solarium, Jacuzzi and ping-pong table. Everything you need for an unforgettable holiday with friends!

136 ter Rue Adrien Lagourgue, Piton Saint-Leu Tel: 02 62 34 74 45 / 06 92 25 13 38 Capacity: 9 furnished apartments for 2 to 4 people From €115 per night (apartment or loft)





If you want to enjoy the beach and local restaurants as well as the bars and nightclubs of this seaside resort, the 'Hermitage Lagon' campsite is the perfect setting for your holiday with friends. Here, you can choose between sleeping in your own tents, safari-style tents provided (for 6 people), or even fully-equipped bungalows (2 to 4 people). A wide range of choices to suit your comfort setting, sure to please everyone and avoid any arguments - it gets our thumbs up!

60 Avenue de Bourbon, Saint-Paul - Tel: 02 62 34 89 89

Capacity: 106 pitches (20 safari tents, 25 bungalows and 61 empty emplacements)

From €28 per emplacement, €62 per tent during the week, €92 per night in a bungalow during the week



This is probably the trendiest club on the island! Tonight, why not take the whole gang out for a sunset trip on the Indian Ocean's largest catamaran? DJ sets, cocktails, a few dance moves and with a bit of luck, spotting a few dolphins as they join the fun. A truly memorable night out!

Bourbon Festiyacht www.fyb.re From €35 for the 'Before Party' cruise

# EVERYONE IN THE SAME BOAT

Hold on to your hats: it's going to be bumpy ride! If you're looking for thrills and crazy laughter, this novel activity is perfect for you! Go for a ride in a towed buoy with friends! Two small handles to grab onto as you sit in a huge buoy in the shape of a doughnut or a sofa... And off you go for a 100% fun ride. We want to see your photos!

Parasail Réunion - Tel: 06 92 90 09 02
Marina of Saint-Gilles les Bains
www.parasailreunion.fr
From €150 for a duo trip
From €25 for a 12-minute trip



# TW If you off a gu few the

#### TWO-WHEEL-TASTIC!

If you prefer to have both feet on solid ground (or rather on pedals), set off along the west coast on an electric bicycle. Either on your own or with a guide, the most beautiful spots on the coast reveal themselves in just a few turns of the wheel. You can even ride up into the hills, but be careful: the bikes are electric, but you still have to pedal!

E-Vélo Bike - Tel: 06 93 55 05 01 - www.evelo.re From €24 for ½ day, no guide

#### An extra tip+

The 'Hermitage Lagon' campsite also has many BBQ and picnic areas, a launderette, a snack bar, ping-pong tables and even a bowling alley... The best way to spend your holiday with friends!

# **EATING OUT**BON APPETIT EVERYONE!





#### LE BISTROT DE PÉPÉ GENTIL

Situated just back from the beaches, Le Bistrot de Pépé Gentil has nevertheless built up a solid reputation among lovers of 'bistronomy' cuisine, with an array of surprising and refined flavours. The service is excellent, the wine list is extensive and the sommelier's advice is always spot on. A gourmet address and the ideal setting for a tasty meal with your partner, family or friends.

15 Place des Coquillages, Saint-Gilles-Les Bains - Tel: 02 62 22 12 78
Dishes from €26
Reservations only!



#### Green info

Tung-Fong is a CaryOn partner, which promotes reusable lunch boxes. Both clever and good for the environment.

#### **LE COPACABANA**

Here, the setting is as heavenly as the food! Located right on the beach in La Saline les Bains, Le Copacabana proposes fresh and tasty cuisine, ideal for enjoying with your feet in the sand! The majority of the products are organic and/or come from local producers who are well known on the island. The service is great, and don't forget to check out their breakfast menu: an array of sweet and savoury choices to suit all tastes!

20 Rue des Mouettes, La Saline les Bains - Tel: 02 62 24 16 31
Dishes from €15
Remember to book your table directly from the restaurant's website



#### **LE TUNG FONG**

Before 12 o'clock, regulars are already queuing up in front of Le Tung Fong, a popular family restaurant located in the artisanal zone of Le Port. One the menu: local, generous and simple Creole cuisine! The chef's sautéed noodles is particularly popular, but you can easily be tempted by the pork chops or Chinese-style chicken. It's the perfect place if you're in a hurry, and you can even have your meal to go and enjoy it down on the waterfront.

2 Rue Michel Joseph, Le Port - Tel: 06 92 69 71 52 Dishes from €5



THE SOUTH COAST //39

IN The South

# Lyne Volnay

La Table de Lyne à Saint-Pierre 69 Rue Marius et Ary Leblond, Saint-Pierre, Tel: 0262 42 02 25

yne is a well-known character among the people of Saint-Pierre! Running her own restaurant called La Table de Lyne, this generous chef serves up Creole dishes that the locals in Saint-Pierre (and from much further afield!) are particularly fond of, such as her famous cod with rice. A real treat! Mother of four, Lyne has always cooked for her family. Four years ago, with the help of one of her sons, she decided to open her own place, and so began the story of La Table de Lyne. A real food lover, Lyne is also in love with the island, and has a spot for the south and in particular her town Saint-Pierre, which she has never left.

"I love Saint-Pierre because it is a lively town. Down south, you can see people's smiles and generosity all year round, and that is reflected in the food as well!" And if you ask what her favourite place is, she simply answers: "In my kitchen, of course! Shall I book a table for you?"

# **Aurore et Mikael**

Atmosphère Péi 40 b, rue Labourdonnais Saint-Philippe Tel: 06 92 18 21 94 / 06 92 44 47 17

ere is a surprising duo who will show you around the island... while lying down! They opened their company 'Atmosphère Péi' back in 2011, offering guided tours on recumbent bicycles. A novel activity and above all an original way to see the island and admire its beauty. For these lovers of wide open spaces and the great outdoors, choosing the south of the island was an obvious choice. They are full of praise for their little corner of paradise. "The wild south is a sweet blend of aromas and flavours, lush vegetation and an exceptional place for local food too..." On a recumbent bike, Aurore says that it changes the way she perceives the environment around her, and really enjoys taking her clients to explore her favourite magical spots. "Discovering the lava flows in the morning sunrise is truly stunning. It's like a painting, a work of art that changes and evolves with each passing minute".



# The best spots along the South Coast

THE SOUTH COAST IS THE MOST RUGGED OF OUR ISLAND...

THE OCEAN HERE IS TRULY IMPRESSIVE, AS ARE THE VOLCANIC CLIFFS AND MANY WATERFALLS AND NATURAL POOLS. THIS IS THE PLACE FOR ADVENTURERS, NATURE LOVERS AND GENUINE LOCAL AUTHENTICITY. HERE'S A LIST OF THE BEST PLACES TO CHECK OUT DURING YOUR NEXT TRIP TO THE SOUTH!

L'Étang-Salé

#### HOT-FOOTING ON THE BEACH

Étang Salé beach is one of the island's most beautiful beaches. **Made from a mixture of basalt and coral, its black sand** glistens as it slips through your fingers... Lined by casuarina trees and stretching from Les Avirons to Bassin Pirogue, this spot is ideal for sunbathing or a short morning walk.

Saint-Pierre

#### NAMASTE

Once again, Saint-Pierre is in the limelight thanks to this unusual building, listed as France's 3rd favourite monument in 2020! Welcome to the splendid Narassingua Peroumal temple. Accompanied by a guide, learn all about our rich Indian culture and its considerable contribution to the island's history.

#### QUALITY LOCAL PRODUCE

The Saint-Pierre market takes place on the seafront every Saturday morning. Lively and colourful, it is a must-see during any trip to the south. For several years now, the market has even been listed as one of the most beautiful markets in France. Long live Saint-Pierre!

#### THE MOST ROMANTIC OF BEACHES

The majestic Grande Anse is one of the island's most beautiful beaches. It is a delightful spot for family picnics, but especially for lovers walking hand in hand across the sand at sunset... Ah, the romance of the south!



Located in the hills of Langevin, **Cap Blanc is** an **easy walk for the whole family.** These fragile natural surroundings are stunning, particularly the plateau of lichens often shrouded in mist through which a river slowly winds... We really recommend it!

#### TAKING THE OXEN FOR A WALK?

Sandy and his two oxen Bambi and Zanguille are ready to take you on a stroll through the pastures, here in the heart of agricultural Reunion! This **unusual** experience will give you a wonderful insight into the atmosphere of yesteryear. It's also a great way to support our precious heritage.

#### WELCOME TO ANCESTRAL LANDS

Mare Longue is a unique primary tropical forest on the island, with an abundance of endemic species. Walking along its paths will immediately immerse you in a unique environment unspoilt by mankind.

Truly magica

#### THE ISLAND'S MOST STUNNING WATERFALL

At the Langevin River, there's something for everyone. Whether enjoying a picnic with your family, thrill-seeking with a canyoning excursion, or simply enjoying the view, there are so many different experiences to be had!

With its vast and awe-inspiring curtain of water, the Grand Galet waterfall is probably the most impressive on the island.

Saint-Philippe

Saint-Joseph

#### CAP JAUNE

Here the colour of the rock is actually more ochre than yellow, contrasting with the intense green of the choka plants, the stunning blue of the ocean and the black volcanic rock. A lovely spot to visit - just be careful as you walk down the small but very steep path leading towards the foot of the rock.

SPLISH-SPLASH IN MANAPANY

It's easy to get to and the atmosphere there is really chilled out. If you get a little closer to the rocks, you can even try swimming against the current as the waves roll in!

The Manapany natural pool is ideal for a quick

dip and is full of fish to admire!

12H30

18H

Saint-Pierre, the largest town in

the south, is a lively city come

bars and clubs awaiting you on

the waterfront. If you're feeling

lucky (or excessively optimistic!),

check out the Casino du Sud de

Saint-Pierre and try your luck.

Russian roulette or Blackjack -

weekends, with a number of

JACKPOT!

place your bets!

Tel: 02 62 25 26 96

Call 0974751313 (toll free).

Casino du Sud de Saint-Pierre

Gambling can be harmful: isolation, debt, etc.

**GRAB SOME FOOD** 

AND COOL DOWN AT

can rise so quickly in town! So, to cool off a bit, head for the

Manapany natural pool, located

perfect spot for a lunch break

with your feet dangling over

just outside town. It's the

the water.

**MANAPANY-LES-BAINS** Everyone knows: temperatures



**TERRE-SAINTE REVISITED** 

Start your trip down south with a guided tour of the picturesque village of Terre-Sainte. If you thought you knew the place, your guide will definitely change your mind! Where does its name come from? Where is the Fishermen's Cross? Accompanied by an expert guide, you'll learn so much about this little corner of Reunion - just try it and see!

Info & Bookings - Tel: 02 62 35 34 33



the pool. There are also showers on site where you can rinse off with fresh water perfect if you want to continue your adventure!"

ALL CONTACT INFO

A factfile about



THE GREEN JEWEL **OF MANAPANY** 

You may be familiar with the pool in Manapany, but do you know about its lime kiln? To find it, just follow signs to the Tourist Office - we are right next door! Here, there is a pathway illustrating the famous Manapany gecko, so keep your eyes open - a green, beady-eyed buddy is surely watching you!

STROLLING THROUGH THE MARKETPLACES

> If you are lucky enough to be in the south at the weekend, the waterfronts come alive early in the morning! On Saturdays, don't miss the market in Saint-Pierre, located just by the lagoon. On Sundays, the cosy market of L'Etang Salé les Bains takes place, just opposite the campsite.

#### An extra tip+

In both cases, we suggest you to buy a few bouchons\* and samosas and take them down to the beach to enjoy, toes in the sand - a dream come true!

\* bouchons = steamed dumplings



-DAY 2 -A BUSY DAY OUT

#### TAKE A WALK THROUGH MARE LONGUE

THE SOUTH COAST //43

Head for Mare Longue and its forest of coloured woods, unique to the island. Reunion's National Park has created a series of 'Rando Tectec' hiking routes, chosen for their rich natural heritage. You will be thrilled by these enchanting strolls through fields of vanilla, rampart forests, bird's nest ferns and other natural curiosities. With a bit of luck, a few papangues\* may hover over you, if you don't make too much noise, that is. Just one piece of advice: keep your eyes open! \* papangue = Réunion Harrier, endemic bird of prey

#### Footpaths and information: www.randotectec.reunion-parcnational.fr



# A SNACK!

Fancy a little chocolate before leaving the South? If so, check out Richard's small artisanal workshop:

#### Les Cabosses Ailées in Grand

Bois. During a visit and a tasting in his company, treat yourself to the enchanting aromas of roasted and melted cocoa and learn all about this craft - some products are even 100% local. It's hard to leave emptyhanded!

# TIME TO STOP FOR

Les Cabosses Ailées & Destination Sud Réunion Tel: 02 62 35 34 33

#### path is also accessible for people with reduced mobility, using a joëlette.\* \*one-wheeled chair with carriers

#### ALL CONTACT INFO

**Exploring & visiting** the south of the island



#### Treasures of the south

Hiking info

This easy 7 km long footpath should take around 3.5 hours to complete. The





48 HOURS ON THE SOUTH COAST



THE SOUTH COAST //44

# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS** IN THE SOUTH



# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES** IN THE SOUTH





#### **LA KAZKIFO**

Located in Saint-Pierre, just as you arrive in Terre-Sainte, La Kazkifo has 3 comfortable and colourfully decorated guest rooms, each with a small private balcony. Your host Yannick is an excellent cook and his menu is a real experience not to miss. La Kazkifo has everything you need for a truly unique experience!

7 Rue Amiral Lacaze, Terre-Sainte - Tel: 02 62 25 18 54 / 06 92 59 46 48 Capacity: 3 double rooms From €80 per night, including breakfast



#### LA VILLA ROMÉO

For a unique and exotic getaway, check out Villa Roméo. This charming bed and breakfast located in Etang-Salé is home to 5 spacious and beautifully decorated rooms with access to the swimming pool, spa and gym. Each room is named after an essential oil that can be diffused if you wish. A great idea!

159 Chemin de Ligne, L'Étang-Salé - Tel: 02 62 34 97 57 / 06 92 25 14 07 Capacity: 5 double rooms From €138 per night, including breakfast for 2 people



#### LE PINPIN D'AMOUR

Can you think of a nicer name for a romantic guesthouse than Le Pinpin\* d'Amour? Especially given that it is also the name of its owner! Yes, Marie-Claude Damour welcomes you into her home at Le Baril in Saint-Philippe. In the heart of sugar cane fields, this setting is ideal for a 100% authentic stay. The meals are also highly recommended for specialities based on the pandanus fruit, of course! \* pinpin = fruit of the pandanus tree

56, Chemin Paul Hoarau, Baril les Hauts - Tel: 02 62 37 14 86 Capacity: 5 double rooms From €138 per night, including breakfast for 2 people



#### TI NATTE

Are you looking for a small, novel accommodation? Ti Natte is an adorable little independent chalet of 31m<sup>2</sup> not far from the Mare Longue forest in Saint-Philippe. This wooden lodge, furnished and decorated in a safari style, has a terrace and a balcony, complete with a SPA. A great spot to check out, first on your list!

111 Chemin de ceinture, Saint-Philippe - Tel: 06 92 25 07 52 Capacity: 5 double rooms From €138 per night, including breakfast for 2 people



# WITH JUANITO!

Juanito Boyer knows the south like the back of his hand. This is only natural, as this local lad grew up here in Saint-Philippe. **He is a** guide (and singer, but don't tell him we said that!) with whom you can go hiking, either on land or deep in the depths of the lava tunnels. Depending on your level, Juanito Boyer always chooses the hike that is adapted to your group.

Rougail Rando - Tel: 06 92 92 14 34



Go back in time at Pointe du Diable, zip along the seafront of Saint-Pierre, or wind your way up into the forest of Étang Salé. Aboard your own Segway, choose the route you want and let your guide lead the way! This all-terrain transport (or almost!) will take you everywhere to discover the riches of the south of the island. Can you keep your balance?

Mobilboard Réunion - Tel: 02 62 33 98 52 www.mobilboard.com/fr/agence/segway/la-reunion From €19 per outing





#### THE DIZZYING HEIGHTS OF LOVE

Head for Bras de La Plaine to try out this activity, one that will surely put your relationship to the test! With a height of 110 metres, the team is proud to offer the second highest bungee jump in France - that's right, in Reunion Island, baby! You might not have thought of this, but tandem jumps are also possible. So, do you both fancy giving it a try?

Vertikal Jump - Tel: 06 93 86 18 65 - www.vertikaljumpreunion.com From €90 for a tandem jump

## WITH THE FAMILY A FAMILY HOLIDAY ON THE SOUTH COAST







Did you know that you can try out scuba diving in the south of the island? To do so, head for Etang-Salé! From age 4 and upwards, you can take the whole family for an unforgettable scuba experience.

You don't even need to know how to swim to observe the many colourful fish, turtles and all the treasures the ocean has to offer. Your instructor will take care of you!

Plongée Salée - Tel: 02 62 91 71 23

#### Did you know

Plongée Salée also organises marine awareness days, bringing together children (aged 4 to 15) for diving and other water-related activities. Learning to swim, snorkelling, first aid, scuba initiations and diver training for many levels. Great inspiration for their futures, that's for sure! See you under the sea!

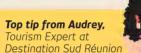


#### A HYBRID OUADBIKE -WHAT'S THAT?

After having enjoyed a cari\* on the go on the seafront, take your gang for a completely new activity! Where? In the Étang-Salé forest, just a few minutes from the beach, where you will discover the Hybrid QuadBike! This unusual mode of transport is a mix of an electric bicycle and a guad bike. Its four wheels can take you anywhere but, a word of advice, start off here in the dry forest of Etang-Salé! Ups, downs and a load of bumpy rides - fun and laughter to be had by all!

\* cari - traditional Reunionese meal of rice, beans and meat or seafood

QuadBike Hybrid Réunion - Tel: 06 92 02 22 19



"Are you with your family? Don't worry! These QuadBikes can be equipped with a half-bike attached to the rear, ideal for kids aged 5 to 8. And for children aged 1 to 4, you can even have a baby seat installed!

ALL CONTACT INFO

Accommodation in the South





OUR 'TURNKEY' ADDRESSES

Is it possible to combine accommodation, meals and family activities, all in one place? It is here!



#### **CAP VANISA**

In addition to the colourful bungalows located not far from the Manapany natural pool, Cap Vanisa is a place of conviviality, exchange and sharing. Group activities, communal areas, a small farm, group cooking or botany initiation workshops... this brings a new meaning to the word 'accommodation'!

Cap Vanisa - Tel: 06 93 62 44 58



# 9H30

#### A DIP AT LANGEVIN

After a good night's sleep, let's head for Langevin! Swimming in the morning is ideal, as the temperature is not too cold (even if the water is always pretty chilly at Langevin!) and the river banks are still not too busy. Of course, don't miss the Grand Galet and Trou Noir waterfalls. Shall we let you find them yourselves? A hint: don't miss the bridge!





Why not take the youngest kids out to discover trout fishing? Make a stop at the Langevin Parc de Pêche, a fine idea for a family outing. The fishing equipment and bait are all provided, and you can even leave with your trout, cleaned, gutted and packed in ice. What a luxury!



#### **TRAVELLING BACK** TO YESTERYEAR

Leave the wild south and head over towards Saint-Pierre. If you are looking for a novel outing, push open the gates of the Vieux Domaine in the Ravine des Cabris. Located in the historic district of

Mahavel, this is one of the island's oldest concessions where coffee was grown. This 19th century property is home to a recreated village of indentured workers from Madagascar, a fruit and medicinal garden with nearly 130 varieties, and a museum of vesteryear... An eye-opening trip back in time.

Le Vieux Domaine - Tel: 06 92 65 66 93 Guided family tours are organised at 10am and 2pm and by reservation on Sundays.



Langevin: from Cascade Jacqueline to Cap Blanc





# **DU PONT NEUF**

If you want to experience a unique stay in the company of horses and ponies, opt for the Ferme-Auberge du Pont Neuf in Etang Salé! In addition to riding and learning all about life on the farm, this place is also a guest house and table d'hote. Everything you need to organise an unforgettable all-inclusive weekend!

> Ferme équestre-auberge du Pont Neuf Tél.: 02 62 38 09 40

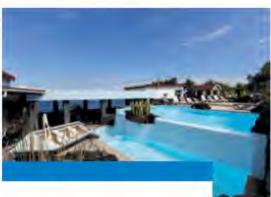


# WITH THE FAMILY OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS IN THE SOUTH



# WITH THE FAMILY OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES IN THE SOUTH





**LES EMBRUNS\* DU BARIL** 

What a beautiful name for this classy 14-room hotel located on the wild and rugged coastline of Saint-Philippe! **Facing the sea and with its back to the volcano**, this establishment is particularly well-adapted to groups, thanks to its family rooms (with either terrace or sea view) which can accommodate up to 4 people. The swimming pool is a great place for the whole family to get together at the end of the day.

\* embruns = sea spray

62 RN2 Le Baril, Saint-Philippe - Tel: 02 62 20 07 17 Capacity: 14 rooms From €150 per night in a family room, breakfast €15/person



#### An extra tip+

The children will be in seventh heaven here, thanks to the bouncy castle set up in the garden. But don't worry: you parents have not been forgotten! You can enjoy the *petanque* area and, above all, the aqua gym classes, free of charge for hotel guests!

#### LA CORBEILLE D'OR

In Saint-Louis, Mireille and Christophe will give you a warm welcome. The view from their house is stunning and the swimming pool is very pleasant after a day of wondering around down south. The rooms are also tastefully decorated. Passionate about the island, this couple take great pleasure in serving up excellent Creole food cooked over a wood fire. For families, go for the family suite of course! A great place, full of sincerity and generosity.

275A Route Hubert Delisle, Bellevue - Tel: 06 92 61 62 33

Capacity: 1 twin room and 1 family suite

From €150 per night in a family suite, including breakfast



#### LE FLORALYS

In Étang-Salé les Bains, just a few metres from the beach, Hôtel le Floralys is ideal for a relaxing stay. **The huge swimming pool and its 10 000 m² tropical garden make it a real natural oasis!** It also boasts two on-site restaurants, one for a quick lunch by the pool and the other for a convivial and generous dinner. A family-run establishment, Le Floralys has several rooms suitable for groups of 4 people. Just perfect!

2 Av. de l'océan, L'Étang-Salé - Tel: 02 62 91 79 79

Capacity: 45 rooms

From €115 per night for a family suite of 4, breakfast €14/person



READT FOR A CLIFF-HANGER

Is your gang a bunch of budding adventurers? If so, the Parc Aventure Acroroc is just the place for you guys! This immense park located between the river and the rocks at Bassin Plat has no less than 7 treetop options to cater for all levels. Don't miss the huge 250m zip line that crosses the canyon, suspended at height of 40 metres. So, are you ready for some serious thrills?

Acroroc - Tel: 06 92 45 71 37 - www.acroroc974.fr From €18 for the Pass Aventure (under 12 years old)



Head up to the village Grand Coude to meet Johny, the number one tea producer in France. Learn all about this plant, from the tree to the cup, but also the production of essential geranium oil made using the fabulous still which will amaze both young and old. But don't lose sight of your guide, because once you're in the maze, you can easily get lost!

Le Labyrinthe En-Champ-Thé - Tel: 06 92 60 18 88 www.enchampthe.com





#### **GARDEN OF PERFUMES AND SPICES**

Patrick Fontaine welcomes you to his garden for an encounter with more than 1500 species of plants! The setting is astounding, and the sound of so many birds particularly soothing. **Some native plants here are over 800 years old!** The garden can be visited without a guide, but it is best to take advantage of the guided tours. Vanilla, cardamom, ylangylang, vetiver - get your sense of smell ready, it will be on overload!

Le Jardin des Parfums et des Épices - Tel: 02 62 37 06 36 - www.jardin-parfums-epices.com Admission €7, Guided tours €10 (€6.50 for children)

# **AMONG FRIENDS**48 HOURS ON THE SOUTH COAST







The Ti Grain Galet canyon in Langevin is one of the most easily accessible on the island. The scenery is stunning, perfect for an introduction to this awesome water sport, great to be done with friends. Abseiling, jumps, water slides, zip lines: nothing is compulsory, and everything is optional... but highly recommended! If you already have canyoning experience, you can try the sporty 'Grain Galet Intégrale' option, which includes an abseiling descent of the majestic 93m Grand Galet

waterfall. Who's up for it?

Évasion Kréol - Tel: 06 92 61 34 55

ALL CONTACT INFO

Gastronomy down south





# LUNCH WITH A VIEW AT LANGEVIN!

After this energetic morning splashing around in the Langevin River, we recommend you try one of the riverside restaurants for lunch. Some of them stay open until the early afternoon to cater for you worn-out canyoneers - remember to ask your canyoning service provider about this beforehand!





After sharing a good meal, surely there's nothing better than a post-lunch visit to a rum distillery? Head off with your friends to the Saga du Rhum in Saint-Pierre. Located in the heart of the oldest family distillery on the island, this place will take you deep into the history of the island seen through the fascinating adventure of its rum production. An industrial and cultural visit at the same time, the Saga du Rhum is impressive, participative and rich in information. We suggest you do the guided tour which also includes rum-tasting!

Saga du Rhum et téléphone : Chemin Frédeline, Saint Pierre - Tel: 0262 35 81 90

#### An extra info+

Let's congratulate La Saga du Rhum on having been awarded the following labels: 'Qualité Tourisme Île de la Réunion', 'Tourisme et Handicap' and 'LSF Surdité'\*.

\* LSF = French sign language

ALCOHOL IS DANGEROUS FOR YOUR HEALTH, CONSUME IN MODERATION.



# TOASTED, FULL-BODIED OR STRONG?

PAY 2 PROM THE COAST TO THE HILLS AND BACK DOWN

Is there any better smell in the morning than a good roasted coffee? Of course not, so why not start your day with a cultural and gourmet experience with your pals at the Domaine du Café Grillé - the best place to learn all about the very

- the best place to learn all about the very first major crop grown on our island! Its bar La Savane is the perfect opportunity to test the world's greatest coffees, roasted here every day! A pretty good morning wake-up call, right?

Domaine du Café Grillé - 10 Allée des Cèdres Pierrefonds Saint-Pierre - Tel: 02 62 24 15 40



ALL CONTACT INFO

#### Sports activities in the South



#### All about sugar in Saint-Louis





# YOU GUYS ARE JUST CRAAAZY!

Don't hang around too long, it's now time to hook up with Teddy and his buggies for an unforgettable trip taking in all the treasures of the South. On board your four-wheeled all-terrain vehicles, head down tracks between the cane fields, explore the dense forests with their lush vegetation and marvel at the unique spots that only Teddy knows where to find. The south, as you've never seen it before, and all thanks to Teddy!

Crazy Adventures Réunion - 75 Chemin Vetyver Saint-Pierre - Tel: 09 74 56 75 07

#### More info

Teddy also offers multi-day packages that include meals around the fire and bivouac. A unique opportunity for an adventure with a capital A!

## **AMONG FRIENDS** OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS IN THE SOUTH



# **AMONG FRIENDS OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES** IN THE SOUTH





#### **CHEZ ARLETTE ET PHILIPPE**

If you are looking for accommodation where good humour, conviviality and kindness are aplenty, you'll feel right at home at Arlette and Philippe's place! This 4-star rated guesthouse has 3 air-conditioned rooms, enough to accommodate the whole gang! The swimming pool, barbecue area and outdoor kitchen are perfect to get together and have a good time. Arlette is a great cook and can also take care of dinner. The breakfasts are just like your hosts: super-generous!

22 Imp. Hector Berlioz, Saint-Pierre - Tel: 06 92 61 15 77 Capacity: 3 double rooms From €170 per night (minimum 2 nights)

#### **HÔTEL LE TERRE SAINTE**

If you like trendy places and street art, we have the perfect place for you! Le Terre Sainte is above all a place to hang out, thanks to its huge communal areas spaces, co-working space, café and bar. The 44 rooms have a back-packer vibe, complete with trendy decorations and a variety of inspirations

short, Le Terre Sainte is the trendy place to be - parties are regularly organised here as well!

13 Rue de l'Amiral Lacaze, Saint-Pierre - Tel: 06 92 61 15 77 Capacity: 43 double rooms



#### LE CRABE SOUS LA VARANGUE

Let's head to Saint-Philippe for this accommodation run by Catherine and Juanito, the latter a mountain and lava tunnel guide. Suffice to say, your hosts know the area very well and will be able to make suggestions (and even accompany you!) during your stay. If you are looking for the authenticity of the wild south, you've come to the right place! This authentic Creole house has two bedrooms and a bungalow with a colourful, atypical and wonderfully innovative decor. A warm and cosy atmosphere surrounded by lush green vegetation everything we love!

1 RN2 Le Tremblet, Saint-Philippe - Tel: 02 62 98 91 85 / 06 92 92 13 56 Capacity: for 9 people From €85 per night in a double room, including breakfast





#### LA CASA DEL PAPY

Why not try out this novel and thrilling activity, as you discover the many enigmas organised by Run Escape Game in Saint-Pierre! Play detective in this escape game and try to solve the famous enigma of La Casa del papy. Here's the backstory: several hikers have gone missing in Mafate and the investigation seems to be closing in on an old man living in an abandoned shack... Why don't you go and have a look? Go on, have some fun!

Run Espace Game - www.escapegame.fr Information / Booking - Tel: 06 93 64 32 00 From €28 / person for a group of 7 players

#### **SPRAY-PAINT WARFARE!**

Ideal for events to share with friends, paintball is a really popular and fun activity! Form two teams and spray each other with paintballs on an area of over 2800m<sup>2</sup>. If you want to win, act fast but keep cool to analyse your opposition and find the shortest route to their flag! And if your friends are lacking in team spirit - no worries, opt for the 'everyone-forthemselves' format - that'll work too!

Paintball Cub, St-Joseph - www.paintballclubsaintjoseph.fr Information / Booking - Tel: 06 92 36 12 77 From €35 per morning or afternoon session (200 bullets)





#### ON YER BIKES!

Want to discover an unusual and ecological activity? Take your gang to discover Ze Trott; the all-terrain electric scooter rental! On your own or accompanied by a guide, set off on a fun and sporty ride around the south of the island on this original and fun means of transport. Zipping through the Etang Salé forest from the coastline to the factory in Le Gol will offer you an original insight into this part of the island. A fun experience to be had with your buddies and a new way to discover our island. It gets our thumbs-up!

ZE Trott' - www.zetrott.com - Information / Booking - Tel: 06 93 81 66 46 From €50 for a 2.5 hour guided tour



#### An extra tip+

Take advantage of your stay at Le Crab Sous La Varangue to discover the Lava tunnels with your host Juanito, a great opportunity to learn all about these natural phenomena.

# **EATING OUT**BON APPETIT EVERYONE!





#### LA CARANGUE

This family restaurant, located not far from the Etang Salé beach, is the perfect place for foodies looking for local cuisine, and here it's **all you can eat!** At both lunchtimes and evenings, people flock here for the self-service buffet of starters and main courses. Enough to recharge the batteries after a hike in the hills or a lazy day on the beach!

1 Rue Roger Payet, L'Étang-Salé - Tel: 02 62 87 06 01
All-you-can-eat buffet (starter + main course) for €18 / person during the week



#### **CHEZ TI FRED**

Warning: top-notch foodie place in sight! Chez Ti Fred is a restaurant located in Petite-lle which has built up a solid reputation, so much so that these days you have to book in advance! Good products, pots and pans sizzling on the wood fire and a good dollop of conviviality too. Ti Fred welcomes you in the traditional Creole style. An excellent cook, he is a man with a big heart who is always happy to chat. No fuss, everything is simple here!

15 bis Chemin Paulette, Petite-Ile - Tel: 06 93 97 00 30 Meal deals from €12



#### **CHEZ MOUSTACHE ET ROSE-MAY**

On the road to Le Tremblet, not far from the rugged south coast, the restaurant Chez Moustache & Rose-May provides a warm welcome and great food, with an array of authentic flavours in a convivial setting. On the menu: big smiles, happy vibes and some awesome freshly-cooked Creole food. Don't miss the fresh palm hearts, always a delight!

9 RN2, Le Tremblet, Saint-Philippe - Tel: 06 92 33 27 03 Dishes from €9



#### LA TABLE DE MIMI

Mireille, also known as Mimi, welcomes you into her home in Bassin Plat. Here on her farm with the pretty name of La Cariole, you can enjoy local family cuisine. And since honey is produced at La Cariole, your taste buds will detect some sweet and tasty flavours in the dishes prepared for you by Mimi. Don't miss her famous duck with honey - what a delight!

7 Allée des Muguets, Bassin plat, Saint-Pierre - Tel: 06 92 66 15 29 Full menu from €25

# **Philippe Morel**

AVPPHSM (Association for preserving and showcasing local heritage in the hills of Sainte Marguerite) 106, chemin Lamandière 97470 Saint-Benoit Tel: 0692 67 23 50



ho hasn't heard of Monsieur Morel? This farmer with a broad smile and a cheeky sense of humour is full of passion and enthusiasm for his island. This is why for a number of years he has been organising immersive experiences for tourists and locals on his farm up in the hills of Saint-Benoît. The simple pleasure of talking and sharing - this is what has driven him ever since he moved here 23 years ago. Born in the hills of Saint-André, his whole family also lives in the East, and there is no question of moving away from there! And if you ask him why he chose this part of the island, there is no lack of arguments. "Here, the heavens open, like water from a tap, pouring from the sky and flowing everywhere. This means we have the island's prettiest rivers and waterfalls and the most beautiful natural pools. Farming here makes

perfect sense - everything grows on trees, except of course money!" According to him, what makes the East so special is not only its landscapes but also its cuisine and its people. And there are many stunning spots, whether it be deep in the village of Bras Canot, up in Sainte-Marguerite, or up at the top of Rivière de l'Est... The list is long for Philippe and will easily satisfy all you Explorers of Reunion in search of the great outdoors!

# Monsieur Morel's favourite spot



At home, where else?! Come and see me and you will fall in love with the east coast, take my word for it!



# The best spots along the East Coast

RAFTING IN ILET COCO

setting. A real must-do!

For thrill-seekers, the east coast is full of novel and unusual activities! For a good laugh with friends or family, why not try out a rafting session in Rivière des Marsouins in Saint-Benoît. Today's program: having fun and making memories, all in a breath-taking

THE EAST COAST IS A BIT LIKE REUNION'S OWN GARDEN OF EDEN... WITH LUSH, VERDANT VEGETATION, AND INVIGORATING WATERFALLS! IT IS ALSO HOME TO MANY CREOLE VILLAGES WHICH WILL TAKE YOU BACK TO THE WORLD OF YESTERYEAR. WHERE YOU CAN ADMIRE THE TEMPLES AND CEREMONIES THAT BRING US ALL TOGETHER... A WIDE ARRAY OF PLACES TO SEE AND EXPERIENCES TO BE HAD!

#### **OUR OWN GARDEN OF EDEN**

You might not know it, but the Garden of Eden is actually located... in Bras Panon! The road to get there is already an adventure in itself, but I promise you, the drive is well worth it and you'll just love this stunning panorama. A taste of heaven!

THE BRIDGE ACROSS RIVIÈRE DE L'EST

100-year-old suspension bridge was a major

witness to the rich history to be discovered

here. It has been classified as a historical

Once considered the longest bridge in the

world at the time of its construction, this

innovation for the island. Today it bears

monument since 2016.

# **GRAND ÉTANG**

Reunion's only high altitude volcanic lake, Grand Etang is a fantastic place to check out. Nestled at the foot of lush green ramparts, you can either walk up just to the view point or explore further, all the way to the foot of the Bras d'Annette waterfalls. It's not an easy hike, especially during the rainy season, but that's life here in the east!

The east coast has countless treasures to discover, including its Tamil temples! In

Maryen Perumal temple, great for those looking to learn more about one of the island's

key cultural sites. A real must-see!

Saint-André, guided tours are possible at the

Rich in history, the east coast also lives to the beating heart and tremors of our volcano. Piton de la Fournaise. Like the day back on 23rd April 1977, when the volcano awoke and lava began to flow down the hillside towards the town of Piton Sainte Rose, miraculously sparing the church which has since been

#### THE CHURCH IN SAINT ANNE

Bras Panon

Perfectly preserved and quite out-of-the-ordinary, the church of Sainte-Anne is truly stunning. With a blend of styles that make it really stand out, this masterpiece of colour and architecture is the only one of its kind in the island. It's the pride of the town and its inhabitants, and we can understand why!

#### THE BANKS OF RIVIÈRE DES ROCHES

A renowned spot for canyoning enthusiasts, Rivière des Roches is also very pleasant for family outings or romantic strolls along the coastal path. There are many picnic areas which can get busy

#### PARADISE COVE

Picnic lovers know this spot very well! **Anse\* des** Cascades is a small corner of paradise (yes, another one!) to discover on day trip with your family. Whether you're looking for a nap in the shade of the coconut trees or a walk along the sea, there's something for everyone. And if you get the chance, admire the fishermen as they bring in the day's catch.





This is THE spot for families on weekends and public holidays. **Kids will be in seventh** heaven here at the Parc du Colosse in Saint-André. Water games, picnic areas, a skate-park, even a swimming pool... Something for everyone!





renamed Notre-Dame des Laves.





# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER** 48 HOURS ON THE EAST COAST



- DAY 1 -TASTE-BUD-TASTIC!



Another unmissable experience in the east takes place at lunchtime, here at Eva Annibal's restaurant. Her incomparable award-winning duck à la vanille is to die for! Don't forget to book ahead! \*Oté, koman I lé? = Hey, how are you?

Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office Tel: 02 62 46 16 16

ALL CONTACT INFO

The must-see things to see



The best places to eat out in the east



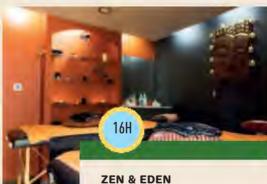


#### **BELLE GOUSSE**

What is the east coast's black gold? Vanilla, of course! Head for Bras-Panon for a guided tour where you can learn all about its production, from the flower to the pod. And a visit to the shop will be great opportunity to treat your other half..

Info & Booking - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16





The day continues, with an appointment with Hélène, the owner of the Lodge d'Eden in Bras-Panon for a moment of pure relaxation for two. Relaxing, bamboo or hot stone massages - you'll be spoilt for choice during this cosy moment of peace and quiet.

Isn't life great on the east coast?

Info & Booking - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16

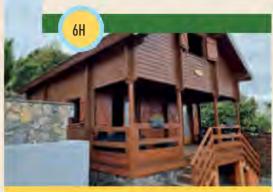
#### An extra tip+

Fancy really treating yourself? Then opt for the complete 'Well-being escape' package at the Lodge d'Eden (see page 61).

#### A MAGICAL SUNRISE

We know, getting up this early is a tough wake-up call, but it's well worth it! Here in the east, the days start early, so why not take advantage of this to go and watch the sunrise at the harbour in Saint-Benoît. The setting has been well thought out, and is ideal for a coffee and a macatia\* in front of the sea.

\*macatia = local brioche



#### Our expert advice

To really make the most of your stay here in the east (and its sunrises!), choose local accommodation. Chalet le Fanal for example, located in the port of Sainte-Rose, is home to a comfortable wooden bungalow that can accommodate up to 8 people. After watching the sunrise, you can come back and relax in their lovely swimming pool and enjoy their Balinese shower.

Chalet Le Fanal - 19 bis chemin de la Marine - Sainte-Rose - Tel: 06 92 53 89 62







This amazing, colourful temple is located in Saint-André, on Avenue de l'île de France. Restored a few years ago, it really is stunning. There are many sculptures to admire, so take your time to observe the decor carefully. Many festivals and ceremonies are also organised here.



Available accommodation



#### LE DOMAINE DANCLAS

Head to the banks of Rivière des Marsouins for lunch at one of the last establishments in the east this is where you'll find Domaine

Danclas. It is both a restaurant and a reception venue, with people flocking here for a 100% Creole-style concertlunch next to the river or simply for an afternoon dip in the river followed by a nap in the shade of lychee trees. Perfect if you've been awake since sunrise!

Domaine Danclas - Tel: 06 92 38 86 57



## **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS** IN THE EAST



Jacqueline has opened two guest rooms in her charming Creole house in Saint-André, called Fleur de Vanille and Fleur de Canne. Bright, spacious and comfortable, the rooms boast all the comforts for a relaxing stay here on

the east coast of the island. Not surprisingly,

everyone is a fan of her lush green garden. Jacqueline is proud of both the island and

her own little corner of paradise, and is full

of info and advice to make your stay even

# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES** IN THE EAST





Peek inside this charming guest house and you'll be sure of a relaxing stay close to nature. Jean-Marc and his wife welcome you into their establishment, with 5 comfortable and tastefully decorated rooms.

The garden is splendid and your hosts will be delighted to show you around! There is also a swimming pool, gym and Jacuzzi... \*pepper & lemongrass

204 Chemin Couturier, Saint-André - Tel: 06 92 09 90 00 Capacity: 5 double rooms

Rate: €140/ night (double room with breakfast)



LE BELOMBRE

better!



Located up in the hills of Sainte-Anne, in a unique and well-preserved park, the prestigious Diana Dea Lodge is the island's romantic address par excellence. Accessible only via tracks winding up through the sugar cane fields, its exceptional and peaceful setting, attentive staff, charming design and stunning park (where deer wander around!) make it a real gem.

94 Chemin Helvétia - Piton Armand les Hauts, Saint-Benoit - Tel: 02 62 20 02 02

Capacity: 30 rooms

From €280 per night, including breakfast for 2 people



**WEAVING WORKSHOP** What better way to bring you two even closer

than a vacoa weaving workshop!? Let yourself be guided by the advice and expert hands of Madame Payet and come up with your own work of art, as timeless as your love. Truly beautiful.

L'Art de la Tresse

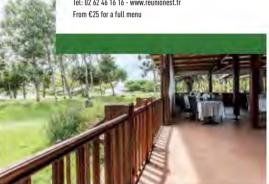
Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.reunionest.fr

€20 / adult and €14 / child

#### **A CULINARY JOURNEY FOR TWO**

Near to the river mouth of Rivière des Roches in Saint-Benoît you will find Le Beauvallon restaurant, perfect for an authentic and generous lunchtime meal in a pleasant and exotic setting. After that, why not take a relaxing stroll along the seafront. What a soothing place!

Restaurant le Beauvallon Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr





**ESCAPE TO EDEN** 

Fancy a romantic interlude in an idyllic setting? Discover the 'Wellness Escape package' at the Lodge d'Eden. On the programme for this 3 hour experience in heavenly Bras-Panon: a delicious homemade brunch, a session in the Jacuzzi, and a hot stone massage. In short, just make a reservation and we'll take care of the rest!

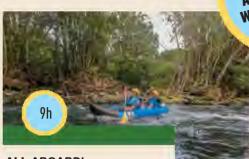
Le Lodge d'Éden - Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr €180 per full package for 2 people



## WITH THE FAMILY 48 HOURS WITH YOUR GANG ON THE EAST COAST







**ALL ABOARD!** 

To get this morning started, an activity for both young and old alike with the team at Rafting Réunion for a downriver ride of Rivière des Marsouins! This fun sport is possible from aged 11 and above, and perfect for those wanting to try out white water sports. You can choose between individual or double canoes or get the whole gang on one raft! Who's going to fall in first?!

Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office: 02 62 46 16 16

#### Our expert advice

Make the most of your visit to Saint-Benoît by tasting the island's very best bouchons\*! At least, that's what the loyal customers of Chan Fat Bouchons say - pick up a load in town and enjoy them sat by the banks of Rivière des Marsouins. There's only one important choice: soy sauce or Chinese chilli?

\* bouchons = steamed dumplings

ALL CONTACT INFO

Accommodation in the East



#### A 'COLOSSAL' SWIMMING POOL

After you've munched on your bouchons, head for kiddies' paradise! Parc du Colosse is the perfect place for the kids to get some exercise! They will just love the swimming pool here, and you parents will be able to relax poolside and soak up some rays at the same time.

Parc du Colosse: 735 Rue de Cambuston at Saint-André





La Case Floria - www.lacaseflorialocation.sitew.fr

around!

#### DIORÉ

Today, let's keep our feet on the ground and head off inland to explore the treasures of the east coast. For your gang, the day starts off up in the hills of Saint-André, at **Dioré, one of the east** coast's real jewels of biodiversity. Keep your eyes peeled - the site is home to exceptional indigenous and endemic fauna. But don't lose sight of your guide!

Information / Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office Tel: 02 62 46 16 16





**AUX PETITS OIGNONS** 

So, did that morning excursion whet your appetites? Of course it did! So let's leave the hills of Saint-André and head to Champ Borne. Chef and owner Françoise will give you a warm welcome, serving up traditional and generous cuisine. Tuna and combava cari, duck à la vanille, sautéed beef and stewed goat. Your mouth will be watering, just by reading the menu!

Aux Petits Oignons - Tel: 02 62 13 66 91 / 06 92 72 08 75



#### Visiting the nature treasures at Dioré



Meet the animals at Palssade Farm



#### **FIVE GO TO THE FARM**

- DAY 2 -WALKING ACROSS THE GARDEN

OF EDEN

Just a few minutes away you will find the enchanting Domaine Palssade. Horses, alpacas, pigs, iguanas, peacocks, deer and geese await, promising your gang an unforgettable afternoon! From feathered to furry, what a great opportunity to learn more about these animals! Just one downer: you'll have to break the news to the kids that they won't be allowed to bring the camel home with them...

Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office Tel: 02 62 46 16 16



## THE EAST COAST //64 WITH THE FAMILY **OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS** IN THE FAST



## WITH THE FAMILY **OUR ACTIVITY IDEAS** IN THE EAST





From the charming studio to the guesthouses with 2 or 3 bedrooms, not forgetting the fully equipped apartment and the guest bedrooms, you will be spoilt for choice here with the Savriama family! Located in Saint-André, this well-equipped establishment is perfect for families looking for a place to stay while on holiday here on the east coast.

1100 Chemin Quatre Vingt, Saint-André - Tel: 06 92 87 52 03 Capacity: Guesthouse n°189 for 6 people / Guesthouse n°190 for 4 people From €50 per double room with breakfast

#### LE SAINT-ALEXANDRE

Let's head off to Saint-Benoît to meet Roland! Just a few miles from Grand Etang, this kind-hearted host welcomes you at his 3-star guesthouse and 4-star Meublé de Tourisme\*. Set in the heart of a huge orchard covering several hectares, you'll have an endless supply of tangor, mandarins, lychees and longani, which is also the names given to the colourful bungalows that await you there! Just perfect

for a truly authentic getaway.

\* Furnished tourist accommodation

14 Chemin Pont Payet, Saint-Benoît Tel: 02 62 50 90 45 Capacity: 4 villas for 4 to 5 people



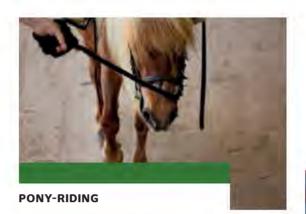
Extra info+

This establishment only opened in 2022. So why not try it out?

#### **CHEZ MIMOSE ET HENRI**

In Saint-Benoît, Mimose and Henri welcome you and your family into their lovely home here in the east. Located on the first floor of the owners' house, the 2 large guest rooms are spacious and also have a small living room and shower room. You can also enjoy the garden and swimming pool. There is even a small outdoor kitchen you can use!

13 Rue André Duchemann, Saint-Benoît - Tel: 02 62 50 37 10 Capacity: 4 people From €60 per night per double room with breakfast



If you want to keep the youngest members of the gang happy, pony-riding is the way to go! To experience this special moment with your family, head to Ravine Creuse in Saint-André. Here, the kids can go for a little ride in the surrounding area, happily perched atop their faithful steed (and probably their new best friend!). A great activity to share with all the family and a promise of unforgettable memories!

Écurie Thermea Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.reunionest.fr €30 per pony ride



You can't spend a weekend on Reunion's east coast without visiting the colourful Hindu temples! Start off at the Maryen Péroumal temple - their guided tour is an in-depth discovery of Indian traditions and the Tamil religion, and a great way to learn all about our shared identity.

Temple Maryen Péroumal Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.reunionest.fr €10 per visit (€5 for children under 14)



#### More info+

In order to respect everyone's beliefs, please dress appropriately: shorts, skirts and crop-tops are forbidden, as are leather accessories.

#### FRUIT-TASTING AT ÎLET BETHLÉEM

Ready for a real adventure? Take your whole gang to discover one of the east coast's natural and historical treasures: Îlet Bethléem. Accompanied by your guide from the Aventuriers de l'Est, you will learn all about this magical place steeped in history, sure to fascinate both young and old alike. Then, in a stunning setting at the foot of towering lychee trees, sit down for a convivial and gourmet 'apéro fruité'\*. If you're feeling brave, why not dive into the Rivière des Marsouins which runs nearby.

#### A great experience to try out!

\* aperitif with fruit

Les Aventuriers de l'Est - Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: UZ 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr €30 for half a day including visit and aperitif (€15 for under 18s)

## **AMONG FRIENDS** 8 HOURS ALONG THE **EAST COAST**



- DAY 1 -FROM THE SEA TO THE MOUNTAINS



#### **ROUGAIL SAUSAGES\* OR CHOP SUEY?**

So, did all that splashing around whet your appetite? We have the solution! Head for the centre of Saint-Benoît, just above the indoor market place. Le Saint-Benoit (what a great name!) awaits you for a generous and authentic meal. Neat and tidy, great service, and the portions are copious too! That's what Reunion is all about! \* rougail saucisses = Reunionese dish with sausages, tomatoes, onions and garlic

Le Saint-Benoit.

Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 0262 46 16 16

#### Did you know?

You can book your table online! From the aperitif to your dessert and drinks, everything is included in your pre-booked meal deal. This is great, especially when there are a lot of people, right? www.reunionest.fr

ALL CONTACT INFO

Guided hikes to do with your friends in the east



Canyoning at Rivière des Roches!









#### **EVERYONE IN THE WATER**

Wetsuits on! It's time to meet the guys at Rando Aqua Réunion for an unforgettable canyoning experience in Rivière des Roches. There are no ropes or abseiling to do, so nothing technical as you head down the river. Some jumps will push your nerves to the limit and the natural water slides will produce hoots of laughter! Don't forget to bring a waterproof camera! The setting really is majestic, even more so when admiring the magnificent basalt organs. Both spectacular and refreshing!

Rando Agua Réunion - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16



After this copious lunch, it's time to get some exercise! For this, why not try out the Factory Canal footpath. On the program: natural pools (La Mer and Aigrettes), lush verdant nature with some indigenous plants (such as the Rose-Apple) and spectacular viewpoints along Rivière du Mât and the ramparts of Salazie... The walk takes between 3 and 3.5 hours, with a total elevation gain of 200m.



#### LET'S GO OUAD-BIKING!

This morning, you're going to meet Steeve: a tourist guide who loves his region with a passion. However, you won't be exploring the treasures of the east coast on foot... but on a quad-bike! During this relaxing ride. you'll leave the coast and climb up towards Dioré, an emerald green corner of the island. Between sugar cane plantations and undergrowth, this experience is a real immersion into the surrounding lush and verdant nature.

The perfect activity to do with friends!





# AT BASSIN BLEU

Following this outing with friends, your whole gang can meet up at Bassin Bleu in Saint-Anne. This natural pool is probably the easiest to get to in the east coast. The water is chilly, but the clear blue colour makes it so inviting! The village has an array of snack bars and other restaurants where you can find meals to take away and eat down by the pool. Isn't life in the east just great?

#### More info+

Depending on the time of year, water levels may rise suddenly. So remember to stay informed about the weather and check to see if swimming is allowed or not.

ALL CONTACT INFO

Having fun in the East



#### 'Green' info

If you can, try using public transport to get to Bassin Bleu. There is a Car Jaune\* bus stop just five minutes away on foot. Practical and ecological!

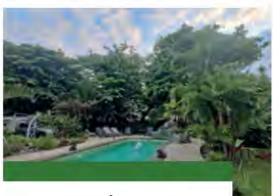
\* Yellow Bus, the island's transport network

## THE EAST COAST //68 AMONG FRIENDS **OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS** IN THE FAST



## **AMONG FRIENDS OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES** IN THE EAST





**VILLA COEUR CRÉOLE** 

Fancy a stay in Sainte-Anne? Attracted by its idyllic and translucent Bassin Bleu, spectacular church and calm way of life? If so, head to Coeur Créole! It boasts 2 villas, each housing 4 people. Located in a garden full of palm trees, with a swimming pool and direct access to the sea, the setting is ideal for a stay with friends.

For lunch, don't hesitate to check out Saveurs Dan Fey Banane, the restaurant / snack bar just next door. Don't miss this place!

89 Route Nationale 2, Saint-Anne - Tel: 06 92 77 70 36 Capacity: 4 adults and 4 children From €95 per night per studio (2 adults and 2 children)

#### **LA VILLA DU BASSIN**

This splendid villa here in Sainte-Anne boasts 4 bedrooms with everything you need for a comfortable and unforgettable stay in the east. With its pretty façade, double rooms with private bathrooms, terraces, swimming pool, Jacuzzi, pool house, barbecue and outdoor kitchen, the setting is simply knock-out. What a way to spend time with your friends!

21 Chemin Créole, Sainte-Anne - Tel: 06 93 86 53 09 Canacity: 4 adults and 4 children





**LE RUBINJO** 

Head to Saint-Benoît to discover the Rubinjo! With its independent apartment for four people and two guest rooms, Le Rubinjo will easily accommodate your whole group of friends. The swimming pool is particularly beautiful and the owners will take great care of you. The breakfast there is also worth a try!

8 bis, Chemin des Bleuets, Saint-Benoit - Tel: 02 62 50 94 16 Capacity: for 8 people From €70 per night



#### IT'S YOUR TURN TO COOK!

In every gang of friends, there's always one who has never set foot in a kitchen, right? What if this year, everyone chipped in?! Get stuck into this great cooking workshop with Tonton\* Dani, your host and chef for the day! After a hearty breakfast with rice and sausages, you will start preparing lunch: aperitif, curry, rougail, home-made cakes, all prepare over a log fire. Taste-bud-tastic! Bon appétit everyone. \* tonton = uncle

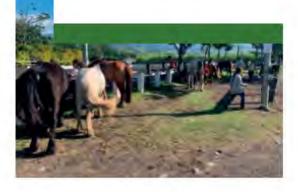
La Sirandane - Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.reunionest.fr €39 per adult and €20 for children from 8 to 15 years old

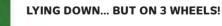
#### **SADDLE UP!**

Explore the secret corners of Rivière du Mât on a horseback ride with all your buddies! For 3 hours, accompanied by your new four-legged friend and a qualified guide, follow paths and cross rivers to discover stunning landscapes surrounded by majestic flora and fauna.

A magical outing for some unforgettable memories!

Centre Équestre de l'écurie Therméa Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.reunionest.fr From €60 for a 3-hour trip





If you are looking for a novel activity, why not try out an excursion in Bras-Panon sat on a recumbent bike?! With a guide, explore the coastline around Rivière des Roches in Bras-Panon, comfortably reclined on your 3-wheeled bike. This strange machine is very easy to ride and particularly comfortable - an original way to discover the wild eastern coastline while sharing a few laughs. And halfway through, you'll be given a typically Reunionese lunch. First come, first served...

Atmosphère Péi - Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr From €65 for a 2.5 hour trip

# **EATING OUT**BON APPETIT EVERYONE!

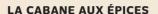




#### **RESTAURANT VELLI**

Let's head to Champ Borne for this new place: Restaurant Velli is located right next to the majestic Temple du Colosse. Its charming terrace is a lovely setting, and a great place to taste Reunionese cuisine, in which the love of the land, good food and traditions prevail! The service is quick and friendly - it's a family restaurant after all!

336 Chemin Colosse, Saint-André - Tel: 02 62 46 03 38 Meal deals from €15 onwards



Chic and trendy, La Cabane aux Épices welcomes you in Saint-Benoît in this splendid setting just a short distance from the city centre. The atmosphere is friendly, the staff is attentive and the cuisine mouthwatering. The menu changes every day, guaranteeing both freshness and quality. Here too, they also work as a family... Could this be the key to success?

22 Chemin Maingard, Saint-Benoît - Tel: 06 92 86 63 90 Meal deals from €15 onwards





#### Did you know?

You can book your table online! From the aperitif to your dessert and drinks, everything is included in your pre-booked meal deal. This is great, especially when there are a lot of people, right?

www.reunionestfr

#### **LES LETCHIS**

This place is an institution here in Reunion Island! The restaurant's enchanting setting is probably one of the most relaxing and exotic spots in the east. Situated on the banks of Rivière des Marsouins at îlet Coco, Les Letchis offers 100% Creole cuisine, sure to delight fans of local food. We really could stay there all day long...

42 llet Danctas Bras-Canot, Saint-Benoît
Full menus from €27.50 / adult and €20 for children
Don't forget to book ahead!
Bookings can be made at the East Coast Tourist Office- Tel: 02 62 46 16 16

ALL CONTACT INFO

Eating out in the East



# **Mathieu Pitou**

Tour guide, interpreter and trainer Pitou de Bourbon - Tel: 0692 017 120



ith a bit of luck, you may have already come across Mathieu hiking along the island's many footpaths around Le Tévelave and Les Avirons where he is originally from. He has been travelling the world as a tourist guide for more than 10 years, but he is most full of praise and bursting with stories and anecdotes when he talks about his island. His curiosity and positive vibes make him a truly fascinating guide. As he himself says, "what I like most is to highlight those little details that may go unnoticed, but which make such a difference." His bond with the upper climes of Reunion Island is something very dear to him - his whole family lives up here. What really makes these parts of the island so special is the succession of small villages and their unique and peaceful atmosphere. "Up here, everyone knows each other. We do our best to maintain this community spirit: we grow up at school together, we work together, and we help each other out.

It's a great place to recharge your batteries at the weekend - we have always had a close relationship with the surrounding nature, and this continues today!"

# Mathieu Pitou's favourite spot

Of course, my favourite place is the village of Tévelave, with its authentic village centre and surrounding forests. But I also enjoy driving along the Route du Maïdo, lined with its magnificent tamarind trees. In the hills along the west coast, Route Hubert Delisle is also a lovely drive, dotted with its small Chinese corner shops. This is so representative of the hills of Reunion, a place where time stands still, giving you the opportunity to breathe, relax and unwind.





# The best spots up in the hills

IT CAN GET PRETTY CHILLY UP HERE IN THE HILLS! FOR A CHANGE OF SCENERY AND
TO GET BACK TO NATURE FOR A WEEKEND OR LONGER, THE HILLS OF REUNION ARE THE PERFECT PLACE
TO START. LET'S LEAVE THE COAST AND HEAD UP TO THESE AUTHENTIC AND HOSPITABLE CLIMES,
RECONNECTING WITH OUR ROOTS AND KEEPING OUR CULINARY, AGRICULTURAL AND CULTURAL
HERITAGE ALIVE... ANY VISIT TO THE HILLS IS GOING TO BE GOOD FOR THE SOUL!
HERE ARE A FEW IDEAS OF PLACES AND EXPERIENCES TO SEE AND DO!

## LE GRAND BÉNARE

Quite a few seasoned hikers will tell you that THIS is the island's most breath-taking view... Above Trois-Bassins, **Grand Bénare is one of the island's three highest peaks**, offering an (almost!) complete panorama of the cirques of Mafate and Cilaos from an altitude of 2,896 metres. Here too, groups of brave hikers can be seen flocking here in the earning morning sunshine, before the skies cloud over.

Mafate

Piton des Neiges

## LE MAÏDO

Nicknamed the 'Balcony of Mafate', the viewpoint from Le Maïdo is probably one of the most beautiful on the island. Easily accessible by car, the tradition is to head up there for sunrise, when Mother Nature is at her most awesome. And with a macatia\* in your hand, it's even better!

\* macatia = local brioche

### **PITON LA CROIX**

At Etang Salé, Piton la Croix offers a breath-taking view of the entire south coast, stretching from Saint-Pierre to Etang Salé via the unmissable Piton des Neiges. Access is easy but you have to get their early - up in the hills, the clouds can swoop in pretty fast!

# **CREOLE HOUSES IN ENTRE-DEUX**

One of the island's real treasures is the village of Entre-Deux, which gets its name (literally, 'Between-Two') from the two rivers that run either side of it: Bras de Cilaos and Bras de la Plaine. It is worth coming up here for the many hikes that leave from the village, but also for its pretty Creole houses. The local Tourist Office will give you some tips and itineraries to check out these stunning architectural wonders!

Fates Do

### **CLIMBING CAP BERNARD**

Salazie

If you're looking for stunning views, the hills are the place be! In the north, Cap Bernard boasts a spectacular view looking out over Saint-Denis. And the high cliffs in La Vigie attract many a climbing enthusiast!

### BASSIN BOEUF

With easy access, Bassin Boeuf is just as spectacular to admire, and a pleasant spot for a dip or a picnic (why not both?). To get there, simply drive up into the hills of Sainter-Suzanne, following the sign marked 'Route des Hauts'. This way for the hills!

# THE FORESTS OF BÉBOUR & BÉLOUVE

If you want to discover our very own Garden of Eden, simply venture up to La Plaine des Palmistes and Salazie. The forests of Bébour & Bélouve are primary forests that will instantly immerse you in a magical and unique atmosphere. Often quite humid, there are a number of hiking footpaths leading to some natural wonders such as the Trou de Fer waterfall.

## LA PANDANAIE

Do you know La Pandanaie? Located in the hills on the east coast, this area is home to many endemic species of our island, such as the Pinpin des Hauts. For natural history fans, nearly 60% of the island's orchids can be found there... A real gem!

\*pinpin = fruit of the pandanus tree

THE HILLS //73

### GRAND BASSI

The hamlet of Grand Bassin and its majestic waterfall Cascade de la Mariée are well worth a visit. It's not easy to get there, but this is surely what makes it one of the most beautiful places up in the hills. There are no roads leading there, as the village is nestled at the bottom of the Bras de la Plaine valley. In fact, some people refer to it as 'Little Mafate'.

# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER**







Continue your escapade up in the hills of the island by heading west, and start off with a cultural morning at the Mascarin Botanical Garden at Colimacons, up in the hills of Saint-Leu. The setting is splendid, enabling you to discover many endemic plants of our island. On site, a restaurant called Le Vieux

Pressoir serves tasty and refined cuisine in a very peaceful atmosphere. Mascarin Botanical Garden

Mascarin Botanical Garden Tel: 02 62 24 92 27 Le Vieux Pressoir - Tel: 02 62 45 92 59

> Extra tip from Stacy at the West Coast Tourist Office

"For a real immersion in the way of life in the hills, Route Hubert Delisle is a must-see outing. This road marks the boundary between the lowland and upland regions of the west coast, and the views are simply awe-inspiring."



# **ONE FLEW OVER** A PAPANGUE'S\* NEST

Many people say that Reunion Island is even more beautiful seen from the air... Like a bird, you too can fly over the island, sat aboard a microlight plane as it takes off from Saint-Denis. Admire the waterfalls in the east, the Plaine des Sables, the cirques of Mafate and Cilaos, and the viewpoint at Le Maïdo: for splendid panoramas of the island, you'll be **spoilt for choice.** And you'll be sure to get some incredible shots from the window! \*Réunion Harrier, endemic bird of prev

Papangue ULM - Tel: 06 92 08 85 86



Why not head south for a post-lunch stroll in the hills of Saint-Louis? Take the country road which leads up to Les Makes and its famous viewpoint called La Fenêtre des Makes, where the panorama looking out over the cirque of Cilaos is simply spectacular. And if you want to venture further, why not try the Piton Cabris / Bras Patate **footpath**. It can be a little steep and vertiginous in places, but the hike is completely doable for most walkers. And the views are so splendid, your cameras won't stop clicking! If the clouds don't get in the way, that is...

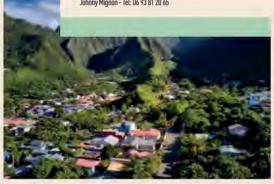
Esprit Randonnée - Tel: 06 92 42 81 35



# STROLLING AROUND **ENTRE-DEUX**

Today, we're focusing on the cultural aspects of the upper climes of our island. After yesterday's activities, just taking the time to stroll around will do you good! For this, there is nothing like spending a morning in the village of Entre-Deux. The many pretty Creole houses bear witness to this traditional village's flourishing past. We suggest you do a guided tour of the place with Johnny Mignon who will reveal some unknown little facts, telling you all about the history of the village and its Creole houses. Truly fascinating

Johnny Mignon - Tel: 06 93 81 20 65







beer, stock up on tasty local products,

take part in writing workshops, try out

sophrology, attend an impromptu concert

or a musical brunch, or taste fresh, local

cuisine... A must-do! Vavang'Art - Tel: 06 92 60 99 28

ALL CONTACT INFO

5 footpaths in the north of the island







Up into the hills and away from the heat



# **SHOPPING AT LES TOURELLES**

After your visit to Entre-Deux, head for the east of the island, up in the hills of La Plaine des Palmistes. The magnificent main road across the island offers beautiful panoramas as you come down into La Plaine. In this second authentic village in the hills, make sure you stop off at Domaine des Tourelles to discover all the treasures of our local handicrafts! This splendid building is home to a magnificent craft shop. Several workshops are organised there, such as making your own alcohol and spirits. Budding artists will love to check out Louis Boyer's art studio, a local painter with a big heart.

Domaine des Tourelles - Tel: 02 62 51 47 59 ALCOHOL IS DANGEROUS FOR YOUR HEALTH, CONSUME IN MODERATION.



**TO INSPIRE YOU!** 

THE HILLS //77



# LE JACARANDA IN LE GUILLAUME

On the road leading up to Le Maïdo, Yves will give you a warm welcome at his lovely guest house. It has 2 rooms down on the garden level and also a suite by the pool, all boasting a high level of quality. Custom-made wooden furniture, a private Jacuzzi for each room and a heated swimming pool... A splendid place for a romantic stay.

1 Rue des Jacarandas Le Guillaume, Saint-Paul - Tel: 06 93 55 06 05 Capacity: 3 rooms From €150 per night, including breakfast



# **LES BUNGALOWS DU MONT AUBAN**

Pierrette Gauvin welcomes you for a truly authentic stay in La Bretagne, up in the hills of Saint-Denis. **3 small but fully-equipped villas await you, nestled in the heart of a lush verdant garden where you might spot the occasional chameleon...** This peaceful setting is the perfect place to relax and unwind.

49 Chemin Montauban, Sainte-Clotilde - Tel: 02 62 52 50 08

Capacity: 3 houses for 4 people

From €95 per night (min 4 nights)



# LE MILLEPERTUIS

With its charm, warm welcome and view over Piton Hyacinthe, you will feel right at home in this traditional Creole house up in La Plaine des Cafres. Committed to managing its resources both sustainably and ecologically, Le Millepertuis is also an organic micro-farm. An ideal spot for a cool weekend surrounded by lush green vegetation, where you'll sleep like a baby!

8 Rue des Mimosas, Piton hyacinthe, Plaine des Cafres - Tel: 06 92 56 39 05 Capacity: 2 guest rooms From €85 per night, including breakfast



# **LA FERME DU POMMEAU**

In La Plaine des Palmistes, this \*\*hotel & restaurant boasts 19 comfortable rooms nestled at the foot of the cliffs to the east. On an estate covering nearly 2 hectares, guests can enjoy a heated swimming pool and a restaurant offering fresh local cuisine. Perfect for a gourmet and relaxing stopover.

10 Allée des Pois de Senteur, La Plaine Des Palmistes - Tel: 02 62 51 40 70 Capacity: 19 rooms From €90 per night



ADMIRING NATURAL
HERITAGE...ON MOUNTAIN
BIKES

If you want to explore the magnificent Bélouve forest while trying out a sporty and unusual activity, we have just what you need! Gaé and Anne-Sophie organise heritage tours, where you zip around on electric mountain bikes to discover the stories and legends connected to this mystical forest. And at the end, you can taste some tasty local specialities. A really fun activity!

Vélo Explore Réunion - Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr €54 for 2 people



If you want to awaken all five senses, go and meet the producers of the Cooperative Agricole des Huiles Essentielles Bourbon (CAHEB). You can opt for a guided tour of the Jardin aux Senteurs, surrounded by fragrances of vetiver and local 'Bourbon' geranium. There are also creation and tasting workshops to concoct your own massage oils, herbal teas or home fragrances.

La Caheb - 85 Rue Kervéguen, Le Tampon Tel: 02 62 27 02 27





Deep in a fantasy forest of cryptomeria trees, you can swing from zip lines to treetop platforms and down slides like a monkey, here at Makes Aventures. Thanks to 8 courses corresponding to 4 different difficulties, you'll find something for all tastes and levels! **The setting** is magical, and a great way to unwind. What an original activity to get a breath of fresh air... and a few thrills at the same time!

Makes Aventures - Tel: 06 92 30 29 29 - www.makesaventures.com From €20 for adults and €13.50 for children

# WITH ALL THE FAMILY 48H IN THE HILLS



- DAY 1 -A DAY UP IN LES PLAINS

10H30



# PRESERVING OUR NATURAL HERITAGE

Kick off your day with the family by discovering the **Maison du Parc National**, just next door to Domaine des Tourelles. Their permanent exhibition, complete with videos and interactive games will teach you all about the natural riches that need protecting and the challenges facing our island. A fun, educational and essential visit!

Maison du Parc National - Tel: 02 62 90 01 31



"Depending on the season, make sure that when you visit La Plaine des Palmistes you go strawberry guava-picking! There are many producers where this is possible, or you can simply pick them as you walk through the area. An activity to delight both young and old fruit-lovers!



Cabaret Pat'Jaune - Tel: 06 92 85 81 141 or 02 62 22 36 96

the hills and traditional songs, you will be immersed in a

cabaret atmosphere of yesteryear! The food is excellent

and the vibe is something completely different. Go for it!

\*song lyrics, meaning 'Reunion Island, let me tell you how pretty it is...'



Because of its mountainous relief, the climate in the hills is unique, no more so than here in the small village of Les Makes, which has built a solid reputation for stargazing enthusiasts. If you want the privilege of a session in the company of a qualified astronomer, Makes Astro is the company for you! Under the guidance of Bruno Payet, learn all about the vast expanses of the heavens, out in the open air. Everyone will like it, young and old alike!

Makes Astro - Tel: 06 92 28 20 02



# LOCO AT THE MAISON DU COCO

For this second day up in the hills, let's take the family and head west. At Domaine de la Pointe des Châteaux in Saint-Leu, you'll find the **Maison du Coco**, a coconut farm of over 7 hectares. The participative workshop is a real must-do experience, where you'll learn how to weave palm tree leaves and get to taste a host of different goodies! Your whole gang will just love it!

La Maison du Coco - 134 Rue Georges Pompidou, Saint-Leu Tel: 06 92 76 95 39 / 06 92 03 82 04



**An extra tip from Ana** from the West Coast Tourist Office

"If you love the taste of coconut (who doesn't, right?), don't miss the opportunity to meet the coconut king, Bruno! You can find him at the marketplace in Saint-Paul on Friday and Saturday mornings, and many people flock there to taste a glass of his fresh coconut milk"

ALL CONTACT INFO

Museums in the west of Reunion



The hills: Mist & Mystery

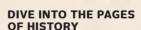


- DAY 2 -A CULTURAL DAY OUT!



Come and meet the Ichabe family, this bighearted farming family up in the hills of Saint-Paul for a generous and convivial lunchtime meal. This rustic table d'hôte is expertly run by Brigitte, its excellent cook. The hospitality is warm, the cuisine is tasty and traditional and the setting is simply stunning. A delightful moment to experience together.

La Ferme Ichabe - Tel: 02 62 43 94 84



Just a few metres from the Ichabe Farm, take the time to visit the Villèle Museum and the Chapelle Pointue Church. The Villèle Museum bears witness to the history of slavery in Reunion. It is housed in the former home of the Desbassyns family, a huge estate of more than 10 hectares where you can discover the master's house, the slave hospital, the sugar factory and its majestic jacaranda tree and the Chapelle Pointue Church... A fascinating tour to learn more about the history of our island.

Villèle Museum - 02 62 55 64 10



# WITH ALL THE FAMILY OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS UP IN THE HILLS



# WITH THE FAMILY OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES UP IN THE HILLS





# LA KAZ À MÉLINA

In Le Tampon, this pretty house is made up of two independent apartments, located at an altitude of 700 metres. Thanks to the furnished terrace, the tasteful decoration and the colourful garden, you're sure to have a truly relaxing stay. The warm welcome and kindness of the owners will make you want to stay up in the hills even longer!

119 Rue Georges Pompidou, Le Tampon - Tel: 02 62 57 28 19

Capacity: 3 rooms

From €46 per night / 7 nights minimum

# LES JARDINS DE MONTPLAISIR

Nestled up in the hills of Les Makes, the Jardins de Montplaisir are representative of the whole village: a cosy corner of nature and tranquillity. Here, everything is all about family. **And you'll feel right at home!** The bungalows are made of cryptomeria wood and can house up to 5 people in each one. **Thanks to a host of lovely little touches here and there, you can see the passion and drive behind Gérard and his family.** 

38 Rue Montplaisir Les Makes, Saint-Louis Tel: 02 62 51 92 46 / 06 92 44 47 41 Capacity: 3 bungalows for 5 people From €120 per night with breakfast



# Extra info +

News just in! This accommodation has recently fitted a Jacuzzi and a sauna! A great opportunity to come back a second time, right?



# **LE JARDIN DES COULEURS**

Set at the foot the imposing ramparts of La Plaine des Palmistes, this beautiful Creole house is perfect for a weekend with your family in the great outdoors. **This beautifully decorated 148m² house can easily accommodate up to 10 people.** It is fully equipped and perfectly designed for spending time together as a family, from the indoor wood burner for those chillier nights to the children's games outside, and even ginger readily available as you prepare a good meal on the log fire!

18 impasse des Liserons, La Plaine des Palmistes - Tel: 06 93 99 12 16 Capacity: 10 people From €800 per weekend



# **VISITING THE DUGAIN FOREST**

Located in the hills of Sainte-Suzanne, the Dugain forest is one of the rare private forests accessible to the general public, by reservation only. Accompanied by the owner, you will discover all the splendid endemic species and learn to recognise the different plants used in pharmacopoeia and herbal teas. The setting is lovely, an enchanting experience for young and old alike.

Le Beau Pays Tourist Office



# **HORSEBACK HEAVEN**

Take the whole family to explore the waterfalls of La Plaine des Palmistes, sat atop peaceful Irish-cobs. Under the guidance and explanations of your equestrian guide Monsieur Garçonnet, both young and old will be thrilled at such an original way to discover all the natural treasures here in the east.

La Porte des Cascades - Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr  $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{E}}$ 30 per outing



# **TOBOGGANING IN REUNION?**

Yes, it is possible! Where? On the road up towards Le Maïdo. Once again, another activity which will definitely please the younger kiddies: here at Parc de la Luge they will be able to whizz down the stainless steel slope on their own sledge, a thrilling way to get close to nature up here in the hills of the west coast. You can also try out the remotecontrolled boats, pony rides and even archery!

Parc de la Luge - Tel: 02 62 34 57 74 - www.parcdelaluge.re



# **ADVENTURING WITH A GUIDE**

If you are looking to take the family on a hike on the island or join a group of hikers, Agence Aventure La Réunion are the people to contact! Christophe Kindler is a mountain guide, but also a geophysicist! Walking across the high plains around the volcano in his company will be an unforgettable experience every single time!

Agence Aventure La Réunion - Tel: 06 92 52 83 78 - www.aar-reunion.jimdofree.com

# **AMONG FRIENDS**48H UP IN THE HILLS







Leave the viewpoint and head back down the road a while. At Domaine des Orchidées du Maïdo, you will meet Doudou (a colourful character whose association 'Maïdo nou lé la' is heavily involved in environmental protection up in the hills) and spend a fun morning, full of conviviality and Creole cuisine! Visit the garden, take part in a geranium-related cooking workshop, enjoy a hearty lunch and, with a bit of luck, listen to Doudou play some songs on his guitar! A lovely moment to share among friends.

West Coast Tourist Office
Maïdo Nou lé la Association - Tel: 02 62 42 31 31

Portrait of Doudou, an emblematic character of Le Maïdo



ALL CONTACT INFO

Creole authenticity in the cool temperatures of the hills





# SUNRISE ON THE WEST COAST

This early wake-up call is going to hurt, but we promise it's worth it! Start your weekend with a magical sunrise at viewpoint of Le Maïdo. This has become a tradition over the years, and more and more spectators flock here to watch the show. Don't forget to bring a thermos of hot coffee!





The rest of the day continues in the great outdoors with time spent among the locals in Le Tévelave. In this uniquely charming village, several activities are on offer thanks to the association 'Bon Accueil au Tévelave'. Hop on an electric mountain bike and explore the forests on the island's leeward coast, where you're sure to spot some endemic species! Plus, it's a great way to get some exercise!

Information & Booking Tevelavélo - Tel: 06 92 01 71 20



### A MORNING OF STARGAZING

Going to an astronomical observatory early in the morning may normally not make sense, but here it does! Every day at 9am, the Makes Observatory offers guided tours of its facilities and tools for observing the stunning starry sky. Check out the Jaï Sing secton with all its traditional instruments, the Newton section and its 5 telescopes, the Ptolemy section and its sundials, not forgetting the permanent exhibition. You will also be able to observe the sun (without burning your eyes, obviously!). An educational and atypical visit!

Les Makes Observatory - Tel: 02 62 37 86 83



**Extra tip from Brandon** at the South Coast Tourist Office

"Of course, you can also attend evening events organised at the Observatory to learn all about the main stars and constellations, first with the naked eye and then (thank goodness!) using instruments. These events only take place between the last and the first quarter of each moon. Don't forget to call the Observatory, these evenings are quickly sold out!





# PAINTING WORKSHOP WITH LOUIS BOYER

Continue your novel discovery of the hills by visiting Domaine des Tourelles in La Plaine des Palmistes. Here, well-known painter Louis Boyer will host your acrylic painting initiation. Following the artist's advice, you'll get to create your own inspiration of the day while listening to the many stories he loves to tell. Sharing his passion of the island, its landscapes and way of life, his anecdotes are always accompanied with a happy smile. A great moment to share with your buddies!

Information & booking - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16

# Let's take care of our environment!

For your activities, guided tours or accommodation, if you follow the brand known as Esprit Parc National, you're more likely to choose a responsible way to explore our little island.

ALL CONTACT INFO

The Esprit Parc National brand



Treasures of the South







# LA CASE NOULÉLA

In Le Brûlé, up in the hills of Saint-Denis, La Case Nouléla is a pretty Creole home with colonial architecture, set in the middle of a vast estate. Here, you can enjoy the tranquillity and the gentle way of life typical of the hills. The house can accommodate up to 10 people, divided into 3 rooms. Activities include badminton, snooker, petangue and board games... In short, what a great way to spend time with your friends!

18 Allée Félicien Vincent, Saint-Denis - Tel: 06 92 26 54 56 Capacity: 3 rooms From €199 per night

# **BIENVENUE DANS LES HAUTS**

The 'Bienvenue dans les Hauts' is a well-reputed guesthouse and one of our favourite spots! Nestled in the cooler climes of the picturesque village of Dos-d'Âne, come and enjoy the warm hospitality of your hosts Sonia and Claude. The panoramic view of the sea, the two open balconies, and the comfortable rooms are all reasons to make your group of friends fall in love with this place. A simple and convivial establishment, just the way we like it!

7 Rue Ferdinand Louise Dos d'Âne. La Possession Tel: 02 62 33 28 91 / 06 92 67 51 93 Capacity: 12 people From €66 for a double room / €180 for a 6-person dormitory



An extra tip from Anaïs from the West Coast Tourist Office

"Dos d'Âne is a great starting point for several hikes. The more courageous among you will set off to discover the cirque of Mafate or La Roche-Ecrite. Otherwise, the hike to Roche Verre Bouteille and Cap Noir is a much easier way to get a stunning panorama of the awesome cirque of Mafate!"

# **ENTRE 2 SONGES**

At the 'Entre 2 Songes' campsite, you will be spoilt for choice! Hammocks, areas for your own tent, and the possibility to rent 6 or 8-man family tents or even unusual treehouses for a couple or a small family... There's something for all tastes and all budgets! Picnic tables, chairs, benches, barbecues and a kitchen area are also available to guests. An unusual place well worth checking out!

9 Rue du Bras Long, Entre-Deux - Tel: 06 92 82 57 75 From €12 per pitch for a tent and €64 per couple for the treehouses



# **GRAND ÉTANG!**

Rico Nourry is one of the island's most historical and emblematic characters! Reunion's very own cowboy welcomes you to his riding school for an unusual way to discover one of the east coast's most lush, verdant treasures: Grand Etang! On the programme: breathtaking waterfalls, spectacular landscapes, Rico's great sense of humour and your own faithful steed for a once-in-a-lifetime ride! According to him, this is without any doubt THE must-do activity on Reunion Island.

Ferme Équestre du Grand Étang Reservations at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.reunionest.fr From €55 per trip



Le Dimitile is one of the treasures of the hills of Reunion Island. Accessible on foot, you can also get there by electric mountain bike, an activity which is doable for a lot of people. With their professional service and winning smiles, Dimitile Bike rents out electric mountain bikes from the start of the track for a truly unique experience! At the top you'll enjoy spectacular views over the cirque of Cilaos. The descent promises to be a bumpy ride, full of thrills!

Dimitile Bike - Tel: 06 92 94 46 56 - www.dimitilebike.com €39 per half day rental





# **SADDLE UP AT TROU DE JARD!**

Well, it looks like horseback is the most popular way to discover our island! Perched up in the hills of Saint-Leu, the Ferme du Trou de Jard organises horseback rides for all levels, from beginners to experienced riders. Les Makes, Le Tévelave and Le Maïdo are all great spots to enjoy a leisurely outing, sat atop your steed. The atmosphere is excellent and some outings are even followed up by a tasty meal cooked on a log fire. Horse-riding can build up an appetite!

Ferme Equestre du Trou de Jard - Tel: 06 92 29 16 60 - www.ouest-lareunion.com From €15 per hour for a ride



# **EATING OUT**BON APPETIT EVERYONE!





# SAINT-BERNARD

In La Montagne, up in the hills of Saint-Denis, the restaurant Le Saint-Bernard serves up tasty, local cuisine in a relaxed and family atmosphere. The restaurant is housed in a place steeped in history, the former leper colony of Saint-Bernard. A warm welcome, great service, and what can we say about the impressive collection of nearly 300 macerated rums! A great place to eat out, especially for groups!

146 Chemin Père Raimbault, La Montagne - Tel: 02 62 23 62 90 Dishes from €18 ALCOHOL IS DANGEROUS FOR YOUR HEALTH. CONSUME IN MODERATION.

# **LES SENS CIEL**

In La Plaine des Cafres, the restaurant Les Sens Ciel serves up fine, refined and tasty cuisine that will delight foodies from all over the island! From braised cheek of pork to tender toothfish, this young and dynamic team welcomes you in a chic and trendy setting. The braised cheek of pork is one of the must-try dishes on a menu that changes regularly according to the products and the chef's inspirations. It looks good and tastes good - 10 out of 10.

40 Rue Raphaël Douyère, La Plaine des Cafres - Tel: 06 92 56 44 57 Dishes from €23





### Did you know?

You can book your table online! From the aperitif to your dessert and drinks, everything is included in your pre-booked meal deal. This is great, especially when there are a lot of people, right?

# AU COEUR DE LA CASCADE BIBERON

Sylvie will give you a warm welcome here at her table d'hôtes 'Au coeur de la cascade Biberon'. Located on a strawberry guava plantation, this place is ideal if you wish to taste typical products from the east. In fact, almost 80% of the products on the menu come from her own farm! Sylvie also has 3 double rooms for those who wish to stay a little longer!

54 Rue Bras Patience, La Plaine-des-Palmistes
Full menu from €25 / adult and €12.50 for children
Make sure you book ahead!
Au Coeur de la Cascade Biberon: reservations at the East Coast
Tourist Office - Tel: 0262 46 16 16

# Stéphane Cadet

Mountain Guide - Member of ARGAT Bureau Montagne Réunion - Tel: 0262 66 83 65



his island is my passion." This is the motto of Stéphane Cadet, a young mountain guide who has been working since 2017. His love for the island and its mountains came from an early age: "My parents often took me out into the forests to pick strawberry guavas. I grew up in the open air, so this job was an obvious choice!" Whether in the cirques or elsewhere, hiking in a group with a guide is a unique experience, and Stéphane would love it if more Reunionese gave it a try. "When hiking, it's not the effort that counts - it's the time spent together, the conversations and the discovery of new places. On a footpath, people tend to open up more, opening up to others." Every week, this native of Etang-Salé les Hauts walks the footpaths of Mafate, Cilaos and Salazie with groups of hikers. For him, the cirques are all different, each one boasting different climates, landscapes and vibes, ensuring there's always something for everyone.

"The cirque of Mafate is not easily reached, as there are a lot of ups and downs. The nights there are magical, the tales told both fascinating and terrifying. Salazie, on the other hand, is the cirque where the living is easy - you feel so chilled out there, you can really unwind. As for Cilaos, its landscapes and its warm welcome come straight from the name 'Cilaos', meaning 'the place you never leave! And yes, it's my favourite of all three but don't tell anyone I said that!"

What about you - which one is your favourite cirque?

# Stéphane Cadet's favourite spot



La Chapelle in Cilaos is a place that I like very much, as is La Roche Merveilleuse... And of course, the summit of Piton des Neiges is always a magical place!



\* circulos = catural ca

# Great things to see and do in the cirques

FORGET YOUR FLIP-FLOPS (WELL, MAYBE NOT EVERYONE!) AND DON YOUR TRAINERS: WELCOME TO HIKER'S PARADISE! HERE, IN THE NATURAL HEART OF REUNION, AT THE FOOT OF MAJESTIC RAMPARTS, THE CIRQUES OF CILAOS, SALAZIE AND MAFATE WILL ONLY REVEAL THEIR HIDDEN TREASURES TO THE HARDY EXPLORERS WHO DARE TO VENTURE WITHIN!

> HIKING IN MAFATE: THE LOOP FROM MARLA VIA TROIS ROCHES AND PLAINE AUX SABLES This 6-hour hike brings together (almost!) all the

> diversity of Mafate's landscapes: the vast plateau of Plaine aux Sables, the stunning waterfall at Trois Roches and the rocky climb back up to Marla where

you'll finally get your well-earned rest! A must for experienced hikers.

HERE IS A SELECTION OF PLACES AND ACTIVITIES TO SEE AND DO IN THE 3 CIRQUES.

# LE VOILE DE LA MARIÉE\* IN SALAZIE

Yes, Cilaos does have some great waterfalls, but Salazie is the place to go for the most beautiful among them. As you drive up to Hell-Bourg, don't forget to stop and admire the most poetic of waterfalls, the Voile de la Mariée. In the rainy season, it is even more spectacular....

# PICNIC AT MARE À POULE D'EAU

The natural setting of Mare à Poule d'Eau boasts a breath-taking view of the Gros Morne mountain. It is a peaceful place, admittedly a little humid, but a great picnic spot! And don't hesitate to ask any fishermen you meet if they have caught any fish - they'll probably tell you all about the famous tilapia thriving there!

# Piton des Neiges

# **WINE & LENTILS IN CILAOS**

The cirque of Cilaos is home to some tasty treasures that will delight all you foodies. When you head up there for the weekend, don't forget to stock up on its delicious lentils or slip a bottle of wine into your suitcase: take a little bit of Cilaos back

# HIKING TO LA CHAPELLE

This hike is one of the most popular in Cilaos. Stunning views along the way and a majestic climax as you reach the foot of this natural cathedral of volcanic rock, set in a short canyon on the Bras Rouge river. Don't forget your swimming costume and water shoes to explore. This hike is accessible to everyone, but you'll need to put your back into it on the walk back up: the last few steps can seem never-ending

# **GUIDED HIKES**

Whether heading deep into Mafate from the west coast, taking a walk to discover the old spa springs in Cilaos or on a guided visit of one of France's most beautiful villages in Salazie, any visit to the three cirques are so much more enriching when accompanied by a guide. The proof is in the pudding!



vibes of yesteryear.

**EVENINGS IN MAFATE** 

A log fire in an outdoor kitchen, a starry sky unpolluted by artificial light, and a good-natured atmosphere with plenty of laughter... Evenings in any guesthouse in the heart of Mafate are always a great experience to share together, immersing you in the Creole



# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER** 48 HOURS IN THE CIROUES







A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME...AND ACROSS THE **INDIAN OCEAN** 

With the Museums and Gardens Pass, you can visit two Creole houses, both **bursting with wonders.** The first is Maison Folio, which you really must visit with a guide. Then, as you wander through the narrow streets, discover Maison Morange and its Museum of Music and Instruments of the Indian Ocean. This cultural spot will surprise you with its impressive collection of no less than 1500 instruments!

Information / Booking at the East Coast Tourist Office Tel: 02 62 46 16 16

The cirque of Salazie





# **WELCOME TO HELL-BOURG!**

After travelling along this rustic country road into Salazie, including many stops, notably at the Cascade Blanche, discover these two gems in the village of Hell-Bourg. If you haven't already done so, you should know that a guided tour of the village is a must! The history of the settlement of the cirque, the origins of the village, the architectural wonders - this tour is as educational as it is enriching. Just one word of advice: don't forget your camera!

Information / Booking at the East Coast Tourist Office Tel: 02 62 46 16 16



As the clouds swoop across the skies of Salazie and the temperatures start to cool, head back to your accommodation for the night. If you want to really unwind (before your hike to Mafate the next day!), give Orianne a call at Terre et Sens - this qualified practitioner offers relaxing massages and lymphatic drainage sessions in Hell-Bourg, directly at your guesthouse. A unique experience!

Terre et Sens - Tel: 06 92 92 63 03



And off to Mafate! At Colides Boeufs there are several. footpaths with varying levels of difficulty. To discover the northern section of Mafate, head down to the hamlet of Aurère along the fantastic footpath known as Sentier Scout, considered by some to be one of the most beautiful on the island! The path is in great condition, winding its way past grandiose landscapes and breathtaking panoramas of Piton Cabris or Morne de Fourche. Crossing the short ridge known as the Deux Fesses\* is a real thrill! Just take your time and go at your own pace. On your way, you'll walk through Îlet à Malheur, a lovely hamlet and ideal spot for a picnic! Don't forget to take a look at its charming little chapel before continuing your walk towards your final destination: Aurère!

Délices de Cassie provides freshly baked

pastries to enjoy either before or after your

bread, well-filled sandwiches and tasty

day on the footpaths. Brian, the artisan

baker, will welcome you with a warm smile.

What an achievement to have opened this

gourmet address in the heart of Mafate -

hats off to Brian Boyer for his courage and

flock here - there's no better way to start

the day than with a fresh baguette!

Les Délices de Cassie - Tel: 06 92 10 65 93

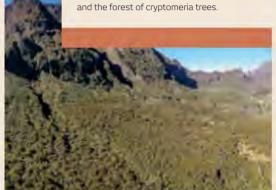
drive! Both tourists and the people of Mafate

Approximately 4 hours of walking - Ascent: 574 m - Descent: 1292 m



# **DIRECTION MAFATE**

The advantage of sleeping in Salazie before exploring Mafate, is that you don't have to get up at dawn the next day to start your hike! After a hearty breakfast, head for the remotest of all three cirques by following the road to Grand llet. Park in one of the car parks on the forest road of Haut-Mafate and Col des Boeufs, while enjoying the beautiful views of Gros Morne





# An extra tip from Stacy from the West Coast Tourist Office

"There are many guesthouses in Aurère - Le Mafatais is a great place if you're looking for authenticity and a really warm welcome. It feels like a home from home and the evening meal is simply delicious!"

Le Mafatais - Tel: 06 92 07 84 71

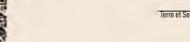
MORE INFO

Respecting the Mafate Vibe



Map of Mafate







IN THE CIRQUES //92

# ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER OUR IDEAS FOR ACCOMMODATION IN THE CIROUES



# ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES IN THE CIRQUES





# SALAZIE - LES JARDINS D'HÉVA

As soon as you walk through its impressive gates, Les Jardins d'Héva will charm you with its calm and peaceful atmosphere. Located just above the village of Hell-Bourg, **5 bungalows with typical Creole architecture** are available to guests, each one with two rooms, whether for one night or more. A lot of effort is made here to highlight the Creole culture and way of life. A warm welcome and an excellent breakfast - a great place to stay in Salazie.

16 Rue Auguste Lacaussade - Chemin de Bellevue, Hell-Bourg, Salazie Tel: 02 62 47 87 87 Capacity: 20 people From €98 per night, including breakfast

### CILAOS - LA CASE NYALA

Just a few minutes from the town centre, **La Case Nyala** is great for a relaxing stay for two in Cilaos. **This charming Creole house is actually more like an art house**, a place where local artists come to
exhibit their works. 4 standard rooms and 1 suite
(complete with spa!) are available, and all are very
comfortable. Marjorie is passionate about art, and
Anthony about mountains. The couple will be happy
to share all their top tips for things to see and do
in Cilaos!

8 Ruelle Des Lianes, Cilaos - Tél.: 02 62 31 89 57 Capacité d'accueil : 5 double rooms

À partir de 90 € la nuit en chambre double, petit-déjeuner inclus





# **MAFATE - LES AGAPANTHES**

The Agapanthes guesthouse in Aurère is probably the perfect place for hikers looking to rest their weary limbs after several hours of hiking across Mafate. Owners Laurent and Rudy, two brothers from Mafate, are the perfect embodiment of the generosity and authenticity to be found here. Young and dynamic, they have taken over the family business, a historic place with a trendy decoration which has now earned itself a fine reputation across Mafate! Don't forget to book!

Îlet Aurère, Cirque de Mafate - Tel: 06 93 94 51 02

1 family lodge, 1 dormitory for 6, 1 triple room and 4 double rooms From €140 per night (half-board) per double room, including dinner and breakfast for two



Do you have itchy feet? And an urge to improve your trail running skills? **Meet Elysée Boyer**, sports educator, mountain guide and coordinator of the Indian Ocean Trail Station. Whether you are an experienced runner or just an amateur, Elysée can provide one or more personalised coaching sessions (either one-off or monthly) that will enable you to improve your skills. Posture, rhythm, breathing, nutrition... **See you at the next Diagonale des Fous\*?** 

\* the island's world-famous annual trail race

Trail station - Tourist Office of the East - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.reunionest.fr - From €35 per 5-hour personal training session



Whether or not you are visiting Mafate for the first time, why not try the one-day 'Zarlor Mafate Tour' organised through the West Coast Tourist Office. Your guide Clovis, the west coast's very own superscout, will share dozens of anecdotes with you about Mafate during this one-day hike, doable for a large number of people. A great way to learn more about Mafate, its history and its inhabitants. Now it's time for lunch, so let's keep moving!

West Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 42 31 31 www.ouest-lareunion.com
From €79 per day (4x4 transfer, 6h guided hike,



# **CILAOS - HOP ABOARD YOUR PEDALO!**

Jean-Maurice Maillot is an emblematic figure of the cirque of Cilaos.

You can meet him at the Mare à Joncs where he organises outings in electric boats, solar-powered catamarans, pedal boats and even paddle boards for a great activity for couples or the whole family. The setting is original and the welcome warm. **And if you want to treat your partner**, Julmos Loisirs also organises sunset or night-time outings, complete with a bottle of wine... So romantic!

Julmos Loisirs - Tel: 06 92 05 38 99 - www.julmosloisirs.easyloisirs.com From €6 per trip

# WITH THE FAMILY 48H IN THE CIROUES







Why not continue your family day out in Cilaos... up in the treetops? The Cilaosa Parc Aventure offers no less than 7 activity courses in the heart of a magnificent forest of cryptomeria trees on the road leading to Bras Sec. With a 12 metre void underneath you at times, you won't hang around! But the kids are going to love it, from the age of 3 and above. In all, there are no less than 90 activities for a 100% thrill-filled morning!

Cilaos Parc Aventure - Tel: 06 92 03 26 27

# An extra tip from Marie-Noëlle from the South Coast

Tourist Office (Cilaos office)

"Here you can sit down at the picnic tables for a deserved lunch break... with both feet on the ground! The Cilaosa Parc Aventure also organises a treasure hunt activity with a host of challenges to face and games to win. A really fun experience!"



# A 'MERVEILLEUX'\* SUNRISE

Start your stay with one of the most beautiful viewpoints over the town of Cilaos (and probably one of the easiest to reach!): La Roche Merveilleuse. In the distance, you can see the church, Notre-Dame des Neiges, whose huge cross on the bell tower is lit up with a bright blue light at night...

Tourist Office Destination Sud Réunion - Tel: 0262 35 34 33



With its ups and downs and 400 bends, you might think that cycling wouldn't be the best way to get around Cilaos, but you'd be wrong! There are very few cars in the town centre and a number of bike-friendly circuits that will take you into the heart of the cirque's most beautiful landscapes.

# Simply rent your electric mountain bikes and explore the villages of Bras Sec or Ilet à Cordes.

The roads are awesome - and with the panoramas and thrilling high speeds, there is something for all tastes and the whole family! Who wants to join me on the tandem?

Tof'Bike - Tel: 02 62 73 42 05



# **NATURE PÉÏ**

Suitable for aged 11 and above, canyoning in Fleur Jaune in Cilaos is a stunning way to get close to nature, and this canyon is one of the island's great classics. You'll get to see some breathtaking views and some real thrills as you abseil down or take the water slides! This activity is doable for a large number of people and you'll be able to rely on the skills and advice of your monitor to make you feel safe. After this, you'll want to check out all the other canyoning spots on the island!

Nature Péi - Tel: 06 92 67 94 50



# Extra info+

If you go with Luciano from Nature Péi, after your canyoning trip he will take you on a stroll through his hamlet to drink a little herbal tea, depending on the weather and availability. A gem of an experience and a real privilege!





in Cilaos, and is happy to welcome you into her magnificent botanical garden in Bras-Sec. This botany enthusiast provides guided tours of her little corner of paradise, Le Jardin du Piton Bétoum. Coming from a family of herbalists, your host will share tricks and tips on how to identify a plant and know all its many properties. And for those with a sweet tooth,

Reine-Claude Gonthier was born here

Reine-Claude always prepares a few treats to keep you going... An educational visit that will delight both young and old gardeners alike!

Le Jardin de Piton Bétoum - Tel: 06 92 64 30 26

ALL CONTACT INFO

The cirque of Cilaos



IN THE CIRQUES //96

# WITH THE FAMILY OUR IDEAS FOR ACCOMMODATION IN THE CIROUES



# WITH THE FAMILY OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES IN THE CIRQUES





# **SALAZIE - LA VILLA BLANCHE**

In the heart of the village of Hell-Bourg, would you like to bring your family to stay in one of the village's most beautiful homes? **If so, head to La Villa Blanche.** This upmarket \*\*\*\* holiday home has just been tastefully renovated. With a total capacity of 7 people, your gang will be able to enjoy the whole premises, with areas that are so typical of beautiful Creole homes (veranda, Creole garden, etc.). **A great place to discover!** 

14 Rue Olivier Manès, Hell-Bourg, Salazie - Tel: 06 93 91 00 32 Capacity: 4 rooms From €330 per night

# **CILAOS - HOTEL DES NEIGES \*\*\***

In the heart of the cirque of Cilaos, Hôtel des Neiges is the perfect place to accommodate the whole gang, thanks to its spacious triple family rooms located around two swimming pools. Its Jacuzzi and play area will be much appreciated after a day of visiting the cirque! The views, warm welcome and great food are the icing on the cake!

1 Rue de la Mare à Joncs, Cilaos - Tel: 02 62 31 72 33 Capacity: 75 people From €150 per night in a family room





# **MAFATE - GÎTE ELOÏSE**

For your getaway to Mafate, Gîte Eloïse awaits you in Grand-Place!

With 2 dormitories for 8 people, you will have enough room for the whole gang! Hosted by the Thomas family, you'll be able to discover the farm and the many plants and vegetables that are used in the kitchen. Because here at Gîte Eloïse, you'll get to enjoy local cuisine with home-grown produce - simple and sincere, good home cooking!

Tlet Grand Place in Mafate - Tel: 02 62 43 31 05 Capacity: 16 people €16 per night (€16 per meal, €6 per breakfast)



# WATCHFUL EYE OF THE PAPANGUE\*!

Created by Geoffrey (guide) and Amandine (game designer) at Les Aventuriers de l'Est, the 'Adventuriers in Hell-Bourg' tourist treasure hunt was designed for families who want to visit the village of Hell-Bourg in complete autonomy. Armed with just a booklet, a map and your own brains, you will have to solve the different riddles that will take you around the four corners of the village.

An unforgettable orienteering race! Prepare a few pencils, get your brains working and put on a good pair of trainers - young adventurers, over to you!

\* endemic bird of prey

Les Aventuriers de l'Est / East Coast Tourist Office Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr €35 for a game pack for 2 to 5 players



Cilaos means 'the place you never leave', and still has many secrets left for you to discover! For this, why not take a guided tour on foot? Learn about the history of these Creole houses, the footpaths of the porters of yesteryear, the thermal baths and finally a visit of the splendid church, Notre Dame des Neiges. Your whole gang will love this walk, especially by the waterfalls down by the old thermal baths. A great way to get to know the cirque like the back of your hand!





Are you ready for an adventure which is both unusual and enriching? How about a 3-day family immersion in the life of the inhabitants of Mafate? That's what the West Coast Tourist Office is offering you! In Aurère, Grand Place or Roche Plate, you will live with the inhabitants, take part in cooking and/or planting workshops and discover many hidden gems and secret natural pools... In short, everything you need for a great time in Mafate - young and old alike will be thrilled by this adventure.

West Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 42 31 31 - www.ouest-lareunion.com €184 for 3 days (guided hikes, half-board accommodation, lunch, workshops, 4x4 transfer...)

# **AMONG FRIENDS**48 H IN THE CIRQUES







Take the whole gang for an invigorating wake-up call! Head for Cascade Blanche, an awesome waterfall that you can see from the road. It's easy to get closer on foot via a short hike surrounded by vegetation, but you can also observe it from afar - the view is still spectacular. At 640 metres high, it is one of the highest in the world.

This weekend in Salazie is off to a pretty good start, right?



But don't hang around! Today you have an appointment with your guide Élysée

for a surprising and little-known hike. For this one day activity, you'll climb one of the mythical peaks of Salazie, Piton d'Anchaing. Your guide will tell you the story of the two lovers Anchaing and Héva and will share with you all his knowledge about the formation of the three cirques and of our island. At the summit you'll enjoy the spectacular panorama over the whole of Salazie and its ramparts (when the weather is good...). A sporty hike that will test your calves somewhat, but what a reward at the end-simply magical!

East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16

# paradise

ALL CONTACT INFO

Mafate, a hiker's

# An extra tip from Élysée,

guide and trail-runner from the East Coast Tourist Office

"As always, make sure you're well equipped when hiking around the island, especially in this amazing cirque of ours, which can sometimes be quite rainy! At the very least, always bring a backpack, sports clothes, waterproof jacket, plenty of water, sun cream, a cap, a charged phone and some snacks."



# HIKING IN MAFATE

After a good night's sleep in Salazie, it's time to venture into the island's remotest cirque: Mafate. For this, start walking from Col des Boeufs, an accessible hike which will take you around 3 hours to reach the hamlet of Marla. The going is not too hard and the landscapes are breath-taking.



**An extra tip from Stacy** from the West Coast Tourist Office

"On the footpath leading down from Col des Boeufs, the Plaine des Tamarins is the ideal spot for a picnic break. This clearing is perfect for a well-deserved break - but watch out for the cows that may appear there! And don't hesitate to stray a little off the main paths to discover this legendary plateau."



# WELCOME TO CHEZ JIMMY!

At last, there's Marla up ahead! This hamlet is one of the liveliest villages in the cirque. When you finally arrive, with a bit of luck you'll be greeted by a few notes of music coming from Chez Jimmy, a snack bar and guesthouse that has become a real institution for hikers looking to rest their weary legs (and get a good hot chocolate!)





# AQUAPONICS IN MAFATE

Keep your eyes open: the highest inhabited hamlet of Mafate has several surprises in store for all you hikers who like to take the time to explore its many surrounding footpaths! For example, why not check out one of the rare aquaponics farms in Reunion. Run by Sébastien and Daisy, Le Miellerie de Marla has its own biodynamic vegetable garden, enabling them to deliver 100% organic products to clients all over the island!

La Miellerie de Marla - Tel: 0692 03 20 99 mielleriedemarla.com



IN THE CIRQUES //100

# **AMONG FRIENDS OUR IDEAS FOR ACCOMMODATION** IN THE CIROUES



# **AMONG FRIENDS OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES** IN THE CIROUES





## **SALAZIE - LA MANDOZE**

La Mandoze is the perfect guesthouse for groups of friends. Owner Patrick Manoro is well known for his impromptu concerts which have been providing the cirque with a lively atmosphere for years. In the evening, people gather in the living room of his pretty and colourful guesthouse to enjoy an excellent meal and let themselves be carried away by the songs of Patrick and his musician friends. Dancing, singing and lots of laughter - this atmosphere and the moments shared together are both simple and authentic: everything we like!

14 Chemin des Ecoles, Hell-Bourg, Salazie - Tel: 02 62 47 89 65 Capacity: 30 people From €18 per night

# CILAOS - LE GÎTE DES CASCADES

At the foot of one of the most beautiful hiking trails in Cilaos. Le Gîte des Cascades is the perfect place to share good moments with all your **buddies.** The guesthouse has been open for more than 10 years, and you get to have the whole place to yourselves, a huge villa that can accommodate up to 24 people! Picnic tables, an area for petanque and volleyball, and a fully equipped kitchen everything you need for a successful stay in these lush natural surroundings.

3C Chemin Saül Bras Sec, Cilaos - Tel: 06 92 03 26 26 Capacity: 28 people





# **MAFATE - LE BOIS DE COULEUR**

Situated just at the entrance to Marla, this guesthouse which opened in 2018 will astonish your group of friends every time! Peace and quiet, luxury and comfort await you! Owner Sylvio Bègue has 5 top-of-the-range bungalows, all nicely furnished with quality bedding. From the balcony, the view of the cirque is spectacular. In the evening, a dinner with inventive and local cuisine will be served next to a log fire in a lovely, relaxed atmosphere. A real find!

Marla - towards Trois-Roches (GRR3), Cirque de Mafate - Tel: 06 93 11 70 00 Capacity: 12-14 people From €135 including breakfast for 2 people



Some say that this is one of the most beautiful canyons on the island... Let's go and check it out! At the foot of Piton des Neiges, this aquatic playground is 100% natural! Canyoning at Trou Blanc involves a series of water slides and jumps into a succession of natural pools full of clear, invigorating water. The place is stunning! The last slide of the day is nicknamed the 'washing machine' - who wants to go first?

East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr €80 / adult



Would you like to go live on the air? Then go and meet Johnny Thomas in llet à Bourse! Owner of a guesthouse, he has also been at the helm of the only radio station broadcasting from Mafate for over 15 years! Quite shy, he is nonetheless fully involved in promoting his village and the rest of Mafate. His a real character, known and appreciated by all - and an excellent cook as well!

Gîte Chez Johnny - Tel: 06 92 27 48 60 www.gite-chez-johnny.jimdosite.com





# **CILAOS - WINE-TASTING AT THE CHAI DE CILAOS**

A visit to the famous wine cellar is ideal for an outing with your friends in Cilaos! In this Creole home, several visits and tastings are organised each week, providing great insight into the process of making the famous local wine. You will be able to learn all about this famous drink, and make a lot of happy memories at the same time!

Le Chai de Cilaos - Tel: 02 62 28 96 56 Guided tour from €11

# **EATING OUT**BON APPETIT EVERYONE!





# **SALAZIE - LA VILLA MARTHE**

Located right at the top end of the village of Hell-Bourg, La Villa Marthe is a very pleasant setting for lunch during your visit to Salazie. A warm welcome, professional service and tasty cuisine, with an emphasis on heart-warming local dishes. Not surprisingly, their à la carte menu includes an excellent choice of cari, but their bol renversé\* is famous all over the island! The food is generous, well presented and tasty - what more could you ask for? Oh yes, who is the famous Marthe? Well, we'll let you ask that question!

\* a local dish with rice, meat, vegetables and a fried egg, turned upside down

71 Rue du Général de Gaulle, Hell-Bourg - Tel: 02 62 21 02 02 Dishes from €16 - don't forget to book at weekends



## Did you know?

Le Bois de Couleur is a guesthouse run by Alain Bègue's brother (remember, the guy with all the deer?), Sylvio Bègue. Guesthouses in Mafate are often a family affair!

# **CILAOS - CHEZ LUCAY**

Warning: Foodie heaven on the horizon! Chez Lucay is *THE* restaurant that all the locals will recommend when you arrive in Cilaos. Located on the first floor of l'Archipel (the building housing local handicrafts and artists), **their terrace boasts a beautiful view across the cirque**. As for the food, it's the perfect place to taste the famous lentils accompanied by local sausages. They are open for lunch and dinner, six days a week, which is a real plus here in Cilaos!

82 Rue du Père Boiteau, Cilaos - Tel: 02 62 97 87 40 Dishes from €15



# **MAFATE - LE TAMARÉO**

There are many good restaurants in Mafate where they cook over a log fire... Located in La Nouvelle, Le Tamaréo is a real institution, well-known among guesthouse in Mafate! Rather upmarket, this fully renovated establishment has all the comforts to please any hiker. A warm welcome, and excellent food, complete with table service!

llet La Nouvelle - Cirque de Mafate - Tel: 06 92 32 08 28 Meals from €30

# **Enis Rockel**

Historian, lecturer and tour guide



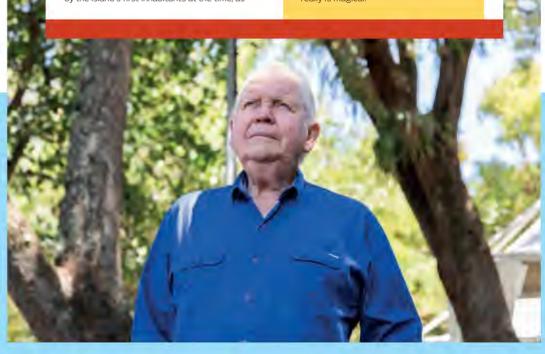
nis Rockel is a fountain of knowledge on the island. Known in particular for his books all about the island's history, (which we highly recommend!), Enis is also a local tourist guide who still loves his job, even though he's officially retired! It's simple: when you love Reunion Island and enjoy sharing your passion, you keep on going! Enis has a special relationship with our volcano, which he describes as the "highlight of the show in Reunion Island". He has such an accurate way of describing that special feeling when you arrive at the volcano: "While lush vegetation tops the bill elsewhere, here the stars of the show are the rocks, lava and stunning colours. Those who know about volcanoes will be in seventh heaven here, but even regular visitors and locals will be affected by this unique atmosphere. The sights and smells remain engraved in our minds forever!"

Of course, this history buff can't help but tell the story of this place and the considerable fear felt by the island's first inhabitants at the time, as back in those days the rumbling volcano was considered as one the gateways leading straight to hell." Thanks to scientific expeditions, the relationship between the people of Reunion and our volcano has evolved since the middle of the 19th century. Today, we love our volcano and many a crowd flock there whenever it puts on a show!"

# Enis Rockel's favourite spot



There are stunning places all along the road, of course. But when you first discover Plaine des Sables, it always comes as quite a shock. One minute you're driving across terrain with little vegetation, and the next you turn a bend and suddenly come face to face with the vast expanse of Plaines des Sables, stretching out ahead of you - it really is magical.



# The best spots around the volcano

"ATTRAPE LE ZEMBROCAL, ROUGAIL SAUCISSES, CARI VOLAILLE, NOU SA PIC-NIC CHEMIN VOLCAN..."

\* EVERYONE KNOWS THIS CLASSIC REUNIONESE SONG! WELCOME TO THE VOLCANO! HERE, LOCALS LIVE TO THE RHYTHMIC ERUPTIONS OF OUR AWESOME PITON DE LA FOURNAISE, HIKING ACROSS ARID, PROTECTED TERRAIN AND GETTING TO ENJOY THIS PURE, CLEAN AIR ALL YEAR ROUND! HERE ARE SOME PLACES TO SEE AND THINGS TO DO DURING YOUR WEEKEND STAY!

PICNICS ON THE ROAD TO THE VOLCANO
Of course, a traditional family picnic on the road up to the volcano is a must in this part of the island. But if you want to reserve a good picnic table, make sure you head up there

early - very early!

\* song lyrics, meaning 'let's pack the rice, sausages and chicken and have a picnic on the road to the volcano'



A small fishing port that is well worth seeing, the Sainte-Rose harbour is also an opportunity to walk along the fishermen's footpath, to learn about fishing yourself or simply to enjoy some peace and quiet.

Sainte-Rose

# MADONNA'S PARASOL

In the church of Notre Dame des Laves in Piton Sainte-Rose, La Vierge au Parasol\* has watched over the faithful for several decades. It has been moved several times and miraculously saved from a lava flow in 1977, and congregations flock there every August 15th.

\* Madonna holding a parasol

# PAS DE BELLECOMBE

The Pas de Bellecombe Jacob is the heady climax of every trip up to the volcano. Located at the end of the road, its vertiginous ramparts provide a stunning vista of the entire **Piton de la Fournaise summit in front of you** (if the skies are clear, of course...). Peaceful and serene, one can almost forget there's all that lava rumbling away deep within...

Piton de la Fournaise

MUM, I CLIMBED AN ACTIVE VOLCANO!

Once at the Pas de Bellecombe Sairdb Awio page ions are available to those who wish to continue on foot. Some will choose a shortish walk to check out the small crater of Formica Léo. Those who are better

equipped might opt to climb the main crater itself, Le Dolomieu, which will take about 5 hours on foot. During eruptions, public access to Enclos Fouqué (the area around the volcano) is forbidden.



### A MYTHICAL ROAD

In Reunion, we are proud of our roads! The Grand-Brûlé road is no exception to the rule, providing spectacular panoramas in a truly unique atmosphere... except of course when it is closed because of an eruption!



WALKING ON MARS

Located just above the mythical Plaine des Sables, Pas des Sables is *THE* perfect photo spot when visiting the volcano. The panorama across this astounding lunar landscape is simply breath-taking! Magma-gnificent!

Saint-Joseph

# **ALONE OR WITH A PARTNER** 48H AT THE VOLCANO



- DAY 1 -SAINTE-ROSE





Why not start off your romantic trip to the volcano by confessing your love at the island's most famous church? The church of Notre Dame des Laves in Sainte-Rose was miraculously spared during the 1977 volcanic eruption - just inside the building, newspaper archives tell the full story.



### A FIERY SUNRISE!

Come on, you can do it! I promise, this (very!) early wake-up call is well worth it, as the sunrise over the Plaine des Sables is truly sublime.



# **NEZ DE BOEUF**

Before joining your group of walkers for this 100% volcanic day trip, don't forget to stop off briefly at the viewpoint looking over Rivière des Remparts. This is located a few minutes' walk from the road, at a place called Nez de Boeuf. The site is also a popular spot for picnickers... but that's for another time!





# **BOIS BLANC** Don't hang around too long

**VANILLA IN** 

in the church - you have an appointment with Monsieur Leroux in Sainte-Rose! To be more precise, this activity

will be an in-depth discovery of the history of vanilla in Reunion! Accompanied by a guide from 'La Vanille des Laves', you'll get to explore the village of Bois Blanc, meet former vanilla producers, discover the ruins of the building where the vanilla was stored and even see the district where the workers all used to live... An unusual stroll!

Info & Booking - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16



# **EATING OUT DOWN SOUTH**

Push open the door of one of the restaurants located in Bois Blanc or near the Route des Laves to discover a cuisine where vanilla is a common ingredient! In this part of the island, you can also enjoy excellent dishes made from pandanus and palm hearts..

Mouth-watering stuff!

Le Bertel des Laves - Tel: 06 92 04 04 00 La Guinguette - Tel: 02 62 47 31 88



# A CHANGE OF **SCENERY!!**

awaiting you tomorrow, it's a good idea to sleep up in La Plaine des Cafres. Gateway to the volcano, a night in this little village will save you valuable time tomorrow morning before starting the famous road up to Piton de La Fournaise (see page 109).



# **UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE HIKE**

We think we know everything about our volcano and yet... What are its origins? Which plant species are protected there? What are the origins of the island's microclimates? Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the island's 'Pitons, Cirques & Remparts' are unveiled in all their glory during an exceptional guided hike across Plaine des Sables. A must-do excursion which is suitable for everyone!

The UNESCO hike can be booked at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 0262 46 16 16



# The experts' list of what to bring with you to the volcano

- 1 backpack
- At least 1.5L of water per person (for half a day)
- Sun protection (hat, glasses, sun cream),
- Light, breathable clothing + warm clothes too (fleece + trousers in winter),
- · Waterproof jacket or other rain protection,
- · Hiking poles are recommended,
- Snacks and/or food for a picnic

"Your guides will explain that it is important to scrape off the soles of your shoes before you start hiking on such a site. This prevents the spread of invasive alien species along the footpaths. A little 'tec-tec' effort goes a long way!"



The volcano

# THE LAVA ROAD

The spectacular 'Route des Laves' can be found down at the Grand Brûlé. In 2007, when the road was closed, a lava flow no less than 60 metres high formed as a result of the eruption! Make sure you visit Pointe de la Table to see this unique panorama.



# **CANA SUC**

If you want to stay in an authentic accommodation at the foot of the volcano, Cana Suc is the perfect place. Martine and Jacques welcome you into their guesthouse: these small Creole houses are wonderfully decorated, the garden is full of vegetation and your hosts are on hand to offer tips and advice. The breakfast is excellent and copious!

219 Route Nationale 2 les Bambous, Sainte-Rose - Tel: 02 62 47 23 52 Capacity: 2 guesthouses for 4 people and 1 double guest room From €110 per night, including breakfast



# THE YOU + ME CHALET-SUITES AT THE CRYPTO-SIGN GUESTHOUSES

If you want to really treat yourselves, this adorable wooden chalet is super comfortable: bath, wood burner, king size bed, champagne... Everything you need to experience some unforgettable moments, with a view stretching out towards Grand Bénare and Piton des Neiges. A must!

48 bis chemin de La Chapelle de Notre Dame de La Paix - Plaine des Cafres Tel: 06 92 82 33 26

Capacity: 3 houses for 4 people From €95 per night (min 4 nights)



# **LA FERME DU KILIMANDJARO**

Are you looking for unusual accommodation? We have just what you need! Serena and Sergio offer you the chance to stay in one of their charming, comfortable old-style caravans, each one with a spectacular view of the mountains. A window set into the roof means you can observe the stars as you're curled up cosily in bed. The caravans are located on a 3000m<sup>2</sup> estate, where you will also find numerous fruit trees and beekeeping hives.

10 Impasse Bernard Céleste, Petite Ferme, La Plaine des Cafres Tel: 02 62 43 13 41 / 06 92 59 25 19 Capacity: 2 caravans for 2 to 3 people From €60 per night per person, including breakfast



# LA FOURNAISE

In Sainte-Rose, the hotel La Fournaise boasts 20 spacious rooms, some of which have a beautiful view of the sea. Their swimming pool is a great way to cool off after a day of hiking. The restaurant 'Le Gingembre-Combava' serves tasty and semi-gastronomic cuisine.

154 Route Nationale 2 - Sainte Rose- Tel: 02 62 47 03 40 Capacity: 20 rooms - From €81 per night



### THE TASTIEST OF ORCHIDS

How is vanilla grown? And what process is used to ensure pollination? Reunion is proud to grow one of the best types of vanilla in the world: Bourbon vanilla. Accompanied by a guide and a producer, discover the different stages of vanilla production during a visit that is sure to awaken your senses! You can even taste different products at the end of the visit.

La Vanille des Laves Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.reunionest.fr €10 per adult and free for children under 10



This is the must-do activity during your stay at the volcano. Exploring the lava tunnels in Sainte-Rose is a unique, timeless and unforgettable experience that you will want to do over and over again. Accompanied by a qualified guide, you will head deep into the depths of island to venture through splendid underground landscapes, for a magical moment to places where basalt, darkness and absolute silence reigns.

Julien Dez & Cyril Bachez Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.resa.reunionest.fr €50 / adult and €40 / child

# Our 'Green' tip

If you can, use public transport to get there - the S1 bus line from Saint-Pierre to Saint-Benoît will drop you off.



# **WILL ERIC SMITH? YES, ERIC WILL SMITH!**

Eric Hoareau is the only blacksmith left on the island. To meet him in his workshop, head up to La Grande ferme in La Plaine des Cafres. What better than a rumbling volcano to make the fire of his forge roar with flames? He is a blacksmith and ironworker, and today crafts modern tools or repairs old ones using techniques that are almost as old as mankind itself. By booking only.

Éric the Blacksmith - Tel: 06 92 66 03 38

# WITH THE FAMILY 48 H AROUND THE **VOLCANO**





# AN FARLY START **IN BRAS CREUX**

If you are lucky enough to spend a weekend in La Plaine des Cafres, you must check out SCA du Bras Creux: 50 hectares and hundreds of animals to be discovered, including Reunion's famous Java deer. With a warm and friendly welcome, owners Paul, Florent and Patricia, will take you on a visit of the farm in the open air where you will be able to admire these majestic deer as they canter past. After that, get stuck into a traditional Creole lunch: caris, roasted wild boar and deer stew... The atmosphere is lively, the portions are generous and tasty.

La Cité du Volcan - Tel: 02 62 59 00 26





# Annabelle's advice. South Coast and Volcano expert

"To make sure you get there in good time, it's worth spending the night before in one of the establishments near SCA Bras Creux. In La Petite Ferme, l'Instant d'Evasion is a \*\*\*\* listed building which opened in 2021. The house is very well equipped, with a mountain chalet atmosphere and a panoramic view that will appeal to families looking for a comfortable stay. It can easily accommodate 4 people.

Instant d'Évasion - Tel: 02 62 01 10 20





Children are often fascinated by volcanoes. In Bourg-Murat, take your whole family to discover the Volcano Centre there. It's so much more than just a museum - here you are immersed in the history of our island, thanks to a number of digital displays, interactive models, holographic projections and augmented reality. For the little ones, a special play area is provided, with games all about volcanoes. Regularly, themed evenings and days are organised, so don't forget to check their calendar of events.

\* the volcano centre's little mascot

La Cité du Volcan - Tél.: 02 62 59 00 26

# ALL CONTACT INFO

Museums in Reunion Island



Piton de la Fournaise





# **TOP OF YOUR LIST!**

After a good night's sleep in the cooler climes at altitude, if you don't feel like climbing the Dolomieu crater at Piton de La Fournaise, why not head down to the volcanic coastline for a road trip of the best, must-see spots! On the program: Cap Méchant, Puits des Anglais, Souffleur d'Arbonne, Pointe de la Table, and Pointe du Tremblet... Don't forget your camera: you'll get plenty of family photos!



# An extra tip+

All along the road around Saint-Philippe, you'll find several small artisanal shops and vanilla producers. In Le Baril, Le Kossassa is a shop where you can stock up on some great local products, including their excellent fresh sugar cane juice. A real treat! Kossassa - Tel: 06 93 70 76 21





Your road trip continues at Anse des Cascades. One of the island's most enchanting places, its tiny fishing port, numerous waterfalls under which you can cool off and its immense coconut grove will delight all you Explorers of Reunion, young and old alike! Depending on how tired you are, you can either follow the fishermen's footpath along to the 1977 lava flow (which takes about 2 hours) or just play hide-and-seek in the coconut grove!

There is also a restaurant there, an ideal stop for the whole family L'Anse des Cascades - Restaurant Tel: 02 62 47 20 42 / 06 92 15 14 55

ALL CONTACT INFO

All restaurants in Sainte-Rose



# WITH THE FAMILY **OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS** AROUND THE VOI CANO



# THE VOLCANO AS A FAMILY **OUR IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES** AT THE VOI CANO





The house is a real Creole house, with its log fire kitchen, sheet metal roof and carmine-red floor. Set in a lush, verdant garden in Grand Brûlé, this tastefully renovated house which has kept its authentic Creole vibe will be an ideal stopover for the whole family at the volcano. Stéphanie and Richard will always welcome you with a warm smile. And if it rains (here? - never!), don't worry: there are board games available!

23 Chemin du Petit Brûlé. Sainte-Rose - Tel: 06 92 29 34 34 Capacity: 4 people From €146 per night

# LA MARMITE LONTAN

Imagine staying in the very last house on the road up to the volcano! La Marmite Lontan is a surprising guesthouse with 3 rooms (for 2, 4 and 5 people) located at an altitude of over 1800 metres. Here, it's a little chilly all year round! But fortunately, you can count on the warmth of Pilou and Josie and their comforting cuisine, including a museum collection with a wide range of objects from yesteryear. And don't miss their 500 different bottles of macerated rums. Both surprising and exotic!

200 Route du Volcan, Plaine des Cafres - Tel: 06 92 60 51 38 Capacity: 8 people From €50 per adult and €43 per child all inclusive - 2 double rooms (night, aperitif, meal, breakfast)



An extra tip

You can also rent mountain bikes at Domaine des Radiers - the perfect way to explore the area.

# **LE DOMAINE DES RADIERS**

Up in the hills of Sainte-Rose, Domaine des Radiers is home to the Mimosas guesthouse and campsite. Ideal for large groups, this place can house up to 13 people! On site, the Domaine des Radiers has a games area where you can play petanque, basketball and badminton. In short, everything you need for a great time together with your family. And the ocean view is stunning!

3, CD 57 Les Radiers, Sainte-Rose - Tel: 06 93 90 71 05 Capacity: 13 people From €30 per night per person



### COWBOYS AND MARTIANS

For simple pony rides to Piton Desforges or for longer trips of one day or even more, the Écuries du Volcan is the place to try! Their Volcano Outing trek is the most popular excursion this enthusiastic team has on offer. From the pastures of La Plaine des Cafres to the rubescent deserts of Plaine des Sables, you'll get to see some spectacular panoramas, all from the comfort of your horse. It's enough to make you feel like a cowboy on Mars!

Les Écuries du Volcan - Tel: 06 92 66 62 90 www.ecuriesduvolcan.e-monsite.com From €15 for the 'Baby Rando'



# IN THE FOOTSTEPS **OF FISHERMEN**

To explore the rugged and volcanic coastline, take a guided tour of the Fishermen's Footpath in Sainte-Rose, one of the most beautiful on the island. As the sea spray swirls around you, you'll also get to meet some of the elders of the village. The views are exceptional and you can even visit the lush garden of the Cana Suc guesthouse.

Les Aventuriers de l'Est Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 www.reunionest.fr





# Let's take care of our environment!

For your activities, guided tours or accommodation, if you follow the brand known as Esprit Parc National, you're more likely to choose a responsible way to explore our little island.

www.espritparcnational.com



# **3 WHEELS ON A VOLCANO**

What a surprising and unusual form of transport! Fancy visiting the famous Route des Laves on a recumbent bicycle? This is exactly what Atmosphère Péï proposes, with this unusual excursion which starts at the entrance of Bois Blanc and leads you to along the south coast's most famous road. Doable for most people, this strange leisure activity gives you a new perspective on the surrounding landscapes. And to recover from your efforts, you'll get to enjoy a small local snack before attacking the return journey!

Atmosphère Péi - Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr €30 for half a day including visit and aperitif (€15 for under 18s)

# THE VOLCANO //114 ENTRE DALONS 48H AROUND THE VOLCANO







# **HEADING OFF-PISTE** ON A VOLCANO?

Would you like to experience a unique moment with your friends? Why not climb Piton de La Fournaise with a guide! This 5 to 6 hour hike starts early in the morning at Pas de Bellecombe Jacob. You'll follow the standard footpath down to the foot of the volcano, but then you'll head off the beaten track - this is the advantage of going on a hike accompanied by a professional guide! Then you'll enjoy a picnic by the Bory crater with a breath-taking view of the larger Dolomieu crater before heading back down. An energetic but magical day out!

Information / Booking: Kokapat Rando Tel: 06 92 69 94 14 / 02 62 33 30 14



# PLAN B **SECRET TUNNELS**

If you really want to surprise your group of friends, we have just the activity for you. On the program: a guided hike down into Enclos Fouqué at the foot of Piton de la Fournaise, including the exploration of two lava tunnels whose location is kept secret! Walking, caving, abseiling and great fun... In short, a day to remember!

Information / Booking: Julien Dez East Coast Tourist Office - Tel: 02 62 46 16 16





Extra tip from Annabelle, South Coast and Volcano expert

"Regardless of what kind of volcano excursion you have planned, you should definitely head up there early in the morning. So, for your break away with friends, we recommend you choose to stay somewhere local the night before. This will save you precious minutes when you have to wake up early the next day!" La Kaz Léo - Tel: 06 20 49 81 80 - Capacity of 8 people Le Relais du Volcan - Sleeps 2 to 7



# **RELAXING IN LE TREMBLET**

After this morning's outing with friends, why not take the whole gang to check out the amazing olivine beach down in Le Tremblet. Also known as the Vieux-Port beach, this spot is easily accessible on foot. Although swimming is forbidden, the setting is stunning, and a great place to take a load of team photos together!

\*Depending on the current situation and the prefectural decree, access to the beach in Le Tremblet may be prohibited. Make sure you check first!





An extra tip from Hélène, East Coast & Volcano expert

"To get there from the main RN2 road running south of Grand Brûlé, take the road signposted 'Le Vieux Port'. From the small car park at the end, follow the footpath down to the sea. At the bottom, turn left and the beach is not far. In the rainy season, you can even admire the stunning temporary waterfalls that come crashing down the cliffs!"





### THE VOLCANO HAS ERUPTED!

Several times a year, our volcano erupts. If the conditions are right, the show is absolutely fabulous for those lucky enough to admire the lava fountains and flows!

Here are a few tips to make sure you don't miss out on the next eruption!

activity on a (very) regular basis. There are 4 phases of vigilance:

- VIGILANCE (possible eruption in the area),
- ALERT 1 (probable or imminent) eruption - the area around the volcano is closed),
- ALERT 2 (eruption in progress),
- STANDBY (eruption over or stable).

Keep yourself informed about seismic 

If you are going to see an eruption:

- Check the weather and the latest news
- Carpooling is the best option
- Make sure you're fully equipped with water, food, warm clothing and waterproof clothes
- Inform your friends and family and do not venture into restricted areas
- Have fun!

THE VOLCANO //116

# AMONG FRIENDS OUR ACCOMMODATION IDEAS AROUND THE VOLCANO







LA CASE AU PIED DU VOLCAN

If you're looking for the perfect place to gather all your friends, either before or after a hike up Piton de La Fournaise, La Case au Pied du Volcan is the perfect place for you. Catering for up 7 people, this lovely new house has everything you need to have a great time with friends. The terrace and barbecue area is a particularly fun spot for lively meals!

170 bis Chemin Champ de Foire, Bourg Murat - Tel: 06 92 09 42 85

Capacity: 7 people

From €172 for two nights

# LES AGAPANTHES IN LE 27 ÈME

### With its 3 cosy and comfortable bedrooms,

Les Agapanthes is the perfect place for groups of friends to have fun! Owners Karo and Philippe will welcome you with a warm smile and a great sense of humour, bending over backwards to make sure your stay goes smoothly! This guesthouse is ideal, as the volcano is located right next door. At Les Agapanthes, you'll also enjoy a hearty breakfast!

198 F Rue Katia et Maurice Kraft Bourg Murat - La Plaine des Cafres Tel: 06 92 76 52 04 Capacity: 9 people





# FERME AUBERGE LA CAYENNE

La Ferme-Auberge La Cayenne is nestled in an exceptional setting, right by the ocean in Sainte-Rose. Joëlle and Sully Narayanin welcome you to this pretty villa boasting 6 double and family rooms, all with a sea view. Serving Creole cuisine prepared using organic and farm produce, the restaurant has a fine reputation on the island. The breakfast is also particularly tasty and generous!

317 Ravine Glissante, Sainte-Rose - Tel: 02 62 47 23 46 Capacity: 12-14 people From €60 per double room, dinner €25 / breakfast €7



Can you imagine yourself walking right underneath a volcano at sunset, winding your way through its tunnels of lava? **We just hope you'll all be brave enough!** And for an even more fantastic experience, you can even sign up for a musical show with maloya and other music of yesteryear - an unforgettable experience as the drums and sounds briefly break the silence of this underground realm!

Julien Dez - Reservation at the East Coast Tourist Office
Tel: 02 62 46 16 16 - www.reunionest.fr
€50 / adult and €40 / child

# **BUGG'S BUGGY**

Fancy visiting the volcano and getting a few thrills at the same time? Take a ride in one of these comfortable buggies! Handy and easy to drive, they will take you anywhere! Outings last from 1h30 to 3h, and several routes can be planned depending on your wishes and timing, taking you out to see some sensational panoramas around the volcano. For those who wish, you can even go out in an all-terrain 4x4!





AN UNFORGETTABLE ESCAPE GAME

If you are looking for an activity for a bachelor / hen party or a birthday, we have a great activity for you! **Ludovic and Fred, two qualified guides, organise a truly unique experience:** an escape game in a lava tunnel! In the underground darkness of La Fournaise, you'll have to keep your cool and show off your team spirit if you want to move from one section to another and find the exit before... well, we'll let you guess the rest!

# **EATING OUT**LOCAL DELICACIES AND PALM HEARTS





# LA CASE VOLCAN

This restaurant is a real institution around the volcano, and a must-see stop-off for all you foodies! Located in Le Tremblet along the Route des Laves, La Case Volcan serves authentic and tasty Creole cuisine. What makes it so special? The fact you can taste the à la carte dishes in small bowls before ordering! The perfect solution for those who find it hard to choose! The family vibe is warm and the setting is charming. A place we heartily recommend!

123 RN2 Le Tremblet, Saint-Philippe - Tel: 06 92 18 37 53 Dishes from €10 - Always book ahead!

# **CHEZ LOUISO**

Right on the fishing port of Sainte-Rose, Chez Louiso is a snack bar with a stunning view of the ocean. **On the menu you'll find generous portions of classic Creole cuisine**, including 3 or 4 dishes of the day that change regularly, a guarantee that the food is fresh and that a lot of love has gone into its preparation! The *caris* are tasty and full of flavour, the fruit juices are homemade and the prices are very reasonable. A simple but great place to eat.

46 Chemin La Marine, Sainte-Rose - Tel: 02 62 47 26 37 Dishes from €6





# **LE QG**

If you feel like really treating yourself, the QG is a surprising restaurant up in La Plaine des Cafres, serving up cuisine from around the world. In this colourful setting, we strongly recommend the African dishes (chef Sadji Cheikh is originally from Senegal and his Yassa chicken is to die for!) as well as the grilled meats from around the world. The wine list will also impress all you connoisseurs. A great place for foodies!

60 Rue Alfred Picard, La Plaine des Cafres - Tel: 06 92 317 372 - 02 62 250 217 Dishes from €20



# 8 mobile apps

FOR GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR TRIPS AROUND THE ISLAND!

OUR SMARTPHONES ARE NOW GREAT TRAVEL COMPANIONS - NOT ONLY FOR TAKING PICTURES (USING **#EXPLORELAREUNION**, **OF COURSE!**), BUT ALSO FOR FINDING YOUR WAY ON A HIKING FOOTPATH, PLANNING A TRIP UP INTO THE HILLS, ORGANISING CULTURAL EXCURSIONS, AND BOOKING A TABLE AT A GREAT RESTAURANT... **HERE IS OUR LIST OF RECOMMENDED APPS THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE!** 



# 01

# LÉON, REUNION ISLAND IN YOUR EAR

This cultural app is great for tourists, with podcasts, activities and interesting spots to visit. The history of Reunion Island, presented in 8 themed sections such as 'Legends and History' and 'Heritage'.





# ROAD-TRIPPING WITH CAR JAUNE

This app provides the best bus info for journeys on the Car Jaune network, including routes, timetables, trip calculator, information/ticket points and fares.





# 03

# FIND'IN, THE APPLICATION TO EXPLORE REUNION AS A GROUP

Find'in, the best application for exploring Reunion Island together!
This community app is going to revolutionise our social lives! Check out the vibes of the different places you'd like to visit and even organise an event with your friends.





# MÉTÉO FRANCE, THE NUMBER ONE WEATHER FORECASTING APP

15-day weather forecasts. With participatory observation, users can make the application's forecast even more accurate by choosing the icon that best corresponds to your location.





0

# RANDO TEC-TEC, THE APP TO FOLLOW FOR EVERY HIKE

Discover the hikes selected by the team from the National Park. Rando Tec-Tec provides information on these selected circuits, such as biodiversity, geology, history, culture and climate.





08

# REGIONAL MUSEUMS, THE CULTURAL APP PAR EXCELLENCE

Enjoy interactive visits with this free audio guide: numerous QR codes are available throughout the permanent and temporary exhibitions, as well as in the outdoor areas.





05



06

# GUIDE KASPRO, GASTRONOMY GUIDE OF REUNION ISLAND

Lists a large number of restaurants in Reunion Island. Vanilla icons are awarded to those that tick the most boxes. This guide also recommends restaurants depending on your budget.



# ILE INTENSE, THE COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF EVERYTHING TO SEE AND DO ON THE ISLAND

Find more than 2,300 establishments including accommodation, tours, leisure activities and restaurants, as well as a calendar of events across the island.



# Getting around Reunion Island:

FOR A TRIP UP IN THE HILLS, A HOLIDAY ON THE COAST OR A NOVEL WEEKEND BREAK, WHETHER YOU'RE GOING AS A FAMILY OR AS A COUPLE, EVERYONE WILL FIND THE RIGHT WAY TO GET AROUND!

To save time and be sure to find the right provider, trust the expert advice from the island's Tourist Offices.



### Car hire in the East:



Car, bike, scooter and van hire in the West:



# Car hire in the North:



Car hire in the South:





# Using public transport:

Car jaune, Citalis, Kar'Ouest, Alternéo, Sem Estival... There is an extensive public transport network on the island. If you're looking for options that respect the environment, check out these bus and coach companies, and let them carry you all over the island!



# **CAR JAUNE**

This network covers the whole of Reunion Island

www.carjaune.re

# **CITALIS**

(Saint-Denis, Sainte-Marie, Sainte-Suzanne)

www.citalis.re

# **KAR'OUEST**

La Possession, le Port, Saint-Paul, Saint-Leu, Trois-Bassins

www.kar'Ouest.re

# **ALTERNÉO**

Saint-Pierre, Saint-Louis, Petite lle, l'Etang-Salé, Cilaos et les Avirons

www.alterneo.re

# **SEM ESTIVAL**

Bras-Panon, Plaine-des-Palmistes, Saint-André, Saint-Benoît, Sainte-Rose, Salazie

www.cirest.fr



# Getting around by bike:

Cycling is the ideal way to explore the island and get that much closer to the many thrills on offer! Whether along the coast, in cities or up in the hills (for the more energetic or those who prefer electric bikes!), there is nothing like that feeling of intense freedom that you get when cycling around Reunion Island.



Why not give it a try - on yer bikes!

Places for renting bicycles, mountain bikes and electric bikes on the island



//123



# Useful numbers, worth saving on your phone!



# Weather and volcano forecasts







# **Tourist Offices across Reunion Island**

For a weekend or a holiday, to share laughter with friends or to build memories together with your family, to meet up with loved ones or simply to recharge your batteries on your own...

Trust our Tourist Office experts! We're here to help!



# Intercommunal West Coast Tourist Office

Tel: 0262 42 31 31 accueil@ouest-lareunion.com www.ouest-lareunion.com





### South Coast Tourist Office

('CIVIS' Tourist Office)
Tel: 0262 25 02 36
saintpierre.tourisme@gmail.com
www.sudreuniontourisme.fr





# Intercommunal South Coast Tourist Office

('CASUD' tourist office)
Tel: 0262 37 37 11
accueil.sudsauvage@gmail.com
www.sudreuniontourisme.fr





# Intercommunal East Coast Tourist Office

Tel: 0262 46 16 16 info-resa@reunionest.fr www.reunionest.fr





# Intercommunal North Coast Tourist Office

Tel: 0262 41 83 00 info@lebeaupays.com www.lebeaupays.com







# **FÉDÉRATION** RÉUNIONNAISE DE **TOURISME**

5 rue des Bons Enfants - 97410 Saint-Pierre 02 62 42 39 94 - communication@explorelareunion.re www.frt.re





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