



City Highlights: Tuesday/Thursday

Join us on a foray into the legacy of the colonial period. We will start by taking a morning stroll down the aisles of time to one of the oldest botanical gardens in the Southern Hemisphere. Created in the early 18th century, the Pamplemousses Botanical Gardens house a richly abundant and diverse collection of plants. We will then take a drive into the middle of the following century to capture a panoramic view of the capital from the hilltop of Fort Adelaide (also known as the Citadel), a fortress erected under British rule to guard the entrance to the harbour. After a tour of some century-old historic landmarks across the city, this half-day visit ends at Le Caudan Waterfront, one of the best-known places in Mauritius for shopping or time at leisure.

Eastern Sailing Magic: Every day except Tuesdays

Come along for a splashing good time. Departing from the coastal village of Trou d'Eau Douce, the first leg of the journey will let you take in the scenery that unfolds on your way upstream along the longest river in Mauritius to a picturesque waterfall. After a refreshing dip and lunch on board, we will head for Ile aux Cerfs, a highly popular spot off the east coast of the island. After an awesome day, the cruise back to shore will provide another opportunity to get a glimpse of some of the wonderful coastal views.

Sail the Dolphin Coast: Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday/Sunday

Having the opportunity of getting up close with dolphins is a moving experience and the highlight for many travellers visiting Mauritius. Board your catamaran at the pier in the fishing village of Black River and cruise across the western lagoon to treat yourself to a dolphin lover's dream, with a fair chance of sighting these wonderful sea mammals. As a contrast, the skipper will also pick the best place for snorkelling which varies each day depending on the tide and sea conditions. As lunchtime rolls around, everyone gets back aboard for a scrumptious barbecue lunch and refreshing drinks. You will also enjoy a short stop on the uninhabited coral island of Ile aux Bénitiers as we head back to land.

Scenic South: Monday/Friday

Make the most of your time in Mauritius with this beautiful experience combining sightseeing and handicraft shopping. The journey starts with an introduction to the art of glass blowing in Phoenix before climbing to the upper plateau for a stunning panoramic view of the island from the top of Trou aux Cerfs, a dormant volcano. On the way down, we will stop for a glance into the country's seafaring past at a model ship-factory. As we drive southwards to Chamarel for a visit and lunch stop at a rum distillery, you will enjoy the breath taking landscape adorning the sacred lake of Grand Bassin and the Black River Gorges National Park. In the afternoon, you will discover the natural treasures of Chamarel, including the unusual geological phenomenon of the Seven-Coloured Earth and a spectacular waterfall.

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Spirit of Tradition: Wednesday

Mauritius is a destination that offers much more than white-sand beaches and sugar cane fields. This is your chance to enjoy some delightfully uncommon scenery and experiences. Begin your trip by taking an eye-opening tour to a tea factory and museum that ends with a tasting session in a chalet with panoramic views. The journey then continues on to La Vanille Réserve des Mascareignes, a nature park which specialises in the breeding of crocodiles and is home to one of the largest tortoise nurseries in the Indian Ocean region. The next stop is at the picturesque Andrea Lodge to enjoy a delicious lunch against a backdrop of wild and untamed coastal landscape. On the way back, take time to soak in the timeless charm of Saint Aubin, a 19th century period house with its vanilla house, flower greenhouse and spice garden.

Southern Treasures: Saturday

On this leg of your voyage, you will set foot on Ile aux Aigrettes after a short boat ride from the south-east coast of Mauritius. The remarkable work undertaken by the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation on this tiny coral island to return the ecosystem to how it was before human occupation has been recognised worldwide. After heading back to the mainland, take a glimpse into the past at the Frederik Hendrik Museum in Vieux Grand Port, where Dutch sailors first landed more than four centuries ago. Your journey continues in the indigenous forest of Ferney Valley. After lunch, take a trekking tour to breathe in lungful's of fresh air while taking stock of the exceptional diversity of native and endemic plant life. With a bit of luck, you may also have the opportunity of watching kestrels being fed, a fun an educational experience.

Sundowner Cruise: Tuesday

To make your stay in Mauritius even more special, don't miss this golden opportunity to bask in the last glowing rays of the setting sun as your catamaran glides its way into the warm waters of the western lagoon of the island. A magical moment between day and night where you will feel the romance and excitement of being carried away by the wind as you sit back with a drink and a snack, taking in spectacular views of the coastal landscape and seascape in a different light.

Bring Dreams to Life

Sometimes your own ideas are best – and we can help turn dreams into reality. Whether you wish to indulge in a private champagne cruise aboard a luxury catamaran or to go off the beaten track and find the 'real' Mauritius, we know exactly how to arrange things for you. Our tour specialists will come to your hotel, listen to your requirements and use their expertise and experience to ensure that we exceed your wildest expectations. Plan the ultimate adventure that combines the very best of what Mauritius can offer and our local knowledge will help to do the rest. Whatever your dreams of this magical island, talk to us and they can happen, with our continuing support every step of the way.

Wonders of Casela

Explore your adventurous side at the Casela – World of Adventures, in the west of the island. This 14-hectare wildlife reserve is home to an amazing variety of birds and animals and provides an ideal playground for the entire family. While the little ones are happily occupied at the petting farm, grown-ups can indulge in some exciting outdoor pursuits in the heart of nature. The most intrepid will surely relish the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to walk and interact with big cats such as lions and cheetahs – one of the highlights of the wildlife park. There are plenty of other options available for thrill seekers, including a quad bike ride across the dry forest landscape, the adrenaline rush of flying a zip line, canyoning and Via Ferrata, 4D simulator, toboggan rides or even a Segway tour around the nature reserve.

Hikers' Paradise

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While in Mauritius, venturing out on a guided hiking trip is an opportunity to take a breath of fresh air and sink into the natural beauty of the landscape. To get up close to the natural wonders of the island, you can choose from a variety of scenic trails from the thick endemic forest cover of the spectacular Black River Gorges National Park to the bushy undergrowth of Ferney Valley and the rugged coastal landscape of Andrea. If you are still undecided, you can try them all to get an idea of the great diversity of landscapes and views that Mauritius has to offer.

La Vallée des Couleurs Nature Park

There is an ample choice of activities at La Vallée des Couleurs Nature Park, tucked away in the thick forest of the South, including a walk to the waterfalls, the coloured earth, and the viewpoint offering a grandiose panorama, trekking, zip line cable rides and quad biking. Or you can just enjoy a relaxing time by the lakeside and fishing or having lunch at the hilltop restaurant. Do not miss also the animal farm, kid's playground and geological exhibition hall.

Other Places of Interest

L'Aventure du Sucre

L'Aventure du Sucre is a fascinating exhibition relating how the people, civilisation and culture of Mauritius have evolved alongside the production and export of precious Mauritius unrefined brown sugars over the four centuries since the first introduction of sugar cane by the Dutch. Hands-on exhibits and original artefacts are interwoven with historical events to make for an absorbing experience for all the family. The visit ends with a delightful tasting of 12 exceptional unrefined sugars and 11 local rums whose tastes and colours are characterised by the rich contribution of the local soil to the cane plants. The journey ends with a scrumptious lunch at Le Fangourin Restaurant.

Domaine de Labourdonnais

Step back in time to the colonial era with a visit to the superb Domaine de Labourdonnais. Take an intriguing tour of a beautifully restored colonial period house set in the midst of nature before continuing on through the gardens and orchards with a stop at the distillery, tasting bar, restaurant or boutique on the estate.

Curious Corner of Chamarel

Nothing is quite as it seems at Curious Corner of Chamarel. Give in to your curious side and take a look at the various attractions of this house of illusion and mystery. The Exhibit Centre offers plenty of mind-bending fun and you can browse for curios at the shop before taking a break at the café in the garden.

The World of Seashells

Located within the Ruisseau Creole shopping centre in Black River, the Koki museum is all about shells, bringing an abundance and variety of seashells ashore for enthusiasts of all ages to enjoy. A great place to learn more about these jewels of the sea.

Blue Penny Museum

The Blue Penny Museum at Le Caudan Waterfront houses some prestigious collections, including the legendary red and blue Mauritius Post Office stamps, which count among the rarest and most valuable stamps in the world. The museum provides visitors with a captivating glimpse of the art and history of the country.

Martello Tower

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Euréka Colonial House

Catch an interesting glimpse of life in colonial times in Moka, in the centre of the island. Also known as the house with 109 doors, Euréka is a well preserved example of 19th century British colonial architecture and contains treasures recalling times long past such as a collection of antique furniture, old photographs, chinaware, old books and rugs.

Mauritius Glass Gallery

The Mauritius Glass Gallery in Phoenix is an artisan factory producing gifts and decorative objects from recycled glass while promoting environmental awareness. Visitors can also watch artisans at work in the glass-blowing foundry and visit the Hands of Fame Museum where a number of celebrity hand casts are on display. You can even have your own hand cast in glass, a lasting memento of your stay that you will take back home with you.

World Heritage Sites

Two places of outstanding universal value in Mauritius are featured in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The Aapravasi Ghat in Port Louis was a purpose-built immigration depot for indentured labourers from India. The other site, Le Morne Cultural Landscape in the South-West of the island, was used as a shelter by runaway slaves through the 18th and early 19th centuries.

Along the Tea Route

Discover the history of tea production of Mauritius along the Tea Route that will take you to the Domaine des Aubineaux, a delightful period house from the colonial era situated in the centre of the island and through green-carpeted fields to the Bois Cheri tea factory. There you will be introduced to the different stages of tea production before enjoying some tasting at the Chalet. The last stop of the day will be at Saint Aubin, a colonial house that was initially built to accommodate the owners of the surrounding sugar estate. After lunch, you will learn more about vanilla production at the vanilla house before visiting the flower greenhouse and spice garden. The day will end with a guided tour of the rum distillery.

Photographic Museum of Mauritius

The Photographic Museum of Mauritius holds a large collection of both photographs and photographic equipment. With a unique archive of more than a million photographs collected over more than 50 years and ranging from the very first daguerreotypes made in Mauritius in 1840, the museum contributes to protecting the country's visual legacy while bridging the gap between the past and the present.

La Vanille Réserve des Mascareignes

Extending over an area of 3,500 hectares, La Vanille Réserve des Mascareignes is a nature park with an abundance of animals including Nile crocodiles, monkeys, iguanas and bats, the largest captive group of Aldabra tortoises in the world, an insectarium, an aquarium, a children's corner as well as a fossil museum. A restaurant and shop complete the facilities.

Rhumerie de Chamarel

Tucked away in the uplands of South-West, the Rhumerie de Chamarel invites you to an introduction to the art of rum-making. Exuding an inimitable sense of warmth and authenticity, the place offers a unique combination of dramatic landscapes, an eye-opening tour and tasting session and delicious food at L'Alchimiste, the Rhumerie own stylish and creative 'A la Carte' restaurant.

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Crown Lodge (March-December)

Experience the thrilling atmosphere of a day at the oldest racecourse in the Southern Hemisphere! Share the history, tradition, glamour and excitement of attending horse races in the comfort of the Crown Lodge at the Champ de Mars. Its strategic position offers an excellent unobstructed view of the finish line and the 'paddock'. The package includes a complete service and assistance, free open bar and snacks during the race meeting and the possibility of placing your bets up to the last minute without even having to leave the lodge

Water Sensations

Blue Safari Submarine & Sub scooter

You will feel like Captain Nemo as your submarine glides fathoms beneath the surface of the sea to explore the hidden wonders of the underwater world. Escape to the colourful scenery of stunning coral gardens, sparkling tropical fish, shipwrecks and so much more. Add an extra bit of excitement to your odyssey by trying the unique experience of riding your own sub scooter to take a closer look at the magic on the seabed.

Koray (co-rye) – There are five different types of coral (*Koray*) reefs in Mauritius, including fringing reefs, patch reefs, atolls, reef flats and barrier reefs.

Seakart Fun Adventure

Sea karting is a splashing experience on a jet ski-like watercraft offered by Fun Adventure Mauritius. Discover the sheer delight of ploughing through the waves of the lagoon along the west coast from Black River to the coral sand island of Ile aux Bénitiers, Le Morne or Flic en Flac. Besides the thrill of trying an exciting new water sport, you will get a taste of the natural beauty of the coastline, which is dotted with charming sandy beaches and picturesque seaside villages.

Deep-Sea Fishing

Mauritius is a Mecca for sport fishing enthusiasts from the world over. Anglers of all abilities can take advantage of a stay on the island to hone their skills. The surrounding waters of the Indian Ocean hold an abundance of game fish, including the much sought-after blue marlin and five other marlin species, sailfish, wahoo and yellowfin tuna. Your stay in Mauritius may also coincide with one of many prestigious events like the Blue Marlin World Cup, which put on a show for seasoned anglers and novices alike. Most operators are affiliated with the International Game Fishing Association (IGFA), which promotes tag and release for a more responsible approach to the sport.

Speedboat Exploration

Treat yourself to a stimulating private or group speedboat ride with a broad choice of expeditions in different parts of the lagoon of Mauritius. Whether you decide on a half or full day excursion and whatever the location, you are sure to have a blast with some wonderful vistas, coupled with the thrill of speed. All of these outings also offer the opportunity of swimming and snorkelling in warm tropical waters. You can catch sights of dolphins or cruise up to Ile aux Bénitiers in the West, discover Ile aux Cerfs and the scenic Grand River South East waterfalls in the East or enjoy spectacular views of the small islands scattered in the South-East lagoon before taking a trip through the Blue Bay Marine Park. Depending on the outing, lunch is optional or included

Dolphin Encounter

Get a taste of the captivating natural highlights of the West coast of Mauritius in an eco-friendly way. Some unique excursions will allow you to enjoy fabulous encounters with dolphins in their natural habitat in the Black River Bay area.

Blue Quest

The professional crew of the fully-equipped Blue Quest boats will take you on an amazing 'blue journey' with a choice of excursions that will provide you with a full day of fun, adventure, nature and discovery. After discovering the wealth of marine life in the western

The professional crew of the fully equipped Blue Quest boats will take you on an amazing 'blue journey' with a choice of excursions that will provide you with a full day of fun, adventure, nature and discovery. After discovering the wealth of marine life in the western lagoon of the island, you will indulge in snorkelling amidst colourful coral formations and an abundance of marine life. In addition, you have a good chance of sighting seabirds, tropical fish, sea turtles and many other ocean creatures along the way.

Ile des Deux Cocos

The palm-fringed Ile des Deux Cocos off the South-East coast of Mauritius combines the exclusivity of a private island with great service. You can choose between an overnight stay in its distinctly charming villa or a day trip to experience genuine island living. You are sure to have a lovely time exploring this tranquil heaven offering a variety of leisure pursuits, including swimming, snorkelling, glass-bottom boat tours, nature strolls or simply lazing on the beach.

After lunch at a table in the open with ocean view or under the shade of a marquee, you can cool off and indulge in tasting some homemade flavoured rum in the afternoon, the perfect way to top off your island experience.

Other Water-Based Leisure Pursuits

Ile aux Aigrettes

Across the lagoon from Pointe Jerome, the nature preserve of Ile aux Aigrettes offers visitors the opportunity to discover a remarkable collection of endemic fauna and flora. Remarkable restoration work has been carried out by the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation since 1987 and the island is now akin to an open-air museum showcasing an ecosystem that is very close to how it was prior to the arrival of man.

Traditional Pirogue Sailing

You will feel like a traditional fisherman as you board a pirogue for a leisurely trip around the lagoon to experience sailing the Mauritian way. Enjoy the relaxing sound of the ocean lapping the hull of the boat as you view the bountiful marine life up close and take in fantastic views of the island's landscape from the sea.

Blue Bay Marine Park

The Blue Bay Marine Park is designated as a wetland of international importance by the Ramsar Convention on wetlands and is home to a variety of habitat types and some extraordinary biodiversity. Whether swimming, snorkelling or relaxing on board a glass-bottom boat, you will have a great time exploring its crystal-clear waters in search of stunning marine life.

Helmet Diving

Helmet diving is an easy way to take a close look at the underwater world even if you don't know how to swim or dive. This fun and safe adventure for all ages will take you on a leisurely stroll in shallow depth on the sandy bottom of the lagoon. A memorable opportunity to interact with the teeming sea life and take some memorable pictures.

Hire your own Boat

Add some exclusivity to your stay by hiring your own boat for an exhilarating private ocean adventure cruise. A wonderful escape for a special occasion or just to treat your family and close ones to an amazing day out on the water!

NOTE OF CAUTION

Practical Information

- **Valuables**

Always remember to keep your valuables in a safe place such as your hotel safe when going out on an activity. Should you decide to take valuables along, avoid leaving them unattended at all times? The safety of your valuables falls under your sole and full responsibility.

- **Safety & Security**

We advise our guests to take all reasonable precautions at all times both in public or private places and to pay due attention to the recommendations of their tour leaders or drivers.

- **Personal Protection**

Mauritius is a tropical island with temperatures varying between 20°C and 32°C. It can get quite hot and humid during the day, especially in summer. We suggest that you bring sunglasses, sunscreen and a hat/cap to protect you from the sun.

As in all tropical countries, there are also mosquitoes in Mauritius. To keep them away, we suggest that you bring a mosquito repellent with you, especially for all outdoor activities including walks in the forest.

- **Health & Fitness**

Most of our excursions cater for all interests and ages. However, restrictions may apply to some according to age and fitness. If unsure, please check with your representative who will direct you towards the most appropriate activities. Pregnant women and guests with a known health condition should inform White Sand Tours staff accordingly.

- **Dress Code**

Although most of our tours are casual, some excursions may require you to dress a little bit differently. This can be the case when visiting a religious landmark or when wandering in nature. Please do not hesitate to ask our representative who will be happy to provide assistance and advice.

- **Service Providers**

Please note that White Sand Tours will not be held liable in the event of an incident should you decide to select/buy products or services from third party service providers. Also note that our insurance cover does not extend to such third party service providers.

- **Duty-Free Shopping**

Mauritius is known to be a duty-free paradise. Do not hesitate to take advantage of the fantastic prices on items like jewellery, watches, precious stones and ship models. Any purchase made in foreign currency at least 48 hours before your departure will be delivered directly to you at the airport, free of tax.

Please note that your passport and airline ticket will be required when making the purchase. Don't forget also to make provision for excess luggage charges in case of bulky items.

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- **Cancellation & Refund**

Guests may cancel no later than 36 hours prior to a scheduled activity for a full refund. Cancellations made less than 36 hours prior to the scheduled activity will not be eligible for a refund except in case of illness and upon presentation of a valid medical certificate from a qualified practitioner.

All cancellations must be notified directly by guests to their respective White Sand Tours representative, who is the only person entitled to entertain such requests.

- **Weather Conditions**

For your own safety, please note that land and sea excursions depend on weather and tide conditions. Only White Sand Tours and/or the relevant service provider(s), if applicable, have the authority to cancel an activity due to unsuitable conditions.

- **Tipping**

White Sand Tours does not have a tipping policy. However guests may tip at their own discretion as a sign of appreciation for good service.

To make an enquiry please contact

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