



Bienvenue! Welcome! Bienvenido! 歡迎! Nou kontan wè zot!

MARTINIQUE... Just Cruising

Newsletter October 2004 Edition

MARTINIQUE IN THE PRESS

"Martinique is the place to forget your worries and enjoy the finer things in life"

New York Daily News, May 2004

"Martinique is great choice for real romance. The sensual mix of French heritage and Caribbean culture and weather are a can't miss for romance" - Herald News, January 2004

"Magnificent Martinique is the other Caribbean - the island with a French twist"

CNN website, January 2004

MARTINIQUE NEWEST ATTRACTION



Inaugurated on February 7, 2004, the "**Centre de Découverte des Sciences de la Terre**" is located in Saint Pierre facing the sadly famous Mount Pelée volcano.

This interactive and high tech museum is a project initiated and developed by the Martinique General Council. In the garden area, a memorial to the 28 000 victims of the 1902 Mount Pelée volcano eruption has also been erected.

Numerous activities are proposed, including interactive workshop allowing the visitor to experience history and understand hands on the Earth and its mechanisms.

Tel: 011 596 (596) 52 82 42

LE MARIN YACHTING CENTER: A HUB FOR THE SOUTH OF THE CARIBBEAN

Le Marin yachting center is renowned in the industry as the stop not to be missed on the road to the south of the Caribbean. With its capacity of 620 berths for boats up to 180 ft long and 70 mooring spots, this port is a real hub for this southern part of the Caribbean.

Thanks to the quality of its infrastructure it has been awarded the French quality label *France Station Nautique*. Every year, the marina welcomes 42000 guests including 30 000 sailors .Le Marin is also a fun and busy place to visit with its wide selection of boutiques and restaurants at the marina, its fashionable cafes to enjoy live entertainment and its yearly cultural festival scheduled every August with fashion shows, art exhibits and more. For more information you may contact le Marin tourist office at: 011(596) 596 74 90 74

MARTINIQUE CRUISE'S INDUSTRY AWARDED ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE



Marship, a local company that handles shipping and port logistics in Martinique, has been awarded in June 2004 with the "Quality Summit Award" in recognition of its commitment to quality, leadership, technology and innovation.

The event was presided by Jose E. Prieto Executive President of Business Initiative Directions, at the New York Marriott Marquis. More than 15 criterias define the participation of a company and at least 5 of them must be covered. 70 countries were represented. . Prieto mentioned on this occasion that "the awarded companies are symbols of commitment to leadership, technology and innovation which make them models for other companies in their sectors"

Enclosed is a picture of M. Jean Pierre Monginy, general operations manager, receiving the award on behalf of the M. Claude de Jaham. This very selective Award commission has awarded 12 companies from worldwide countries such as South Africa, Uzbekistan, Hungary, Venezuela, Spain, etc...

GOLF SPECIALS FOR CRUISE PASSENGERS

Martinique features a phenomenal *18-hole golf course* designed by the famous Robert Trent Jones Senior. The *Empress Josephine golf course* is located in the resort area of Trois Ilets, only five minutes from the Pointe du Bout hotels and marina, right across the Fort de France bay. It was named after the Empress Josephine, wife of Napoleon Bonaparte, who was born and raised in Trois Ilets. The complex also features three tennis courts and a restaurant. This is a great way to spend the day in Martinique! Make sure to request the *special cruise passanger package* that for 63 euros per person includes: the 18-hole green fee along with the use of a cart.

The Empress Josephine Golf Course complex is open seven days a week from 8 am to 6 pm. You may visit their website: www.golfmartinique.com or contact Noelle Marie-Anne, Sales representative: Email: info@golfmartinique.com

Tel: 011 (596) 596 68 32 81

Much more than just an island...

SHOP IN STYLE IN MARTINIQUE

"Martinique is more than a tropical paradise on a French outpost in the Caribbean. It is also a great place to shop"
Caribbean Travel and Life, February 2004

"From Internet Cafés to coiffure and couture, it satisfies the serious shopper and casual browser... 20 % tax refunds when you pay with traveler's checks or certain credit cards."

New York Daily News, May 2004



Martinique's serious shopping

Fort de France, the island capital and cultural center, is known for its cast-iron balconies above boutique-lined streets that look similar to New Orleans or Paris. (Daily News) For the latest from Paris in fashion, perfume and beauty to the innovative Creole style fabrics, clothing, jewelries and a variety of souvenirs Fort de France is a must along with a wide choice of boutiques and shopping centers all around the island.



Martinique traditional markets

If you are in search of local food, fresh exotic fruits, traditional pastries, rum based liquors, art and crafts, the traditional markets are the places to go to. Fort de France major market is located at corner of rue Isambert and rue Lamartine and operates every day. All major cities have their own market at least once a week. You may check for planning with the local tourist offices.



Martinique unique jewelries

Bijouteries abound in Fort de France (more than 50) and all around the island (a total of 100 stores) with 18-karat gold Creole jewelry, all with names that recall the island's link to its past such as *forcat* necklace (slave chain), or *tété négresse* earrings,

"Caribbean travelers more used to seeing semi-precious stones than fine metalwork will be pleasantly surprised" (Caribbean Travel and Life)

"In Fort de France, on Rue Victor Hugo, the main drag, a wide selection of 18-carat gold Creole-style jewelry can be found at Albert Venutolo and Cadet Daniel, among others". (New York Daily News)



Martinique Rum awarded every year

Martinique has a total of 11 distilleries producing more than 17 varieties of Rum labeled, since November 1996, *Appellation d'Origine Controlée*, a distinctive French label originally reserved to the finest in wines and cheeses. Martinique's rums are the only ones to benefit from this label. This distinction did put Martinique rums on the market for national and international recognition, since 1996, Martinique rums brought home a total of more than 85 awards and are more and more featured in the international press: "The world best rum: Distilled from fresh sugarcane juice, Martinique is unique in the Caribbean (the other rums are made from molasses)" *Departures Magazine, October 2003*

These competitions include:

- The French Ministry of Agriculture General Competition
- The London Wine and Spirit Competition
- The Brussels's International Competition

DID YOU KNOW ?

■ Lauren Bacall and Humphrey Bogart met in Martinique in 1944 on the set of *To Have and To Have Not*, a Warner Bros production based on a novel from Ernest Hemingway. They got married and lived together until Bogart's death in 1957

■ Euzhan Palcy, a native of Martinique, is the first black female director to have produced a feature length film in Hollywood: *A Dry White Season* featuring the late Marlon Brando. Her well known *Sugar Cane Alley* won the Silver Lion Award at the Venise Film Festival.

SEPT - DEC 2004 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept** «Les Journées du Patrimoine», Traditional fair (FDF)
International Tourisme Day celebrations (Sept 27)
- Oct** International Fishing Tournament in Marin
Yoles and gommier boat races
- Nov** Fort de France Half -Marathon
Car Shows
- Dec** International Jazz Festival
Christmas songs Festival

Contact the Martinique Promotion Bureau for a complete calendar.

STAY IN TOUCH

✚ **MARTINIQUE TOURIST OFFICE** (Comité Martiniquais du Tourisme)

President : Mrs Madeleine de Grandmaison

General Director : Mr. Monlouis Elmin

Cruise Manager : Mr. Jacques Bajal - Email: j.bajal.odtm@cgit.com

☎ 011 (596) 596 61 61 77 📠 011(596) 596 61 22 72

MARTINIQUE PORT AUTHORITY

Geneviève Pilon - Email : pilon@martinique.cci.fr

☎ 011 (596) 596 59 00 42 📠 011(596) 596 71 35 73

✚ MARTINIQUE PROMOTION BUREAU (CMT/ USA)

444 Madison Avenue, 16th floor, New-York NY 10022 – USA

☎ (212) 838 7800 ext.228 📠 (212) 838 7855

website www.martinique.org - E-mail: info@martinique.org

✚ SHIPPING AGENTS IN MARTINIQUE

Alain Vauzanges, Plissonneau Shipping -Email : shipping@plissonneau.com

Claude de Jaham, Marship - Website : www.marship.fr
Email : claudedejaham@marship.fr , or portserv@marship.fr

Donald Monplaisir, CAMA Shipping - Email: camashipping@wanadoo.fr

✚ SHIPPING HANDLERS IN MARTINIQUE

Laurent Larade, The Caribbean Supplier - Email: llarade@caribsup.com

Nina Candun, Trade Wind Suppliers - Email: t.w.s@cgit.com

Philippe Vatie, Impex Trading - Email: impex.vatie@wanadoo.fr

✚ TOUR OPERATORS & TOUR PROVIDERS

Donald Monplaisir, CAMA Shipping - Email: camashipping@wanadoo.fr

Philippe Bon, Roger Albert Voyages
Email: phb@rogeralbertvoyages.com

Pierre Martin, Aventures Tropicales
Email: aventures-tropicales@wanadoo.fr

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