

# DISCOVER SHOPPING ST MAARTEN

**A Guaranteed Adventure!**

## PORT HISTORY

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

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

On March 23, 1648, a treaty was concluded atop Mount Concordia delineating the boundaries of the island. The Dutch received 16 square miles and the French received 21 square miles, owing to the latter's superior naval presence in the region when the treaty was signed.

The French and Dutch were not always as neighborly as they are today – the territory underwent 16 changes of flag from 1648 to 1816, with France, Holland and even Britain claiming it at times.

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 The island became mired in a depression that lasted until 1939, when all import and export taxes were rescinded and the island became a free port.

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

## LOCAL FLAVORS

If you like shopping for high end merchandise at great buys, you can spend a lot of time on Front Street. Shoppers save doubly in St. Maarten: St. Maarten is a free port and has no local sales taxes. Prices on liquors, imported linen, quality fine perfumes and European chocolates can be as much as 50% less than those found in the U.S. Locally grown guavaberries are a staple – the native berries are used to make liqueurs, jams and sauces.

## DISCOVER DESIGNER JEWELRY

**Ammolite by Korite:**  
**Chameleon:**

**Edward Mirell:**  
**Eighty-Eight Collection:**  
**Fireburst:**

**Hearts on Fire:**  
**John Hardy:**  
**Judith Ripka:**  
**Kabana:**

**Mark Henry Alexandrite:**  
**Midnight Sapphire:**

**Rhapsody:**  
**Roberto Coin:**  
**Sophia Fiori:**

**Yvel:**

Kay's Fine Jewelry  
Diamonds International,  
Joe's Jewelry, Venetian Design  
Gallery  
Joe's Jewelry, Majesty Jewelers  
Diamonds International,  
Diamonds International,  
Joe's Jewelry  
Diamonds International  
Diamonds International  
Diamonds International  
Goldfinger Jewelry,  
Majesty Jewelers,  
Majesty Jewelers  
Venetian Design Gallery,  
Venetian Sophia Fiori Boutique  
Majesty Jewelers, Genoa Jewelers  
Goldfinger Jewelry  
Venetian Design Gallery,  
Venetian Sophia Fiori Boutique  
Joe's Jewelry, Pearligems

## DISCOVER DESIGNER WATCHES

**Cartier:**  
**Dubey & Schaldenbrand:**

**Ebel:**

**ESQ:**  
**Gucci:**  
**Longines:**

**Maurice Lacroix:**

**Michele:**

**National Geographic:**

**Philip Stein:**

**Seiko:**

**TAG Heuer:**

Goldfinger Jewelry  
Diamonds International,  
Joe's Jewelry  
Diamonds International,  
Goldfinger Jewelry  
Majesty Jewelers  
Diamonds International,  
Diamonds International,  
Goldfinger Jewelry  
Diamonds International,  
Majesty Jewelers  
Diamonds International,  
Joe's Jewelry  
Diamonds International,  
Venetian Sophia Fiori Boutique,  
Effy Collection  
Diamonds International,  
Joe's Jewelry  
Colombian Emeralds  
International, Majesty Jewelers  
Goldfinger Jewelry

DISCOVER

**MUST SEE**

STORES!

**DIAMONDS\***  
INTERNATIONAL

**DIAMONDS\***  
INTERNATIONAL  
WATCH & DESIGN

**OMNI**  
JEWELERS

**DK GEMS**

**TANZANITE\***  
INTERNATIONAL

**MAJESTY**  
JEWELERS

**VENETIAN**  
JEWELERS

**DEL SOL**

**COLOMBIAN**  
**EMERALDS**  
INTERNATIONAL  
**ETFY**  
JEWELERS

# ST. MAARTEN AT A GLANCE

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

**LOCATION**  
 The island is 144 miles east of St. Thomas.

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

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

**LANGUAGE**  
 Dutch, French and English.

**CURRENCY**  
 The official currencies are the Netherlands Antilles dollars and the Euro. U.S. dollars and credit cards are widely accepted.

**TIME ZONE**  
 Atlantic Standard Time.

**TOURIST INFORMATION**  
 The Tourist Bureau is on Cyrus Wathey Square, at the cruise ship tender pier.

**DOCKING**  
 Most ships dock at the A.C. Wathey pier. Some ships anchor in Great Bay and tender into the Town Pier or Bobby's Marina.

**SHORE EXCURSIONS**  
 Please check your tour voucher for the correct meeting time and location for your tour. Your Shore Excursions team will direct you to your transportation.

**TRANSPORTATION**  
 The following taxi fares are from the cruise ship terminal and are one-way fares for one or two people:  
 Mullet Bay: \$16.00  
 Marigot: \$12.00  
 Dawn Beach: \$15.00  
 Orient Beach: \$18.00

Divi Little Bay: \$8.00  
 Taxi prices are readily available at the tourist booth at the Cyrus Wathey Square and from the government taxi dispatchers. Water taxis are also available from the cruise ship pier into town. To enjoy all of Front Street, take the tender to the center of town and pick it up to return to the vessel at Bobby's Marina.

**HOW TO GET TO TOWN**  
 All shops are within walking distance from the Town Pier and Bobby's Marina. There are two transportation options for getting into town from the ship's pier:

1. Water taxi to the Town Pier: \$5.00 per person for unlimited transportation all day
2. Land taxi to the Courthouse: \$3.00 per person each way

**SHOPPING**  
 There are about 500 duty-free shops on St.

Maarten; prices are 25% to 50% below those in the U.S. Without question, the world of jewelry and watches is premier on the Dutch side of St. Maarten. Look out for the latest styles in designer jewelry and some of the world's finest watches. Be sure to try a bottle of St. Maarten's own guavaberry liqueur.

**STORE HOURS**  
 Most stores are open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Most shops are open whenever there's a cruise ship in port.

**BANK HOURS**  
 Banks are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There are numerous banks located in and around Front Street.

**POST OFFICE HOURS**  
 The post office is open

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

**BEACHES**  
**Great Bay Beach**  
 The beach is conveniently located at Philipsburg, where cruise ship guests disembark the tender. This beach is within walking distance from the tender.

**EMERGENCY**  
 In case of an emergency, dial 5-22222.

**PHONE LOCATIONS**  
 Telephones are located at the end of the cruise ship piers.

## GUARANTEE

Shop with confidence; knowing that all merchants on this map have been carefully selected and each offers a 30-day guarantee to cruise line passengers. This guarantee ensures buyers that all recommended merchants will repair or replace any unsatisfactory item, excluding buyer's negligence or buyer's remorse. For purposes of determining quality and value of jewelry related to a buyer's complaint, only appraisals secured by a buyer from independent graduate gemologists, not affiliated with any retail jeweler, will be acceptable. Please inquire about individual store return policies before finalizing any purchase.

The port shopping program is operated by Onboard Media, Inc. Participating merchants have paid an advertising fee to Onboard Media for inclusion in this program. Onboard Media handles all customer relations claims relating to the guarantee. If you become aware of a problem during the cruise, please contact the Shopping Guide onboard for immediate assistance. If a problem arises after the cruise but within 30 days of the purchase date, contact the Customer Relations Department at

Onboard Media:  
 960 Alton Road  
 Miami Beach, 33139  
 Phone: (800) 396-2999  
 Fax: (305) 673-2741  
 Email: shoppingissues@onboard.com  
 Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
 (Eastern Standard Time)

Please send a letter and include the name of the ship, cruise date, store name and merchandise problem. Also enclose a copy of the sales receipt and any relevant documents relating to the sale. Onboard Media will contact the recommended store on your behalf for repair or replacement, and you will be notified accordingly.

## MARIGOT BAY

23a/b/c

### LEENA'S

#### Exceptional Deals on Exquisite Jewelry Collections

- Diamonds, tanzanite, precious and semiprecious gems set in 14K, 18K, and platinum; handcrafted 14K Italian gold jewelry
- Purchases backed by certified appraisals and U.S. service center
- Authorized Dealers for Timepieces: Swiss Army, Wenger, Guess, Seiko, Citizen, Casio
- Sterling silver, Cuban cigars, tablecloths, liquors, beachwear, T-shirts, souvenirs, handcrafted wooden and marble chess sets

## ST. MAARTEN



## BAIE DE MARIGOT

