

Caribbean - St. Barth

The island of St. Barthelemy (also known as St. Barts or St. Barth) is a small island in the French West Indies. The landscape is characterized by gently sloping hills and over 20 amazing beaches, some only accessible by foot.

This volcanic land mass of only 8 square miles was discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1493 and was named after his brother Bartolomeo. Many of the local inhabitants are descendants of the early settlers from Brittany and Normandy and their language still reflects traces of the Norman French.

St. Barth is almost totally bounded by shallow-water reefs, ideal for snorkelling. The most popular beach is Saint-Jean, located on the northern shore of the island, close to the airport. More secluded beaches include Anse de Lorient and Anse de Marigot. Not all beaches are easily accessible, some only by foot or by boat, like Anse de Columbier.

St. Barth is one of the more exclusive islands of the Caribbean and is renowned for its fine restaurants offering the best food. Whether it be a savoury langouste served beach side, tender escargots delivered to your hillside table or, as a grand finale, an unbelievable crème brulee served to you as you gaze at the stars, you will always remember the exceptional dining experience of St. Barth. Shopping is limited to the capital of Gustavia, since the island has a free port status, you can often find good deals on luxury goods, perfumes and fine wines.

St. Barth is a popular yacht stop (conveniently located between the two big yachting centres of the Virgin Islands and Antigua).

Its attractive history, natural beauty and absence of high-rises, casinos, and mass tourism make it a haven for those seeking a combination of the tranquility of the Caribbean, European style luxury and cuisine and a lively nightlife for those seeking fun. We find that it is an excellent destination for families or groups with a wide age range as there is something for every taste on this island.