

**ST MAARTEN (Philipsburg)****ST MAARTEN - Two nations, one island -scenic island tour (ending at the airport)**

Duration: 04:00 approx.

Transportation: air-conditioned vehicle

Price: 59 €

Activity level: easy

Min 15 participants

*This excursion is suitable for passengers disembarking in St Maarten who have flights leaving SXM airport after 3:30 pm*

Saint Maarten is one of the most unique destinations in the Caribbean. Since 1648 the island has been divided between the French and the Dutch with both sides maintaining their very distinct personality and heritage. The French side, Saint Martin is quiet and refined with gorgeous white beaches, French cuisine and sophisticated resorts.

The Dutch side of Sint Maarten has a more obvious Caribbean flavour with its brightly coloured buildings and tropical flair. St Maarten's capital is Philipsburg which bustles with duty free shopping, quality dining and an active nightlife. Practically, the whole island's economy is based on tourism with around 70% of the population working in the tourist sector. The island is also duty-free, which of course enhances its attractiveness for tourists.

Departing the Harbor at 9am, you will be dropped off in nearby Philipsburg for a one-hour browsing and shopping on famous Front Street (shops open at 9 am) or for a leisurely stroll along the boardwalk to enjoy the turquoise waters of Great Bay.

After enjoying the Dutch Capital, you will be driven past the salt ponds, once the main source of revenue for the island to Oyster Pond, where you will cross the border to the French side.

Following the road to the charming village of Oyster Pond you will arrive at Coralita lookout point. Here kite surfers can often be photographed catching the waves, while in the distance the island of St Barth can be seen. After a short stop the journey continues towards Orient bay, well-known for its clothing optional beach and the village Grand Case until you arrive to Marigot, the capital of the French side of St. Martin.

Here you will stop for approximately one hour, and you will have time for some more souvenir hunting, duty free shopping and/or time to enjoy a coffee in a typical French café.

Leaving the charming French capital of Marigot you will be driven through Bellevue on the way to the border where you will cross back the Dutch side of the island. Then you will cross the Simpson Bay causeway, the newest and longest bridge on the island. You will arrive at 12h30 at Princess Juliana International airport.

Please note: walking during free time is at guests' discretion.

This tour is not available for SF call in St Maarten on 16-Dec-23 and 23-Dec-23.

**Star Clippers also offers the following services (optional, upon reservation):**

- **Shared transfer to "Princess Juliana" International Airport (SXM)**

Guests who have purchased a shared transfer cannot choose their pickup time. There will be one fixed departure from the port at about 09:00am. This transfer is suitable for guests whose flight leaves after 12:00.

*For information and reservations, please contact our reservation department or your travel agent.*

