



## *Activities & Excursions...*

### *Turtles at Anse Intendance Beach*

At Banyan Tree Seychelles, we are proud to be one of the few places where the turtles are still coming year after year to lay their eggs and to perpetuate their natural life cycle.

The Turtle season starts in October when the first turtle comes to lay their eggs, and concludes at the end of February when the last nest hatches and the last baby turtle crawls safely to the sea to start a new life.

Turtles are especially shy when they first emerge from the sea and are easily frightened back into the water, so let her move past you to a point where she cannot see you.

The best location for viewing a turtle on the beach is directly behind the turtle, out of her field of vision, and from a distance where you are shielded by vegetation. Note that you should NOT be able to see her eyes.

- DO NOT approach the turtle – maintain a distance of at least 3m.
  - Speak quietly – a whisper is best.
- DO NOT touch the turtle – turtles do not enjoy being petted.
  - DO NOT take flash photography.
- DO NOT block her passage back to the sea.





## *Diving in the Indian Ocean – Dive Resort Seychelles*

The Dive Resort Seychelles is located in the South-West of Mahe at the beautiful bay of Anse a La Mouche which is about 15 minutes drive away from Banyan Tree. The five star PADI dive centre is just a stone's throw away from the beach, where three boats waiting to take you on your next exciting scuba diving adventure.

### First Ever Dive?

If you have never dived before, Dive Resort Seychelles will make your first underwater adventure safe, fun and unforgettable. A qualified PADI Instructor will be right by your side, guiding you every step of the way.

### Diving Courses

#### **Diving for Kids – PADI Bubble Maker**

½ Day / Age: 8+

This course is designed especially for children that are competent in the water but are too young to participate in other scuba diving courses.

During this course your child will be taught a little diving theory, some diving skills and enjoy playing underwater games using scuba equipment in a swimming pool or similar calm, shallow underwater environment whilst under the supervision of a diving instructor.

#### **PADI Scuba Diver**

2-3 Day / Age: 10+

This course is designed for those that want to learn to dive but have insufficient time to complete the Open Water Course and those that have no wish to dive independently or below 12m.

This course takes you half way to becoming an open water diver. You will participate in three theory sessions, three pool sessions and two open water dives. After the course you may continue to dive under the supervision of an instructor or dive master.

If subsequently you decide to become an open water diver this course will be credited towards your open water qualification.

#### **PADI Discover Scuba Diving**

1 Day / Age: 10+

This course is designed for those that wish to get a taste of scuba diving. Basic level scuba diving theory is taught with the use of video.

This is followed by a pool session where the candidate learns basic scuba skills and gains underwater confidence. The candidate then goes on a dive trip accompanied by an instructor. After participating in the course you may continue to dive during your holiday to a maximum depth of 12m with one of the instructors.

#### **PADI Open Water**

4-5 Days / Age: 10+

This is the PADI entry level scuba qualification.

Completion of this course entitles you to dive independently with your buddy within conditions you have experienced in familiar sites.

You will participate in five theory sessions, five pool sessions and four open water dives. After the course you may continue to dive under similar or better conditions than those you have experienced independently from professional supervision to a depth of 18m.

There are many exciting adventure dives, specialties and courses you may participate in after achieving this qualification.

Continuing your diver education will fine tune your skills, give you extra confidence and increase your experience.

## Diving in the Indian Ocean – Dive Resort Seychelles



### Rates

Diving Course	Price
Discover Scuba Diving (Pool) ½ day none certification	EUR 125.00
Scuba Diver. 2 day certification	EUR 330.00
Discover Scuba Diving. ½ day none certification	EUR 90.00
Open Water Diver 4 day certification	EUR 450.00
Advanced Diver 3 day certification	EUR 375.00
Rescue Diver 4 day certification	EUR 390.00
EFR course 1 day certification	EUR 150.00
PADI Referral If brought proper papers	EUR 330.00
Refresher Course	EUR 80.00

Dive	Price
Dive, normal distance Boat Trip (including equipment)	EUR 55.00
Night Dive (min. 6 divers)	EUR 80.00
Private Dive-Master	EUR 75.00 per dive
Private Cabin Cruiser (min. 2 hours)	EUR 185.00
Camera rental incl. one disk	EUR 25.00
Day rental Mask, Snorkel & Fins (EUR 100.00 cash deposit)	EUR 10.00
Passenger on the boat (subject to availability)	EUR 25.00
Transport from and to Banyan Tree	EUR 10.00







## *Private yacht charter – Sunseeker Seychelles*

Chartering a Sunseeker is the ultimate luxury. Sunseeker motor yachts combine thrilling performance on the water with luxurious appointment throughout; so whether you crave excitement or relaxation, Sunseeker will more than meet your expectations. To make the whole experience absolutely effortless, you have qualified skipper and crew, with excellent knowledge of the Seychelles, at your disposal for the duration of the trip.



### **Sunseeker 43 Superhawk / Bond**

Maximum Capacity 6 Persons

Length 43 Feet / Maximum speed 50 Knots / Cruising speed 26 Knots

The Superhawk 43 – Bond is a spirited vessel, which boasts speeds of up to 40 knots. Based in the Seychelles island this is the perfect motorboat for an escape to the 115 sparkling and diverse isles set like gemstones in an azure sea, or to explore the underwater world! Seychelles is one of the top snorkelling destinations in the world. The crystal-clear warm waters of the Seychelles Island provide a picturesque seascape for snorkelers. With a limit of six guests, this makes for a very exclusive yet fun occasion.



### **Sunseeker 53 Manhattan / Andrea**

Maximum Capacity 10 Persons

Length 53 Feet / Maximum speed 32 Knots / Cruising speed 23 Knots

A brand new concept hull, remarkable big for her length, the new Manhattan 53 presents a refreshing perspective on Fly bridge motor yachting at this size. And it's not just about styling. The 53 delivers even more practical purpose with a large volume hull and the option of joystick control for thrusters and shafts. There's a new balance: greater shaded external areas, greater glazing for brighter accommodation, and bigger aft cockpit under an extended Fly bridge, all providing more usable space.



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### **Sunseeker Portofino 48 / Oiseau de Paradis**

Maximum Capacity 8 Persons  
Length 52 Feet / Maximum speed 38 Knots / Cruising speed 28 Knots

The Portofino 48 provides a superb platform to enjoy a day cruise along the beautiful Mahe Seychelles island coastline. With the combination of a spacious aft cockpit, large bow and stern sunbathing areas and a hydraulic sliding glass roof. Oiseau de Paradis lends itself perfectly to a day of sightseeing, swimming and sunbathing with family or friends.



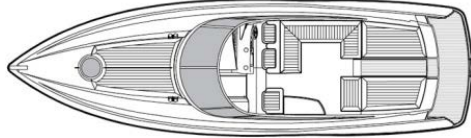

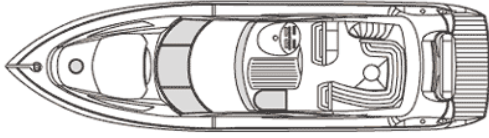
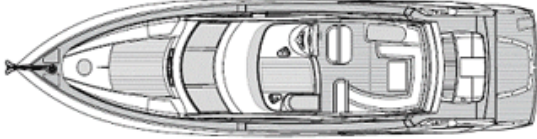

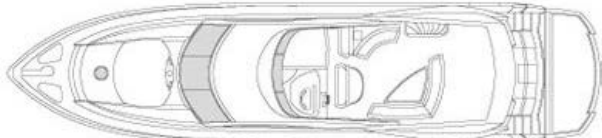
### **Sunseeker 82 Yacht / Great Escape**

Maximum Capacity 10 Persons  
Length 82 Feet / Maximum speed 33 Knots / Cruising speed 25 Knots



## Private Yacht Charter – Sunseeker Seychelles

### Price List

<p>SUNSEEKER 43 SUPERHAWK (BOND) CHARTER PRICES 1 day - Max 6 guests EUR 2,530.00</p>	
<p>SUNSEEKER 48 PORTOFINO (OISEAU DE PARADIS) CHARTER PRICES 1 day - Max 8 guests EUR 3,795.00</p>	
<p>SUNSEEKER 64 MANHATTAN (JASAMA) CHARTER PRICES 1 day - Max 10 guests EUR 6,325.00</p>	
<p>SUNSEEKER 66 MANHATTAN (MAZOWE) CHARTER PRICES 1 day - Max 10 guests EUR 7,935.00</p>	
<p>SUNSEEKER 53 MANHATTAN (ANDREA) CHARTER PRICES 1 day - Max 10 guests EUR 5,060.00</p>	
<p>SUNSEEKER 82 YACHT (GREAT ESCAPE) CHARTER PRICES 1 day - Max 10 guests EUR 10,925.00</p>	

The above charter prices include:

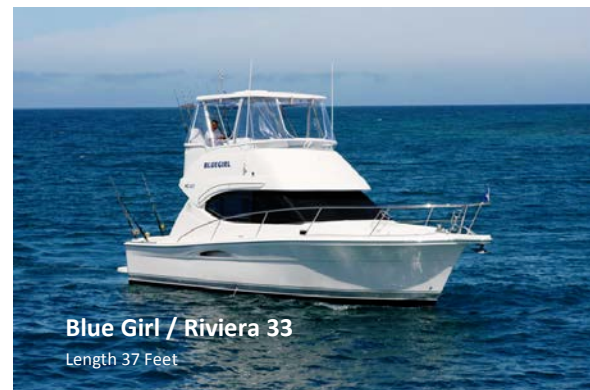
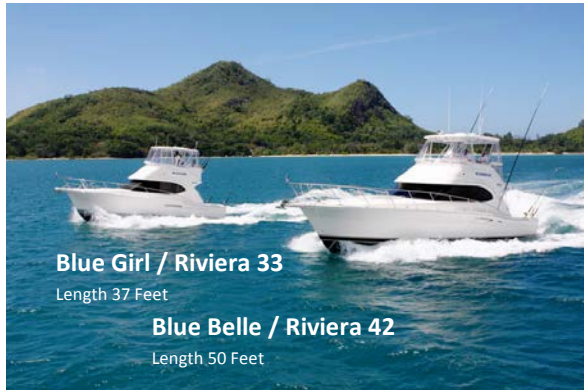
- Vessel
- Fuel Allowance for 40 miles per day at cruising speed
- Skipper and Crew
- Recreational Towels
- Soft drinks & Light Lunch
- 15% VAT

CREW GRATUITIES ARE NOT INCLUDED

CHARTER RATES INCLUDE CATERING FOR 4 GUESTS/ ADDITIONAL CATERING COST EUR 75.00 PER ADULT AND EUR 50.00 PER CHILD.

## *Fishing and more – Blue Water Charter*

The Seychelles Islands has some of the richest fishing grounds in the world, which means that you will not have to venture far from the shores to experience the plethora of fishes available and quite possibly break a fishing record whilst you are at it as well.



All Vessels are equipped with top of the range fishing equipments, fighting chair, snorkelling gear, towels, LCD TV, DVD player, music system and ice maker, among others. The crew is one of the best in Seychelles in terms of service, experience and fishing expertise.

Fishing techniques: Deep sea fishing, night fishing, jigging, bottom fishing, trolling, popping

All charters are inclusive of soft drinks, mineral water, fruits and canapés.

Extras provided on request.

Beach Barbecue can be arranged on request.



## Fishing Boats – Blue Water Charter

### Boat specifications

Vessel	Overall Length	Bathrooms	Bedrooms
Blue Girl (Riviera 33)	37'	1	1 Bedroom (1 master bedroom with a double bed) Sleeps 2 guests overnight
Blue Moon (Riviera 38)	42'	1	2 Bedrooms (1 master bedroom with a double bed, 1 bedroom with 2 single cots) Sleeps 4 guests overnight
Blue Wave Blue Belle (Riviera 42)	50'	2	2 Bedrooms (1 master bedroom with a double bed, 1 bedroom with 3 single cots) Sleeps 6 guests overnight
Blue Lady (Riviera 51)	60'	2	3 Bedrooms (1 master bedroom with a double bed, 1 bedroom with a double bed, 1 bedroom with 2 single cots) Sleeps 8 guests overnight

### Price List

Vessel	Half Day (4 hrs)	Full Day (6-8hrs) Incl. Lunch	Drop Off fishing (8hrs) over 30 Nautical Miles
Blue Girl	EUR 2,000.00	EUR 2,600.00	EUR 2,800.00
Blue Moon Blue Wave Blue Belle	EUR 2,800.00	EUR 3,800.00	EUR 4,000.00
Blue Lady	EUR 4,800.00	EUR 6,000.00	EUR 6,200.00

- All over night charters are Euro 150 extra on the quote for a full day charter.
- All charters are inclusive of bottled mineral water, soft drinks, fruits, sandwiches.
- **(Lunch (fish or seafood, chicken, rice, salad) are provided on full day charters only.**
- Extras are provided on request.

#### All vessels have:

- 1 fly bridge
- 1 kitchen
- 1 salon (all sofas turn into a bed (with the exception of Blue Moon)
- 1 fighting chair
- 1 sundeck area
- Towels
- Snorkeling equipments
- Fishing Equipments

#### Charter Types offered:

- Normal fishing for beginners
- Intensive big game fishing for professionals
- Night fishing (for sharks)
- Fishing on outer islands
- Overnight charters (sleep on board)
- Sunset cruises
- Diving + Snorkelling
- Tour around Mahe
- Cruising/ Island hopping
- Combined cruising /fishing + beach barbecue

#### Fishing techniques:

- Deep sea fishing
- Night fishing
- Jigging - dropping the lure/bait and animating it by moving it up and down vertically
- Bottom fishing - dropping the lure or bait
- Trolling - drive the boat to tow the lure/bait as if it were swimming
- Popping - pulling the lure/bait across the surface in short bursts with occasional splashes to imitate a baitfish struggling on the surface



## *Snorkelling, Fishing and Excursions – Salima Boat Charter*

### **Excursions and Fishing**

#### **Sainte Anne Marine Park visit**

- Snorkling in Marine Park
- Moyenne island visit
- Inclusive of water and soft drinks

#### **Tours around Mahe Island**

- Inclusive of water, soft drinks, wine and BBQ

#### **Excursions to Praslin and La Digue / La Digue and Curieuse / Praslin and Curieuse**

- Inclusive of water, soft drinks and BBQ

#### **Fishing - 4 Hours**

- Inclusive of water and soft drinks

#### **Fishing - 4 Hours and Beach BBQ**

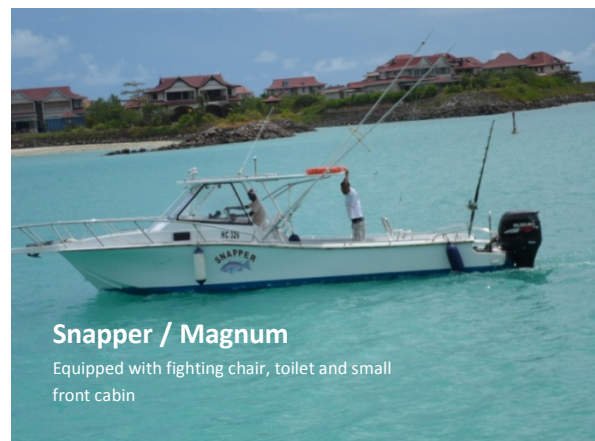
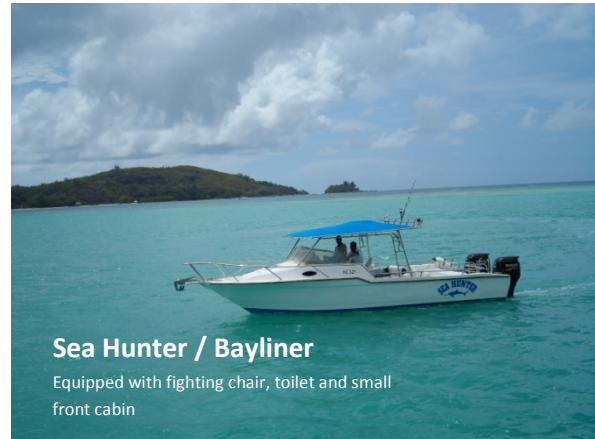
- Inclusive of water and soft drinks and BBQ

#### **Fishing – Full day / 8 Hours**

- Inclusive of water and soft drinks

All Vessels are equipped with fishing equipments and snorkelling gear.

All BBQ's are inclusive of: Grilled Fish, Grilled Chicken, Grilled Prawns, Garlic Bread and Salad. Water and Soft Drinks are provided.





## *Snorkelling, Fishing and Excursions – Salima Boat Charter*

### Price List

Vessel	Snorkeling in the Saint Anne Marine Park		Tour around Mahe Island
	2 People	Extra person over 12 years	Maximum 6 People
Sea Hunter	EUR 500.00	EUR 75.00	EUR 900.00
Snapper	EUR 500.00	EUR 75.00	EUR 900.00
Layla's Dance	EUR 750.00	EUR 75.00	EUR 1200.00

### Snorkeling in the Saint Anne Marine Park includes:

- Snorkling in marine park
- Moyenne island visit
- Marine Park Fees and Moyenne Island landing Fee
- Water
- Soft drinks

### Tour around Mahe Island includes:

- Soft drinks
- Water
- Wine
- BBQ

### Price List

Vessel	Excursion to Praslin and La Digue	Excursion to La Digue and Curieuse	Excursion to Praslin and Curieuse
	2-6 People	2-6 People	2-6 People
Sea Hunter	EUR 850.00	EUR 850.00	EUR 850.00
Snapper	EUR 850.00	EUR 850.00	EUR 850.00
Layla's Dance	EUR 1200.00	EUR 1200.00	EUR 1200.00

### Excursion to Praslin and La Digue // La Digue and Curieuse // Praslin and Curieuse includes:

- Soft drinks
- Water
- BBQ

### Price List

Vessel	Fishing / 4 Hours	Fishing and BBQ	Full day fishing
	Maximum 6 People	Maximum 6 People	Maximum 6 People
Sea Hunter	EUR 600.00	EUR 850.00	EUR 1000.00
Snapper	EUR 600.00	EUR 850.00	EUR 1000.00
Layla's Dance	EUR 800.00	EUR 1200.00	EUR 1400.00

- All Fishing trips are inclusive of water and soft drinks
- All BBQ's include: Grilled Fish, Grilled Chicken, Grilled Prawns, Garlic Bread and Salad! Water and Soft Drinks are provided.
- All boats are equipped with Snorkeling equipment.
- Sunset Cruise, Cruises to Silhouette Island or Cousine Island on request



## *Helicopter Scenic Flights*

There is no better way to discover the magnificence of Seychelles,  
and its exceptional beauty than from the sky.

### **15 minutes scenic flight – Northern Mahe and Saint Anne Marine Park**

Saint Anne Marine Park – Victoria - Morne Seychellois National Park - Beau Vallon Bay

### **30 minutes scenic flight – Mahe Island**

Anse Intendance - Anse Royale - Sainte Anne Marine Park - Victoria - Morne Seychellois National Park - Beau Vallon Bay

### **45 minutes scenic flight – Mahe Island and Conception Island**

Anse Intendance - Anse Royale - Sainte Anne Marine Park - Victoria - Morne Seychellois National Park - Beau Vallon Bay – Conception Island

### **60 minutes scenic flight – Mahe Island and Praslin Island**

Sainte Anne Marine Park - Victoria – Praslin – Vallee de Mai - Anse Lazio - Anse Georgette - Beau Vallon Bay

### **75 minutes scenic flight – Praslin and La Digue**

Praslin – Vallee de Mai - Anse Lazio - Anse Georgette – La Digue - Anse Source d'Argent - Félicité - Ile Coco - Beau Vallon Bay

If you like to do a scenic flight or visit other islands by helicopter like Félicité , Cousine or Aride during your stay with us,  
please contact the reception to check about prices and availability.







## *Aride Island*

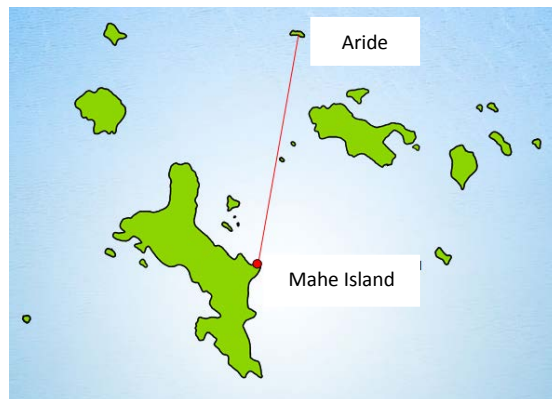
Aride Island, one of the finest jewels in the Indian Ocean, is also one of the world's most important Nature Reserves. Blessed with a wealth of natural treasures Aride has remained a wild and beautiful paradise.

The island was bought as a Nature Reserve in 1973 by Christopher Cadbury, and today is managed by the Island Conservation Society.

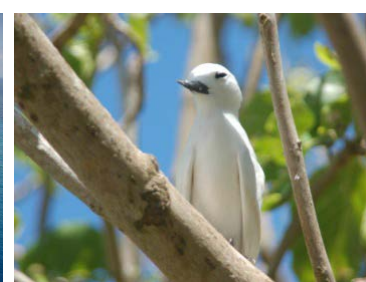
Aride is home to one million breeding seabirds of ten species, endemic birds such as Magpie Robins, Fodies, Brush Warblers and Blue Pigeon, Endemic Plants like wrights Gardenia and Turtle beaches and rich marine life.

Aride Island Nature Reserve is open to visitors from Monday to Friday but is sometimes closed during May September when adverse weather conditions preclude landing by boat. Special visits may be possible on other days by prior arrangements.

Landing on Aride is an unforgettable experience in itself. Having crossed open ocean to reach the island, you transfer to Aride's own transport for expert island boatmen to guide you through the surf onto the beach of Aride's southern shore. Aride is 10 km north of Praslin.



Tel.: +248 4321600 / 4324807 • Email: [aride@seychelles.net](mailto:aride@seychelles.net) • Website: [www.arideisland.com](http://www.arideisland.com)





## *Guided Mountain Walks in the Morne Seychellois National Park*

The Morne Seychellois Park is the largest in Seychelles and was created in 1979. It covers a total surface area of 3,045ha, more than 20% of the area of Mahé. It is 10km in length and between 2km and 4km wide and equipped with an extensively trail network covering more than 15km.

The National Park is an open book of nature that equally illustrates the beauty of our natural environment. It is home to a diversity of fauna and flora which to the present day retains biological and ecological richness. In exploring the National Parks there are many wonders to discover, ranging from the crystal-clear waters of marine parks to the luscious green flora that carpets the tropical forests. The Park has endemic species such as the renowned coco-de-mer, indigenous species like coconut palm trees, including a variety of other exotic species.

### **Guide Basil Beaudouin**

Basil has over 13 years experience as a nature guide in Seychelles, and is known to have been the first guide.

With his help, you can discover the rare beauty of these islands where many of the approximately 250 indigenous plants (75 of which are only found in Seychelles) grow in remote areas, only accessible by foot and usually inaccessible to the average tourist.

Under Basil's guidance, see the beautiful Pitcher plant (*Nepenthes pervillei*), the incredible tiny *Seychellaria thomasetti* and the Jellyfish tree (*Medusagyne oppositifolia*) reputed to be the world's rarest plant, and others too numerous to mention.

Please contact our Resort Hosts to arrange your guided mountain walk.

### **Full Day**

8.30am until 3.30pm

EUR 80.00 per person

(Inclusive of Transfer, Sandwiches, Fruits and Water)

### **Half Day**

8.30am – 12.00pm

EUR 60.00 per person

(Inclusive of Transfer, Sandwiches, Fruits and Water)





## *Rock Climbing and Ziplines* **(SMAC ADVENTURES)**

Seychelles is an island paradise well known for beautiful white beaches, azure blue seas, year round tropical weather, pristine forests, and mountains punctuated with majestic granite outcrops.

It is these granite outcrops that provide the venue inside Ephelia resort for a newly developed activity in Seychelles – Rock Climbing and Ziplines.

SMAC Adventures – a group of dedicated adventure enthusiasts have embraced the facilities provided by nature and developed a new sport for the islands.

With many years of adventure sports experience behind them, the crew at SMAC Adventures has established a Rock Climbing, Zipline and Abseiling facility within the Ephelia Resort at Port Launay.

Employing a beautiful 18 meter high natural granite rock face, SMAC Adventures have developed a rock climbing facility whereby everyone, from beginner to accomplished, can experience the exhilaration of this sport in a safe and comfortable environment. All the gear needed is available.

### **ZIPLINES**

A short buggy drive up the Hillside, a short walk climb up the mountain, with breathtaking views of the Bay at Port Launay, and you arrive at “The Icebreaker” – the first of a series of adrenalin pumping zipline rides through the canopy of the beautiful forest that covers the hillside of the Ephelia Resort.

SMAC Adventures has created the next generation in adrenalin pumping excitement to hit the Seychelles – A series of aerial Ziplines, that suspended both within and above the forest that covers the hillside on Ephelia, allows the adventurer the opportunity to experience this pristine environment in breathtaking fashion.

Built to International standards, checked out and certified by an International firm of structural engineers, this zipline activity will endear to young and old alike – From 6 to 60 – all are welcome.

### **Rock climbing**

Available every day at 8:30am and 4:00pm

Starting from SCR 700.00 per person

### **ZIPLINES**

Available every day at 10:00am and 2:00pm

SCR 845.00 per person (approximately 1.5 hours)

Subject to availability weather conditions







## *The Lemuria Golf course on Praslin*

The 18-hole award-winning golf course at Lemuria overlooks 3 glorious beaches making this one of the most beautiful golf courses in the world.

Designed by internationally renowned course architect Rodney Wright, this sometimes hilly par 70 course is the only 18-hole golf course in Seychelles.

With its sweeping greens and inspired landscaping it has something to offer all levels of players.

### **Special offer for Banyan Tree Seychelles**

18 hole green fee, club car, Hire club and transfer from Praslin Airport	SCR 1920.00 per person
18 hole green fee, club car and transfer from Praslin Airport	SCR 1440.00 per person
9 hole green fee, club car and transfer from Praslin Airport	SCR 1050.00 per person

(Please contact the reception for reservations)



### **How to get to the Golf course**

Domestic Flight from Mahe to Praslin  
from EUR 115.00

Helicopter transfer from Mahe to the Lemuria Resort  
from EUR 1560.00





## Victoria

This largest city of the Seychelles was named after Queen Victoria during British colonial rule. Victoria is the largest settlement on Mahé, and the capital of the Republic of Seychelles. However, even though it's the national capital, the feel of Victoria is a smaller, quieter town rather than a bustling city. About one third of Seychellois live in Victoria, whose population is 23,300. There is a hospital, a Barclays Bank and some smaller banks, a pharmacy, a tourist office, and some travel agencies in town as well as a book shop, the Central Post Office, a movie theater, supermarkets, and some internet cafes.

### *Hindu Temple – Arul Mihu Navasakthi Vinayagar*

The Arul Mihu Navasakthi Vinayagar Temple is the only Hindu temple in the Seychelles. Built in 1992, the temple was named after Lord Vinayagar, the Hindu god of safety and prosperity.

The temple, which opens its doors to the whole Seychelles nation as well as tourists and foreigners visiting our country, is a well-known land mark in the capital city and has become one of the major tourist attractions of Victoria.

It is not only a venue of worship but also a place where the encouragement and promotion of cultural activities takes place to ensure the growth of peace and goodwill in the country.

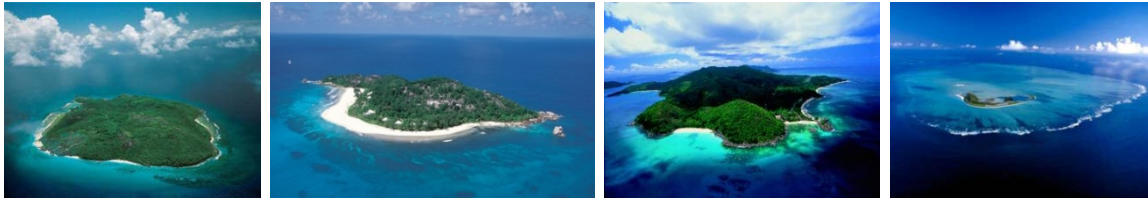
Here, religious and cultural education is also imparted to children and it serves to highlight the unparalleled Hindu philosophy to create an atmosphere of brotherhood and religious harmony among all.

Opening Hours: Monday to Sunday 6.00am - 12.00noon and 5.00pm - 9.00pm





## *The Seychelles islands... Welcome to another World!*



Seychelles, 115 granite and coral islands extend from between 4 and 10 degrees south of the equator and lie between 480km and 1,600km from the east coast of Africa in the western Indian Ocean. This Indian Ocean republic represents an archipelago of timeless beauty, tranquility and harmony that is famous for its world-beating beaches and for its great diversity which rolls from lush forests down to the warm azure ocean. Of these 115 islands, 41 Inner Islands constitute the oldest mid-oceanic granite islands on earth while a further 74 form the five groups of low-lying coral atolls and reef islets that are the Outer Islands. Seychelles is home to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

The legendary Vallée de Mai on Praslin where the wondrously shaped Coco-de-mer nut grows high on ancient palms and fabled Aldabra, the worlds largest raised coral atoll, first seen by early Arab seafarers of the 9th century A.D. Seychelles, one of the world's very last frontiers, promises adventure and breathtaking natural beauty in pristine surrounds still untouched by man.

## *Seychelles main island... Mahé*



The Island of Mahe is about 17 miles long and only two to five miles wide. The highest point is Morne Seychellois, at around 2,969 feet. A chain of mountains runs along the center of Mahe, with only a narrow ring of land around the island, which is relatively flat. Most of the residents of Mahe live on this coastal strip. The mountainous interior of Mahe is not only steep, but also thick with forests and large boulders made of granite. The most remote beaches are on the south and west coasts of Mahe, while the east coast is more developed.

The north coast has the best of both worlds: beautiful beaches plus great restaurants and lodging establishments. There is a main highway that follows the coastal contours of the island, hugging the coast around almost the entire island. There are some smaller roads that cut across the island, so it's easier to get from east to west.





## *Praslin*



The Seychelles Islands can be divided into several groups of islands, by geography. One such grouping of islands includes Praslin and is located northeast of Mahe. Praslin is the perfect tropical island, since it's not over-developed but has some tourism activity for visitors. The topography and environment are lush, green, and picture-perfect tropical island vegetation and scenery. The overall flavour of the island's culture is relaxed and peaceful. It's made of granite and has a spine of mountains running down its centre. Praslin is about seven and a half miles long by three miles wide, which makes it the second-largest island of the Seychelles Islands. Most people visit Praslin to see Valle de Mai, which is a preserved area of forest where coco de mer palms are abundant. This is a major attraction of the Seychelles Islands because there only a few places in the world where this particular palm grows wild. The other main attraction of Praslin of course is the beaches.

## *Valle de Mai*

Valle de Mai is on the list of World Heritage Sites because of the rare coco de mer palm tree. This type of palm grows in the wild only here and on nearby Curieuse Island. Your entry fee to the park goes towards preserving the area, which is a gem-like slice of paradise that everyone from artists to wildlife enthusiasts consider to be one of the best spots on earth for experiencing tropical perfection. There's a black parrot that lives only here on Praslin, whose habitat is preserved by the park's existence. Visitors to Valle de Mai should keep to the trails, of which there are three. You can enjoy the park for hours on end, via these trails, one of which takes several hours to traverse.

## *La Digue*



La Digue is located only a couple of miles away from Praslin, which is one of the two main tourist islands of the Seychelles. There are water taxis all the time from Praslin to La Digue. La Digue has managed to remain undeveloped, in spite of the large numbers of tourists coming from the larger Seychellois islands of Praslin and Mahe. There are only two thousand inhabitants on La Digue, and the most are very interested in retaining their traditional island way of life. L'Union Coconut Plantation -Coconuts used to be the main commercial activity on La Digue, and one remnant of this industry is L'Union Coconut Plantation. It is now a museum, and its gardens feature a pathway to the world-famous *Anse Source D'Argent*, with its giant granite boulders. The museum also has demonstrations of some of the techniques used in coconut processing, as well as an old cemetery, a guesthouse, and a resident community of giant tortoises and the *Veuve Rerserve* - *Veuve* means "widow", which is what locals on La Digue call the black paradise flycatcher.



## *Best beaches on Mahe....*

Whilst tourism is the main industry, the Seychelles are a relatively unknown holiday hideaway. If you are looking for a snappy nightlife, you might be a little disappointing. One of the charms of the Seychelles is that they are not commercial and overdeveloped. The groups of islands are the perfect place for a Honeymoon.

### **Beau Vallon**

This beach is located on the island of Mahé on the northern side, and is one of the more popular beaches on Mahé. This long and sandy beach has magnificent views of North Island and Silhouette. There are various diving and water sport centers as well a Teddy's Glass Bottom Boat Tours.

### **Anse Royale**

This beach is the longest on Mahé and it provides beaches protected from choppy seas, providing a safe and comfortable swimming haven. This makes for very favorable conditions for swimming and beach fun from May to October.

### **Intendance Beach**

This is a very wide beach, which provides huge swells that are favored by surfers. Multi-directional currents can make swimming a little challenging at times but the Banyan Tree Resort will notify swimmers of dangerous conditions with signal flags. Anse Intendance is one of the spots that turtles still nest.

### **Port Launay**

This is one of the most beautiful beaches on Mahé and is located on the west side of the island. This beach will have the largest population of beach goers on weekends. Swimming is great here and the beach is very well maintained.

### **Anse Georgette**

Rated as one of the top 10 most beautiful beaches in the world, Anse Georgette is located on the island of Praslin. Only accessible by boat the beach offers the luxury of the Lemuria Resort. This is a favorite of Honeymooners because of the intimacy of the private beach.



## *National Botanical Garden*



The Botanical Garden is over 100 years old and is located in the heart of Victoria. It was set up as an experimental garden for crop species during colonial times. However, the functions changed over time and today the garden is used as a park where visitors could enjoy a century of existence.. Located less than 1km from the Capital of the Seychelles Victoria the Seychelles National Botanical gardens is a must day outing when on holiday in Seychelles.

When wondering through the gardens do be on the lookout for the following, Seychelles Birds such as Seychelles Bulbul, Seychelles Blue pigeon and Seychelles Tropic bird. The best attraction of all is the close encounter with the world famous Palm Tree the Coco de mer. In 1956 the Duke of Edinburgh planted the most fruitful Coco de mer palm in the Seychelles National Botanical Garden. It has been reported in the past that this female Coco de mer plant has had over 70 nuts growing at the same time! Giant Tortoises can also be found in the Seychelles National Botanical gardens. The tortoises originate from the world heritage site of Aldabra which is one of the 115 different islands that make up the Seychelles archipelago.

Enjoy the wonderful array and aroma from the collection of fruit trees which includes Star fruit, Mango, Guava, Lychees (Rambutan), Jambolan, Durian, Breadfruit and Jackfruit. Other important trees within the garden include Nutmeg, Vanilla, Clove, Cocoa, Cola trees, Sugarcane,. The most prominent plants of the garden are the Rose of Venezuela, Pride of Barbados,.

The Seychelles National Botanical Garden has two monuments :

1. The Stone Seat Monument, dedicated to Mr. Paul Dupont and British entomologist Mr. Desmond Vesey - Fitzgerald.(1933).
2. The Japan-Seychelles Friendship Monument, contribution of Seychelles Pavilion at the Osaka Expo' (1990). And of more recent: Mr. George Harrison from 'The Beatles' planted a rare endemic tree in December 2000.

Opening Hours: every day from 08.00am until 05.00pm

Payment methods: Cash





## *Jardin du Roi*



At Jardin du Roi, you will discover all the tropical spices that once upon a time played pivotal roles in our island's agro-economy. Spices that give Creole Cuisine its distinctive flavour. In addition, in a peaceful expanse of tropical vegetation, you will see our popular fruit trees interspersed with exotic trees and colourful ornamentals.

Arriving at the house, you will see a very tall and very old male coco de mer palm. This is inarguably the most famous palm in the world and native only to two islands of the Seychelles, Praslin and Curieuse. Interestingly enough, it is one of the few places, other than the Vallée de Mai and the Botanical Gardens, where the visitor can see samples of the male and female coco de mer palms.

The male and female flowers are borne on different palms. The female coco de mer flower develops after fertilization to produce a bi-lobed nut, which is the heaviest seed in the vegetable kingdom, and can weigh as much as 18 kg (40 lbs) and measure up to two feet. Surrounded by green fibrous tusk, the nut resembles the female anatomy. When green, about 9 months, the nut contains a sweet white jelly that is edible. The male coco de mer palm has an enormous catkin (a drooping flower cluster) covered in many tiny yellow star-like flowers. A coco de mer nut takes 3 years to germinate and 7 years to become mature, 25 years to start bearing fruits and over 200 years to reach its full size, which are about 100 ft for the male and 80 ft for the female. The coco de mer nut is protected by law and can be bought and taken out of the country only under strict regulations.

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10:00am - 05:30pm  
Payment methods: MasterCard, Visa and Cash



## *Mission Lodge's world heritage*



The Mission Lodge is found in the middle of the Morne Seychellois National Park, a place so quiet that you can hear all the historical activities in the surroundings. Overlooking the southwest of Mahe provides superb panoramic view for the perfect souvenir. A place where Queen Elisabeth II sat for tea and Marion North made her paintings. The Mission Lodge of Sans Souci could soon be listed as a World Heritage site by UNESCO; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The Anglican Church as a school and shelter established the Mission in 1875-6 for children of freed slaves. Over a century later, when the Sans Souci road was built, it became a popular tourism attraction, partly due to the spectacular views it commands, but also because it is a cool place to rest, up in the mountains.

## *St. Anne National park*



This is the chance of a lifetime! Visit the first marine park in the Indian Ocean and grab the opportunity to spend a whole day discovering the secrets that the Ste Anne Marine Park holds. The marine park waters around the Island are a diving dreamland of abundant tropical sea-life. Water sports provide the intrepid with the ideal way to explore the island. Stroll amongst tropical vegetation to the marine reserve viewpoint to experience the benign mix of flora and fauna.

This trip is inclusive of a delicious lunch on Moyenne Island and we will take you a few kilometers away from Mahé to the marine park consisting of six granite islands, Ste Anne, Cerf, Moyenne, Round, Beacon and Long Island. The clear shallow waters are ideal for snorkeling and guests can admire a variety of colorful, eye-catching corals while friendly fishes glide smoothly alongside those in the water.