(https://www.fodors.com/news/category/coronavirus)

DESTINATIONS HOTELS (/HOTELS) NEWS (/NEWS/CATEGORY/NEWS) CRUISES FORUMS

TRIP IDEAS @ LOGIN (/LOGIN/)

ST. BARTHÉLEMY

Overview (/world/caribbean/st-barthelemy)

Travel Tips (/world/caribbean/st-barthelemy/travel-tips)

News (/world/caribbean/st-barthelemy/experiences)

Gallery (/world/caribbean/st-barthelemy/gallery)

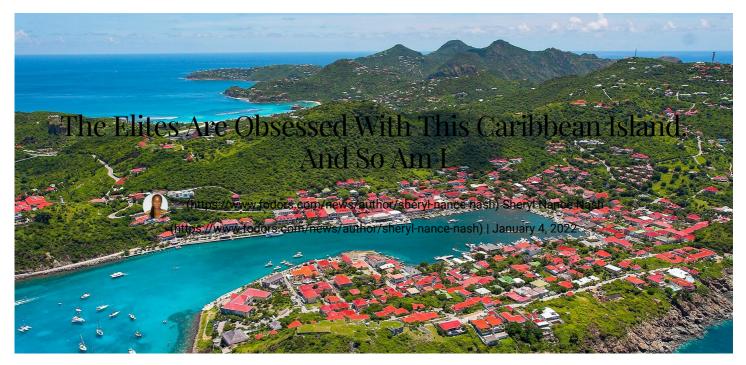


PHOTO: Courtesy of St. Barts Tourism Committee, Committee du Tourisme de Saint-Barth

I finally pulled back the curtain and discovered what draws the elite to this island paradise. t's hard to say when my fascination with St. Barths (https://www.fodors.com/world/caribbean/st-

barthelemy) began. Between read policities and Sout the island for so long, soon curiosity was killing me. I was set to go to this Caribbean paradise in 2017, but that dream was put on hold when Hurricane Irma hit. Still, I had a sweet spot for St. Barths and my curiosity remained piqued.

Last summer, like a long-lost lover, St. Barths called to me again via an invite to attend the St. Barths Gourmet Festival in November. I've never said yes so fast. At long last, I would check this island off my travel list and discover what consistently draws the Hollywood elite and wealthy to park their yachts here. The intrigue was intense. What would I discover about this Caribbean island, also known as the little France of the Americas? It's so steeped in mystique and has that buzzy je ne sais quoi.

TOP PICKS FOR YOU





Continue Reading Article After Our Video

RECOMMENDED FODOR'S VIDEO



ΙUΙ



Mother Nature is the real star of the island. There are beaches and then there are *beaches*. The more than a dozen beaches are extraordinary, from those with rugged beauty worth the hike to visit, to the calm waters of the sea just steps from your hotel. The turquoise water is a colorful contrast to the red roofs of villas and mansions tucked in the hillsides that dot the lush green landscape. The narrow and winding roads make something as ordinary as driving around an adventure. When visiting St. Barths, you'll want a jeep, scooter, or rag-top (and big sunglasses). And the views from on high? Well, you'll get weary of *oohing* and *aahing* because every turn around the bend is more spectacular than the last.

Unlike some other Caribbean islands, you won't find mega-hotels and sprawling all-inclusive resorts at St. Barths. Instead, the island is dotted with 5-star boutique hotels and charming villas. Whoever heard of an island of 10,000 people with 10 five-star hotels and 800 villas? That's St. Barths.

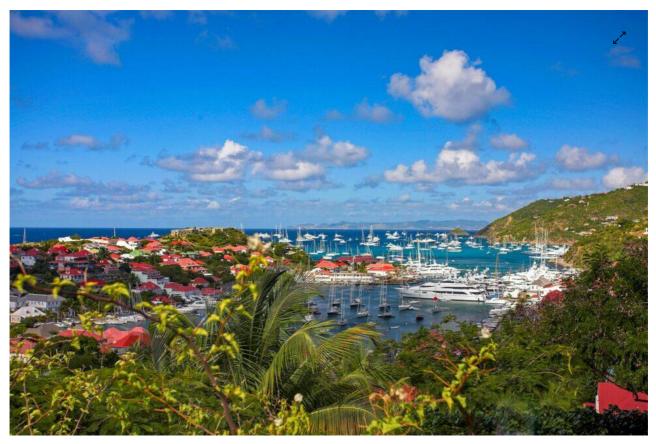


PHOTO: Courtesy of St. Barts Tourism Committee, Committee du Tourisme de Saint-Barth

For my visit, I checked into Villa Les Lataniers (https://sibarth.com/all-villas/villa-les-lataniers/)—its oceanview terrace and infinity pool made me wish I could move in permanently. The hotels are part of the lifeblood that keeps St. Barths pumping, with their exquisite restaurants, bars, spas, and amenities that are meant to impress. At Hôtel Barrière Le Carl Gustaf

(https://nyl.as/t1/260/aq1bjpmz5v9a7ih1508yk5i4s/0/1790c4c29cf715c0d9cce1b7e2eb9462dee^^\\
15b87470c19088dc5d40591bf2), there are suites and villas with their own private pool or plungal and private terrace—including some overlooking the ocean. Some private pools even come equipply with water bikes.

When it comes to eating, it's unsurprising that the cuisine shines as much as the accommodations on St. Barths. On the island, there are more that is the company of the island, there are more that is the company of the island, there are more that is the company of the island, there are more that is the company of the co



PHOTO: Courtesy of St. Barts Tourism Committee, Committee du Tourisme de Saint-Barth

Wherever you choose to eat, the island's cuisine is so elevated it's worth the trip. It's not for naught that 10 multi-Michelin-starred chefs from France said they felt honored to be guest chefs at the St. Barts Gourmet Festival (https://www.st-barths.com/en/events/gourmet-festival). The 2021 festival was an opportunity to showcase restaurants at iconic hotels like the Hôtel Barrière Le Carl Gustaf (https://nyl.as/t1/260/aq1bjpmz5v9a7ih1508yk5i4s/0/1790c4c29cf715c0d9cce1b7e2eb9462deee0b 15b87470c19088dc5d40591bf2), Hotel Christopher St. Barths (https://www.hotelchristopher.com/), Le Sereno

(https://nyl.as/t1/260/aq1bjpmz5v9a7ih1508yk5i4s/4/e3f4ce2caa2aca134af7fbf53acdcf477128d8fe 295db4e4e05f9112fdabc314), Hotel Manapany (https://hotelmanapany-stbarth.com/), and Cheval Blanc St Barths Isle de France

(https://nyl.as/t1/260/aq1bjpmz5v9a7ih1508yk5i4s/6/e3d5cd0ceee450df7720413cbf92bd5d1\)7c2793cce601c3f4fbcead8545).

Night after night, each course presented at the Gourmet Festival was an incredible feat of creativity.

From crispy chicken brioche and cavial of the less than several with mezcal aguachile—each decadent dish paired perfectly with the wine. It's the flavors that stick with me, such as the spiny lobster served with a smoke tapioca cream or the confit pork cheek with split peas, horseradish, and West-Indies' sausage. The memory of each dish and its intoxicating flavors still lingers on my palate.

Of course, beyond cuisine and accommodations, it is the beaches that draws one to St. Barths. While all the beaches here are idyllic, like something straight out of a movie, you don't want to miss Saint-Jean, Gouverneur, or Colombier, which is well worth the half-hour trail walk to get there. If you're not a water worshipper, you won't be bored. For retail therapy of the highest quality, head to Gustavia to shop a plethora of luxury brands. In Gustavia, you also can get a bit of history and culture from Le Musee Territorial "Wall House," (https://www.saintbarth-tourisme.com/en/territorial-museum-wall-house/) which tells the St. Barths story, and Le Petit Collectionneur Museum (https://www.afar.com/places/lepetit-collectionneur-museum-gustavia), for added Caribbean history.

The thing about St. Barths is that for as much as there is glitz and glamour, there is also an understated chill vibe. People on the island are often immaculately dressed. At the opening reception for the food festival, women appeared in floor-length gowns, replete with beaded and sparkly details; while the men looked as though they had stepped off a magazine shoot. While taking in the scene at the restaurants and bars, women wore beautiful kaftans and men donned crisp linen shirts and shorts that might have cost more than some's monthly mortgage. Despite the obvious display of style and wealth, there's the sense that people are simply dressing up and now showing off. That non-plussed attitude is one reason anyone can feel welcome in St. Barths.

While on the island, I enjoyed people-watching. No doubt the people are a part of St. Barths' inherent magic There's old money in St. Barths, but it's vibrant from the hipsters who live and flock there. The island keeps things interesting for residents and visitors alike. Nearly every month there is some sort of festival—be it art, books, films, music, or nautical-themed events. This ups the "it" factor of the island and brings in a diverse mix of people. You never know who you might meet at a St. Barths event.

During the day, St. Barths makes clear it can cater to different travelers. There are lunchtime DJs spinning at places like Nikki Beach (https://saint-barth.nikkibeach.com/), where party-goers can be seen dancing at the tables by midday. There are elevated cocktails and a "fire show" being served at Eden Rock (https://www.oetkercollection.com/hotels/eden-rock-st-barths/), the island's first swanky hotel. There are beachgoers, sun worshippers, and serenity-seeking spa lovers as well. In short, the island has a little something for everyone, no matter your interest.



PHOTO: Courtesy of St. Barts Tourism Committee, Committee du Tourisme de Saint-Barth

INSIDER TIP

In peak season—mid-December through mid-April—the traffic can be onerous in and around Gustavia. Parking can be difficult. Thankfully, that's being addressed with plans for new parking places for boutique owners, restaurant employees, and office workers, which will free up parking for visitors.

When visiting St. Barths, you frequently hear locals say that visitors to the island rarely only come once. After a stay that brought me the finest comforts, explosive flavors, and idyllic beaches—I'm confident that I too, will return one day.

Talk to us! Login or create an account to comment

Login

Register

0 Comments TOP



Sponsored Stories



Getting an Online Job in USA might be easier than you Work From Home | Sponsored ads (https://6651d8.nmptrkgqczwgnrb. com?

network=outbrain&site=\$publish
er_name\$_\$section_name\$&adti
tle=Getting+an+Online+Job+in+U
SA+might+be+easier+than+you+t
hink&subid1=\$time_stamp\$&sub
id2=005cccf7c4ec1a22ee651ee56db
e511cb2&subid3=\$publisher_id\$_
\$section_id\$&subid4=Getting+an
+Online+Job+in+USA+might+be+
easier+than+you+think&outbrain
clickid=\$ob_click_id\$&dpco=1&o
bOrigUrl=true)



Online Jobs in the USA May Pay More Than You Think Online Jobs | Search Ads (https://abo593.nmptrkgqczwgnrb. com?

network=outbrain&site=\$publish er_name\$_\$section_name\$&adti tle=Online+Jobs+in+the+USA+Ma y+Pay+More+Than+You+Think&s ubid1=\$time_stamp\$&subid2=00 5cccf7c4ec1a22ee651ee56dbe511cb2 &subid3=\$publisher_id\$_\$sectio n_id\$&subid4=Online+Jobs+in+t he+USA+May+Pay+More+Than+Y ou+Think&outbrainclickid=\$ob_click_id\$&dpco=1&obOrigUrl=tr ue)

Recommended by



Work as a truck driver in Canada (see their salaries) Truck driver jobs in Canada | Search ads

(http://gain-an-intl-big-rig-jobs-ca-ace.fvi/?

ref=outbrain-\$publisher_name\$ &sub_id=00c673d5735730ad49a6a d17e356e9758b|\$publisher_id\$&su b_id2=\$section_id\$|oood51d2fecb 2aee9608561d158d7445aa&click_tr ack_url=https%3A%2F%2Ftr.outbr ain.com%2FunifiedPixel%3Fmarke terId%3Dooo8ceobbe16e6c4b45a7 beb23d1536f14%26obApiVersion%3 D1.1%260btpVersion%3D1.3.3%26na me%3DAdclick&obid=ooo8ceobb e16e6c4b45a7beb23d1536f14&obclic kid=\$ob_click_id\$&rskey=Work+ as+a+truck+driver+in+Canada+% 28see+their+salaries%29&obOrig Url=true)

CATEGORIES

Beaches (https://www.fodors.com/news/category/beaches)

TOP



Caribbean (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/caribbean),

Hotels (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/hotels),

Saint Barthelemy (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/saint-barthelemy),

St Barths (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/st-barths),

St Barts (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/st-barts),

St. Barth (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/st-barth)

MORE NEWS & FEATURES

25 Ultimate Things to Do in Los Angeles > (/world/north-america/usa/california/los-angeles/experiences/news/photos/20-ultimate-things-to-do-in-los-angeles)

20 Ultimate Things to Do in New York City > (/world/north-america/usa/new-york/new-york-city/experiences/news/photos/20-ultimate-things-to-do-in-new-york-city)

10 Things to Do in Orlando Besides Theme Parks > (/world/north-america/usa/florida/orlando/experiences/news/10-things-to-do-in-orlando-besides-theme-parks)

15 Things NOT to Do in New York City > (/world/north-america/usa/new-york/new-york-city/experiences/news/photos/15-things-not-to-do-in-new-york-city)

20 Ultimate Things to Do in Chicago > (/world/north-america/usa/illinois/chicago/experiences/news/photos/20-ultimate-things-to-do-in-chicago)

FORUM

St. Barthelemy (/community/tags/st-barthelemy)



Q

It has been a distressing year for flight attendants who have faced verbal and physical attacks by violent passengers. However, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is pulling no punches when it comes to disruptive passengers (https://www.fodors.com/news/news/this-is-what-you-need-to-do-if-theres-an-unruly-passenger-on-your-flight). Early in 2021, the FAA made it clear that those who refuse to wear masks or threaten and intimidate the crew will face fines and possibly jail time (the FAA cannot prosecute criminal cases, but they refer the cases to federal prosecutors). As of December 21, 2021, there have been 5,779 reports (https://www.faa.gov/data_research/passengers_cargo/unruly_passengers/) of unruly behavior, 4,156 mask-related incidents, and 1,054 investigations.

Since the zero-tolerance policy came into effect in January 2021, the FAA has levied heavy fines (up to \$37,000 per violation) on passengers who interfere with the crew on flights and behave abominably. More than \$1.45 million in civil penalties have been proposed by the FAA till November and the number may be higher still.

Here's a list of the worst offenders slapped with thousands of dollars of fines for sexually assaulting, punching, kicking, and verbally abusing the crew, interfering with their duties under the influence of alcohol, and refusing to comply with the federal mask mandate.



The JetBlue Passenger Fined \$45,000

A JetBlue passenger was penalized a whopping \$45,000 for throwing objects at other passengers, refusing to stay seated, lying on the floor, and putting his head up a flight attendant's skirt. The offender was flying from New York to Orlando and was placed in flexi-cuffs while the flight made an emergency landing in Richmond. Now he'll be asked to cough up as much as a student's college tuition fee for his awful behavior.



The JetBlue Passenger Fined \$42,000

Another incident on a JetBlue flight. This one was flying from Queens to San Francisco when a passenger refused to wear a mask, made non-consensual contact with another passenger, threatened other passengers with harm, made stabbing gestures, and snorted cocaine from a bag. The flight was diverted to Minneapolis and he was removed from the aircraft by law enforcement officers.



The Southwest Passenger Fined \$40,823

On a Southwest flight from San Jose to San Diego in April, a passenger drank his own alcohol (prohibited by law) and sexually assaulted a flight attendant. He went on to smoke marijuana in the lavatory as the flight was descending and was arrested for public intoxication and resisting arrest.



The American Airlines Passenger Fined \$34,250

An American Airlines flight from Dallas/Fort Worth to Burbank in March had a major disruption from a passenger who refused to wear a mask on board. He faked drinking from an empty cup when requested to wear his mask several times by the crew, threw his second alcoholic drink to the floor and stomped on it, and requested another one when a nearby passenger called him out for being out of line. The disruptive passenger yelled profanities, the FAA, reports, and the flight attendant requested law enforcement to meet at the arrival gate after de-escalating the situation in the air.



The Southwest Passenger Fined \$32,500

In January 2021, a Southwest Airlines flight from Orlando to Kansas City was returned to the gate due to an unruly passenger. He assaulted passengers around him when someone refused to change seats with his travel partner. He threatened to commit violent crimes and told his companion he'd need to bail him out. Along with the \$32,500 penalty that the FAA slapped on him, Southwest also took punitive action by putting him on their no-fly list.



The Austin-San Francisco Passenger Fined \$32,000

The passenger who brought home \$32,000 in penalties was flying from Austin to San Francisco. She refused to fasten her seat belt, punched and screamed at her husband and son, threw trash at a flight attendant, and snatched cookies from a fellow passenger.



The Frontier Passenger Fined \$30,000

A Frontier Airlines from Atlanta to New York had a major disturbance when a passenger tried to gain entry into the flight deck during deplaning. He physically assaulted two flight attendants and threatened to kill them and the captain had to call for law enforcement on exiting.



The JetBlue Passenger Fined \$29,000

On a JetBlue flight from Boston to Orlando, a passenger refused to wear her mask. Her list of unruly behavior also included screaming profanities, purposely bumping into a seated passenger, and punching that passenger. Law enforcement was waiting for her at the gate on arrival.

The Southwest Passenger Fined \$26,787

In May, a Southwest flight bound to Chicago witnessed an altercation between a passenger and the crew. The man tried to enter the cockpit during the final descent, attempted to remove his luggage from the overhead compartment while the plane was still in motion, and punched a flight attendant when he was held down during touchdown to avoid injuries. The flight attendant required medical attention and he was welcomed by law enforcement at the gate.

The Frontier Passenger Fined \$25,500

In March last year, a passenger screamed obscenities at the flight crew and other passengers and locked herself in the lavatory of the Frontier Airlines aircraft heading to Providence. She also threw nuts at other passengers and shoved both her middle fingers in the flight attendant's face. She was removed from the flight on arrival by law officers.

Q

Community Guidelines (/community-faq#guidelines-for-participation)

0 Comments

Sponsored Stories



Villas For Sale in Dubai Might Surprise You.

Villas in Dubai | Search Ads (https://boc86a.nmptrkgqczwgnrb .com?

network=outbrain&site=\$publish er_name\$_\$section_name\$&adti tle=Villas+For+Sale+in+Dubai+Mi ght+Surprise+You.&subid1=\$time _stamp\$&subid2=00a587e3885783 0396dd83054a1c3a449b&subid3=\$publisher_id\$_\$section_id\$&subi d4=Villas+For+Sale+in+Dubai+Mi ght+Surprise+You.&outbrainclick id=\$ob_click_id\$&dpco=1&obOri gUrl=true)

Do you speak English? Work for a USA company, Live in

USA Jobs | Search Ads (https://ecdb59.nmptrkgqczwgnrb. com?

network=outbrain&site=\$publish
er_name\$_\$section_name\$&adti
tle=Do+you+speak+English%3F+
Work+for+a+USA+company%2C+
Live+in+%24%7Bcity%3Acapitaliz
&subid1=\$time_stamp\$&subid2=
00594cfecd2005b9a8c6c97a603db8
4fa6&subid3=\$publisher_id\$_\$se
ction_id\$&subid4=Do+you+speak
+English%3F+Work+for+a+USA+c
ompany%2C+Live+in+%24%7Bcity
%3Acapitaliz&outbrainclickid=\$o
b_click_id\$&dpco=1&obOrigUrl=
true)

Recommended by

Villas Prices In Dubai Might Be More Affordable Than You

Villas in Dubai | Search Ads

(http://villaindubai-open.site? adtitle=Villas+Prices+In+Dubai+ Might+Be+More+Affordable+Tha n+You+Think.&sub1=\$time_stam p\$&sub2=00475da7986be210a3eac 8ae425644f831&sub3=\$publisher_i d\$_\$section_id\$&pxob[id]=00293 77a06b629e3b71e1c7cd8ccb2493c&pxob[ec]=450Pixel20&pxob[cid]=\$ob_click_id\$&obOrigUrl=true)

TAGS

Airlines (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/airlines), FAA (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/faa), Fines (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/fines),

passengers (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/passengers),

unruly behavior (https://www.fodors.com/news/tag/unruly-behavior)

MORE NEWS & FEATURES

25 Ultimate Things to Do in Los Angeles > (/world/north-america/usa/california/los-angeles/experiences/news/photos/20-ultimate-things-to-do-in-los-angeles)

20 Ultimate Things to Do in New York City > (/world/north-america/usa/new-york/new-york-city/experiences/news/photos/20-ultimate-things-to-do-in-new-york-city)

10 Things to Do in Orlando Besides Theme Parks > (/world/north-america/usa/florida/orlando/experiences/news/10-things-to-do-in-orlando-besides-theme-parks)

15 Things NOT to Do in New York City > (/world/north-america/usa/new-york/new-york-city/experiences/news/photos/15-things-not-to-do-in-new-york-city)

20 Ultimate Things to Do in Chicago > (/world/north-america/usa/illinois/chicago/experiences/news/photos/20-ultimate-things-to-do-in-chicago)

A BACK TO TOP

About Us (/about-us/) Instagram (/instagram)

Contact Us (/contact-us/) Site Map (/sitemap)

Our Team (/about-us#masthead) Advertising (/advertising/)

Press Room (/press-room/) Licensing (/travel-content-licensing)

FAQs (/community-faq)

Follow Us

(https://www.facebook.com/FodorsTravel) (https://www.twitter.com/FodorsTravel) (https://www.pinterest.com/fodorstravel) (https://www.instagram.com/fodorstravel)

Fodor's Travel

Use of this site indicates your consent to the Terms of Use. Copyright © 2022 by MH Sub I, LLC dba Internet Brands. Fodor's is a registered trademark of MH Sub I, LLC dba Internet Brands. All rights reserved.

Terms of Use (//www.internetbrands.com/ibterms/) | Privacy Policy (//www.internetbrands.com/privacy/privacy-main.html)Cookie Preferences | Do Not Sell My Personal Information (//www.internetbrands.com/privacy/privacy-contact-form.php)