

Reunion Island

The Treasures of the Intense Island

This unique and colourful getaway offers you an authentic glimpse of this remarkable island. Between hikes and encounters with local traditions, culture and customs, enjoy an inspiring journey that will both surprise and move you.



The hidden wonders of the Salazie and Cilaos cirques, the Piton de la Fournaise and its lava flows, the lush landscapes of the Grand Sud, and the island's West Coast with its stunning beaches and vibrant markets are sure to captivate you. During this unforgettable journey, designed with responsible tourism in mind, uncover unexpected treasures and experience all the natural beauty that Réunion has to offer. Set out to discover this jewel of cultural diversity, bursting with colours and flavours beyond description. "From the crashing waves to the mountain peaks" — welcome

to the island of Réunion!

You will like

- 👉 Breathtaking discoveries amid lush and diverse landscapes
- 👉 Walks through the cirques of Salazie, Mafate and Cilaos
- 👉 Getting up close to a magnificent volcano
- 👉 Exploring the island's Wild South
- 👉 Complete freedom to fully experience this emotionally rich getaway
- 👉 Well-deserved breaks at lagoons and beaches
- 👉 A fresh perspective on St Pierre and its surroundings

Barometer

Encounter



Spirituality



Culture



Walk



Driving time



Adventure



Comfort



Immersion



Nature





Practical information

- 🕒 **Age & public** : For solo travellers, small groups, and families
- 🕒 **Duration** : 14 days on site
- 🕒 **Dates & travel periods** : Available all year
Dates of your choice (the best travel period is from April to November)
- 🕒 **Number of travellers** : For 2 to 4 travellers (solo travellers and groups of 5+: on request)
- 🕒 **Travel package** : Sportsy ("Let's go" package) - People, Nature, and Culture ("Discovery" package)
- 🕒 **Regions & landscapes** : Vulcanos, beaches, mountaines, lagoons...
- 🕒 **Accomodation** : Certified Guesthouse or Stopover Lodge
- 🕒 **Transport** : Private transport + rental car
- 🕒 **Luggage handling** : Portage of Your Hiking Bag

Program

Legend: B L D = meals included in the price of the trip (**B**reakfast, **L**unch and **D**iner)

Note : the outline of this program (steps, activities, etc.) is given for information purposes only.

It may undergo modifications or adjustments depending on technical criteria, safety requirements, current climatic conditions and availability. Our guides always do everything possible to make the best possible decisions and options.

little note :

Tout voyage qui sort des sentiers battus comporte parfois des évènements imprévus (grève, route coupée, fête locale...) ; votre capacité d'adaptation aux conditions locales (transports, nourriture, hébergements, imprévus, aléas climatiques), comme à des évènements inattendus sera aussi une clé à la réussite de votre voyage.

Nous comptons sur vous pour avoir un esprit délibérément « positif » et ne jamais oublier votre sens de l'humour.

Nous vous souhaitons un très beau et riche voyage .

Day 1: Airport - Hell-Bourg (Meals: B-D; transport: 1h)

Upon your arrival at the airport, you will be greeted by a member of our team who will provide you with a personalised travel guide. You will then be accompanied to our car rental partner to receive the keys and documentation for your vehicle.

Fifty kilometres separate you from your planned stop in Hell-Bourg. Take your time to enjoy the many beauties scattered along this charming route. The road leading to Salazie, and then to Hell-Bourg, is enchanting and sets the tone for the 13 days of discovery that await you. It winds gradually through lush, glistening cliffs, fed by countless waterfalls.

Don't miss the unmissable stop at the "Voile de la Mariée" to take in this magnificent landscape. Be sure to visit the impressive Cascade Blanche before reaching the small village of Salazie. From there, continue gently towards your final destination of the day: Hell-Bourg, nestled at the heart of the Salazie cirque. Depending on your pace, you may also have time to wander through the village's charming streets, ranked among the most beautiful in France, and admire its unique Creole houses.

Activities and/or suggested visits:

- * *Niagara Waterfalls: city of Sainte-Suzanne - exit « Cirque de Salazie » - 20 minutes from the airport*
- * *Natural site of « Mare à Poule d'Eau »: refreshing stop - 3 to 4 km before Hell Bourg*
- * *Guided tour of « Maison Folio »*
- * *Visit of « Maison Morange »*
- * *Guided tour of Hell Bourg: with the Tourist Information Centre*

Tip: purchase of a "2-Museum Pass" at a single competitive rate - available to buy during your first visit

Day 2: Hike of your choice at Hell-Bourg (Meals: B-; walking time depending on the chosen hike)

After a delicious breakfast, set off on an adventure and enjoy a wonderful hike of your choice. Depending on your preferences, several trails are available. Select the one that appeals most to you and savour this full immersion in the heart of unspoilt nature.

3 options are available:

Option 1 - A spectacular walk through the Bélouve forest to the Trou de Fer

6-hour walk - 600 m elevation gain - moderate difficulty - loop-walk available

Starting from Hell-Bourg, dare to explore the Salazie cirque. After a 1.5-hour climb, your efforts will be handsomely rewarded with a breathtaking view of this magical spot. Your walk continues along the Trou de Fer trail to reach the famous viewpoint overlooking the impressive Trou de Fer Waterfall. Marvel at the lush vegetation and the endemic species found in the incredible primary forest of Bélouve.

Option 2 - A charming loop walk to Manouilh source

4,5-hour walk - 800 m elevation gain - moderate difficulty - loop-walk

The Terre Plate and Source Manouilh loop takes you in the footsteps of an extraordinary young explorer who discovered these unique warm, calcareous and iron-rich springs. This trail, steeped in legend, offers the chance to wander through a forest bursting with scents and colours, past abundant waterfalls and along winding, adventurous—and occasionally steep—paths.

Option 3 - The fabulous Three Waterfalls hiking trail

1,5-hour walk - 250 m elevation gain - easy difficulty level - no loop-walk

Prefer a gentle walk to stretch your legs? The Three Waterfalls hiking trail is perfect to get you started. Enjoy this easy, accessible stroll in an enchanting setting, and gradually find your pace amidst the varied and exotic scenery that Réunion has to offer.

Day 3: Hell-Bourg - Col des Bœufs - La Nouvelle (Cirque de Mafate) (Meals: B-D; transport: 50 min)

+350 m and -750 m elevation gain - difficulty level ++

Your driver will drop you at the Col des Bœufs car park early in the morning for a wonderful half-day hike to start your adventure.

You have the option to leave a bag with the driver, allowing you to carry only your hiking backpack. You will be reunited with this bag on Day 7 after your four days of hiking.

Day 4: La Nouvelle - Marla (Meals: B-D; transport: none)

4-hour walk - +660 m and -460 m elevation gain - difficulty level ++

After crossing the Plaine des Sables, gradually descend via a few steps to reach the Trois Roches site, celebrated by many hikers for its beauty. Here, the Galets River disappears into a dramatic ravine, offering a stunning view of the waterfall. The trail then winds through this striking volcanic landscape before arriving at the charming village of Marla, nestled below the Three Salazes.

Day 5: Marla - Col du Taïbit - Cilaos (Meals: B-D; transport: none)

6-hour walk - +770 m and -1190 m elevation gain - difficulty level +++

The ascent of the Col du Taïbit at the start of the day offers a perfect warm-up. The panoramic view from the summit is breathtaking, as this is where you leave the Cirque de Mafate and enter the Cirque de Cilaos. Two completely different atmospheres and landscapes, reflecting the many sites that make Réunion Island so rich and diverse. A lovely descent follows through this beautiful forest until you reach the road, where you can choose to take the bus. For others, the hike continues along the valley floor before climbing back up to Cilaos, marking the end of today's stage.

Day 6: Cilaos (Meals: B-D; transport: 1h 20 min)

One of Réunion's three cirques welcomes you with open arms. Cilaos offers its authenticity and the chance to immerse yourself in an incredible, pristine natural environment. Explore its peaks and mountains, admire its breathtaking cliffs and escarpments, which are listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites. The ascent of Piton des Neiges, reaching 3,071 metres, is a real challenge. From Cilaos, several hikes are possible depending on your interests and abilities. Enjoy this true mountain paradise!

Would you like to take a break from hiking and enjoy the charms of this pretty village? In that case, several visits can be suggested, such as the covered market or the embroidery house.

Option 1: The Bras Rouge Waterfall

2-hour walk - elevation gain ~ 300 m - easy difficulty level

The spectacular Bras Rouge waterfall originates on the slopes of the Piton des Neiges. The trail takes you through dense and unique vegetation, including chocas and bibassiers. Along the way, you'll pass ravines, a natural arch, and enjoy breathtaking views, especially over the Bras des Étangs.

Option 2: The Marvellous Rock

1-hour walk - ~ 50 m elevation gain - easy difficulty level

This short walk is perfect for stretching your legs and enjoying the surroundings without getting tired. Lined with picnic areas, the trail takes you through a forest of coloured wood trees and cryptomerias. A superb botanical circuit awaits, along with a magnificent viewpoint over Cilaos.

Option 3: The Chapel Trail

4-hour walk - ~ 800 m elevation gain - sport difficulty level

A stunning hike that takes you to the entrance of a canyon, a true geological marvel carved by the river. A monolith over 100 meters wide and tall reveals much about the region. Venture into its heart to discover an incredible stone cathedral!

Day 7: Cilaos - Saint-Pierre (Meals: B-; transport: 1h 30 min)

A car transfer to the town of Saint-Pierre allows you to fully appreciate the majesty of this winding road with its 400 hairpin bends, connecting Cilaos to Saint Philippe — truly a spectacular journey!

Suggested activities:

**Guided tour of Saga du Rhum:*

Rhum Museum in the most ancient distillery of La Réunion

Visit: 1h15 with rhum degustation

Opening hours: free tours every day from 10am to 6pm - Guided tours at 10am, 11am, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, and 4:30pm

Entrance fees: €10 per adult - €7 per child aged 6 to 16

** Tour of the Roasted Coffee Estate: botanical garden, tour of the coffee plantations*

Opening hours : Tuesday to Saturday from 10:30am to 2:30pm

Entrance fees: €7 per person

Day 8: Saint Pierre - Le Volcan - Saint-Pierre (Meals: -D; transport: 1h 30 min)

Your early departure, after a hearty breakfast, is rewarded by the discovery of the exceptional Piton de la Fournaise, one of the most active volcanoes in the world! Why not make a stop along the way at Nez de Bœuf? An impressive panorama of the Rivière des Remparts canyon awaits you... a feast for the eyes! Next, explore the Commerson Crater, a chasm 235 metres deep and 200 metres wide, formed by a past volcanic eruption. Before reaching the Pas de Bellecombe car park, take in the lunar and desert-like landscapes of the Plaine des Sables. From Pas de Bellecombe, succumb to the breathtaking panorama of the caldera and the Dolomieu Crater, rising to 2,631 metres above sea level.

Option 1: Ascent of the Dolomieu Crater

5-hour walk – ~ 500 m elevation gain – hard difficulty level

At the exit of the Pas de Bellecombe car park, enjoy the viewpoint overlooking this incredible volcano and its vast caldera. The trail begins with a steep descent into the crater via a rather abrupt staircase. Continue your walk to Formica Leo, a crater dating back to 1753. Once you've soaked in this unusual site, start the ascent of the Dolomieu crater and explore the volcanic rock.

Option 2: Descent into the caldera to Formica Leo

1-hour walk – ~ 150 m elevation gain – intermediate difficulty level

Want to enjoy the area without tackling the full previous hike? Not very sporty or travelling with young children? Why not simply take the stunning descent into the small crater, Formica Leo? Soak up the breathtaking views without exhausting yourself!

Option 3: Hike to Piton de Bert

3,5-hour walk – ~ 150 m elevation gain – intermediate difficulty level

The hike to Piton de Bert, with its trail running along the ridges, allows you to observe the sheer power of the volcano as you skirt around it from the top of the caldera.

Additional information:

- * Park at Pas de Bellecombe to see the incredible Piton de la Fournaise*
- * Reverse and park at Piton de Bert car park to start your hike*
- * Don't forget your picnic*

Option 4: The Cut Nose of Sainte-Rose

3,5-hour walk – ~ 350 m elevation gain – intermediate difficulty level

This popular and accessible hike takes you along the ridges of this stunning volcano via its north-northwest face. Enjoy passing through small groves of high-altitude tamarind trees. Several breathtaking viewpoints over the caldera offer wonderful surprises throughout the walk. A picnic at the Nez Coupé site is highly recommended—why miss out on this unforgettable moment?

Advice and tips:

- *Hike departure: around 7:00 am from your accommodation*
- *Don't forget: sunscreen, hat or cap, packed lunch, 2 litres of water, warm clothing*

Suggested visits:

- *Palais du Fromage in Bourg-Murat: tasting of local cheeses ("péi") with chilli, ginger, or combava*
- *Guided Lava Tunnel Tour: €50 per person – advance booking required*
- *Cité du Volcan in Bourg-Murat: futuristic museum dedicated to the Piton de la Fournaise*
- Open Monday to Saturday – guided tours at 11:00 am, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, and 4:00 pm Price: €9 / adult – €6 / child – free for under 12 – cinema supplement: €2 / person*
- *Stop at the Bois Court viewpoint: enjoy the panorama of Grand Bassin and its waterfall*

Day 9: The Wild South (Meals: B-D; transport: 1h 45 min)

The port town of Saint-Pierre and its surroundings await you for a vibrant immersion into Réunion Island life. Let yourself be captivated by the bustling town centre, stroll through its open-air markets, along the beaches, and admire its stunning lagoons. The lively waterfront is sure to leave an impression. Be surprised by the Hindu temple, experience a unique immersion in the fishing village of Terre Sainte, and marvel at the colourful, picturesque Creole houses typical of Réunion and its unique atmosphere. You can also choose to explore the sites of Cap Méchant, the Langevin River, or the Grand Galet waterfall.

Day 10: Saint-Pierre - Les Makes (Meals: B-D; transport: 1h 45 min)

After breakfast, an extraordinary discovery awaits you. Étang-Salé les Bains and its Gouffre will amaze you with a long natural corridor formed by black volcanic rocks. This spectacular display of the raging sea, combined with the island's largest black sand beach, offers a striking setting for relaxation. Then head towards Saint-Leu and take a break at the Souffleur. This other natural wonder allows you to witness water rushing into an underwater volcanic cave, erupting like a geyser under the force of the waves—an impressive sight not to be missed.

Suggested activities and/or visits:

**Stella Matutina Museum: history of sugar and the island of Bourbon - Price: €9 per person*

**Mascarin Botanical Conservatory at Colimaçons: endemic plants - Price: €7 per person*

**Kélonia Museum, marine turtle observatory - Price: €8 per person*

Day 11: Les Makes - Saint-Gilles (Meals: B-D; transport: 1h 45 min)

After breakfast, enjoy the serene setting of the Réunion Highlands, where time seems to have stood still. Then, head to Étang-Salé les Bains and its natural chasm formed by black volcanic rocks. This spectacular display of the raging sea and the island's largest black sand beach invites you to relax in a dramatic setting. Next, make your way to Saint-Leu and take a break at the Souffleur. This remarkable natural site lets you see water surge into an underwater volcanic cave, erupting like a geyser thanks to the force of the waves—an unforgettable sight.

Suggested activities and/or visits:

**Stella Matutina Museum: history of sugar and the island of Bourbon - Price: €9 per person*

**Mascarin Botanical Conservatory at Colimaçons: endemic plants - Price: €7 per person*

**Kélonia Museum, marine turtle observatory - Price: €8 per person*

Days 12 & 13: The West Coast (Meals: B-; transport: none)

The island's west coast is full of beauty and surprises. Its stunning beaches invite you to enjoy a well-deserved moment of relaxation. The welcoming, dreamy atmosphere is perfect for unwinding and escaping daily life. Moreover, the wide range of activities on offer makes your stay on this wonderful part of the island even more unforgettable.

Option 1: Morning at Maïdo

Leave your lodge early in the morning, between 7:00 and 7:30, to enjoy ideal conditions for your hike. An exceptional panorama of the Cirque de Mafate unfolds before you during this expedition. Upon reaching Petite France, enjoy a free visit and hike along the Maïdo ridges up to the Grand Bénare. If you take the Glacière loop, a shorter but equally enjoyable 4.5-hour hike is also possible.

Option 2: Morning hike at Cape Noir

This Roche Verre Bouteille loop, with its spectacular views of the Cirque de Mafate, surprises and delights hikers of all levels.

Suggested activities and/or visits:

**The beautiful beaches of the West Coast: Lagoon of l'Ermitage les Bains, Trou d'Eau Beach, Boucan Canot Beach - activities include kayaking and paddleboarding.*

**Saint-Paul Market: every Friday and Saturday morning, a vibrant and colourful place not to be missed.*

**Free or guided visit of the Villèle Museum: a colonial property within a plantation with a rich historical past.*

Day 14: La Saline les Hauts - Roland Garros Airport(Meals: B-; transport: 1 h)

Depending on your flight time, on the way to the airport, visit the historic center of Saint-Denis. Don't miss Rue de Paris with its colonial remains. The Barachois, the northernmost point of Saint-Denis, is a lively part of the waterfront. Explore the defense cannons, the bustling and cosmopolitan Rue du Maréchal Leclerc, and enjoy the exotic freshness of the Jardin de l'État.

On the way to Saint-Denis, make a final free cultural stop at the Lazaret de la Grande Chaloupe in La Possession. Remnants of this site remain, which once served as the landing and quarantine area for indentured slaves before their assignment to plantations.

Airport transfer and return of your rental car

Prices and conditions

Price per person (high season) - April to December (except June)

(varies depending on the number of travellers, including adults and children, and the cost of the rental car)

- 4 travellers: from €1,995
- 2 travellers: from €2,295
- 4+ travellers: [on request](#)

Price per person (low season) - January to March, and June

(varies depending on the number of travellers, including adults and children, and the cost of the rental car)

- 4 travellers: from €1,795
- 2 travellers: from €1,995
- 4+ travellers: [on request](#)

Options

- Option to customise your stay with or without hiking, according to your preferences: [on request](#)

Supplements

- For late arrivals, an overnight stay in Saint-Denis is available: [on request](#)

Extensions

- Extension of your stay: [on request](#)
- Extend your stay and combine your trip with Mauritius: [on request](#)

Flights

- Price depending on the date of booking, the airline, and the travel dates.

Included in the price

- Trip organisation - travel booklet and itinerary booklet
- Airport Welcome and Transfers - Day 1 & Day 14
- Transport throughout the journey
- English-speaking guide and/or local guides
- Meals as mentioned in the programme
 - Dinners: Days 3, 4, 7, 8 & 11
- 2 nights with breakfast, including the first night on a half-board basis, in a guesthouse in Hell-Bourg, Cirque de Salazie
- 2 nights on a half-board basis in a stopover lodge in the Cirque de Mafate
- 3 nights with breakfast in a double room at a guesthouse in Saint-Pierre
- 1 night with breakfast in unique/quirky accommodation in Les Makes
- 2 nights with breakfast in a double room at a 3-star hotel in Cilaos
- 3 nights with breakfast in a guesthouse rated 3 Épis (Gîtes de France) or 3 Clés Vacances in La Saline les Hauts or Le Guillaume

- Tourist tax included at the mentioned accommodations
- The services of a dedicated driver during the trek, including luggage transfers and safekeeping.
- Car rental in Réunion of category Y, such as a 5-seater Clio or similar, for 8 days (unlimited mileage – pick-up and drop-off at the airport – insurance included, with a €600 excess in case of accident, theft, or vehicle damage)
- Provision of a personalised roadbook, including accommodation vouchers and useful practical information about Réunion
- A phone consultation scheduled two weeks before your departure to:
 - Help you pack.
 - Book your optional activities.
 - Share advice and tips to make the most of your stay.
 - 24/7 telephone assistance throughout your stay

Not Included

- Anything not listed in the “Included” section, and any changes to the itinerary during our stay.
- Transport to destination: domestic and/or international flight, round-trip train...
- Carbon offsetting of your flight and travel (*on a voluntary basis*)
- Travel insurance (*highly recommended*)
- Lunches:
 - (Approximately €10-15 per person for lunch)
- Dinners: D1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12 & 13
- Options to book ahead of time
- Repatriation insurance
- Cancellation and baggage loss insurance
- Drinks and tips
- Extras and personal expenses
- Excess luggage

Contact

Discover these colorful countries, the heart & values that drive us and comments from former travelers.

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« **Emotion Planet**, the world is never far away when its men are not strangers to us. »