

## Fort de France, Martinique

### Port information

<b>Currency</b>	The official currency is <b>Euro</b> . Major credit and debit cards are accepted by the majority of shops and restaurants. US Dollars are also usually accepted.	<b>Language</b>	The official language is French. English is widely spoken and understood.
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### Getting around

<b>Distance to town centre</b>	From the Passenger Terminal it is around a 5 minute taxi drive to the town centre.	<b>Main Highlights</b>	A visit to the ruins of the city of <b>St. Pierre</b> is less than an hours drive from Fort-de-France and is well worth a visit. A modern day version of the ruins of Pompeii, it is here that Mont Pelée erupted in 1906, killing 30,000 people in less than 10 seconds. Head to <b>Place Monseigneur Romero</b> (at Schoelcher). There you'll find the <b>Cathedral St.-Louis</b> and a (small) outlet of France's Galeries Lafayette shops, ranging from local stores to French boutiques. The <b>Bibliothèque Schoelcher</b> is a Romanesque-Byzantine-style library and an architectural wonder It was built for the Paris Exposition of 1889 and was shipped piece by piece and then reassembled in Fort-De-France. <b>Fort St-Louis</b> , The hulking fortress that gave the city its name lurks on the far side of La Savane and dates from 1640, although most of what stands today is the result of subsequent additions. After years of being closed to the public, Fort St-Louis is finally open to tours, and it's easily the top sight in town. Buy tickets and join tours at the Tourist Information Kiosk on La Savane. <b>Jardin de Balata</b> , Just 10km outside of Fort-de-France, this mature botanical garden in a rainforest setting is one of Martinique's best attractions and it will please anyone with even a passing interest in botany. The hour-long walk around the garden is clearly marked, and a series of tree walks will keep kids interested. An audioguide in English is available. <b>For any more going ashore information pass by the Destination Services Centre located on Deck 5. We're always happy to help make the most of your time ashore.</b>
<b>Getting About</b>	Taxis will be available from outside the terminal or a walk into the town will take you around 15-25 minutes. There's a helpful "blue line" painted on the roadway that stretches out of the terminal. Alternatively follow street signs pointing to "Centre de Ville". Always confirm the price and the currency you would like to pay in before setting off with a local taxi.		
<b>Public Transport</b>	Large passenger buses, holding about 40 people, provide public transportation services within Fort-de-France. These public buses are the cheapest form of transport on the island. Always double check routes and departure times.		
<b>Main Highlights</b>	Fort-de-France, Martinique's capital, has undergone immense change in the past decade. Beginning the 21st century as an economically backward, dilapidated kind of place, the city has very successfully reinvented itself as a cruise-ship destination, with the construction of two impressive new terminals. More than that, Fort-de-France has rejuvenated its central park, given a coat of paint to many of its buildings and enhanced itself with several pieces of modern architecture. All this has served to breathe fresh life into the largest city in the French West Indies, and cruisers and travelers alike now flock to the place.		

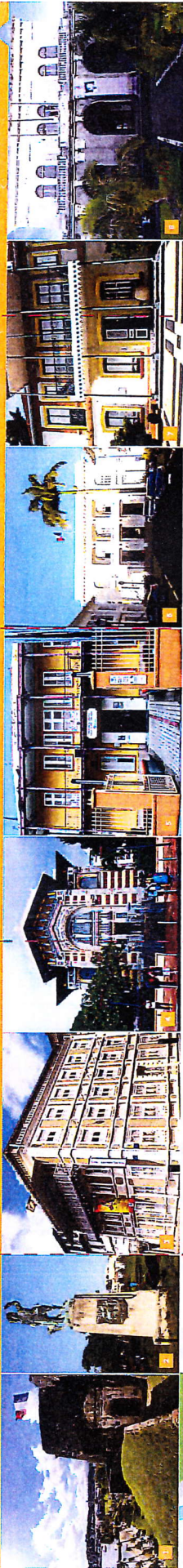
### Essential information

<b>Tourist information</b>	The Martinique Tourist Office is located at Immeuble Le Beaupre, Pointe de Jaham, in Schoelcher.	<b>Shopping</b>	There is excellent duty free shopping at the cruise terminal. The main shopping area is in Fort-de-France, on Rue Victor-Hugo and the neighbouring side streets, in the centre of town.
<b>Internet access</b>	23 Rue Schoelcher (just look for the sign saying 'Internet'); this cyber cafe, like most of those scattered throughout Fort-de-France, is located on the second floor of a storefront. There are no cyber facilities located at the Tourelles Terminal.	<b>IMPORTANT:</b> As with all tourist destinations, please keep a close eye on personal valuables.	There is also an excellent crafts market near the harbour on the north side of the park. It is well worth a visit if you are looking for local crafts, art and clothing.
<b>Nearest beaches</b>	The best beaches are located south of Fort-de-France. Les Salines is a short drive south of Ste.-Anne, with a 1½ mile cove of soft white sand, lined with coconut palms it is one of the most beautiful beaches on the island. Another option is to catch the ferry from Fort-de-France to Pointe du Bout, across the bay. Lined with luxury resorts, The Sofitel Bakoua, is one of the most popular hotel beaches		<b>Grand Marché</b> , This attractive covered market is aimed at visiting cruise crowds and is a great place to stock up on crafts, souvenirs, spices and trinkets.

Your Destination Services team would like to wish you an enjoyable day in Martinique

There can be last minute changes. Please check *Cruise News* for the latest information before you go ashore.

# FORT-DE-FRANCE DOWNTOWN / CENTRE VILLE



	Historic sight / Patrimoine		Pharmacy / Pharmacie		Ship / Navire		Cable terminal / Terminal à câble
	Information		Police		Supermarket		Golf
	WiFi		Restaurant		Disabled access / Accessibilité		Museum
	Post office / Poste		Parking		Car rental / Location de voiture		Foreign exchange / Change
	Train		Restaurant		Bench / Banc		Pedestrian street / Rue piétonne
	Bank, foreign exchange / Banque, change		Daily free stop / Arrêt gratuit		Beach / Plage		Charming street / Rue pittoresque

- 1 SAINT-LOUIS FORT
- 2 BELAIN DESBARRES STATUE
- 3 MUSEUM OF PRE-COLUMBIAN ARCHAEOLOGY
- 4 SCHOELCHER LIBRARY
- 5 COLONIAL STYLE PAVILION
- 6 GOVERNMENT HOUSE
- 7 HISTORY & ETHNOGRAPHY MUSEUM
- 8 CAMILLE DESBARRES CULTURAL CENTER
- 9 SAINT-LOUIS CATHEDRAL
- 10 THEATRE & AÏME CESAIRE MUSEUM

## LA MARTINIQUE, THE ISLAND OF UNEXPECTED ENCOUNTERS



## USEFUL CONTACTS

**ADRESSES UTILES**

**TOURIST INFORMATION**  
 OFFICE DU TOURISME (DOWNTOWN FORT-DE-FRANCE)  
 10 RUE DE LA SAVANE, 97231 FORT-DE-FRANCE  
 TEL: +596 596 93 37 31  
 FAX: +596 596 93 37 32  
 www.visitmartinique.com

**IN CASE YOU HIRE YOUR SHIP**  
 HARBOR MASTER (CENTRE VILLE)  
 PILOT STATION (CENTRE VILLE)  
 TEL: +596 596 93 37 31  
 FAX: +596 596 93 37 32  
 www.visitmartinique.com

**SOS**  
 POLICE  
 TEL: +596 596 93 37 31  
 FAX: +596 596 93 37 32  
 www.visitmartinique.com

**CONTACTS**  
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