

Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe

Port information

Currency	The currency is Euro . Major credit and debit cards are accepted by the majority of shops and restaurants. US Dollars are sometimes accepted in restaurants and shops.	Language	The official language is French however English is widely spoken and understood.
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Getting around

Distance to town centre	The town of Pointe-à-Pitre can be reached in 5-10 minutes on foot. If you wanted to travel further afield, you can use local hire car companies or private bus lines.	Main highlights	Mémorial ACTe , Opening in 2015, this massively important museum of the slave trade and slavery is quite simply a must-see for any visitor to Guadeloupe. Housed in a spectacular silver-lattice structure on the site of the former Darboussier sugar factory on Pointe-à-Pitre's long-neglected waterfront, MACTe tackles its heartbreaking subject head-on, documenting the subjugation of the peoples of the Caribbean, the mass importation of African slaves, their brutal existence under their European masters and the long and painful struggle for freedom.
Getting About	There are several private bus lines connecting Pointe-à-Pitre to smaller villages nearby. Bus stops have blue signs picturing a bus, however, in less developed areas; the buses will only stop if you raise your arm out. Always double check routes and departure times.		Cathédrale de St-Pierre et St-Paul , Rather than the traditional arches, this attractively painted sand-colored church, nicknamed the 'Iron Cathedral,' is supported by iron girders intended to brace it against earthquakes and hurricanes. It's quite unusual but seems to be working well – the church has stood here in its current form since 1876.
Taxis	Official taxis can be found inside the pier area, near the 'Blue House' and nicknamed 'Friendly Taxis'. All taxis here are metered. Outside of the pier the taxis are not official and are not recommended. Always confirm the price and the currency you would like to pay in before setting off with a local taxi.		Musée Schoelcher , Occupying an interesting period building, this museum is dedicated to the life of abolitionist Victor Schoelcher. While the museum was closed for a major refit at the time of research, the main exhibits are art pieces that belonged to Schoelcher and various artifacts relating to slavery. The museum is due to reopen in 2018.
Main highlights	Located in front of the harbor overlooking the Caribbean Sea, Pointe à Pitre is the heart of Guadeloupe Islands. Soak up the magical atmosphere of the city! Admire the colonial buildings such as the Place de la Victoire or the Marché Saint-Antoine where you will be taken away by the smell of spices, fruits and vegetables. The main square of Pointe-à-Pitre is called Place de la Victoire and is surrounded by colonial style building and faces the small harbour of La Darse. Sainte-Anne Market , The daily colourful market of Sainte Anne is located in front of the small fishing port. After the beach, go for a walk and visit the 15 stores of the art craft village. Between souvenirs, local and fresh products, you will easily find a gift to take home.		Musée St-John Perse , This three-level municipal museum occupies an outstanding example of 19th-century colonial architecture and is dedicated to the renowned poet and Nobel laureate Alexis Leger (1887–1975), better known by his nom de plume Saint-John Perse, who spent his childhood in Guadeloupe. The house offers a glimpse of a period Creole home and displays on Perse's life and work. 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.

Essential information

Tourist information	Inside the 'Blue House' on the pier area, island maps and local information is available. There is a tourist information office in the Place de la Victoire.	Shopping	The city of Pointe-à-Pitre is notable for its outdoor markets – such as Marche St. Antoine and Marche de la Darse, both in the heart of downtown, near Place de la Victoire, Pointe-à-Pitre's main square. Another market, the Place Gourbeyre Flower Market, next to the Cathedral of St-Pierre and St-Paul, is worth a detour through narrow, winding streets. Beyond markets, there's wonderful shopping, a blend of couture French boutiques and storefront after storefront selling bolts of fabric and madras is also a great souvenir. The shopping streets of Frébaul, Nozières and Schoeler are home to luxury boutiques and souvenir shops which create an animated and colourful atmosphere.
Internet access	In the cruise terminal free Wi-Fi is available. There are several cyber cafes located in Saint-François, Sainte Anne, Mare-Gillard and Pointe-à-Pitre town, all nearby to the port area.	IMPORTANT: As with all tourist destinations, please keep a close eye on personal valuables.	
Nearest beaches	The resort of Gosier is the closest beach to Pointe-à-Pitre (8km away). In a taxi it will cost approximately €20. There are other beaches located on the Eastern side of the island ranging from white, black and golden sand beaches such as St Anne's beach which is 20km away.		Shops are open from 08.00-midday and from 1400 – 1800. Most shops are closed on weekends and Wednesday afternoons.

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

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