

Travel Facts



US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens exercise normal precautions in Sint Maarten. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws, and special circumstances in this country.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport is valid at the date of their entering the country and during the length of their entire visit. They should also make sure they have at least 1 blank page in their passport for any entry stamp that will be required. A visa is required. US citizens will need to get in touch with the country's embassy or nearest consulate to obtain a visa prior to visiting the country.

US Embassy/Consulate

US does not have an embassy in Sint Maarten; the Consul General to Curacao is accredited to Sint Maarten; US citizens may call US Dept of State (202)-501-4444 for emergencies; alternate contact is the Embassy in Curacao [599] (9) 461-3066; US Consulate General in Curacao, PO Box 158, J.B. Gorsiraweg 1, Curacao; ACSCuracao@state.gov; <https://cw.usconsulate.gov/>

LGBTQ+ Travelers

When venturing abroad, LGBTQ+ travelers can face unique challenges since laws, attitudes, and legal protections vary from country to country. Consult the website via the link below to learn what precautions to take before and during your trip.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/lgbtqi.html>

Telephone Code

721

Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 912; Fire: +1 721 545-4222 ; Police: 911

Vaccinations

An International Certificate of Vaccination for yellow fever is required for travelers arriving from countries with a risk of yellow fever transmission and for travelers having transited through the airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. See WHO recommendations. <http://www.who.int/>

Climate

Tropical marine climate, ameliorated by northeast trade winds, results in moderate temperatures; average rainfall of 150 cm/year; hurricane season stretches from July to November

Currency (Code)

Netherlands Antillean guilders (ANG)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

110 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): A, B



Major Languages

English, Spanish, Creole, Dutch, Papiamentu (a Spanish-Portuguese-Dutch-English dialect), French

Time Difference

UTC-4 (1 hour ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Major Religions

Protestant 41.9%, Roman Catholic 33.1%, Hindu 5.2%, Christian 4.1%, Jehovah's Witness 1.7%, Evangelical 1.4%, Muslim/Jewish 1.1%

Potable Water

Yes

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Right



Tourist Destinations

Maho Beach; Front Street; Mullet Bay; Yacht Club at Isle de Sol; Yoda Guy Movie Exhibit; Philipsburg Boardwalk

Major Sports

Soccer, sailing, track and field, rugby

Cultural Practices

The culture of St Maarten is a mixture of Dutch, French, British, and African heritage. all school children on both sides are taught to be tri-lingual in Dutch, English, and French.

Tipping Guidelines

The Dutch side of the island follows the American style of tipping. Staff depends on tips and there is an expectation that the guest is adding 15% to the check for a tip.

Souvenirs

Dutch porcelain, guavaberry products, flavored liqueurs and wine, spices, perfume, cosmetics

Traditional Cuisine

Callaloo — a thick soup made with greens, pork, onions, okra, thyme, and hot peppers

