



SHANTI MAURICE

RESORT & SPA

Discover Shanti Maurice & Mauritius

We live our lives through our senses. Whether you enjoy relaxing on our soft sandy beach with a refreshing cocktail in hand as the scent of sweet sugarcane fills the air, or prefer indulging in the most fresh food in our restaurants, Shanti Maurice has everything covered.

SHANTIMAURICE.COM

This is very Shanti Maurice

CULINARY EXPERIENCES

STARS Lucullan crossover: Stars has a magic and romantic momentum. All you need for an inspiring dinner. Add the freshest ingredients and extravagant aromas, the very best of Indian Ocean cuisine.

RUM SHED The Rum Sheds are a meeting place for the locals. The Rum Shed of the Shanti Maurice, one of the 111 must-see places in Mauritius, serves Mauritian Chili-bites (Gâteau Piment), Samosas and unforgettable rum cocktails that will defy replication. Ernest Hemingway was not the only one who knew that mixed drinks containing fine distilled sugar cane incite exquisite conversation. A marvelous spot to socialize. In zeitgeisty hipster-speak: a seriously cool hang-out.

RED GINGER BAR POOL LOUNGE This here is the social core of the Shanti Maurice: This exorbitant Cocktail Bar comes across as relaxed and friendly and it is hardly possible not to show up here several times a day. The menu draws a line from the excellent Burger to snacks such as Thai Chicken Wings and fine papaya & lime or lychee & ginger sorbets to chill things out. Delightful as an aperitif before dinner: Shanti Mojito. Meeow!

LA KAZE MAMA' GARDEN RESTAURANT

In the La Kaze Mama everything revolves around traditional Mauritian plain fare: something like granny's cooking and BBQ in the herb garden. The restaurant maxes out on aromatic local ingredients, many of them grown in their own herb and vegetable garden.

ASIAN SUSHI LOUNGE Chef Alex's Signature Sushi remains unforgettable. Without a doubt amongst the best in the world - inspired by Asia and seasoned by planet earth. At lunch and at dinner time, head out to the Stars Courtyard to discover the exquisite selection of Sushi and Asian delights, filled with hand-picked ingredients and rich flavours.

AUTHENTIC INDIAN SPECIALITIES MENU

Breathtaking authentic Indian cuisine prepared by two top Chefs from North and South India - colourful culinary fireworks inspired by Mauritius Flavours.

PRIVATE FISH SNACK Spectacular setting in front of the breaking waves: a private luxury BBQ with freshly caught fish and lobster ... unmissable!

This is very Shanti Maurice

EXPERIENCES FOR BODY AND SOUL

SHANTI SPA: PURE ENERGIE PACKAGE

FOR BODY AND SOUL As the renowned New York 'Traveller' put it: 'The Shanti Spa is by far the largest and most serious of the islands.' First, if they don't know, who would? And second, we Alpha-Guide folks managed to enjoy it quite a bit ourselves: their treatments include Thai-massage via Reiki-healing, Ayurveda face treatments all the way to Watsu-sittings as well as a range of more intensive Spa treatments with a focus on yoga, meditation or sleep. The Swasthyan programme starts with a diagnosis by Dr. Mishra. An initial check-up consultation (build/posture, skin type etc) - with a knowledgeable eye, the specialist asks a series of questions about your lifestyle. This serves to define the intrinsic Dosha-balance, which will determine the appropriate treatment. We would say: tailor-made Spa-avant-garde and a real 365-day yoga (re)treat

FLORAL BOUQUETS AND IMPRESSIONS from the Shanti-Gardens Kind of Magic: the luminescence of the indigenous plants such as frangipani, bougainvilleas and hibiscus in a generous park full of exotic trees. In the vegetable garden cress and coriander, beetroot, basil, broccoli and spearmint. A pre-dinner walk/ wander through such lavish fragrances gives you an appetite for life. And of course for the soaring culinary flights that await you. In the realm of the senses!!

SHANTI-MOMENTS with Picknick in Romantic Intimacy for grand moments there are powerful places within this 14,5 ha magical world. A picnic in the meadows or in the herb garden, a private dinner with an open fire at the beach.

That's what holidays are made of!

A WARM WELCOME FROM THE COCKPIT

Feel the real Mauritius, authentic, playful, honest and pure, surrounded by nature, in a laid-back luxury setting.

A resort for all generations, ranging from honeymoon to spa retreat to family vacation. 'This is the sort of holiday we used to have before we had children, now possible with children.'

In this spirit, enjoy our Shanti Maurice.
Haje Thureau, General Manager

Enjoy the DNA of Mauritius

Etymology

Dina Harobi, meaning 'abandoned island', Dina Robin

About 8 million years ago the archipelago of the Mascarene Islands, including Mauritius, Rodrigues and La Réunion, emerged due to the fairly violent activities of Mister Indian Ocean.

Whether Mauritius was already known to the Phoenicians and Malaysians remains unclear. Some tales have it that the latter discovered the island on their travels from Madagascar to Indonesia. There is, however, no proof. The island figures on several old Arab sea maps and was known to the Arabs already in the 10th century. Arab seafarers called it Dina Harobi, meaning 'abandoned island'.

History

Portuguese era (1505-1598)

Whether Vasco da Gama, who discovered the sea route from Europe to India, was also the first European to set eyes on the Mascarenes, remains equally uncertain. Officially discovered by (the) Portuguese explorer Pedro Mascarenhas, the island was used by the Portuguese as a base for their interests in Goa and Malacca.

Dutch era (1598-1710)

The Dutch decided to call the island 'Prins Maurits van Nassaueland', in honour of Prince Moritz of Orange (Dutch Maurits = Latin Mauritius) from the house of Nassau, the Governor of Holland. Ergo: Holland gave Mauritius its name.

French era (1715-1810)

In 1715, the French conquered the island and changed its name to 'île de France'. Mahé de Labourdonnais was its Governor from 1734 to 1746 and founded Port Louis in 1735, which became the site of the Governor's residence.

British Era (1810-1968)

In 1810, the British, under the command of Commodore Josias Rowley, occupied the island after their Mauritius campaign against France and of course once again called it Mauritius. Who wouldn't have? Rodrigues likewise remained British into the future. La Réunion, also conquered, was, however, handed back to France after the war.

VIPS

Mark Twain

'Mauritius was created first, and then Paradise; but Paradise was just a copy of Mauritius', said Mark Twain, when he visited the island in the year 1896. It might be noted, however, that this quotation was torn from its context: Mark Twain was sulking because the islanders failed to give him enough attention. He rather meant the comment sarcastically. Yet he is right even without the undertone.

Charles Baudelaire

He wanted to purify himself of his Parisian bohemian dandy life. That didn't always work out. No, it really didn't.

The Mauritians

Multicultural and superstition

The flag of the Republic would stand for the people and religions of the island: red for the Hindus, blue for the Christians, yellow for the Chinese and green for the Muslims. Nonsense. It was a travel journalist who invented this story and the text did the rounds on the internet. In reality, the colours represent the blood spilled in the fight for independence, the ocean, the sun and the lush vegetation.

Origins

About two thirds (68%) of the inhabitants are Indomauritians, that is, they originate from the Indian subcontinent. A large part of the rest of the population are so-called Creoles (27%, former slaves from Africa and Madagascar mixed with other groups, mostly Europeans). A good 3% of the Mauritians, the Sinomauritians, have Chinese origins. The white minority is even smaller: about 2% of the population is Francomauritian. There are no aboriginal people. Four different religions living a model of cooperation. Almost tension-free!

Culinary basic knowledge

Each culture has left its culinary footprint: the dish 'Curry no 2' for instance designates a popular creole delicacy made with monkey meat. An alternative would be hearts of palm or 'love apples', as they call tomatoes here. In any case, French cuisine is in (see Fine Dining).

Two world stars

Dodo & the blue Mauritius

This clumsy flightless bird with a large hooked beak, short legs, stumpy wings and no natural enemies, was called 'fat ass' by the Dutch, which was corrupted to give us the name Dodo. Now it only exists as a heraldic animal.

Corpulent and incapable of flight as he was, the dodo found no escape when the Dutch started to settle on Mauritius. Due to the lack of enemies, the dodo had become a 20 kilo dumpy ground breeder. Nonetheless, the Dutch needed almost 100 years until they had eaten the last of its kind. That was around 1690.

Yes, it is a pity. However, as an omnipresent souvenir the dodo lives on. Deservedly so. It has nothing else to do.

In 1847, the postal service put a set of 500 stamps, called blue Mauritius, on the market. By 1913 it was valued at 25.000 Mark, today about one Million Euro. That could change, however, if the printing plate, assumed lost since 1930, reappeared.

For the philatelists' sake: let's hope it won't!
Anyway, enjoy the *Shanti Maurice* and the *Alpha-Guide*
Respect. Yours, Nikolaus Schrefl, Founder

The Alpha-Guide can be found only in top selected Hotels in Vienna, Salzburg, Kitzbühel, Hamburg, Munich, Sylt, Mauritius, Ibiza
office@alpha-community.com

The Resort navigation of Shanti Maurice



- Das Resort
- 1 Lobby & Reception
 - 2 Boutique
 - 3 Library
 - 4 Red Ginger Bar & Pool Lounge
 - 5 Main Pool with Jacuzzi
 - 6 Stars Restaurant
 - 7 Conference Room
 - 8 Fish Shack Open Air Restaurant
 - 9 Water Sports Centre
 - 10 Jetty & Wedding Pavilion
 - 11 Spa Pool & Watsu Pool
 - 12 Spa Reception
 - 13 Yoga Pavillion
 - 14 Herbs & Vegetables Garden
 - 15 La Kaze Marna Restaurant
 - 16 Gym
 - 17 Jogging Track
 - 18 Kids Club
 - 19 Tennis Courts
 - 20 Chess Board
 - 21 Rum Shed Bar & Grill Restaurant
 - 22 Open-air Cinema
 - 23 Archery
 - 24 Putting green
 - 25 Car Park
- Villas
 - Junior Suites Oceanfront / Beachfront
 - Junior Suites Oceanview
 - P Pool child safety net option pre-installed
 - N Privacy net option pre-installed

Room Categories	Levels	Room Number	Amount of rooms
Junior Suite Oceanview	Ground Floor & First Floor	127*, 128*, 129, 130, 131*, 132*, 133*, 134*, 143*, 144* 145*, 146*	12
Junior Suite Oceanfront	First Floor	103, 104, 107, 108, 111*, 112*, 117, 118,	16
Junior Suite Beachfront	Ground Floor	101*, 102*, 105, 106, 109, 110, 115, 116, 119*, 120*, 123, 124, 135*, 136*, 139, 140	16
Oceanview Pool Villa	Ground Floor	207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 214, 215, 216	8
Beachfront Suite Pool Villa	Ground Floor	201, 202, 203, 204, 205	5
Oceanview Double Suite Pool Villa	Ground Floor	212, 217	2
Shanti Villa	Ground Floor	206	1

All Room Numbers marked with (*) are Interconnecting Suites. Suite number 101* is equipped with facilities for the disabled.

Phone +230 603 7200, Mail info@shantimaurence.com
Website shantimaurence.com

Good things in the neighborhood



Fine Dining Le Château de Bel Ombre heritageresorts.mu, Heritage Le Telfair, Bel Ombre, +230 605 5000. Children not allowed. Outstanding ambience on the terrace; creative, elegant culinary art on the plate. By the way, the sommelier here knows his stuff! 9 minutes, 5.3 km via B9

Nature pure Chazal Ecotourism Impasse de la Forêt, Chamoury, +230 5422 3117. Getting there is already pure adventure. Breathtaking landscape. Activities such as river hiking and land hiking to the waterfalls. Ecological wonderworks. 8 minutes, 5.3 km via B9 and B10

Insider tip Andrea Lodges andrea-lodges.com, +230 5251 1153. The visually stirring wild drive through the sugar cane-plantations will be richly rewarded with a splendid drink of Rum on the steep coastal terrace. 21 minutes, 11.3 km via B9

Lunch excursion Le Saint Aubin saintaubin.mu, Saint Aubin, Riviere des Anguilles, Savanne Road, +230 626 1513. Creole munching in colonial surroundings. Only until 5pm. You can buy the home-made rum in the shop and the old sugar-mill is a museum. 14 minutes, 10 km via B9

Creole Chez Rosy - Le Gris Gris Gris Gris, Souillac, +230 625 4179. Authentic, warm-hearted, fair prices. You feel like part of the family. Grilled lobster, octopus curry recommended! 12 minutes, 8 km via B9

- Nature** ① Rochester Falls Very popular for his angular side cliffs, Mr Rochester is the broadest waterfall on Mauritius.
- ② Roche qui Pleure The incredible power of the ocean has given a very impressive shape to these cliffs, and, standing on this rock, you feel like you're being energetically charged. (Something like plugging into God's socket. This is, by the way, the southernmost tip of the island.)
- ③ La Vallee Des Couleurs Nature Park Colourful landscape park with soil in 23 colours, hiking paths, wildlife and a zipline.
- ④ La Vanille Nature Park lavanille-naturepark.com, senneville, Riviere des Anguilles 60602. The restaurant offers crocodile-meat in various forms ... well, up to you...

Attitudes Drinking habits In a traditional household beer and rum are on the table. Wine rather for the upper class.

- Culture** ⑤ Musée du Coquillage theworldofseashells.com, Heritage resort, Château de Bel Ombre, 1er étage. Almost 700 kinds of mussels (many of them spectacular) and a truly friendly and knowledgeable gentleman, the director of the museum.
- ⑥ Robert Edward Hart Memorial Museum Autard Street, Souillac, +230 625 610. Some of the works of the Mauritian poet and painter Robert Edward Hart are on display here (closed on Tuesdays and holidays).
- Golf** ⑦ Avalon Golf estate avalon.mu, Bois Cheri Road, +230 430 5800. Outstanding golf court, perfectly well groomed and with very warm-hearted service! Technically very demanding and extravagant holes. A 'must-play'. Certainly one of the most beautiful and classiest places on the island

Attitudes Creole 95% of the Mauritians speak Creole. 10 Mio world-wide. People here view Creole as a simple form of French.

Explore the wild beauty of the south



Energy pooling Rhumerie de Chamarel Restaurant & Rum Distillery rhumerie-dechamarel.com, +230 483 4980. The only distillery on Mauritius that grows its own sugar cane. The good choice of raw materials is reflected in the taste of the Agricole Rum. Award-winning. Book a rum-tasting, absolutely. Right there: Restaurant L'Alchimiste One of the top-restaurants on Mauritius. 36 minutes, 34.8 km via B9, Royal Rd

Teatime Bois Cheri saintaubin.mu, +230 617 9109. superb site in colonial style with guided tours on tea-production. The tea-tasting takes place in an attractive ambience, the restaurant has stunning views. Highlight: cookies with tea leaves. But often sold out. 33 minutes, 24.3 km via B102

Cool Island Eatery Wapalepam wapalepam.com, Centre Commercial de L'Harmonie, Le Morne Brabant 91202, +230 450 5641. Expat Styrian Willi Reichenbach serves delicious Madagascar Giant Prawns in lemon butter sauce. Much loved by surfers and sea adventurers. Beautiful approach. 29 minutes, 23.3 km via B9

East African Mo Filaos royal rd, Baie du cap, +230 5796 6160. Local character at its best. Hot Plate Sizzler not to be missed. A recommendation on the savoury side. 15 minutes, 12 km via B9

Hike 1 Le Morne Morne Brabant -550m-high mountain surrounded by a remarkably beautiful turquoise lagoon with offshore reef. Impressive location and view. About 12 km in 3.5 hours. Easy hike up to the South West Viewpoint. Then the going gets tough and it's no longer suitable for beginners. But the view from the South West Viewpoint is also fantastic. Departure point

2 Historically charged mountain UNESCO world heritage site due to its history of slavery. On 1 February 1835, the day of the official abolition of slavery, the army was sent to the mountain to tell the slaves that they were now free. They, however, thought they were being taken back into slavery and in utter despair, choose to hurl themselves to death. 1 February is celebrated by the Creole community as a holiday to commemorate the end of slavery.

Good To know Respect 70% of Muslims & Hindus do not comprehend it when a man runs around in shorts or a woman hops into the water topless.

Nature 3 Chamarel-Waterfall is named after the French officer Charles Antoine de Chazal de Chamarel, who lived in this area. Here, the Cap River hurls itself over a cliff edge almost 100 metres into the depths. Cool, that just about sums it up.

4 Seven-coloured earth is a natural phenomenon close to the village of Chamarel. **5** Black River Gorges National Park Large park with rain forest, 2 information centres, picnic areas and a 60 km-network of hiking paths.

Art 6 Curious Corner of Chamarel curiouscornerofchamarel.com Baie du Cap Road, Chamarel, 230 483 4200. let's call it a curious excursion on a rainy day, kids and all. Optical illusions make for very bizarre photos. Adults can check out their 'inner child' here.

Attitudes Mysterious, even in broad daylight, nature won't let her veil be raised: What your spirit can't bring to sight, won't be screws and levers be displayed. Goethe, presumably at the falls

The east, wild and blissful untouched



Casual Chinese Chez Manuel Royal Road, Saint Julien, Flacq, +230 418 3599. Charming Chinese family cooks and serves around Manuel. Complex menu with all the Chinese classics. The trip is worth it. 60 Minuten, 58 km über A9

Florale Nostalgie Domaine De L'Etoile terrocean.mu, Sebastopol, B27, +230 5729 1050. touring through breathtaking landscapes, you get a sense of colonial times: small sugar cane fields with natural mountain forests. Many small streams and waterfalls. Crop-growing and harvesting methods of the past are demonstrated. Depending on the chosen tour, an opulent lunch buffet is served before or after the tour.

Nonchalant Lunch La case du pecheur B28, +230 634 5675. Lovely open restaurant in a mangrove-framed bay offers freshly caught fish, oysters, lobster and crabs, all from its own fish farm. 60 minutes, 54 km via A9

Creole Le Jardin de Beau Vallon Mahébourg, +230 631 2850. Fish tatar, lobster stew, hearts of palm. Known as the best Creole in the area. Dapper colonial villa in the midst of lush gardens. 43 minutes, 40 km via A9

Fine Dining Le Barachois constancehotels.com, Choisy Road Poste De Flacq, +230 402 3636. Fascinating establishment in the midst of the lagoons of the Constance Prince Maurice. Raw materials and kitchen art at its finest. Charisma: all is in harmony here. 100 minutes, 82 km via B28

Action 1 Action Snorkeling in the Blue Bay The shallow, almost entirely closed Blue Bay is THE underwater highlight of the island. The La Morne peninsula is hard on its heels though when it comes to underwater enjoyment.

Culture 2 National History Museum mauritiusmuseums.mu Royal Rd, +230 631 9329. A look around the ancient mansion (free entry) is worthwhile even just to see the intact skeleton of the extinct Dodo. Apart from that, it showcases lots of marine war paraphernalia, salt-eaten canons and a palanquin in which high society ladies would have themselves carried to the dance.

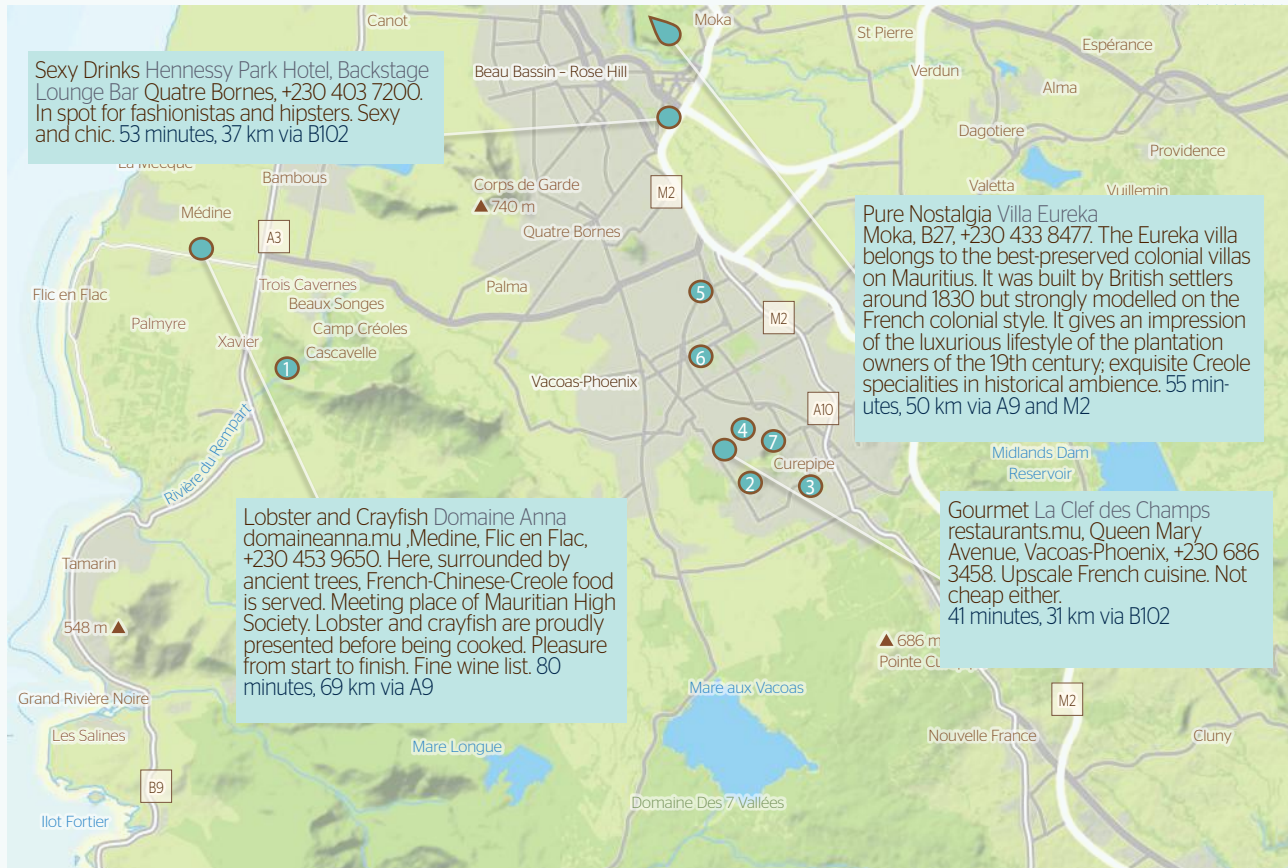
Attitudes Charles Baudelaire wanted to withdraw from the influence of the feudal Parisian dandy lifestyle to Port Louis. Epic fail.

Nature 3 Ile aux Aigrettes This extraordinary island has a surface area of 26 ha. The island is a Mauritian Wildlife Foundation nature reserve to protect the native flora of Mauritius and the Mascarenes. Protection and breeding of species that used to thrive on Mauritius and are almost extinct now: the Mauritius dove but also the alibaba giant tortoise. A genuinely fascinating terrain with dedicated staff. Booking hotline: +230 631 2396, reservation@mauritian-wildlife.org. From Mahebourg.

4 Ile aux Cerfs Leisure Island Trou d'Eau Douce. ; idyllic beaches and nature but quite crowded. Really worthwhile: a tour on a catamaran. Tip: hire a motorboat with a driver in the harbour of Trou d'Eau Douce. Price is negotiable. Starting at Euro 50, you are set to go.

Good to know Partying is fun. Sure, it's a rum island and people like to drink. But please note: DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!

The highlands, beat of the heart



Sexy Drinks Hennessy Park Hotel, Backstage Lounge Bar Quatre Bornes, +230 403 7200. In spot for fashionistas and hipsters, Sexy and chic. 53 minutes, 37 km via B102

Pure Nostalgia Villa Eureka
Moka, B27, +230 433 8477. The Eureka villa belongs to the best-preserved colonial villas on Mauritius. It was built by British settlers around 1830 but strongly modelled on the French colonial style. It gives an impression of the luxurious lifestyle of the plantation owners of the 19th century; exquisite Creole specialities in historical ambience. 55 minutes, 50 km via A9 and M2

Lobster and Crayfish Domaine Anna domaineanna.mu, Medine, Flic en Flac, +230 453 9650. Here, surrounded by ancient trees, French-Chinese-Creole food is served. Meeting place of Mauritian High Society. Lobster and crayfish are proudly presented before being cooked. Pleasure from start to finish. Fine wine list. 80 minutes, 69 km via A9

Gourmet La Clef des Champs restaurants.mu, Queen Mary Avenue, Vacoas-Phoenix, +230 686 3458. Upscale French cuisine. Not cheap either. 41 minutes, 31 km via B102

Zoo ① Casela World of Adventures caselapark.com, Royal Road, Cascavelle, +230 401 6500. This enormous terrain full of exotic beasts established itself more or less by way of a tiny bird park, giraffes, rhinoceroses and the like. One of the highlights here is going for a walk with the lions. After feeding time, of course. Otherwise you'd be taken for food by the king of animals. Hehe. Anyway, you can spend the whole day here and still not have seen the half of it.

Nature ② Trou aux Cerfs Trou-Aux-Cerf-Road, Curepipe, +230 401 6500. It looks a bit like in a James Bond film: a 100-metre deep volcanic crater with a lake in its centre. There is a fabulous view from the rim. You can see all the way to the European Union: with good visibility, you can see the neighboring island La Réunion.

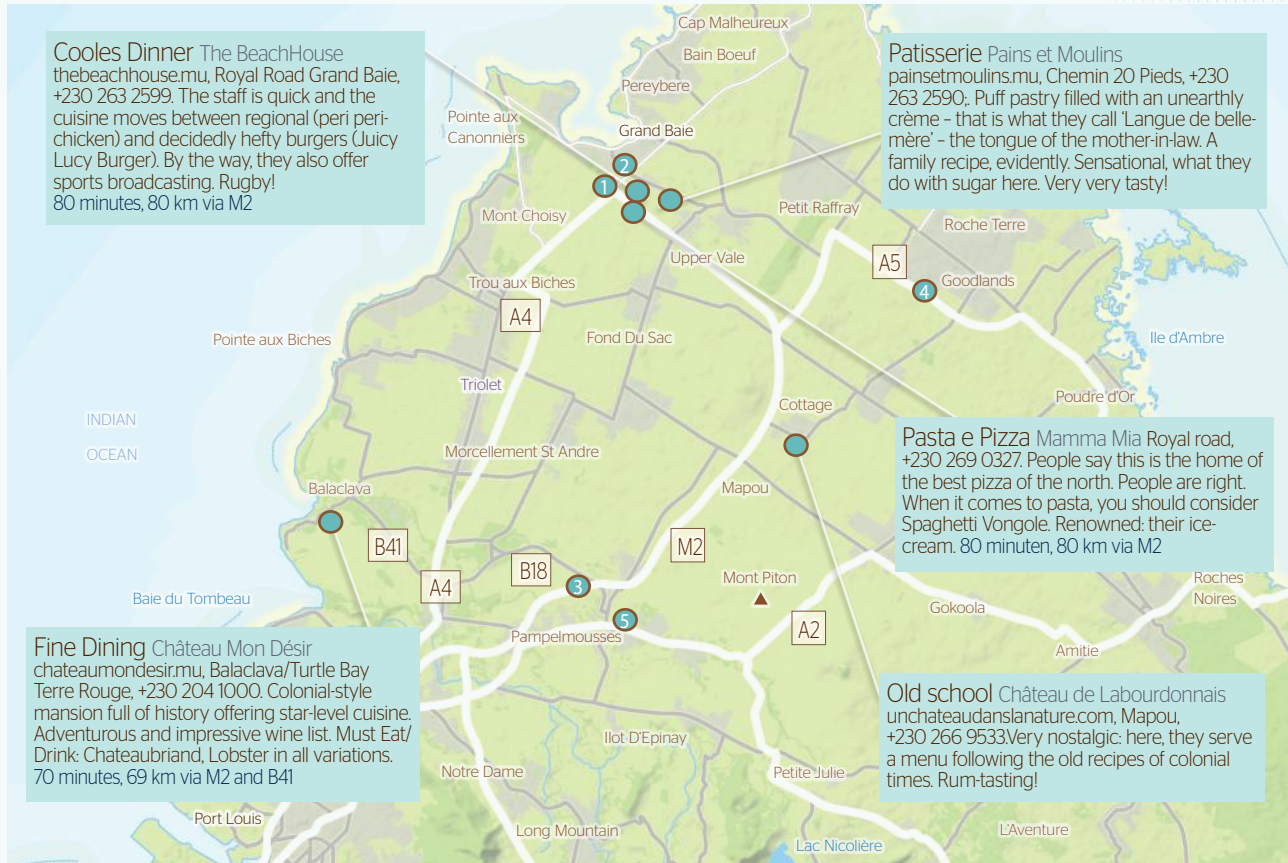
Attitudes For breakfast Mauritians have coffee and a croissant and for lunch a bowl of curry. Only dinner is lavish, with Creole food.

Shopping Fashion T-shirts and sweaters at the ③ Knitwear-Boutique in Floréal, high-end ready-to-wear goods at ④ Floreal Square Shopping Center in Floreal, fashion swimwear by many brands in the ⑤ Ocean Factory Shop oceanmauritius.com in Phoenix, Nalletamby Road 56. You will find cashmere and luxury knitwear in the ⑥ Shibani Centre in Floréal or in the many branches. The Tara group boutiques sell top-quality sweaters and other woollen products at affordable prices.

Jewelry and watches at ⑦ Adamas adamasldt.com, Mangalkhan in the quarter Floréal in Curepipe, +230 686 5346. In this former diamant cutting atelier, you can find duty-free all that glitters and glammers. Golden jewelry and watches can also be obtained here duty-free.

Good to know Rain protection In the highlands you will encounter rainfall quite often. If planning a small hike, please think British.

The north, sophisticated vibes



Cooles Dinner The BeachHouse thebeachhouse.mu, Royal Road Grand Baie, +230 263 2599. The staff is quick and the cuisine moves between regional (peri-peri chicken) and decidedly hefty burgers (Juicy Lucy Burger). By the way, they also offer sports broadcasting. Rugby! 80 minutes, 80 km via M2

Patisserie Pains et Moulins painsetmoulins.mu, Chemin 20 Pieds, +230 263 2590. Puff pastry filled with an unearthly crème - that is what they call 'Langue de belle-mère' - the tongue of the mother-in-law. A family recipe, evidently. Sensational, what they do with sugar here. Very very tasty!

Pasta e Pizza Mamma Mia Royal road, +230 269 0327. People say this is the home of the best pizza of the north. People are right. When it comes to pasta, you should consider Spaghetti Vongole. Renowned: their ice-cream. 80 minutes, 80 km via M2

Fine Dining Château Mon Désir chateaumondesir.mu, Balacava/Turtle Bay Terre Rouge, +230 204 1000. Colonial-style mansion full of history offering star-level cuisine. Adventurous and impressive wine list. Must Eat/Drink: Chateaubriand, Lobster in all variations. 70 minutes, 69 km via M2 and B41

Old school Château de Labourdonnais unchateaudanslanature.com, Mapou, +230 266 9533. Very nostalgic: here, they serve a menu following the old recipes of colonial times. Rum-tasting!

Boat-Trips to the Iles du Nord ① Croisieres Australes croisieres-australes.com, Sunset Boulevard, Route Royale, B13 Grand Baie +230 2026660. Every single one of these islands, Coine de Mire, Ilot Gabriel, Ile Plate, seems to be a prototype of God's divine plan of creation. Between Euro 30 and 100 per day and person. Drinks on board and picnic on land included.

Sea-Angling ② Horizon Big Game Fishing mauritiusbiggamefishing.com, B13, Grand Baie, +230 5421 7991. Whether giant yellow flapper tuna, blue marlin or whatever else - with Euro 500 per day and boat plus fisherman, you are on the hunt.

Museum ③ L'Aventure du Sucre aventuredu sucre.com, B18 Pamplemousses MU 21001, +230 243 7900. Worldwide leading and extraordinary illustration of sugar production. Unique!

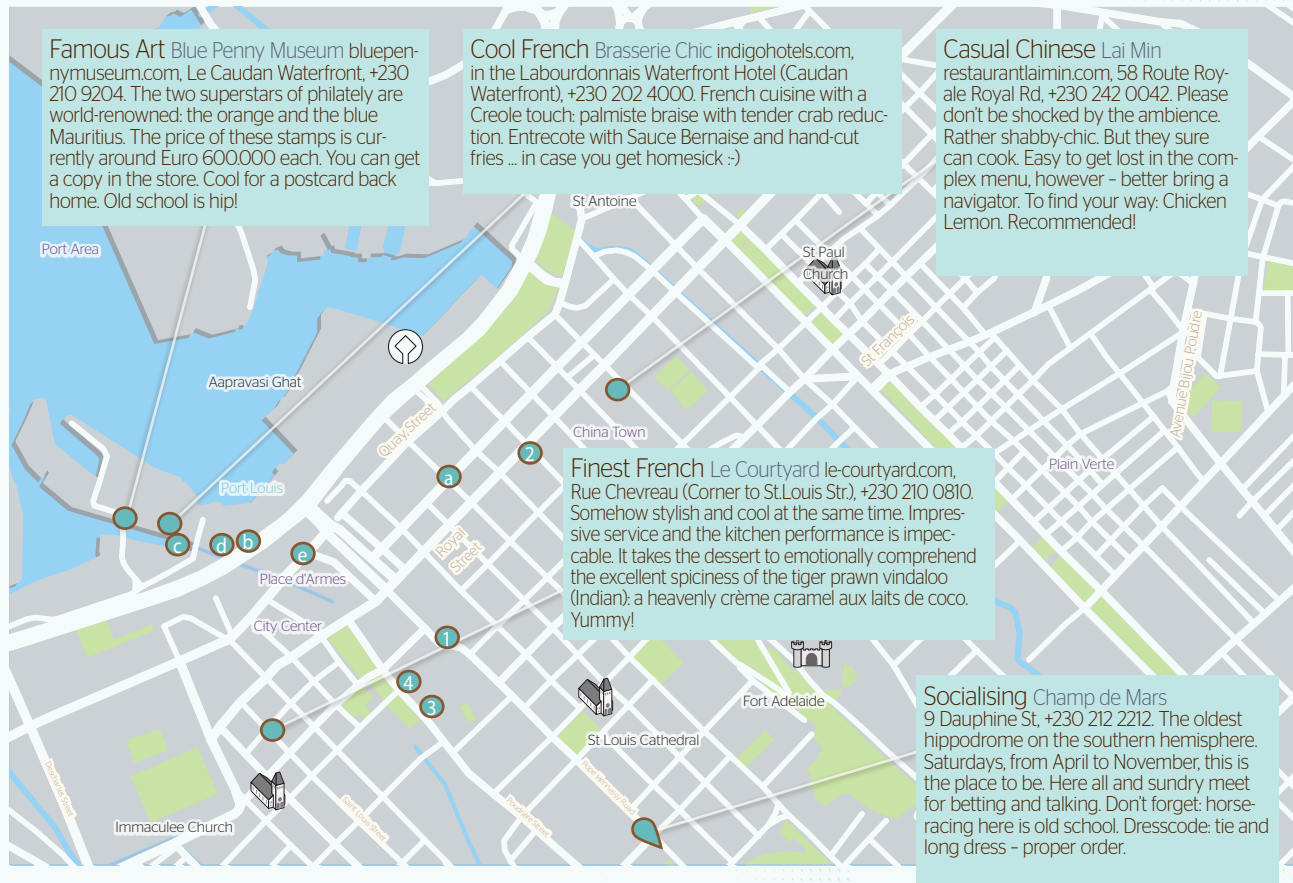
Attitudes Turn it on its head On Sundays and holidays many locals wear a classical, rather European-style hat.

Ship Models ④ Historic Marine historic-marine.com, Historic Marine, Z. I. Saint Antoine, Goodlands, +230 263 9404. Mauritius is world-renowned for its finest and most beautiful ship models of all sorts. There is a good number of manufacturers here, however, specialists are unanimous: the models produced by 'Historic Marine' are of the highest quality. A small pirogue costs Euro 50, for a 50cm long 'Santa Maria' you'll have to fork out / party with Euro 900, and when it comes to the larger version of the 'Amerigo Vespucci', we're talking Euro 4600.

Botanics ⑤ Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden ssrbg.govmu.org, Pamplemousses, +230 243 9401. The oldest botanic garden in the southern hemisphere takes up a surface area of about 37 ha. Highlights: Giant water lilies, Talipot palm trees.

Business Sugar industry With 40,000 workers it's the biggest export hit of the country (62 per cent approx).

The flair of Port-Louis



Famous Art Blue Penny Museum bluepennymuseum.com, Le Caudan Waterfront, +230 210 9204. The two superstars of philately are world-renowned: the orange and the blue Mauritius. The price of these stamps is currently around Euro 600,000 each. You can get a copy in the store. Cool for a postcard back home. Old school is hip!

Cool French Brasserie Chic indigohotels.com, in the Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel (Caudan Waterfront), +230 202 4000. French cuisine with a Creole touch: palmiste braise with tender crab reduction. Entrecote with Sauce Bernaise and hand-cut fries ... in case you get homesick :-)

Casual Chinese Lai Min restaurantlaimin.com, 58 Route Royale Royal Rd, +230 242 0042. Please don't be shocked by the ambience. Rather shabby-chic. But they sure can cook. Easy to get lost in the complex menu, however - better bring a navigator. To find your way: Chicken Lemon. Recommended!

Finest French Le Courtyard le-courtyard.com, Rue Cheveau (Corner to St.Louis Str), +230 210 0810. Somehow stylish and cool at the same time. Impressive service and the kitchen performance is impeccable. It takes the dessert to emotionally comprehend the excellent spiciness of the tiger prawn vindaloo (Indian): a heavenly crème caramel aux laits de coco. Yummy!

Socialising Champ de Mars 9 Dauphine St, +230 212 2212. The oldest hippodrome on the southern hemisphere. Saturdays, from April to November, this is the place to be. Here all and sundry meet for betting and talking. Don't forget: horse-racing here is old school. Dresscode: tie and long dress - proper order.

Hot Spot **A** Central Market Corderie St. / Queen St. (Mon-Sat 6 am-6 pm). These 'sacred' iron halls are listed buildings. To understand Port Louis, you have to have been here at least once. Here, Indian, Chinese, African and European farmers serve God's plan of his creation: an exciting variety of fruit and vegetables. Same for spices, arts and crafts, leather bags and fun T-shirts, thousands of teas, as a matter of course, for all sorts of ailments. Crush and crowd, huzz and buzz anywhere ... not for the faint-hearted:-)

Caudan waterfront / Shopping **B** Shiv Jewels Large range of duty-free jewelry **C** Craft Market Souvenirs, for example ship models **D** Hugo Boss Store Clearly cheaper than in Europe **E** Quicksilver Shop Trendy brand store for hipsters.

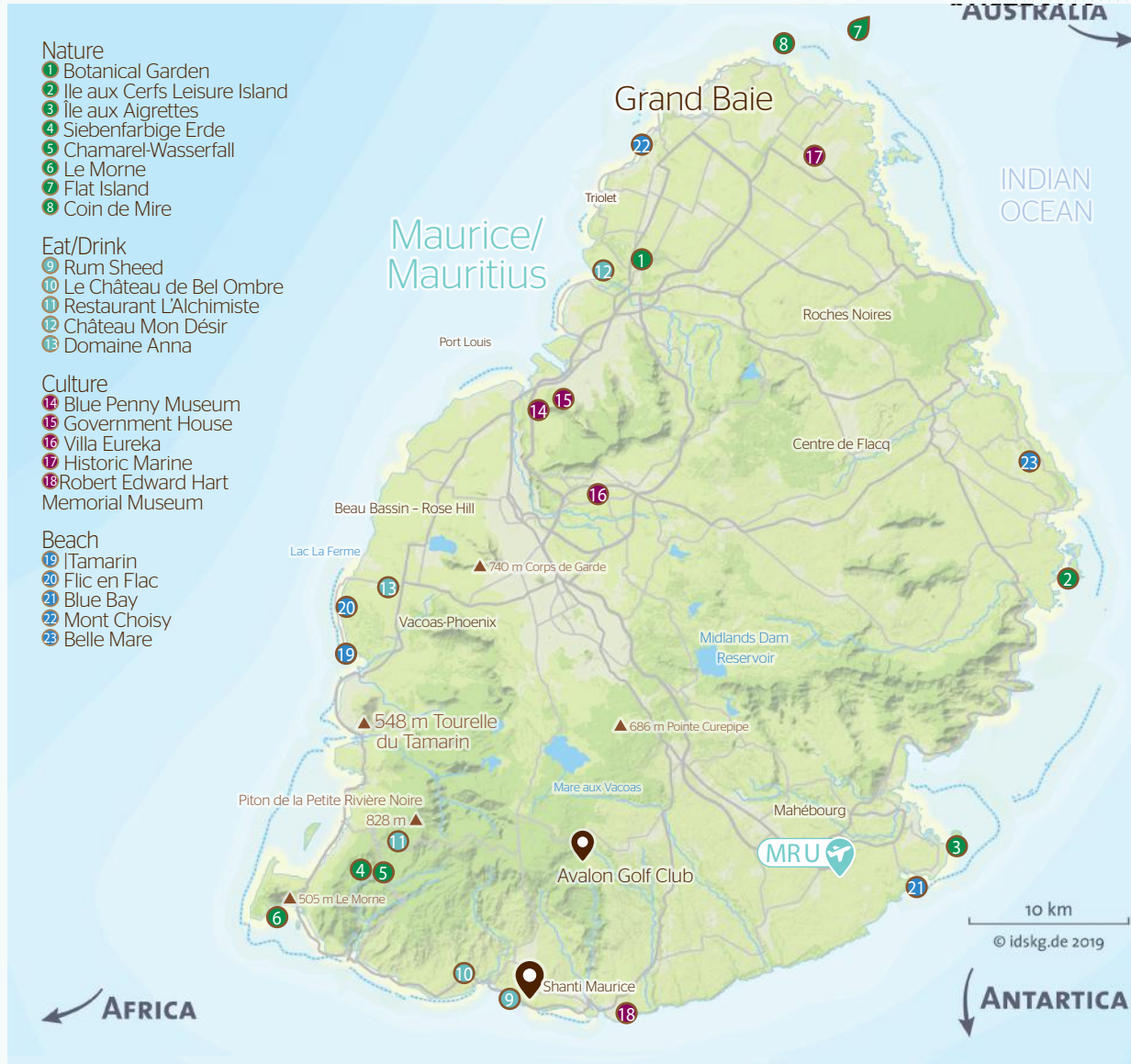
History **1** Government House Intendance St., +230 212 5325. The oldest remaining building of the island survived loads of history and catastrophes and is still standing! Best to bow and take it as an example. Unfortunately, it's not possible to visit the inner spaces of this treasure chest. **2** Jummah Mosque Royal Road, A1, Queen St (Mon-Thu 10-12 am), +230 242 1129. Unites Indian, Creole and Islamic architecture and is thus a symbol of the peaceful multicultural community on the island. It is worth noting that it's located in the midst of the Chinese district.

Art **3** Photography Museum musee-photovoyaz.com, Rue de Vieux Conseil et WChurchill, +230 211 1705. Shows unique insights into Mauritius' past. The photographs are taken by the photographer Tristan Breville (Entrance 150Rs). **4** Natural & History Museum

Attitudes Security Mauritius has an extremely low crime rate. Nonetheless, you are not immune to pick-pockets in Port Louis.

Good to know Tip When the service is good, 5-10 per cent is suitable but not expected. A question of the moment.

Enjoy the topspots of Mauritius



Websites tourism-mauritius.mu, maurinet.com, mauritius-tippis.de
Helicopter Mauritius by helicopter costs approx 145 Euro, +230 603 3754

Facts Mauritius has 1.2 mill. inhabitants, with an illiteracy rate of only 1.1 percent. The surface area: 1865 km²

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