

Mauritius - "Indian Ocean Paradise"

With Trade Travel



TRADE TRAVEL
Effortless Journeys, Endless Memories

12 Days / 11 Nights - Fully Escorted

Departs: Saturday 7 September - Wednesday 18 September, 2024.



Day 1. Sat 7 Sept: Melbourne - Perth

Flight Details: Melbourne - Perth (times to be advised)

We fly from Melbourne to Perth and transfer to our inner city hotel with the afternoon and evening free to explore at our own leisure.

Overnight Perth: Doubletree by Hilton Perth Waterfront

Day 2. Sun 8 Sept: East Coast - Perth - Mauritius

B,D

After a relaxing morning and transfer to Perth Airport we check in for our International flight to Mauritius.

Flight Details: MK441 Perth - Mauritius 1305/1745

***Please note: Flight times are as per current schedules at the time of print and may change due to unexpected schedule changes with airlines.**

On arrival to Mauritius we clear customs and have time to change money to the local currency. With our English speaking guide we board our coach and relax for the drive to our luxury resort. Along the way, our guide will share with us interesting information about this beautiful island paradise, its history and customs. We'll even learn a few local words that might prove useful in the coming days! Our coach arrives at our luxury accommodation situated on the sheltered south-west coast of the island overlooking Tamarin Bay. After check in, it's a short stroll past the pool and gardens to our stylish and comfortable rooms where it's time to unpack and unwind. Still a bit peckish, then head over to the buffet and relax with a drink and chat with fellow travellers. Our holiday has begun!

Overnight Bel Ombre: LUX Tamassa Beachfront Resort - All Inclusive Food & Beverage Menu

Day 3. Mon 9 Sept: Tamassa Resort Orientation - Free Day at Resort

B,L,D

Awake to the stunning sight of the **sheltered crystal turquoise lagoon** that stretches out to the waves breaking on the outer reef. **Our resort and home on Mauritius** is set within **beautiful tropical gardens on a white sandy beach**, with rustling coconut trees and a cobalt ocean. Offering two world-class restaurants, bars, pools and spa treatments there is plenty of daily activities on offer and an array of evening entertainment. It's the perfect spot for fun, relaxation and a base to explore the island of Mauritius. We start our day in paradise with an amazing buffet breakfast then enjoy an **orientation tour of the resort** showcasing all it has to offer on our all inclusive stay. Following the tour it's time to relax and enjoy the rest of the day lazing by the pool or beach, checking out the spa treatments, sitting by the bar, sneaking by the Ice Cream Parlour, Tucker Truck or Rum Truck or sitting down to lunch either in the Show or Playa Restaurants. Don't forget it's all within our "All Inclusive Package". Early evening we all meet for dinner in the Show Restaurant.

Overnight Bel Ombre: LUX Tamassa Beachfront Resort - All Inclusive Food & Beverage Menu

Day 4. Tue 10 Sept: Half Day Tour - Grand Bassin & Sacred Lake - Tea Factory - Coloured Earth - Waterfalls B,L,D

After a leisurely breakfast it's onto the bus with our guide for a 9.00am departure on our **half day tour**. Get cameras ready as this morning's tour takes in some stunning locations beginning at sacred Hindu site of the **Sacred Lake** and **Grand Bassin** and the amazing 33 metre statue of **Shiva**. Our guide at **Bois Cheri Tea Factory and Museum** will show and explain the different stages of production from picking to packaging, through withering, fermentation, drying and sieving. A tea museum completes the visit and focuses on the peculiarities of this culture in the history of the island. There are exposed vintage machines relating to the production of teapots, tea services of the 19th century, photos, tables and documents introducing us to several hundred different types of tea infusions. To illustrate, a tasting of the Bois de Chéri tea products is offered in a panoramic chalet offering views of the estate, a beautiful lake in an old crater and all the south of the island. The natural wonders of **Macabée Forest, Black River Gorge, Chamarel Waterfalls and the amazing Chamarel Seven Coloured Earth** are perfect locations to stop for a while and appreciate the beauty of this tiny island. We return to the resort for lunch from one of the restaurants or why not try the Burger Truck! After a leisurely afternoon at the resort, meet for complimentary drinks and delightful dinner at the resort.

Overnight Bel Ombre: LUX Tamassa Beachfront Resort - All Inclusive Food and Beverage Menu

Day 5. Wed 11 Sept: Full Day Tour - Capital of Port Louis - Le Caudan Shopping Precinct- Eureka Mansion B,L,D

Today we depart the resort at 9.00am and head up to the city of Port Louis after another delightful buffet breakfast. Arriving in the **Mauritian capital of Port Louis**, our driver then takes us on a tour of the city while our guide points out cultural highlights, **La Citadelle on Fort Adelaide and Champ de Mars Racecourse** “second oldest racecourse in the world”. **The Port Louis main market** (also known as the Port Louis main bazaar) is a treat to walk through with its exotic fish, meats, vegetables and Mauritian spices, saris and t-shirts just to name some of the market items on display. *Those wishing to do the walk through the market please note that it is an extensive walk on some uneven walkway's and that there are some stairs to climb and negotiate.* Next to the market we find the large shopping mall, **‘Le Caudan Waterfront’** where there are luxurious stalls, shops, craft market, food court and restaurants in one place. The Le Caudan Waterfront shopping complex with its 170 boutiques is a shopper's must visit and has become an essential actor of the vivid tourism and cultural life in Mauritius. Our drive back south has us stopping in Moka where we walk through the **Eureka Mansion and Garden, built 1830**. The famous residence was built during the French colonial period and once belonged to a very well-known Mauritian family. Filled with period furniture and impressive antiques, this home shows a glimpse into colonial life on the island. Traditional Mauritius lunch is served on the back verandah overlooking the lush gardens which carry through to the river. Early afternoon at approx 3.00pm we return home where we will have time to relax or take a quick swim before dinner and drinks at the resort.

Overnight Bel Ombre: Lux Tamassa Beachfront Resort - All Inclusive Food & Beverage Menu

Day 6. Thur 12 Sept: Half Day Tour - School Visit - Saint Aubin House “Flowers, Sugar, Tea, Rum & Vanilla” B,L,D

After breakfast our half day tour has us leaving the resort at 9.00am to discover some of the delicious Mauritian delights including Vanilla, Rum and Tea. En-route we make a memorable visit to **Joix De Vivre School in Chemin Grenier**. Run by volunteer teachers, the school was opened in 1989 by Sr Maria Luisa Guitierrez with the assistance of Mirella Chaton, for the purpose of taking care of the local children and to give them basic education, keep them from the dangers of life on the streets but also help and give them the opportunities that we often take for granted. We meet up with Frances Townsend for a general overview and talk of the impact the Trade Travel Tour Club visits have on the Joie de Vivre school project initiatives. We then share an **emotional interaction with the local children**, which is sure to provide us all with lifelong memories. *This is a great opportunity to give back to the school with much needed school funds.* Next stop is **Saint Aubin House**, which was built in 1819 and which has been home to several managers of the sugar estate, before being renovated in the 90's in order to preserve a part of the Mauritian heritage. Today one may still see the beams and ship poles used in its original construction. The estate produces sugar cane which is then processed to make sugar as well as delicious rum. Our tour takes in the **Rum House, Vanilla House, Anthurium Greenhouse, Saint Aubin House** and the surrounding tropical gardens. Then it's back 'home' to our resort for lunch and a leisurely afternoon. We might explore the magnificent beach, book in for a spa treatment, check out the many facilities and activities, **or just relax poolside as we work our way through the complimentary food and beverage list** – all part of our 'full board' inclusion. Save some space though, for tonight we meet for pre-dinner drinks and another delicious dinner. At Tamassa, evening entertainment is very special with something different every night.

Overnight Bel Ombre: Lux Tamassa Beachfront Resort - All Inclusive Food and Beverage Menu

Day 7. Fri 13 Sept: Full Day Tour - Casela Wildlife Park - Interaction - Wildlife Safari & Encounters B,L,D

Following breakfast, we depart the resort at 8.45am for what will be for many, a **life-changing encounter** and certainly one of the highlights of our tour. **Casela Wildlife and Nature Park** will bring moments of pure magic and delight to big cat lovers! After a **once-in-a-lifetime experience of interacting with these wild animals in their enclosure**, we will have the unique opportunity to observe the big cats in the wild and make the most of all activities that are included in our day at the park. These comprise of the **Wildlife Safari** to see zebras, ostriches, white rhinoceros, impala's, antelopes, kudus, wildebeest, 1500 species of birds, Walk-Thru-Aviary, viewing of giraffe, pygmy hippo, camels and lamas, The Petting Farm, Big Cats Kingdom, Monkey Kingdom, Tortoise Pen plus more! Wonderful memories to cherish forever! **Today's lunch will also be in the park at the Blue Bird Resto.**

**** Optional at extra cost approx \$170.00 “Walk with Lions”. We get to walk, pat and take photos up close and study the primitive behaviour of the lions and share their “Pride” of being in their natural state. **All Participants must be at least 150cm tall, able bodied and walk without walking aids (this is non negotiable).** After this special experience we head back to the hotel where we will have time to reflect on our amazing adventure over dinner and drinks.

Overnight Bel Ombre: LUX Tamassa Beachfront Resort - All Inclusive Food and Beverage Menu

Day 8. Sat 14 Sept: Day Tour - Botanic Gardens - Grand Baie - Sugar Museum B,D

This morning after breakfast we depart the resort at 9.00am to begin our drive up to the north. Our first stop is in Pamplemousses at the **Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic Garden**, formerly known as Royal Botanical Gardens Pamplemousses. Spread over 37 hectares, they are the oldest in the Southern Hemisphere, constructed in 1770. Most famous for its giant water lilies, the garden features many rare exotic trees and plants as well as 85 varieties of palms from across the world. Many trees were planted by world leaders and royalty, including Princess Margaret, Indira Gandhi, François Mitterrand and Robert Mugabe. The animal corner has deer and tortoises and also boasts several bird species. We then travel around to the coastline to the pretty **village of Cape Malheureux**, take in the views of **Coin de Mire** and then step inside the **Notre Dame Auxiliatrice “Red Roofed Church”**. We then enjoy some leisure time at the **shopping mecca** of the **Super U Grand Baie** or strolling along the **Grand Baie beach-front bars, cafés and duty free shops**. Back down in Pamplemousses, we stop by **L'Aventure du Sucre “Sugar Museum and Factory”**, and follow the trail of the sugar industry in Mauritius. We've been passing sugar cane fields all week, now it's time to discover more of its profound history and the importance sugar and its by-products still play in Mauritius today. Not to be missed is the **sugar-tasting, 12 unrefined natural sugars** kept for export. The senses also come alive while **tasting 9 rums**, with their rounded, mellow and nuanced flavours. There is a meticulous process involved with the rums, specially developed for L'Aventure du Sucre which are aged in oak barrels infused in special sugars or in vanilla, coffee or honey. There are also local sweets, tropical fruit jams and honey from Rodrigues.

Day 8. Continued

It's then back down to the south to our home away from home, the Tamassa Resort before meeting up for drinks and dinner.

Overnight Bel Ombre: Lux Tamassa Beachfront Resort - All Inclusive Food & Beverage Menu

Day 9. Sun 15 Sept: Free Day or *Optional Touring 'See below Tour Highlights'*

B,L,D

Today is all ours to enjoy the complimentary resort facilities and activities, *or at own cost, why not book in an optional tour or activity, a scenic flight or maybe attend a local church service!* All food and beverage at the resort for the day is included in our 'full board all inclusive package'.

Overnight Bel Ombre: LUX Tamassa Beachfront Resort - All Inclusive Food & Beverage Menu

Day 10. Mon 16 Sept: Full Day - Le Morne World Heritage Slave Site - BBQ Lunch Cruise

B,L,D

Today we depart the resort at 9.00am and travel across to the southwest coast home to the **Le Morne Brabant Unesco World Heritage Site** that symbolises slavery in Mauritius. We continue on to the magnificent, yet sobering **Slave Route Memorial**, erected to honour the slaves' fight for freedom, their suffering and their sacrifices. Continuing further up the west-coast will have us arriving at **Rivière Noire** to begin another tour highlight - our **half-day catamaran lunch cruise**. Keep cameras handy as curious dolphins are likely to join us as we sail south towards **La Roche Crystal** with its clear lagoon, while the crew prepares a **mouth-watering BBQ lunch**. Sailing back to **Rivière Noire**, cocktail in hand, delight in the beauty and tranquillity of another unforgettable day in paradise. Back on land, we make our way back down through **Le Morne stopping at the Matthew Flinders Memorial** where our guide will explain how this important monument links a part of our Australian history with Mauritius. Back to the resort for a rest after a magical day before meeting for drinks and delicious dinner.

Overnight Bel Ombre: Lux Tamassa Beachfront Resort - All Inclusive Food & Beverage Menu

Day 11. Tue 17 Sept: Free Day or *Optional Touring - Bel Ombre - International Airport*

B,L

It's our last day at the resort, so we enjoy the resort facilities before we are treated to an early supper by the pool as we share stories and laughter with our travel companions. Then it's time to farewell the staff who have become our friends, before transferring to the airport for check in and farewell our wonderful guide and driver. Our overnight flight departs late evening back across the Indian Ocean to Perth.

Flight Details: MK440 Mauritius - Perth 2240/0910 (arrive Wednesday - subject to change)

Day 12. Wed 18 Sept: Perth - Melbourne

Our flight arrives back into Perth today before our connecting flight home after our amazing time away in Mauritius with Trade Travel.

Flight Details: Perth - Melbourne (times to be advised)

Tour Highlights: Half Day Highlights of Chamarel – Grand Bassin Statue, Temple & Sacred Lake, Macabée Forest, Black River Gorge, Chamarel Waterfalls & 7 Coloured Earth; Bois Cheri Tea Factory, Museum & Tastings; Highlights of Port Louis - La Citadelle Fort Adelaide & Champ de Mars Racecourse, Le Caudan Waterfront Precinct & Markets; Lunch Eureka Mansion & Garden; Joix De Vivre School Visit; Saint Aubin Estate - "Saint Aubin House & Garden", "Rum House", "Vanilla House", "Anthurium Greenhouse"; Casela Wildlife & Nature Park - Interaction with Lions or *optional extra Walking with Lions*, Wildlife Safari + more!; Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic Garden; Cape Malheureux Village - Coin de Mire, Notre Dame Auxiliatrice "Red Roofed Church"; Super U Grand Baie; L'Aventure du Sucre "Sugar Museum"; Le Morne Brabant Unesco World Heritage Slave Site; Catamaran Half Day Scenic Lunch Cruise West Coast; Matthew Flinders Memorial plus more.

Optional Group Tour - conditions apply:

Day 9: Half Day Grand Port Bay District - H. Rault Biscuit Factory, Frederick Hendrick Museum, Grand Port Bay, National History Museum.





Tour Price Includes:

- Trade Travel Tour Host
- Return economy flights: Melbourne - Perth - Melbourne
- Return international flights "Air Mauritius" Perth - Mauritius - Perth
- Coach travel & English speaking guide
- 1 Night quality accommodation Doubletree by Hilton Waterfront Perth
- 9 Nights luxury accommodation Tamassa + Late checkout Day 11
- Full board menu all inclusive meals & beverage - Mauritius
- All entry fees & guides as per itinerary

Tour Price Excludes:

- Any optional touring Mauritius - Includes upgrade "Walk with Lions"; Scenic Flights etc.
- Travel Insurance - POA

Tour Cost: \$6598.00 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$1100.00)

+ All applicable airport taxes, fuel surcharges & fees associated with the airlines of approx \$730.00

A minimum number of 20 passengers is required for this tour to proceed.

Please note: Flights are subject to confirmation/change and price increases at any time.

We wish to advise that all pricing for International Travel is subject to tax, surcharges, fuel increases and currency fluctuations. It may be necessary to make adjustments to the pricing during the course of the tour booking, at ticketing and at the final payment deadline to ensure these currency changes are allowed for in the pricing.

Please note that itinerary is subject to change at any time without notice.

Deposit: A deposit of **\$750.00** per person is due on booking to secure your place on this tour, along with completed & signed booking form. (\$100 non refundable at time of booking.)

Final Payment: Due no later than **Friday 7 June, 2024.**

For information, bookings & travel insurance contact:

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