

LAND EXCURSIONS

EXOTIC FLAVOURS: (full day)

Ile Aux Aigrettes / Manioc biscuit factory / Mahebourg Market / National History Museum

Mahébourg, whose name honours the famous French governor Mahé de Labourdonnais, is the village where you can taste the traditional "biscuit manioc" made from cassava according to an old family recipe.

Situated in the historical Bay of Vieux Grand Port, you will discover the nature reserve of "Ile Aux Aigrettes" with its rare Pink Pigeon and the indigenous fauna and flora of Mauritius.

After lunch, enjoy the colourful Mahébourg Market as well as the diversity of the surroundings.

ILE AUX CERFS: (full day)

Originally a haven for deers, Ile aux Cerfs now welcomes the sun tanners and the beach-lovers. Its endless white beaches and its turquoise calm lagoon await the lazy ones as well as those looking for more excitement (Banana, Parasailing, water ski and much more...)

"NATIR": (full day)

Trou aux Cerfs / Grand Bassin / Black River Gorges / Chamarel / Casela

From Trou aux Cerfs, dormant volcano of 700 000 years, enjoy the panoramic view that takes in the plateau towns and numerous peaks. Through the 'Petritin' national park discover the lake of 'Grand Bassin' regarded as sacred by Hindus who celebrate the pilgrimage of Maha Shivaratee at the many temples nestling the hills around it. Chamarel coloured earth... a unique geological curiosity. 'Casela' where tropical birds live together...

THE SPICE ROAD: (full day)

(Half day from the north only)

Pamplemousses Garden / Port Louis: The Blue Penny Museum, The Market and The "Caudan Waterfront"

Pamplemousses Gardens, with its wide variety of exotic and endemic plants is the most visited site on the island.

Port Louis, city founded during the French colonial period, its busy market with the air of joyful souk offers the fruit flavour of mangoes, letchis as well as the hot and fragrant smells of spices.

The Caudan Waterfront, where popular wisdom rubs elbows with tourist charm.

CULTURE AND DIVERSITY: (full day)

Pamplemousses Garden / Port Louis: Tamil Temple, Pagoda, "Citadelle", "Musée de la Photographie", and Market.

Its origin goes back to 1729. Once known as 'Mon Plaisir', the Pamplemousses Botanical Garden, among the oldest in the world, has inspired many famous poets with its peaceful alleys.

Built in the same vicinity, temples, pagodas, market are a reflection of the diversity of our cultures and religions.

TRADITION AND HERITAGE: (full day)

Bois Chéri / Gris Gris / St Aubin / 'La Vanille Réserve des Mascareignes'.

From the coconut-flavoured tea to the vanilla one, experience this unique tropical taste in a chalet surrounded by centenary tea plants.

Enjoy a traditional lunch in this 1819 colonial house which was once part of a sugar mill... The green vanilla pods and the lively red of the 'Anthurium' flowers have now replaced the sugar plantation.

Experience the serenity of 'La Vanille Réserve des Mascareignes' where giant tortoises, bats, crocodiles,... live in harmony.

MOSAIC: (full day)

Glass Gallery / Local Handicraft / Shipmodel factory / Trou Aux Cerfs / Grand Bassin / Black River Gorges / Chamarel.

The skills of the glass blower, the touch of the ship model maker..., you will be tempted by the Mauritian 'know-how'.

South west of Mauritius, sanctuary for the endemic fauna and flora...

Black River Gorges, natural habitat of the 'Echo Parakeet' and the 'Paille en queue'...

COLONIAL PAST: (full day)

Domaine les Pailles / Eureka / "Aventure du Sucre".

Voyage into the past, revealing the colonial epic...

The fascinating world of sugar, its gracious but imposing chimneys, the ox-driven sugar mill recalling this old 'Isle de France'.

You will be surprised by the splendour of the elegant architecture of the 'Eureka' colonial house with its 109 doors.

THE BIG BAZAAR: (half day)

Fair of Quatre Bornes.

The 'Quatre Bornes' fair is the indisputable place for bargain lovers. After strolling around the stalls for t-shirts, jeans, table cloths... try the famous 'samoussas', 'gâteau piments' or refresh yourself with a glass of 'alouda'.

A real kaleidoscope...