# ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA CRUISE

# CATLANTE

## **ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA** CRUISE THE ARCHIPELAGO WITH 365 BEACHES

Alone, as a couple, with family or friends, one cabin or the whole boat.





In the Lesser Antilles between Guadeloupe and Saint-Martin, the island state of Antigua and Barbuda, is a delight for yachtsmen looking for tropical ambience and pristine beaches.

Two islands, two atmospheres: volcanic Antigua and coral Barbuda, 25 nautical miles apart, have nothing in common other than being the same country. Antigua is built for sailing. Its indented coastline offers a multitude of islets, coves and bays bathed in turquoise waters. Like the British Virgin Islands, Antigua has that «so-British» feel inherited from its history. Cricket is played to perfection, and the annual regattas feature some of the world's finest sailing yachts.

Much wilder, Barbuda is a well-preserved Eden, with some 1,500 inhabitants living in its only village, Codrington. Its long coral reefs protect endless beaches of pink and white sand.

Its mangroves are home to the world's second-largest frigatebird colony, after the Galapagos. Having totally excluded mass tourism. Barbuda was listed in 2016 as one of the ten most beautiful vacation destinations by Conde Nast Traveller.

Departing from the island of Saint Martin, Catlante Catamarans invites you to discover this incredible archipelago with 365 beaches. And since the chic and charming island of St Barthélémy is on the way, we don't have to go farstopover for a day.

**INFORMATION & BOOKING** +33 (0)1.55.20.90.90, 9am-8pm, 7 days a week www.catlante.com

### YOUR CRUISE DAY BY DAY

#### DAY 1 Saint-Martin

At 6pm, you'll board your large catamaran from the Fort Louis marina in Marigot, the capital of the French part of the island.

After settling into your cabin, it's time for a safety briefing and a welcome cocktail. We'll weigh anchor for a short sail to a quiet anchorage for dinner and overnight. And a first dive from the boat if you fancy it.

#### DAY 2 Saint-Martin –St Barthélemy

After an early wake-up call due to jet lag, and breakfast, we'll set sail for the superb bay of Gustavia in St. Barths in the morning. You'll have a good half-day to discover this welcoming island, which isn't as snobbish as it's made out to be. Stroll through Gustavia's colorful streets, relax on one of its many beaches or rent a small car or scooter to see a little more: it's well known that anything is possible in St. Barths. Rendezvous on board in the late afternoon to share an aperitif with your fellow passengers and crew.

Immediately after dinner, you'll set sail for a night sail, heading southeast towards Barbuda.







#### DAY 3 Barbuda

At sunrise, you can barely make out the coastline. Barbuda, even though they are very close. Like all coral islands, it barely rises above the surface, like a green and white mirage in the middle of the sea.

The first port of call will be opposite the island's only village, Codrington, where your Captain will meet with Matthew, the customs officer, to complete the formalities for entering Antigua and Barbuda. This will certainly be an opportunity to meet the Barbudans during a stroll ashore or a coffee in a small lolo.

Codrington is built on a lagoon partially enclosed by one of the island's impressive beaches, aptly named Eleven Miles Beach. The lagoon is a nature reserve whose mangroves are home to the world's second-largest colony of Magnificent Frigatebirds. This seabird, with a wingspan of over two meters, was once known as the West Indian Eagle.

They're easily recognized by their long, tapering wings and forked tails. Females are black with a white head, while males are entirely black with a bright red gular sac. A little further south on the island, you'll find Pink Sand Beach, the famous pink beach, made from powdered coral and crushed shells. The contrast with the blue of the Caribbean Sea is striking.

At the southern tip of the island, head to Coco Point with its pristine beach and coral reef just a few meters from the shore for a snorkeling session with sea turtles and reef fish.

After an intense and emotional day, the sunset in this dreamy landscape, from the beach or aboard your catamaran, will surely be one of the most beautiful of your life.

Dinner and overnight at anchor.















Magnificent frigatebirds reserve





#### DAY 4 Barbuda

Wake up to a second day in paradise, 100% nature. Lovers of farniente and water sports can continue to scour the island's pink or white beaches and coral reefs, at Pointe Palmetto or Low Bay, while the adventurous turn their attention to another of Barbuda's natural treasures: its caves nestling along the coast. Petroglyphs dating back to the Neolithic era bear witness to the island's occupation by the ancestors of the Arawak Indians.

4000 years ago. On the east coast, Two Foot Bay cave is populated by bats, birds, crabs and iguanas. Its three successive chambers open onto the blue ocean. Your captain will arrange for a local guide to help you on your tour. Don't forget your sneakers !

At the end of the day, Princess Diana's long white beach is the perfect setting to enjoy the sunset. Dinner and overnight at anchor.



#### DAY 5

### Barbuda - Antigua, North Sound National Park - Dickenson Bay

Early departure for a 5-hour sail to the island of Antigua, which you will reach before lunch.

The first stop of the day will be North Beach on Great Bird Island or Jumby Bay on Long Island. These small islands are part of the North Sound National Park, a sanctuary for endemic fauna such as brown pelicans, red-billed phaetons and loggerhead turtles. After lunch and a snorkeling swim in one of the islets' white sandy coves, departure for Dickenson bay, an hour and a half away by sea. This bay in the north of the island is the perfect place for a gentle return to civilization. Along the long white sandy beach, the beachfront bars welcome you for a sunset cocktail, facing the islets emerging from the coral reef.

Dinner and overnight at anchor.

#### DAY 6 Antigua, Dickenson Bay - Jolly Harbour

After breakfast and a refreshing swim, you'll set sail for the first stop of the day, at Deep Bay Beach, a little further south on Antigua's west coast. An arc-shaped isthmus of pale sand forms this small turquoise bay, where snorkelling enthusiasts meet on the wreck of a ship. Sunk in 1905, it lies right in the middle of the bay, with the bow only a metre deep.

The perfectly calm waters of Deep Bay are ideal for paddling. In the early afternoon, a short sail takes you to Jolly Harbour, the island's most exclusive marina. Once you've been given your exit clearances, you'll be free to do as you please, from lazing under the coconut palms on the white beach, to shopping on Valley Road, or renting a bike for a few hours to explore the interior of the island (on the left, of course !). Back on board in the late afternoon for an aperitif and dinner. In the evening, you'll leave Antigua, heading northwest for the return sail to Saint Martin.





#### DAY 7 St-Martin, Tintamarre - Grand Case

In the morning, you'll come in sight of a beautiful uninhabited islet, Tintamarre, just a stone's throw from the main island of Saint Martin. Its name literally means the « color of the sea ». The most courageous can explore it by taking the hiking trail, which takes a good hour to circumnavigate, while the more contemplative can just let themselves be carried away by the warm sea, admiring the view of the large island or the seabed. In the afternoon, set sail for Grand Case for dinner and overnight at anchor. Treat yourself to a final West Indian evening ashore in one of the friendly bars on the beach or in the narrow streets of this charming village: Creole ambience guaranteed.

#### DAY 8 Grand Case - Marigot, Fort Louis

After a short morning sail, you'll arrive at the Fort-Louis marina.

You will regretfully leave your catamaran and crew at 9am.























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