

# MAURITIUS - "Indian Ocean Paradise"

With Trade Travel & your host Andrew Fyfe



TRADE TRAVEL  
Group Travel Specialists

12 Days / 11 Nights

Tour departs: **Saturday 21 September - Wednesday 02 October 2019**

Tour cost from: **\$4,798.00** per person Twin Share (\$650.00 single supplement)

+ Taxes Approx **\$620.00** - Airport taxes/levies are subject to change until fully ticketed

**Business class fares available on application**

Tour price based on minimum 20 paying passengers ex East Coast

Tour prices are based on 2019 rates All pricing is subject to change due to seasonal rates, availability & International currency fluctuations until fully ticketed. Please note that itinerary is subject to change without notice.



## Day 1. Sat 21 Sept: Brisbane - Perth D

After our morning flight from home port across to Perth we board the coach and take in a **highlights tour of Perth** prior to checking into our hotel. Tonight, dinner will be served in the hotel restaurant.

**VA464** departs Brisbane @ 0840, arriving Perth 1225

**Overnight Perth: Sage Hotel West Perth**

## Day 2. Sun 22 Sept: Perth - Mauritius B,D

Breakfast at the hotel before late morning transfers to Perth Airport for check in.

**MK441** departs Perth @ 1305, arriving Mauritius 1745 (flight time 8hrs 40mins approx)

Our Air Mauritius flight arrives at the International Airport, Mauritius where we collect our luggage, clear customs and change money to the local currency. We are then met by our English speaking guide and friendly team. After boarding our coach we can relax for the drive to our accommodation. 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**. Offering a range of bars and restaurants there's plenty of daily activities and an array of evening entertainment. It's the perfect spot for fun and relaxation. 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 Tamarin Bay: Veranda Tamarin Hotel - All inclusive food & beverage menu**

## Day 3. Mon 23 Sept: Grand Bassin - Sacred Lake - Chamarel Coloured Earth & Waterfall B,L,D

We start our day in paradise with a truly amazing buffet breakfast, then it's onto the bus with our guide for a leisurely, **half day tour**. Cameras ready as this mornings tour takes in some stunning spots. First up, we are welcomed to **Grand Bassin**, a most sacred Hindu site, by a 33metre statue of Shiva. Then it's onto the **Sacred Lake** where, every year thousands take pilgrimage, some walking barefoot from their homes for three days. We have an opportunity to stop at a reintegration box to see the rarest endemic bird of Mauritius the **Petrin Pink Pigeon**, saved from extinction. The natural wonders of **Macabée Forest, Black River Gorge, Chamarel Waterfalls and the amazing Chamarel Coloured Earth** are perfect locations to stop for a while and appreciate the beauty of this tiny island. We return to the hotel for lunch and a leisurely afternoon. We later meet for complimentary drinks and delightful dinner at the hotel.

**Overnight Tamarin Bay: Veranda Tamarin Hotel - All inclusive food & beverage menu**



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#### Day 4. Tues 24 Sept: Saint Aubin House “Rum & Vanilla” - Biscuit Factory - Mahebourg

B,L,D

After another delightful breakfast we are back on the bus for another **interesting half day tour**. First stop is **Saint Aubin House** which was built in 1819. It 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. Back on the bus, our next stop is an amazing little place - the **H. Rault Biscuit Factory**. The guide will share with us the fascinating history of this 4th generation, family owned business that has been producing manioc (cassava) biscuits by hand, using traditional methods since 1870. Of course we'll have a tasting of the many different flavours of these naturally gluten free biscuits as we enjoy morning tea. Then passing through busy little villages including the **beautiful seaside port of Mahébourg**. Situated next to the largest lagoon on Mauritius, there is something relentlessly charming about bite-size Mahébourg. Once a busy port, these days the only boats belong to a small fleet of fishermen who feed the locals from their daily catch. We stop at the **Fredrik Hendriks Museum in Grand Port**. This building houses some interesting artefacts dating back to early Dutch settlement. 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.

**Overnight Tamarin Bay: Veranda Tamarin Hotel - All inclusive food & beverage menu**

#### Day 5. Wed 25 Sept: Casela Wildlife Park - Interaction with Lions - Le Morne Unesco World Heritage Site

B,L,D

Following another leisurely buffet breakfast, we depart for what will be for many, a **life-changing encounter** and certainly one of the highlights of our tour. At **Casela Wildlife and Nature Park** we have the opportunity to **sit with a magnificent female lion** – a moment we'll never forget. Then take a leisurely stroll through the picturesque park where we will encounter a fascinating variety of creatures – big and small. We enjoy lunch in the park at the Mirador Restaurant. This afternoon it's back to the resort via the **Martello Towers, Notre Dame de Fatima Church and the salt pans of Tamarind**. We travel past the iconic **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. 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 Tamarin Bay: Veranda Tamarin Hotel - All inclusive food & beverage menu**

**\*\* Optional at extra cost \$100.00! “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.

#### Day 6. Thurs 26 Sept: Port Louis – Capital of Mauritius - Chateau de Labourdonnais.

B,L,D

Today we head up to the city 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*”. We then stop at **Le Caudan Waterfront**, nestled in the port. Take time to browse through boutique shops, markets and cafés. We enjoy a light **lunch at La Terrasse** forming part of Domaine Labourdonnais. Our next visit is to the grand, 150 year old **Château de Labourdonnais**, home to three generations of the Wiehe family. After our guided tour of the château, we enjoy the lush gardens and old orchards of the property, host to fifty varieties of hundred-year-old mango trees, spice trees such as nutmeg and clove, as well as several exotic fruit trees such as pomme jacot, sapote, jamalac and kythira plum. Fruit varieties such as papaya, mango, guava and passionfruit are used in the manufacture of the Labourdonnais product range. Mid-afternoon we return south to Tamarin Bay where we will have time to relax poolside before dinner and drinks at the hotel.

**Overnight Tamarin Bay: Veranda Tamarin Hotel - All inclusive food & beverage menu**

#### Day 7. Fri 27 Sept: School Visit - West Coast Cruise

B,L,D

A memorable day lay ahead as we depart Tamarin Bay and make our way to the **Joie De Vivre School**. The school was setup to take care of the local children that were wandering around the village, to give them basic education, keep them from the dangers of life on the streets and help and to provide them with opportunities that we often take for granted. With the experience to interact with the local children and enjoy lifelong memories this is a great opportunity to give back to the school with much needed school materials. Continuing up the West Coast we arrive at **Rivière Noire** to begin another tour highlight - our **half-day Catamaran Lunch Cruise**. Keep camera's handy as curious dolphins are likely to join us. 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, we delight in the beauty and tranquillity of another unforgettable day in paradise. Back on land, make our way through Le Morne stopping at the **Matthew Flinders Memorial**. Our guide will explain how this important monument links a part of our Australian history with Mauritius. We are then back to the hotel for a rest before meeting for drinks and delicious dinner.

**Overnight Tamarin Bay: Veranda Tamarin Hotel - All inclusive food & beverage menu**

#### Day 8. Sat 28 Sept: Sugar Museum - Botanic Gardens - Grand Baie

B,L,D

After breakfast this morning, we begin our drive north for our full day touring. Our first stop is in Pamplemousses at **L'Adventure du Sucre “Sugar Museum”** to 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. Next is the **Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic Garden**, formerly known as Royal Botanical Gardens Pamplemousses. The gardens are spread over 37 hectares and are the oldest in the Southern Hemisphere, constructed in 1770. Most famous for its giant water lilies, the garden features many rare and 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. We travel around the coast to the pretty village of Cape Malheureux and stop at the **Notre Dame Auxiliatrice “Red Roofed Church”**.

## Day 8 Continues

We enjoy **lunch** in Grand Baie at the **Merville Beach Hotel**. Following lunch its time to hit the shops and seaside cafés especially the **Super U Grand Baie**. Later this afternoon we travel back to the south to our home away from home to refresh before meeting up for drinks and dinner.

**Overnight Tamarin Bay: Veranda Tamarin Hotel - All inclusive food & beverage menu**

## Day 9. Sun 29 Sept: Free Day

**B,L,D**

Today is all ours to enjoy the complimentary facilities and activities or take a stroll along the beach, along the river or through the village or at own cost, why not book in a tour, a scenic flight, big game fishing expedition or maybe attend a local church service! All food and beverage at the hotel for the day is included in our 'full board' package.

**Overnight Tamarin Bay: Veranda Tamarin Hotel - All inclusive food & beverage menu**

## Day 10. Mon 30 Sept: Trou aux Cerfs - Curepipe - Eureka House

**B,L,D**

After another delicious breakfast this morning, we are back on the road for **another adventurous day in Mauritius**. Our first stop provides us with some photo opportunities at the **Trou aux Cerfs volcanic crater** before arriving in **Curepipe** in the Central Plateau area to experience some **rather unique duty free shopping**. Next we drive south to 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. **A traditional Mauritian lunch is then served on the back verandah** overlooking the lush gardens which carry through to the river. Then its back to our hotel to relax for the afternoon and to freshen up before our final night dinner.

**Overnight Tamarin Bay: Veranda Tamarin Hotel - All inclusive food & beverage menu**

## Day 11. Tues 01 Oct: Tamarin Bay - International Airport

**B,L,S**

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. We depart late evening for our overnight flight back across the Indian Ocean to Perth.

**Air Mauritius flight MK440 departs Mauritius 2240 - Arrives Perth 0910 (Friday)**

## Day 12. Wed 02 Oct: Perth - Brisbane

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

**VA469 departs Perth @ 1245, arriving Brisbane 1910**



**Tour Highlights:** Half Day Highlights of Chamarel – Grand Bassin Statue, Temple & Sacred Lake, Macabée Forest, Black River Gorge, Chamarel Waterfalls & Coloured Earth; Saint Aubin Estate - “Saint Aubin House & Garden”, “Rum House”, “Vanilla House”, “Anthurium Greenhouse”; H. Rault Biscuit Factory; South East Coastal Village of Mahébourg & Historic Port Monuments; Fredrik Kendriks Museum; Casela Wildlife & Nature Park - “Interaction with the Lions” or optional extra “Walking with Lions”, Lunch Mirador Restaurant; Traditional Salt Pans of Tamarin; Martello Towers; Chapel of Notre Dame de Fatima; Le Morne Brabant Unesco World Heritage Site & Slave Route Memorial; Highlights of Port Louis - Natural History Museum of Mauritius, La Citadelle Fort Adelaide & Champ de Mars Racecourse, Le Caudan Waterfront Precinct; Lunch La Terrasse; 150 Year Old Château de Labourdonnais; Joie De Vivre School Visit; Catamaran ½ Day Scenic Lunch Cruise West Coast; Matthew Flinders Memorial; L`Adventure du Sucre “Sugar Museum”; Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanic Garden; Highlights & Shopping Grand Baie; Cap Malheureux Red-Roofed Church; Trout aux Cerfs Volcanic Crater; Shopping Village of Curepipe; Lunch Eureka Mansion & Garden & more.

**Tour Price Includes:**

- Return economy flights: Brisbane - Perth - Brisbane
- 1 Nights accommodation Perth
- Return international flights “Air Mauritius” Perth - Mauritius - Perth
- Coach travel Mauritius
- 9 Nights luxury beachfront accommodation
- Full board menu all inclusive meals & beverage - Mauritius
- All entry fees and guides as per Itinerary
- English speaking guide

**Tour Price Excludes:**

- Any optional touring Perth & Mauritius - *Includes upgrade “Walk with Lions”; Scenic Flights etc.*
- Travel Insurance - POA



**PAYMENT DETAILS**

**DEPOSIT of \$500.00 per person due on booking with completed booking form to secure your place on this tour - no later than Friday 15 March 2019**

**FINAL PAYMENT to be paid on or before Friday 17 May 2019**

**For information and bookings contact Trade Travel: 1800 034 439**

**Email: natasha@tradetravel.com**



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