



SAINT LUCIA

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TRAVEL ESSENTIALS

www.stlucia.org



HOW TO GET HERE

All major international flights from the United States and Canada fly to Hewanorra International Airport located in the south of the island. Airlines from the United States include American Airlines, Delta Airlines, JetBlue and United Airlines, and from Canada: Air Canada, Sunwing and WestJet. Regional (Caribbean) flights arrive into George F.L. Charles airport, which is situated in the north, close to the capital city, Castries. Both airports also accept private aircraft and can provide the necessary services.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Visitors to Saint Lucia must have a passport that must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry to Saint Lucia. USA, UK and Canada passport-holders do not require visas for entry to Saint Lucia. Some other nationals are also exempt if there is an agreement for exemption between the visitor's home country and Saint Lucia. Information on visitors who require a visa is found at www.govt.lc/faqs.

The duty-free allowance into Saint Lucia is 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 2kg of tobacco, and 40 fluid ounces of spirits or wine.

HEALTH

Unless coming from an infectious area, no vaccinations are required. However, hepatitis A, polio and typhoid are recommended vaccinations. Water is safe to drink from the tap, and bottled/distilled water is widely available.

WEATHER

Tropical, with daytime temperatures typically in the mid to high 20s Celsius year round.

CURRENCY

The official currency is the Eastern Caribbean dollar; the exchange rate is fixed to the US dollar at US\$1 to EC\$2.70. You can also pay for most items with US dollars, and hotel rates are quoted in US dollars. Cashpoints issue EC dollars.

TIME DIFFERENCE

Local time is GMT-4. There is no daylight saving.

ELECTRICITY

The electricity supply voltage is 220 volts, 50 cycles. Plugs are mostly UK 3-pin square plugs. Adaptors are available at many hotels. Some hotels provide 110v 60 cycle electricity and US 2-pin outlets as well.

DIAL CODE

The international dialing code for Saint Lucia is +1 758.

GETTING AROUND

Taxis

These are widely available. Point-to-point fares are fixed, but it's still advisable to establish the cost of the journey before setting off. Taxis can also be booked for island tours. In the Rodney Bay and Soufriere areas, water taxis are also available for trips along the coast to nearby beaches.

Car hire

Vehicles can be rented from the airports and hotels, or booked in advance through travel agents and car rental offices. You will need a temporary driving permit, which can be bought from the rental company. A four-wheel drive vehicle is a good idea.

Buses

A network of minibuses provides public transport to most corners of the island, and fares are cheap.

Ferries

Those who prefer to do much of their travelling on the water will find that Saint Lucia is well serviced by ferries, making it easy to include Saint Lucia in any island hopping tour. Several ferry lines connect Saint Lucia with Martinique, Dominica and Guadeloupe.

Visit www.express-des-iles.com which operates a daily ferry service between Saint Lucia and Martinique.

Helicopters

Spectacular aerial tours of Saint Lucia are available, and helicopter transfers between Hewanorra and George F.L. Charles airports reduce the travel time between the south and north of the island. For more information, visit www.stluciahelicopters.com.

TAXES AND SERVICE CHARGES

A government tax and a service charge are applicable on hotel and restaurant bills. These charges are often not included in hotels' published rates and on restaurant menus. However, the prices on labels in shops are what you pay.


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