

11 Day Introduction to Reunion Self-Drive



DAY 1: ARRIVAL/ SALAZIE

On arrival at Roland Garros airport, you will be met by our representative who will brief you on your trip. Head for Salazie, one of the island's three cirques, the greenest and wildest. Along the way, you'll see many waterfalls, including the most famous, the "bride's veil". Once you arrive in Hell Bourg, you can't help but fall under the spell of this small village steeped in Creole history and culture.

Then visit of the village before reaching your hotel just outside the village

Accommodation: Les Jardins Doheva – 2* located in Hell Bourg

Meal Basis: B&B

DAY 2: DEEP SOUTH

After breakfast, it will be time to leave this peaceful place to discover the deep south with many stops along the road : Piton Ste Rose with Notre Dame des laves (church miraculously spared by lava in 1977), Anse des Cascades (little fishermen's harbour with waterfalls), the lava road with all the lava flows which created the landscape the last and most impressive being in 2007.

Drive to your hotel with few other stops on the way. There are many restaurants around the hotel, reachable by foot

Accommodation: Terre Sainte Hotel – 3* located in St Pierre city centre, next to the ocean

Meal Basis: B&B

DAY 3: LANGEVIN WATERFALL OR LAVA TUBES OR CANYONING

Many options for this new day of discovery:

Option 1: If you are not sporty, just take your time today to discover one of the most beautiful waterfalls at St Joseph, Langevin or also known as Grand Galet. If you want to go for a swim, it is possible in lower basins. Make a picnic and take your time in this natural setting. In the afternoon, you can go for a short walk along the ocean to discover geological feature, Cap Jaune (yellow cape) or go for a swim in St Pierre's Lagoon

Option 2: Lava tubes at St Philippe, a unique activity, discovering the inside of the volcano, using corridors and caves in the lava for 2 & half hours. It takes all morning, then you will spend time at Langevin waterfall in the afternoon to enjoy the place.

Option 3: Try your hand at canyoning, at Langevin waterfall for the morning. You will take a zip line, go down natural water slides and end up jumping into the pools. A sporty and fun moment during few hours. In the afternoon, you can go for a short walk along the ocean to discover a geological feature, Cap Jaune (yellow cape)

Back to hotel in the afternoon

Accommodation: Terre Sainte Hotel – 3* located in St Pierre city centre, next to the ocean

Meal Basis: B&B



DAY 4: LAGOON / PLAINE DES CAFRES

Before reaching Plaine des Cafres for the night, take your time enjoying a swim in the lagoon next to the hotel, and go visiting the city centre of St Pierre, a typical Reunion city. If it is Saturday, you can go the market and stroll through the colourful stalls, where you will discover many local specialities and handcrafts.

In the afternoon you can make a stop at Saga du Rhum, located in Isautier Distillery. This museum / distillery will give you all information about the sugar cane culture and the rum and sugar production. (headphones for hire)

Drive to your hotel.

Accommodation: Les Geraniums – 3*: small hotel with a breathtaking view over mountains (Piton des Niegés, Dimitile)

Meal Basis: B&B

DAY 5: VOLCANO, PITON DE LA FOURNAISE

Early departure for the Piton de la Fournaise volcano, one of the world's most active volcanoes. You will make few stops on the way such as Nez de Boeuf, a viewpoint over the Rivière des Remparts, Commerson's Crater (old crater) and of course at the Plaine des Sables (between the moon and Mars, the landscape is incredible)

You will now arrive in front of the volcano, from the panoramic overview point, Pas de Bellecombe. Take your time discovering and taking pictures

Lunch (own account) - many typical restaurants on the road at Bourg Murat. Travel on to Bois Court viewpoint on Grand Bassin or make a stop at the volcano museum for a free visit (all signs translated in English)

Make your way back to hotel and enjoy your afternoon at leisure.

Accommodation: Les Geraniums – 3*

Meal Basis: B&B

DAY 6: CILAOS

After breakfast, you will take the direction of another cirque of the island, Cilaos. The road is impressive and beautiful. Locally called "The road of 400 bends". The cirque is well known for its culture of lentils and its vineyards.

If the weather is nice, you will discover the viewpoint of La Roche Merveilleuse (the marvelous rock) from where you will have a breathtaking view on the cirque and the village

Leave your car at hotel, to enjoy a walk into the village

Lunch (own account) in a typical restaurant where you can have one of the famous culture of the cirque, the lentils.

Visit of the village with its little market, its lovely church overlooking the village and its pond where, in fine weather, the mountains are reflected.

Make your way to hotel.

Accommodation: Vieux Cep – 3* charming hotel looking like a chalet in the middle of the mountains

Meal Basis: B&B

DAY 7: WEST COAST

It's time to discover the last part of the island, the west coast, by taking the coastal road with few stops including The Gouffre (the abyss where waves come crashing in) and Etang Salé les Bains and its beautiful black sand beach where you can have lunch (own account)

Arrival at hotel in the afternoon and leisure to swim in the lagoon

Accommodation: Tropic Appart Hotel – 3*: located in the village of Ermitage les Bains, 5 minutes walking from the lagoon

Meal Basis: B&B

DAY 8: DAY AT LEISURE

Today take your time and rest

Accommodation: Tropic Appart Hotel – 3*

Meal Basis: B&B

DAY 9: PITON MAÏDO

Early departure to drive to Piton Maïdo (2205m) for breathtaking view on the last cirque, Mafate. It is only reachable by foot. You will enjoy the mountains spectacle, Piton des Neiges (the Snow peak) striding across the heart of this incredible landscape.

Make your back to the coast. If it is Friday, you can go to St Paul's Market located on the waterfront, a beautiful market to buy your souvenirs.

Have lunch (own account) at St Gilles les Bains, the island's seaside resort, and visit the little city centre in the afternoon

Back to hotel

Accommodation: Tropic Appart Hotel – 3*

Meal Basis: B&B



DAY 10 : ACTIVITIES

Today, why not enjoy an activity like helicopter flip, paragliding, a cruise to discover dolphins and whales during the period (from June to October), diving in one of the great spots on the coast, glass bottom kayaks and much more

Accommodation: Tropic Appart Hotel – 3*

Meal Basis: B&B

Day 11 : DEPART

It is time to leave and drive to the airport to take your flight out.

Meal Basis: Breakfast