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Leeward Antilles Bareboat Flotilla St. Martin, St. Barts and Anguilla April 19 - 28, 2012

The Islands of St. Martin/St. Maarten, St. Barts and Anguilla are located in the Leeward Antilles or Leeward Islands. About 100 miles east of The Virgin Islands, this area is known for fresh breezes and wonderful contrasts between the various islands.

St. Martin is two countries in one island. The Dutch half (St. Maarten), dates back to the 17th century. Its capital, Philipsburg, has friendly taverns on the waterfront. The French half (St. Martin) is very picturesque and has excellent food, bargain shopping for imports direct from Europe and sidewalk cafés in Marigot, the French capital. St. Barts is quite chic, with numerous interesting shops and restaurants in the capital city of Gustavia. Motorscooter rentals make it easy to get around the rest of the island. Anguilla, a few miles north of St. Martin is British and less developed but has excellent diving and snorkeling in its underwater national parks.



Join us as an individual, couple or put together your own group to fill your own boat

If you have your own group and can act as skipper, you may charter your own boat and join the flotilla instead of joining individually or as a couple. This way you can choose the size of boat, provisioning package and other options. Contact Bob at Spinnaker for information about cost and availability. You can also book your own private bareboat or crewed charter for the time of your choosing through Spinnaker Sailing.

Saint Martin 2012

Sailing Vacation

Itinerary

A non-stop flight from Miami arrives at Juliana International Airport, Saint Maartin (Dutch territory) at around 2:15 p.m. Taxi to the charter base at Oyster Pond. We'll get checked out and board the boats and stay overnight at the marina.

Saturday - Wrap up any loose ends of checking out the boats. Depart Oyster Pond to sail to Columbier Bay in St. Barts. Anchor in Columbier. Beach party ashore hosted by ASA.

Sunday - Relocate to Gustavia for shopping, diving, dining, etc. Motor scooter & rental cars are available. There are various beaches around the island.

Monday - There's a wonderful crepe shop for breakfast in Gustavia and plenty more to do during the day.

Tuesday - Head out for a stop over in St. Maarten (Dutch side) for the night on the way to Anguilla. Stay over night at Philipsburg or Simpson Bay.

Wednesday - Depart for Road Bay, Anguilla. Skippers report to customs and immigration immediately at the government office near the dinghy dock with boat papers and crew passports. Be sure to follow customary flag etiquette. No host dinner at John's Restaurant on the beach.

Thursday - Relocate to Crocus Bay and anchor. It's right next to Little Bay; a national marine park with excellent snorkeling. Dinner ashore.

Friday - Sail to Grand Case, St. Martin (French side) and dinghy ashore to check out the restaurants before dinner. There are dozens of them in this small settlement.

Saturday - Return boats to Oyster Pond by check in time. Guests who want to return home on Saturday can taxi directly to the airport. Those who want to stay the night before flying home can taxi to the hotel. (Good option for West Coast travelers)

Sunday - Taxi to the airport. There are flights leaving in the morning that will connect with flights to the West Coast by evening.

Dining

Spinnaker is supplying each boat with an "Easy on the Cook" provisioning package. This will provide food for breakfasts, lunches, and snacks every day and one dinner to be cooked aboard the boat. The food order is customized for each boat. Members will get together before the trip to fill out the order forms to indicate preferences.

A transom barbecue as well as a fully equipped galley is provided for cooking aboard although most dinners will be had ashore.

Cruise Meeting February 18, 2012

Each crew should meet to complete their provision and beverage orders by early Feb. (There's nothing like doing a beverage order to help people get to know each other.) A meeting for everyone will take place on the evening of Feb. 18th, that will include slides and lots of travel and cruising advise.

Reservation and Payment Informa- tion

Cost including provisions:
\$1795/person for couples or
singles sleeping in main salon.
\$1995/person - singles w/own
cabin

Payments:
\$100 non refundable deposit
\$900 due Dec 15, 2011.
Balance due Feb 15, 2012.

Airfare & extra hotel night are not included but we'll help you make the arrangements.

The Boats - Our group uses Moorings Beneteau yachts from 43 to 51 feet. These boats have 3-4 double cabins plus 1 single on the 51's. We'll be keeping it comfortable with no single people having to share double cabins together.

Bareboat Charter Certification - Certification is available to Basic Coastal Cruising graduates who have acted as skipper at least 3 times. It's important each student gets used to the responsibility of skippering a boat before Bareboat Charter or Cruising Catamaran certification is attempted. The cost is \$315.00 extra for text book, certification fee, testing and instruction. Bareboat charter graduates can do their own bareboat cruising in the Caribbean and other locations around the world.

Activities - This special American Sailing Association Flotilla cruise is open to ASA members around the world who want to join in the fun. Special ASA activities include a reception party and additional get togethers and celebrations during the cruise. There will also be numerous prizes and ASA "sailor swag" for all attending.

Locally, the French territory of St. Barts (St. Barthelemy) is the most sophisticated of the three islands with many high quality restaurants and shops. It also has uncrowded beaches and places to snorkel and scuba dive. Motorscooters are a popular way to get around and are available for rent. French St. Martin and Dutch St. Maarten (one island) include the yachting center of Simson Bay and Philipsburg in the Dutch territory. Marigot is a free port in the French territory and a bustling town for shopping and dining. Anguilla is a somewhat sleepy British West Indian island with a wonderful system of national parks that are ideal for snorkeling, diving and enjoying nature. It also contains many fine restaurants and small but high end resorts.

