

EXCURSIONS -In the Garden of Eden 2016/17 on board the M/Y Pegasus

PRASLIN

Duration: approximately 3 hours - Half day - Included: Private bus, Professional English speaking guide all entrance fees

Price Per Person -€ 80

Depart from Praslin Port for Vallee de Mai Nature Reserve, via the main mountain pass. Scenic coastal drive through picturesque fishing villages and dense forest of contrasting shades of green. Arrival at Vallee de Mai from where we start our guided tour. Discover the mystical World Heritage Site famous for its Coco de Mer – the largest seed in the plant kingdom. Capture the Cathedral feel of this primeval forest with its gigantic palms, a truly uplifting experience. Watch for the Black Parrot, one of the rarest birds in the world and listen to its high pitched whistle. Depart Vallee de Mai for Cote d' Or Beach – voted on several occasions as one of the most beautiful beaches in the world, where you will have time for swim and a refreshing soft drink.

LA DIGUE

Duration: approximately 3 ½ hours – Half day

Price per Person - € 80

Experience the Old World beauty and charm of the Seychelles during an orientation tour of picturesque La Digue, one of the prettiest islands in the Seychelles. On your scenic drive from La Passe Harbor to L'Union Estate, you will find daily life here to be punctuated by ox carts and a relaxed pace. Upon arrival at L'Union Estate, you will see its old Creole house and coconut factory; a reminder of life on the island many years ago. Next, you will proceed for a visit to La Digue's beaches. The island's beaches are considered to be amongst the finest in the world, especially Anse Source D'Argent; a bather's paradise and photographer's dream. For centuries, the soft white sands and dramatic granite boulders have enchanted visitors to the island. Along the way, you may catch a glimpse of La Digue'sparadise flycatcher, a bird with a distinctive black plumage.

ARIDE

Walking tour guided by the local ranger

A visit to Aride Island is an essential part of the itinerary for any visitor to Seychelles to discover what the islands were like 250 years ago before human settlement. Aride is the northernmost island of the granitic Seychelles and is 1.6 km long and 0.6 km wide. Aride hosts one of the most important seabird populations in the Indian Ocean with more breeding species than any other island in Seychelles. Eighteen species of native birds (including five only found in Seychelles) breed on Aride. The island is managed as a nature reserve by the Island Conservation Society of Seychelles and the only human inhabitants are the reserve's staff, including the Island Manager, Conservation Officer and rangers.

Aride Island hosts thousands of breeding seabirds each year, especially during the southeast monsoon and land birds that breed year round. Aride is also an island where native plants find fertile soil for growth. Because of this, it plays a very important role in the conservation of Seychelles wildlife both terrestrial and marine (with a 200m of protected area from the coastline).

COUSIN

Walking escorted tour

Cousin Island is a granitic island covering 27 hectares and lies approximately 2km from Praslin island. It became the world's first internationally owned-reserve when it was purchased in 1968 by the International Council for the Protection of Birds (ICBP), now Birdlife International. The objective was to save the last remaining population of the Seychelles warblers.

First made into a Nature Reserve in 1968 it was afforded further protection when it was designated a Special Reserve in 1974. It is not only significant for sea birds and endemic land birds but is also the most important breeding site for Hawksbill turtles in the Western Indian Ocean. The reserve is managed solely by local staff and benefits local communities on the neighboring Praslin island through eco-tourism. Today, Cousin is managed by [Nature Seychelles](#). Conservation activities include monitoring of the island's biodiversity, research, re-introduction of endangered species such as the Seychelles Magpie Robin.

CURIEUSE

Walking tour guided by the local ranger

Lying about one mile to the north-east of Praslin, this island of about 2 miles long was first given the name Ile Rouge on account of its red earth. As part of the Marine Park the island is strictly protected and only a few families live there. Like Praslin, Curieuse is home to the Coco-de-Mer palm. The island has a wild population of about 250 Giant Tortoises, brought over from Aldabra in the 1980s and a breeding scheme has been in place there for several years. Curieuse was once a leper colony, and the ruins of the houses can still be seen. There is also a large, restored colonial villa, known as the Doctor's House, where the island doctor lived in the 1870s. Nature trails wind their way across the island, notably through the extensive swamps, home to eight different species of mangrove.