

# Martinique

## Madinina L'île aux Fleurs

Language Immersion, Cultural Exchange & Service Program



### THE ISLAND OF MARTINIQUE IS AN EXOTIC SLICE OF FRANCE


**TUCKED AWAY IN THE CARIBBEAN.** Surrounded by the exquisite waters of the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Caribbean Sea to the west, this island is a portrait of paradise. It exudes a distinctly French feeling in the excellence of its cuisine and the beauty of the language. Yet Martinique has a feel all its own.

There is an endearing west Indian warmth in its personality and a special Caribbean spice in its music and dance, its local dishes, and its way of life.

Martinique is certainly an island with style.

#### **Morne Rouge~ Orientation**

**(6 days)** – Upon arriving in Fort de France, we will practice our French as we exchange money, make calls home, and take a guided tour of this beautiful colonial city. Our private bus will take us to our “gite” (group lodge) in the northern town of Morne Rouge. Our gite overlooks the Caribbean Sea to the west and Mont Pelée to the north, and is an ideal place to get to know one another and adjust to the relaxed pace of this beautiful island. We’ll spend an afternoon hiking the trails of the Mont Pelée volcano overlook and visit the historic town of Saint-Pierre.

** Sainte-Anne (13 days)** – After the short stay in our mountain lodge it is time to explore the coast. We will travel to the southern most point of the island and the town of Sainte-Anne. Stops at banana and sugar cane plantations, a fun interactive rail tour, and learning about the history of

the island’s main industries will punctuate our drive. Seeing and smelling the island’s vibrant spice, vegetable, and seafood markets will delight our senses and provide us with ample opportunity to practice our French. Homestays will take place in Sainte-Anne where students will live, eat, and share in the daily lives of their families. Days will be spent interacting with our new friends on projects that include environmental work supporting a local sea turtle population and working alongside a local youth

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association. Afternoons and evenings will consist of activities such as soccer games, dances, cooking lessons, and other types of intercultural exchange. Side trips will include swimming and snorkeling in the paradisaical beaches of Les Salines, hiking to the waterfalls of Saut de Gendarme, and finally, a SCUBA diving trip to the famous 'Diamond Rock.' This is sure to be a highlight!

**Marie Galante, Trois-Îlets, and Travel Home (8 days)** – After sad farewells to our host families and new friends in Sainte-Anne, we will take a ferry to the nearby Island of

## TRIP OVERVIEW

**June 26th thru July 22nd  
(27 days)**

**Size of group:** 16-18 students

**Ages:** 14 to 17

**Tuition:** \$4,695 (plus RT airfare, from Newark)

### Service Projects\*

- Compile data and assist with turtle nesting in the South of Martinique
- Assist a local youth association with community projects
- Engage in an archaeological dig on a 19th century historical site

### Language Immersion\*

- Experience a homestay in Sainte-Anne, a town famous for warm smiles and beautiful beaches
- Communicate with professional language teachers during daily service projects
- Immerse yourself in the daily life of French teenagers as you work and play with them

### Adventure and Cultural Activities\*

- SCUBA dive in tropical blue waters
- Sea kayak Martinique's beautiful coastal inlets
- Hike in the rainforest and on the Mont Pelé volcano
- Explore historic town Saint-Pierre

\*Please note that some of the projects and activities will change from year to year, however, they will be similar to those listed. A final itinerary will be printed prior to each trip.