

MOLE SAINT NICOLAS TRIP QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Where is Mole Saint Nicolas?

Located in the North-Western coast of Haiti is where the commune town of Mole Saint Nicolas lies. It is the chief town of the Môle-Saint-Nicolas Arrondissement in the department of Nord-Ouest.

Christopher Columbus' first voyage to the Americas landed at the site of what is now Môle-Saint-Nicolas on December 6, 1492. The town later received its present name after the French gained control of the western part of Hispaniola in 1697.

How long is the trip?

The trips can be offered as either a two night or three-night trip. In both cases we depart at 7am on the first day and we get back early afternoon on the final day.

How often do you do these trips?

Depending on the season we will be offering between one to two trips per month.

How long does it take to arrive to Mole Saint Nicolas?

With the right conditions at sea, it takes around four and a half hours. On board we provide music, food and snacks to keep the guests accommodated. Occasional sightings of dolphins and other marine animals keeps guests further entertained.

What do we use for transportation to Mole Saint Nicolas?

Our new boat the 'Waverunner II' is a large, spacious vessel that can accommodate up to 20 passengers. The Waverunner is a 38-foot twin diesel secure vessel. Our boat has comfortable seating and offers air conditioning in the cockpit.

Where do we stay?

We have two different accommodations. You can choose to stay in the Hotel Colombus or in Boukan Guinguette which offer two different styles.

The Hotel Colombus has air conditioned bungalows near the beach providing Haitian style buffet. Amenities include a swimming pool, football pitch and offers ATV tours and jet skis.

The Boukan Guinguette Eco-Lodge offers bungalows with private terraces. The rooms come with fan and offers delicious food with a great relaxed atmosphere. Kite surfing lessons are available on site.

Do the hotels provide air conditioner and hot showers?

Hotel Colombus offers air conditioned rooms with hot shower, whilst Boukan Guinguette accommodation is more rustic and only provides fan and no hot showers.

Are meals included in the package?

Yes. All meals including breakfast, lunch and dinner are offered at the hotel throughout your stay. For the time on the boat we provide snacks, a sandwich plus a drink.

Are drinks included in the package?

On the boat certain soft drinks and beers are provided. However, in the hotels soft drinks and alcoholic beverages are not included.

Is Scuba diving available?

Yes. Scuba diving is available for CERTIFIED divers only. If you have a diving certification, have been diving recently (in the past year) and are a comfortable diver we offer diving for the trip. For those that chose the diving package this will include one day of diving. We leave early in the morning on the day of diving as currents tend to pick up in the afternoon. The two-tank dive trip includes tanks, weights and a guide. (Other rental gear not included and can be rented for an additional 40 USD at Marina Blue)

What do you expect to see when going scuba diving?

The dive sites in the area are relatively unexplored which make them very exciting and untouched. Great dive sites can be discovered all very close by and you can expect to find exciting coral walls with good visibility. Depths in the dives can range from 18-30 meters depending on the experience of the group.

What if I haven't dived for a long time, can I dive on this trip?

No. If we do not know your diving capabilities then we do not recommend you to dive here. You are recommended to come to Marina Blue before the trip to partake in a Scuba Review dive where we will refresh your diving skills to get you up to date and ready to dive in Mole Saint Nicolas. If you don't have a certification then why not come to partake in an Open Water course to get you the certification needed to go diving.

What should I bring for the trip?

We recommend you travel light. We only allow one carry-on or equivalent size bag per person (+ a dive gear bag for scuba divers with own equipment). Bring your beach wear which may include a pair of swim wear, comfortable shoes, a hat, towel and don't forget the sunscreen!

Are there any special rates if you stay at Moulin Sur Mer the night before and after the trip?

You can inquire for special rates at info@moulinurmer.com. Special rates are not always guaranteed

What are the activities on offer at Mole Saint Nicolas?

For those that are not Scuba Diving or have the extra day there is a range of activities to be done in the area including: Snorkelling, guided hiking trips and Cultural walking tours.

The different hotels also offer a range of different activities too at additional costs:

Boukan Guinguette Eco-Lodge: P-tanque, Kayaking, Sailing on the hobiecat, Mountain Biking, Kite surfing and Massage

Colombus Hotel: ATV tours and Jet skis.

A boat ride to a beautiful beach front caverns is included in all packages. Snorkeling equipment is included and plenty of time can be dedicated to exploring different reefs and even caves.

Do you offer trips to Tortuga Island?

Yes. This additional activity is only available on the 3-night stay in the Colombus Hotel. Trips to Tortuga can only be offered certain times of the year depending on the season. This is a full day excursion to one of the Caribbean's most beautiful beaches which includes a great buffet on the beach with appetizers and drinks.

How does the trip run and what to know about Tortuga Island?

We depart at 7am from Mole Saint Nicolas and it takes 2 hours to Point West. We have time to enjoy the long white sandy beach and the crystal clear waters for several hours before returning at 4pm. The island is a perfect place to enjoy the buffet under the shade of our tents and to swim or go for a walk to discover nearby salines. Historically Tortuga Island was a popular gathering spot for pirates in the Caribbean and rumor has it that gold and treasures were hidden there!

What do I need to do to secure a seat on the trip?

All reservations require a 100% payment in advance. You can book and pay via our website at www.marinabluehaiti.com or pay directly in one of our offices in Montrouis or Rue Saint Cyr 14 or Marina Blue in Montrouis.

What's the minimum number of people for the trip happen?

We require a minimum of 15 adults for each trip. If the tour doesn't meet the minimum, all refunds will be returned to our clients. The boat is only fully confirmed once all funds are fully paid. The maximum capacity is 20 persons to ensure the highest comfort and safety of all those on board.

What's the policy on children?

Children 3 to 11 years old are charged 50% of the regular rates. Maximum of 4 children rates allowed per group. Due to the expenses involved, all others will be charged adult rates.

Do you have ice chest on board?

Ice chests are provided on board. Guests are asked to refrain from bringing along their own.

Can I bring my own drinks and snacks?

Yes. One chip box allowed per group of passengers. Water is provided on board.

Do you have bathroom on the boat?

Yes. The Waverunner is equipped with a fully functioning bathroom and shower.

Can I go sightseeing in Mole Saint Nicolas?

Yes. Both accommodations are very close to the village so it is easy to check out the town.

Is Kitesurfing available?

Yes. Hourly lessons with IKA rated instructors through a kitesurfing school can be provided at an additional cost of 62.50 US\$ (4000 Gourdes) per hour. If you do more than 3 hours the price drops to 50 US\$ (3200 Gourdes) an hour.

Are Massages available?

Yes. Massages can be offered for additional price of 31 US\$ (1950 Gourdes) for an hour massage or 20US\$ (1250 Gourdes) for a half hour.

Who is accompanying us on the trip?

There will be a representation of 3-4 staff Marina Blue members on board. This will include a group leader, the boat captain and assistants.

What's the cancellation policy?

The **Cancellation Penalty** is 50% charge if cancelled between 5 and 15 days prior to departure date. 100% Penalty if cancelled 5 days or less prior to departure date.