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THE WINDWARD ISLANDS

The climate in the Southern Grenadines is hot and dry. Average daily maximum and minimum temperatures are 30 and 24 degrees Celsius (86 and 75 Fahrenheit) respectively. Rainfall is only 100 mm (4 inches) per year concentrated in the periods May - June and October - November. Sea surface temperature varies between a low of 25 degrees Celsius (77 Fahrenheit) in February/March to a high of 28 degrees Celsius (82 Fahrenheit) in September/October. Because of their latitude the Orinoco River in Guyana occasionally influences the waters in the Southern Grenadines during rainy season, which causes a drop in salinity, changes in water color, and a decrease in underwater visibility.

Although the climate is hot, the constant trade winds will have a pleasant cooling effect during the day. When you're anchored in the lagoon overnight the breeze might actually urge you to look for a sweater.

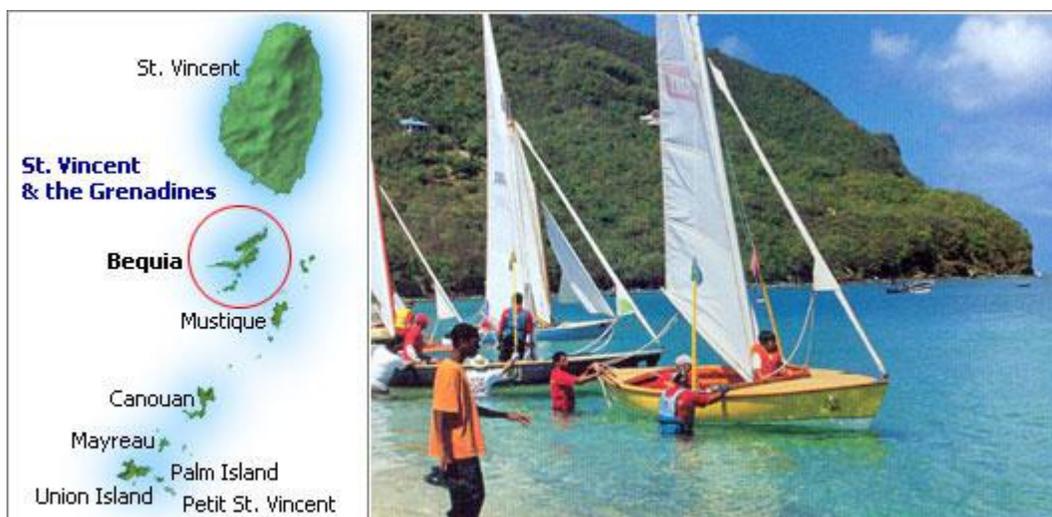
Some of the Islands you'll visit....

Young Island

A private luxury resort just 200 yards from St. Vincent's Villa Bay with individual cottages set in lush tropical surroundings. Young Island Cut is a yachtsman's favorite, with a number of fine dining spots within dinghy access. The climb to the hilltop fort around the Southern side of the island offers dramatic views of this lovely anchorage - truly memorable & well worth the effort!

Bequia

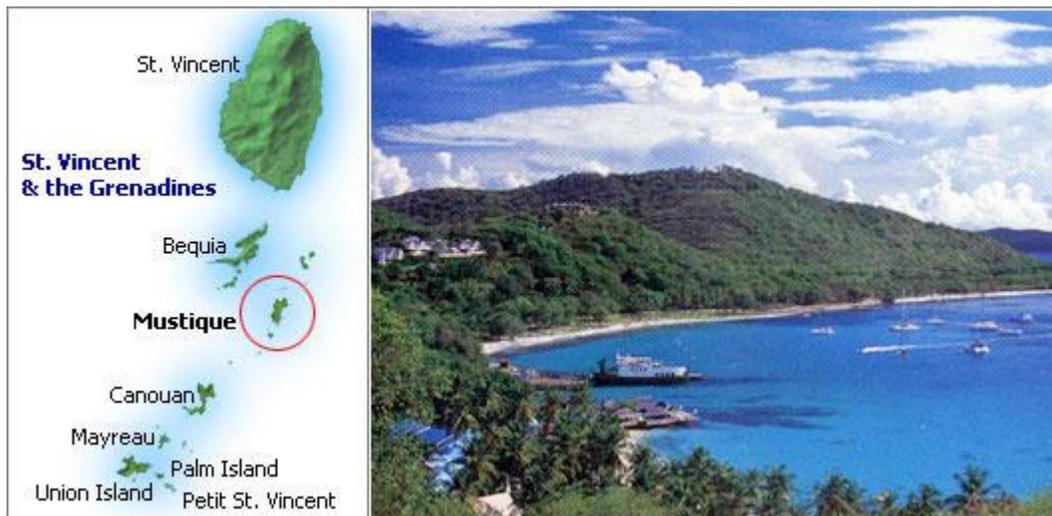
Lying just nine miles to the south of St. Vincent, Bequia is the largest of the Grenadine islands - a compact seven square miles. Her history has been deeply entwined with the sea for generations. The age-old traditions of boatbuilding, fishing and whaling are still evident. The annual Bequia Regatta brings competitors from the entire region vying for top honors amongst the local boat builders. Bequia is accessible by air from Barbados and a regular ferry service connects the island to St. Vincent with less frequent ferry service between Mayreau & Union Island.



Admiralty Bay, the island's natural harbor, is a favorite anchorage for yachtsmen. Ashore there are panoramic hikes, perfect beaches and a picturesque town. The quaint waterfront of Port Elizabeth is lined with bars, restaurants, bookshops, local crafts, artist studios and a collection of fine provisioners; even an internet café for those who need to check email. Be sure to plan a visit to the whaling museum, turtle sanctuary, shop for authentic scrimshaw or tour Moonhole, a fascinating collection of villas carved out of the rocky peninsula!

Mustique

The island, 3 miles long and 1,5 miles wide at its widest point, is hilly, with a large plain in the north and is essentially composed of seven valleys each with a white sand beach and wooded hills that rise to a height of 495 feet. For those who've sought to build their own slice of paradise, Mustique has become home away from home for the world's elite. Privately owned, and with a landscape as genteel as its lifestyle, it's where many of the rich and famous holiday away from the public eye. Swimming and snorkeling is good in the main anchorage of Britannia Bay, and the park at Macaroni Beach offers endless stretches of sugar white sand for sunning & picnics. Visitors often decide to tour the entire island; the houses are fabulous, and can be seen by foot, taxi, motor bike or even by horseback.



Britannia Bay, the harbor front focal point and fishing village, is the commercial heart of the island. Groceries, baguettes, croissants and pain au chocolate are easily found along the waterfront. Basil's Bar & Restaurant on the harbor front is where the action is. A visit to their Wednesday night barbecue buffet is a must, as is staying for the "jump up"! The annual Mustique Blues Festival is held here, usually attended by musicians from far & wide! For those who enjoy fine dining, the Cotton House offers a luxurious plantation style setting, while the more casual atmosphere of the Firefly, enjoy a poolside luncheon or sample their delicious dinners, just a brief hike from the harbor (it's a steep climb, but they'll even send a driver if you ask). Reservations are required at both.

Canouan

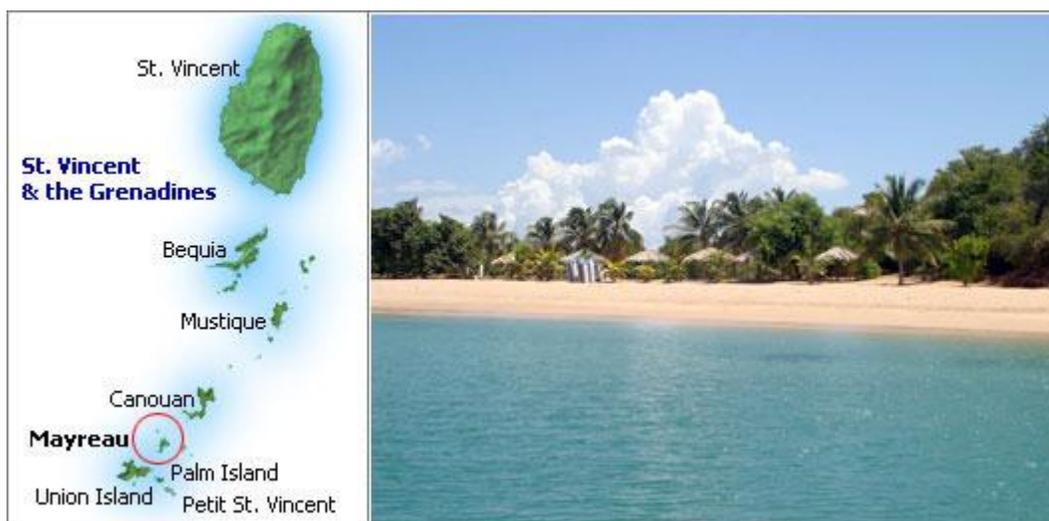
Canouan is a pretty island set in the middle of the Grenadine archipelago with gently rolling hills encompassing just 5 square miles. Hikers will enjoy hidden beaches along the windward side with exquisite watercolor views of the coast. The north side of the island boasts the new Canouan Beach Resort and the ever-popular Tamarind Beach Hotel welcomes yachts at the harbor in Charlestown Bay.



Enjoy a round of golf at The Frangipani Golf Course if you can break away from enjoying some of the best snorkeling & diving in the area. There are many great dive sites being discovered every day, with giant boulders, sloping reefs where rays, turtles and sharks are often spotted. Glossy Hill and Rameau Bay also offer great snorkeling.

Mayreau

Pronounced My-Row, this small, privately owned island lies to the west of the Tobago Cays. It is the smallest (1.5 square miles) of the inhabited Grenadine islands, with a population of about 250. Mayreau has one road and no cars, and can only be reached by boat. White sand beaches and a resort hotel on the sweeping Salt Whistle Bay offers a warm welcome to the intrepid visitor. While this is a great over night anchorage, it is small and popular, so be sure to pick your spot early. Enjoy a delicious meal at your very own private stone dining cabana under a thatch roof in a woodland atmosphere, or enjoy the pretty trail leading to a hilltop church with stunning views of the Tobago Cays.

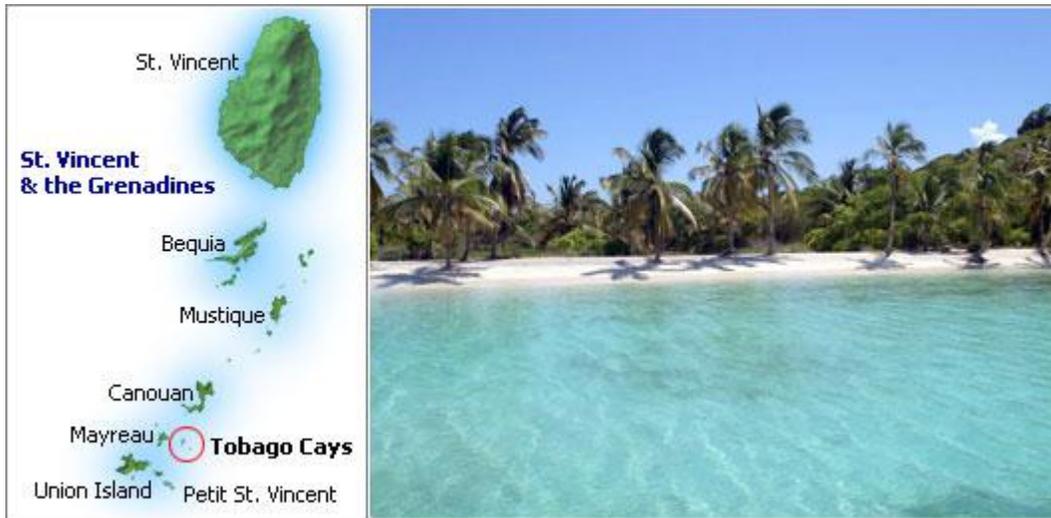


From Saline Bay on the south side of Mayreau, a road also leads to the village or across the southern part of the island to the salt pond where you can collect rock salt in the dry season, or continue on to explore the pristine beaches.

Tobago Cays

The star of the show! The Tobago Cays are a cluster of islets protected by a vast Horseshoe Reef, creating

a multi-colored lake of green, blue, turquoise, brown and gold. The reef surrounds the four main deserted islets, with their dazzling, palm-studded shorelines, provides some of the best snorkeling and diving in the world. The brilliant powdery, white sand, the colored waters shaded in unimaginable blues and the neon marine life beneath give true meaning to the "stop-the-world-I-want-to-get-off" Caribbean fantasy.



Here you could spend days on end, exploring, snorkeling and diving in luminescent waters filled with a kaleidoscope of colored fish, or beach comb along the brilliant coral sands - a rare tropical paradise that can only be reached by boat!



The Cays have been declared a wildlife reserve by the government and all visitors are urged to preserve and protect this unique natural resource. No fishing, jet skis, or anchoring of dinghies is allowed, and we hope you will make your contribution to the efforts by disposing properly of debris, including the charcoal and remainders of your beach barbecue. Local youths may offer to remove your garbage for a fee but avoid this temptation, as some are known to dump it without care.



Petit Rameau features a beach on the south side of the cay, as does Barabel, which lies southeast of Petit Rameau. Petit Bateau provides visitors a shaded beach to the north and another beach on its east side. This easterly beach is the best choice for beginning snorkelers as it has calm shallow water. More experienced snorkelers

will be delighted by the waters surrounding Horseshoe Reef, but may find it occasionally choppy.

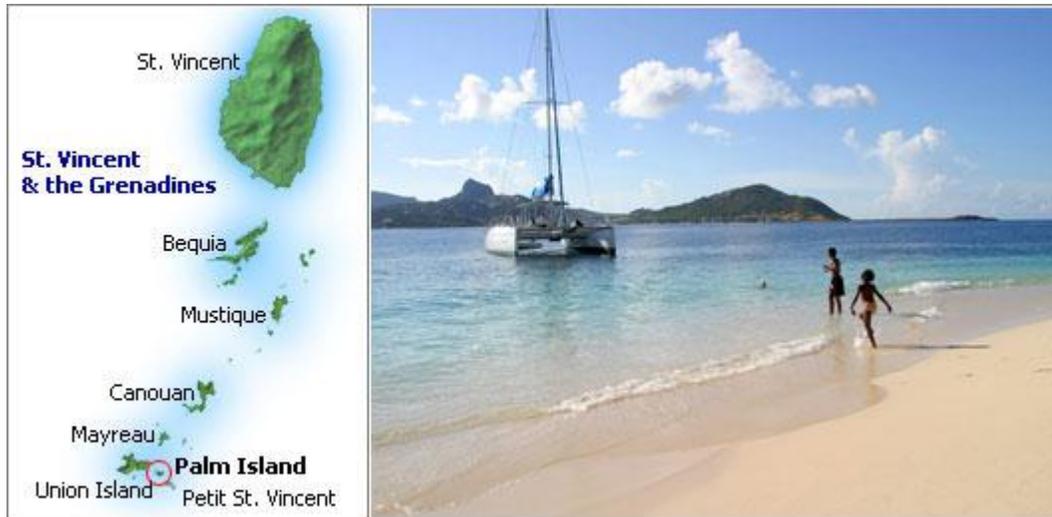


The smallest and southernmost cay Jamsbey, features on its eastern side one of the best beaches of the group. Petit Tabac is the most inaccessible island with a narrow entrance at the southwestern tip. This crescent shaped islet is covered in coconut trees planted by the late John Caldwell (a.k.a. Johnny Coconut), formerly of **Palm Island** and his efforts have been continued by Glenroy Adams of **Grenadines Dive**, a devoted conservationist and a good choice for scuba diving in the area.

Palm Island

Palm Island is a 135 acre beach with an island in the middle! Originally called Prune Island, it got its present name when the former owners, the late John Caldwell (a.k.a. Johnny Coconuts) and his wife Mary, planted hundreds of coconut palms, transforming the deserted island into a palm covered resort. Today the magnificent coconut palms line its beaches, offering a relaxed and casual ambience for the Palm Island

Resort. Not recommend for an overnight anchorage, Casuarina Beach is a gorgeous expanse of golden sand lapped by translucent turquoise water stretching the entire length of the western coastline; the ultimate picture-perfect Grenadines beach!. It is also an excellent stop for lunch or dinner (reservations a must), snorkeling, or a visit to the fine boutique or enjoying the jogging or walking trail that leads to the other five beaches!

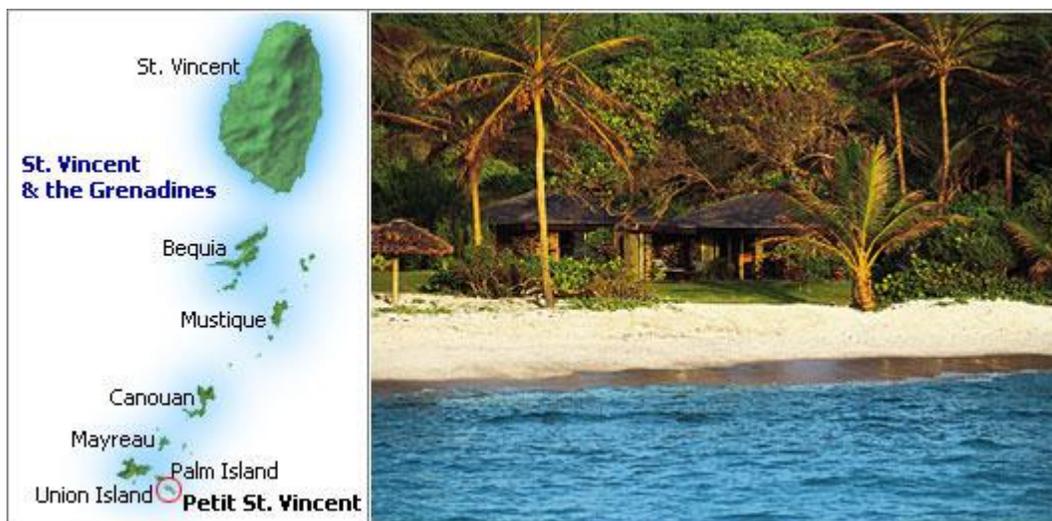


Petit St. Vincent



A luxury private resort island, ringed by stunning white beaches, Petit St. Vincent (or PSV as it is often called) is one of the world’s most enchanting hideaways offering total seclusion! Over its varied terrain of 113 acres are twenty-two private cottages scattered some on hillsides, some set into the sides of cliffs, some right on the beach – all absolutely heavenly. For most people, the appeal of PSV is what is “does not have” – no

telephones or television, no air-conditioning, no casinos or cabarets. Not even room keys. Guests advise staff of their needs by sending up the red flag on the bamboo pole outside their cottage for privacy, or a yellow flag is hoisted when they wish to obtain services of the staff.





Yachtsmen are welcomed to visit the bar, restaurant and boutique stocked with exotic clothes & gifts from around the world. Resort staff will also supply ice, bread and phone calls for yachtsmen during business hours. Dinner is by reservation in advance, as they set aside only a few tables for visiting yachts.

Union Island

Just a mile from Palm Island, Clifton Harbor is a very good overnight anchorage with several good local and international restaurants with a French flair. Chatham Bay on the west side of the island features a huge expanse of beach with excellent snorkeling & sealife, as well as great hiking and a great Beach Barbecue! (Tell Shack Attack we sent you!)

Union Island is located midway between Grenada and St. Vincent and its simple relaxed lifestyle makes it a popular port of call for yachts. While inter-island ferries to St, Vincent, Mayreau & Bequia are available on limited schedules, Inter-island flights to Barbados, St. Vincent and Carriacou as well as private charter flights make it an ideal spot to start or end your crewed charter, and most local bareboat companies will offer a One Way Drop-off in Union.

