

St. Maarten's Island Neighbours St. Barts • Anguilla • Saba



St. Maarten's Island Neighbours

Three smaller islands are within reach of St. Maarten for day trip visits.

All of them are interesting, but they couldn't possibly be more different from each other.



St. Barts

French
French
hilly
plenty
shopping
outrageous
sophisticated

4 - 33



Anguilla

British
English
flat
everywhere
beach
moderate
reserved

34 - 48



Saba

Dutch
English
mountainous
none
hiking, scuba
reasonable
friendly

49 - 76

Alignment
Language
Terrain
Beaches
Major Activities
Costs
Atmosphere
Pages



Anguilla is easily reached by a 20-minute water taxi service from Marigot on Saint Martin's north coast.
St. Barts is further away and can be reached on a longer (and much choppier) ferry ride or by plane.
Saba is the furthest away and Winair's turboprop flights are the best way to get there.

8 miles wide / 8 square miles



St. Barts

(Saint Barthélemy)
French West Indies



St. Barts

(2005 - 2007)



St. Barts

St. Barts, part of the French West Indies,
as seen from St. Maarten, 20 miles away.



St. Barts

Small planes clear a mountain and then drop sharply to the shortest runway in the Caribbean.



St. Barts

The runway ends at the sea.



St. Barts

**St. Jean Beach West, just beyond
the end of the airport runway**



St. Barts

St. Jean Beach East



St. Barts

A beach restaurant overlooking Baie de Saint Jean



St. Barts

St. Jean is the island's main tourist centre.



St. Barts

Gustavia, on the south-west coast, is the capital of St. Barts.



St. Barts

Gustavia is the largest town, and the harbour and ferry terminal for the island.



St. Barts

Gustavia's harbour caters to upscale yachts.



St. Barts

And Gustavia's shops cater to upscale tourists.



St. Barts

Moët & Chandon, unofficial flag of St. Barts



St. Barts

Shell Beach, Gustavia



St. Barts

**Anse de Lorient (Lorient Cove)
on the north coast**



St. Barts

Lorient beach



St. Barts

Lorient beach is popular for water sports.



St. Barts

Lorient has two cemeteries decorated with crosses and flowers at each grave.



St. Barts

Marigot beach on the north-east coast



St. Barts

Anse de Grand Cul-de-Sac, north-east corner



St. Barts

Grand Cul-de-Sac beach



St. Barts

Anse de Grand Cul-de-Sac



St. Barts

Anse de Petit Cul-de-Sac, east end



St. Barts

Toiny Point, south-east corner



St. Barts

Anse de Grand Fond, south-east coast



St. Barts

Anse de Grand Fond



St. Barts

Anse de Flamands, north-west coast



St. Barts

Flamands beach. After a while all the white sandy beaches start to look the same.



St. Barts

Leaving St. Barts by air ...



St. Barts

... affords a great (though somewhat shaky) view of St. Jean Bay.

Anguilla

British West Indies



Anguilla

(2006)



Anguilla

**Anguilla, part of the British West Indies,
is five miles north of St. Martin.**



Anguilla

**The eastern end, Windward Point,
is rugged and uninhabited.**



Anguilla

**Island Harbour Bay on the north-east coast
is home to fishing boats and water sports.**



Anguilla

Shoal Bay East, north-east coast



Anguilla

The beach at Shoal Bay East is a mile wide.



Anguilla

The beach at Shoal Bay East is considered one of the 10 best in the Caribbean.



Anguilla

Crocus Bay, north coast



Anguilla

Road Bay, north coast



Anguilla

Road Bay, north coast



Anguilla

Meads Bay, north west coast



Anguilla

Meads Bay, north west coast



Anguilla

**Condo development at Shoal Bay
West, south-west tip of the island**



Anguilla

Shoal Bay West

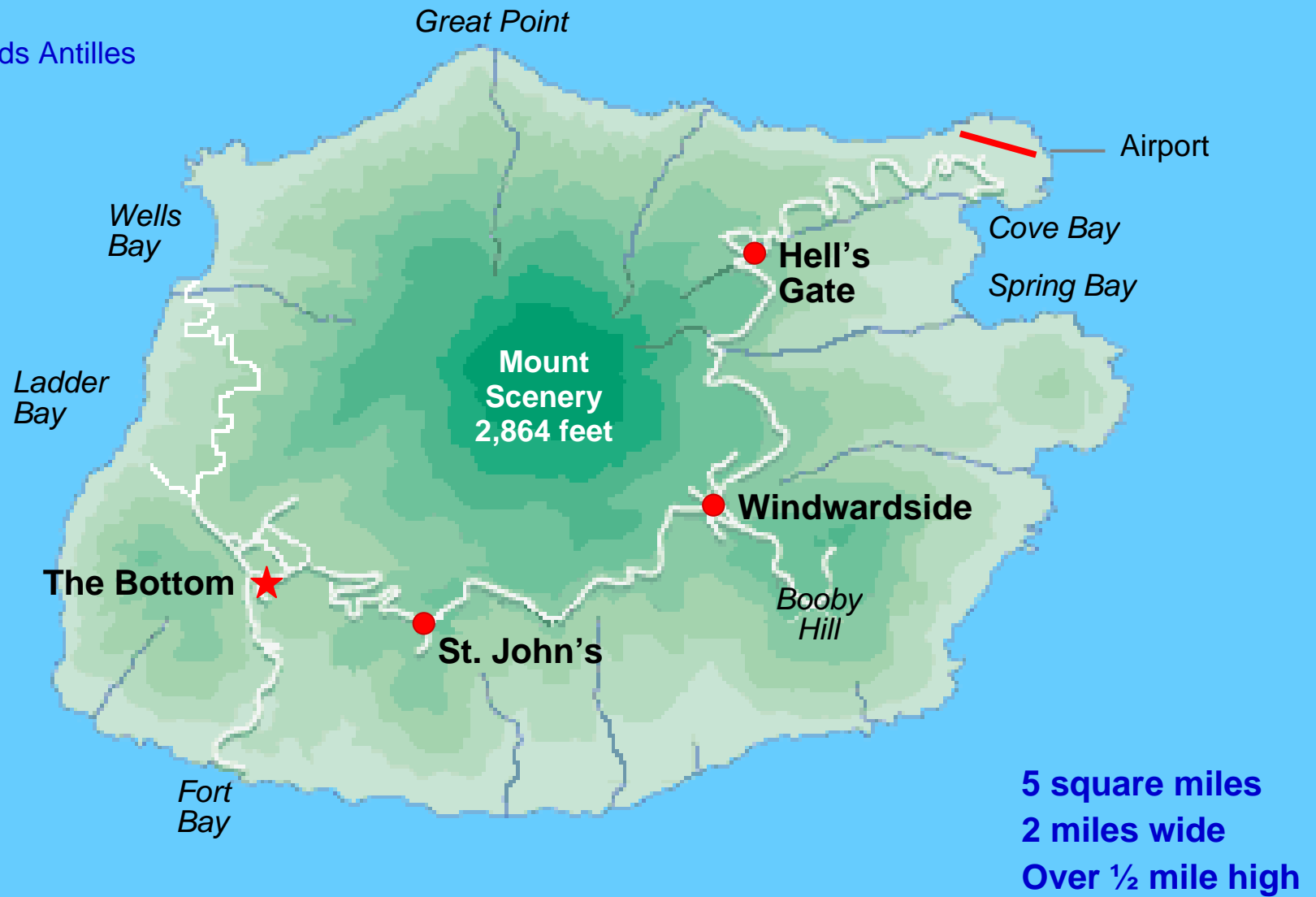


Anguilla

Cove Bay, south coast

Saba

Netherlands Antilles



Saba

(2006)



Saba

Saba, part of the Netherlands Antilles, is a tiny volcanic island, 28 miles south of St. Maarten.



Saba

**Winair's DeHavilland Twin Otter flights
are the best way to get to Saba.**



Saba

**Saba Airport, seen from the
highway (not from the air)**

DANGER
FALLING ROCKS
NO PARKING



Welcome to Saba



Saba

Two important messages



Saba

Beginning the journey from the airport
to town, passing Hell's Gate (the village)



Saba

**Closer to mountaineering
than I bargained for**



Saba

Much closer to mountaineering
than I bargained for



Saba

**South coast. Saba mainly attracts
tourists interested in hiking and diving.**



Saba

**Part of St. John's on the south coast,
with sturdy sidewalls along the road**



Saba

The Bottom is Saba's biggest town and its capital.



Saba

The total population of the island is only about 1,500.



Saba

**Boats on the sea are tiny specs
in this view from The Bottom.**



Saba

Town Square, The Bottom



Saba

Typical street, The Bottom



Saba

Bakery restaurant, The Bottom



Saba

Heading north towards Wells Bay



Saba

Mountain goats are more comfortable navigating this road than I was.



Saba

**Wells Bay, Torrens Point, and
Diamond Rock, north-west coast**



Saba

**The Wandering Beach at Wells Bay,
the best “beach” on the volcanic island.**



Saba

Torrens Point at Wells Bay



Saba

Divers down at Diamond Rock



Saba

On the road down to Fort Bay



Saba

Fort Bay is the island's port,
power station, and diving centre.



Saba

Fort Bay, south-west coast



Saba

There are diving sites all around the island,
but all expeditions depart from Fort Bay.



Saba

Scuba diving headquarters at Fort Bay



Saba

Divers down at Fort Bay. This is as far from “civilization” as we go, and we leave these islands peacefully here.

< End >

St. Maarten's Island Neighbours

St. Barts, Anguilla & Saba