l'Îlet Macou trail

(PNG)

The Îlet Macou is a significant place of pilgrimage thanks to the presence of the Chapel of Notre Dame de la Garde, where people come to pray.

Useful information

Practice : Walking

Duration : 30 min

Length : 0.6 km

Difficulty : Easy

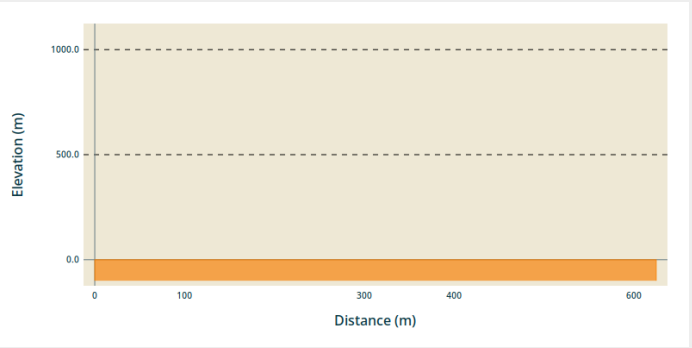
Type : Return trip

Themes : Cultural and architectural heritage, Discovery trail

Trek

Departure : the Îlet Macou pontoon
Arrival : the Îlet Macou pontoon
Markings : Coastal trail — PR (short hike network)
Cities : 1. Morne-à-l'Eau

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 0 m Max elevation 0 m

Starting from the pontoon, follow the trail which leads into the forest. Cross the forest and the more sparsely vegetated area. Go to the end of the islet (chapel).
Return by the same route up to the starting point at the pontoon.

On your path...

Vegetation on the islet (A)
Chapelle (C)
Coastal erosion (B)

All useful information

Advices

The Macou coastline has many sea turtle nesting sites. Please respect these beaches ! As Guadeloupe is prone to natural risks, extra care should be taken in this natural environment. For the benefit of all hikers, responsible behaviour is very important.

How to come ?

Transports

Dans l'agglomération, réseau de bus "Karu'lis". Voir https://www.karulis.com/plan/
Ligne "A10" : CHU / Milenis / bourg Abymes / Vieux-Bourg.

En Guadeloupe, 2 applications pour le covoiturage :
Dépozé : https://depoze.fr
KAROS : https://www.karos.fr

Access

Starting point : Lat : 16,34910°N - Long : 61,52726°W.

Access by sea only (boat, kayak, etc).

Information desks

Office de tourisme intercommunal "Le Nord Guadeloupe"
2 rue Gambetta, 97117 Port-Louis
contact@lenordguadeloupe.com
Tel : 0590 22 33 87 / 0690 50 76 48
http://www.lenordguadeloupe.com

Source

Rando Guadeloupe

https://www.randoguadeloupe.gp/

On your path...

Vegetation on the islet (A)

The Islet has been cleared over a good part of its area to allow the planting of a coconut grove. The natural vegetation of this islet is otherwise mainly composed of species able to withstand the changing general conditions, and likely to adapt to the variations in salinity in particular. In this way, a row of red mangrove *(Rhizophora mangle)* precedes a forest area full of white mangrove *(Avicennia germinans)*, gray mangrove *(Laguncularia racernosa)*, and buttonwood *(Conocarpus erectus)*. Succeeding this band of mangrove, the Catalpa *(Thespesia populnea)* comprises the bulk of the woodland, on soils which are most often dewatered. *[Source: Espaces remarquables du littoral - Egis Eau 2012]*

Attribution : PNG

Coastal erosion (B)

Until last century, the islet was connected to the mainland and even a few years ago, a strip of sand almost 10 metres wide was present between the shoreline and the chapel.The erosion of the banks is tangible proof of the fragility of the environment.

Attribution : PNG

Chapelle (C)

A small chapel once graced the end of the islet. Since the passage of hurricane Hugo in 1989, a permanent chapel has been erected: Notre Dame de Macou is much used by its regulars. It is littered with empty conch shells, left there by passing fishermen.

Attribution : PNG