

Vieux Fort trail

Marie-Galante - Saint-Louis



l'îlet de Vieux Fort (PNG)



Rich in often tragic historical anecdotes, (such as the Trou Massacre), on the Vieux Fort trail you will enjoy Marie-Galante's most beautiful beaches while discovering its landscapes of dry rainforest, swamp forest and mangrove, as well as the spaces fashioned by man (grazing, canefield, Creole garden). The hiker's senses are constantly kept alert by the range and variety of scenery which occurs on this trail.

Les sens du randonneur sont sans cesse tenus en haleine par la variété des décors qui se succèdent sur ce sentier.

Useful information

Practice : Walking

Duration : 3 h

Length : 8.9 km

Trek ascent : 222 m

Difficulty : Easy

Type : Loop

Themes : Agricultural landscape, Coastline and cliff, Pond and wetland

Trek

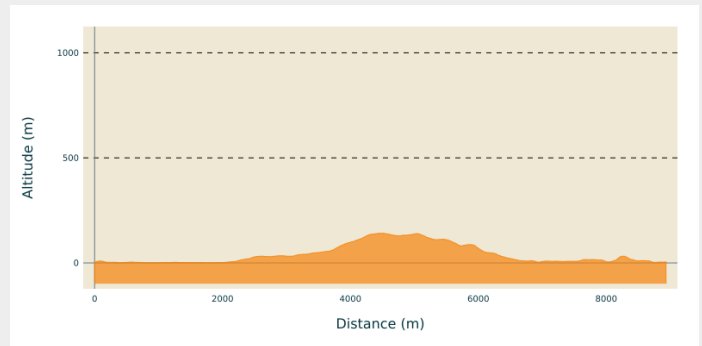
Departure : Anse Canot beach

Arrival : Anse Canot beach

Markings : 🚶 Coastal trail — PR (short hike network)

Cities : 1. Saint-Louis

Altimetric profile



Min elevation 1 m Max elevation 141 m

Pass behind the cabin at the edge of the beach (Point 1) and continue along the shady trail which crosses the Pointe du Mays, then continues along a canefield. Reach the D205; fork right and go along Moustique beach as far as the Pointe du Cimetière.

Take the trail on the left, beside the Frais, and reach a fork in the path.

Follow the trail on the right along the coastline and passing through the agaves (Point 2).

Come to a ravine and ascend it, in the shade of the trees. Leaving the Trou Massacre on the right, take a grassy path on the left across pastures to rejoin the road; follow it to the left for 100 m.


Turn right at the bend on a stony path (Point 3). At the fork, take the path on the left which climbs through shrubs. Reach the summit, on a grazing area (in clear weather, viewpoint over the whole of Guadeloupe). Continue to the Merlet road; walk along it (metalled path) for 600 m (viewpoint over Anse Vieux Fort and its islet).

Carry on, taking a grassy path to the right (Point 4). At the quarry, follow the path on the left which descends slightly and joins the D205. Turn right for 250 m.

Turn left (Point 5) on a grassy path leading toward the mangroves of Vieux Fort (note the red mangrove with their stilt roots and the dragonsblood trees with their wide buttress roots; but be careful as this is a flood zone). At the end, cross a road, then go to the left along the Vieux Fort beach, for 150 m. Behind the small building at the foot of the hill, take the trail which mounts to the Point Fleur d'Epée, then goes back down to the Anse Canot.

On your path...



-  Moustique Beach (A)
-  Folle Anse (C)
-  Creole Garden (E)
-  Golden leatherfern (G)
-  Agaves (B)
-  Coal hole. (D)
-  Vieux Fort islet (F)
-  Dragonsblood tree (H)

All useful information

Advices

Beware of the manchineel trees near the sea (every part is poisonous).
Please note: the parking and swimming areas are not supervised.

How to come ?

Transports

Grand-Bourg vers Saint-Louis : station de bus en face du collège de Grand-Bourg.
Saint-Louis vers Grand-Bourg : station de bus en face du collège de Saint-Louis
(rue en sortant du port).

Access

Starting point : Lat : 15,981549 N - Long : 61,305473 W.

At Saint-Louis: head north on the RD205.

Pass Moustique beach and the Anse de Mays, then turn left towards Vieux Fort.

Take the first on the left to arrive at the beach of Anse Canot, the starting point of the hike.

Advised parking

Parking de la plage de l'Anse Canot.

Information desks

Office du tourisme intercommunal de Marie-Galante

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<http://www.ot-mariegalante.com/>



Source

Rando Guadeloupe

<https://www.randoguadeloupe.gp/>

On your path...



Moustique Beach (A)

From the undergrowth : view over Moustique beach.

Attribution : F.Frederic - CD 971



Agaves (B)

Grove of agaves *Sensevieria* 'mother-in-law's tongue'.

Attribution : F.Frederic - CD 971



Folle Anse (C)

View of the port of Folle Anse with the Saintes in the background.

Attribution : F.Frederic - CD 971



Coal hole. (D)

Coal hole (oven).

Attribution : F.Frederic - CD 971



Creole Garden (E)

Here you can see plant species that testify to human presence here.

Attribution : F.Frederic - CD 971



Vieux Fort islet (F)

At the top of the climb up the Merlet road: there is a beautiful view of Vieux Fort islet and Grande-Terre.

Attribution : F.Frederic - CD 971



Golden leatherfern (G)

Acrostichum aureum, Golden leatherfern.

Attribution : F.Frederic - CD 971



Dragonsblood tree (H)

Pterocarpus officinalis, Dragon's Blood.

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