



Tour n° 1C

Portsmouth, Fort Shirley, Cold Soufriere, Indian River.

You will begin your tour along the North Coast towards Portsmouth, the second largest town on the island. You will visit **Fort Shirley** in **Cabrits National Park**, located north of the beautiful Portsmouth Peninsula.

Fort Shirley was the main garrison fort dating from the 18th century when **Portsmouth** was the capital of the island. This garrison was abandoned in 1854 and was overrun by the army of time and the forest. In 1982, the fort was partially restored and became the emblem of **Cabrits National Park**. The ruins, part of the batteries, the Commander Quarter and the small military museum transposes us in the colonial battles between the French and the English for the possession of the island.

You will have a beautiful view of Prince Rupert Bay which is now a small natural marina. It was discovered by Christopher Columbus on his second voyage and then used as a stopover for the conquistadors en route to America.

Portsmouth has the distinction of hosting an American university with a large number of medical students.

After a picnic lunch by the beach you will have a relaxing swim at Prince Rupert Bay.

Then you will go to the extreme north end of the island to visit the Cold Sulphur Springs found in **Morne aux Diables**. This exceptional site is located in the mouth of an ancient volcano more than 300 meters above sea level. It is an immense crater that is now covered with dense vegetation, grass, ferns and Tuber/root crops and yams. You will feel the magic of nature in this crater.

The base of the crater is called "Cold Soufriere" and bubbles with cold sulphurous water.

The road from Douglas Bay to the wild site of Morne aux Diables offers a magnificent panoramic view of Guadeloupe.

Your day will end with a boat ride on the **Indian River** going up the shaded river and seeing the fantastic roots of the commonly called freshwater mangroves (*Pterocarpus Officinalis*). You will see herons, kingfishers, iguanas...

The river was so called because, once, Indians lived in the massifs above and used the river as a road to go to the coast. This site was a filming location of the movie *Pirates of the Caribbean*. The journey on the course of the mangrove will last about an hour and a half.

