

## Guadeloupe Travel Guide 2022

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z\\_g7Go8QnnE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_g7Go8QnnE)

Transcript: <https://dontveter.com/ec/guadeloupe.pdf>

Islands in the Caribbean are a perfect holiday destination for travelers across the globe.

When you're in the Caribbean Sea the perfect places to holiday don't seem to end.

Guadeloupe is one of those places, it's an archipelago of French islands which is perfect for travelers, with deserted beaches and jungles.

Holidaymakers from around the world travel to the Caribbean islands to enjoy the tropical weather and the richness of beaches jungles and nature.

The Guadeloupe islands have it all and more, from infinite stretches of sand to lays on the mountainous, lush national parks replete with waterfalls and the La Soufriere volcano so stay tuned to this video while we take you on a journey across these islands and what it's like to travel there.

That being said, let's begin amidst the French islands of the Caribbean, south of Antigua and Barbuda and the north of Dominica lies the Guadeloupe consisting of six inhabited islands, Basse Terre, Grande Terre, Marie-Galante, La Desirade as well as many uninhabited islands.

The Grande Terre and Basse Terre are the islands that are joined together by just a couple of bridges and a mangrove swamp.

[On a map] these islands together look like a butterfly and are separated by a narrow sea channel called Riviere Salée.

The Grande Terre, the eastern of the two islands has a line of beach towns that offer visitors world-class stretches of sand to lays and plenty of other activities. (Here, as near as I can tell a lay is a place to rest, but there are many, many different definitions especially in British English.)

Despite its name, Grande Terre is smaller than Basse Terre and it is the ~~part~~ island where most of the white sand beaches and the airport of Pointe-à-Pitre are.

Located in the south of Grande Terre is the most touristic and seaside area with an area of 586.66 kilometers and 197,603 inhabitants living in 10 ~~communes~~ communities.

A commune is the lowest administrative division in France. In English, it is different and has several meanings:

1. Familiar interchange of ideas or sentiments: communion; intercourse; friendly conversation.
2. A Middle English form of common.
3. In general, a community organized for the protection and promotion of local interests, and subordinate to the state; the government or governing body of such a community.

In modern American English a commune is a group of unrelated people working together and sharing together. It is done by people who reject mainstream society and want a simpler and more natural life. (Also brings to mind, drugs, alcohol and sex.) So using the French word commune in English is a good way to keep English speakers away.

The Grande Terre has a population density of 337 inhabitants per square kilometer.

The most populated ~~communes~~ communities on the island are Les Abymes, Le Gosier, Pointe-à-Pitre, Le Moule, Sainte Anne and Morne-à-l'Eau.

Of the two islands, Grande Terre is home to a majority of Guadeloupe's farmlands and tourist resorts.

The island itself is a limestone plateau with a coastline surrounded by coral reefs.

The landscape is a series of rolling hills, white sand beaches, cliffs and it also includes a few coastal mangrove swamps and other smaller islands that are hilly and volcanic in origin.

Mangrove swamps are found along the coasts in tropical and subtropical locations. The plants there have to be able to live in salty water. This is called halophytic, which means salt-loving. Because mangroves often line estuaries, where freshwater rivers flow into the ocean, the water is often brackish – a mix of fresh and salt water.

Grande Terre is a low-lying island without any rivers, its soil and scrub forest vegetation are characteristics of the dry climate where sugarcane and other livestock are raised.

The chief town of the island and the economic center of Guadeloupe is Pointe-à-Pitre on the southwestern coast.

Northern Grand Terre is one of Guadeloupe's most scenic regions but its tourism industry is still in its infancy.

[It has] with towering sea cliffs on one side and excellent beaches on the other.

It's a lovely area to spend a day driving ~~about~~ [around] and [that] makes it a great alternative for those looking to avoid the crowds.

When compared with the eastern side of the island is it ~~barely~~ [almost] untouched by tourism.

It has large Atlantic waves and instead of beaches, it has crashing surf along much of its rocky coastline so it's popular with surfers, ~~however~~, who converge on the town of Le Moule.

As soon as you get off the plane at Point-à-Pitre airport it is recommended to head directly to the east of Grande Terre to Saint-Francois.

This is the part [of the island] where all the magic happens and La Pointe-des-Chateaux is located where you can admire the sunrise [as the sun] ~~that~~ reflects its light on the wild beaches while the waves crash on the huge rocks that border the water.

It's truly a surreal experience.

There's also a microflight available that will fly you over the Grande Terre lagoons which are even more beautiful ~~to be~~ [when] seen from the sky.

Le douche, a phenomenon at Saint-Francois makes the sea look like it's a shower with huge waves crashing at the rocks.

Once you've enjoyed the views at Saint-Francois you can also rent a transparent kayak and spend the afternoon relaxing.

From Saint-Francois you can book a snorkeling excursion at Petit Terre where you'll see turtles, lemon sharks, leopard rays and lots of other fish.

~~after about one hour 30 minutes of crossing on the catamaran~~ The crossing by catamaran takes an hour and 30 minutes. Petit Terre has a lot to offer like snorkeling in the crystal clear waters, strolling to discover the fauna and flora, followed by an aperitif and barbecue on the beach.

The meaning of APERITIF is an alcoholic drink taken before a meal as an appetizer.

If you're into huge cliffs, there's the Pointe de la Grande Vigie, the northernmost point of Grande Terre with cliffs that ~~scale~~ [range] up to 80 meters high.

There's also Anz Castalia which is another beautiful and little frequented place, you ~~will~~ [can] reach the beach or creek in 10 minutes walking through the jungle.

Lance la borde is another beautiful beach where you can stop for creole food at Le Coin Desponse Amis.

You can also go for a water paddle excursion at Mourine a lay beach and enjoy the magnificent seascape.

Sainte-Anne is another part of Grande Terre with the beautiful beach Bois Jolan and many locals meet there with friends to organize appetizers and barbecues.

The water is of a paradisaical blue and it's very easy to find a quiet corner hidden in the shade of a palm tree.

As long as the beach of Bois Jolan [and] just like Bois Jolan, the Caravel Beach is accessible for free and is the perfect spot for sunsets.

The Plage du Petit-Havre is another wonderful place for swimming. There is also a surf spot for amateurs there.

Le Gosier is another important city located in the south of Grande Terre with trendy restaurants and beautiful landscapes all around.

You can swim to the L'ilet Du Gosier from the Plage de la Datcha which is about 500 meters away.

After spending days exploring ~~the~~ Grande Terre we move to Basse Terre, the western half of Guadeloupe and home to the city of Basse Terre, the second largest city in Guadeloupe behind Pointe-à-Pitre and had 44,864 inhabitants living [there] in 2012.

The island of Basse Terre is full of sublime waterfalls, ~~and there would be~~ more than 300 of them, some of which are inaccessible.

Basse Terre has a maritime station that receives cruise ships and has a ferry service to the Les des Santos.

The ~~commune~~ [community] is mostly urban with some farmland to the northeast and northwest.

Basse Terre has very unstable weather and rains can be very unpredictable so ~~ensure~~ [make sure] that you're away from any water source if rain is predicted (any location that could have a flash flood).

The ground, too, in Basse Terre can become very slippery so always be careful and watch your step along the way.

Sainte-Rose is a ~~commune~~ [community] on the north coast of Basse Terre and is the second largest ~~commune~~ [community] of Guadeloupe in terms of area after Petit-Bourg.

It's still not very frequented but [it] is a real haven of peace.

Canyon de la rivere mustique is a section of the ~~commune~~ [community] of Petit-Bourg and is an extraordinary place for swimming in the river.

The site is ~~of an exceptional beauty~~ [exceptionally beautiful] with ~~the~~ [its] imposing rock walls surmounted by lush vegetation which only bathers can fully discover.

Indeed the river makes a bend in the middle of the canyon and you can swim to visit the canyon on its entire length.

La Grande Soufriere is a volcano on Basse Terre which is still active and it ~~peaks 1467 meters of altitude~~ is 1467 meters high.

La Soufriere is ~~would be~~ very clear only 30 days a year on average and, [here is] a little weather advice given by ~~seasonal~~ [the] locals: if you see La Soufriere clear one day it usually stays clear for two to three days, so as soon as you see the summit, go for it the next day ~~for~~ [to see] ~~the~~ sunrise.

It's a great place and one of the most beautiful spots in Basse Terre for visitors.

The hike up to the top of the volcano takes one hour and 45 minutes and therefore takes about three hours for a little over six kilometers both ways.

~~with a positive difference in altitude of 492 meters~~

The view from up there is nothing short of ~~being~~ exceptional.

You depart from a place called Bajon and when you're back down you get to relax in the 30 degrees water of the Banjoan which will also have revitalizing properties for your tired muscles after the hike up and down.

The reserve Costo is another must visit if you're diving and a snorkeling enthusiast.

The seabed is known for its magnificence and you'll observe turtles, corals and different species of fish.

If you're there, dive into the sea to see the [underwater] statue of Captain Cousteau ~~which is present underwater~~ – there's no missing out on this!

Besides these [attractions] Basse Terre also has many resorts to stay in and relax.

~~while you wait out the remaining days in Guadeloupe~~ Besides these [attractions] the lush route Dela Traversi is the road not to be missed in Guadeloupe this verdant mountainous road crosses the Guadeloupe national park from Petit-Bourg to Pointe Inoya and there are several cool stops to make on this one.

All in all, Guadeloupe is a place to ~~be~~ [go] if you're planning a trip to the Caribbean.

From beaches to waterfalls, mountains and volcanoes, do let us know in the comments which is more appealing to you, Grande Terre or Basse Terre.

And if you like the content in our video and would like to explore more holiday destinations with us, please make sure to like this video and subscribe to our channel, the Travelist and make sure to hit the bell icon so that you're always notified whenever we post a new video.

See you in the next one!