

# Table of Contents

	Page
<b>CHAPTER 1: Welcome to The Value Guide</b>	<b>2</b>
Island Images	3
Letter from the Authors	4
Table of Contents	5
Decisions, Decisions!	11
Map of St. Maarten/St. Martin	12
<b>CHAPTER 2: Facts, History &amp; Important Information</b>	<b>13</b>
Weather	14
Location & Language	14
Currency, Credit Cards & Banks	15
Planning A Trip: Documentation & Island Information	15
St. Maarten/St. Martin Telephone Systems	16
Cyber Cafés	16
Hospitals, Doctors, Dentists and Pharmacies	17
Electricity, Water & Useful Tidbits	17
Drawbridge Openings and Closings	18
Resources for Physically Challenged Tourists	19
• Wheelchair Accessible StMaarten/StMartin Businesses	21
• Accommodations for Physically Challenged Tourists	23
• Ann Marie's Trip Report	25
Churches on St. Maarten	26
A Cautionary Note: Crime and Punishment	27
Images of St. Maarten/St. Martin	28
<b>CHAPTER 3: Supermarkets, Weddings, Spas, &amp; Car Rentals</b>	<b>29</b>
Where to buy Cuban Cigars	29
Getting Married on St. Maarten/St. Martin!	30
Weddings in St. Maarten, Pelican Resort	31
Your Dream Wedding, by Jean Rich	32
Good Life Spa, Maho Resort	34
Is Renting A Car Necessary?	35
Summer Set Car Rental, Cupecoy	35
Avis St. Maarten, Simpson Bay	36
Alizes Car Rental, Nettle Bay	37
<b>CHAPTER 4: Sir Roland Richardson, <i>St. Martin's Favorite Son</i></b>	<b>38</b>
Why We Love St. Maarten/St. Martin	42
Retiring On St. Maarten	44

<b>CHAPTER 5: The Towns of St. Maarten/St. Martin</b>	<b>45</b>
Philipsburg	45
Marigot	46
Grand Case	47
SXM: Growth and Construction in Paradise	48
<b>CHAPTER 6: Five Reasons for Vacationing In Paradise</b>	<b>52</b>
#1 - Thirty-Seven Cottony White Sandy Beaches	52
#2 - The Restaurants	52
#3 - Sports Activities	52
#4 - The Lifestyle	53
#5 - Duty Free Shopping	53
Caribbean Gems, Philipsburg	54
Majesty Jewelers, Philipsburg	55
St. Maarten Food & Beverage Catering Services, Simpson Bay	56
Vinissimo, Wine & Spirit Boutique, Marigot	58
African House of Wonders, Simpson Bay	59
Blooming Baskets by Lisa, Simpson Bay	61
La Petite Favorite, Grand Case	62
<b>CHAPTER 7: Family/Fun Activities</b>	<b>63</b>
Random Wind Charters, Cole Bay	63
Lee's Deep Sea Fishing, Simpson Bay Lagoon	64
Garfield Fun Cat Charter, Simpson Bay Yacht Club	65
Tri-Sport, Simpson Bay Lagoon	67
2008 SXM Sports Calendar	68
Caribbean Kids Club, Simpson Bay	70
St. Maarten <u>12</u> Metre Challenge, Great Bay	71
Bayside Riding Club, Le Galion Bay	72
The Butterfly Farm, Le Galion Bay	73
Aqua Mania Adventures - Playstation 4 Kids, Simpson Bay	74
Charterando, Ltd	75
Rhino Riders, Simpson Bay Lagoon	75
Scuba Fun Dive Center, Bobby's Marina & Anse Marcel	76
<b>Things to do &amp; Places to Visit</b>	77
Pic Paradis (Paradise Peak)	77
The Old House	77
The Lotterie Farm (Eco-hike)	77
The St. Maarten Park Zoological & Botanical Gardens	77
St. Maarten Museum	77
Fort Saint Louis	77
Fort Amsterdam	77
St. Martin Museum	78
The Marigot & Philipsburg Markets	78

<b>CHAPTER 8: Sands of Pleasure, The Beaches</b>	<b>79</b>
Rouge Beach – French Side	79
Long Bay Beach – French Side	80
Mullet Bay Beach – Dutch Side	80
Grand Case Beach – French Side	80
Little Bay Beach – Dutch Side	80
Cupecoy Beach – Dutch Side	80
Great Bay Beach – Dutch Side	81
Plum Beach – French Side	81
Dawn Beach – Dutch Side	81
Friar’s Bay Beach – French Side	82
Orient Beach – French Side	82
Pinel Island – French Side	82
Images of Orient Beach	83
<b>CHAPTER 9: Restaurants to Tickle Your Palette!</b>	<b>84</b>
Tipping on St. Maarten/St. Martin	84
What is a “Sommelier?”	85
An Interview with a Sommelier!	87
Cappuccino Diner Bar & Restaurant, Simpson Bay	88
Fish Pot, Grand Case	89
The Hideaway Bar & Restaurant, Pelican Key	90
La California Restaurant, Grand Case	91
La Petite Auberge Des Iles, Marigot Marina	92
La Veranda Café, at Pelican Resort, Simpson Bay	93
Le Bec Fin Restaurant, Simpson Bay	94
Lee’s Roadside Grill & Bar, Simpson Bay Lagoon	95
Melly’s Bar & Restaurant, French Quarter	96
Pizza Galley, Simpson Bay Lagoon	97
The Restaurant at La Samanna, Bay Long	98
Saratoga Restaurant, Simpson Bay Yacht Club	99
Temptation/Rare, Atlantis Casino Courtyard, Cupecoy	100
Johnny B under the Tree, Cole Bay	103
Le Chanteclair, Marigot Marina	103
Talk of the Town, The Lolos, Grand Case	104
Additional Island Restaurants	105
<b>CHAPTER 10: Tasty Island Recipes</b>	<b>109</b>
Scallops in Carrot Juice Seasoned with Coriander (La Petite Auberge)	109
Lasagna Al Forno (Ristorante Laguna)	110
Roasted Halibut Cashew Nut Vegetable Stir Fry (La Samanna)	111
Veal Medallions with Gorgonzola Cheese (La Petite Auberge)	112
Pan Seared Yellow Fin Tuna (La Samanna)	113
Tiramisu (Ristorante Laguna)	114

Lobster Bisque Surinamese (La Veranda Café)	115
Linguine With Shellfish Sauce (Ristorante Laguna)	116
Boneless Chicken Breast (Ristorante Laguna)	117
Caribbean Chicken Stew (The Daily Herald)	118
Grouper In Umido (Ristorante Laguna)	119
Melanzane Alla Parmigiana (Ristorante Laguna)	120
Snails In Dill Sauce (Ristorante Laguna)	121
Roast Leg of Lamb with Ginger and Mango-Chutney	122
<b>CHAPTER 11: Hotels &amp; Resorts</b>	<b>123</b>
Cupecoy Beach Club, Cupecoy Beach	124
Horny Toad Guesthouse, Simpson Bay	125
Hotel L'Esplanade, Grand Case	126
La California Vacation Rentals, Grand Case & Orient Beach	127
La Samanna, Bay Long	128
La Vista Beach Resort, Pelican Key	130
Le Petit Hotel, Grand Case	131
Marquis Hotel Resort & Spa, Anse Marcel	132
Princess Heights, Dawn Beach	133
Sonesta Maho Beach Resort & Casino, Maho Bay	134
Summit Resort Hotel, Cupecoy	135
The Atrium Resort, Simpson Bay	136
Club Orient Naturalist Resort, Orient Bay	136
Pelican Resort & Casino, Pelican Key	137
Princess Port de Plaisance, Cole Bay	137
Wyndham Sapphire Beach Resort, Cupecoy Beach	137
Additional Island Hotels & Resorts	138
Timeshare Ownership & The Law	140
• LaVista Beach Resort Timeshare Services	140
Fox & Associates, Attorneys at Law	140
<b>CHAPTER 12: Villa Rentals &amp; Real Estate</b>	<b>141</b>
Carimo Luxury Villas & Real Estate, Marigot	141
The Cliff, Cupecoy Beach	143
RE/MAX Island Properties, Simpson Bay	144
Pierres Caraibes Luxury Villas, Marigot	145
The Villa Lady, Flushing, NY	146
The Villas on Great Bay	147
Eleganzia Beachfront Condos, Pelican Key	148

<b>CHAPTER 13: Casino Gambling (My kind of fun!)</b>	<b>149</b>
Dolphin Casino, Simpson Bay	150
Hollywood Casino, Pelican Resort	151
Casino Royale, Maho Resort	151
Atlantis World Casino, Cupecoy	151
The Cock Fights, St. Martin	152
<b>Island Nightlife or Where's the Action?</b>	<b>154</b>
Arawak, La Vie en Rose	154
L'Alibi, Pasha, Club One	154
Cheri's Café, Soprano's Piano Bar, Q Club	154
Sunset Beach Bar, Bamboo Bernie's, Bliss	154
Lee's Roadside Grill, Buccaneer Bar	154
Ric's Place, Lady C Floating Bar	154
Jimbo's Mesquite Grill Rock & Blues Café	155
Kontiki, Waikiki, Bikini	155
Boo Boo Jam's, Pedro's Beach Bar	155
The Platinum Room, Golden Eyes Club (Adult Entertainment)	155
The Gizmo Overlounge	155
<b>Who Flies/Cruises To St. Maarten/St. Martin?</b>	<b>156</b>
American Airlines	156
Air Canada	156
Air France & KLM	156
Cruise Ships	156
Celebrity Cruises	156
Royal Caribbean International	156
Holland America Line	156
<b>CHAPTER 14: 2008 St. Maarten Heineken Regatta</b>	<b>157</b>
2008 St. Maarten Carnival!	158
St. Maarten/St. Martin Classic Yacht Regatta	159
MBYA Charter Yacht Show	160
St. Martin Dive Centers	164
St. Maarten Dive Centers	164
<b>CHAPTER 15: The Passion of Saba</b>	<b>165</b>
Saban Accommodations	166
Saba Dive Centers	167
<b><i>The StMaarten/StMartin Club</i>, Discount Coupons</b>	<b>168</b>

# Who's Who!

## DS (Dutch Side) / FS (French Side)

<b>FS – Alizes Car Rental</b> , Nettle Bay	169
<b>DS - Aqua Mania Adventures</b> , Pelican Resort	169
<b>DS - AVIS St. Maarten</b> , Simpson Bay	169
<b>FS - Bayside Riding Club</b> , Le Galion Beach	170
<b>FS - The Butterfly Farm</b> , Le Galion Beach	170
<b>DS - Cappuccino Diner Bar &amp; Restaurant</b> , Simpson Bay	170
<b>Island Images</b>	171
<b>FS - Club Orient</b> , Orient Bay	172
<b>DS - Caribbean Gems</b> , Philipsburg	172
<b>DS - Dolphin Casino</b> , Sunset Building, Simpson Bay	173
<b>DS - Fathoms Tavern</b> , Simpson Bay	173
<b>DS - Fish Pot Restaurant</b> , Grand Case	173
<b>DS - Gift World/Juggie's Place</b> , Philipsburg	174
<b>DS - Good Life Spa</b> , Maho Plaza, Sonesta Maho Resort	174
<b>DS - The Hideaway Restaurant</b> at La Vista Resort	174
<b>FS - Kakao Beach Restaurant</b> , Orient Beach	175
<b>FS - La California Restaurant</b> , Grand Case	175
<b>DS - La Dolce Vita</b> , Princess Casino, Port de Plaisance Resort	175
<b>FS - La Petite Auberge des Iles</b> , Marina Port la Royale, Marigot	176
<b>DS - La Veranda Café</b> , Pelican Beach Resort	176
<b>DS - La Vista Beach Resort</b> , Pelican Key, Simpson Bay	176
<b>Images of Pelican Key</b>	177
<b>DS - La Vista Resort/Timeshare Services</b> , Pelican Key, Simpson Bay	178
<b>DS - Le Bec Fin Restaurant</b> , Simpson Bay	178
<b>DS - Lee's Deep Sea Fishing</b> , Simpson Bay	178
<b>DS - Lee's Roadside Grill &amp; Bar</b> , Simpson Bay	179
<b>DS - Majesty Jewelers</b> , Philipsburg	179
<b>FS – Marquis Hotel Resort &amp; Spa</b> , Anse Marcel	179
<b>DS - The Mazel Art Gallery</b> , Philipsburg	180
<b>DS - Pizza Galley</b> , Simpson Bay	180
<b>DS - Princess Casino</b> , Port de Plaisance Resort	180
<b>Images of Orient Beach</b>	181
<b>DS - Princess Heights Hotel</b> , Dawn Beach	182
<b>DS - Random Wind Charters</b> , Cole Bay	182
<b>FS - The Restaurant at La Samanna</b> , Bay Long	182
<b>FS - Roland Richardson Gallery</b> , Marigot	183
<b>DS - Saratoga Restaurant</b> , Simpson Bay Yacht Club	183
<b>DS - Scuba Fun</b> , Great Bay Marina, Philipsburg	183
<b>FS - Seaworld Explorer</b> , Grand Case, St. Martin	184
<b>DS - The Spa Sint Maarten</b> , Maho La Terrasse Resort	184
<b>DS - Summer Set Car Rental</b> , Lowlands, Cupecoy	184
<b>DS - Surf and Turf Restaurant</b> Princess Casino, Port de Plaisance Resort	185
<b>DS - Tri-Sport</b> , Simpson Bay	185
<b>DS – The Villas on Great Bay</b> , Philipsburg	185
<b>FS - Vinissimo, Wine &amp; Spirit Boutique</b> , Marigot	186
<b>DS - Weddings-In-St. Maarten</b> , Pelican Resort Marina	186
<b>Bon Voyage</b>	