



SEYCHELLES, 3 PARADISE ISLANDS: MAHÉ, LA DIGUE, PRASLIN IN 10 DAYS

ITINERARY

Day 1-Arrival in Mahé

You will be welcomed by our representative at the airport of Mahé and transported to your hotel. Mahé is the largest island in Seychelles and home to the capital city, Victoria, as well as the international airport. The island's population is approximately 80,000 people: 90% of the country's total population.

The island is lush and mountainous with towering granite peaks, up to 2969 feet high at the Morne Seychellois. Dense cloud forests cover large parts of the interior, and drop down to a coastline strung with sweeping sandy beaches and picture-perfect coves.

Overnight in Mahé

Day 2 to Day 4-Mahé

Your exploration of Mahé should start with a visit of **Victoria, the capital**. Nested between **soaring granite mountains** and a busy maritime harbor, Victoria is a pleasant provincial place with neat, **tree-lined streets, a colorful local market**, a few simple souvenir stores and a handful of bars and restaurants. First established as the seat of British colonial government, it retains remnants of the UK in curiosities such as **the roundabout clock tower**, modeled on London's Little Ben.

The Botanical Gardens, the National Museum of History and the Victoria Natural History Museum are definitely worth visiting.

After exploring Victoria, we highly recommend walking the short trail: **the glaciis Trois-Frères**. It offers an amazing panorama of Victoria.

If you are looking for a beautiful beach to laze on with **a curved mountain backdrop and shallow sparkling waters**, we recommend the **Beau Vallon beach**. Among its **1.24 miles of golden, palm-fringed sand** you will find a good number of local-style restaurants and bars.

Our favorite trail, by far, is the **Anse Major** beach trail. In order to get there, you must reach the most northwesterly point of Mahé. There you can start your hike from **Danzil**. The walk to the beach and back takes around three hours. This is a great opportunity to **pack a picnic and spend at least half a day on the beach**.

To the southeast of Mahé, nestled up above **Anse Royale** at the foot of **Mont Grate-Fesse**, lies **King's Garden**. The garden is an enchanting place, teeming with orchids, fruit trees, spices imported from India and Indonesia, rare species, and other medicinal plants.

To complete your stay in Mahé, you can hop on a taxi boat **to St Anne Marine Park or Cerf island** for a day-long visit. St Anne Marine Park, located in the north east of Mahé, has a **land area of 5.57 miles** and includes six island. It is an **ideal playground for scuba-divers and snorkelers**. It is also a **perfect spot for a glass-bottom boat tour!**

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Overnight in Mahé

Day 5-Mahé/La Digue

Your day begins with an early morning hotel-to-hotel transfer via car and ferry to La Digue.

La Digue is the fourth largest island in Seychelles and neighbors the island of Praslin. La Digue takes its name from one of the vessels in explorer Marion Dufresne's fleet, sent by the French to explore Seychelles' granite islands in 1768.

La Digue is an incredibly biodiverse habitat and home to the black paradise flycatcher, one of the rarest birds on earth. It is also home to the **chinese bittern, cave swiftlet, waxbill** as well as two rare species of **terrapin**.

Overnight in La Digue

Day 6-La Digue

Welcome to Digue, be ready to walk, bike, **travel by ox-car!** Here, time stands still and traditional ways of transportation remain.

You will be amazed by the **traditional methods of boat building** and the friendly atmosphere of this intimate island **with its slow pace of life**.

La Digue's forests contain **a wealth of flora** in the form of **delicate orchids, tumbling vines of vanilla**, as well as **Indian almond and takamaka trees**. Gardens blaze with **hibiscus and nepenthes** against a backdrop of **swaying coconut palms**.

You could spend a day exploring the numerous breathtaking beaches of La Digue but do not miss **Anse Source d'Argent**: the island's most **stunning and photogenic beach**, covered with **powdered sand and pink granite boulders**. The beach is home to a **genuine traditional Creole community**.

The small **Veuve Nature Reserve** is also home to most of the world's 200-or-so remaining **Seychelles black paradise flycatchers**.

Overnight in La Digue

Day 7-La Digue/Praslin

Your drive will begin with a chauffeured car trip to the port followed by a ferry to Praslin. The ride lasts approximately 25 minutes. Once in the port of Praslin, you will be transferred from to your hotel. Praslin is the second largest island of the Seychelles: it has an area of 14.7 mi² and has around 6,500 residents. First claimed by French explorer Lazare Picault in 1774, Praslin was initially **named 'Île de Palme'**, in honor of its **magnificent palm forests**. Praslin is also blessed with **a naturally beautiful coastline**. **From tiny boulder-strewn coves to sweeping curves of powder sand, it is a beach-lover's paradise**.

Overnight in Praslin

Day 8 and 9-Praslin

In the heart of Praslin lies one of the **world's smallest natural UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Vallée de Mai**. This remarkable palm forest, with its unique community of plants and animals, is a

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remnant of the prehistoric forests of Gondwanaland. It's a magical place, with towering trees, streams and waterfalls as well as endemic fauna including **black parrots**. This primeval forest is home to the magnificent **coco de mer palm**, which has the largest seed in the plant kingdom.

Do not miss the **Coco Marine National Park**: easy to reach by boat, it offers gentle, **fish-filled snorkeling** around a trio of small islets surrounded by a **coral reef**.

You can adventure for a day trip to either Cousin or Aride Island.

Cousin Island: Only 3 miles from Praslin, this small **granite island** is significant for **sea birds, endemic land birds and hawksbill turtles**.

Aride island: this island combines a **colorful coral reef with native woodland**, two scenic beaches and over **1.25-million seabirds that regularly breed**.

Day 10 Praslin-Mahé-Final Day

You will be picked up at the hotel, driven to the port of Praslin and hop on a ferry to Mahé, the ride will last approximately 40 minutes From the port of Mahé, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back home.

DETAILS

- ❖ **Tour duration:** 10 days
- ❖ **Group Size:** 1 person minimum- private journey
- ❖ **Price starts at:** \$1788 per person- price based on 2 persons sharing a double room
- ❖ **Best season to travel:** all year round but if you want to dive under perfect conditions: april-may and october-november
- ❖ **Country visited:** Seychelles– 3 islands: Mahé, La Digue, Praslin
- ❖ **Comfort:** Medium – 3 stars-hotels
- ❖ **Level of difficulty:** Easy
- ❖ **Transport:** ferries, shared transfers
- ❖ **Accommodation:** Private double room
- ❖ **Additional Information:** Travelers entering Seychelles must have a passport valid for the duration of stay in Seychelles, onward/return ticket, proof of accommodation, and proof of sufficient funds. A one-month entry visa may be obtained upon arrival and may be extended for a period of up to one year.

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1015.html#entry_requirements

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❖ **What's included:**

- 9 hotel nights in 3 stars charming hotels- breakfast included
- Arrival private transfer from the airport to the hotel
- All the transfers: hotel/harbor/hotel and transfer back to the airport
- All the ferry: inter boat island -Mahé/La Digue/Praslin

❖ **What's not included:**

- International airfare
- Lunches and dinners
- Tips and personal expenses
- Personal insurance

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