



FACT SHEET 2009

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: Cousine Island

Status: Private Nature Reserve & Conservation Island

Location: Seychelles

Situated 6km off the West coast of Praslin and close to the island of Cousin lays this natural paradise.

The island is 25 hectares (62 acres) in size; approximately 1.4km in length, 800m in width and is 100% dedicated to the preservation of the Seychelles environment. The vegetation consists of 95% endemic plants and is home to more than 5 species of endemic land birds and 7 species of endemic seabirds - the remaining 5% of vegetation is made up of indigenous fruit trees and vegetable plants. Migratory birds consider Cousine home during 6 months of the year. Hawksbill Turtles come ashore to nest and Green Turtles, rare to the Seychelles, nest occasionally throughout the year. Cousine Island is one of the only islands in the Seychelles to be completely free of alien mammals.

GPS Coordinates: 4 Deg 20 Mins 55.73 South
53 Deg 38 Mins 53.24 East

Mission: "To promote and practice nature conservation and the wise use of natural resources of the island and its surroundings and to share this philosophy with guests"

Opened: April 2000

**Island & Hotel
Manager:** Mr Jock Henwood

Staff complement: 16 in total (hotel, island and conservation)

Star rating: 5 star

Accommodation: 4 Luxury Villas, 30 meters from the beach, each with magnificent views over the Indian Ocean.

Architecture, Design & Villas:

The architecture of all buildings is French Colonial to commemorate the heritage of the Seychelles and to blend in with the traditional designs. Only four individual Villas were built to ensure comfort and maximum privacy for guests and to reduce the impact of man on the island. Each Villa has a floor space of 175m² which allows for spacious and tastefully decorated rooms fitted with comfortable furnishings and appliances. The majority of the building materials used was sourced locally.

Occupancy:

Each Villa can accommodate 2 persons.
2 out of 4 Villas can accommodate 1 extra person.
Full island occupancy is 10 persons.

Dining:

The Island has one airy dining area which is located in the main building called The Pavillion and overlooks the freshwater swimming pool, the Indian Ocean and the islands of Praslin, Cousin and Aride.

Cousine Island's chefs prepare meals to order to satisfy each guest's individual taste.

Typical Creole cuisine can be sampled here but dishes with Eastern and European influences are also available.

All ingredients are sourced locally, supporting the local community, thus ensuring the freshest ingredients, allowing for a first class Creole experience!

Head Chef:

Adriaan van Niekerk (South African)

Assistant Chef:

Jerina Magnan (Seychellois)

Conservation & Ecology:

Cousine Island has always been a uniquely valuable haven to the flora and fauna of the Seychelles. The island has escaped the introduction of alien mammals and as a result, the delicate web of endemic bird life and supporting flora and fauna has remained intact. The island has been privately owned for 13 years and has been transformed into a private nature reserve through a systematic rehabilitation program, replanting of endemic trees and plants and the establishment of colonies of Seychelles endemic birds. Cousine still has the enviable status of being the only island in the Seychelles archipelago totally free of alien mammals.

Hawksbill and Green turtles nest on Cousine's shores, with approximately 14,000 Hawksbill Turtle hatchlings being released per breeding season (Nov-Mar).

In order to protect the delicate ecosystem, Cousine Island prefers guests to arrive by helicopter thus ensuring against the introduction of any alien species. The guests share the island with its natural inhabitants, offering some of the closest encounters with nature in the Seychelles.

Aim: To preserve and protect the endemic flora and fauna for future generations.

Sustainability: By staying on Cousine Island the guests contribute to the funding needed to secure its future. All funds raised by Cousine Island Trust are used to run the island.

The guests' information pack states that "tourism development is the only revenue generating activity purely to ensure the long-term sustainability of conservation."

Activities & facilities: Bird watching: Cousine Island has a variety of Seychelles endemic birds, including the Seychelles Magpie Robin currently considered a critically endangered species.

Walks: Various paths around the island and into the forest and hill areas are outlaid on the island map in each villa. Guided walks with the Island Ecologists are available but walks can also be enjoyed alone.

Conservation programs: Guests are encouraged to take part in the various conservation programs and activities that are running on the island e.g.:

- Tree planting
- Turtle monitoring
- Ringing and feeding of Magpie Robins

Snorkelling: Guided snorkelling is available, equipment is complimentary from the office and guests can also explore on their own.

Swimming pool: Located at The Pavillion, the pool is filled with freshwater.

Library: The library has a selection of reference books as well as novels, DVD's, Videos and CD's. The library is open for guests to use at any time during the day.

Organised water sports: Diving and fishing can be arranged on request.

Excursions: Excursions by boat to other islands are available and can be arranged on request.

Internet: Broadband internet access is currently available in the library and will soon be available in the villas.

Spa: Ligne St Barth Spa treatments are offered in the newly opened Beach House Wellness Retreat.

Gym: The gym is located in the Beach House and guests may use this facility complimentary.

Beach:

Cousine Island's beach stretches from the most Northern point of the island to the most Southern tip of the island. Another beach forms during the North West Monsoon winds and is referred to as 'Honeymoon Beach' due to its seclusion.

Spa & Gym:

The Beach House Wellness Retreat is a thatched building housing the spa and gym. The Beach House was one of the first buildings on the island during the 70's and housed the management of the coconut plantation, the original structure remains today. The Spa has an inside and outside treatment area where guests are pampered with the exclusive spa product range of Ligne St Barth www.lignestbarth.com.

Fitness equipment includes a multi-gym, rowing machine, sit-up bench, stair master, treadmill, individual weights, yoga mats and gym balls.

RATES & SPECIAL OFFERS FOR 2009

Rates: **Single Villa Rental - €1700.00** (Euro) plus 10% Government Sales Tax per villa per night for 2 persons sharing
Additional bed - €850.00 (Euro) plus 10% Government Sales Tax per night

Exclusive Island Rental - €6500.00 (Euro) plus 10% Government Sales Tax per night for up to 8 persons
Additional persons (up to 2 additional persons) - €850.00 (Euro) plus 10% Government Sales Tax per night

Rates include:

- All Meals & Snacks
- Soft drinks & mineral water
- Beers, wines & spirits
- Complimentary Foot & Leg massage

Rates exclude:

- 10% Government Sales Tax
- Transfers (unless otherwise specified)
- Reserve Wines & Premium Spirits

Children's Rates: The rates for children sharing the villa with their parents are as follows:

- 0 - 5 years €100
- 6 - 12 years €150
- 13 - 15 years €350
- 16 and above, adult rates apply

Special offers: **Validity - Year Round except 15 December 08 - 10 January 09
15 December 09 - 10 January 10**

- ❖ Stay for 6 nights and receive an extra night complimentary (7 nights in total)
- ❖ Stay for 12 nights and receive 2 extra nights complimentary plus a bottle of champagne and a complimentary Ligne St Barth Harmony treatment (60 min massage) per person (14 nights in total)
- ❖ Honeymoon & Wedding Packages are available on request
- ❖ Date restricted special offers available on request

Validity of rates: 01 January - 31 December 2009

Minimum stay: 3 nights year round except 8 nights - 15 December 09-10 January 10

Transfers by helicopter: Helicopter transfers are available from all heli-stops in the Seychelles and quoted in € (Euro) currency:

Mahe International Airport - Cousine Island Return:

Day flights (Bell Jet ranger - single engine)
for a max. of 4 passengers:

- 1462 + 32 fuel supplement + 10% GST,
this fee is additional and may vary.

Day & night flights (Agusta 109 - twin engine)
for a max. of 6 passengers:

- 2.236 + 43 fuel supplement + 10% GST,
this fee is additional and may vary.

Praslin Domestic Airport - Cousine Island Return:

Day flights (Bell Jet ranger - single engine)
for a max. of 4 passengers:

- 740 + 8 fuel supplement + 10% GST,
this fee is additional and may vary

Day & night flights (Agusta 109 - twin engine)
for a max. of 6 passengers:

- 2660 + 48 fuel supplement + 10% GST
this fee is additional and may vary

Helicopter Charters can be booked with Cousine Island directly. Rates are for 1-4 (1-6) passengers. Owing to space restriction, soft baggage of 20 kg max per person is preferred. Should bags not fit on the helicopter, they will be sent to Praslin on Air Seychelles and then collected from the airport by the Cousine Island boat.

Transfers by boat:

Mahe Inter-Island Quay - Cousine Island

one way €650.00 + 10% GST: 28ft open cabin, Makaira (2 - 6 pax)

Mahe Inter-Island Quay - Cousine Island

one way €800.00 + 10% GST: 42ft closed cabin, Venture (2 - 6 pax)

Boat transfer time between Mahe - Cousine Island is approx 1½ hrs.

Praslin - Cousine Island - Praslin

€400.00 + 10% GST: 28ft open cabin, Makaira (2 - 8 pax)

Praslin - Cousine Island - Praslin

€500.00 + 10% GST: 42ft closed cabin, Venture (2 - 8 pax)

Boat transfer time between Praslin - Cousine Island is approx 15 - 20 minutes.

Boat charter transfers to and from other inner-islands are available. Please note that boat charter not recommended during the months of May to October.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- Minimum stay:** 3 nights out of season
8 nights in season
10 December 2009 until 31 January 2009
- Reservation policy:** All reservations are made directly with Cousine Island and must be confirmed in writing either by email or by fax.
- Payment policy:** **Bookings will be confirmed when Cousine Island receives payment as per the conditions below:**
SINGLE VILLA BOOKING
50% of total amount due must be paid within 30 (thirty) days prior to arrival. Balance must be paid 14 (fourteen) days prior to arrival.

Bookings received within the period of 30 (thirty) days to 15 (fifteen) days will have to pay 50% on the day of making their reservation and the balance must be paid 14 (fourteen) days prior to their arrival.

Guests who book within the period of 14 (fourteen) days must pay 100% upon making the reservation.

WHOLE ISLAND RENTAL
40% deposit is required upon confirmation of booking. Balance must be paid 30 (thirty) days prior to arrival.
- Cancellation policy:** Cancellation of reservation must be in writing and can be by fax or email to the address/number listed below. It must be received by Cousine Island in the time periods specified before the arrival date.

Cousine Island will charge as follows for cancellations:
SINGLE VILLA BOOKING
30 days prior to arrival: 20% of the rack rate per night for two people for the period booked with Cousine Island.

14 to 29 days prior to arrival: 35% of the rack rate per night for two people for the period booked with Cousine Island.

1 to 13 days prior to arrival: 80% of the rack rate per night for two people for the period booked with Cousine Island.

On the day of arrival or no-show: 100% of the rack rate per night for two people for the period booked with Cousine Island.

WHOLE ISLAND BOOKING

91 days or more prior to arrival: no charge

61-90 days prior to arrival: 40% of the rack rate per night for the period booked.

31-60 days prior to arrival: 70% of the rack rate per night for the period booked.

0-30 days prior to arrival: 100% of the rack rate per night for the period booked.

Guests are therefore kindly urged to purchase a travel insurance policy covering refunds of cancellation deposit.

CONTACT DETAILS

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| Postal Address: | Cousine Island P O Box 977 Victoria Mahe |
| Management: | Mr Jock Henwood Tel: (248) 321107 / 713420 Fax: (248) 323805 Email: jock@cousineisland.org |
| Reservations & General Enquiries: | Janine Samuel Tel: (248) 321107 Fax: (248) 323805 Email: cousine@seychelles.net |
| Marketing: | Janine Samuel Tel: (248) 321107 Fax: (248) 323805 Email: cousine@seychelles.net |