NOTES	
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GENERAL INFORMATION The first Westerners to lay eves upon this beautiful coast were the sailors of a small flotilla of Spanish boats and their intrepid captain in 1492. Over five centuries later many historians and archeologists are of the opinion the great captain's historic ship accidentally hit a shallow reef and had to be abandoned very close to site where your modern cruise ship will be docking. Perhaps the Spanish ship's grounding was not a navigational mishap after all. Those men were expert seamen and perhaps knew exactly what they were doing. After many weeks at sea the weary sailors of La Niña, Pinta and the Santa Maria saw the green palms gently swaying in the warm ocean breeze. They drank in the fresh sweet smell of land, flowers and tropical plants. They longed to swim in the refreshing crystalline waters caressing the white sand beach. After their lengthy and arduous voyage from the Old World to the New, those men were in desperate need of a vacation. By (instinctively or intentionally) running their ship up on the reef they made sure they got their well earned Caribbean holiday. And so it began.

The small town of Labadie, from whence the peninsula comprising Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd's.® (RCCL®) exclusive cruise destination gets its name, clings to the shore on this north coast of Haiti. The country comprises the western third of the large Caribbean island of Hispañola. The town of Labadie was named after the Marquis de La'Badie, a Frenchman who prospered by provisioning boats which sailed these waters in the 17th century. As they have since the mid 1980s and will continue into the future, the ships of RCCL® now sail these waters and call to port at Labadee.

Today, strengthening the cooperative effort between the government of Haiti and RCCL®, the long term lease of the beautiful peninsula of Labadee has been solidified by extensive on-site development through the company's investment of tens of millions of dollars. It is a clear vote of confidence in the people, nation and future of the country as our guests continue to have the exclusive opportunity



PORT EXPLORER SHOPPING GUIDE

Labadee HAITI

to enjoy a relaxing fun filled day in the clear blue waters of Haiti's northern coast. The sailors who joined Christopher Columbus and first came ashore here centuries ago obviously knew a good thing when they saw it.

HISTORY For centuries prior to the December 5th, 1492 arrival of Captain Columbus, the island named Hispañola by the great navigator was inhabited by peaceful Indian tribes called the Taíno and Arawak. As was the case throughout the Caribbean, within a few generations the Indians as a people were no more.

First known by the Taíno Indian name of "Haiti" (Land of Mountains) with the arrival of the Europeans, the island underwent centuries of struggle and hardship. Spanish interest in Hispañola slowly waned as their discovery of silver and gold elsewhere in the New World took precedence over all other interests. Spain eventually signed the western third of Hispañola over to the French in 1697. Planters were already well established yet there was little they could do to expand their operations due to the shortage of labor. Again the vastly profitable answer which quickly reared its ugly head, as it did throughout the islands of the Caribbean, was the importation of African slaves.

Over the following decades the wealth of Haiti's French planters dramatically increased and so too did the brutal conditions under which the slaves suffered and toiled. Many in bondage fled to the mountains to escape their European masters yet unrest and outright revolt was understandable and in light of the prevailing circumstances, utterly unavoidable.

The philosophical ideas put forth and fostered by the 1789 French Revolution quickly spread to Haiti. There was a large population of "gens de couleur" (people with a mix of European and African bloodlines) who, using the author-









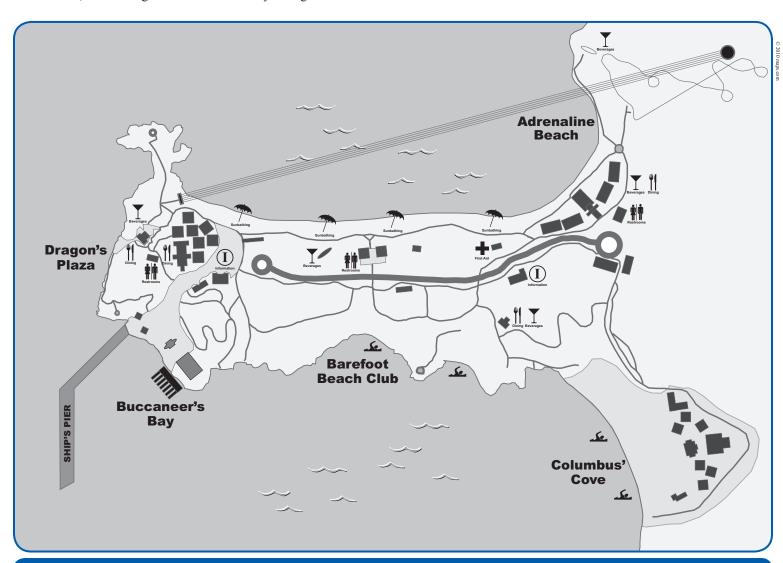
ity of the National Assembly of France and their "Declaration of the Rights of Man" now demanded the rights, responsibilities and rewards of French citizenship. Not only were their demands denied but stiffer restrictions were implemented by colonial authorities. The die was cast as rebellion spread.

As have so many generations before them, the people of modern day Haiti continue to face tremendous and seemingly insurmountable political, economic, social, and natural disaster challenges. Yet there is a universal truth here; the blessedly tangible results of personal and political fortitude in purpose and spirit. Enlightened leadership, sound raison d'être, unwavering dedication and the unyielding determination

of a united people will not, can not, long be denied.

RCCL® is honored and proud to be a pioneering partner with a people and country which has such a rich heritage and the tremendous potential to become one of the Caribbean's premier tourist destinations.

Labadee was specifically designed and built to provide guests with a variety of opportunities to have fun in the sun. In addition to working on the tan and letting the cares of the world melt away while stretching out with a cool drink on a lounge or floating mat, numerous activities are available.



PLACES OF INTEREST

LABADEE PLACES OF INTEREST

1 Dragon's Breath Flight Line is the longest flight line in the world over water. Beginning 500 ft above the peninsula the flight line takes guests on an exhilarating ride 2,600 ft down to the water's edge. (place indicated is the sign up location)

Dragon's Tail Coaster begins 680 ft atop Santa Maria Mountain. Guests ride a safe yet thrilling specially designed bobsled down a track which twists, turns, dips and rolls through the mountainside forest. (place indicated is the sign up location)

The floating **Arawak Aqua Park** has trampolines and giant inflatables which are a blast to climb up and slide back down with a watery splash landing.

4 Parasailing gives guests the opportunity to strap into the harness of a colorful parachute and take off while tethered to the back of a speedboat. If you stop screaming from excitement long enough you will notice the view from 400 ft above the ocean blue is nothing short of spectacular.

Personal watercraft are a thrilling way to zip along the coast and around the calm waters of the bay.

Artisan's Village and Market – be ready to bargain, the vendors are eager to make a sale.

Adventure Ocean Oasis – a place for Kid's and Teen's activities with the Youth Staff.

Q Volleyball Courts, Basketball Court and Soccer Fields

9 Labadee Tram Stations

Other Adventures on Labadee

Kayaking along the beautiful coast of Labadee Bay is a great way to take in the view of the surrounding mountains and vibrant coral reefs. Your guide will take you past quaint fishing villages while sharing information about Haitian culture.

"**Discovery**" is a specially designed catamaran which takes guests on a narrated tour along the beautiful coastal region, over coral reefs, past local fishing villages and shipwrecks. One of the most spectacular sites is the view of the massive 19th century Lafferière Citadel perched 3,000 ft atop a mountain.

Malfini Beach is one of those settings you dream about. A twenty minute boat will take you to a private white sand beach hidden in a remote cove and surrounded by lush tropical jungle. You may never want to leave. The small yet famous "Canoe Bar" offers welcomed drinks. Space for this excursion is very limited.

Le Village at Paradise Cove offers the opportunity to learn about Haitian culture. A water taxi will take you to La Village where local artisans and fishermen are proud to share their history and heritage. After visiting Le Village, enjoy the beautifully secluded beach and fresh water springs of Paradise Cove.

SHORE EXCURSIONS For more information on how to make the most of your visit to Labadee please consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or visit the Shore Excursion Desk.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining at the open-air market is common. Some local vendors may seem a bit persistent to the uninitiated, however courtesy and firmness will be respected.

While the use of the beach chairs is complimentary, tipping the beach attendants for their service is always appreciated.

Lunch is provided by the ship's galley staff and chefs. In an amazing feat of ship-to-shore logistics, three separate open-air dining venues offer a delicious selection of BBQ, grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, fruits, vegetables and cold drinks.

Drink Specialties are offered throughout the peninsula by roving bar staff. In addition to water, sodas and beer the "Labaduzee" is a popular tropical favorite.

SHOPPING The Artisan's Market is located within the boundaries of the peninsula. It provides guests the opportunity to meet local artisans and vendors who offer an interesting collection of arts, crafts and souvenir. The Market accepts cash only. There are also the Buccaneer's and Columbus Trading Posts, selling t-shirts, sunglasses, hats and accessories.

LOCAL CURRENCY U.S. currency is accepted at the Artisan's Market. Other Activities, drinks as well as Trading Post items are charged to your onboard SeaPass account.

TRANSPORTATION Though easily walked, the Labadee Tram (#9) is also available to take guests throughout the peninsula.