

numerous times. The fortifications on Grenada, built or improved over the decades by one power or the other, remain as testament to this period in the island's history. As a small part of the 1783 Treaty of Versailles, Grenada came under permanent British rule. With British control of Grenada came the expansion of the sugar plantations and the importation of African slave labor.

Unlike some of the islands of the Caribbean, the African slaves on Grenada did not passively accept bondage at the hands of their British masters. By 1795 a "free colored" planter of French / African ancestry named Julian Fedon led a revolt to drive out the British troops and settlers, free the slaves, and reestablish ties with France. Fedon was valiant though his slave revolt was realistically doomed from the beginning. It took the British nearly 15 months to crush the rebellion and retake the island. It took 40 more years before slavery was abolished

throughout the British held islands of the Caribbean.

In 1979 a communist backed coup seized power from the democratically elected, though many say oppressive, government in Grenada. On October 19, 1983 a hard-line Marxist military council violently overthrew the island's socialist government. Six days later, October 25, 1983, on the orders of U.S. President Ronald Regan "Operation Urgent Fury" was unleashed. Accompanied by a few hundred troops from the Eastern Caribbean States and Jamaica, thousands of U.S. land, sea and air forces invaded Grenada and drove out the communist council. Democratic control of Grenada was soon restored to the people. Today as a parliamentary democracy and member of the British Commonwealth of Nations Grenada has resumed its rightful place as one of the jewels in the Caribbean crown.



PLACES OF INTEREST

PLACES OF INTEREST

1 Fort George was originally named Fort Royal when it was built by the French the 1600s. Most of what visitors see today was added on by the British in the early 1700s. They renamed the fort after

their King George III. The hill top site provides great views of the town and harbor. Today the fort serves as HQ for the Royal Grenada Police.

Beyond St. George's

2 Fort Frederick was constructed in the 1779. The French began building the fort after they had successfully defeated the British garrison by attacking from the rear, over land as opposed to a frontal attack by sea. The British soon took back Grenada and went on to complete the fort in 1783. From the bastions visitors have a wonderful view of St. George's and the surrounding area.

3 The Dougladston Spice Estate played an important part in the history of Grenada. The estate remains a working plantation. Visitors have the opportunity to see how spices are grown and processed, much the same way it has been done for generations. Here nutmeg, cloves, mace, cinnamon, cocoa and pimento are harvested and prepared for market.

4 The Gouyave Nutmeg Processing Station continues the island's tradition of growing and processing some of the best nutmeg to be found anywhere. Following only Indonesia, (many times the size of Grenada) this island is said to be the second largest producer of nutmeg in the world. The variety of products derived from the fruit and seeds of the nutmeg tree are truly amazing.

5 Grand Etang Lake and National Park is located high up in the middle of the island. This is a beautiful rainforest filled with waterfalls, wonderful trees, plants and birds. At nearly 2,000 feet above sea level, the park surrounding the gorgeous lake is a very popular place to hike and take in the natural beauty of Grenada.

6 The River Antoine Rum distillery uses the same process which was practiced when the distillery first began operations back in the late 1700s. Even if you are not a rum drinker the distillation process is very interesting and traditional. There are no cold, lifeless hermetically sealed stainless steel vats. This is the way it has been done for centuries.

7 Levera National Park is one of the most beautiful spots to be found along Grenada's coast. Covering hundreds of acres, the beach, lagoon and mangroves combine to create not only a tranquil setting but an important and protected refuge for the island's plants, birds and marine life.

8 The beaches on Grenada are some of the best to be found anywhere in the Caribbean and all of them are open to the public. Though Grand Anse is the most popular, there is a wide selection from which to choose. Some visitors may be looking for peace, quiet and solitude. Others may be looking for water sports, beach-side cafés and lounge rentals. Whatever your choice may be you can find it on Grenada.

SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to St. George's and the surrounding area we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For more information, please consult your Shore Excursion Order Form or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, be advised to take with you only necessary items and secure any valuables onboard.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining: Prices are fixed in restaurants and stores. Local vendors may bargain. Major credit cards are widely accepted.

Tipping: A 10-15 % tip is customary.

Beaches: There are no "swimsuit optional" beaches. All the beaches on Grenada are open to the public.

LOCAL CUISINE AND DRINK SPECIALTIES Grenada's local cuisine is a combination of West African, East Indian, French and English. These styles and techniques, flavors and foods make up the West Indian cuisine which we know today. What sets Grenada apart is the liberal use of spices. Nutmeg, lemongrass, cinnamon and turmeric are very common.

If Grenada has a national dish then it might be "Oil Down". It's an interesting name for a delicious stew that combines taro leaves, breadfruit, yams, onions and carrots, turmeric and dumplings with a choice of smoked herring, salted cod or salted meat. The mixture is then boiled in coconut milk.

If this is your first visit to the Caribbean you must try the Jerked Chicken. This dish is grilled chicken which has been marinated in a mixture of soy sauce, chopped garlic, onions and scallions, allspice, cinnamon, nutmeg, thyme and pepper. Roti is flat bread. When stuffed with mashed and spiced split peas it's called Dhal Puri Roti. Sweet Potato Nutmeg Pie combines boiled and mashed sweet potatoes with butter, cream, eggs, vanilla extract, nutmeg, ginger and cinnamon then baked till golden brown.

The rums produced in Grenada are often flavored with locally grown spices. Westerhall and River Antoine are reputed to be the two most popular local rums in Grenada.

SHOPPING St. George's has numerous shops, galleries and boutiques throughout town. Visitors can choose from a wonderful selection of jewelry, locally made jams and jellies, carvings, spice baskets and assorted souvenirs. A popular vendor's market is located on Grand Anse Beach. The town's central market is colorful and bustling. Here local farmers and vendors offer a wide variety of spices and produce. This is your chance to try some new and delicious, locally grown tropical fruits which may not be available at your grocery back home.

LOCAL CURRENCY Grenada's official currency is the East Caribbean dollar (ECS). ATMs are available at the banks. Major credit and debit cards are widely accepted.

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE The main Post Office in St. George's is located along the waterfront on Lagoon Road, Burns Point, Carenage Street.

Dial the following access numbers to use a personal calling card:

AT&T: 1.800.225.5288

MCI: 1.800.888.8000

TOURIST INFORMATION There is a Tourist Information Center at the Melville Street Cruise Terminal. Another Information Center is located at Burns Point.

TRANSPORTATION Car rentals and taxis are available. Agree with the taxi driver on the fare prior to departure. Local mini-buses travel throughout the island. The main terminal in St. George's is located on Melville Street. The rates are very reasonable and the destination of each bus is clearly marked. Licensed water-taxis are available to travel from St. George's harbor to beautiful Grand Anse Beach. The rates are very reasonable and the ride is a lot of fun.