FAMILY FRIENDLY MARTINIQUE

The Isle of Flowers, better known as the island of Martinique is the perfect playground for American families looking for a safe, lushly beautiful, authentic and entertaining Caribbean destination.

You may not know that Martinique offers intimate & luxury hotels or B&Bs like the charming Hôtel Bambou in Trois-Ilets[RG1], but also a large selection of luxurious villas like the Villa de la Baie du Golf. All enjoy an authentic Creole touch, warm hospitality, well-equipped living spaces and superb outdoors with most offering concierge or private chef services. Along with more affordable villa & B&B options, there are places like the Pierre et Vacances de Sainte-Luce vacation rental [RG2] resort that has a children's club.

There are so many things to see and do: miles of idyllic beaches. tropical forests with pristine rivers & waterfalls, or hike the iconic Mount Pelée volcano. Most of the island is a protected parkland, so there are lovely treks along 27 marked trails over 80 miles of beaches, bays, and mountain rainforests. On the waterfront—aside from every imaginable water sport, families can enjoy dolphinwatching or glass bottom boat cruises or guided kayak tours through the mangroves.

Soak in the culture, history and gastronomy unique to Martinique. After climbing Mount Pelée the family can visit nearby charming Saint-Pierre, rebuilt after the eruption 120 years ago, visit the memorial museum and remaining vestiges. Experience the island's fishing village where kids can learn about the people & sample the local cuisine and take the kids to La Savane des Esclaves (The Savannah of the Slaves), a large open air museum to see what life was like the 1800s. Last but not least, a must for thrill seekers is ziplining at Mangofil Adventure Park, with less heart-pounding activities for all.[RG3]

Finally, adults can rest easy. Martinique boasts modern and reliable infrastructure—roads, hospitals and other services, that are all on par with any other part of the European Union.

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