



Here are the activities that just didn't fit well anywhere else in our guide.

Prices quoted were gathered in May 2022 from websites or our best estimate basis what we've paid in the past or heard or read and may not be accurate for your visit. Drive times are approximate. Italics designate descriptions from websites or other reviewers' comments.



Website



Email



Review on TripAdvisor



Facebook



Wikipedia

# Churches

## Church of the Assumption



(758) 459-7214

**Drive time from the villa:** About 10 minutes.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 1. In Soufriere – the church you passed on the way to the villa from the Vieux Fort airport.

*The interior of the Catholic Church of the Assumption, in the heart of Soufrière town, will surprise with its decidedly Caribbean hues and French design: an ornate wood ceiling vaulted to resemble the ribs of a boat, baby blue pillars, and brightly colored stained-glass windows. Visitors are welcome to join in the Saturday evening mass at 6:30 or Sunday morning mass at 8:30, both with the sermon in English and Creole. A quick and respectful tour is also possible at other times to admire the architecture, including the partially blue-painted exterior.*

## Holy Trinity Anglican church



(758) 452-4485

**Drive time from the villa:** About 75 minutes, but traffic near Castries can really impact this.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 3. Trinity Church Road, Castries. Adjacent to the King George V gardens and near the Craft market in Castries.

Anglicanism is a Christian religion that began as part of the Church of England. The faith was introduced to Saint Lucia when the British took control during the 18th century. Religious freedom was granted to the island in 1783. The cornerstone for this beautiful Holy Trinity Anglican Church was laid in 1894. Less than 2% of Saint Lucians practice the Anglican faith.

## Immaculate Conception Church



(758) 452-2272

**Drive time from the villa:** About 75 minutes, but traffic near Castries can really impact this.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 3. In Castries on Bourbon Street, adjacent to Derek Walcott Square.

The Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception is one of the largest in the Caribbean and is the religious and cultural beating heart of the island's capital. Attend one of the masses for an authentic St. Lucian experience. Listen to the choir and congregation singing and admire the vibrantly colored interior ceiling.

Step inside the unassuming stone cathedral and be amazed by what you find inside. The brilliant colors of the interior shimmer in the sunlight, which pours in through the church's high windows. Reds, oranges, greens, yellows, and purples blend together to create a vibrant and uplifting décor, which incorporates both Caribbean and African architectural influences.

Built in 1897, the grand cathedral is one of the largest in all of the Caribbean and plays an integral role in the lives of Castries' residents. The parish is the seat of the Archbishop of St. Lucia and was elevated to the status of a Minor Basilica in 1999 as part of the centenary celebrations. Join the locals for one of the Sunday masses to appreciate the joy, music and community-oriented atmosphere. Performances by the children's choir in particular are a beautiful thing to experience. The children's choir typically rehearse during the week so depending on when you visit, you may be lucky enough to see them in action.

Look closely at the interior of the cathedral to appreciate its beauty. Measuring 200 feet (61 meters) long by 100 feet (30 meters) wide, and with high ceilings, the cathedral is cavernous.

Inside, look for a vast mural by St. Lucian artist Dunstan St. Omer depicting Biblical scenes, as well as the island's patron saint, St. Lucia, portrayed above the altar.

The Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception sits in the heart of downtown Castries, adjacent to the Derek Walcott Square. It is open at varying times from morning until late afternoon. Check listings at the church to find out specific Mass times. Attend Mass on a Sunday and choose from several different times.

## St Joseph the Worker Church

**(758) 450-8325**

**Drive time from the villa:** About 90 minutes, but traffic in Castries and Rodney Bay can really impact this.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 3. In the old town area in the heart of Gros Islet, north of Rodney Bay, almost all the way to the north of the island.

*The St. Joseph the Worker Parish is a 20th-century church built on the foundations of a historic chapel from the 1700s. It has a colorful interior comprising vibrant stained-glass windows and ecclesiastical works of art. Get a glimpse into the local culture and traditions with a Catholic Mass on Saturday night or Sunday morning.*

*Relax in the small plaza outside the church and snap photos of the grey façade, noting its yellow rose window and markings. Wander along the enchanting adjacent streets and see the brightly colored building façades. Enter the church and chat to the friendly local congregation.*

*Listen to the soothing sounds of the singing voices during the 90-minute Mass. Inspect the range of colorful artworks adorning the walls of the nave, which stands out for its large size in this small town. The altar is ornate with religious artifacts and is illuminated by light permeating the large windows above.*

*Walk between the whitewashed columns that flank the nave and sit on the wooden pews. Enjoy the tranquil ambiance and meditate in this holy location.*

*The church can get crowded and hot on weekend afternoons. Bring sufficient water and wear fairly light clothing to stay cool, while remaining formal enough for the religious occasion.*

*Note that the initial chapel was constructed here in around 1771, a couple of decades after the arrival of the first missionaries. A church replaced the chapel in 1778, before undergoing further reconstructions and renovations over the years.*

# Art Studios

## Zaka Art Café



(758) 457-1504

**Drive time from the villa:** About 20 minutes

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 1. on the road to the volcano.

Zaka is a musician and artist, making colorful masks and playing his guitar. We have not been to his new location, although we did go while he was in Soufriere, and had coffee there. It was good and strong, and they sell some food and smoothies as well as organic local chocolate. Don't kick yourself if you miss it, but you might want to stop in for a cup of coffee or a smoothie on your way to or from the volcano.

## Choiseul Art Gallery



(758) 715-5740

**Drive time from the villa:** About 25-30 minutes.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 1. River Doree, Choiseul.

*The paintings, books and greetings cards in the Choiseul gallery aim to capture the beauty of Saint Lucia. The souvenirs, palm crafts and wood carvings are made locally using only local materials found in this environment. Owned and operated and created by Hattie and Leo Barnard. Hattie has shown her work around the world, and her books are available on Amazon (Kindle versions).*

Hours: Tuesdays to Saturdays 10.00am – 4.00pm. Closed Sundays, Mondays, and Aug/Sep.

## Michelle Elliot at the Pink Plantation



(758) 452-5422

**Drive time from the villa:** About 75 minutes, but traffic in Castries can really impact this.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 3. In Castries on Chef Harry Drive.

*Saint Lucian born, Michelle Elliot, is a self-taught artist who has been portraying the colors and imagery of the Caribbean through a number of artistic mediums for over twenty years. Initially known for her vivid scenes done*

*on canvas in acrylics or watercolors, about a decade ago Michelle began applying her vibrant images to ceramics as well producing a full range of functional and decorative pieces.*

*Michelle is the owner of The Pink Plantation, a recently rehabilitated 150-year-old Victorian mansion located high above Castries on Morne Fortune. Besides serving as a restaurant and small hotel and a gallery for Michelle's art, The Pink House is home to her studio and pottery and silk screen production facilities as well being surrounded by lush botanical garden grounds to add to visitor's enjoyment.*

The ceramic turquoise platter in the kitchen is her work, as well as some purple placemats (they may be in a kitchen drawer).

The links are to the Pink Plantation and many of the reviews are about the restaurant, but some of them mention the art gallery.

## **Eudovic's art studio**



**(758) 452-2747**

**Drive time from the villa:** About 75 minutes, but traffic in Castries can really impact this.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 1. Zone 3. In Castries on La Toc Road, very near to the Pink Plantation.

*Vincent Joseph Eudovic has been carving wood longer than anyone else on the island of St. Lucia and has established himself as St. Lucia's leading sculptor. He started sculpting at a very young age, competing in his first exhibition at the tender age of twelve. From then on, he was set in his vocation, and to date has made a significant contribution to the art form through the training of a number of highly talented young men.*

*Vincent Joseph Eudovic uses local woods for his abstract carvings, and since no two roots are the same, every single sculpture is unique and different. At his studio on Morne Fortune, you can see his magnificent pieces on display – pieces that beg to be touched!*

Hours: reportedly 8 AM to 2 PM every day. We suggest you call to confirm being making the trip up to Castries.

## **Melting Pot West Indian Studio**



**(758) 488-8620**

**Drive time from the villa:** About 40 minutes.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 2. In Anse La Raye.

*This colorful art studio full of beautiful masks for every taste is situated in Anse La Raye. It is owned by a talented artist, who can carve you a piece of art to order, while you wait. A must visit place if you are searching for unique gifts and souvenirs.*

Plan to stop here on the way to or way back from the north of the island.

# Miscellaneous

## Rum distillery tour



**(758) 456-3148 or (758) 456-3192**

**Drive time from the villa:** About 50 minutes.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 2. Just south of Marigot Bay, a couple of minutes' drive off the main highway on the way to Castries.

### Tour a distillery: Rhythm of Rum Tour

*In the Roseau valley in St Lucia, host to the agricultural community of Jacmel is St Lucia Distillers Group of Companies, producing world class rums and liqueurs in a process that has, like its environment, changed little in a hundred years. Here, guests to the historic, world class distillery can embark on a Rhythm of Rum tour that takes visitors on a journey that illuminates the connection between the production of rum and the historical and cultural heritage of the island. The tour ends at a veritable rum buffet where visitors can sample the impressive range and find the rum (or rums!) which best fit the individual palate.*

Our recommendation – it's not worth a trip to Marigot Bay just for this. The tour doesn't last long (less than an hour), but if you are in the area, it's about the same price as a drink at a bar and you get to taste a lot of different rums before buying, as well as get the tour.

**Hours:** Monday – Friday. First tour starts at 9 AM; last tour starts at 3 PM. Tour and tasting is \$10US per person; tasting only is \$5 US per person. Children under 16 are half price. Legal drinking age in St Lucia is 18.

## Day trip to St Vincent and the Grenadines



**Toll-free 1-866-766-0794 WhatsApp 1-758-719-1775**

**Drive time from the villa:** About 80 minutes, although traffic can really impact this.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 3. The tour departs from and returns to the airport in Castries.

*An incredible daytrip to the nearby islands*

*Fly to the Grenadines for a day and island hop 3-4 of its spectacular islands. Swim with the turtles and sting rays, explore the tiny idyllic islands, search for wild iguanas and tortoises, snorkel at the amazing horseshoe reef. An unforgettable worthwhile day!*

This is expensive, but it is unforgettable. Available only through Serenity Travel. They include transfer from your accommodation in the price, but we suspect they would apply a surcharge to pick you up at the villa. We suggest you ask them and see if they would offer a discount if you provide your own transportation to the airport (the one in Castries).

## Day trip to Martinique

**(758) 727-9834 452-0808**

**Drive time from the villa:** About 90 minutes, but traffic near Castries and Rodney Bay can really impact this.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 3. Tour leaves and returns to the Rodney Bay Marina, almost all the way to the north of the island.

*For those who want to make the most of their Caribbean vacation, Martinique Splendor's all-inclusive tour offers a fast, comfortable ride to the neighboring French island of Martinique for a day of sun, fun, and shopping.*

*The Flying Ray leaves for Martinique from Rodney Bay Marina in the morning. More often than not, during the channel crossing, dolphins can be seen frolicking in the ocean, and occasionally whales will surface too.*

*Once in Martinique, you have the option of a half hour guided tour of the main attractions in the capital Fort de France and two hours exploring on their own or you can venture for the full two and a half hours of shopping on your own. You then re-board for a short trip to a serene bay. A BBQ lunch is served on board and you can swim, snorkel, or just relax on this day trip to Martinique.*

*Following a close-up look at Diamond Rock, the tour heads back across the channel, aiming to be back in Rodney Bay Marina at approximately 5:30 p.m.*

*Martinique Splendor all-inclusive day tour is one of the highest rated tours in St. Lucia. It's a 'day-cation' within your vacation.*

We've gone on this (about 10 years ago).

## Horse racing (may be closed)

**(758) 722-3388**

**Drive time from the villa:** About 60 minutes.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 3. Just north of the airport in Vieux Fort.

*Horse racing has come to St Lucia!*

The horse racing had just been completed and the 2020 schedule set when COVID hit. I haven't seen an updated racing calendar since 2020, so it's likely it has not resumed yet.

## **Sandals St. Lucia Golf & Country Club at Cap Estate**



**(758) 450-9324**

**Drive time from the villa:** Over 90 minutes, but traffic near Castries and Rodney Bay can really impact this.

**Driver Zone and Location:** Zone 3. In Cap Estate, essentially all the way to the north of the island.

This 18-hole, par 71 course features 6,744 yards of sprawling green slopes, dotted with attractive ponds and lush foliage. Featuring a practice range with putting and chipping greens, this magnificent golf course is ideal for any level of experience.

Sandals St. Lucia Golf & Country Club at Cap Estate, St. Lucia's only Championship 18-hole golf course, is doing everything to make this course even better. We are teaming up with golf legend Greg Norman to revamp the already beautiful 18-hole course and transform it into the most amazing, brand-new championship golf course. In the meantime, you can still enjoy an 18-hole game, however, during this time only 9 holes are available for play. The wonderful Clubhouse and all other facilities are open and available.

I have heard the course is open to everyone (you do not have to be staying at a Sandal's property to play). The phone number listed is from another website other than the Sandal's site, so we suggest you email or call Sandals at their corporate number for information on the course.