Grenada (St George’s) Cruise Port Guide

View of cruise ships and Esplanade Shopping Mall and the cruise terminal from the cruise ship dock.
Grenada is an independent nation of the British Commonwealth where the Governor General represents Her Majesty the Queen. The 3-Island Nation State includes Grenada, Carriacou, and Petit Martinique. (Map at right.)

Grenada is in the Eastern Caribbean at the southern tip of the Windward Islands, 100 miles north of Venezuela. It's known as the “Spice Island,” a place to relax and renew with beautiful, unspoiled landscapes, and long, sandy beaches. Cruise ships dock in St. George's, the capital.

Two popular self-guided tours are:
1) A walking tour of St Georges to Fort George on a hill for scenic views of the area, shopping, visiting craft shops, art galleries, the National Museum, historic churches, Market Square, strolling along Carenage harbor to visit cafes, restaurants, bars, etc. and enjoy boat tours.

2) Grand Anse Beach is the most famous beach in Grenada. It's a short boat, mini-bus, or taxi ride to this 1.25 mile long, gorgeous sandy beach bordered by resort hotels, restaurants, bars, a vendor's craft market, shopping malls, etc.

We chose a private, pre-arranged bus tour tailored to the specific interests of our group:
My wife signed us up for a tour organized by fellow passengers on Cruise Critic Roll Calls. Our guide was Mandoo. He was voted “The Award Winning Tour Guide” by Grenada's Tourism Board. Our private tour included stops at Laura's Herb and Spice Garden, a rum distillery, La Sagesse Bay, a drive through the countryside to see the coast, impressive homes, St George's University, etc. It was an excellent tour.
Mandoo also offers tours in the mountains, hiking to the waterfalls, the villages, etc. See his websites for options to tour Grenada mandoo@grenadatours.com and www.grenadatours.com.
I describe the tourist sites in this guide that are shown in red color on this map above.
GPS Coordinates

I provide GPS Coordinates for the key tourist sites and points of interest. You can use the coordinates with any Google or Microsoft Bing map format such as “road”, “satellite”, “birdseye”, “earth”, or “terrain” views to see details of the location at any map scale. For information on use of GPS coordinates to create your own travel maps, see my Google & Bing map user guide at [http://www.tomsportguides.com/map-user-guide.html](http://www.tomsportguides.com/map-user-guide.html)

The format for GPS is Degrees, Minutes, and Seconds shown as ddd° mm' ss.ss” N, W ddd° mm' ss.ss” W. You can copy and paste GPS coordinates from this guide into Google or Bing maps.

You can also type the coordinates into Google maps without using the symbols for degrees, minutes, and seconds. Replace the symbols with “spaces”: type letters, numbers, comma, and decimal points into the map.

For example: **Maurice Bishop International Airport** has GPS coordinates of **12°00'24.9"N 61°47'09.0"W**

**NOTE:** You can type **12 00 24.9 N 61 47 09.0 W** into a Google map search box to find the location.

This airport was formerly called “Point Salines International Airport”. It is located seven miles south of St. George's and directly north of Trinidad. Website = [http://www.mbiagrenada.com/](http://www.mbiagrenada.com/)

St George's is a Relatively Small Area for a Walking Tour (map below)

The walking tour area in St George's is 2700 feet East-West and 2350 feet North-South. Popular sites include Market Square, the Cathedral and several other churches, Carenage harbor area, the Museum and Fort George with many stops at shops, cafes, churches, and historic sites along the route. It's easy to walk in terms of distance. However, I caution you that there are hills and some steep streets and stairs.

**Cruise Ship Terminal**  GPS = **12°03'03.5"N 61°45'19.6"W**

The port can accommodate one medium size ship plus four small cruise ships or two mega ships. There are docks next to the cruise ship area used by water taxis to Grand Anse Beach. The port authority website is [http://www.grenadaports.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=87:cruise&catid=82&Itemid=513](http://www.grenadaports.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=87:cruise&catid=82&Itemid=513)
There's a large parking lot next to the cruise terminal with taxis and tour buses. We met our tour guide in the cruise terminal and walked as a group to our tour bus. The Esplanade Shopping Mall has ~ 50 stores with duty free shopping. For details on the mall, a list of stores, and photos, see http://grenadaguide.blogspot.com/2012/09/esplanade-mall-saint-georges-grenada.html

**Bus Terminal**  
GPS = 12°03'14.1"N 61°45'17.6"W

It's a 3-minute, 800 foot walk from Esplanade Shopping Mall to the Bus Terminal. You may want to take a bus to Grand Anse Beach or Carenage Harbor. Buses are the lowest cost method of travel ~ a few US dollars. Private owners of large vans offer the bus service. There's a driver who owns the van and a conductor who opens/closes the sliding door and collects payment. Wave to a bus and they will stop anywhere along the street to pick you up. You'll find yourself packed into the van with many people. The interior reflects the owner's style and there will probably be music. It's more than transportation; it's a unique travel experience.

**Carenage Harbor** is a must-visit area. It is very colorful with many historic buildings, shops, restaurants, cafes, and local bars. There are several possibilities for boat rides including “party boats” such as the Rhum Runner. See http://www.rhumrunner.gd/

**Ferry boat dock for boats to/from Carriacou and Petit Martinique**  
GPS 12°03'01.9"N 61°44'58.3"W

The ferry boat dock in Carenage harbor is shown on the map on page 3 of this guide. It's a ~ 14 minute, 0.6 mile walk from the cruise ship dock. The Osprey Express Ferry service to Carriacou Island takes ~ 90 minutes and costs ~ $ 37 USD one way. For schedules and prices, see http://www.ospreylines.com/

**Northwest view across Carenage Harbor** (photos below)

These two photos were taken looking northwest across Carenage harbor. The photos are aligned to show the same vertical height. Note that the tower in the top left of the second photo could be superimposed on the tower in the top right of the first photo.

I call your attention to the relative vertical height of Fort George, St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Kirk, and the Roman Catholic Cathedral. For reference, the walkway around Carenage Harbor next to the water is ~ 22 feet above sea level. By comparison, the streets in front Fort George and the Roman Catholic Cathedral are ~130 feet above sea level and the street in front of St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Kirk is ~ 70 feet above sea level.

Hence, walking up the hill from Carenage Harbor to Fort George or the Roman Catholic Cathedral is like climbing 11 flights of stairs or 110 feet uphill. However, when you get to the street at Fort George you also have to walk up the ramparts and stairs to the top of the walls which is like climbing another 20 or 30 feet. Fort George is the most strenuous place you will visit on your walking tour of St George's. Obviously, a change in elevation over a long distance walk is mild compared with a high change in elevation over a shorter distance traveled.

I've included elevation above sea level for the tourist sites on the walking tour map of St George's on the next page. Hopefully, this will give you an idea of the relative amount of work you will have to do as you walk up/down the hills in St George's. It's really not that difficult to walk around the area except for a few locations. Wharf Road around Carenage Harbor is generally 30 to 70 feet below the streets in the main part of town.
Be careful of traffic in St George's. The streets are narrow and vehicles drive on the left, (British) side. LOOK Both Ways before crossing the street.
Start your tour at Esplanade Shopping Mall  GPS  12°03'06.1"N 61°45'15"W  41' above sea level

Market Square  GPS  12°03'09.4"N 61°45'11.5"W  59' above sea level
This is a very popular market to visit in the morning, especially on Friday and Saturday. This area was used in the past for trading slaves, public executions, and political speeches. Today, it's the main produce market where you can buy all the herbs, spices, and fresh fruit grown on the island. There are also vendors selling baskets, crafts, leather goods, souvenirs, etc.

Supreme Court  GPS  12°03'10.3"N 61°45'09.6"W  85' above sea level

Roman Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  GPS  12°03'12.4"N 61°45'07.4"W  130'
The cathedral has stained glass and impressive woodwork. The tower dates back to 1818; the church to 1884.

St George's Methodist Church  GPS  12°03'12"N 61°45'02.1"W  75' above sea level
Built in 1820, it's the oldest church building in St George's and is still in use.

Marryshow House  GPS  12°03'12.2"N 61°44'54.2"W  105' above sea level
It is the former home of the late Theophilus Albert Marryshow – Grenadian statesman and advocate of West Indian unity. It currently houses the School of Continuing Studies (Grenada) of the University of the West Indies, and it is fortuitous that this building which witnessed important thrusts towards the binding of the Caribbean into a unified whole should today continue in the service of one of the oldest shared West Indian Institutions. For details, see http://www.open.uwi.edu/sites/default/files/bncede/grenada/grendoc/mhall.html

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Kirk  GPS  12°03'04"N 61°45'12.7"W  70' above sea level
Known as Scots' Kirk, it was constructed in 1831 with assistance from the Freemasons. The bell was cast in Glasgow in 1833 and the clock is an antique. Remembering its heritage on its 150th anniversary, a ceremony was held in honor of the Freemasons. Unfortunately, the church was destroyed by a hurricane in 2004 leaving only the exterior walls and clock tower.
http://www.presbyterianchurchgrenada.com/history/

Walking route from the Cruise Ship Dock to Carenage Harbor - You have three choices; namely,
1. Walk through the narrow Sendall Tunnel.  If you walk through the tunnel, stay close to the walls and be very careful of vehicle traffic.
2. Walk over the tunnel up the stairs and hill to Fort George and then down the hill to the harbor, or
3. Take another route by walking the streets such as Granby St. to Young St. to Wharf Rd.

Fort George  GPS  12°02'57.3"N 61°45'15.6"W  130' above sea level
The 18th century Fort George is the most popular tourist site, the most important historical site in St George's, and one of the finest examples of Vauban-style masonry fortresses in the world. In addition to the cannons on the upper levels facing the sea, the fort has subterranean passageways and guard rooms.
There are steep ramparts and different levels to climb for the highest views of the harbor and town. Walking to the fort is not for everyone, but those who visit the fort are rewarded with a unique historic setting with great scenic views. If you are mobility challenged, you might take a taxi or tour that drives you to the top of the hill, but exploring the fort might be too strenuous for you.

Admission is ~ 5 Eastern Caribbean dollars (ECD) or $ 2.50 US dollars (USD). US money and credit cards are widely accepted in Grenada. Tip: carry several dollar bills and quarter coins because it is difficult to get change. The person collecting the entrance fee to the fort does not have US coins for change.
For background on the fort, see http://www.forts.org/
Walking from Esplanade Shopping Mall to Fort George

- **Start at Esplanade Shopping Mall**  GPS  12°03'06.1"N 61°45'15"W  41' above sea level
- Walk south ~ 3 minutes, 350 feet to the entrance to Sendall Tunnel.
- **Stairs to Fort George**  GPS  12°03'02.8"N 61°45'14.1"W  the bottom of stairs = 75' above sea level

NOTE: I have shown the stairs next to the Sendall Tunnel on the maps on pages 3 and 5 of this port guide.

**National Museum**  GPS  12°03'02.2"N 61°45'09.4"W  55' feet above sea level

Located at Young and Monckton Streets, the building was constructed in 1704. It's one of the oldest buildings in St George's. There are archeological artifacts and exhibits covering native culture and the history of Grenada including slavery, farming, independence, etc. Hours are 9-4:30 M-F and 10-1pm Saturday

Admission is ~ 5 Eastern Caribbean dollars (ECD) or ~ $ 2.50 US dollars (USD).

**Shopping on Young Street between Church St and Wharf Rd** (for location, see the map on page 5)

There are several craft shops and art galleries on this section of Young Street. For example, the Art Fabrik boutique features wearable art, soft sculptures, fabric for quilters, bags, table linen, designer jewelry, Grenada chocolate, local bamboo and coconut craft. See [http://www.artfabrikgrenada.com/Location.html](http://www.artfabrikgrenada.com/Location.html)

**Anglican Church**  GPS  12°03'06.1"N 61°45'08"W  68' above sea level

The church was severely damaged by hurricane Ivan in 2004. Many visitors take a photo of this “Roofless Church”. Restoration has begun in 2016. To see the history of this church, view this YouTube video [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WpMO55Qf3Eg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WpMO55Qf3Eg)

**Christ of The Deep Monument**  GPS  12°03'08.9"N 61°45'01"W

On October 22, 1961 the Costa Steamship luxury Italian Cruise Liner, “Bianca ‘C’, had an engine explosion and fire that engulfed the ship just outside Carenage harbor. In an heroic effort, residents of Grenada launched several boats and ships to rescue all 400 passengers and 300 crew.
As a token of their appreciation to the people of Grenada, Costa Steamship Line presented a life-size bronze replica of the statue, “Christ of the Deep”. The statue is of Jesus with outstretched arms. The original statue had been sunk in the Bay of Naples as a symbol of God's care for all who sail the high seas.

**Exploring the area around Carenage Harbor**

This is the most popular tourist area in Grenada. It's a colorful, scenic area that's perfect for a leisurely stroll, stopping for lunch or a drink at hotel, restaurant, cafe or bar. There are many shops and photo opportunities are abundant.

There are also many activities such as tour boats from the harbor. You'll find taxis and buses to take you back to the area near the cruise ship dock or to other locations near St George's. Carenage is a must visit site.

**A Self-guided Tour of Grand Anse Beach**

Grand Anse Beach is the most popular beach in Grenada. It's a 1.25 miles long, white sandy beach with restaurants, bars, shopping, and impressive, upscale resort hotels.

Grand Anse Beach  GPS 12°01′26.6″N 61°45′43.8″W

**Travel options from the cruise ship to the Grand Anse Beach**

1. Take a taxi from the parking lot next to the Esplanade Mall. Prices are ~ $35 ECD or ~ $13 USD.

2. Walk from Esplanade Mall to the Bus Terminal and get a bus for ~ $1 to $3 USD to the beach. **Note:** Buses do not run on Saturday or Sunday, they only run on weekdays from about 7 am to 7 pm. By comparison, you can get a taxi almost anytime.

3. Take a water taxi from next to the cruise ship or from the Carenage Harbor. The water taxi is popular because it's a scenic ride along the coast. Price is ~ 4 $ USD

**Small boat dock for water taxis**  GPS 12°01′45.3″N 61°45′19″W

If you take a water taxi to the beach you will be dropped off at at dock near Blessed Sacrament Church which is next to the Vendor's Craft and Spice Market (see the map on the next page.

Blessed Sacrament Church  GPS 12°01′39.9″N 61°45′19.5″ W

| Mass Schedule |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 9:30 am | 12:15 pm | 12:15 pm | 6 pm | 6:15 am | 6:15 am | 6:15 am |

**Vendor's Craft and Spice Market**  GPS 12°01′37.6″N 61°45′21.7″W

Hours are 7 am to 7 pm daily. There are 82 vendor booths selling refreshments, produce, spices, crafts, artwork, clothing, etc.
Grand Anse Shopping Center  GPS  12°01’27.5”N 61°45’21.5”W
The shopping center has a supermarket, pharmacy, etc. to serve the locals.

Spiceland Mall
This mall has 30 stores ranging from small boutiques to department and grocery stores. It has a good selection of jewelry, clothing, artwork, spices, jams, etc.

Spice Island Beach Resort  GPS  12°01’20.4”N 61°45’53.5”W  (Photo at right)
It has a AAA Five Diamond Rating. The rooms I checked were ~ $1200/night. See  http://www.spiceislandbeachresort.com/
Coyaba Beach Resort Grenada  GPS  12°01′23.1″N 61°45′40.1″W  (photo below)
The resort complex offers the ambiance of intimacy with full amenities for the classic Caribbean vacation. Our remarkable design theme exemplifies centuries ago Amerindian life, all combined to make Coyaba one of a kind among Grenadian resorts.  http://www.coyaba.com/

Radisson Grenada Beach Resort  GPS  12°01′32.2″N 61°45′26.5″W  (photo below)
Located on Spice Island, the Radisson Grenada Beach Resort offers the complete Caribbean experience with beachfront rooms, a rejuvenating spa, a dive shop and four island-themed restaurants on site. Relax on your private balcony before exploring the enchanting Grand Anse Beach, just steps away. With a bus station just outside and Maurice Bishop International Airport (GND) about six kilometers away, getting around the island is simple.
Hotel amenities & services: Thanks to a crystal-clear waterfall flowing into the pool, a swim-up bar, and vibrant gardens, you may find it difficult to choose between the ocean and pool. We have 1,200 ft of beachfront access.  https://www.radisson.com/st-george-hotel-gd/grdgrgr

Umbrellas Beach Bar  (photo at right)
GPS  12°01′25.4″N 61°45′43″W
There are several restaurants and bars near Grand Anse Beach. The website below lists details on many of the bars at Grand Anse and other beaches in Grenada.
http://www.beachbars.co/locale/grenada/

Umbrellas is one of the popular bars at Grand Anse Beach. See the menu at http://grenadaguide.blogspot.com/2011/11/umbrellas-menu.html
Our Private, Pre-arranged Bus Tour with Mandoo

We joined a bus tour with Mandoo that had been listed on the Cruise Critic Roll Call for our ship. The tour had been planned by members of the Princess Cruise Lovers group. We had an opportunity to meet them on the ship and tour with them making many new friends and having a great time.

Our first stop was for photos at Carenage. The photo below shows Fort George, high on a hill above the harbor.

Laura's Herb and Spice Garden  GPS  12°21.27”N 61°41'48.24”W  See the map on page 2 of this guide.

The 6 ½ acre garden is at an old plantation. There are fruit trees, herbs and spices including cocoa, clove, nutmeg, pimento, cinnamon, turmeric, love leaf, aloe, palm trees, seville orange, etc.

It's a scenic area with well groomed pathways surrounded by a wide variety of trees, large plants, and herb plants.

Our tour guide provided an excellent description of the plants and their uses in food preparation, as teas, and medicinal uses.

We could see, touch, smell, and taste the items.

It was a very informative tour ending in the shop where you can purchase some products.
Our guide opened a cocoa pod and invited us to take a fingerful to taste. You can eat the flesh and the beans of the cocoa pods raw. It didn't look appetizing to me.

Nutmeg (photo right) is the seed of an evergreen tree. The spice, mace, comes from the thin, protective layer that encloses that seed.

Nutmeg is commonly used to add a “kick/spicy flavor” to hot chocolate, tea, eggnog, cider, etc..

Since the 12\textsuperscript{th} century, Nutmeg has been recognized for medicinal uses such as fighting infection and as a pain reliever. Topical uses included relieving joint, muscular and toothache pain.

In large dosages, it can be poisonous and cause a drug-like high and become a hallucinogen.
Aloe Vera is known as the “burn plant” because aloe gel has been used for centuries as a topical treatment for skin burns, minor wounds and irritations. (photo at left below)

Tamarind
A charming young girl accompanied our tour guide and showed us different items. In the photo at right above she is holding Tamarind, a brown, tart fruit in a pod. It's used as a base for making gravy, soup, stew, and cooking meat. It is combined with papaya to make a hot sauce. Medicinal uses include reducing cholesterol, bile, and stomach disorders.

Noni Tree Fruit

The Noni Tree is a member of the coffee family. The fruit of the tree is a white color (photo at left).

The fruit and juice of the fruit is believed to have some medicinal benefits. It is being studied in research labs for:

- Anti-oxidant & anti-inflammation to protect the brain in case of stroke,
- Analgesic properties to reduce pain,
- Lowering cholesterol, and
- Anti-bacterial properties against E. Coli.
La Sagesse Beach (St David)  GPS 12°1’27.08”N 61°40’16.87”W  See the map on page 2 of this guide. It's a small, secluded, beautiful beach with palm trees. It is next to the La Sagesse Beach Hotel and Restaurant. When we visited it, there were only six other people at the beach.

There were gorgeous flowers in bloom on the path from the parking lot to the beach. (photo below.)

"One of the ten most romantic sites in the entire Caribbean"

“Treat yourself to the ultimate Caribbean getaway at La Sagesse, a small, intimate boutique hotel (with 12 rooms) situated on the beautiful and secluded La Sagesse beach in St. David” http://www.lasagesse.com/
During our tour, we saw many nice homes along the hillsides. The homes near Westerhall Point are large (photo below) in the upscale, gated community along Wilcox Way. In the US, these would be million dollar homes. See the map on page 2 for this location.
We sampled various drinks, perused the products, and purchased some for our cruise. It was a pleasant, relaxing visit to Nick’s Barrel House.  

Son of plantation owner, Phineas Neckles, whose Beausejour Estate was the largest supplier of cane to the Grenada Distillers, the producers of Clarke's Court Rum. Affectionately known as 'Nick', he was renowned for his outgoing personality and will always be remembered as a great friend and an entrepreneur. In tribute to Nick, the 'Barrel House' is Grenada Distillers' way of welcoming you to enjoy the Clarke's Court experience.

'Rum Stories' will make sure that the 'Clarke's Court Experience' continues to linger and be savored long after your visit! [http://www.clarkescourtrum.com/](http://www.clarkescourtrum.com/)
St George's University  GPS  11°59′53.89″N 61°46′26.03″W  See the map on page 2 for location. St George's University has a gorgeous campus with breathtaking views of the sea. It is one of the many Caribbean Universities that offer medical degrees. A Medical degree takes a total of four years but two years are done in Grenada. A Veterinary Degree takes three years in Grenada. See http://www.sgu.edu/ for information.
Campus Map of St George's University  See  http://etalk.sgu.edu/virtualtour/SGU4779_CampusMap_Rev.pdf  for details

NOTE: The runways for Maurice Bishop International Airport are next to the University as shown on the map.
User Feedback Is Welcome

Goal

My guides are designed to help you plan a great cruise vacation by providing information such as where the ship docks, location of tourist sites, public transit, walking tour maps, things to see and do, travel issues unique to the port, etc. Knowledge of ports is important when planning shore excursions because you have to make many decisions and commitments long before your ship docks. I believe the information in this guide is accurate, however you are responsible to verify accuracy of the information that you use to plan your vacation.

Information on cruise ports frequently changes such as bus routes, admission fees to sites, rental car locations, etc. Cruise Critic is the best source for up-to-date, detailed information on travel details for shore excursions, reviews of cruise ships, etc. There are many knowledgeable people on Cruise Critic who are willing to share their expertise and travel experience. I highly recommend www.CruiseCritic.com; it's free to join.

Why feedback is important

User feedback helps me make corrections and improve the format and content in my quest to produce the “ultimate” port guides. I welcome offers to collaborate with me or provide materials for use in my guides.

PLEASE Help “spread the word” about my website

The only negative feedback I get is, “I wish I knew about your port guides before my vacation”. Please tell your friends and post a reference to my guides and website on the blogs. To receive email notification when new guides are available, send your email address to me at TomsPortGuides@gmail.com

Copyright Notice & Terms and Conditions for Use of My Guides

My port guides and everything on my website www.TomsPortGuides.com is copyrighted by Thomas Sheridan with all rights reserved, and protected by international copyright laws.

PERMITTED USE: Personal, non-commercial use of my port guides and/or material from my website.

I allow individuals to take my guides apart for personal, non-commercial use. Many cruisers carry a map or a few pages from my guide on a shore excursion. That's OK. I also allow people to post my guides on websites they set up for fellow travelers to share information on shore excursions such as the websites set up by Cruise Critic members for the Roll Calls. That's OK. My guides are for use and enjoyment of individual travelers.

PROHIBITED USE of my port guides and/or material from my website.

NO person, company, organization, website, etc. is permitted to use material from my website for a commercial purpose, to sell, require a membership to download my port guides, or use any of my copyrighted material for a commercial purpose.

NO person, company, organization, website, etc. is permitted to distribute excerpts from my guides or material from my website as electronic, digital, or paper copies. My Port Guides must be kept intact, as downloaded from my website, with this copyright notice.

NO Cruise Ship employee, representative, contractor, port lecturer, etc. is permitted to distribute excerpts from my guides or material from my website as electronic, digital or paper copies. My Port Guides must be kept intact, as downloaded from my website, with this copyright notice. A blatant example of violation of my copyright was a cruise ship docked in Copenhagen where the shore excursion desk personnel removed maps from my guide, removed my name as the copyright owner, and copied/distributed my maps.

Fortunately, a friend of mine on that ship complained to the purser and the ship stopped violating my copyright.

If there is any question about use of my guides, contact me at TomsPortGuides@Gmail.com

Tom Sheridan

Grenada-6-25-2016