

# St Vincent & the Grenadines

POP 109,991 / 2 784

Includes ⇒
St Vincent728
Bequia
Mustique
Canouan739
Mayreau740
Tobago Cays 741
Union Island742
Petit St Vincent744
Understand St Vincent
& the Grenadines 745
Survival Guide747

#### **Best Places** to Eat

- → L'Auberge des Grenadines (p736)
- Sugar Reef Cafe (p738)
- → Fig Tree (p736)
- → Basil's Bar & Restaurant (p731)
- Barracuda (p743)

## **Best Places** to **Sleep**

- Cotton House (p738)
- → Petit St Vincent Resort (p745)
- → Tamarind Beach Hotel & Yacht Club (p740)
- Palm Island Resort (p744)
- → Bequia Plantation Hotel (p736)

#### Why Go?

Just the name St Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) evokes visions of exotic, idyllic island life. Imagine an island chain in the heart of the Caribbean Sea, uncluttered by tourist exploitation, with white-sand beaches on deserted islands, sky-blue water gently lapping the shores and barely a soul around.

While it may sound like a playground for the rich and famous, you don't need your own yacht to enjoy SVG. In fact cheap ferries make exploring this archipelago nation independently a breeze and with so many islands to choose from, there's sure to be one that perfectly meets your needs.

And while it's famed for its islands and beaches, the country offers more than just a relax in a hammock. There are volcanoes to climb, refreshing waterfalls to explore and great hiking throughout.

#### When to Go

**Jan-May** The dry season is the best time to island hop through the Grenadines and laze on spectacular beaches along the way.

**Jun-Aug** Heavy rains scare away the crowds, but Vincy's party season gets into full swing, led by the raucous Vincy Mas Carnival.

**Oct-Nov** The shoulder season brings thinner crowds and lower prices and, as long as a storm isn't passing through, usually a decent amount of fine weather.



### St Vincent & the Grenadines Highlights

- 1 Tobago Cays (p741) Visiting these five pictureperfect islands that are the essential SVG snorkeling experience.
- 2 Bequia (p734) Tossing away your return ticket upon settling into one of the region's best small islands.
- (p740) Chilling out on postcard-perfect Saltwhistle Bay before partying the night away with new friends.
- **4 Union Island** (p742) Hopping between the many bars and restaurants on this remote island outpost.
- (p728) Keeping it real on the cobblestone streets of SVG's biggest city and capital, a vibrant and decidedly nonupscale mélange.
- 6 La Soufrière (p735) Hiking to the top of this immense sulfur-spitting volcano.
- **7 Fort Duvernette** (p729) Climbing the spiral staircase to the top of this rock fortress jutting out of the sea.
- (p738) Kicking up your heels with rock stars at this impossibly beautiful and expensive island.