



Why Mauritius Should Be Your Next Luxury Getaway

Description

A fleet of catamarans sail in the Tiffany blue Indian Ocean. Clad in swimsuits, tourists lounge on sundecks after a dip in the coral-peppered waters. Balmy weather perpetually cloaks this region south of the equator and the setting is idyllic. A few days here is enough to grab a slice of the all-frills-island life, packed with seaside spright, multicultural cuisine, and wellness extravaganza.

It takes a six-hour flight from Mumbai to fly over the Indian Ocean and arrive at the island nation, roughly the size of Tokyo and located nearly 2,000 kilometres off the south eastern coast of Africa. Sugarcane plantations with volcanic mountains in the backdrop festoon both sides of the road, weaving together some primeval views across the entire expanse of the island. It is only upon arriving at the destination that one registers that characteristic coastal town vibe, where opulence is synonymous. It is only be fair to satiate the urge to splurge.

Opulent Stays

Luxury has a whole new address in Mauritius. If the west coast is home to stunning beaches, then the east coast is renowned for its serene and exclusive atmosphere, boasting some of the finest five-star hotels on the island, as well as the Indian Ocean.



Château de Labourdonnais. Photo (C) mauritiusnow.com

Resorts abound with verdant landscapes and breathtaking vistas at every corner, including secluded beaches reminiscent of the idyllic Ile aux Cerfs. Perfectly manicured gardens with tropical flowers flourish between rows of multi-storey retreats, and ritzy chalet-style villas face the sea. The sound of the waves lapping against the shore keeps one company, audible even from a distance.

Following a day of exploring the sea, indulging in rounds of golf, and delight in world-class dining options and embrace the charm of Mauritian hospitality.

Romantic Spas



Making memories on the beach. Photo (C) mauritiusnow.com

It's no secret that Mauritius is a honeymooner's paradise and the experience would be incomplete without a romantic spa retreat with your partner in an open-air cabana. In this part of the world, nature reigns supreme, extending far beyond its picturesque coastlines. From lush mountain forests to exotic wildlife, the island abounds with natural wonders. Even in spa treatments, nature plays a vital role, with locally sourced oils and plants imparting a deep connection to the surroundings. Elevating the experience, many luxury hotels offer outdoor cabanas, where you can relax to the gentle rhythm of ocean waves and swaying palms while enjoying an intimate couples' massage by the sea.

Flavour Ferris



Château de Bel Ombre. Photo (C) mauritiusnow.com

Nestled within the warm embrace of the Indian Ocean, Mauritius boasts a seafood tradition celebrated by discerning diners. Among the island's culinary gems lies a handful of longstanding establishments in the village of Grand Bay. Here, indulge in a symphony of flavours including baked crab gratin with heart of palm, crispy zaatar marinated tiger prawns in lobster bisque cream, lobster ravioli, and braised Babonne fish fillet, each showcasing the ocean's bounty.

For unparalleled views, visit Bel Ombre on the southern coastline of Mauritius. Alternatively, choose beachfront restaurants near your location to dine amidst the stunning scenery as you immerse yourself in Creole food, music, and culture, offering an unparalleled sense of authenticity. Whether it's breakfast with French pressed coffee and freshly baked pastries or a signature lunch exploring an array of local flavours, every moment is a gastronomic delight. As the afternoon unfolds, savour homemade Rhumtails infused with Mauritian fruits and spices, accompanied by delectable snacks.

Seaplane Splendour

Embark on a journey to discover Mauritius from an extraordinary viewpoint—the heavens above! Enhance your adventure with a seaplane excursion, departing from the crystal-clear waters and ascending into an endless azure realm.

Peer through the window to witness a captivating tapestry of blues: turquoise lagoons blending into the profound indigo sea. Drift above tiny isles cradled by lively coral reefs, shimmering coastlines adorned with lush palm fronds, and harbours lined

with sleek yachts.

Helicopter Highs



*Underwater waterfall in Mauritius: Just off the coast of Le Morne mountain lies what appears to be a vast subaquatic cascade. It is in fact a trick of the eye, caused by the formation of sand and silt on the ocean floor.
Photo: iStock*

Ascend to new heights and soak up Mauritius's vibrant hues through captivating helicopter tours. One of the most remarkable highlights of aerial adventures is witnessing the mesmerising optical illusion of the Underwater Waterfall. From the sky, off the shores of Le Morne Brabant on the southwest coast, observe a gradual slope revealing a plunging abyss. Here, sand and silt carried by powerful ocean currents create the illusion of a cascading waterfall, an extraordinary sight that defies imagination. It is an experience that encapsulates the essence of Mauritius's natural wonders, leaving an indelible mark on all who behold it.

Set Sail



Private catamaran cruise. Photo (C) mauritiusnow.com

A private catamaran voyage stands out as the ultimate coastal exploration. Relax in a hammock above sparkling waters as you skim across the ocean, taking in the view of lush islands and powdery beaches. Drop anchor at secluded spots for swimming and snorkelling, then return to indulge in a tropical feast of crisp salads and succulent fruits. For those seeking leisurely excitement, join a private luxury catamaran for thrilling deep-sea fishing not too far from the beaches of Pereybere and Grand Baie. Alternatively, embark on a dolphin cruise for an exhilarating encounter as these playful creatures dance alongside your vessel.

Get, Set, Golf

Experience golfing adventures in Mauritius at some of the world's best golf courses. With championship 18-hole courses crafted by renowned architects like Peter Matkovich and Ernie Els, these destinations offer equal parts thrill and delight for seasoned as well as novice golfers. The venues are set against stunning coastal backdrops, while players can immerse themselves in the game amidst rolling hills, lush foliage, and pristine beaches.



Île aux Cerfs Golf Course. Photo (C) Jacob Sjöman for mauritiusnow.com

Situated in over 500 tropical acres, **Anahita Golf** is an 18-hole course that boasts lush fairways leading right down to the Indian Ocean, with a final hole that's among the most spectacular in the world. The **Avalon Golf Estate** offers sweeping views of the southern coastline and surrounding tea plantations. **Constance Belle Mare Plage's Legend Golf Course**, a challenging 18-hole course, is settled in the heart of an indigenous forest and set alongside one of Mauritius' most beautiful beaches, whereas its younger sibling, the **Links Golf Course**, is a more accessible 18-hole course built to USPGA specifications. While the **Gymkhana Club Golf Course**, one of the oldest in the Southern Hemisphere, has hosted golf since 1844, the **Heritage Golf Club** nestled within the historic 2,500-hectare **Bel Ombre** Nature Reserve along Mauritius' southern shores, is a premier golf destination offering two world class golf courses to experience. You can either challenge yourself on La Réserve Golf Links, the Indian Ocean's only links-style course, offering ocean views on every hole or simply enjoy the pristine fairways and greens of Le Château Golf Course, consistently voted the Indian Ocean's Best Golf Course.



Photo (C) mauritiusnow.com

The exquisite **Ile Aux Cerfs Golf Course**, located on a private island and accessible only by boat or helicopter, offers ocean views from all 19 holes, making it a truly special place to tee off. There is also the **Paradis Golf Club**, famous for its national and international competitions, that boasts an 18-hole championship course with unique natural attractions, and the **Tamarina Golf Club**, overlooked by imposing Rocky Mountains, featuring an 18-hole, par-72 course with sweeping views over the stunning Rempart Mountain and Tamarin Bay. Mauritius's perpetual warm climate ensures ideal conditions year-round, making it a golfer's paradise in the Indian Ocean.

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