



## Cruise Details

Name:	Discover the Yachting Islands of the Caribbean
Reference:	EMERALD2J17141224-2
Operator:	Emerald Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	Emerald Azzurra
Regions:	Caribbean
<hr/>	
Departs On:	14 Dec 24
Departs From:	Saint John's
<hr/>	
Arrives On:	28 Dec 24
Arrives At:	Saint John's
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Cruise Nights:	14
Total Vacation Days:	15

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Saint John's (Antigua and Barbuda)

Your luxurious yacht cruise begins in St. John's, where you'll be transferred to your Emerald Cruises luxury yacht and embark on your discovery of the Caribbean. Please book your flight to arrive into St John's prior to 04:00 PM.

Arrives On: 14 Dec 24

### Day 2: Gustavia (Saint Barthélemy)

The capital of the lovely Caribbean Island of Saint Barthélemy, Gustavia was named after Sweden's King Gustav III, who boldly declared it his own exclusive island getaway in 1785. In this vibrant city, uncover distinctive treasures in the historic downtown shopping enclave, photograph the brightly painted wooden houses, and feast on unique cuisine that fuses French and Creole culinary influences. **Discover MORE** Discover St. Barths (extra expense, must be pre-booked) Experience the beauty and charm of St. Barts on a

comprehensive island discovery tour led by the knowledgeable and friendly guide. As Ernest navigates through the bustling streets of Gustavia, you'll have the opportunity to soak in the vibrant atmosphere of this picturesque Caribbean town. Enjoy panoramic views of the coastline and iconic landmarks as you journey around the island, with several stops planned along the way to enrich your understanding of St. Barts rich history, diverse culture, and stunning natural beauty. <br />

Activity Level: Easy, Duration: 2 hours 30

minutes</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>Snorkelling tour (extra expense, must be pre-booked)<br />Enjoy an exhilarating snorkelling adventure exploring the crystal-clear waters surrounding Gustavia. In Colombier Bay, you can swim alongside colourful fish, discover coral formations, and soak in the natural beauty of this pristine underwater paradise.

After, you set sail to Gros Ilets, another fantastic snorkelling spot located at the entrance of Gustavia. Here, you'll continue your underwater exploration, encountering a diverse array of marine species in this thriving ecosystem. <br />Activity Level: Moderate, Duration:

2 hours</span></p><p><p>Opportunity to spend the day swimming off the yacht and enjoying our marina toys. </p></p>

Arrives On: 15 Dec 24

### Day 3: Barbuda (Antigua and Barbuda)

<p><p>Barbuda is a small island located in the Caribbean Sea, northeast of the island of Antigua. It is one of the two islands that make up the country of Antigua and Barbuda, along with Antigua. The island is known for its stunning beaches, including the famous Pink Sandy Beach, which is considered one of the most beautiful beaches in the world. It is also home to several wildlife reserves, including the Frigate Bird Sanctuary, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The island has a strong sense of community and a relaxed atmosphere, making it a popular destination for those looking for a peaceful and secluded getaway. Today choose between our Included Excursion or our EmeraldACTIVE option.</p></p>

<p><strong>Included Excursion</strong><br /><span>Highlights of Barbuda<br />Revel in the unique and exclusive opportunity to explore

Antigua's sister island, Barbuda. Known for its stunning pink-sand beaches, crystal-clear waters, and the renowned Frigate Bird Sanctuary, this excursion offers a comprehensive look at Barbuda's natural beauty and historical landmarks. <br />Activity Level: Moderate, Duration:

3 hours</span></p><p><strong>EmeraldACTIVE</strong><br /><span>Hiking tour<br />Experience the natural beauty and intriguing history of Barbuda with a guided hike to the island's famous caves. This excursion offers a mix of adventure, stunning landscapes, and fascinating geological formations. Your adventure begins with a scenic drive from the meeting point to the starting location of the hike. Here, your knowledgeable guide will provide an overview of the trail and what to expect. The hike will take you through diverse terrain, including sandy paths, rocky sections, and lush vegetation.<br />Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours 30 minutes</span></p>

Arrives On: 16 Dec 24

#### Day 4: Îles des Saintes (Guadeloupe)

Îles des Saintes, known as Les Saintes, is a miniature archipelago of eight tropical islands with a distinctive French and Caribbean culture fusion. Discover the quaint towns, with their collection of petite stone buildings and small white-sand beaches. Don't miss Fort Napoleon, a significant historical site with incredible views of one of the islands.

**DiscoverMORE**

Snorkelling tour (extra expense)

Admire the tropical beauty of Isles des Saintes with this panoramic sightseeing and snorkelling excursion in the crystal-clear waters of the Caribbean paradise. Your guide will provide interesting commentary about the history and natural beauty of these islets, making it a captivating journey. You will explore the underwater world, encountering colourful fish, coral reefs, and other marine creatures.

Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours 30 minutes

**DiscoverMORE**

Fort Napoleon's and views of paradise (extra expense)

Embark on a cultural journey through history and local charm as you explore the quaint village and iconic Fort Napoleon, an historic fortress originally constructed for defence against British invasions. Venture into the heart of the village to uncover its hidden gems, visit the local church and wander through its small streets lined with charming houses. Indulge your taste buds with a sampling of Tourment d'Amour, a delectable local cake made with coconut and ham.

Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours

Arrives On: 17 Dec 24

#### Day 5: Deshaies (Guadeloupe)

Located on the northwest shores of the Caribbean Island of Guadeloupe, this picturesque village is renowned for its traditional fishing village atmosphere, colourful Creole architecture, and stunning beaches framed by verdant hills. Not surprisingly, Deshaies has emerged as a popular destination, attracting visitors with its friendly locals, and delicious French-Caribbean cuisine.

**DiscoverMORE**

Tropical World Discovery (extra expense)

Explore the vibrant heart of the Guadeloupe Archipelago with a journey to the Botanical Garden in Deshaies. Just a short ten-minute drive from the pier, this lush oasis awaits, created by the visionary M. Michel Gaillard. As you wander through the garden's winding paths, immerse yourself in a sensory delight of exotic scents and vivid colours. Admire the stunning collections of flora, including the delicate wax rose, fiery red ginger, vibrant bougainvillea, and graceful orchids.

Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours

Arrives On: 18 Dec 24

#### Day 6: Norman Island (British Virgin Islands)

Renowned for its beautiful beaches, crystal-clear waters, and vibrant marine life, Norman Island offers a variety of activities, including hiking trails and caves to explore.

The island is also steeped in pirate lore, with local legend implying that this was a favourite hiding spot for

pirates who buried their treasure on the island; hence why it has been nicknamed 'Treasure Island' by locals and visitors alike. Without doubt, this is the perfect destination for those seeking a tranquil and alluring tropical getaway. Today, you will enjoy a barbeque on shore together with your fellow travellers.

**EmeraldPLUS**  
BBQ lunch on fully equipped beach with live band  
Enjoy a fully equipped beach, complete with lounge chairs, vibrant beach umbrellas, and powdery white sand beneath your feet. Settle in for a delicious BBQ lunch, surrounded by the laid-back atmosphere and breathtaking views of the crystal-clear ocean. As you indulge in your meal, the sound of live music floats through the air, courtesy of a talented local band. Their Caribbean rhythms and soulful melodies have you swaying to the beat, feeling carefree and relaxed.

**DiscoverMORE**  
Snorkel at The Caves and The Indians (extra expense)  
Embark on an unforgettable snorkelling adventure around the legendary Norman Island in the British Virgin Islands. This excursion combines scenic boat rides, historical intrigue, and prime snorkelling spots, making it a perfect blend of adventure and relaxation. Depending on sea and weather conditions, you will either explore the Indians, known for its vibrant marine life and coral formations, or the Caves at Treasure Point, reputed to be a hiding spot for pirate treasure and immortalized in Robert Louis Stevenson's famous book "Treasure Island." Dive into the crystal-clear waters and explore the underwater world teeming with colourful fish, corals, and maybe even glimpses of hidden treasures.  
Activity Level: Active, Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes

Arrives On: 19 Dec 24

#### Day 7: Virgin Gorda (British Virgin Islands)

The Island of Virgin Gorda, named after its resemblance to a reclining woman, is part of the British Virgin Islands and popular for its laid-back pace and picturesque landscapes. Among the natural wonders of Virgin Gorda, The Baths are arguably the most famous, a series of pools and grottoes created by a collection of massive granite boulders formed by volcanic eruptions.

**DiscoverMORE**  
The Baths discovery (extra expense)  
Experience the natural wonders of Virgin Gorda with a scenic tour across the island and an exploration of the famous Baths beaches. This excursion offers a blend of breathtaking views, fascinating geological formations, and leisurely beach activities. Begin your adventure by boarding open-air safari buses at the tender dock. Take in the stunning views of the island's lush landscapes and turquoise waters on the way to the Top of the Baths, the highlight of Virgin Gorda, renowned for its unique granite boulders and crystal-clear waters. Learn about the origin of these fascinating rock formations as you roam through this natural wonderland.  
Activity Level: Strenuous, Duration: 4 hours

Opportunity to spend the day swimming off the yacht and enjoying our marina toys.

Arrives On: 20 Dec 24

#### Day 8: Saint Thomas (U.S. Virgin Islands)

After breakfast, take your time exploring Saint Thomas. In the afternoon, step back on board your Emerald Cruises luxury yacht for the second leg of your journey. **\*Please verify with the Shore Excursion Manager onboard whether a DiscoverMORE tour is available on this day.**

Arrives On: 21 Dec 24

#### Day 9: Culebra Island (Puerto Rico)

Culebra is widely known for its white-sand beaches and active reef and is one of the major islands in Puerto Rico's archipelago. This island offers plenty for nature lovers, giving you peace and tranquillity in a truly pristine destination. There are more than 20 cays bustling with diverse marine life, making it an absolute paradise for underwater adventurers and casual beachgoers alike. Today, join a shuttle to visit Flamenco beach. Opportunity to spend the day swimming off the yacht and enjoying our marina toys. After lunch we set sail to Vieques Island. The quaint coastal town of Esperanza has a lovely waterfront with gorgeous beaches and a bustling strip of restaurants, bars, and guesthouses. One can walk along the boulevard and visit the various establishments for a glimpse into the local culture and activities on offer. Locals enjoy spending the afternoon at Sun Bay, the main urban beach located in the town's eastern outskirts. **DiscoverMORE** Kayaking in the Bioluminescent Bay (extra expense, must be pre-booked) Experience the magic of bioluminescent waters on this unforgettable kayaking adventure at Mosquito Bay, Vieques. Embark on your kayaking adventure in double kayaks. Paddle under the blanket of the night sky and marvel at the sparkling swirls of bioluminescent water created by your paddles and the darting fish that leave trails of light behind them. Learn about the microorganisms that give the water its magical glow and the importance of preserving this natural wonder. **Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 2 hours**

Arrives On: 22 Dec 24

#### Day 9: Vieques (Puerto Rico)

Arrives On: 22 Dec 24

#### Day 10: Saint John Island (U.S. Virgin Islands)

Cruz Bay is the economic and social hub of St. John, with a busy inter-island ferry dock connecting it to other islands in the region. The busy bay is dotted with restaurants and shops, and beautiful Caribbean architecture can be seen in Mongoose Junction as one takes a gentle stroll through town. Today choose between our Included Excursion or our EmeraldACTIVE option. In the evening, set sail to Jost Van Dyke, one of the main islands in the British Virgin Islands. **Included Excursion** St. John Island tour with

Annaberg Plantation Ruins  
Explore the stunning beauty and rich history of St. John on this scenic island drive. You'll board an open-air safari transportation for a comprehensive tour of the island's most iconic locations. Visit the 18th-century Annaberg sugar mill ruins. Stroll among the stone remnants of this historic plantation, surrounded by vibrant greenery and flowers. Learn about the island's sugar production history and the significance of this site.

Activity Level: Easy, Duration: 3 hours

**EmeraldACTIVE**  
National Park Hike & Snorkelling  
Immerse yourself in the natural beauty of St. John with a guided hike through the Virgin Islands National Park. Your adventure begins in the quaint village of Cruz Bay, from there, your knowledgeable nature guide will lead you on a one-mile hike along the Lind Point Trail, heading towards the North Shore of St. John. The trail offers gentle terrain but is unpaved, requiring good walking shoes for support.

Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 3 hours

**DiscoverMORE**  
Snorkelling at Trunk Bay (extra expense)  
Embark on an extraordinary yachting land adventure that unveils the unparalleled beauty of Trunk Bay, renowned as one of the top ten most exquisite beaches worldwide. As you step aboard an open-air safari bus, get ready to be whisked away on a scenic drive through the picturesque hills of St. John. Equipped with high-quality snorkelling gear provided by our knowledgeable guides, dive into the crystal-clear waters of the National Park Service's underwater marked trails. Take in the sights of colourful fish darting among the coral reefs, while informative plaques on the seabed offer insights into the fascinating ecosystem that thrives beneath the surface.

Activity Level: Moderate-Strenuous, Duration: 2 hours

Arrives On: 23 Dec 24

#### Day 10: Great Harbour, Jost Van Dyke (British Virgin Islands)

Arrives On: 23 Dec 24

#### Day 11: Virgin Gorda (British Virgin Islands)

The island of Virgin Gorda, named because it resembles a reclining woman, is part of the British Virgin Islands. It's known for its laid-back pace and picturesque landscapes. Among the natural wonders of Virgin Gorda, the Baths are arguably the most famous. They are a series of pools and grottoes created by a collection of massive granite boulders that were formed by volcanic eruptions. Today, you will enjoy a barbeque on shore together with your fellow travellers.

**EmeraldPLUS**  
BBQ lunch on fully equipped beach with live band  
Enjoy a fully equipped beach, complete with lounge chairs, vibrant beach umbrellas, and powdery white sand beneath your feet. Settle in for a delicious BBQ lunch, surrounded by the laid-back atmosphere and breathtaking views of the crystal-clear ocean. As you indulge in your meal, the sound of live music floats through the air, courtesy of a talented local band. Their Caribbean rhythms and soulful melodies have you swaying to the beat, feeling carefree



and relaxed.

Arrives On: 24 Dec 24

### Day 12: Gustavia (Saint Barthélemy)

Named for Sweden's King Gustav III, Gustavia is the charming capital and main seaport of the island of Saint Barthélemy, also known as St. Barts. It is often considered to be one of the most beautiful islands in the Caribbean and a tropical paradise with French flair. You will enjoy the beauty of its large idyllic beaches, plus the charm and refinement of its old wooden

houses.

**DiscoverMORE** Discover St. Barths (extra expense) Experience the beauty and charm of St. Barts on a comprehensive island discovery tour led by the knowledgeable and friendly guide. As Ernest navigates through the bustling streets of Gustavia, you'll have the opportunity to soak in the vibrant atmosphere of this picturesque Caribbean town. Enjoy panoramic views of the coastline and iconic landmarks as you journey around the island, with several stops planned along the way to enrich your understanding of St.

Barts rich history, diverse culture, and stunning natural beauty.

Activity Level: Easy, Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes

**DiscoverMORE** Snorkelling tour (extra expense)

Enjoy an exhilarating snorkelling adventure exploring the crystal-clear waters surrounding Gustavia. In Colombier Bay, you can swim alongside colourful fish, discover coral formations, and soak in the natural beauty of this pristine underwater paradise. After, you set sail to Gros Ilets, another fantastic snorkelling spot located at the entrance of Gustavia. Here, you'll continue your underwater exploration, encountering a diverse array of marine species in this thriving ecosystem.

Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 2 hours

Opportunity to spend the day swimming off the yacht and enjoying our marina toys.

Arrives On: 25 Dec 24

### Day 13: Philipsburg (Sint Maarten (Dutch part))

With its blend of Dutch and Caribbean influences, Philipsburg presents a bustling port town with a vibrant atmosphere, striking colonial architecture, and stunning beaches. It also offers a range of activities and attractions, including historic sites and a lively street market where you can sample the local cuisine, and peruse the island arts and

crafts.

**DiscoverMORE** Culture & History Tour (extra expense) Embark on an enlightening journey through the scenic routes of Saint Martin, a unique island that shares two distinct cultures under two national flags. This historical tour offers a comprehensive view of the island's rich past and vibrant present, covering both the Dutch and French sides. Relive the stories of our ancestors, understand the island's struggles, and learn about the origin of the name "Souliga," which means "Land of Salt". Learn about the island's colonial history and the development of its vibrant port.

Activity Level: Easy, Duration: 3 hours 30 minutes

**DiscoverMORE** Buggy Tour (extra

expense)<br />Set off in a caravan-style drive, navigating through the stunning landscapes of St. Maarten in your 4x4 all-terrain vehicle. Enjoy the picturesque views as you drive through the island's diverse terrain, from coastal roads to lush countryside, taking in the natural beauty and vibrant local life. Arrive at the renowned Maho Beach, where you can bask in the sun, relax on the white sandy shores, and experience the thrill of watching airplanes land close overhead.<br />Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours</span></p><p><p>Opportunity to spend the day swimming off the yacht and enjoying our marina toys.</p></p>

Arrives On: 26 Dec 24

#### Day 14: Little Bay (Montserrat)

<p><p>Welcome to one of the most unusual and fascinating islands in the Caribbean. Prior to the recent volcanic eruptions that commenced in 1995, Montserrat was considered as one of the "Insiders" favourite Caribbean islands. It was also home to producer George Martin's Air Studios Montserrat recording studio where some of the world's most famous recording artists, including Eric Clapton, Little River Band and Paul McCartney among many others, used to record their albums. Recent history has brought some unfortunate blows to the island ranging from hurricanes (Hugo in 1989) to multiple volcanic eruptions that destroyed the lovely capital city of Plymouth. </p></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>Volcano Views, Plymouth & Monserrat Volcano Observatory (extra expense)<br />See the "active" Soufriere Hills Volcano on Montserrat from Plymouth port and learn why it may be called the Pompeii of the Caribbean. No visitor to Montserrat should leave without having an encounter with Montserrat's most captivating phenomena. On this excursion you will travel to Jack Boy Hill where you can see the volcano and remnants of WH Bramble Airport now completely buried by volcanic lava flows. Then it's on to a lookout point over Plymouth, which is in what's called the Exclusion Zone, or Zone V; because this area sits in the path of the greatest current volcanic activity and there is limited public access.<br />Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 4 hours</span></p><p><strong>DiscoverMORE</strong><br /><span>National Trust Botanical Garden Tour (extra expense)<br />Discover Montserrat's Healing Plants and Herbs. Embark on a tranquil journey through the Montserrat National Trust Gardens, where you will be introduced to the island's rich variety of healing plants and herbs. This guided tour offers an immersive experience into Montserrat's traditional medicinal practices, as you explore vibrant gardens filled with native flora used for centuries to promote health and well-being. Learn about the island's natural remedies, from soothing teas to healing balms, and discover how these plants are still used today in local culture and holistic health practices.<br />Activity Level: Moderate, Duration: 2.5 hours</span></p>

Arrives On: 27 Dec 24

#### Day 15: Saint John's (Antigua and Barbuda)



Your time aboard your Emerald Cruises luxury yacht comes to an end in St. John's. After bidding farewell to the crew and your fellow guests, you will be transferred to the airport for your return flight home.

Please book your flight to depart out of St John's after 11:00 AM.

\*Please verify with the Shore Excursion Manager onboard whether a DiscoverMORE tour is available on disembarkation day.

The itinerary is a guide only and may be amended for operational reasons. As such Emerald Cruises cannot guarantee the cruise will be operated unaltered from the itinerary states above.

Arrives On: 28 Dec 24

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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