

# POPULAR PLACES

YOUR FAVORITE FREE MAGAZINE APPEARS 4 TIMES A YEAR

CARIBBEAN &  
SOUTH-AMERICA

09

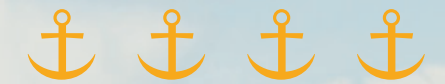
MAY - JULY 2017



OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF SHATA



# SijFa Cruises



LUXURY, SERVICE AND FRIENDLINESS  
ON THE MOST BEAUTIFUL RIVERS OF EUROPE



<http://sijfacruises.nl> | [info@sijbrands.biz](mailto:info@sijbrands.biz) | T. +31 (0)24 357 20 08



WORK AND RELAX  
THE CHOICE, AND THE SPACE, IS YOURS



CERTIFICATE of EXCELLENCE  
2013, 2015 & 2016 WINNER



#### GUEST ROOMS

Spacious guestrooms, King & Queen sized rooms, Jacuzzi & Riverview rooms, Courtyard Suites®, Free Wi-Fi.

#### LOBBY

Business Center, 24/7 Market  
Casual meeting & workspaces  
Martini Lounge Bar – Everyday Happy Hour  
Flavors Restaurant Serving Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.  
Famous Buffet: All –you–can –eat Pasta, The Fish Market & Sunday Brunch

#### OUTDOOR

Gym & Pool, Riverview Garden and Gazebo's  
Meet us Riverview Pasta & Grill Restaurant, Pool bar serving delicious selection of seasonal & famous cocktails and enticing snacks.

Anton Dragtenweg 52 -54  
Paramaribo – Suriname/ South America  
+597 456000 | F: +597 456677  
cy.pbmcy.marketing@courtyard.com  
www.courtyardparamaribo.com

Courtyard Marriott Paramaribo Courtyardparamaribo

# 09

## CONTENTS

- 09 SHATA
- 12 **Frederiksdorp** step into the other Suriname
- 20 **Fabian Vas** Experience Boat Tours
- 28 **Max Resomardono** Chef De Cuisine
- 32 **Culinary page** Bang Bang Fish
- 38 **The Great Amazon Adventure** with Bespoke Rallies
- 48 Volunteering in **Grenada**
- 54 Explore Tayrona & Medellin in **Colombia**

#### Business directory

- 11 Lodges & Touroperators Suriname
- 44 Hotels, Apartments & Guesthouses Suriname
- 46 Restaurants Suriname



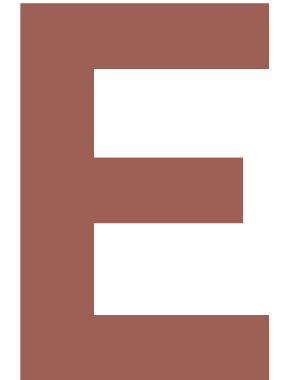




Hotel Babylon is a modern hotel located in the beautiful city of Paramaribo. We offer 26 bedrooms, ranging from standard rooms to luxurious penthouses with city view. The hotel also has a restaurant serving international dishes and also a traditional Thai cuisine. We also have a large outdoor pool with bar, a coffee and frozen yoghurt corner and a lounge cafe with cocktail bar. Hotel Babylon is the ideal destination for people looking for an accommodation with charm and personality, lovers of tasty gastronomy and seekers of a relaxing getaway.



Lalla Rookhweg 25, Paramaribo, SURINAME | Frontdesk: (+597) 463423 , Restaurant Atlas: (+597) 463423/463543  
[www.hotel-babylon.com](http://www.hotel-babylon.com) | [info@hotel-babylon.com](mailto:info@hotel-babylon.com) | [www.facebook.com/hotelbabylonsuriname](https://www.facebook.com/hotelbabylonsuriname)



## EDITORIAL

EDITOR & PUBLISHER  
**SYLVIE DUTOIT**

The Suriname tourism has a new organisation which will promote the country more effectively and professionally. The Suriname Hospitality and Tourism Association (SHATA) has partnered with Popular Places as its official magazine and will be working together to gear up marketing efforts in order to promote Suriname on a higher level.

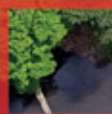
Heading out West: follow the story of the Great Amazon Adventure, a rally heading from Suriname to Peru. The classic car event organised by Bespoke Rallies from England, will once again cross the Amazonian jungle and across the Andes on its 4 country journey from the Atlantic Coast to Lima on the Pacific shore. Starting in Suriname's capital this trip first heads East on the scenic route to French Guyana, before turning south for the Amazon basin, towards Brazil and eventually bearing due West towards the Cordilleras. This edition of Popular Places also follows Suriname's indestructible Fabian Vas on his latest endeavor. He has often been featured in the magazine while on his wild travels through the dense Jungle. This time he takes us on his famous Suriname river boat trip. In this 9th issue our magazine aims to keep the traveler informed of what's happening in the region, keeping its reader base in the loop of Suriname's evolving tourist industry with inside stories and juicy surprises yet again.



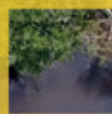
Suriname  
an undiscovered secret



adventure



nature tourism



city life

**SHATA**  
SURINAME  
Hospitality & Tourism Association

[www.shata.sr](http://www.shata.sr)

**S**  
**SHATA**



## DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF SURINAME

Welcome to our first Edition!



Recently remarkable developments have been taking place in the Surinamese hospitality and tourism sector, the private sector has taken matters in their own hands to start the process of sustainable tourism.

The SHATA was founded on 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2016. The SHATA can be compared to CHATA Antilles (Curacao Hospitality and Tourism Association) and AHATA (Aruba Hospitality and Tourism Association), similar organizations where hospitality, trade and tourism are coordinated and conducted in a professional manner. The initiative to found SHATA comes from well established companies in the private sector that have joined together for a good cause which is, to create sustainable tourism in Suriname. The slogan of the association celebrates the fact that Suriname is a unique destination that in many ways stills needs to be discovered.

By creating this platform the SHATA will make it easy for travellers to discover what Suriname has to offer, breathtaking nature, diverse cuisine, rich cultural heritage, genuine hospitable people, historical buildings which are listed on the list of UNESCO and beautiful flora and fauna. The SHATA is the portal for the tourist activities within Suriname, Discover the secrets of Suriname.





RESORTS & LODGES IN THE INTERIOR

**Adventure Center Bergendal**  
*Canopy zipline, Kayaking, Hiking, River beach off Camping - Takes your mind of and your breath away....*  
T. +597 47 50 50  
info@bergendalresort.com  
[www.bergendalresort.com](http://www.bergendalresort.com)

**Anaula Nature Resort**  
T. + 597 41 07 00 (Kantoor)  
info@anaulanatureresort.com  
[www.anaulanatureresort.com](http://www.anaulanatureresort.com)

**Bergendal Resort**  
*Lodges, Restaurant, Bar, Pool, Wellness - Experience real comfort in unspoiled Nature.*  
T. +597 47 50 50  
info@bergendalresort.com  
[www.bergendalresort.com](http://www.bergendalresort.com)

**Danpaati River Lodge**  
T. +597 47 11 13  
T. +597 81 09 727  
reservations@danpaati.com  
[www.danpaati.com](http://www.danpaati.com)

**Hotel Botopassie**  
T. +597 86 59 702  
corry\_vonk@hotmail.com  
[www.botopasi.com](http://www.botopasi.com)

**Isadou Resort**  
T. +597 89 79 454  
info@isadou.com  
[www.isadou.com](http://www.isadou.com)

**Kosindo River Lodge / Gran Rio**  
T. +597 88 41 273  
jangjanman@gmail.com  
[www.surinamelodge.nl](http://www.surinamelodge.nl)

**Marina & Resort Waterland**  
T. +597 87 86 938  
info@waterlandsuriname.com  
[www.waterlandsuriname.com](http://www.waterlandsuriname.com)

**Pingpe Jungle Resort**  
T. +597 87 68 014  
info@jungleresortpingpe.com  
[www.jungleresortpingpe.com](http://www.jungleresortpingpe.com)

TOUROPERATORS

**Access Suriname Travel**  
T. +597 42 45 22, +597 47 15 02, after hours +597 88 62 406  
info@surinametravel.com  
[www.surinametravel.com](http://www.surinametravel.com)

**All Suriname Tours**  
T. +597 86 44 785  
info@allsurinametours.com  
[www.allsurinametours.com](http://www.allsurinametours.com)

**Fabian Vas Experience**  
T. + 597 886 40 40  
fabianvasexperience@gmail.com  
[www.facebook.com/Fabianvasexperience](http://www.facebook.com/Fabianvasexperience)

**METS Travel & Tours**  
Dr. J.F. Nassylaan 02, Paramaribo  
T. + 597 47 70 88  
mets@sr.net  
[www.surinamevacations.com](http://www.surinamevacations.com)

**Myrisji Tours**  
T. +597 42 25 50 / 422 551  
info@galibi-tours.com  
[www.galibi-tours.com](http://www.galibi-tours.com)

**Oetsi Tours**  
*Your specialist for Suriname, Guyana and French Guiana!*  
T. +597 44 14 88  
info@oetsitours.com  
[www.oetsitours.com](http://www.oetsitours.com)

**Tropical Gem Tours**  
Info@tropicalgemtours.org  
[www.tropicalgemtours.org](http://www.tropicalgemtours.org)

ADVERTISE HERE!  
FOR INFORMATION  
[INFO@POPULAR-PLACES.COM](mailto:INFO@POPULAR-PLACES.COM)



# WE GLADLY WELCOME YOU AT PLANTATION FREDERIKSDORP OR ON BOARD RIVER CRUISER MI GUDU

Frederiksdorp at the unique Commewijne right bank.



F

PLANTAGE RESORT  
FREDERIKSDORP

TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHER | ACCESS SURINAME TRAVEL



STEP INTO THE OTHER SURINAME

The right bank of the Commewijne River is about 30 km wide and stretches about 11 km from the Atlantic beach of Braamspunt all the way inland to the Matapica canal. Due to its island and coastal geology its contains a great biodiversity with mangroves, Atlantic mud banks with many birds and mammals, a huge wetland, sea turtles visiting the beaches from February to August and dolphins in the river. It also features several ethnic villages and an interesting plantation history which calls to mind both European and African traditions. It has beautiful cycling and hiking trails.

The center of this region is Plantation Resort Frederiksdorp, a well-preserved historical place dating from the early eighteenth century. The first owner of this former coffee and cocoa plantation was Johan Friedrich Knoffel, after whom the plantation is named. Today all historical buildings and 14 new guest accommodations (situated between orange and palm trees), have been furnished to serve as comfortable tourist apartments, some of which have air conditioning and hot water. The estate offers free WiFi. Furthermore there is a swimming pool with a spacious pool deck and a restaurant in the old jail house. The bar/restaurant serves a wide choice of beverages and cocktails as well as delicious lunches and dinners. A large river terrace offers majestic sunset views.

Frederiksdorp offers guided daytrips, cruises and a variety of excursions to explore the area around Frederiksdorp with its ethnic picturesque villages such as Margarita, Kronenburg, Bakkie and Rust en Werk.







- On the wide polders of Plantation Rust en Werk thousands of cows graze in the wild. The owner of this palntation, Mr.Van Alen, has also built a number of ponds for the cultivation of shrimps and Tilapia. An exciting tractor tour is a must-do on this plantation
- It is a great hiking location. In the area of the cabanas it is nice to just go for a stroll, especially in the early morning and afternoon there are many different birds, such as the potoo, a special nightjar which has its favorite tree behind the commanders house. For the more adventurous there are intensive guided nature hikes to the hinterland.
- Canoeing gives you another view on nature. For those who want to explore the mangrove river banks, the swamp or canals going toward the hinterland some canoes are ready to board. During this trip you'll be seeing a lot of wetland birds and occasionally you can spot a small caiman.
- Get on a bike and cycle to a variety of villages and encounter daily life in the villages or visit some sites.
- Let's go pink dolphin spotting. Pink dolphins live only in brackish water and if you're lucky these cute animals will come and play around the river terrace. Whilst on a boat trip on the river it's always fun to meet a pod of Dolphins consisting from four to up to twenty of these intelligent animals which seem to enjoy you as much as you will enjoy them.
- You can go on a sea turtle trip. Giant sea turtles as the leatherback and the green turtle visit Matapica beach from February to the end of July. From the resort you will navigate the swamps by boat for bout 30 minutes, to the seashore where the turtles lay their eggs. A full grown leatherback can weigh up to 1000 kg and a female will lay approximately 125 eggs in 2 hours.

River Cruiser Mi Gudu is a comfortable motor cruiser with a length of 28 meters and can accommodate parties with up to 75 guests. With its elegant yet casual appearance this boat offers an excellent facility for both business and recreational activities. The Mi Gudu lends itself well to charters with friends, parties or just for relaxing and swimming, enjoying magic of the water. The boat has six double cabins with private shower, toilet and air conditioning. You can cruise for several consecutive days, during which time your wishes are translated into a unique experience. When chartering with your own company the route and sailing times are always tailored to your needs.

**Book now: Access Suriname Travel, Prinsessestraat 37, Paramaribo**  
T. +[597]-424 522, T. +[597]-471 502, after hours T. +[597]-886 24 06  
[www.surinametravel.com/](http://www.surinametravel.com/)







**FOR ALL YOUR  
OUTDOOR GEAR**

**FISHING  
CAMPING  
HUNTING  
MARINE**



**Visit Our Stores**



Wagenwegstraat no. 71 Tel: 422682 | Hermitage Mall Unit 208 Tel: 530442  
Indira Gandhiweg 849 Tel: 0366580 | Ma Retraite Mall Unit 37 Tel: 554003  
Kwattaweg no. 246 Tel: 497857 | Zwartenhovenbrugstraat no. 231 Tel: 471493  
Oost West Verbinding Meerzorg no. 114 Tel: 355011 | [www.tomahawk.sr](http://www.tomahawk.sr) | [tomahawk@sr.net](mailto:tomahawk@sr.net)





Fabian Vas Experience is a young and dynamic company that takes nature loving people to places where other tour companies aren't going. In small groups Fabian himself will show you the beautiful nature of Suriname. He's very experienced in exploring the country and specializes in tours on water.

# F

## FABIAN VAS EXPERIENCE



TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHER | FABIAN VAS





F

FABIAN VAS  
EXPERIENCE

FOR FABIAN, EVERY TIME HE TRAVELS THROUGH SURINAME IT FEELS LIKE A DREAM COME TRUE AND HE WANTS YOU TO EXPERIENCE THE SAME!

Fabian Vas has set himself the goal to show Suriname and her flora and fauna to people in a dynamic way, so they can feel the energy that nature contains. Besides doing tours Fabian wants to achieve this goal by capturing this beauty on photo and video. He has been working with different international film producers to help them get around in Suriname. So not only the people from Suriname but also rest of the world get a chance to see what Suriname has to offer. Passion for the untouched land and love for nature are what motivates him.

One can choose from the following options:

PARARIVER / SURINAME RIVER EXPERIENCE:

In the morning you will leave busy Paramaribo and set off to Paranam where you will get on board. From there you just sit and enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the Parariver. Fabian will show you some hidden places on the Parariver such as a floating old mine where you can see the reflection of the trees, the sky and the sun in the calm water. For daredevils there is even the option to go zip lining between the trees and over the water at Parabello.

After the Parariver the tour continues to the Suriname river, which is much bigger and one of the most important rivers of Suriname. From the water you can see the Suralco factory where aluminium was made from bauxite. While on the water you can spot monkeys, sloths, kingfishers, parrots and loads of other birds. Don't be afraid you'll miss them, Fabian knows exactly where to find them!





F  
FABIAN VAS  
EXPERIENCE

The Suriname river is surrounded by dense jungle and hides a lot of wonderful places. At one of those places you can find some impressive giant trees that have been growing there for hundreds of years, it is a challenge to photograph them! The most special place on this trip is a mysterious creek just on the left bank of the river. Because you are in a small and light boat there is a unique chance, with high water, to go into the creek where no one else is able to go in. It feels like entering a fairy tale forest where there is so much to see you are hardly able to take it all in. After those breath taking moments it is time to relax on a sandbank in the middle of the river or on one of the small beaches, with a cold drink and some food. You can also swim in the river and let the fresh water cool you down. On the way back you will be totally relaxed, feel the wind in your hair and while the sun is setting and colors the sky orange, Fabian will navigate the boat back to Paranam. From there you'll drive back to Paramaribo where the evening will have started. The trip will be over but the experience will last you a lifetime. Capturing those memories is priceless, and Fabian can offer you photos and videos, made during the trip, of you with your friends or family.

WATERSPORTS EXPERIENCE:

An active tour for people who are looking for an adrenaline kick and lots of fun. On the Suriname River you will get the chance to go waterskiing, wakeboarding or tubing. You can, of course, also go swimming and relax on a small beach.

AIRBOAT EXPERIENCE: (UPCOMING)

On this special tour Fabian will take you to the swamps of Saramacca by airboat. There you will hovercraft over shallow water. When you feel the wind in your hair it will feel as if you are flying over the water! Just don't be afraid to get dirty while cruising over the mud banks near the sea. You will surely have an unforgettable experience!

Book your trip: *Fabian Vas Experience*  
T +597 886 40 40  
*fabianvasexperience@gmail.com, www.facebook.com/Fabianvasexperience*





**FISH DESTINATION**

**MATAPI**

BOAT AND WATERSCOOTER RENTAL,  
HELICOPTER FISHTRIPS AND  
GUESTHOUSES BY THE RIVER



**GO WHERE THE  
PRO'S GO!**

DOEKHIWEG OOST #13-15 / T: 433000 / [WWW.PEGASUS.SR](http://WWW.PEGASUS.SR)





# M

## MAX RESOMARDONO CHEF DE CUISINE



TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHER - MAX RESOMARDONO

## MAX RESOMARDONO, CHEF DE CUISINE WHO WILL TAKE CARE OF OUR CULINARY PAGE AND WILL PROVIDE US WITH UNIQUE RECIPES YOU MUST TRY AND SHARE!

For 15+ years I had an amazing job in the USA. At world-class sports stadiums and arenas such as the New York Yankee Stadium, Chicago Bears Soldier Field and San Diego Petco Park to name a few I held numerous top Food & Beverage positions like managing restaurants, bars, clubs and concessions. Each season I met wonderful friends, clients, top chefs, influential people, top athletes and above all hungry fans. In these stadiums, we provided topnotch service and amazing food that completed the enjoyment of the sports experience. In each stadium I hired, trained and managed over 200+ workers and ran successful events. I can't even remember all of them. Above all a dream job.

Born in Surinam, I missed the great food, warmth, family and the fresh Amazon oxygen. Locals are spoiled with the smell of fallen leaves, fresh flower scents, fresh water streaming down from the interior, clear skies and I can go on and on. After living abroad for 23+ years you don't realize how many nephews and nieces' names you have to start learning at the first family gathering. And where there is a family gathering, there is food. You just can't keep up putting it all on one plate. Going for seconds or a third time is a must.







M

MAX RESOMARDONO  
CHEF DE CUISINE

Once I settled in Suriname, I started to work as a Consultant at Torarica Group of Hotels. There I met tourists and locals seeking a taste of Surinamese classic food, premium service and hospitality. I shared my food and beverage experiences where it was needed; for training, in the kitchen, manager meetings and more. In the mean time my brother and I started a small eatery at the Saoena Indo market at the corner of Johannes Mungra and Anamoe Straat. There I wanted to find out what locals like to eat, which herbs/ ingredients they didn't know, what they were willing to spend and simply if they were willing to try my food. We prepared tacos, pastas, hot dogs with toppings, soups and more. The end result in one word; successful. Every Sunday morning we arrived at 7:00 am and were sold out by 10:30 am - if it didn't rain. After 3-4 months I had an idea of the direction I should market my next concept. We left because the place was lacking basic food and kitchen sanitation. When it rained, the footpaths were flooded. Some parts of the roof were so low I hit my head at least 3 times a day. Now, in the last 3-6 months, the conditions have improved and the place opened its doors for more business and visitors. We never returned, but up to this day our fans still ask us why we left. Within a year we established Lolo Koekroe Catering which would cater for private events and weddings. Our concept was not to offer local traditional food but rather international cuisine with a local twist. At first our customers were not used to the small bite concept, but once they tasted it and it met their appetites we received more requests. We have catered numerous exclusive weddings where our small bite concept became the new trend instead of the usual cold buffet.

“Mi Lostoe wan saoto soepo” I answered my Mom when she asked what I first wanted when I arrived back in Suriname after 23 years living across the USA. Nowadays when my friends and customers ask me why I came back, I simply answer “For the Love of my Country”.

Within 2-3 years more people started to get to know our catering concept and consultancy. Upcoming restaurant owners wanted us to consult them on opening their restaurants. Others were simply looking for an upgrade or two. One of our successful clients is Mighty Racks which offers smoked beef and pork ribs. They are considered to be one of the top restaurants in Paramaribo and have just introduced a 700-gr beef or chicken burger. Definitely a place to get great food and an ambiance for the whole family to enjoy.

Houttuyn Wellness Resort also became a client. I assisted in setting up the kitchen, making the menus and giving ideas to take it to the next level. I believe once they will complete some rooms for guests to stay overnight, locals will use the wellness facilities more often and feel as if they are on the island of Bali. They will be a tourist within our own beautiful Suriname

Last year I was asked to consult for Koko Bana Café on Wilhelmina Street which has a Mexican food theme. A great concept, where all ingredients are grown and prepared locally. It won't surprise me if, very soon, they will open a second restaurant in the south area of Paramaribo. Amidst all that I opened a terrace on top of my catering kitchen called Above and Beyond. It's not a restaurant that is open daily. My concept is to rent it out for special events such as birthdays or weddings. In the mean time I create my own theme events such as steak nights, Thai, Italian, Small Bites, Soup and Sandwiches and more commercial events such as Valentine's Day and Christmas. It is located just passed the Paramaribo Zoo, on private property to keep it a more private and unique spot to have an event. I believe, locals are traveling more often and want to explore their horizon. So why not prepare them the international dishes here in Suriname, where they can enjoy restaurant quality food in a private setting. The demand has been great. We have 4 to 6 theme events a month and are looking to expand.

The future of Lolo Koekroe and Above and Beyond has potential. Eating out has always been important for Surinamese nightlife. What we as chefs and restaurant owners have to do is be creative and prepare food with local ingredients and some international twists which are still affordable and tasteful. We all have to work on upgrading and maintaining our service level. Use local bands to showcase unique entertainment, including plays or comedy shows. Locals do not have a lot to choose from when it comes to entertainment. Lastly, we as chefs have to put healthy options on our plates. Stress, lack of exercise, bad eating habits, and lack of ingredient knowledge may lead to unhealthy consumers. We have enough ingredients to put in - and the expertise to stir in a pot and offer this to everyone, young and old. Locals should not be afraid to taste or prepare something new at home. With cable tv there is a lot we can learn and see about what is available. Personally, I choose to taste with my own mouth and see with my own eyes.





# B

## BANGBANG FISH



TEXT - MAX RESOMARDONO & EXECUTIVE CHEF ARNOLD FROM COURTYARD MARRIOTT

PHOTOGRAPHER - MAX RESOMARDONO



Bang Bang fish better known as the Golden Corvina or Grey Snapper, is Suriname's local premium fish. Caught off the northern South American coast, it has a sweet taste and firm feel to it. Numerous top local restaurants serve this fish off their menu likely pan seared or oven roasted. Executive Chef Arnold of both Flavors and Meat Us Restaurant at Courtyard Marriott use the Bang Bang only on special request.

Locals use primitive cooking methods like grilling or smoked. When smoked it is used in several dishes like salads and sandwiches to give that unique smoky flavor. First tasters of smoked Bang Bang may prefer it instead of imported smoked Salmon. Another way is to preserve it with edible salt and then dried in the blazing Amazon sun to be used later in Creole dishes. To give it a Latin twist, fresh Bang Bang is also used to make ceviche by curing it with limes, onions, cilantro, tomato, chili peppers, avocado and served with "brede bong" chips.

**Executive Chef Arnold has prepared ...**





# B

## BANGBANG FISH

### SMOKED BANG BANG PARFAIT

#### INGREDIENTS

100% good quality smoked Bang Bang | 65% cream cheese | 45% heavy cream  
| salt and pepper to taste

#### PREPARATION

In a food processor combine all ingredients and blend to a smooth texture. Pass into a fine sieve. Place in a cooler. Cut 10 cm x 6 cm acetate film and roll to form a tube-like mold. Pipe the cooled mousse into the tube and stick a popsicle stick in the center of the mousse. Place in the freezer to hold its shape.

### THE SHRIMP CRUST

#### INGREDIENTS

150 gram Japanese bread crumbs | 200 gram dried baby shrimps

#### PREPARATION

In a coffee grinder, grind dried baby shrimp into a powder and mix with Japanese bread crumbs. Set aside until needed.

### AVOCADO CREAM

#### INGREDIENTS

100 gram good quality fresh ripe avocado flesh | 35 gram heavy cream | 1 gelatin sheet

#### PREPARATION

Soak gelatin sheet for 5-10 minutes to soften in a cup of cold water. In a food processor combine cream and avocado flesh and pulse blend. Once the gelatin is soft, remove the sheet and wring gently to take off excess water and combine avocado cream mixture and pulse blend to combine. Pass into a fine sieve. Assemble a piping bag with a U3 piping nozzle, place the avocado mixture inside the bag and place in a cooler.

### WASABI CREAM

#### INGREDIENTS

25 gram wasabi powder | 75 gram heavy cream | 1 gelatin sheet

#### PREPARATION

Soak gelatin sheet for 5-10 minutes to soften in a cup of cold water. In a food processor combine cream and wasabi powder and blend. Once the gelatin is soft, remove the sheet and wring gently to take off excess water and combine wasabi cream mixture and blend to combine. Pass into a fine sieve. Assemble a piping bag with a U3 piping nozzle, place the wasabi mixture inside the bag and place in a cooler.

#### TO ASSEMBLE

Cut 10 cm x 6cm acetate film. Lay and secure on a table. Lightly spray with oil and wipe excess oil off the acetate. Gently pipe a straight vertical line of avocado cream beginning at one side of the film. Gently pipe a straight vertical line of wasabi cream adjacent to avocado cream. Making a striped line of avocado and wasabi cream. Place in the freezer. Take out two Bang Bang parfaits from the freezer and gently remove acetate tube from the parfait. With a kitchen blow torch, lightly torch outside part of the parfait. Once you see a light layer defrost on the parfait sprinkle shrimp crust all over the parfait and place shrimp crusted parfait back in the freezer. Place frozen avocado and wasabi stripe on the table. At the center of the stripe place the remaining Bang Bang parfait, in the center working gently covering the parfait with wasabi stripe and avocado stripe. Place the avocado and wasabi striped parfait back in the freezer.

#### SERVING SUGGESTION

With a decorative pot, place a flower holder inside the pot and stick 3 lollies align to each other. Saving room for dry ice and lime water. Place dry ice pellets covering the flower holder. At the service table place dish in front of the guest and pour lime water over the pellets creating a smoke of lime aroma.

*For more recepices see our blog, [www.popular-places.com/the\\_blog](http://www.popular-places.com/the_blog)*

**COURTYARD**  
**Marriott**  
PARAMARIBO





"Money withdrawal, buying phone credit and making payments. It's all so convenient with DSB."

## DSB | Ease of Payment

We accept all foreign MasterCards and Maestro cards at our ATMs and POS machines.



**DSB**

DE SURINAAMSCHE BANK

DSB | Henck Arronstraat 26-30, P.O.Box 1806, Paramaribo, Suriname | T. +597 47 11 00  
F. +597 41 17 50 | SWIFT: SURBSRPA | [www.dsbbank.sr](http://www.dsbbank.sr) | [info@dsbbank.sr](mailto:info@dsbbank.sr)



**BERGENDAL**  
ECO & CULTURAL RIVER RESORT

**BERGENDAL,  
EXPERIENCE THE RAINFOREST IN COMFORT AND STYLE**



**HOTEL KRASNAPOLSKY**  
DOWNTOWN PARAMARIBO

**KRASNAPOLSKY,  
THE HOTEL WHERE YOU CAN FEEL SURINAME**



**Combine a stay in a dazzling city with an adventure in the middle of the rainforest  
for the most complete mini vacation in Suriname!**

[reservations@bergendalresort.com](mailto:reservations@bergendalresort.com) / [reservations@krasnapsky.sr](mailto:reservations@krasnapsky.sr) • [www.bergendalresort.com](http://www.bergendalresort.com) / [www.krasnapolsky.sr](http://www.krasnapolsky.sr)



# G

## GREAT AMAZON ADVENTURE

THE GREAT AMAZON ADVENTURE,  
A RALLY OR ORGANISED BY BESPOKE RALLIES FROM THE UK,  
WILL ONCE AGAIN START IN SURINAME  
FOR A 7000 KILOMETRE DRIVE TO LIMA IN PERU.





# G

## GREAT AMAZON ADVENTURE

TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHER - BESPOKE RALLIES

In September 2017, the Great Amazon Adventure, a rally organised by Bespoke Rallies from the UK, will once again start in Suriname for a 7,000 kilometre drive to Lima in Peru. Starting at the Atlantic it traverses four countries, uses a ferry on the Amazon River, runs along the Transamazonica highway and crosses the Andes up to a height of 4,900metres, before dropping to sea level and its finish on the Pacific.

This ocean to ocean event will be the third time this international rally has been run, with growing recognition saying it is one of the best events of its kind in the world. It is a very exclusive event too, with just 10 participants being able to take part due to accommodation and space restrictions on the ferry from Macapa to Santarem on the Amazon River. Participants come from all over the world for this event, from Australia to Europe and the USA. A truly international group of intrepid travellers that loves to see the world from their car and not by doing an organised package tour. The rally starts in Paramaribo, Suriname. A country not usually on the tourist map and a very well kept secret. In fact most people have never heard of Suriname and have great difficulty finding it on the map. Most people think it is somewhere in Africa! John Brigden, founder and director of Bespoke Rallies, says; “The questions we get asked most are about Suriname and why we start there. The answer is that there are many reasons. Firstly, it has a great port system for us to in bring the cars from around the world to South America. Secondly it is a country that our participants would not normally visit and for many it’s another country to tick off their list. Thirdly it is a fascinating country which I really love. The people are friendly, the countryside is amazing and its history fascinating. We have built up a good rapport with many people there and of course everyone loves their motorsports.” A report: After its start in Suriname, the rally takes the La Gabrielle ferry from Albina to St Laurent du Moroni in French Guiana and goes on to Kourou where the rally visits the European Space Agency before heading on down to its first night in Brazil at Oiapoque. “There’s no doubt that the Space Centre is a big draw for some people and they thoroughly enjoy their visit there,” says Brigden.





G

GREAT AMAZON  
ADVENTURE



Until now the rally has had to take a barge to cross from St George's to Oiapoque but the bridge constructed some years ago is set to be opened so from then on everyone will be able to cross more easily. On the drive to Macapa the rally encounters its first dirt tracks with the rough roads surprising many on such an important route. The next day, after a lazy morning obtaining supplies, the rally boards Bruno, the amazing river ferry which plies the route between Macapa and Santarem. With limited deck space for the cars and just 13 cabins it's a bit cramped but the friendliness of local fellow passengers and the incredible sights along the route, make it all worthwhile. At first light Bruno docks in Santarem and after a short period of intensive activity by the crew clearing their freight, the cars are able to disembark the ferry and continue their journey. For the next few days the roads are mostly dirttrack and flaws in preparation begin to show up as a beautiful pre-war 'Fangio' Chevrolet develops various niggles and the chassis on the 1923 Vauxhall cracks and has to be welded. The 1932 Lagonda suffers a similar fate but its repair is that much more difficult it being made of aluminium. The solution? Find a boat repairman who knows how to weld aluminium, an extremely specialistic skill.

Although we have a few Toyota Lan-Cruisers there also is a real wild card in a little 1988 Citroen 2CV. With only a 602cc engine it is woefully underpowered but the crew consisting of Reg Toohey and Jaime Turner brought the car to challenge themselves- as well as using it as a camera car. They are first up and out early every morning. The tracks take their toll on the car as it too needs the welders torch twice because of the suspension coming loose from the chassis in two consecutive days. But, it's not all doom and gloom as the participants enjoy the incredible countryside, the welcoming locals, the wildlife and, of course, the challenge.

Eventually, the rally breaks out of the rainforest and is back on tarmac, but now there's a new challenge – the Andes. It's towering above us as we enter Peru in a thunderstorm of epic proportions. The computers at the border go down, the internet goes down and the electricity goes down. It all makes for a huge delay but no matter, eventually everyone gets to pass. Climbing to more than 4000 metres the rally stops in the Sacred Valley near Cusco and has a welcome break. Here, of course is Machu Picchu, one of the wonders of South America. This is followed by a drive to Colca Canyon across the altiplano, where we watch Condors lift off on the thermals from the morning sunshine. More wonders await at Puno on the shore of Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake in the world. The air here is thin and everyone is feeling the effects of the altitude and is looking forward to the next day when we descend to Arequipa. Whilst in Puno there is one last repair to do to on the Fangio which has sprung a leak in its radiator. A local craftsman expertly repairs it and Danial & Rabia Schlatter are once again on their way. From Arequipa we drop down to sea level and the Pacific. We have now travelled from the Atlantic to the Pacific and everyone is still in the rally. All cars are purring along with the oxygen rich sea air suiting everybody well as we enter Nasca.

The next day it's a triumphant arrival in Lima and handshakes all round. It has been a real adventure, a journey of a lifetime and we have all made friends for life.

**Do you want to join this Rally?**

Contact John Brigden T. +44 785 281 272 or T. +44 1483 271 699

[john@bespokerallies.com](mailto:john@bespokerallies.com), [www.bespokerallies.com/](http://www.bespokerallies.com/)





HOTELS

Atlantis Hotel & Casino

Kwattaweg 244

T. +597 44 34 11

[www.pashaglobal.com](http://www.pashaglobal.com)

Boutique Hotel Maisonadia

Anton Dragtenweg 221

T. +597 45 31 66

Courtyard Marriott

Anton Dragtenweg 52-54

T. +597 45 60 00

[www.marriott.com/pbmcy](http://www.marriott.com/pbmcy)

Hotel Babylon

Lalla Rookhweg 25

T. +597 46 34 23

[info@hotel-babylon.com](mailto:info@hotel-babylon.com)

[www.hotel-babylon.com](http://www.hotel-babylon.com)

Hotel de Luifel

Gondastraat 13

T. +597 43 99 33

[info@hoteldeluifel.com](mailto:info@hoteldeluifel.com)

[www.hoteldeluifel.com](http://www.hoteldeluifel.com)

Hotel Krasnapolsky

*Your Key to the City - Centrally located in downtown Paramaribo*

Domineestraat 39

T. +597 47 50 50

[info@krasnapolsky.sr](mailto:info@krasnapolsky.sr)

[www.krasnapolsky.sr](http://www.krasnapolsky.sr)

Hotel Palacio

Heerenstraat 9

T. +597 42 00 64

[info@hotelpalacio.net](mailto:info@hotelpalacio.net)

[www.hotelpalacio.net](http://www.hotelpalacio.net)

Hotel Sullies Suites

Henck Arronstraat 53, Paramaribo

T. +520 520 / 520 525

[info@sulliessuites.com](mailto:info@sulliessuites.com)

[www.sulliessuites.com](http://www.sulliessuites.com)

Jacana Amazon Wellness resort

*Return your essence to nature*

Commewijnestraat 33-35

T. +597 49 40 97

[info@jacanaresort.com](mailto:info@jacanaresort.com)

[www.jacanaresort.com](http://www.jacanaresort.com)

La Petite Maison

Waterkant 4

T. +597 47 54 66

[www.hotellapetitemaison.com](http://www.hotellapetitemaison.com)

Mirage Hotel & Casino

Domineestraat 11

T. +597 47 33 51

[www.pashaglobal.com](http://www.pashaglobal.com)

Queens Hotel Paramaribo

Kleine Waterstraat 15

T. +597 47 49 67

[www.queenshotelsuriname.com](http://www.queenshotelsuriname.com)

Residence Inn NICKERIE

R.P.Bharosstraat 84, Nieuw-Nickerie

T. +597 21 09 50

[www.resinn.com](http://www.resinn.com)

Residence Inn Paramaribo

Anton Dragtenweg 7

T. +597 52 14 14

[www.resinn.com](http://www.resinn.com)

Savannah Hotel & Casino

Anamoestraat 9

T. +597 45 91 66

[www.pashaglobal.com](http://www.pashaglobal.com)

Spanhoek Boutique hotel

Domineestraat 2

T. +597 47 78 88

[www.spanhoekhotel.com](http://www.spanhoekhotel.com)

Tropicana Hotel & Casino

Saralaccastraat 17

T. +597 52 09 90

[www.pashaglobal.com](http://www.pashaglobal.com)

Wyndham Garden Paramaribo

Domineestraat 07-09

T. +597 42 60 12

[marketing@wyndhamsr.net](mailto:marketing@wyndhamsr.net)

APARTMENTS

Amalia Apartments

Amatodjastraat 1

T. +597 881 34 10

T. +597 853 18 93

[info@amalia-apartments.com](mailto:info@amalia-apartments.com)

[www.amalia-apartments.com](http://www.amalia-apartments.com)

Casa Irene - Suriname

Hoek Blokfluitstraat/Vioolstraat

T. +597 851 67 28

[www.casa-irene.com](http://www.casa-irene.com)

De Kolibrie Apartments

Kalpoeweg 89

T. +597 53 90 73

[www.dekolibrie-suriname.nl](http://www.dekolibrie-suriname.nl)

Downtown Oasis Luxury Guesthouse & Apartments

Jessurunstraat 9

T. +597 52 14 81

[www.downtownoasis.sr](http://www.downtownoasis.sr)

Felisa Apartments

Wijngaardestraat 4

T. +597 47 03 94

[www.felisa-apartments.com](http://www.felisa-apartments.com)

Hosta Appartementen

Keizerstraat 101-103

T. +597 42 60 15

[www.hosta-appartementen.nl](http://www.hosta-appartementen.nl)

Joah Inn Appartementen

Keizerstraat 91

T. +597 47 35 71

F. +597 42 20 38

[joahinn@gmail.com](mailto:joahinn@gmail.com)

[www.joahinn.sr](http://www.joahinn.sr)

Oxygen Resort

Bombaystraat 21A

T. +597 44 18 19

[info@surinameecotours.com](mailto:info@surinameecotours.com)

[www.surinameecotours.com/](http://www.surinameecotours.com/)

Plantage Visserzorg

Zuster Jensenweg 8,Visserzorg,

Commewijne

T. +597 32 27 25

[info@surinamevakantiehuisje.nl](mailto:info@surinamevakantiehuisje.nl)

[www.surinamevakantiehuisje.nl](http://www.surinamevakantiehuisje.nl)

Shairin's Appartementen

Uraniumstraat 26-38-48

T. +597 855 01 40

T. +31- 655 88 22 26

[info@shairinsappartementen.com](mailto:info@shairinsappartementen.com)

[www.shairinsappartementen.com](http://www.shairinsappartementen.com)

GUESTHOUSES

Guesthouse Albergo Alberga

Lim A Po straat 13

T. +597 52 00 50

[www.guesthousealbergoalberga.com](http://www.guesthousealbergoalberga.com)

Guesthouse Famiri

Dr. S. Axwijkstraat 76

T. +597 45 02 30

[www.famiri.com](http://www.famiri.com)

ADVERTISE HERE!

FOR INFORMATION  
INFO@POPULAR-PLACES.COM



A journey to Suriname is always an inspiring combination of history, culture, nature and adventure; Waterproof Tours Suriname will give you the best insight into the possibilities for unique experiences.

With excellent product knowledge and transparent communication we make a travel plan that suits your preferences. Exclusive and unique 'off the beaten track' elements can make your journey extra special.

How we create your unique Suriname experience:

- Discover Paramaribo with our insider tips
- Small scale unique accommodations with an authentic feeling
- Contact with locals: home stays and do it yourself trips
- Pristine nature and challenging jungle expeditions
- Get in touch with Maroon culture at community based lodges
- Travel independently with a rental car





**Las Tías**  
LATIN FUSION CUISINE

Johannesmungrastraat #75 | Paramaribo Suriname  
Tel: 434162 | Email: lastiassuriname@gmail.com

f i

**KIRPALANI**  
**DUTY FREE**  
SHOPPING CARD  
**SAVE UP TO 20%**

Kirpalani  
**KOM**  
ja, het kan...

Get your **KIRPALANI DUTY FREE SHOPPING CARD** at Kirpalani, Suriname's largest retail store in clothes, linen, household appliances, electronics and much more!

**Look for the colored tags**

- 20% Discount
- 15% Discount
- 10% Discount

All other articles 5% discount

**Application requirements**

- Valid passport and ticket or (Air passengers)
- Valid passport and tourist card or Car Insurance (Guyana and French Guiana)

**KIRPALANI**  
Buy better, cheaper and get the best

Adres : Domineestraat 52-26 | J.A.Pengelstraat 163 | Maagdenstraat 19-27  
Paramaribo, Suriname  
Tel. : (+597) 471-400  
Email : kirpa@kirpalani.com

Get more info at  
f i y  
kirpalani.com

Opening Hours:  
Monday - Saturday: 08:00u - 20:00u  
Sunday : 12:00u - 20:00u

## RESTAURANTS

### BRAZILIAN

#### Gina's the Taste of Brazil

Verl. Gemenelandsweg 201  
T. +597 82 51 234

### Petisco

Anamoestraat 128  
T. +597 89 81 851

### CHINESE

#### Bamboo Green Garden

Verl. Gemenelandsweg 139  
T. +597 53 21 88

### Chi Min

Cornelis Jongbawstraat 83  
T. +597 41 21 55

### Dumpling

Dr. Nassyalaan 29  
T. +597 47 79 04

### Fa Tai

Maagdenstraat 64  
T. +597 47 39 17

### Kong Nam Hot Pot

Weg naar Maretraite 25  
T. +597 47 22 83

### INDIAN

#### Albea

Mr. J. Lachmonstraat 12  
T. +597 49 44 90

#### Chris Rotishop

Kwattaweg 170  
T. +597 44 22 00

### INTERNATIONAL

#### Brasserie Tibiti, BW hotel

Fred. Derbystraat 99-100  
T. +597 42 00 07

#### Restaurant Cabana 39, 3rd floor Hotel Krasnapolsky

*Enjoy our pool and the splendid view  
over the inner city of Paramaribo*  
Domineestraat 39  
T. +597 47 50 50  
info@krasnapolsky.sr  
[www.krasnapolsky.sr/en/restaurants/](http://www.krasnapolsky.sr/en/restaurants/)

#### Flavors, Marriott Hotel

Anton Dragtenweg 52-54  
T. +597 45 60 00

#### Grand Café De Vliegende Hollander

Gravenberghstraat 2  
T. +597 87 40 429

#### Matutu, Residence inn

Anton Dragtenweg 7  
T. +597 47 23 87

#### Pannekoek en Poffertjes

Van Sommeldijkstraat 11  
T. +597 42 29 14

#### Park Avenue

Commissaris Roblesweg 10  
T. +597 45 37 88

#### Spanhoek Terras

hk domineestraat/keizerstraat  
T. +597 42 43 22

#### Spice Quest

Nassyalaan 107  
T. +597 47 56 59

#### Tout Tout Petit

Costerstraat 52  
T. +597 52 07 47

**ADVERTISE HERE!**

FOR INFORMATION

[INFO@POPULAR-PLACES.COM](mailto:info@popular-places.com)



A large, bold, white letter 'G' is positioned on the left side of the image, partially overlapping the sunset sky and the dark silhouette of a hill. The background is a scenic view of a beach at sunset, with the sun low on the horizon behind a dark, silhouetted hill. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and grey, with some clouds. The ocean is visible in the middle ground, and the sandy beach is in the foreground. Two people are walking on the beach in the distance, their figures silhouetted against the bright light of the sunset.

# G

## GRENADA

A REMARKABLE JOURNEY  
– VOLUNTEERING IN GRENADA –

In June 2016 I volunteered for Ocean Spirits on the spice island of Grenada for 3 weeks.  
Ocean spirits is a non-profit organization, involved in monitoring sea turtles and community work.





# G

## GRENADA



TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHER - ARMIDA MADNGISA & [WWW.NATURE-MYVIEW.COM](http://WWW.NATURE-MYVIEW.COM)

Grenada is a small island best known for its variety in spices, especially nutmeg, but also for having one of the largest unspoiled beaches in the Caribbean region namely Levera beach. There, researchers are able to monitor Leatherback Sea turtles and keep an accurate data base of all the nesting.

### Doing volunteer work sounds vague, but in reality the job is very diverse;

Scanning Bathway beach every morning for any possible turtle tracks (this means leaving the volunteer house around 5AM as the sun is already up). If you find turtle tracks on the beach you have to disguise them using a rake to avert potential poachers or predators (birds or stray dogs). Bathway beach is a public beach where both locals and tourists enjoy spending time. Leatherback Sea turtles are generally nocturnal animals, but occasionally one will emerge during broad daylight. This usually means that she has to lay her eggs and can't wait any longer. During my volunteer work I was lucky to see a turtle by day on my first official working day. Some of the lifeguards working on Bathway beach are also supervisors for Ocean Spirits and immediately called us to come out. A Leatherback Sea turtle is obviously very noticable, so news spreads like wildfire when a day turtle emerges. Within minutes the area is flocked with tourists, locals, lifeguards and volunteers. Only those working for Ocean Spirits; researchers, supervisors and volunteers are allowed to approach the Leatherback Seaturtle. All other onlookers were still welcome to watch this magnificent creature from up close, but were not involved. As more tourists and locals gathered around this spectacle, questions were answered by one of the members of Ocean Spirits.

Night survey (from 20.00 – 6.00): monitoring any sea turtle emerging from the sea. This can take several hours as the turtle has all the time in the world. While monitoring her, the job contains of being able to identify the turtle (flipper tag, injuries, measurements, pit scans), do egg counts and take nesting measurements. Of course you also have to do this when it is raining. Sometimes you will see hatchlings emerge from the sand. During night surveys you use red light instead of LED or white light as sea turtles have sensitive eyes. When you see hatchlings going towards the sea you have to switch off all lights otherwise these little creatures will follow the light.



It is remarkable to know that out of the dozens of hatchlings only one will return back to the same beach to lay its eggs. The moment they crawl out of the egg, these small creatures have a lot to overcome. It is already a struggle to get out of the sand, let alone to crawl over the beach and trying to make it to the ocean. Not to mention what is waiting for them in the big ocean. Life is one rough route for these hatchlings. Besides monitoring the Leatherback Sea turtles, Ocean Spirits also focuses her work on the community. They regularly organize workshops or other community projects to involve the locals in their work, especially the younger generation. The community work of Ocean Spirits is well received by the locals. The local news has for instance covered a planting project Ocean spirits did with one of the schools. Next to working on the beach with sea turtles or working with the locals, a volunteer has mandatory tasks. For example maintenance of equipment, accommodation and means of transport. As Grenada is an island; most of the products and items are imported. So you try to keep up the equipment as long as possible.

Kate and Kester are the ones in charge of this intensive work of Ocean Spirits. Two warm people who are dedicated to do their jobs. Strict and at the same time making sure every volunteer will feel at home. During my stay, there was enough time to relax and explore the island. Public transport is easy and cheaper than taking a taxi. Since Grenada is a small island, everyone knew i was a volunteer and was willing to help me, when i took the wrong bus for example.

**Working as a volunteer for Ocean Spirits also gives you the opportunity to see 2 types of beaches:**

- One that is protected and is only meant for sea turtles, like Levera beach
- And one that is for public use. Gran Anse beach is a great example. Regularly main events are organized for everyone. For instance free seafood was given away if you signed a petition to save the Sharks.

My other volunteer colleagues were into scuba diving and since the water is so clear, you can see everything that is swimming around (and underneath) you very clearly. At one time we even saw a Green turtle passing by.

The chocolate factory was also one of the attractions I was able to visit in my spare time. From cocoa seeds to a chocolate bar, the whole process and its history was patiently explained by a guide. Grenada surely produces the best chocolate. After the guided tour which included a wonderful hike through the whole area, we finished the tour by having lunch in the restaurant. This place offers great views and has delicious treats.

Beaches, hiking and exploring both nature and the city, there was enough to do those 3 weeks I was in Grenada. But the best part was working closely with the Leatherback Sea turtles on Levera beach.

# G

## GRENADA

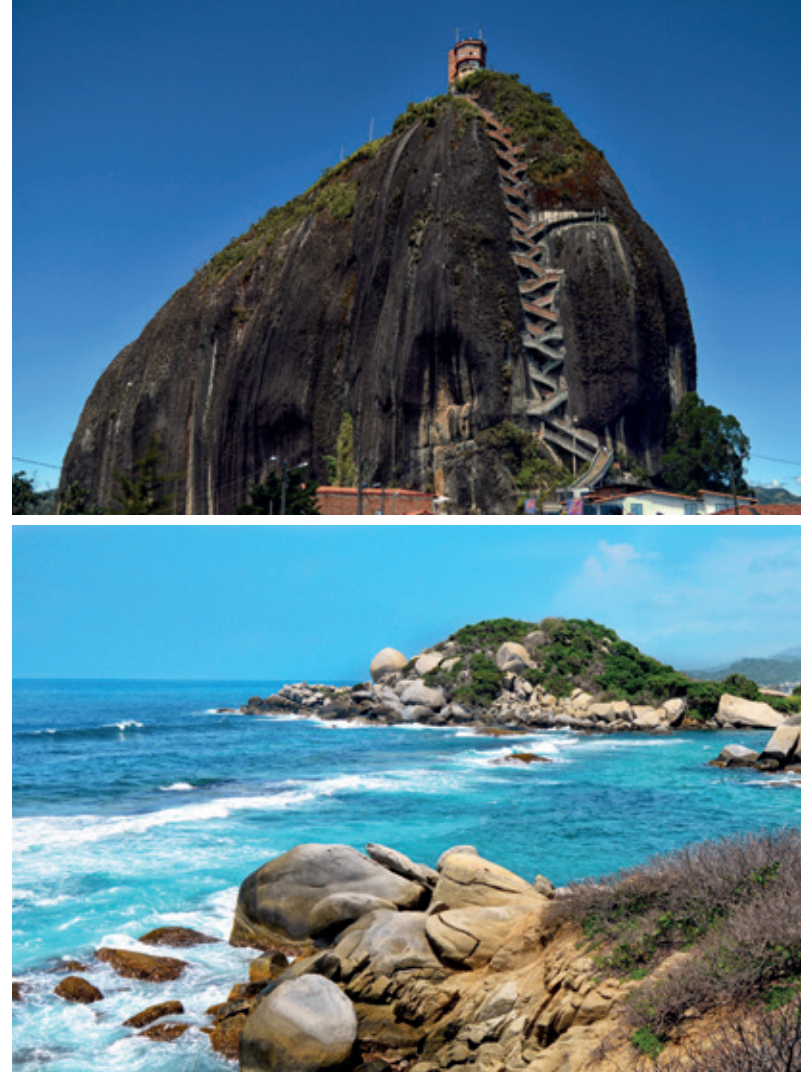






# C

## COLOMBIA



TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHER - INGRID MASSELINK

## TAYRONA



One of Colombia's most popular hotspots is Tayrona National park. Tayrona National Park is on the Caribbean coast near Santa Marta in Colombia and has some of South America's loveliest coastlines. It lies at the foot of the Sierra Nevada hills of Santa Marta, which has astonishing views of the inland. The park measures over 12.000 hectares and is mainly covered with rainforest. It also has some white Paradise-like beaches which are perfect for snorkeling and diving.



# C

## COLOMBIA

There are several archeological remains to be found in the park. The most important of these are the ruins of the pre-Hispanic town of Pueblito. It's considered to have been one of Tayrona's major settlements. Nowadays there are still some indigenous tribes that live in the park that adhere to their traditional way of life.

The park has several walking paths and is a great getaway for one night or more. When you arrive at the entrance you will be given a map and information about the park and the beaches that are safe to swim. Keep in mind that most beaches are not suitable for swimming, due to the strong currents. Tayrona is a popular tourist destination and especially in the high season this beach can become very crowded. So by far the best time to visit is the low season which is from February to November. How to get there: You can either get to Tayrona National Park by bus from the Santa Marta bus terminal, or book a transfer at your hotel. Prices are cheap; due to the large amount of backpackers in the region a one way ticket will cost you around \$5. The bus will take you to the entrance of the park, from where you can walk to the beaches. For example: to get to El Cabo, the beach where you will find the most accommodation facilities, is a two hour walk. There is also a speedboat, leaving from Taganga, a nearby fishing village, which will bring you right to the most popular beach for 10 dollars.



**Where to sleep:** There are several types of accommodation available in the park. The most popular is El Cabo. This is a beach resort with the atmosphere of a hostel. You can rent hammocks or a tent for around \$10-15 per night. There is also a restaurant. The beach here is safe to swim. Also at Arrecifes, another beach, there is a restaurant and a camping where you can rent a hammock or tent. Do you prefer a little more luxury? At Cañaveral there are the famous Ecohabs, luxury accommodation in small or big huts from \$100/night/double occupation including taxes and breakfast.





# C

## COLOMBIA

### MEDELLIN

Medellín is the second largest city in Colombia. The city has over 3 million inhabitants and is the capital of the department of Antioquia. During the 1980's and 1990's Medellín was ranked one of the most dangerous cities in the world because of its high homicide and kidnapping rates. It was home of drug lord Pablo Escobar and the Medellín Cartel. Since Pablo Escobar was killed, the cartel has pulled back and the city had a great come-back while the murder rate went from 6500 per year in 1991 to 38 in 2003! The state has invested in safety and image building and nowadays more and more tourists find their way to Colombia and Medellín. Many parts of the city are very safe - especially el Poblado where you can walk around safely day or night. Medellín is a city in the Aburra valley and is surrounded by beautiful mountain ranges. The city's impressive skyline gives it a metropolitan feel. Its pleasant climate gives the city its nickname - the City of Eternal Spring. The city is best explored by metro which is safe and cheap. Medellín has the first (and only) Metro system in Colombia and it is a good way to see the slums on the hills from a safe distance. El Poblado is the wealthiest, and most touristy neighborhood of Medellín. The city center is a combination of busy markets and a thriving street life. The city is home to a half-dozen universities, accounting for a vibrant cultural and nightlife scene fueled by thousands of young adults from all over the country. You do not want to miss out on nightlife in Medellín! For international travelers, Medellín is perhaps most famous for the Botero Museum, whose namesake is one of the most famous modern artists alive today with its famous sculptures of 'fat' people and animals. Medellín is also Colombia's second largest industrial center.

### GUATAPE

About 1½ hours' drive from Medellín you will find the picturesque town of Guatapé. Famous for the beautiful pastel-colored paintings found on the lower half of nearly every building in the town's historic center. The village is surrounded by a nature reserve with hundreds of small lakes and you will also find the famous rock, La Piedra. A magnificent big rock with a height of 384 meters which has unique views. Some 740 concrete steps have been built against the rock to reach a 360 degree viewing platform at the top. From the village, you can take a boat trip to the reservoir. Boat trips can also include a trip to see La Manuela, Pablo Escobar's now bombed-out lakeside mansion.



A tropical beach scene at sunset. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting sun, which is partially obscured by clouds. The sun's reflection glimmers on the wet sand and the gentle waves of the ocean. On the left, a dense line of palm trees stands tall against the sky. A few people are visible on the sandy beach, some sitting and others standing. To the right, a rocky shoreline with large, smooth boulders meets the water. A large, white, stylized letter 'C' is superimposed over the left side of the image, partially covering the palm trees and the beach.

# C

COLOMBIA



# SIMPEL DESIGN PALLET FURNITURE

[www.facebook.com/simpelbonaire](http://www.facebook.com/simpelbonaire)  
[simpeldesign.tumblr.com](http://simpeldesign.tumblr.com)

# SPECIAL THANKS TO



**PHOTOGRAPHER - FABIAN VAS**  
[fabianvasexperience@gmail.com](mailto:fabianvasexperience@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/Fabianvasexperience](http://www.facebook.com/Fabianvasexperience)  
**T. +597 886 40 40**



**PHOTOGRAPHER - ARMIDA MADNGISA**  
[contact@nature-myview.com](mailto:contact@nature-myview.com)  
[www.nature-myview.com](http://www.nature-myview.com)



**PHOTOGRAPHER - INGRID MASSELINK**  
[masseLinkingrid@gmail.com](mailto:masseLinkingrid@gmail.com)



# COLOFON

## CONTACT

**T. +597 822 77 88**  
**INFO@POPULAR-PLACES.COM**  
**WWW.POPULAR-PLACES.COM**

Chamber of Commerce N° 64350  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF** - Sylvie Dutoit  
**PUBLISHER & PRINTING** -  
 DMC-Dutoit Marketing Consultancy  
**GRAPHIC DESIGN** - [www.ehbontwerp.be](http://www.ehbontwerp.be)  
**FRONTCOVER** - Front Bespoke Rallies  
**TRANSLATION** - Proofreading:  
 Arline Winkel

Reproduction without written permission is prohibited. The Publisher accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. The Publisher has made every effort to arrange copyright in accordance with existing legislation. Those who feel that rights may apply to them can, in spite of this, contact the Publisher.

What can you do  
at the Torarica Group of Hotels?

### Wellness & Spa Getaway Weekend

Gather your family and friends and take a relaxing break with one of our get a way specials or become a Torarica Country Club Member and get access to all resort facilities.

### Take a walk in our Green Gardens

The best way to starts your day is to walk through our beautiful botanical gardens that borders the Mangrove forest and the Surinamese river.

### International Cuisine & amazing Cocktails

From international cuisine to the original Surinamese kitchen we offer the best of our world. Also the only place for the best cocktails in town. Enjoy yours any time you like.

### Events & Conventions

Offering unique locations and everything you need to host any type of event. We assist you in the organization of any business or social event

[torarica.com](http://torarica.com)

**For Reservations**  
 (+597) 471500 ext. 5100 or  
[reservations@torarica.com](mailto:reservations@torarica.com)

[Facebook.com/ToraricaGroupOfHotels](https://www.facebook.com/ToraricaGroupOfHotels)  
[Twitter.com/Torarica](https://twitter.com/Torarica)  
[ToraricaGroup](https://www.instagram.com/ToraricaGroup)







*Fly All Ways*

**FOR CHARTERS  
AND  
SCHEDULED FLIGHTS**

Parastraat 2 - 12 Paramaribo

 597 455645 /  597 455649

 597 8916669 / 597 8895522

 [cto-pbm@flyallways.com](mailto:cto-pbm@flyallways.com) / [www.flyallways.com](http://www.flyallways.com)

