

EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES: SEYCHELLES

Island Idylls

Catamarans, Coconuts,
Creole Curry

Hopping Around the Seychelles:

Your private guide escorts you in VIP style on the short flight from Mahé to Praslin. From there, a catamaran carries you to La Digue — considered the most traditional of the Seychelles islands, where time seems to have paused. Take an oxcart lorry or taxi to an estate where coconut oil is extracted from copra. Capture the beauty of Anse Source d'Argent, one of the world's most famous beaches, before returning to Praslin and the UNESCO-designated Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve, where the Coco de Mer, the world's largest nut, grows. (Upon first seeing it, British General Charles Gordon believed this legendary palm forest to be the Garden of Eden.) Hear the primeval calls of rare birds as you stroll the Vallée's well-marked paths. Then continue to Anse Lazio for a delicious Creole seafood lunch and relaxation on a gorgeous stretch of sand.

The Many Sides of Mahé: Discover

all the highlights of Mahé, beginning with a guided walk around the world's smallest capital town, Victoria. Roam its colorful market, visit the historical Kenwyn House — which now houses the luxury jewel company Jouel — and see the famous Clock Tower, built to honor Queen Victoria. Travel through the dense Morne Seychellois National Park to visit the old Bel-Air Cemetery, final resting place of "The Giant," a Seychellois man of nine-foot height and colossal strength. Admire the spectacular views from the ruins of Mission Lodge, the island's first school, founded in 1835, and visit a tea plantation on the slopes of Morne Blanc. Your authentic Creole lunch, hosted at a spice garden established in 1771 — the island's first — is followed by sun and sand at Anse Royale Beach.

*Clockwise from top:
catamaran in Praslin;
Seychelles from the
water; refreshing tropical
fruit snack; underwater
exploration in La Digue.*

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info@outandabouttravel.com.au



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