

## General Practical Information

Thursday, 29 November 2007

### St. Maarten Banking and business hours

On the Dutch side, normal business hours are from 9am to 5pm. Banks are generally open until 3.30pm  
On the French side they are not that business minded and have a large gap during lunch time where businesses are literally closed. Banks are open Mon/Fri 8.30am to 4pm with a 2hrs lunch break from 12am to 2pm.

### ATM Machines.

There are plenty ATM Machines on St. Maarten. I suggest you only use them on the French side as the unofficial currency really is the US Dollar. All machines accept credit cards and debit cards with the Cirrus or Maestro brand on them.

### ATM Machine locations:

- Inside Princess Juliana International airport.
  - At Maho right at the entrance of the Casino Royale
  - In Colebay on the road to Marigot just before the entrance of Port de Plaisance on the left there is the RBBT with ATM
  - Simpson Bay, Airport Road right across the wooden building La Palapa Center
  - On the road to Philipsburg, there is the Grand Marche supermarket, outside the building there is one as well.
- There are other locations as well I just mentioned the easy to find ones. Later on I will create a map with the locations.Churches

There are plenty of Churches, the majority though are kinda backyard churches. Most churches are Roman Catholic, Methodist, Seventh-Day Adventist/Voltages

Dutch side 110v 50hz

French side 220v 60hzPublic Holidays

### French St. Martin

Jan 1 New Year's Day

Mar/Apr (varies) Good Friday

Mar/Apr (varies) Easter Sunday

Mar/Apr (varies) Easter Monday

May (varies) Ascension Day

May 1 Labour Day

May 8 VE Day

July 14 National Day/Bastille Day

July 21 Schoelcher Day (Abolition of Slavery)

Nov 1 All Saints Day

Nov 11 St Martin Day/Armistice Day

Dec 25 Christmas Day Post Offices/Mailing

On the Dutch side the main post office is located at the pondfill (Philipsburg) across the bank of the Netherlands Antilles. There is also a branch in Simpson Bay at La Palapa center. What is convenient for mailing stuff out or receiving mail is also in La Palapa Center: it's the Mailbox. They have all kind of mailing services inbound/outbound. They also have internet surfing facilities and rent out cellular phones.

On the French side the main Post Office (Tel 0590 510760) is located at Rue de la Liberte. The lines are crazy. You better go to the branch office at the Howell Center (Tel: 0590 879502).Timezone

St. Maarten/St. Martin is on -4 GMT which for Americans is Atlantic Standard Time.

Questions? Use the 'Contact Us' link on top of the screen