

A Publication of

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NOVEMBER
2021

WE STAND TRIUMPHANT IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY



St. Maarten
St. Martin^{DAY}

Renewed inspiration

This year, the Dutch side is hosting the official Sint Maarten / Saint Martin Day celebration. Due to COVID-19, this year's celebration will be mostly virtual, except for a special church service. There are nevertheless various related public events planned for this 62nd anniversary edition, including the annual Around-the-Island Relay Race.

Most important is to reflect on the sense of togetherness and being one community on this unique territory shared by two countries with open borders, based on the Treaty of Concordia allowing for free movement of people and goods.

Enjoy the live activities in person and check out the virtual celebration via Tel TV15 or government's Facebook and YouTube pages on Thursday at 5:00pm, for renewed inspiration of what November 11 means to all of us.

Happy Sint Maarten / Saint Martin Day
The Publisher



Sint Maarten / Saint Martin Day Message

Silveria E. Jacobs Prime Minister of Sint Maarten

St. Martin Day is a true celebration of who we are, our shared experiences, family lineage, heritage and culture, whether hailing from the north, south or both.

As we celebrate our sweet S'Maartin land – our home – we reflect on our many lessons and accomplishments. St. Martin Day has aptly been themed: “We stand triumphant in the face of adversity” – a theme that, in my perspective, should be the goal of our nation as we toil through our challenges and build strong and resilient communities across the length and breadth of the 37-square-mile-strong island.

We know that challenges will always exist. However, what is important is how we react to and overcome them. St. Martin has a history of rising victoriously and overcoming challenges. As such, we must show gratitude for the St. Martin we have today, based on the toil and sweat of the backs of our ancestors.

St. Martin remains home for many and is sought after by plenty for vacation purposes. What makes this S'Maartin land unique is not just its beauty, but also its heritage, its languages, our family ties, our culture, our food, norms, and the love we share for these 37 square miles.

Our growth has not been without adversity and, as an island, both sides have had challenges. COVID-19 has kept us apart for a time, and yet we have been able to link, unite, and bond once again. From our front-liners to neighbours helping neighbours and our business community sharing what they can, this shared adversity has taught us what it means to be a true St. Martin.

When thinking about the challenges we have overcome, we found opportunities to become better in the midst of and despite our challenges, because of who we are. Our resilience and our continued success are thanks to the resilient nature of our people – it is thanks to our people, every one of you. We must continue to be a community that looks out for sharing what we have with others.

On behalf of the Government of Sint Maarten, Happy St. Martin Day to all!



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Sint Maarten / Saint Martin Day Message

From Daniel Gibbs

President of the Territorial Council of Saint Martin

Dear fellow Saint Martiners:

This year, the Saint Martin Day festivities are organized by the government of Sint Maarten. This is the case every other year and we are pleased to share this annual celebration with our brothers from the Dutch side. The festivities are once again this year restricted by the health crisis which has strongly impacted our way of life for the last 20 months.

Fortunately, the efforts made in recent months have yielded encouraging results. Although they have been

difficult and restrictive at times, they are today paying off as the number of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations has dropped considerably. We should be proud of ourselves. I hope that in the coming weeks, the ongoing vaccination campaign, along with the arrival of promising C O V I D - 1 9 treatments and the reinforcement of our hospital staff and medical equipment, will allow us to return to a normal life.

We celebrate Saint Martin on this November 11 – a day where we

commemorate our history, culture and heritage; a day where we celebrate what defines us as Saint Martiners, what unites us and makes us stronger: our loyalty to our beloved territory, to its liberties, to its values and to its identity. Those are the reasons we are all deeply attached to this celebration, and I am particularly pleased to share it with you in a spirit of cooperation, harmony and unity.

This year's chosen theme – "We stand triumphant in the face of adversity" – has a significant meaning for us as we have been confronting the COVID-19 scourge

shortly after having gone through the worst natural disaster in our geographical area. In four years, our island's touristic activity has experienced two severe disruptions. Our economy and our families have suffered tremendously. Nevertheless, I still strongly believe that our resilience as a people will help us overcome these challenges and rise again. It is a daily battle we have to face; let us have faith in the future and especially in ourselves!

I wish you a wonderful Saint Martin Day celebration. May



you enjoy this day with your family and loved ones. These moments offer us the opportunity to strengthen our ties, return to our roots and focus on what is essential. Happy Saint Martin Day!



Happy St. Maarten/St. Martin Day

"Have a blessed day"

From the Minister of Education, Culture, Youth & Sport
Drs. Rodolphe Samuel

In Memoriam: Remembering Sint Maarten of old with Jocelyn Arndell



St. Maarten has lost a hero whose legacy will remain for years to come, Prime Minister Silveria Jacobs said on Thursday, in reaction to the passing of cultural icon and former civil servant Jocelyn Arndell on Friday, October 29, 2021. Mr. Arndell was laid to rest on Monday, November 8.

Today, as we celebrate St. Martin Day, we remember the words and thoughts of the late Jocelyn Arndell, who once sat with us to pass on the legacy of Sint Maarten of old. He leaves behind friends, family, and a legacy that will endure throughout the history of Sint Maarten.

"You had to be creative to survive back in the day."

Creativity and a lot of bartering were the way folks survived in the olden days, says Jocelyn Arndell, a 72-year-old pensioner and former civil servant, who remembers his days growing up in St. Maarten very vividly. While the advent of technology has made practically everything easier for residents, Arndell still believes that some key traditions, if continued today, would make St. Maarten / St. Martin a better place.

One of the things he misses most from his younger years is the Great Salt Pond in its salt producing years. "The Salt Pond produced enough salt to supply other places. Boats used to come from England and other parts of Europe to collect the salt. I picked salt for home use and we used to 'corn' our meat and fish with salt and put it on the roof to dry. You could have eaten the fish just the way it was."

Everyone reared animals and grew crops in those days. If someone needed ground provisions, for example, they would share a piece of their butchered animal with a neighbour in exchange for provisions. "People did a lot of things for their livelihood because there was little work; so people did things to survive. Sucker Garden was a farming area where corn and provisions were cultivated. If I had peas, I would share this with my neighbour and I would get some yam. People shared everything among one another so no one went hungry."

Another fond memory was the jollification events where friends, family and neighbours turned up to assist someone who was building their home or reaping a crop, or was engaged in another task that required assistance. The homeowner provided the drinks and meals. "I would like to see these things today again, for people to unite and help each other with what they have to do," said Arndell. He said, though, that the reality is that not many people have the mind-set to assist as was done back in the day. "It might still be possible among families, but there are few of us left. We have become overrun by so many people who are not accustomed to doing things our way that it might

not be possible."

Wages

Arndell remembered earning a salary of Naf. 192 a month when he started to work at age 18. Someone was selling a 1948 Chevrolet for Naf. 250 and he paid down Naf. 125 for the vehicle and paid monthly instalments of Naf. 25 until the vehicle was paid off. He was one of the youngest persons on the island to own a car. "In those days, someone with a car was like a king, because you got a lot of attention." In the late 50s early 60s, Naf. 5 filled a vehicle with gas and was enough to purchase a square metre of land. A square metre of land costs US \$65 dollars today.

Arndell recalls labourers working for Naf. 0.90 a day, compared to today's minimum wage of US \$7+ per day. He recalls a specific case where a labourer, who earned this amount couldn't pay his Naf. 2.50 monthly rent for a two-room house and had to be evicted. At one point, workers had requested a salary increase of Naf. 0.10 to take their pay to Naf. 1 per day and they were all fired.

There were no school buses in those days and little to no transportation; children walked to school, in fact. Some children walked from French St. Martin to Dutch St. Maarten to attend school. "There was no weather bureau in the 50s and there was no way to know if hurricane was coming. The nuns looked at barometer in the schools to determine whether bad weather was coming. In those days, we called a hurricane a gale. And whenever a gale came; students could not walk in the bad weather to go home to the French side, so they had to stay over at their friends' homes until the weather passed," he said.

Old time games were the best part of growing up for Arndell. "We played marbles, and spinning tops, which we made by using wood from tree branches. We also made our own kites to fly and our own traps to catch birds." Children back then played "bat and ball", which today is called cricket. Softball was made from a bicycle tube and kids also made their own "rollers".

Traditional foods

Arndell dismissed assertions that the island's native dish is chicken leg and journey cakes. Back in his younger days, people primarily ate "fish and fungi"; pea soup with pigtail and cattle tongue dumplings; guinea corn and mutton (sheep meat).

Many people caught Doctor Fish in the sea or in Oyster Pond to make with their fungi. Arndell said he never ate fish as a youngster and he did not like fungi. This changed when he served as a member of the Island Council in the 70s and attended a reception where this was the main dish. "I couldn't refuse the food so I ate it and I loved it. I have been eating it ever since."

Mouth-o-gram

Communication back then was via "mouth-o-gram", Arndell said with a chuckle, asking the reporter interviewing him if she ever heard of this technology. "Mouth-o-gram," he explained, "is when I tell you and you tell others". There were no mobile phones, landlines or radios here in the 50s. If someone died in French Quarter, persons in other parts of the island were informed by a messenger. Arndell said a "bidding paper" notification would be prepared listing the details of the person's death and burial. A messenger would travel house to house on a horse to the various villages, and residents would read the bidding paper. This mode of communication ceased in the 60s when more advanced means of communication were available: The Morse code then amateur radio.

Entertainment

Entertainment was a treat back then. Arndell remembers the "treat your partner" dance vividly. "This is a public dance where a string band would play. Every time you danced with a lady, she would want you to pay for a drink for her. Sometimes, she would tell you not to open the drink because she wanted to stock them up and take them home. This doesn't exist anymore, because when the governor came to the island in 1959, he said a separate restroom was needed for men and women. In those days, there were only restrooms for women; men did their things outside in the bushes; but the governor said this was unhygienic." Many of these dance establishments closed down, bringing an end to this particular dance after this rule was introduced.

Another "dance" he remembers is the "bouquet dance". "If someone made birthday, he or she would invite friends for a party. In the middle of the dance, the birthday person would throw a bouquet of flowers into the crowd and the couple it fell on was responsible for the next party. The men took care of the music and the women took care of pudding, etc. This way, the party for one person's birthday would continue for a whole year. These things don't happen anymore and it is events like these that kept people together."

Arndell, who worked as a civil servant for 40 years, has tried to keep one tradition alive for more than 50 years. He is a founding member of Tanny and the Boys, which he helped to start in 1959. The band is celebrating 60 years this month.



Sint Maarten / Saint Martin Day Message

St. Maarten Finance Minister Ardwell M.R. Irion

My Fellow People of St. Maarten / St. Martin:

It is always a pleasure to address the people of the island. On the one hand, I am always filled with pride to stand with the people of my island – two countries on a land mass of 37 square miles – we are as unique as we are powerful. On the other hand, I am humbled to stand before you as an elected official endowed to the service of the people of our great nations.

As we stand at the precipice of what will be our 62nd annual celebration of St. Martin Day being held virtually, we pose in the awkward stance of facing the reality of what it means to be a local in the present day. Many of our voices are raised, not on the streets of old, but through the airwaves of technology. Our headlines read like futuristic predictions – and words like *mandates* and *masks* are more commonly used than they have ever been.

As I was growing up, St. Martin Day was a way for me to celebrate my culture with my friends and family. I can still hear the roar of the brass bands, see the colourful flashes of the dresses in the ponum dance, feel the rain that inexplicably always fell every year on those November days. Most of all, my heart warms when I think of the taste of my mother's Johnny cakes – fried and baked with love to celebrate our heritage – her efforts rising with the steam of each hot bite I took.

Now holding this place in office, I take St. Martin Day very seriously. It is serious because every day on St. Maarten hinges

on the decisions I make as a Minister along with the Council of Ministers. St. Martin Day as a Minister means I am now part of a team accountable for moving St. Maarten forward into a place where we are not just resilient, but where we are strong enough to stand triumphant in adversity, no matter what face it displays.

We are going through a time of great change. Fresh off the heels of life-changing natural disasters, and smack dab in the centre of a global pandemic, we cannot help but feel the tremors of a shift erupting on a global scale. As a nation, we are young – closer to a stage of learning and growth – but that is something that works well in our favour.

Recently, we have made advanced strides closer to a world more compatible with technology and it behoves us to preserve what is culturally significant. We must find ways to translate our heritage into our future, so that the foundations of our past may hold us steady and not be forgotten. It was Albert Einstein who said, "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow."

This November 11, my wish to all St. Martiners is that our voices will ring out – both at home and abroad; virtually and in person – and travel to the ears of the rest of the world, with a battle cry that screams: "We are resilient, we will rise to the occasion, and we will stand in our triumph!"

I wish us all a Happy and Safe St. Martin Day.



The Parliament of Sint Maarten wishes
the People of this island

a
Happy
Sint Maarten's
Day 2021



CLOSURES TO BE AWARE OF

CPS Closed on Thursday and Friday

The Collective Prevention Services (CPS), a department in the Ministry of Public Health, Social Development and Labour (Ministry VSA), would like to inform the public that its offices at the Vineyard Office Complex will be closed on Thursday, November 11, in connection with Sint Maarten Day.

CPS offices will also be closed on Friday, November 12, in connection with civil servants being granted the day off by the Government of Sint Maarten.

Community Help Desk Hope

Estate will be open Saturday for COVID-19 Testing

COVID-19 testing will resume at the Community Help Desk Hope Estate on Saturday, November 13. The opening hours are 8:30am to 11:00am.

Persons can call 914 for any additional information.

NV GEBE Closed on Thursday and Friday

NV GEBE hereby informs the general public that their offices will be closed on November 11 and 12 and will reopen on Monday, November 15, from 7:45am.

For emergencies during this closure, please contact the Help Desk between the hours of 7:00am and 9:00pm at 546-1100, 546-1160 or 588-3117; or log onto the live chat at www.nvgebe.com

Have a safe and enjoyable St. Martin Day!



Happy
Sint Maarten
Day!



live safe | live easy



*Safe Cargo Services
wishes the entire community a
Happy and Safe
St. Maarten/St. Martin Day*

BAKED JOHNNY CAKES

Try your hand at making this baked version of Johnny cakes for Sint Maarten / Saint Martin Day! Ask an adult to help you in the kitchen.

Ingredients

3 cups flour
1 pinch of salt
1¼ cups full fat milk*
3 tsp baking powder
½ cup cold butter or shortening
2 tsp sugar (optional)

Method

Preheat the oven to 375° F. Sift the flour, baking powder and salt into a large mixing bowl. Stir in the sugar (optional). Using the butter straight from the fridge, grate it into the bowl. Use your (clean) fingers to rub the butter into the flour mixture; raising your hands high to allow air in. Carry on until the mixture looks like bread crumbs. Gradually stir the milk into the mixture. You might not need to use all the milk – it's enough when the dough holds together when you press it into a ball. Put the ball of dough onto a clean floured surface and knead using the heel of your hands, for about a minute.

Divide the dough into 12 pieces and form into balls. Place the dough balls onto your greased baking tray and flatten each one down with the palm of your hand so they are ½ inch thick. Prod the top of each cake a couple of times with a fork and brush the tops with milk. Bake in the oven at 375° F for 15-20 minutes – the cakes should be slightly browned on top and cooked through. Test by sticking a knife in them; it should come out clean with no crumbs attached.

**You can ring the changes by using coconut milk.*



JOHNNY CAKES

A large group of athletes and staff are celebrating on a red running track. Many are wearing blue and white singlets with 'Loughborough' and their bib numbers. A large red and white 'FINISH' banner is visible in the background, and a flag is being held in the foreground.



FROM STAFF & MANAGEMENT

Your Partner in Progress
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34TH ANNUAL ST. MAARTEN/ST. MARTIN'S DAY Half-way Round the-Island Relay Race

Thursday, November 11th, 2021





Route Description:

Leg 1: From the start, up Cay Hill Kooyman, past the viewpoint at the top, down to the roundabout and turn right on to Union Road through to Carrefour in Cole Bay.

Leg 2: From Carrefour, get on the Causeway and return, crossing the zebra path, to turn left and cross the border on to Rue de Hollande monument.

Leg 3: Continue along Rue de Hollande, going straight across the Home and Tools roundabout following Rue de Hollande through St. James, to turn left into Rue de La Republique. Keep right past Le West Indies Mall and finish in front of gas-station in Galisbay.

Leg 4: From gas-station Galisbay continue to the Agremnet roundabout, turn left up Route du Mourné Valols and over the hills to the Pompier in La Savane (firestation & gasstation).

Leg 5: From La Savane to Grand Case, through the village, waterline, along Boulevard de Grand Case and Route de L'Esperance to the entrance to the Airport.

Leg 6: From the Airport, follow Route de L'Esperance to the main road and turn left, along the rolling hills to the bottom of the dip at the turning to Orient Bay.

****Leg 7:** From the dip, head BACK up to the main road of Route de Public, passing the SUPER-U market on your left hand side, and the airport on your right hand side, head to Pompier in La Savane (firestation & gasstation).

****Leg 8:** From la Savane over the hills to Route du Mourné Valols, looking over Marigot, to the Agrenet roundabout to finish in front of gas-station in Galisbay.

****Leg 9:** From gas-station in Galisbay continue to keep 'Le West Indies Mall' on your left, and head to Rue de La Republique through St. James to Rue de Hollande, all the way to the Home and Tools roundabout, continue along Rue de Hollande monument.

****Leg 10:** From Rue de Hollande monument cross the border to the Causeway, crossing the zebra path, back on the Causeway having Texaco on your right continue to Carrefour.

****Leg 11:** From Carrefour, head onto Union Road to the roundabout, over the hill, past the viewpoint, down to Cay hill to the finish line in Raoul Illidge Sport Complex.

Running the Race

Long-time participant, and now a Road Runner board member, Berit Bus shares a bit of insight into what it takes to organize and run in the St. Maarten Day Around the Island Relay Race that is as much a part of St. Maarten Day as any other tradition. This year, the relay race continues its long-standing tradition.

1. How long have you been doing the Around the Island Relay Race?

I joined the Around the Island Relay Race at a very young age. Joining my father, I became more competitive as a teenager. The race has been happening for 33 years. This year is the 34th year. It has been happening before I was even born! The Road Runners Club started in 1984 by Malcolm Maidwell and Frits Bus. The club slowly grew into a bigger group of runners from both Dutch and French side. Over the years, the Road Runners club has always contributed to local charities and has organized many races including the Around the Island Relay Race. This started in 1987 when Malcolm wanted to create a race that would unify both Dutch and French side.

2. Can you tell us what got you into participating in it?

My love for sports – in particular running! The great thing about the relay race is that it is a team effort – that makes participating in this event so much more fun!

3. How do you train for it?

I train every Wednesday and Saturday with the Road Runners Association. Every training is different, but usually a one-hour interval training. There are many different running workouts to get you prepared for a race. The information is available online – or a running coach like Krispijn Teunissen (President of Road Runners) knows how!

4. What was something you found out you really aren't ready for, even if you train?

I always thought I would never be ready for a half marathon; but I did it. I never thought I could do 30km of running; but I did it. Now it's on to the full marathon. Am I ready? No. But I will keep training. You never know until you try, right?

5. Are there any challenges you've made for yourself? Have you achieved them?

I constantly create challenges for myself. After all...I'm competing against yesterday's me. I've achieved quite some!

6. How is it different organising the team, versus just running?

Organising a team for the relay race means you are responsible for your runners. First and most important, do they run? Ha-ha. There are many other elements involved in creating a good team. Offer and ensure consistency in training, build team effort, bring motivation and support, and get personal

with a holistic approach.

7. Do you have any tips/tricks to getting ready for/running the relay?

Practice and plan; make sleep a priority; stay positive; focus on your nutrition. For relay race day, organise a drop-off and pick-up ride; prepare breakfast and drinks for the morning the night before, as you may start your run later than sooner; check the weather and dress accordingly.

8. Can you give some insight on what it takes to be on the board organising the whole race?

We have a team of five on the board of the Road Runners Association; some of us have been doing it for 34 years. Every year, we try to stick to the same planning, but we also like to change it up with the course or the entry rules. It takes a team, volunteers and runners to make this race happen.

The Around the Island Relay Race has never been cancelled (34 years!) and we intend to continue this trend. St. Maarteners are good at adapting!! If we feel that the route is unsafe or uncomfortable, especially for our young runners, we have a plan-B in place to adjust the route. We hope this will not be necessary, but as we do always support our Northern brothers and sisters, we understand their frustrations and will adapt to them.



The Indian Merchants Association of St. Maarten wishes you a Happy and Joyous St. Maarten /St. Martin Day.

St. Maarten In Retrospect

The annual television show "St. Maarten In Retrospect" – the program highlighting St. Maarten's anniversary celebrations of Sint Maarten Day – will once again be broadcast on Sint Maarten / Saint Martin Day, Thursday, November 11, showcasing and celebrating the island's local culture with a lively line-up of cultural performances taking centre stage.

This year's event and broadcast will take place from Flamboyant Road in Saunders at 9:00am until 12:00

midday, and will be aired live on www.CaribbeanSunshine.sx, www.facebook.com/SxMinRetrospect, Tele TV 15 and TV Carib Ch 10.

Sint Maarten In Retrospect executive producer Elton Richardson is encouraging the public to tune in and enjoy the day with music, food, history and culture. Just like all the other years, this year's program will be informative as well as entertaining.

Mrs. Nerissa Ellis Cornelia will be joining the cast this year again to co-host with Elton, along with his daughter Zharia Richardson, current

Calypso Monarch of St. Maarten. Delicious local food will also be an attraction from special guest Ohndhae Marlin, who will display some of his culinary artistic skills in the kitchen by preparing a number of St. Maarten's local dishes live on the air.

Participating online viewers, who are following the broadcast, can win special prizes, such as Naf. 150 gift vouchers from Kooyman as part of their 15th anniversary celebrations, along with gift certificates from Rainforest Adventures St. Maarten – Rockland Estate to try out the Flying Dutchman zip line, Aqua Mania Adventures sunset cruises and much more.

Participation is also encouraged via the Facebook Page "Sint Maarten In Retrospect" where greetings to family and friends from anywhere in the world can be sent and will be read live on the air during the broadcast.



St. Maarten Community Choir in performance.



ST. MAARTEN IN RETROSPECT

Celebrating the 62nd, Anniversary of St. Maarten's Day Celebrations and 22 years of LIVE coverage.

Virtual broadcast airing LIVE Thursday, November 11th, 2021 from 9 am until 12 pm on TV Carib Ch. 10 and Tele TV Ch. 15. Streaming LIVE on www.caribbeansunshine.sx and Facebook.

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Fun Miles - Sol Antilles - Central Mix Concrete - Kooyman
Rain Forrest Adventures - Aqua Mania Adventures

Happy St. Maarten Day



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Why “St. Martin Day”

By Rhoda Arrindell

What is St. Martin Day all about, and how do we represent it accurately in writing? These are questions to be answered, given the persistent inaccuracies in referring to the day both orally and in written form.

First, St. Martin Day is NOT:

- a celebration of the discovery of the island by Christopher Columbus

- a celebration of the division of the island by the Dutch and French or the 1648 Partition Treaty, a.k.a. the Treaty of Concordia

- a celebration of St. Maarten(s)/St. Martin(s) Day

To this day, it remains questionable whether Christopher Columbus “discovered” our island on November 11, 1493, as is often claimed.

In fact, records show Columbus a long way from St. Martin on that date, and the first appearance of the island on a map was in 1516 as *Sam Mtim*.

Precisely which European power first used the name St. Martin is not certain, but as early as 1630, both the French and the Dutch were referring to the island as St. Martin.

The Dutch spelling, St. Maarten, to refer to the southern part, does not appear until 1936, apparently for the Netherlands to lay claim to the name aspect of its “own” half of the island, since the English and French spellings were identical.

November 11 is the celebration of the oneness – not the division – of the St. Martin people.

The date was settled on by two legendary, elected leaders of the St. Martin people, Dr. Claude Wathey (in the South) and Dr. Hubert Petit (in the North), with the support of many of their contemporaries such as Clem Labega and Felix Choisy, as a people’s celebration.

According to Dr. Petit, the founders were very clear

that “the St. Martin people needed a celebration for themselves”, and they were not going to celebrate the division of the island by the two colonial powers.

When you write “St. Maarten/St. Martin”, you are literally putting a slash – a symbol of conflict, division, and violence – between the official names for the two territories, whose people remain one.

While the slash can be used in English to show that two things are closely related, it is mostly used to represent the word “or” and to show opposition, and it is avoided in formal writing.

When you use the slash, you are in essence referring to either one of the two parts of the island, and not the entire island, and you are showing just the opposite of what the intention of the celebration is.

When the apostrophe is used in English, it is to indicate possession or omission.

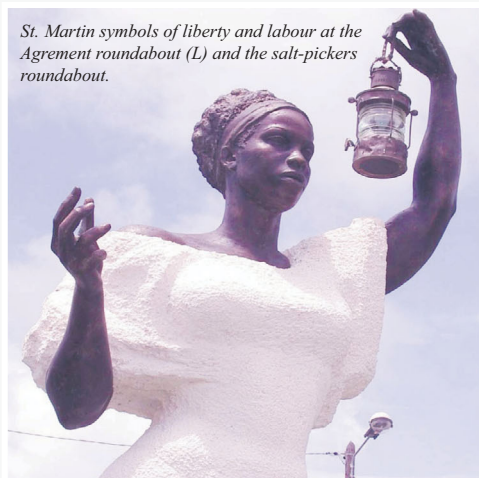
An apostrophe after “St. Martin” indicates that either the day belongs to St. Martin (possession) or that something is missing between “St. Martin” and the letter “s” (omission).

The day is the celebration of the St. Martin people’s

oneness, with “St. Martin” functioning as an adjective to modify the word “day.” The correct way to represent what we celebrate on November 11 in writing, as in spoken language, is “St. Martin Day”, just like Aruba Day, Saba Day, or Independence Day, etc.

(Editor Note: Rhoda Arrindell, PhD, is a linguist, author, and member of One SXM Association.)

St. Martin symbols of liberty and labour at the Agreement roundabout (L) and the salt-pickers roundabout.



Management and staff of UNICOMER (OMNI)

wishes everyone a wonderful
St. Maarten/St. Martin Day!

OMNI
ST. MAARTEN

Mauby Drink Recipe

Ingredients

4-5 cups of water
10 pieces of mauby bark
2 cups sugar
1-2 cinnamon sticks depending on size (optional)
2 pieces of dried orange peel
½ nutmeg (optional)
3-4 cloves

Directions

1. Place all ingredients into a saucepan and on med-high heat and allow it to boil. Allow the concentrate to boil for five minutes before turning off the stove and covering the pot. Leave the concentrate to steep for around five hours – let it sit longer for a more fermented and fizzy flavour.

2. To prepare a glass of mauby, add two cups of water to every one cup of concentrate and sweeten with brown sugar. To add an extra kick, add a few drops of Angostura bitters, a liquor of your choosing, mixed essence or cinnamon and ice and enjoy!



Sint Maarten / Saint Martin Day Programme

The Annual St. Martin Day Celebration takes place tomorrow, Thursday, November 11.

This Thursday, November 11, 2021, marks the 62nd Annual St. Martin Day Celebration of kinship, solidarity, resilience and endurance of the people of St. Martin. St. Martin Day is a people's day celebration as envisioned by our founding fathers, Dr. Claude Wathey and Dr. Hubert Petit, and brought to life yearly by dedicated civil servants, cultural activists and knowledge bearers, who work diligently to ensure that this vision of togetherness is observed. The celebration comes alive

again tomorrow, with the theme: "We stand triumphant in the face of adversity".

This year, due to safety concerns surrounding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Sint Maarten has opted to have the celebrations done partly in-person and partly virtual. The in-person activities will consist of an ecumenical church service at the New Testament Baptist Church in Philipsburg at 8:00am, followed by the traditional laying of the wreath at the Cole Bay border monument. The virtual celebration will comprise addresses by Government officials representing both sides of the island, music,

poetry-, dance- and cultural-performances by St. Martin artists.

The following is the program line-up of performances:

- Faizah Tabasamu & Beverly Nisbeth – "A St. Martin Soak"
- Dance & Arts Dimension Academy Foundation – "I Will Stand and Serve My Country St Maarten"
- Elysian – "Goodness of God"
- Dance & Arts Dimension Academy Foundation – "I Will Go"
- Rudy's Performing Arts Dance & Expressions – "St. Maarten Rhumba"
- Tafari Prevoo – "St. Martin Is My Home"
- "Shakiya" – "For the

- Love of St Martin" Charisse Piper – "To Remember"
- King Stunky – "Where Has Our Culture Gone"
- National Institute of Arts – "SXM Songs Medley"
- Zee – "Calypso Here To Stay"
- Alphonso Blijden – Interview
- Elysian – "Find My Way"
- Untopia Performers – "Rumba Fever"
- Carlson Velazquez – Interview
- Family String Band Chanti – "Don't Give Up"
- Bianca Dijkhoffz – Interview
- King Vers – "Who Shot Ya"
- "Entry Pelican" – "Ghetto Pain"
- Tamillia – "Do Me"

- Cultural Presentation – Education Youth & Sport Minister Rodolphe Samuel & Culture Department Head Clara Reyes
- King Patou – "Love"
- King James – "Looking Me"
- King Repeater – "SXM, We Thank You"
- Family String Band in collaboration with Our Creation St. Martin Arts and Craft National Cultural Parade Display

the Ecumenical Church Service live-streamed on the SXMGOV Facebook page and SXMGOV Radio Station 107.9 FM. The virtual presentation can be seen later in the afternoon at 5:00 via the SXMGOV online media and on TelTV Channel 15 with a repeat at 9:00 in the evening. The Government of Sint Maarten wishes one and all a Happy, Healthy and Safe 62nd St. Martin Day Celebration.

Photos –

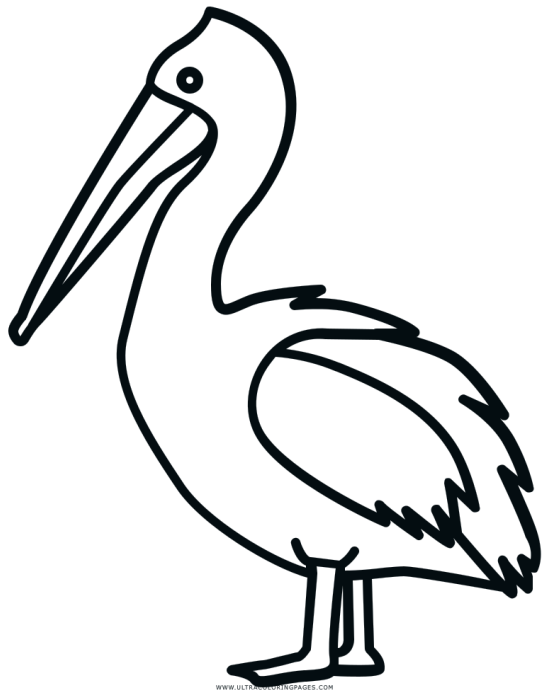
Photo 1 – Dance & Arts Dimension Academy Foundation Performers.
Photo 2 – Funtopia Performers.
Photo 3 – Rudy's Performing Arts Dance & Expressions Performers.



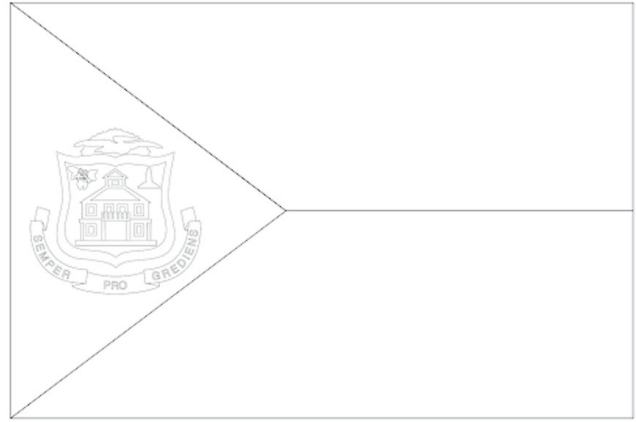
HAPPY SINT MAARTEN'S DAY

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The Management and Staff of SZV
wishes everyone a

Safe, Happy and Healthy

St. Maarten's Day

Let's keep building a brighter future, together!

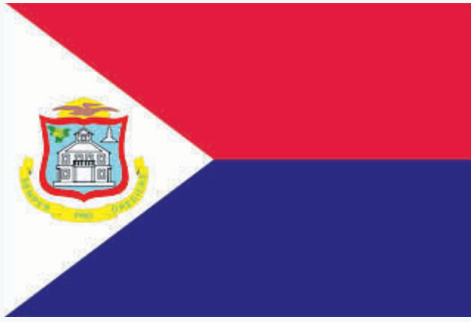


Sint Maarten,
You are Resilient and Strong. Raise your Sail and Prevail.
Happy Sint Maarten's Day!

THE SYMBOLS OF ST MAARTEN

Every country has its national symbols – they stand not only for physical objects, but also represent our community, beliefs, emotions, identity and love of country.

The national flag of St. Maarten was officially inaugurated on 13 June 1985. The government issued an open call to the population to submit designs. The design chosen was that created by Roselle Richardson; a 17-year-old girl. The flag is red on top, blue on the bottom, with a white chevron (a sideways "V") in white on the left side containing the Coat of Arms. The red represents and reminds us of the sadness of



war and bloodshed and the troubled times of slavery; whereas the blue emphasises peace, calm and forgiveness. The white reminds us of the importance of faith, purity and integrity.

The Coat of Arms is a red-edged shield. A rising sun



emerges from the top of the shield, with our national bird, the brown pelican flying in front of it. The sun reflects our tropical climate and the warmth of the people. The inner colour of the shield is blue – a remembrance of the sky and the sea. The shield contains three images. The centre image is the Court House, not only a beautiful building, but also a symbol of the rule of law. At the top right is the Border Monument reminding us of the unique peaceful co-existence between both sides of the island. Our national flower, the orange-yellow sage is depicted on the top left, reminding us of the beauty of nature on our

island. Below the shield is a yellow sash with the words of our national motto in Latin "Semper pro grediens" which means "always progressing."

Our national tree is the aptly named flamboyant (the royal Poinciana – or flame tree). It blooms spectacularly from July through September with bright scarlet, yellow or orange blooms, and is known locally as the July Tree. It is a symbol of the freedom and joy of emancipation. When slavery finally ended, the people celebrated by waving branches and blossoms of the flamboyant tree and dancing the national dance – the Ponum. The tree originated in Madagascar, but is grown in tropical and subtropical regions worldwide, and is one of the best-known and loved of tropical trees because of its beautiful floral display. It grows in full sun, and can tolerate drought and sandy conditions. Its wide umbrella shape and thick foliage make it an ideal shade tree.



The national flower of St. Maarten, the orange yellow sage or Lantana Camara, has tiny clusters of flowers in bubble-gum colours; red, yellow, white, pink and orange. The flowers even change colour after being pollinated. The bright colours attract butterflies and humming birds. It is a hardy plant, being able to withstand drought, different soil types, heat, humidity and salt. It produces a berry-like fruit which birds love.

The national

song for both sides of the island is "Sweet St. Martin's Land" composed by Father Gerard Kemps, a Catholic priest. The song tells of the beauty and uniqueness of the island.

Happy St. Maarten's Day.



Happy St. Maarten's Day



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HAPPY SINT MAARTEN/ SAINT MARTIN'S DAY

NOVEMBER 11TH, 2021

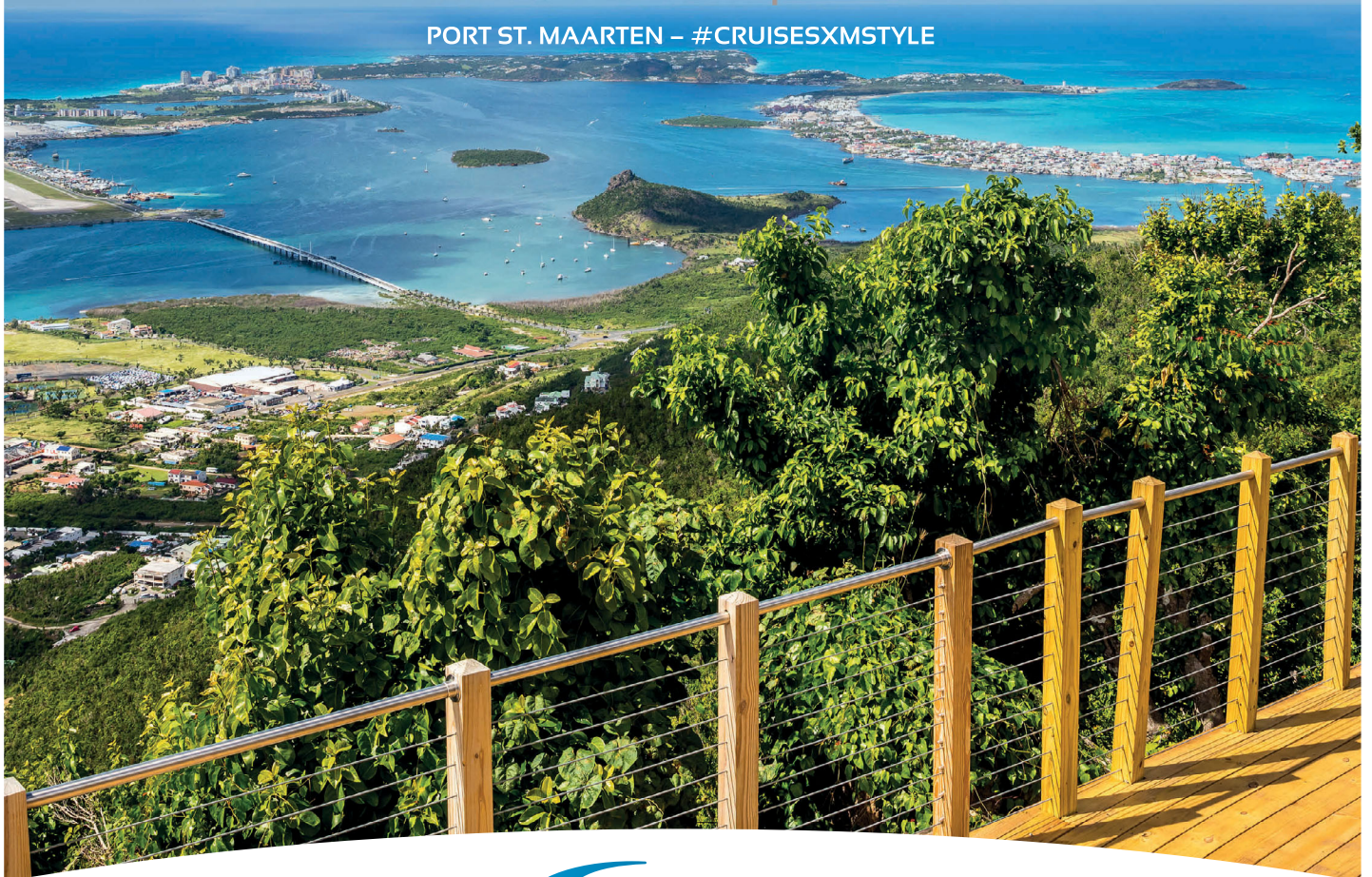
THE SUPERVISORY BOARD, MANAGEMENT AND STAFF AT PORT ST. MAARTEN, WISHES
THE RESIDENTS AND VISITORS A HAPPY SINT MAARTEN / SAINT MARTIN'S DAY 2021.

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WHERE YOUR HOLIDAY EXPERIENCES COME ALIVE



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37 WHITE SAND BEACHES – WORLD MOST FAMOUS PLANE-SPOTTING AT MAHO BEACH – DUTY-FREE DESTINATION OF THE
CARIBBEAN – DELICIOUS CARIBBEAN CUISINE – SECRET ESCAPES TO RECOVER & RELAX
ST. MAARTEN, THE 'FRIENDLY ISLAND' OF THE CARIBBEAN