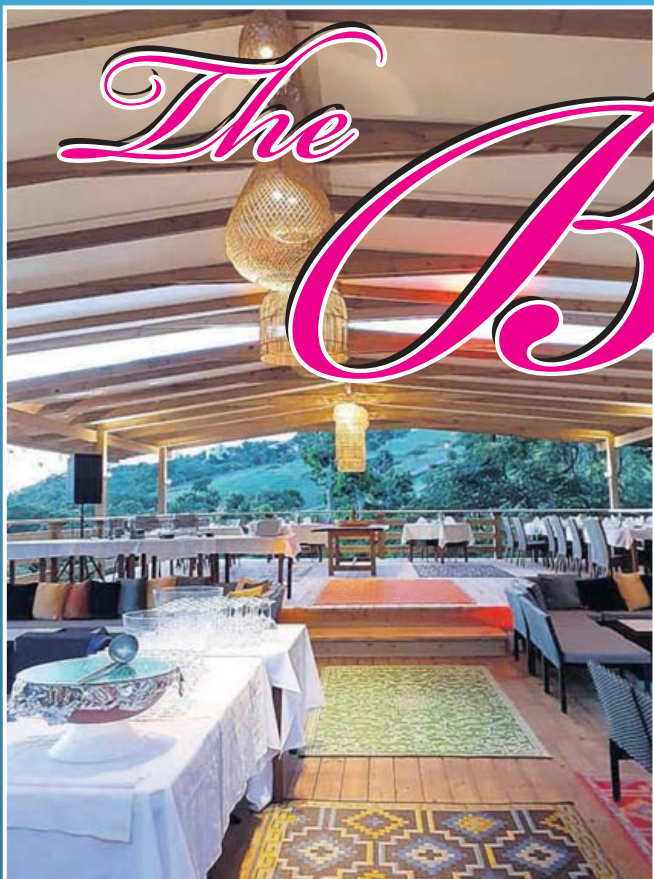


# The Best of



## St. Maarten St. Martin

# 2019

A YEARLY SUPPLEMENT OF THE DAILY HERALD





## THE BEST OF 2019

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# Now an adult

The Daily Herald's "Best Of" supplement has come of age with already its 18th edition. This annual publication is based on an online survey from mid-December to mid-January regarding people's favourite business establishments and personalities in a host of categories during the preceding calendar year.

The number of entries continues to grow, as nominees also increasingly seek active support from their fans and/or patrons in the informal poll. Keep in mind that it's an otherwise completely unscientific popularity contest, intended to motivate rather than discourage.

Not being among the winners should merely stimulate those involved to work on doing better next time. That will ultimately only help make "The Friendly Island" even greater.

The Publisher



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## Best High-End Restaurant

### AVANTIKA

*When you think about dining in style and elegance, think Avantika. Their intimate, air-conditioned dining hall, which can comfortably seat 50 persons, is outfitted for a great experience. For those who prefer the breezy outdoors; there is ample open-air seating for up to 80 persons in the atrium.*

Avantika offers Thai, vegan and vegetarian menu choices to cater to the appetite of just about any diner. This is the second year in a row that Avantika has won Best High-End Restaurant.

"In a very competitive market with so many dining options, we are very proud of this achievement. Our success is the result of the passion of our owner, Thai chefs and a professional and multicultural team (12 nationalities which include Thailand, India, South Africa, Italy, Cuba, Venezuela and France) that represents perfectly the rich international culture of our beloved Sint Maarten," management says.

Avantika credits the combination of fresh food, cosy and elegant venue and the passion and dedication of its team hard working for the win.

**1<sup>st</sup>**

**AVANTIKA**
**2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Emilio's**
**3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Spiga**

# AVANTIKA

FRESH THAI CUISINE & LOUNGE

## THANK YOU ST. MAARTEN FOR VOTING US

### Best high-end Restaurant Best Thai Top 2 best Vegetarian

Open every day from 11 am to 11 pm  
7 days a week





## Best New Restaurant

### JAX Steakhouse & Cocktail Bar

**JAX Steakhouse & Cocktail Bar****1<sup>st</sup>****Roxy Beach****2<sup>nd</sup>**

Located upstairs the Maho Village, JAX Steakhouse & Cocktail Bar blends the modern steakhouse and chic lounge into one, offering a dynamic, fine dining experience with the superior quality of a traditional steakhouse.

Manager Marnix Peeters says JAX offers the very best cuts of meat and fresh seafood available in St. Maarten along with a variety of other dishes that include vegan options. And while it may be new to the island's restaurant scene, JAX Steakhouse and Cocktail Bar has quickly become one of the top restaurants on the island and was voted #1 from among more than 500 restaurants listed in Saint Martin/ Sint Maarten in *TripAdvisor* 2019.

Readers of *The Daily Herald* were on point for choosing JAX Steakhouse & Cocktail Bar as the Best New Restaurant for 2019 in the "Best Of" readers' poll. JAX' kitchen is open seven days a week from 6:00pm. Happy hour runs from 5:00pm until 7:00pm daily at their outside bar area overlooking the Maho Village.

**Caribbean Feisty Flavors****3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Sushi

### Bamboo

**Bamboo****1<sup>st</sup>**

For the ultimate sushi experience, head over to Bamboo – our readers' pick of "Best Sushi Place on the Island" for 2019. Bamboo's consistency of freshness and high-quality sushi, coupled with their great service has left the restaurant undethroned as Best Sushi Place for over a decade and a half.

Bamboo offers a wide range of palate tempting sushi from all-time favourites like the Angry Dragon Roll, the Kuta Roll and the mouth-watering Sexy Salmon Roll. Top sushi chefs are brought in regularly to update the menu and create a different taste, so no matter how often you go, your palate will never be bored.

Manager Axel Prevot is grateful for the honour: "We see our customers returning year after year and we see the pleasure on their faces. Bamboo is a name that has a reputation. It's a must go-to place when it comes to Sushi. We're proud of our sushi and proud to have this title."

Sushi lovers can dine indoors, prop up at the bar, or enjoy the fresh breeze of the open-air outdoors.

**Ginger Sushi & Grill****2<sup>nd</sup>****Wasabi Charlie****3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Place for a Sandwich

### Topper's

There's no better place to grab a tasty, juicy, fresh sandwich in St. Maarten/St. Martin than at Topper's in Simpson Bay – voted Best Place for Sandwich on the island for 2019.

At Topper's, the sandwich options are wide, catering to just about any craving. Choose chicken, meatball, steak (made from fresh Black Angus beef or Rib Eye) or fish sandwich; or try the delectable vegetarian option, made from a tasty combination of chickpeas and eggplant sautéed with fresh garlic. Yum!

The breads used are made in-house from scratch, and range from white, wheat, rye and French buns. Topper's talented chef and friendly staffers make your dining experience second to none.

When asked why Topper's is number one,

**Carl and Son's****2<sup>nd</sup>****Topper's****1<sup>st</sup>**

owner Topper Daboul, who's been on island since 1959, says, "We offer the best product, we have a great chef, the service is unbelievable and we add all the trimmings to our sandwiches."

Visit Topper's today and let your taste buds be overjoyed with the best sandwich on island.

**Café Atlantico****3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Breakfast Spot

### Chesterfields

Nothing is more important than the first meal of the day; and Chesterfields – our readers' choice of Best Breakfast Spot on the island for 2019 – makes sure that your first meal of the day is your best meal of the day.

Breakfast menu options include various choices of omelettes (plain, ham and cheese, mushroom, shrimp and crab, cheese Spanish and mushroom and cheese), French toast and pancakes, sandwiches, juices, hot beverages and fresh fruit. Also check out their dockside combinations and specials. Side orders include toast, bacon, sausage and home fries.

It's therefore easy to see why this seaside restaurant has won this "Best Of" title a number of times over the years. "Because

of our location, Chesterfields has an amazing ambiance to have an early morning breakfast. It's quiet; service is attentive and friendly; the menu is very affordable for the number of choices for what's on it; and there's ample parking available," the restaurant says.

Chesterfields thanks its clients for their patronage and its staff for their dedication.

**Zee Best****2<sup>nd</sup>****St. Maarten Yacht Club****3<sup>rd</sup>**



# Best Pizza

## Domino's

*There are few things more appetizing than a pizza. And at Domino's, you can get your pizza made fresh from scratch, with just about any topping you desire. The pizzas come in different sizes, such as small, medium, large and the dominator. So it doesn't matter if you're a small or hearty eater, or if you're catering to a small or large group, there is a pizza sized just for you.*

Craving that pizza, but don't feel like leaving your home or office? No problem. Your pizza is just a phone call away. Ring Domino's; place your order; and your pizza will be delivered to you at your door. You can also order ahead of time and pick up your order, so you don't have to wait. How convenient is that!

Pair your pizza with a refreshing soda and nice side, which includes cheesy bread, bread twists, oven roasted sandwiches, pastas, wings, boneless chicken and cookie brownies. Yummy! What are you waiting for? Get your pizza today from Domino's – the Best Pizza Place on island!

1<sup>st</sup>

Domino's

2<sup>nd</sup>

Pizza and Co.

3<sup>rd</sup>

Tutti's Pizza

THANK YOU FOR VOTING US  
#1 BEST NEW RESTAURANT



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3 AMIGOS



THANK YOU FOR VOTING US #1





## Best Seafood Restaurant

### Pineapple Pete

An iconic landmark in Simpson Bay, Pineapple Pete has reached first place, winning the title of Best Seafood Restaurant on St. Maarten. Upon arrival at Pineapple Pete, you are shown to your table by friendly and helpful waiters, who check on you at various times during your meal, giving prompt service, bringing water to your table and taking your drink orders.

Food is delivered within a short while after putting your orders in and is plated with good visual effect. The seafood dishes are mostly locally caught. Lobster is one of the most popular dishes. Crab, shrimp, mahi-mahi, grouper and mussels are offered as appetizers and main courses.



Pineapple Pete

1<sup>st</sup>

Lobster Thermidor, Toasted Sesame crusted Tuna and Crab, Spinach crusted Grouper come highly recommended; and Surf and Turf is known to be the best on island. If you are not into seafood, there is a plethora of other dishes to choose from. Entertainment is lively; restrooms are clean. There's plentiful parking outside, and one can also arrive by dinghy as the restaurant is on the Lagoon.

## Best Mexican Restaurant

### 3 Amigos

Located in the heart of Maho village, just steps from the world famous Maho Beach, 3 Amigos is a lively restaurant where visitors get a great product at an unbeatable price. Everything the restaurant offers is made fresh on the premises and is healthy, tasty and lip smacking good.

At 3 Amigos, you are served all your favourite Mexican treats, from tacos and burritos to enchiladas and mouth-watering fajitas. You can visit for a family meal or just sit at the bar and enjoy one of their fresh margaritas – quality and quantity that can't be

beat.

Manager Marnix Peeters says 3 Amigos' great food, drinks and company make it the perfect place any night of the week. When the kitchen closes, the lights get turned down and the party starts with the island's top deejays seven days a week.



3 Amigos

1<sup>st</sup>

Chesterfields

2<sup>nd</sup>

Big Fish

3<sup>rd</sup>

La Patrona

2<sup>nd</sup>

Jimbo's

3<sup>rd</sup>

**CHESTERFIELDS**  
Waterfront Restaurant & Bar  
Dock Maarten Marina, St. Maarten

**Serving Sint Maarten/Saint Martin for over 40 years.**

**On behalf of the Management and Staff,  
we thank the readers of The Daily Herald for voting us:**

**# 2 Best seafood restaurant**  
**# 2 Best place for lunch**

**# 1 Best place for breakfast**  
**# 3 Best place for steak**



## Best BBQ

### Original Fat Boy Jimmy's

*Barbecue is an important treat when you're living on an island like St. Maarten. And for 2019, no one did barbecue quite like the Original Fat Boy Jimmy's on the Pondfill.*

Jimmy the owner has been serving up tasty barbecue for some 40 years now, and nine of these years have been at his current location. Jimmy has perfected his skills and has built up a following of loyal customers who can't get enough of his grilled goodies.

Bubbly and full-of-energy, Jimmy's son Francois Graham is now working alongside his father at the restaurant. At the Original Fat Boy Jimmy's, you can get the best tasting barbecued ribs, chicken and wings, as well as grilled fish. You can pair your barbe-

cue with homemade Johnny cakes or have an entire meal of your grilled delight.

Thanking customers for their continuous support and for voting the establishment's BBQ #1, Graham said the restaurant uses a special blend of seasonings to create a unique taste. He said love is poured into their meals.



Original Fat Boy Jimmy's

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best Place for Dessert

### Carousel

*With their high-quality homemade ice cream, beautiful carousel and amazing ambiance, it is no wonder that Carousel won the best dessert place for the fifth year in a row.*

Carousel's speciality ice cream is made fresh daily in the laboratory on-site. Carousel prepares 65 flavours on a daily basis, of which they display 14 flavours per day in their ice cream store. The remaining flavours are sold to mega yachts and fine local restaurants.

Not big on ice cream? No problem. Carousel also offers crepes, waffles, cotton candy and popcorn. Carousel perfectly caters to family fun so parents can enjoy a sweet treat while the little ones play in the playground or ride the merry-go-round. For only \$5, children get an ice cream and a carousel ride.

This New Year 2020 is going to be big for

Carousel. They will be ready for the new season with a beautiful gift- and rum-shop so you can get something for your loved ones while also treating yourself to some dessert.



Carousel

1<sup>st</sup>



Captain D's Rib Shack

2<sup>nd</sup>



Lee's Roadside Grill

3<sup>rd</sup>



La Sucrière

2<sup>nd</sup>



Gelateria Milano

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Place for Lunch

### Topper's

*The comfort and friendliness one finds at Topper's always gives one a feeling of stepping back home. The vote as the Best Place for Lunch is absolutely spot on!*

Topper's in Simpson Bay is a fun and lively place with very friendly staff, who give great service. Stepping into the restaurant, you immediately get a warm welcome and feel the cosiness of the colourful Caribbean décor as you scan the menu for delicious food.

This great international restaurant will meet all your expectations, especially if you are looking for a great lunch. The all-American comfort cuisine, with daily specials focusing on fresh seafood and the best quality meats, is cooked to perfection.



Topper's

1<sup>st</sup>

Choices on the lunch menu include mango chicken salad, Mahi Reuben sandwich, drunken shrimp salad, hanging kebabs, pasta, homemade soups and award-winning burgers. Eat in the lively bar area, out on the airy terrace, or inside where there is air-conditioning. End your meal with a shot of some of Topper's award winning complimentary rum. Topper's is TOPS!



Chesterfields

2<sup>nd</sup>



Lazy Lizard

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Italian Restaurant

### Sale & Pepe



Sale & Pepe

1<sup>st</sup>

*One cannot find a better location than the new venue for this wonderful restaurant. Situated overlooking the lagoon, Sale & Pepe captures the very essence of dining in Italy. The Sicilian décor is cool white and blue with accents of yellow. Indoor seating offers air-conditioning, outdoor seating is in a glassed-in area affording the diner wondrous views.*

The roof and glass walls are all retractable allowing one to dine al fresco when the weather is not inclement. "Fresh is best" means ingredients are sourced each day.

The seafood is mostly locally caught and sustainable, some of the most delectable seafood caught off the coast of Sicily is also on the menu.

Photographs depicting the Sicilian fishing industry adorn the interior walls. Do try the shrimp. The pastas are homemade as is the bread. The menu offers a wide range of antipasti, entrees, pastas and desserts. The wine list is good. The restaurant can cater to larger groups. In high season, it is necessary to book for the Sicilian chef; waiters offer the very best.



IZI

2<sup>nd</sup>



Isola

3<sup>rd</sup>





## Best Place for Steak

### Topper's

*When it comes to serving up a delectable, hearty steak that will leave your taste buds in awe, Topper's has few equals. Only the best cuts of the freshest meat are used in Topper's steaks. From Black Angus and Sirloin, to Tenderloin and Rib Eye, the choice is yours.*

Get your steak grilled to perfection whether you like it rare, medium rare, medium well or well done. Steaks are served with your choice of sides, including salad and mashed potatoes, fries, rice or vegetables, or a combination of any.

Topper's has been pleasing appetites in St. Maarten/St. Martin for the past 15

years at the same location in Simpson Bay. Drop by during happy hour from 1:00pm to 6:00pm to enjoy drink specials with your steak.

After dinner, show off your inner talent at their popular karaoke, which starts around 7:30 nightly, with the exception of Thursdays when the St. Maarten Dance Theatre professionals put on a grand cabaret dinner show for guests. See you there!



Topper's

1<sup>st</sup>

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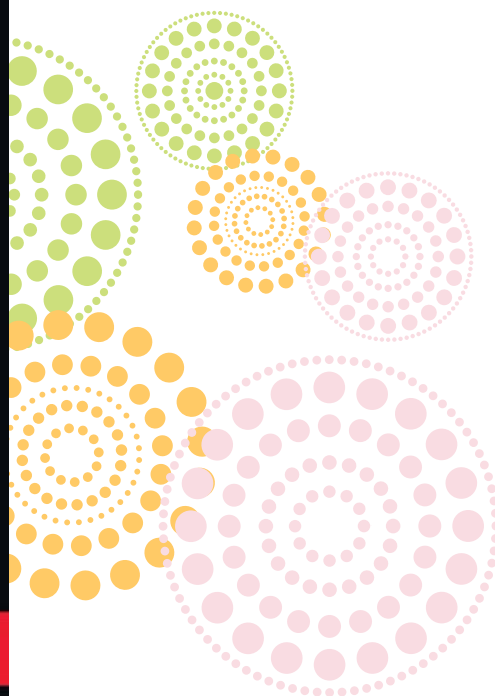
Jax Steakhouse & Cocktail Bar

2<sup>nd</sup>



Chesterfields

3<sup>rd</sup>





## Best Indian Restaurant

### Lal's Indian Cuisine

*Lal's Indian Cuisine "Curry in a Hurry" at the Portofino Village in Simpson Bay is St. Maarten's favourite Indian restaurant. The simple eatery has a welcoming feel, attentive staff and serves up authentic made-to-order Indian food using traditional recipes to make delicacies that are lip smacking.*



Lal's Indian Cuisine

1<sup>st</sup>

One of the secrets to Lal's cuisine is the use of fresh ingredients. Lal's now features an expanded Indian Street Food menu, with new additions such as pani puri, dahi puri, pav bhaji and ragda patties. Their regular menu of Tandoori specialities, chicken, lamb, seafood, mutton and South African specialties remain.

Finish off your meal with a sweet treat like Malai Kuli (ice cream) or wind down with warm homemade Chai tea. Lal's won Best Indian Restaurant on the island multiple consecutive times in the past, including in the years 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018 and now again in 2019.

Owner Lal Baharani thanks all his customers for their unwavering support and for again voting the restaurant as the number one spot for Indian food.



Bombay Bites

2<sup>nd</sup>

Shiv Shakti

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Beach Bar

### Buccaneer Beach Bar

*Everyone comes together at Buccaneer Beach Bar – St. Maarten's official favourite Beach Bar. From live music, to fun annual events and weekly bonfires, Buccs is worth visiting any time you're up for fun, casual drinks, dining and music.*



Buccaneer Beach Bar

1<sup>st</sup>

Grab a spot to lounge on the beach, take a quieter table, or sit right up at the bar. Meet new friends and old. You can even bring the kids along for a fun day or evening out – they can tire themselves out on the playground, play in the water, watch a movie, or dance

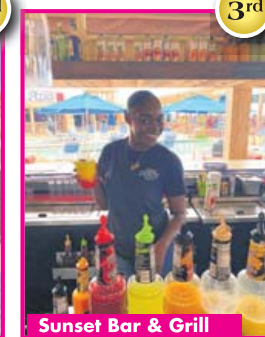
to live music.

Buccaneer is great for anyone wanting to unwind after work, and is very conveniently located for island visitors staying at the nearby hotels and guest houses in Simpson Bay and Pelican Key.

Order your favourite comfort food – wings, ribs, pizza and burgers, and wash it down with a couple of ice-cold beers. Or, pick a spot and keep the mixed drinks coming – don't miss out on their mojitos, lime daiquiris and Woo Woos.



I Love SXM

2<sup>nd</sup>

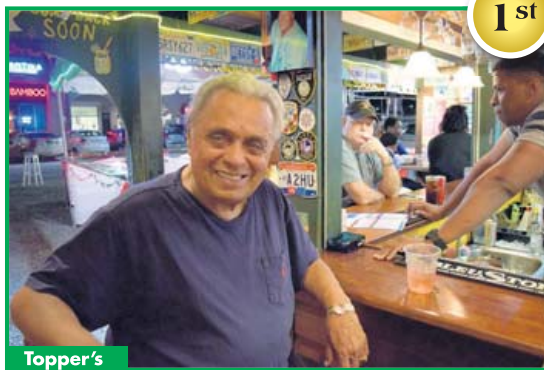
Sunset Bar &amp; Grill

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Happy Hour

### Topper's

*The happiest of Happy Hours is found only at Topper's. What makes it so good? It might be the casual, colourful, homey atmosphere, the booze that loosens you up before trying karaoke, fun staffers, the personal touch by Topper himself, or the base of loyal customers that feel like family and leave their mark on the place.*



Topper's

1<sup>st</sup>

your night started.

All six smooth flavours of Topper's home-made rum at your fingertips, from a classic spiced, to Mocha Mama and White Chocolate Raspberry, don't hurt, either. Almost certainly on your way home from work, or out to a late-night spot, Topper's is a great place to unwind, or to get

No one needs to be told that Topper's is the best known karaoke place on the island – a perfect place to let loose and have fun with friends. Topper's has you covered for comfort food as well, check out what they have to brag about all over the Food section of this special!



The Greenhouse

2<sup>nd</sup>

Buccaneer Beach Bar

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Middle Eastern Restaurant

### Little Jerusalem

*At the centre of the hustle and bustle on the Simpson Bay strip, you'll find Little Jerusalem – St. Maarten's favourite Middle Eastern restaurant for 2019. The small, family-run business has been making its mark ever since opening in 2011.*



Little Jerusalem

1<sup>st</sup>

With long opening hours and plenty of outdoor seating available on a spacious veranda, it's a great spot to satisfy those food cravings during lunch break, an errand run, or a night out on the town. Service is friendly and quick, and the food delicious.

choice, with a variety of perfectly seasoned mixed platters to choose from, including hummus, baba ganoush, and falafel.

While the lusciously stuffed shawarmas may steal the show, there are lots of other treats, like lamb burgers, spaghetti and fish. Vegetarians and vegans are also spoiled for

The Special Shawarma is not just the best on the island, but the best in the world, they say. There's only one way to find out for yourself! And, yes, Little Jerusalem was also voted the #1 shawarma in our "Best Of" survey.



Taste of Beirut

2<sup>nd</sup>

Al Pasha

3<sup>rd</sup>



# Thank you St. Maarten

The Topper's family and our entire staff express our gratitude to our wonderful community and our valued customers for your continuous support and for voting for us again this year.

- #1 Best Steak
- #1 Best Happy Hour
- #1 Best place for Lunch
- #1 Best Sandwich
- #1 Best Burger



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## Best Thai/Vietnamese Restaurant

### Avantika

For the fourth consecutive year, Avantika has won the Best Thai/Vietnamese Restaurant title. This authentic Thai restaurant offers a wide range of dishes from a country with one of the world's most sophisticated and rich gastronomies.

The Royal Thai cuisine is well-known for centuries and is as complex, refined and delicious as the high-end French or Italian ones. Avantika offers a selection of appetizers perfect to start a meal or to complement one of its beautifully crafted cocktails by bartender Julio. Their appetizer platter is a bestseller as it allows guests to sample different dishes and flavours.

In terms of main courses, there are four categories representing the essence of Thai cuisine: Fried Rice, Noodle Dishes, Curries

and Stir Fries. Guests can choose the type of proteins they desire, the level of spice, vegetarian, vegan or gluten-free options. Avantika uses the best and freshest ingredients and cooks everything to order.

Management says the combination of fresh quality ingredients, Thai chefs and an amazing range of delicious dishes are the keys to its success.



Avantika

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best French Cuisine

### Le Moulin Fou

Feel like you're dining in the heart of France right here in St. Maarten at Le Moulin Fou in the Maho Plaza.

For the past 15 years, Le Moulin Fou has been romancing appetites with delectable authentic French cuisine with service synonymous only to France itself. Owner Eric Herbert credits the Best French Cuisine title to the establishment's consistency over the years serving its meals with the freshest ingredients.

Le Moulin Fou uses fresh, locally caught fish and fresh meat, vegetables, fruits and seasonings. Everything from meals, desserts and bread, to the 12 sauces served is made in-house from scratch. Pair your meal with your choice of beverage or wine. There

are more than 100 different wines from all over the world for you to choose from.

You can dine in the cosy air-conditioned indoors or outdoors under the stars. Le Moulin Fou seats up to 100 persons so it doesn't matter how big your dinner party, they can accommodate you. Herbert thanks customers for their patronage and staff for their professionalism.



Le Moulin Fou

1<sup>st</sup>

Thai Savanh

2<sup>nd</sup>

Dish D'lish

3<sup>rd</sup>

Mario's Bistro

2<sup>nd</sup>

Sol e Luna

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Burger

### Topper's

At Topper's, you're not just getting the best burger in St. Maarten/St. Martin, you're also getting a chance to wash it down with their world-famous, award-winning line of locally made Topper's Rum.

It's easy to see why Topper's has again won Best Place for Burger on the island for 2019. The establishment has perfected the art of making its huge, sumptuous, juicy burger patties just right to please appetites. Burger patties are made from scratch in house using fresh Sirloin meat. The burger buns are also made from scratch in house by the

team of talented kitchen staff, so customers are guaranteed freshness every time.

Burgers come with fries or your choice of sides. One of the best things about enjoying a burger at Topper's is that you can choose to pair it with your choice from their line of St. Maarten brewed rums. There are 150 flavours available and the restaurant carries the six signature rums: Banana, White Chocolate, Coconut, Mocha, Spice and White.



Topper's

1<sup>st</sup>

Buccaneer Beach Bar

2<sup>nd</sup>

Pollos Hermanos

3<sup>rd</sup>

We are humbled by your  
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FOR YOUR VOTE!**

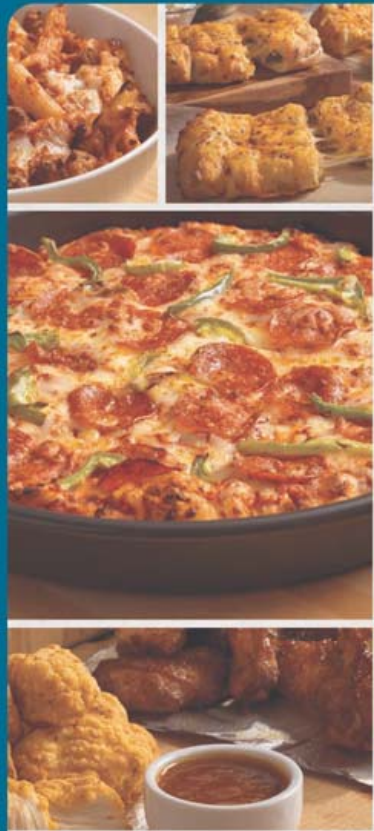


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## Best Latin Restaurant

### Pollos Hermanos

*Indulging in tasty, authentic Latin cuisine has never been this good! Pollos Hermanos, our readers' pick for Best Latin Restaurant on the island for 2019, has perfected the art of serving up traditional Latin delicacies to titillate appetites.*

The secret comes from the talented hands of award winning Chef Andrea Fernandez, a Venezuelan native who studied and honed her culinary skills in Venezuela, Peru, Argentina and Spain. She brings all her skills and years of experience to Pollos Hermanos, making the restaurant a top choice for Latin food lovers.



**Pollos Hermanos**

1<sup>st</sup>

Their all-time favourite, juicy rotisserie chicken is a must try amongst the roughly 20 menu items. You can also try their homemade burgers, empanadas, milkshakes and their Ayacas (Hallaca) at Christmastime.

The restaurant has two convenient locations: its original location in Simpson Bay and its new location on Cannegieter Street in Philipsburg. The owner says he is grateful that the restaurant has won this category and thanks customers and staff of Pollos Hermanos for their loyalty.

## Best Shawarma Place

### Little Jerusalem

*No one prepares a shawarma quite like Little Jerusalem – our readers' choice for Best Shawarma Place on the island for 2019.*



**Little Jerusalem**

1<sup>st</sup>

Located on the main road in Simpson Bay, Little Jerusalem offers some unique options when it comes to shawarma. The owners urge everyone to dig into one of their menu favourites, the Special, which comprises tasty lamb and chicken mix, Gouda cheese, sautéed onions, peppers and barbecue sauce.

Other menu items include the Famous, the Combo, Hummus mix, the Buffalo, Sauté mix, Barbecue mix, Barbecue chicken, Spicy curry mixed and Spicy curry chick-

en. Ask for their shawarma plates if you're looking to enjoy a meal.

Serving up their famous shawarmas in Simpson Bay for almost a decade now, Little Jerusalem has won the Best Shawarma Place category in *The Daily Herald's* "Best Of" readers' poll for three years in the past. The owners say the establishment tries to stay true to its tagline: "We are the best there is, the best there was and the best there ever will be."



**La Bomba Bar and Restaurant**

2<sup>nd</sup>



**Nick's Café**

3<sup>rd</sup>



**Abu Ghazi**

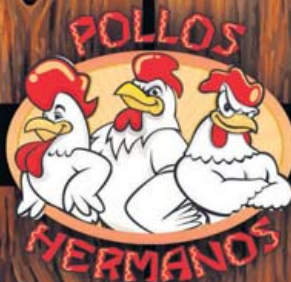
2<sup>nd</sup>



**Al Pasha (Aldywan)**

3<sup>rd</sup>

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# #1

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DESSERT  
ON ST. MAARTEN/ST. MARTIN**



## Best Place for Vegetarian Food

### Top Carrot

Focusing on a healthy and tasty menu, Top Carrot's mostly vegetarian dishes have vegan options too; and the taste buds of meat- and fish-lovers have also not been forgotten. Whether you are there for breakfast, brunch or lunch, you will enjoy some of the freshest plates of vegetables, salads, cheese and fruit imaginable.

The abundance of home-made dishes ranging from sandwiches and pies, to fresh salads, fritattas, omelettes and eclectic daily specials are displayed on chalkboards on the walls. This refreshing oasis, situated in the bustling



Top Carrot

area of Simpson Bay, offers a large range of fresh fruit juices and smoothies.

The restaurant has shaded outdoor seating; and its casual air-conditioned interior, with eclectic seating and cosy boutique with a range of ethnic goods and books makes eating here not just a meal, but a shopping experience too. Sit up at the bar counter, sipping on freshly squeezed orange juice, while waiting for takeout; or sit back, relax and enjoy long conversations over coffee or tea.

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best Chinese Restaurant

### White Swan

Tucked away off the main road in Simpson Bay is a hidden gem – White Swan Chinese Restaurant. With great atmosphere and food that appeals to everyone's diet, this cosy, intimate restaurant with Chinese-style decor is popular with residents and visitors alike.



White Swan

1<sup>st</sup>

The portions are a good size and the price is very reasonable. Try their won ton soup, spare ribs and spring rolls or the house fried rice and sesame chicken. Their Dim Sum is really good. For great presentation, try one of the dishes served in a half pineapple. If you are two persons or a fun group, order a variety of dishes and share it family-style.

Don't forget to try one of their great frozen drinks – the piña colodas are tops. The fairly large vegetarian and vegan menus offer some of the best dishes on the island. With excellent food, excellent service and excellent Chinese food, White Swan is a clear-cut winner. There is ample parking right outside and it's within easy walking distance for those who stay in Simpson Bay.



Avantika

2<sup>nd</sup>

Freedom Fighter's Ital Shack

3<sup>rd</sup>

Man Bo

2<sup>nd</sup>

Pink Pearl

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Fast Food Place

### Mc Donald's (Simpson Bay)



Mc Donald's (Simpson Bay)

1<sup>st</sup>

In this fast-paced world, we want our food and we want it now. McDonald's in Simpson Bay understands this and provides its customers with their meals in record time. From all sorts of burgers and wraps to fries, nuggets, sundaes and a line of sodas, McDonald's offers a range of food for the person on the go.

Its food comes fast after ordering, is convenient and inexpensive. You can have your order to go or you can enjoy your meal sitting down in the establishment's spacious air-conditioned interior. And if you have no

time to plan a birthday party for your little ones, don't worry, McDonald's got your back.

McDonald's caters kids' parties and they take care of everything from the decoration to the food and drinks. You just have to show up. And the kids can enjoy playtime in PlayPlace, an indoor playground for kids. With all this, it's easy to see why readers put McDonald's at the top of their list as best fast food place.



Abu Ghazi

2<sup>nd</sup>

KFC

3<sup>rd</sup>

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## Best Beer Brand

### Heineken

*When St. Maarteners think of Heineken, they think of home, authenticity and genuineness. The brand truly embodies the spirit of this island and community. The Dutch-brewed beer has been around in the Dutch Caribbean for over 100 years, and its roots in St. Maarten are entwined with the island's culture and economy.*

The global brand is available in more than 170 countries and has remained the top bestselling and preferred beer in this market because of its history, constant investment and activity. It remains a global and innovative leader through its brewing processes, advertising strategies, sustainable practices and growing portfolio.

Heineken remains close to the hearts of consumers through the development in the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta (soon celebrating 40 years!) and Carnival, right down to the local BBQs.

Brewed with only natural ingredients, the green bottle and red star are international symbols of quality, promising every beer



Heineken

1<sup>st</sup>

you open is an initiation of the ultimate Heineken experience. Heineken, the Caribbean, and especially St. Maarten have a truly unique, longstanding and meaningful relationship. Cheers!



Carib

3<sup>rd</sup>



Corona

2<sup>nd</sup>

## Best Bakery

### La Sucriere

*Warm flaky pastries and yummy confections are the hallmark of La Sucriere. This is also a place for flavourful sandwiches and other delights. Couple excellent baked goods with the calm of sitting au plein air and listening to the lapping of the waves of Simpson Bay Lagoon and you have the recipe to soothe cares away.*

If observing the local wildlife is also your thing, this café is the preferred spot of several types of birds and the island's land mascot – the iguana. Occasionally, a school of fish will prance about in the lagoon.

Need a cake or a variety of pastries for a special occasion or just because it's a random Thursday? This is your spot too. As the best of the best, La Sucriere can take care of your cravings: visit for breakfast, return for lunch and take a break with an afternoon treat.



La Sucriere

1<sup>st</sup>



Carl and Son's Unique Bakery

2<sup>nd</sup>

And what treats you are in for! At the entrance to the café is a rainbow of pastries and delicate desserts just waiting to be chosen and enjoyed.



Atlantico Café

3<sup>rd</sup>



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## Best Local Food Place

### Yvette's Kitchen

Take your appetite on a delicious journey with delectable local delicacies from Yvette's Kitchen in Quarter D'Orleans, French Quarter. This simple, casual, homey eatery offers traditional local dishes the way nature intended. It is an art that the restaurant has perfected since opening its doors almost four decades ago and a tradition that has been continued for three generations.

Try their seafood options such as conch and fresh local fish and their offerings of chicken, oxtail, goat meat, ribs and pork chop. And don't leave without sinking your teeth into their all-time favourite salt fish cakes. Yum!



Yvette's Kitchen

1<sup>st</sup>

Consistency, homey service and great food have ranked Yvette's Kitchen as the top local food eatery on the island multiple times: in 2015, 2016, 2018 and now again in 2019. The restaurant credits its consistency, generous portions, and the love for what they do, for the win.

Yvette's Kitchen thanks its faithful customers for their loving patronage over the years and promises to continue pouring love into every local dish it serves.



Mark's Place

2<sup>nd</sup>

Pineapple Pete

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Adult Entertainment

### Red Diamond

Red Diamond is a club where escaping the ordinary is very possible and fantasies quietly become realities. This is not only a place to get a sexy dance treat, but also one where you can relax and let the cares of the world strip away layer by layer.

The club offers the most exciting topless adult entertainment this side of Las Vegas. It has a full bar and VIP champagne and bottle service. Relax here and enjoy nude private dances, champagne rooms and marina-view tables.

Red Diamond prides itself in delivering luxury entertainment, comfort and superior customer service in a lounge setting. The addition of a terrace overlooking Simpson Bay Lagoon and the ambience of the club are a winning combination guaranteed to

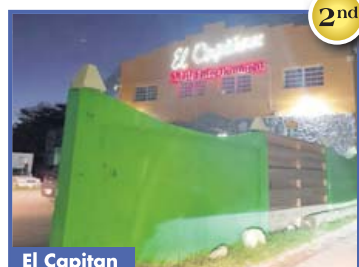


Red Diamond

1<sup>st</sup>

keep discerning clients coming and coming again for superb fun and out-of-the-world release.

Red Diamond welcomes couples looking to spice up their relationship by exploring need delights. Singles can also find their groove at this establishment.



El Capitan

2<sup>nd</sup>Phantasm Gentlemen's Club  
(formerly Casablanca)3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Place to have Coffee

### Coffee Lounge

With 86 Frappuccino flavours and five unique coffee roasts, it may come as no surprise that Coffee Lounge was voted as 2019's "Best Place to have Coffee". Open daily at two convenient locations on both sides of the hill, it is always easy to get your caffeine-fix.

They take coffee seriously at Coffee Lounge. Owner Seema flies to Miami every month to roast Fairtrade coffee beans, so all five roasts are unique. And her personal favourite – a rich full body with a pinch of hazelnut and chocolate – is most definitely worth it.

Don't want coffee? Coffee Lounge also has many non-coffee drinks, such as kid-approved cookies 'n crême frappes, matcha lattes, or homemade tea blends.



Coffee Lounge

1<sup>st</sup>

For just \$6.99, customers can choose between a classic breakfast platter and a vegan option. The house baked panini sandwiches, classic bagels, and organic salads will surely take care of those mid-day munchies, while a variety of sweet treats such as the carrot walnut cake or six-layer chocolate cake will satisfy your sweet-tooth.



La Sucriere

2<sup>nd</sup>

Zee Best

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Casino

### Casino Royale

Lady luck awaits you at the grand Casino Royale in Maho, our readers' pick for Best Casino on the island for 2019. Destroyed by hurricanes Irma and Maria in September 2017, Casino Royale has been rebuilt and is now reopened with a lavish and spacious 21,000 square feet of options for gamers.

The all new Casino Royale now offers an even better gaming experience for casino enthusiasts. This lively, bright emporium offers a range of games such as craps and poker and is equipped with almost two dozen tables, 400 slot machines and a private area for you high-rollers out there.

Entertainment for guests is key for Casino Royale and you can treat your eyes to live, free shows every week. The VIPs are also catered to. Just ask about their VIP pack-

ages and free membership with the "Club Royale," which rewards you with rebates, dining and hotel stays amongst other treats.

Casino Royale is also equipped with big-screen televisions and cocktail service. You just can't go wrong at Casino Royale.



Casino Royale

1<sup>st</sup>

Princess Casino

2<sup>nd</sup>

Hollywood Casino

3<sup>rd</sup>



## Best Live Music Venue

### The Red Piano

When you think of live music and a good time, the answer is always The Red Piano. This cosy enclave in Pelican has been bringing the beats for many years now. The musician line-up features some of the best live acts, many of whom are wizards on the piano this spot is famed for.

The Red Piano is on the bucket list of many island visitors and a staple to locals wanting to add more music to their lives. One of the many draws of The Red Piano is Church on Monday! The band never fails to impress and get bodies moving.

**The Red Piano****1<sup>st</sup>**

The friendly bartenders at this spot are well versed in the art of the shakers and can create classic and specialty cocktails to quench every thirst. They are not called friendly for no reason; these bartenders will share some of the island's best kept secrets with you.

So head on over there, grab a drink and immerse yourself in great live music.

**Sunset Bar and Grill****2<sup>nd</sup>****Pineapple Pete****3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Lounge/Piano Bar

### The Red Piano

The Red Piano is a top choice for a very chill and relaxed evening out. This lounge is a preferred spot and is famed for its bartenders and well-stocked bar. Here, you can make your pick from one of the island's widest selections of premium whiskies.

The atmosphere is complemented by piano music played regularly by a line-up of talented pianists and high energy shows. Start the night out slow and steady, build up to a good ole party, leave with new friends and return for more the next day!

Every Saturday is ladies' night and the band

**The Red Piano****1<sup>st</sup>**

Church on Monday plays on – you guessed it – Mondays! This is one of several themed nights at The Red Piano. If you are not into themes, don't worry; The Red Piano caters to everyone every day. And if you are into something more competitive, launch into a game of pools.

As a piano bar, The Red Piano is also a highly rated live music venue. Musicians are often open to audience suggestions.

**Loterie Farm's Tree Lounge****2<sup>nd</sup>****Holland House's Ocean Lounge****3<sup>rd</sup>**

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## Best Place to Play Pool

### Pineapple Pete

*Pineapple Pete once again wins its shot at the Best Place to Play Pool in 2019. With three quality pool tables, a dart board, and an arcade – all fully air-conditioned – Pineapple Pete is sure to score.*

Not just a popular restaurant and sports bar, Pineapple Pete has been attracting pool lovers for over thirteen years. At Pineapple Pete, you can find players in the pool area every evening.

Some pool enthusiasts come in for one of Pineapple Pete's delicious dishes from the extensive menu, while others are attracted by the beer bucket specials.

And if pool and darts is not enough to satisfy your gaming needs, Pineapple Pete boasts the only 9D VR machine in the Ca-

**Pineapple Pete****1<sup>st</sup>**

ribbean in its state-of-the-art arcade room.

So grab some family and friends and head on over to Pineapple Pete for a friendly game of pool, darts or arcade games, while enjoying some great food, drinks, and service with a smile.

**The Greenhouse****2<sup>nd</sup>****Q Lounge****3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Sports Bar

### Pineapple Pete

*Pineapple Pete once again leaves the competition behind and comes in first place for a very important match – the Best Sports Bar on the island for 2019.*

The separate, fully air-conditioned area with great ambiance, five big flat screens and a full-size quality menu, which provides more than just your typical sports bar fare to tackle those game nerve munchies, has been a favourite for locals and tourists alike to come together and watch their favourite sports.

Pineapple Pete accommodates sports fans of all categories; they are able to show pretty much any match. According to Cleavage, the man in charge of all things sports and

**Pineapple Pete****1<sup>st</sup>**

games, "You request it, we get it."

All in all, the ambiance and service at Pineapple Pete is sure to steal your heart while you watch your favourite team steal the show. You really can win them all.

**Buffalo Wings****2<sup>nd</sup>****Replay Restaurant & Bar****3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Local Band

### Big Bad XP Band

*The Big Bad XP Band is no stranger to accolades, being named Carnival's Band of the Year in 2017 and winning Bandclash three straight years – from 2016 to 2018. Now the Big Bad XP Band can add Best Local Band for 2019 on its résumé.*

The band dropped its first studio album in 2019, which featured eight of its well-known songs. These included local hits such as "Santo", "Renty", "Distance", "Stepping Out" and "Bruk Wuk", as well as the newly recorded "Family Family".

**Big Bad XP Band****1<sup>st</sup>**

Started in 2015, the Big Bad XP Band came together as a group of musicians aiming simply to make good music. And one can say they succeeded, rising quickly to become one of the island's beloved musical acts with its unique blend of Soca, Kizom-

ba, Zouk and what they call "St. Maarten Style".

Band leader Darnel York thanks all fans of the Big Bad XP Band for their die-hard support year-in and year-out.

**Red Eye Crew****2<sup>nd</sup>****Control Band****3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Excursion/Activity

### Rainforest Adventures

*Rainforest Adventures once again zips and slides its way into being voted the Best Excursion/Activity on the island by fellow-adventurers.*

The fun-packed and eco-friendly park opened its doors at Rockland Estate, where history, adrenaline, and nature collide. The museum tells the powerful story of enslaved Trace Wilson and her descendant Emilio Wilson, whereas the park itself was built with complete consideration of protecting the island's vegetation. The park holds an important place within the community as it organizes fun educational experiences.

Rainforest Adventures is a definite destination hotspot. And how could it not be with all the fun attractions it has to offer! The

**Rainforest Adventures****1<sup>st</sup>**

well organized and easily accessible park allows for packing a whole lot of fun in a tight time frame. Experiencing the world's steepest zipline, to a scenic schooner ride, to 360 degree-viewing decks, you will leave the park happy and with that "I did it all feeling."

In a nutshell, the park offers fun, adventure and island charm all rolled into one. Come zip, come slide, and come for a taste of adventure at Rainforest Adventures.

**Airport Adventure****2<sup>nd</sup>****Heineken Regatta****3<sup>rd</sup>**



## Best Nightclub/Disco

### Lotus

The party people have spoken and Lotus is once again voted the Best Nightclub on the island. Continuing Tantra's party legacy post-Irma, Lotus opened in March 2018. The club quickly became the new nightlife hot-spot on the island and was voted best place to dance the night away – all in the same year.



Lotus

1<sup>st</sup>

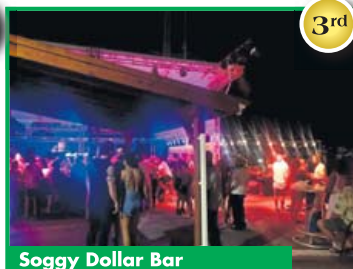
According to owner Manny Almirakis, Lotus has been testing the island's clubbing waters with different DJs to meet the needs of the music crowd after Irma. He is looking forward to see how this New Year 2020 goes: "We will take Lotus to another level with more events and performers."

This year, not only is Lotus celebrating its

victory as the Best Nightclub/Disco on island for 2019, but it's also looking forward to its second anniversary next month. On Saturday, March 7, they are inviting everyone down for an open bar from 10:00 to 11:00pm. Cover charge is free until midnight, and DJ Toni Vegas will be bringing the beats to celebrate this big milestone.



The Red Piano

2<sup>nd</sup>

Soggy Dollar Bar

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Nail Salon

### Vietnam Nails & Spa

Andy and Tracy Phan and their staff want to thank all their loyal customers for voting Vietnam Nails & Spa the #1 Nail Salon in Sint Maarten for 2019.

Vietnam Nails & Spa does not have franchises or other nail salons and is at the same location opposite Real Auto in Philipsburg, where it was started eight years ago.

With the very latest in products, nail designs and techniques, all of their products are from the USA. The salon offers acrylic nails, pedicures, manicures, gel nail design, body and foot massage, eyelash extensions, permanent makeup, permanent eyebrows, eyebrow waxing and facials.

Staffers comprise eight nail technicians, two pedicurists, two massage therapists and two permanent make-up artists of-



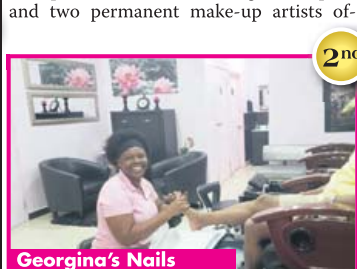
Vietnam Nails &amp; Spa

1<sup>st</sup>

fering a relaxing, comfortable atmosphere without the overpowering glue smell.

At Vietnam Nails & Spa, appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are also welcome. Opening hours are Monday-Saturday 9:00am-7:00pm, and 9:00am-3:00pm Sundays. Call 1 (721) 524-9177, 542-8424 or 542-0997.

Check them out because when it comes to "Best Of" voters, Vietnam Nails & Spa has nailed it!



Georgina's Nails

2<sup>nd</sup>

Angelic Touch

3<sup>rd</sup>

# Thank you!

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## Best Hair Salon

### Addicted Hair Lounge

*This is the second year in a row that Addicted Hair Lounge has come out on top. When you are looking for the latest in hair trends, this is the place to go. With years building its fine reputation, this beautiful, comfortable and spacious location offers friendly service where clients feel like family.*

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f spiga restaurant

What's changed since last year? Owner Rachel explains that the exposure in the "Best Of" survey definitely boosted business. "It played a vital role as far as reaching a diverse clientele," she says.

Rachel is super friendly; she'll talk you through what you want and is careful to make sure that you like the final product. Here is where you get that personal touch, not always seen at hair salons. Let the professional and caring staff take your hair dreams to the next level. At this hair salon, the addiction never stops.

2<sup>nd</sup>

Miguel's SPA & Salon

1<sup>st</sup>

Addicted Hair Lounge

3<sup>rd</sup>

Tropical Hair

Our sincere thanks for your loving support and encouragement!  
Please join us on Valentine's Day, February 14th to celebrate  
our 22nd Anniversary of Roland Richardson Gallery Museum  
from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., #6 Rue de la Republique, Marigot.  
Our warmest appreciation, Roland and Laura Richardson.





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*Best Guest House***L'Esperance**

Tucked away in a small side-street in Cay Hill, L'Esperance is popular for regional and international visitors, as well as locals wanting a relaxing getaway. The quaint and quiet setting is a big draw for the 22-room guest-house, completely separated from the hustle and bustle of more commercial areas.

**L'Esperance****1<sup>st</sup>**

The location, while unexpected, is ideal for business travellers needing to get to either Simpson Bay or Philipsburg, or for travellers visiting friends and relatives on the island. Spacious rooms offer all the practical amenities needed for a comfortable stay, including kitchenettes.

The family-owned business is supported by a small and supportive team of under 10 employees. A pool at the centre of the property makes for an extra leisurely feel, with brightly coloured Bougainvillea and Golden Trumpets adorning the common areas.

*Best Gym***Belair Fitness Center**

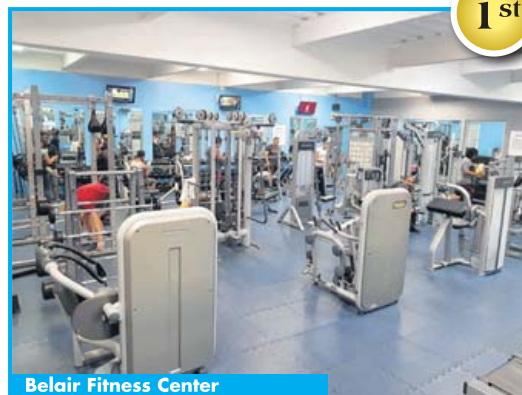
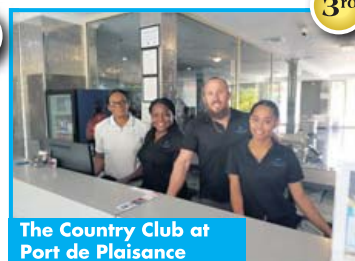
Belair Fitness Centre is a full-service gym to tone and sculpt every part of your body. The fitness centre caters to weight lifters and yoga practitioners. There is a full roster of body toning classes and fitness instructors to guide you through your paces.

Belair Fitness has the island's only squash courts (also air-conditioned) gym, a 25-metre lap pool, two tennis courts, showers and changing rooms.

Aside from its amenities, the fitness centre has flexible packages from day passes to monthly membership. There is also the option of going at off-peak hours to avoid the rush at a more pocket-friendly cost.

Gym goers are very friendly as are the staff-

ers who are always ready to help improve your fitness routine or give advice on what may be a good addition. This is the gym for the passionate fitness buff. Location is a huge plus, as the gym is a short drive from Philipsburg and surrounding areas. Belair Fitness Centre also offers gym goers the comfort of ample parking.

**Belair Fitness Center****1<sup>st</sup>****Travel Inn****2<sup>nd</sup>****The Horny Toad****3<sup>rd</sup>****Fire Fit Gym****2<sup>nd</sup>****The Country Club at Port de Plaisance****3<sup>rd</sup>**

*We thank*  
our valued customers  
for their loyalty along the years,  
and our committed staff for their  
dedication to reaching  
McDonald's quality standards.





## Best Spa

### Indulgence by the Sea

*Indulgence by the Sea has once again earned the recognition of Best Spa in our "Best Of" series, enjoying the title for many years now. Islanders and visitors alike are big fans of the luxurious treatments on offer, by a welcoming and professional team.*

Pamper, smooth and soothe your hands, feet, face or entire body, while enjoying a serene setting, lovely fragrances that bring you back to nature, and complimentary drinks such as coffee, tea, infused water, mimosas, champagne or wine. Special packages are available so that you can enjoy the experience with your partner, a friend, and even larger groups – just call to enquire.

While the favourites are still available, Indul-

**Indulgence by the Sea****1<sup>st</sup>**

gence has refreshed its offerings with brand new treatments available this new year. Allowing people to indulge in a little "me time", relaxing spa treatments make wonderful gifts for birthdays and other special occasions. Indulgence gift certificates have become very popular on St. Maarten over the years. Interested in booking an appointment? Call 1 (721) 542-9024 or 542-2333 extension 3280.

**Angelic Touch****2<sup>nd</sup>****Carita****3<sup>rd</sup>**

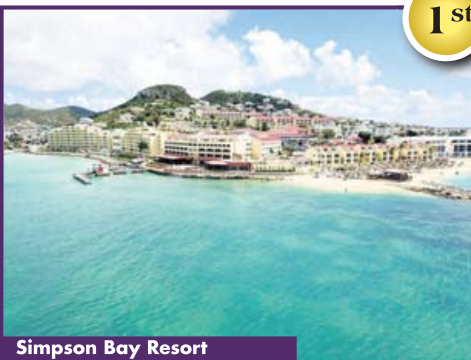
## Best Resort/Hotel

### Simpson Bay Resort

*When it comes to the ultimate home-away-from-home experience, Simpson Bay Resort has few equals. Voted Best Hotel/Resort on the island, Simpson Bay Resort boasts 336 roomy and equipped suites and 83 two-bedroom villas that comfortably accommodate up to six persons.*

Your staycation at Simpson Bay Resort is enhanced with a sheltered beach, extensive pool areas, tropical gardens, activity programmes to keep you engaged, water sports, dining and evening entertainment. There's no shortage of things to do at this award-winning resort, which is thankful for the honour.

"As a resort, we value our guests above everything else. Every day, we are driven by our company's philosophy which is to serve and fulfil the expectations of our guests, always satisfying their need," said General Manager Marcel Javois.

**Simpson Bay Resort****1<sup>st</sup>**

"We commend and congratulate our staff on achieving this award for the second year in a row. It is their tireless effort in ensuring that each visitor is provided outstanding customer service. This award is a reflection of their hard work, commitment and for always striving to exceed the expectation of every guest."

**Divi Resort****2<sup>nd</sup>****Sonesta Maho****3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Radio Station

### Laser 101

*When it comes to entertainment, information and great music, no one beats Laser 101. The station offers a packed line-up of programmes to cater to listeners.*

From The Suppa Duppa Morning Show, the AM/PM Workload Show with Gary "Gee Money" Euton, and the Power Hour with the Cut Creator DJ Outkast, to Sagan's Playground, you can't go wrong tuning in to Laser 101 Mondays to Fridays.

The station is grateful for the win. "We at Laser 101 thank listeners for voting Laser 101 the Best Radio Station on St. Maarten. For the past 26 years, we have given the best possible customer service and value for money. We have strived to give our utmost in times of disaster and have demonstrated being a real friend and

community minded partner," says Manager Francis Cartty.

"Listening to Laser 101 is food for the soul. The station has an entertaining line-up of shows throughout the week that you can enjoy while in your car or doing whatever you do daily."

**Laser 101****1<sup>st</sup>****Island 92****2<sup>nd</sup>****SOS Radio****3<sup>rd</sup>**

Don't Fight  
Eat Right  
TOP CARROT

#1 BEST VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT  
for 17 consecutive years.  
We are proud of our amazing team, always working hard together for our clients.

THANK YOU!

Once again THANK YOU for trusting us and for your support!!!  
Plaza del Lago, Simpson Bay, at the entrance of Simpson Bay Yacht Club • Tel: 544-3381



## Best Gas Station in St. Maarten? That's Us!



Sol has won the title of 'best gas station' in St Maarten and we are super excited!

We are proud of the dedicated team at Sol R&R Tackling, which won "best gas station" as well as the hard working team at Sol Risdon, which won 3rd place! We thank our customers for honouring us with this accolade and we will continue to provide you with high-quality, friendly service in 2020 and beyond!



[info@solpetroleum.com](mailto:info@solpetroleum.com) | [facebook.com/solpetroleum](https://facebook.com/solpetroleum)

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



FINE CHINESE CUISINE

**WHITE SWAN**

CHINESE RESTAURANT

**TEL: (+1721) 54-52477**



*Best Chinese Restaurant  
for the past 16 years*

**Thank you again for  
your support!**

**Sr. Modesta Road #2, Simpson Bay, St. Maarten, Dutch Caribbean  
Opposite Palapa Marina.**

**TEL: (+1721) 54-52477**



## Best Barber Shop

### Sugar Rey Kutz

*It wasn't on our radar for a nomination, but Sugar Rey Kutz by Lynroy Rey is our surprise winner this year! The 28-year-old entrepreneur keeps himself busy with a fulltime job, steel pan gigs, and a passion for cutting hair – you'll be needing an appointment to see him.*

Growing up on St. Maarten, Lynroy made sure he always looked fresh, and went to the barber every Saturday. Off to college in New York, and a student's budget just didn't allow for that luxury. After receiving a pair of clippers from a friend, he started doing his own hair, and then did the same for his roommates. After gaining practice, and watching hours upon hours of videos, he started offering the services at a competitive price to other students.

His favourite style and process, done for many clients, is a faded cut. For impressions, check out his Facebook page @sugarreykutz, and send a Facebook message

to ask about availability (after-work hours and weekends). Here's to making the most of the situation, and loving it!



Sugar Rey Kutz

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best Gas Station

### Sol R&R Tackling Service Station (Cole Bay)

*Taking care of your precious ride starts with putting the best fuel in it – and for The Daily Herald readers, the best place to tank up is at Sol R&R Tackling Service Station in Cole Bay. It is now even better to gas-up your four-wheel friend at Sol R&R Tackling Service Station, as it was given a complete facelift last year at a cost of US \$1.7 million.*

The refurbishing took into consideration the comfort of its customers, as the station features new tanks, pipes, canopy, dispensers and lighting as well as a refurbished shop, with improvements for the safety of the staff with the installation of security features in the area of the shop cashier, in line with Sol's retail philosophy of saving lives.

For your convenience, the station boasts four pumps, two of which are ULG-only, one diesel and ULG and one diesel only. The station is completely full-service. There really is no better choice on island.



Sol R&R Tackling

1<sup>st</sup>



Texaco (Simpson Bay)

2<sup>nd</sup>



Sol (Pointe Blanche)

3<sup>rd</sup>



L&R

2<sup>nd</sup>



Top of the Line

3<sup>rd</sup>

**THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING CORONA**  
ST. MAARTEN / MARTIN BEER #2!

Corona

CC1 St. Maarten

St. Maarten/Saint Martin, thank you for voting us **third best beer** on the island!

Carib Lager

it's the way we **play**

CARIBBEAN BREWED. GLOBALLY ENJOYED.





# The only beer that tastes like home.

Thank you St. Maarten/St. Martin  
Voted best beer of 2019!





The Daily  
**Herald****THE  
BEST  
OF  
2019**THANK YOU  
FOR VOTING FOR US!

TOGETHER, WE HIT THE

**JACKPOT****1**  
WINNER

VOTED BEST CASINO

**CASINO ROYALE**

SINT MAARTEN

NEW MEMBERS  
CAN'T LOSE!  
JOIN THE CLUB AND  
RECEIVE UP TO**\$50  
REBATE**PLEASE SEE VIP HOST DESK  
FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.**FREE  
SLOT  
TOURNAMENT**PLAYERS REGISTER FROM 6PM TO 8PM.  
MUST BE A CASINO ROYALE PLAYER'S  
CLUB MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE  
(MEMBERSHIP IS FREE)

ENJOY THE MAHO VILLAGE CARNIVAL IN FRONT OF CASINO ROYALE EVERY FRIDAY AT 7:30PM

LOCATED ACROSS FROM SONESTA RESORTS, CASINO ROYALE IS OPEN DAILY FROM 1PM TO 4AM.  
**FREE** VALET PARKING FOR ALL CASINO ROYALE GUEST AND MAHO VILLAGE PARKING ALSO AVAILABLE

f /CASINOROYALE\_STMAARTEN @CASINO\_ROYALE\_SXM @SXWCASINOROYALE @PLAYMAHO.COM



## Best Pharmacy

### Simpson Bay Pharmacy

*Simpson Bay Pharmacy has proven itself once again to be a winner, and has consistently placed first, or has been a runner up, for many years.*

Convenient opening hours and the familiar faces of its reliable team have a lot to do with the great ratings, says Pharmacist Tamara Landino, who has been working there for about 20 years. The team's dedication was exemplified after Hurricane Irma (2017) when they worked under strained conditions – filling out hundreds of prescriptions for example, with only the light available from cell phones – so that the community could still be served, starting just a week after the storm.

The pharmacy is located in Simpson Bay Yacht Club, a stone's throw from a medi-

cal clinic, lab, marinas and popular hotels, making it an ideal location for locals and visitors alike.

Those in need of prescription drugs, over the counter medications, and personal care products have access to the pharmacy on weekdays until 7:30pm, Saturdays from 9:00am to 1:00pm, and Sundays and public holidays from 4:00 to 6:00pm.



Simpson Bay Pharmacy

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best Insurance Agency

### NAGICO Insurances

*NAGICO Insurances strives to keep its promise to secure its clients under its steady, large, green umbrella, offering its clients coverage of every kind – from home, life, and vehicle, to medical care and hurricane damage.*

NAGICO is the largest privately-owned general insurance company in the Caribbean. NAGICO has operations in more than 21 territories spanning to the Dutch, English and French Caribbean and further afield.

NAGICO agents are noted for bring friendly and helpful in all aspects of the insurance process. They offer advice on the best coverage for home, life and auto and are there to support in the filing and the resolution of claims, large or small.

Since 1982, the company has kept its promise and commitment to deliver fast and fair service to its clients. NAGICO says it is poised to achieve even greater success and remains focused on its 2020 vision: To be the most trusted insurer in the Caribbean.

NAGICO says it understands fully that it must remain committed to conscientiously make and deliver on promises.



NAGICO Insurances

1<sup>st</sup>

Maho Pharmacy

2<sup>nd</sup>

St. Peter's Pharmacy

3<sup>rd</sup>

Guardian Group

2<sup>nd</sup>

Henderson Insurances

3<sup>rd</sup>

# Thank You St Maarten

## THE RED PIANO

ST. MAARTEN

### BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUE

9 YEARS RUNNING!

### BEST LOUNGE/PIANO BAR

9 YEARS RUNNING!

### TOP TWO BEST NIGHT CLUB

LIVE MUSIC NIGHTLY WITH INTERNATIONAL ENTERTAINERS  
CHURCH ON MONDAYS WITH WHAT THE FUNK!  
LADIES NIGHT ON SATURDAYS 2-4-1 MARTINIS  
INDUSTRY NIGHT ON SUNDAYS  
DOORS OPEN 8PM SHOWS STARTS AT 9PM  
WWW.THEREDPAINO.COM



# THANK YOU ST. MAARTEN!




## VOTED #1 ATTRACTION!

We Truly Appreciate You Choosing Rainforest Adventures  
As The Number 1 Attraction For A Second Year In A Row!

Cut Out This Ad For A **Free** Ride  
On Any Purchased Attraction!

\*Restrictions Do Apply || Free Ride May Vary On Acquired Attraction || Valid Until February 29<sup>th</sup> 2020

 +1721 543-1135

  @rainforestadventuresxm



# RE-DISCOVER US AT PETE'S

## Thank you St. Maarten for voting us 1



### Famous for:

**Lobster & seafood, steak, lamb, ribs, fish 'n chips, burgers, pastas, escargots, whole snapper, crème brulee...and also kids menu.**

**Live music - nightly.**

**Open for lunch and dinner - nonstop from 11 a.m.**

**Reservations or Take Out. Tel: + 1721 544-6030**

**New!**

## GAME ROOM Brand New !!!

**New!**

**5 Screens for your favorite sports**

**Brand new arcade, including racing, challenge**

**Basketball and much more!**

**3 new pool tables, darts and the only 9D Virtual Reality (only one in the Caribbean).**



**New!**



**New!**



# VILLAGE IN SIMPSON BAY!

**5 years in a row:**

**#1 BEST SEAFOOD**  
**#BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUE**  
**#BEST SPORTS BAR**  
**#BEST PLACE TO PLAY POOL**  
**#BEST LOCAL FOOD**  
**#TOP 3 BEST SUSHI 6 YEARS**  
**#TOP 3 BEST SUSHI 6 YEARS**  
**IN A ROW AT WASABI CHARLIE**

*Did you know?*



**AIR CONDITIONED ROOM**  
**SEATING UP TO 33 PERSONS**

2 rooms are available for private parties;  
 For enquiries: [headpineapple@gmail.com](mailto:headpineapple@gmail.com)



**AIR CONDITIONED ROOM**  
**SEATING UP TO 55 PERSONS**



**WASABI  
 CHARLIE**



**SUMO HOUR**  
 5-7 PM



**5 DIFFERENT CHOICES OF YOUR 5  
 FAVORITE TREATS FOR \$5 EACH**

• ALSO, BEERS AND WELL MIXES AT 1/2 PRICE

**NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS OR DISCOUNT**

\*\*\* NOT AVAILABLE FOR TAKE-OUT \*\*\*



**WASABI  
 CHARLIE**

JAPANESE & INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

**COCKTAILS**



**Located right next to Pineapple Pete**



# Best Telecommunications Provider

## TelEm/TelCell

Stay connected with friends, family and business associates with services from the Best Telecommunications Provider on the island for 2019: TelEm/TelCell.

TelEm/TelCell has been a frequent winner of this category over the years including in 2018, testimony to their consistent award-winning service. Whether its landline voice and data services (TelEm); mobile voice, data services (TelCell), international voice and bandwidth (Smitcoms) or cable television services (being provided since January 2017), the TelEm Group should be your number one choice.



UTS/Chippie/Caribserve



TelEm/TelCell

The company remains up-to-date with technological trends to keep customers in line with new innovations. CEO Kendall Dupersoy is excited that customers have again placed their confidence in TelEm/TelCell. "On behalf of the TelEm family, we want to thank the public of St. Maarten for voting TelEm the best Telecoms Company for 2019. We are excited to win this prestigious award, but we won't let this slow down the improvements we are planning for 2020 and beyond. Again, we truly appreciate you voting for us and continue to raise the bar so we can satisfy all your telecom needs."



Coral

**VIỆT NAM  
NAILS & SPA**

*Thank you*

For voting us  
**BEST Nail Salon.**  
We are celebrating this  
with a **special!**

**Pedicure \$20**  
**Massage \$45/hr**  
Valid February 3rd until February 29th, 2020

**OPEN**  
7 days a week!  
Mon to Sat  
9AM - 7PM  
Sunday  
9AM - 3PM

**ONLY 1 LOCATION! WE DON'T HAVE ANY FRANCHISE OR OTHER NAIL SALONS**

**VIỆT NAM NAILS & SPA**

Long Wall Road #18  
(opposite Real Auto)  
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

WhatsApp/Cell: +1721-524 9177  
Tel: +1721-542 8424  
Tel: +1721-542 0997

*Angelic Touch*  
Massage Therapy & Esthetics

*A Big*  
**Thank you**

to all for choosing Angelic  
Touch Spa & Beauty Salon  
in the top 3 of  
St. Maarten/St. Martin.

Welfare Road #5 Unit A, Cole Bay, St. Maarten  
Tel: 553-0865 or 544-4027



## Best Travel Agency

### Travel Planners

*The winner in the category of travel agencies is Travel Planners, with an excellent record over the past 27 years for getting you to your destination and back home in the most enjoyable way. Travel Planners goes above and beyond working out the best fares and easiest routes, as less stress on the customer is key to a wonderful trip.*

Travel Planners works with a Bargain Finder system, which automatically looks for lowest fares and straightforward routing, and with the Global Distribution System (GDS) which enables agents to connect to all airlines, hotels, car rentals and cruises to find their clients the best suitable deal.

Travel Planners also offers prepaid packages and airport pick up services. With repeated

professionalism, their personal interaction with clients goes above and beyond, giving all travellers complete satisfaction.

Nothing beats planning your trip with the people who care about you at Travel Planners. Their offices are modern, and the neat appearance is conducive to concentrating on the client and their travel wishes.



Travel Planners

## Best TV Provider

### Kiwisat

*The newest kid on the scene for television providers is most definitely providing the hottest scene on the block: Kiwisat is the 2019 Best TV Provider, with seamless streaming of over 100 channels to choose from, at the unbeatable low-price on the island!*

Kiwisat is certainly also raising the bar, offering several packages, including Basic, Basic+ and Basic Premium, to choose from, all free of hidden fees! Kiwisat is also provider of several add-on packages, such as sports or movie channels, to fit individual needs and interests.

While fairly new to our island, Kiwisat has an established reputation across the Caribbean for the most exceptional satellite qual-

ity, and although our local branch is located on the French side of the island, viewers on the Dutch side are also able to benefit from all their services, with the equally high quality it is now reputed for offering.

For the best in Satellite TV, with quality HD picture, at unbeatable prices, get to Kiwisat.



Kiwisat



Maduro



Intermar



Tel TV



WTN TV

## MANAGEMENT AND STAFF AT FIRE FIT GYM

would like to thank the readers of the Daily Herald for voting  
us #2 BEST GYM on the island for 2019.

We will continue doing our  
best with new  
training/technology and  
specials for our members.  
**WE THANK YOU!!!**



**FIRE FIT GYM**





## Best Bank

### Windward Islands Bank

*The Windward Islands Bank (WIB) has been a fixture on the local banking scene for what seems like forever. What's more is that this bank has played a role in the lives of St. Maarteners for several generations; many remember receiving their first early-savers bank book from WIB.*



Windward Islands Bank

1<sup>st</sup>

Over the decades, WIB has placed much of its emphasis on serving clients with friendly and accessible services, from conveniently placed ATMs to an uber user-friendly online banking portal. The opening of the bank's semi-digital branch on Bush Road has been a real banking benchmark for the country.

WIB's credo is "Your partner in progress" – progress that not only extends to the bank's

clients but also covers employees who receive good benefits and are supported in passion to study and/or own their own piece of paradise.

After the devastation of hurricanes Irma and Maria, WIB took care of staff and clients in the emergency phase, but did not stop there. The bank has secured a hurricane shelter exclusively for staff members, who may require such, should a storm threaten the island.



ORCO Bank

2<sup>nd</sup>



Republic Bank (Formerly Scotiabank)

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Construction Material Provider

### Kooyman

*For the second year in a row, Kooyman has been chosen by our readers as the best place for all your construction material needs. From lumber and steel, nails and concrete, to PVC pipes and galvanised sheeting, Kooyman has a large variety of quality items in stock for any construction-, renovation- or home improvement-project.*



Kooyman

1<sup>st</sup>

This is no different during hurricane season as the store puts storm preparedness at the forefront. In those anxiety-filled months, Kooyman knows how to develop new promotions, such as its hurricane bin sales.

The store recently made investments in new off-site storage facilities and upgrades to its inventory to make sure its customers can find all the products they may need. Customers seem to love Kooyman's signature drive thru, where its top selling products are lumber and plywood in a variety of types and sizes.



ACE Home Center

2<sup>nd</sup>



ACE Mega Center

3<sup>rd</sup>

### 2019 Best Spa in Sint Maarten!



The gift of spa

Massages • Body Treatments • Facials • Nail Care • Waxing

**Thank You, Local Pricing is Back!**

Dollars to NAF on MESSAGES ONLY on Gift Cards.  
(some exclusions apply)

\*Offer is valid from January 31 - February 10, 2020

*Indulgence*  
by the Sea

The Spa located in Aruba & St. Maarten

Mon - Sat 9:00 am - 6:00pm | Sun 10:00 am - 4:00 pm • www.spasmaarten.com  
Spa at Divi Little Bay Beach Resort (721) 542-9024 • (721) 553-6934

the **SUPPA DUPPA** morning show

# THANK YOU!

**VOTED #1 BEST RADIO PERSONALITY**  
THE DAILY HERALD - "THE BEST OF 2019"

I APPRECIATE EVERYONE THAT TOOK THEIR TIME OUT AND VOTED FOR ME! I AM VERY GRATEFUL & HUMBLER BY THE GESTURE AND WILL CONTINUE CREATING FUN TIMES AND MEMORIES ON THE AIR WAVES!

**WEEKDAYS 6AM - 10AM // WWW.LASER101.FM**



**THE CUT CREATOR**  
**DJ OUTKAST**  
**THANK YOU!**

I AM COMPLETELY OVERWHELMED!  
I CAN'T THANK EVERY SINGLE ONE  
OF YOU ENOUGH THAT TOOK TIME  
OUT OF YOUR DAY TO CAST A  
VOTE FOR ME AS BEST DJ!

I PROMISE TO CONTINUE TO  
GIVE MY BEST AT EVERY PARTY,  
EVENT, SHOW OR FESTIVAL & ALSO BRING THE BEST  
MIXES, ANNUAL PARTIES AND OVERALL PERFORMANCE  
FOR ANOTHER YEAR! AGAIN! THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!  
YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT MEANS THE ABSOLUTE  
WORLD TO ME!

**VOTED #1** **BEST PARTY DJ**  
FOR THE 11<sup>TH</sup>  
YEAR IN ROW!

THE DAILY HERALD - "THE BEST OF 2019"

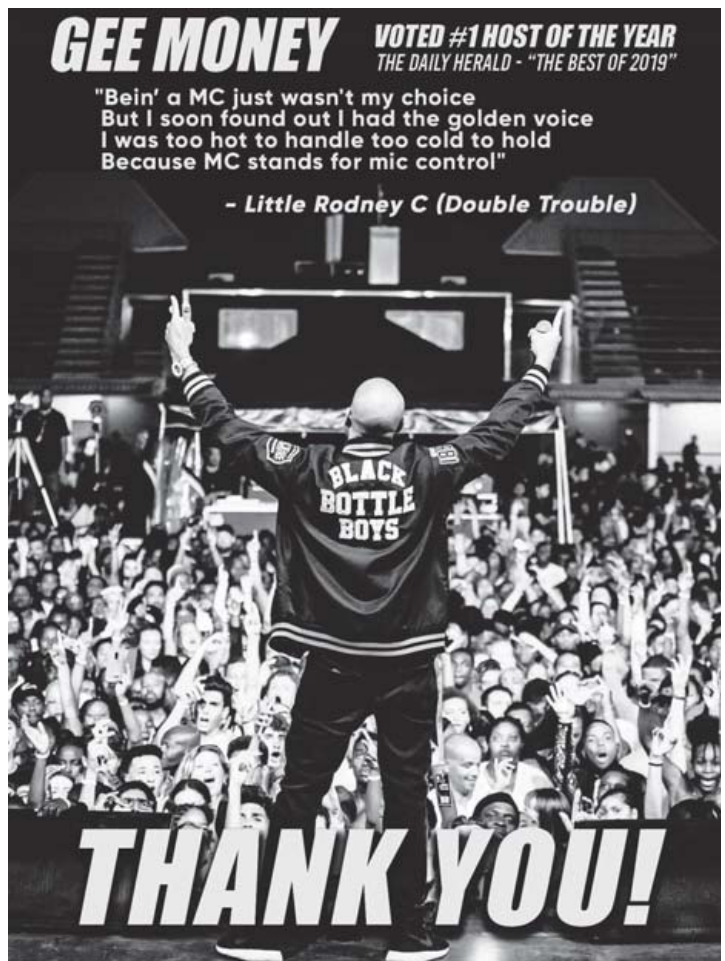


**GEE MONEY** **VOTED #1 HOST OF THE YEAR**  
THE DAILY HERALD - "THE BEST OF 2019"

"Bein' a MC just wasn't my choice  
But I soon found out I had the golden voice  
I was too hot to handle too cold to hold  
Because MC stands for mic control"

- Little Rodney C (Double Trouble)

**THANK YOU!**



**25 Years** **PHILIPSBURG** broadcasting  
Phillipsburg, St. Maarten

**Laser 101**

**VOTED #1 BEST RADIO STATION!**  
\*THE DAILY HERALD BEST OF 2001-2007, 2009, 2010, 2015, 2016 & 2019\*

**SUPPA**  
**VOTED #1 BEST RADIO PERSONALITY!**



**GEE MONEY**  
**VOTED #1 BEST MC!**



**DJ OUTKAST**  
**VOTED #1 BEST PARTY DJ!**







# Best Resort/Hotel



YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR REWARD

*Thank you!*

To our members, guests and wonderful staff



# #2 Best Mexican Restaurant



YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR REWARD

*Thank you!*

To our diners and wonderful staff.  
Thank you for voting for us!

# #3 Best Sports Bar

YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR REWARD

**THANK YOU!**

TO OUR DINERS AND WONDERFUL STAFF



Thank you for voting our very own ZIGGY as  
St. Maarten's Best Bartender





## Best Construction Company — Tula Design and Construction

*Tula Design and Construction was established in 2015 with the aim of creating affordable condominiums and family homes for the local market. Managing Director Shammara Jean Pierre prides herself in making housing more accessible, and making the entire process easier.*

Besides start-to-finish construction services, the company also makes owning a home more accessible by guiding clients through different processes, such as permits, mortgages, plans and appraisals.

Shammara saw the value in offering these services, after going through a rough time in building her first apartment. She wanted to start a company that handled things differently and focused on the client's perspective. With a background in accounting, she eventually took the leap into a com-



**Tula Design and Construction**

1<sup>st</sup>

pletely different field and has not looked back since. "I absolutely love it," she says.

With a team of about 10, the company has worked on projects in Oyster Pond and Belvedere, with three main projects in Valley Estate. The aim is to keep prices under \$200K. The next project, six 3-bedroom condos, is priced at \$191K (pre-construction).



**Woodward Roads**

2<sup>nd</sup>



**Sint Maarten Concrete**

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Auto Dealer — Motorworld

*When it comes to buying, leasing and taking care of your vehicle or picking up authentic parts, all roads lead to Motorworld, which has now won the Best Auto Dealer title six times.*

"We take great pride in this recognition and are grateful to our customers and the community... for this esteemed honour," says CEO Rena Amjad. "It shows that the community appreciates our undying dedication to our customers. Together, it is you who help us to remain competitive and committed to providing top level auto brands, the latest models, products, services, and community support of countless initiatives."

"As the leading auto dealership, we remain dedicated to providing the best ... Thank you to our entire team at Motorworld for your great hard work, and thank you to our customers and community supporters who took the time to vote and once again select us as the #1 Auto Dealership on the island. We will continue to uphold our quest for greatness and being the best in all we do."



**Motorworld**

1<sup>st</sup>



**Real Auto**

2<sup>nd</sup>



**First Auto**

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Children's Store — Bébé n' KIDS

*There is only one store like Bébé n' KIDS on St. Maarten/St. Martin, with a plethora of wonderful things for the young ones. Taking your child into Bébé n'KIDS is more fun than going into a candy store! Not only will you find the usual quality toy selection, but there is a wide range of "in-toys" as well.*

The first floor carries a wonderful clothing selection showing that fashion isn't only for the teenagers – the younger generation can be right up there with their apparel from Bébé n'KIDS. Two main brand names stand out: the well-known American designer brand called Carters, for the very littles to toddlers; and the well-known French de-

signer clothing brand called Orchestra, for toddlers and up.

Parents have a large choice of good quality strollers, baby centres, high chairs, toys, shoes and clothing for our hotter and cooler weather. The store, in the throes of being refitted, is modern, light and welcoming to all. Celebration and casual outfits, gifts and play stuff can all be found under one roof at Bébé n'KIDS.



**Bébé n'KIDS**

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best Computer Store — Music Man

*When it comes to the best computer store, the people have spoken and Music Man has the competition singing sad songs.*

An establishment that has been around for more years than most others, Music Man is a staple on the island. Solid, dependable and great prices are what keep this computer store at the top of the game when competing with newer businesses.

Nestled ideally at the head of Front Street in Philipsburg, Music Man provides locals and visitors alike with large and small quality-electronics like cellular phones

and televisions, as well as home supplies, like kitchenware and fans.

The friendly staffers are there to provide the most gracious service they have to offer. With years in the business of selling computers, these employees know just how to help you find the perfect item you're looking for.



**Music Man**

1<sup>st</sup>



**Boolehand's**

2<sup>nd</sup>



**Blue Point**

3<sup>rd</sup>



**Intertoys**

2<sup>nd</sup>



**Affordable**

3<sup>rd</sup>





## Best Department Store

### ACE Mega Center

*Just about everyone, who needs anything for the home and hearth, heads to ACE Mega Center in Cole Bay. The range of quality goods at fair prices is vast. The layout of the shop is good and there is adequate parking. Should you not be able to find exactly what you want at that moment, there is always someone to talk to about bringing it to the island or offering a helpful alternative.*

From building materials and appliances, to furniture, pool equipment, gardening tools, painting and crafting supplies for the kitchen, bathroom, bedroom and more, you will find something to suit your colour scheme and design.



ACE Mega Center

1<sup>st</sup>

Your ideas are their ideas. You will find curtains/drapes, pillows and bedlinen, bath towels and beach toys to suit your needs. ACE Mega Centre's consistently good choices of supplying good quality brands means you will always win when shopping there. If you are looking for gifts, you are sure to find that perfect something to suit at this all-round winning department store.

## Best Supermarket

### Carrefour Market

*The name Carrefour is known on the island only within the last few years, but it stands as a beacon and is already building a brand of convenient, clean and dependable service.*

Located in central points on Bush Road and in Cole Bay, both Carrefour supermarkets are clearly recognised by the people as being the best place to shop for groceries. Walk through the aisles and you will find one of the largest assortments of grocery on the island. Customers are invited to choose their grocery brands from countries like Holland, France and China – and one can even find locally made products.



Carrefour Market

1<sup>st</sup>

There is never a shortage of delicious and healthy options to choose from, as well as the wide array of cooked food for lunch. The deli section boasts exotic selections of charcuterie. Don't miss out on the fresh and frozen options, take advantage of the great prices of the month-end specials, and find what you are looking for no matter where it's from.



Kooyman

2<sup>nd</sup>



Ace Home Center

3<sup>rd</sup>



Super U

2<sup>nd</sup>



Cost U Less

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Pharmacy 2019

Thank you everyone for voting





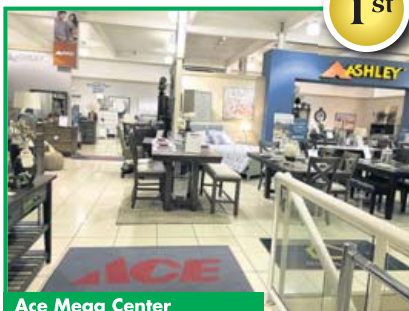
## Best Home Supplies Store

### ACE Megacenter

At the #1 spot, to reign as 2019 Best Home Supplies Store, is ACE Megacenter. Offering brand name furniture for every living room, dining room or kitchen, ACE Megacenter also has a wide and exciting display of outdoor furniture supplies, and décor for the best in curb appeal.

Downstairs at ACE Megacenter are all the building materials and kitchen and bathroom fixtures. Helpful staffers with extensive product and service knowledge are there to guide the customer's every step, through every aisle. Let the friendly staff in the paint section help you to choose just the right colour for just the right atmosphere, and then watch the shades of your imagination come to life right before your eyes!

There is also the home and garden maintenance aisles, fully stocked with indoor and outdoor care supplies, such as garden tools, dirt and plant pots! ACE Megacenter is not



Ace Mega Center

1<sup>st</sup>

just your #1 home supplies store, it's your MEGA centre!



Ace Home Center

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Women's Boutique

### Affordable

Affordable Department Store on Back Street has the nicest, friendliest staff imaginable helping you find something to wear. This goes a long way to making one feel welcome when shopping for that special something, whether it is an outfit for a workout, special event, travel or party; great underwear; or fine shoes.

Affordable also has a full range of kids wear on the second floor. There are many circular racks filled with large collections of wearable items, from jeans to dresses, to shirts to shorts, and a variety of knitwear ranging in size from petite to plus.

The store is almost a one stop shop as you will find some great everyday costume jew-

ellery, as well as a few items to keep the young happy, like slime and games. There is a large display of bags and backpacks with a choice for the very young to the more mature. Affordable Department Store is where one can afford to shop and where you will be happy with the large choice of fashionable clothing to choose from.



Affordable

1<sup>st</sup>

Music Man

2<sup>nd</sup>

T's Closet

2<sup>nd</sup>

Endless Summer

3<sup>rd</sup>

\*Thank you St. Maarten for voting\*

\*Gracias publico latino por votar\*

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MON - FRI: 8:00AM - 9:00PM

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## Best Real Estate

### Century21 Island Realty

*Century21 Island Realty has had its most successful year yet – thanks to the resilient work of Principal Ritika Nanwani, with 20+ years of experience, and gratitude for the people of Sint Maarten for supporting her.*



Island Real Estate

2<sup>nd</sup>

According to Century21, its success in the real estate industry is a testament to the economy of Sint Maarten. There is a real desire to own property, due to confidence in the increasing valuation of homes. You are assured that your property will never decrease in value.

The rental market has always been a major part of the real estate market in Sint Maarten, due to vacationers wanting better spaces at lower rates while some hotels remain inactive; and this significantly helped the real estate industry in 2019.

With growing sales of beachfront properties, Century21 can say with confidence that they are the leaders in beachfront condos and villas. The largest percentage of sales comes from Simpson Bay beachfront properties with Cupecoy coming a close second. This year 2020 is the year of real estate.



Sunshine Properties

3<sup>rd</sup>

Century21 Island Realty

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best Flower Shop

### Lydia's Flower Shop

*The kind hearts at Lydia's Flower Shop have flourished to become a seasonal enchantment to anyone in need of the right way to illustrate intimacy, friendship or an event. Affection comes in many layers of expression and Lydia's Flower Shop continues to oblige through its expressive arrangements.*

Want to say, "I'm thinking of you"? Lydia's Flower Shop offers uplifting varieties of fruit- and gift-baskets of cheer to brighten a gloomy day, and staffers go the extra mile in delivering that message with just the right amount of tender loving friendliness, and a caring smile that keeps you coming

back for more.

That's not all!

Lydia's Flower Shop caters to events as intimate as that first candle-light dinner date, or the extravagantly elaborate wedding that is sure to follow. Announcing the joy of a new baby? Which flowers will best fit the gender reveal or that garden-themed baby shower?

With so much to think about, go to Lydia's Flowers Shop on the corner of Bush Road and Zagersgut for the best presentation of the right message.



Lydia's Flower Shop

1<sup>st</sup>

Greenfingers

2<sup>nd</sup>

Flowers by Flores

3<sup>rd</sup>



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## Best Furniture Store

### Ashley Furniture

*Ashley Furniture, exclusively available at both ACE locations, is number one when it comes to quality, stylish furniture. With impressive staging that lets you envision yourself in your brand new living room or bedroom, it's not hard to see why. Expertly mixed and matched, the colours, fabrics, materials and shapes all seem to fit together, just right.*

The wide selection of traditional, modern and contemporary furniture sets Ashley apart, with customers all but guaranteed to find something to match their style. If you're not 100 per cent sure you've found

the perfect piece, a handy e-catalogue will help you browse through even more products.

While the price tag might be higher than those of some other furniture outlets, the solid, quality pieces are built to last. Flexible financing is available – just ask the friendly staffers that can guide you through the options. Free delivery is available to the whole island.

See what the hype is all about by visiting ACE Mega Center in Cole Bay, or ACE Home Center in Cay Hill.



Ashley Furniture

1<sup>st</sup>



Kwik Ideas

2<sup>nd</sup>



La Peninsule

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Gift/Souvenir Shop

### Shipwreck Shops

*A tradition of excellence since 1972, Shipwreck Shops has got all your gifts and souvenirs covered. With 10 locations on the island, Shipwreck Shops has been a retail landmark on the island of St. Maarten for over 40 years.*

You are never far from a Shipwreck shop, as its colourful stores are located in all key shopping districts and major hotels.

Dedicated to bringing the finest service and quality products to the island, Shipwreck

Shops is your one stop shop for all gift- and souvenir-needs, including beachwear, casual clothing, gourmet products, must-have accessories and high end goods from the island – suited for tourists and locals alike.

So enjoy Shipwreck Shops' 48 years of gift- and souvenir-experience and find the perfect present for yourself or all your loved ones.



Shipwreck Shops

1<sup>st</sup>



Good Cards

2<sup>nd</sup>



Family Bookstore

3<sup>rd</sup>



# Best of St. Maarten 2019

Thank you St. Maarten/St. Martin  
and all the rest of the voters  
all around the world.



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**INTERNATIONAL**

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## Best Hardware Store

### Kooyman

*Kooyman was chosen by the St. Maarten public again this year as the island's Best Hardware Store. Whether you're looking for appliances, accessories or something to help with a home improvement project, Kooyman is the place to go for amazing quality products, such as the store's top selling Makita line of power tools.*

Customers can rest assured that goods bought at this store will get the job done. Kooyman has also excelled in helpful and friendly customer service, having a wide range of offerings tailored to one's needs,

such as financial and account management, kitchen designs and screen cutting. Management said their services also set them apart and help make the building and purchasing process a lot more convenient.

As you spend at Kooyman, you will also earn, as its Fun Miles Loyalty Program allows cardholders to get four times their points with all store purchases. And as a bonus, a portion of your hard-earned dollars will also go back into the community, as Kooyman is a good corporate citizen, which gives back.

1<sup>st</sup>2<sup>nd</sup>3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Store to Purchase Jewellery

### DK Gems International

*Family-owned DK Gems International tops the chart again as the Best Store to Purchase Jewellery in 2019, and it is more than just about the quality of fine jewellery that local and international customers have come to expect.*

DK Gems International offers a personal touch, identifying the individual wish of every customer, and granting it with a friendly invitation to return for more. Serving the community of St. Maarten for almost 20 years, DK Gems International has been the

go-to jewellery store for locals and visitors alike – and it shows, as this is the third time they have earned the "Best Of" title.

Back on the throne is DK Gems International, with still the best quality and prices in jewellery. With the best level of service, the standard is now set at a competitive level of personalized service to the now extended family of return customers who have come to expect it with anticipation at every visit.

1<sup>st</sup>2<sup>nd</sup>3<sup>rd</sup>



## Best Men's Boutique

### Ralph Lauren

As a man, when it comes to looking sharp from head to toe, no one out-fits you better than Ralph Lauren boutique. The boutique has been making men look their best in St. Maarten for more than three decades with its stock of just about everything a man needs to stand out in a crowd.

From authentic and original Ralph Lauren short and long pants, to dress shirts, blazers, elegant suiting, ties, dress shoes, sneakers, slippers, polo hats and other attire, the Ralph Lauren boutique has it all. The store also carries the exclusive Armani brand.

Boutique manager Juliana Beaton, who has been with Ralph Lauren for some 25 years, is proud of the store's consecutive win in

this category. "We are the best! We have a friendly and professional staff, we stock everything men need, and the prices are good," Beaton said, thanking the boutique's customers for their continued patronage and for again placing their confidence in the Ralph Lauren brand, making it their number one choice for men's clothing on the island.



Ralph Lauren

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best Health Store

### Nature's Discount

St. Maarten has yet again voted Nature's Discount as the #1 Health Store on the island! Nature's Discount is proud to have a very strong local-based clientele in both their locations for more than 14 years. This is partially due to the fact that it is up-to-date with the latest products on the health market, tried and tested alternative/homeopathic remedies, and everything you need, from sport supplements to natural beauty products.

Over the years, they've evolved with their added juice bar, and more and better products to choose from. They have a wonderful and knowledgeable team in both locations, so you know you are in good hands.

Staying number #1 isn't easy, although Nature's Discount makes it look that way.



Nature's Discount

1<sup>st</sup>

They work hard at it, stay up-to-date, take care of their clients, and have fabulous products we are looking for. It's easy and delicious to stay healthy with fresh foods juiced just right at Nature's Discount whose slogan is "Where you get healthy and stay healthy".



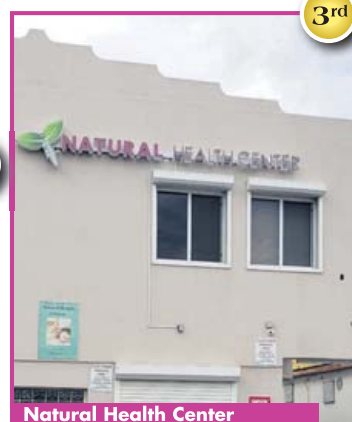
Havane

2<sup>nd</sup>

Celios

3<sup>rd</sup>

Fountain of Health

2<sup>nd</sup>

Natural Health Center

3<sup>rd</sup>

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## Best Place to get Electronics

### Music Man

Also known as "Black Friday Man", Music Man once again beats its competition and is voted St. Maarten's #1 Place to get Electronics for the year 2019.

When it comes to electronics and latest tech items, Music Man – a multi-time winner of this category in years past – is the place to go. And although the store was completely destroyed by Hurricane Irma in 2017; it never stopped providing the same quality service and products.

Additionally, Music Man was the first store to bring the now very popular and successful concept of the Black Friday sale to St. Maarten. The business has been provid-



Music Man

1<sup>st</sup>

ing service with a smile since 1983 – that makes 38 years of experience for all your electronic needs, you know where to shop – Music Man is the best place to get your products and service.

It's only one man and that is Music Man on #20 Front Street in Philipsburg!



Boolchand's

2<sup>nd</sup>



Klass Electronics

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Perfume Store

### Penha

If you're in search of a new fragrance or looking to replace one of your favourite scents, Penha should be your number one stop. Penha carries a number of top perfume brands and has a wide variety of fragrances that suit just about any personality and style. From floral, bold, magical, intense and fresh, to feminine, masculine and fierce, just about every manner of fragrance can be found on the shelves at Penha.

Founded in 1865, Penha has a long history of making men and women smell great, and has developed a reputation of quality, professionalism and top service around the world that has stood the test of time. The brands Penha carries include Estee Lauder, Clinique, MAC, Bobbi Brown, Lancôme,

Chanel, Dior, Shiseido, La Prairie and Victoria's Secret – and so many more of your all-time favourites.

Penha St. Maarten has won the Best Perfume Store title multiple times in the past and remains a top choice for perfume lovers all around the island as well as for visitors.



Penha

1<sup>st</sup>



Vanity First

2<sup>nd</sup>



L'Occitane

3<sup>rd</sup>

# Best of 2019 KIWISAT #1 TV Provider

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Best**

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## Best Place to Purchase Makeup

### INGLOT

1<sup>st</sup>2<sup>nd</sup>

INGLOT successfully bounced back to business with a bold metamorphosis after a devastating nightmare post-Hurricane Irma, as the Best Place to Purchase Makeup in 2019.

INGLOT understands that beauty runs deep and customers know, amid the wide assortment of colourful options, that the skin care products carefully designed to meet specific needs are an essential asset to every beauty regimen.

The makeup savvy ladies at INGLOT are always ready to serve specialized products and give workshops and seminars that cater to every colourful need, but it doesn't end there.

3<sup>rd</sup>

Boasting more than 600 shades of colours, INGLOT aims to leave its beauty mark on the map, creating foundation tones influenced by Sint Maarten's demand – a bold move that reveals a colourful array of possibilities for creative experiments by local makeup artists.

In celebration of this victory and its fifth anniversary, INGLOT St. Maarten would like to thank their beauties "for their amazing support" by giving a 20% discount on the entire store all day today, February 3!

## Best Artist (Musical)

### Kelvin "King" James

1<sup>st</sup>

Kelvin "King" James

2<sup>nd</sup>

Kenyo Baly

Last year was a historic year for Kelvin "King" James. He won his second Road March competition and first Groovy Soca competition, setting the St. Maarten music scene ablaze with his songs "Pong Them Hard" and "Jookin' Meh". He was the first artist to win both titles in the same Carnival season.

King James put his sights on expansion last year as well, performing across St. Maarten/St. Martin and planting his feet on shores as far as Dubai, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, and Miami, and as close as neighbouring Anguilla, St. Eustatius and Aruba. In the process, he shared the stage with musical giants, which included Soca Kings Machel Montano and Bunji Garlin, as well as recently freed Reggae icon Buju Banton.

King James proved his one-of-a-kind talent last year. And the St. Maarten public could not help but agree, voting him as the best artist of 2019. He thanks his fans, North Island Records and the rest of his team for their support and having his back 100%.

3<sup>rd</sup>

Gianfranco on Guitar



**GOOD CARDS**  
...and other cool stuff.

Thank you 😊

We thank our wonderful and loyal clientele for their votes to set us among the **BEST GIFT SHOPS** on the island!!

For those who have yet to discover us - Please come in to see what we have to offer and see the reason why we are included in the **BEST OF 2019**  
You will always be surprised! Our efforts will continue for all in 2020

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*Best Visual Artist***Ruby Bute**

*Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Published Author, Philosopher, Cultural Ambassador and Artist, Lady Ruby Bute is once again voted Best Visual Artist of 2019.*

Ruby Bute moved to St. Maarten in 1976 and has been well-known on the island since her first art exhibition in 1983. Though her paintings are regularly held in other countries, such as the Netherlands, Ruby's work has always remained authentic to the local culture and traditions, as she depicts old island homes, ancestral landscapes and colourful Carnival revellers.

Ruby opened the Silk Cotton Grove art gallery in 2009 on her estate in Friars Bay, where the island's oldest silk cotton trees welcome many visitors to a permanent exhibition of her work, as well as exhibitions for other artists and cultural events.

Today, Ruby Bute is a living legend and national treasure in her own right. She is best

**Ruby Bute****1<sup>st</sup>**

quoted by "the arts motivate us to reach out and love life." Ruby truly loves life and makes whoever she meets love it as well in the ways she freely expresses it.

**Patty Meotti****2<sup>nd</sup>****Roland Richardson****3<sup>rd</sup>***Best Bartender***Ziggy Chang**

*Ziggy Chang knows his way around a cocktail and boy can he shake up some deliciousness! With his skills both as a drink maker and a conversation starter, it is no wonder that yet again "Best Of" voters have selected him as the island's premier bartender.*

Ziggy Chang's vibrant personality and friendly nature keep patrons returning again and again to Replay Sports Bar at Simpson Bay Resort. They also return for his craft cocktails. His combination of skills has helped propel him to supervisor of Replay, a post that has not seen him abandon his first love – bartending.

Ziggy Chang is also a noted local performer who has several covers on YouTube. He is known for sharing a beat or two to keep the place lively and fun. To this lovable bartender, making sure each patron is happy is paramount – that means if the cocktail is not on the menu, he will find a way to make sure it is created and poured into a glass.

**Ziggy Chang**  
@ Replay Sports Bar**1<sup>st</sup>****Paul Peterson of**  
**The Bearded Bartender****2<sup>nd</sup>****Marie-Pierre Guay**  
**@ The Red Piano****3<sup>rd</sup>**

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*Thank You!*

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# KWIK IDEAS

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*Thank You* On behalf of the **Kwik Ideas** staff, family, and management, I am humbled to accept the award for 2nd best furniture store on St. Maarten. We have consistently strived to provide furniture that allows you to transform your house into a home at affordable prices and appliances to make your life easier. We hope to continue to satisfy the people of St. Maarten and thank you all for this recognition. I am particularly touched by this award as we lost **Mr. Kishor Mirchandani**, my husband and the founder of Kwik Ideas in 2019. It has been a transitional year for the company, staff, and family and we are thankful for the outpouring of love and support we have received from our customers and St. Maarten.

*Thank You*  
from the bottom of our hearts.

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# Best Party DJ

## DJ Outkast

1<sup>st</sup>

DJ Outkast

*The Cut Creator DJ Outkast is synonymous with music. His prowess on the soundboard is renowned not only at home but also further afield and he's won countless DJ battles at home and internationally.*

Known for his mixes of talent, experience, performance and swag, DJ Outkast is an official member of Eminem's Shadyville Crew and 50 Cent's G-Unit crews. He is aptly described as a turntablist, who walks the line between deejay and performer and plays a wicked mashup of contemporary sounds, including Urban, Caribbean and

EDM beats.

This talented St. Maartener is also in a bit of local music lore: In 2005, along with the group 187, DJ Outkast released a song titled "T.I.N.T." Although he said the song started out as a joke, it became one of the biggest local hits when it was released and was still getting hits two years after its release.

DJ Outkast counts among his role model DJ greats, such as Mix Master Pauly, DJ Sheff, DJ Dave Nice, Party Dude Jason, Natchum Frank and DJ Wilson.

3<sup>rd</sup>

DJ Pauly



Dj Blaze

2<sup>nd</sup>

# Intertoys

SINT MAARTEN

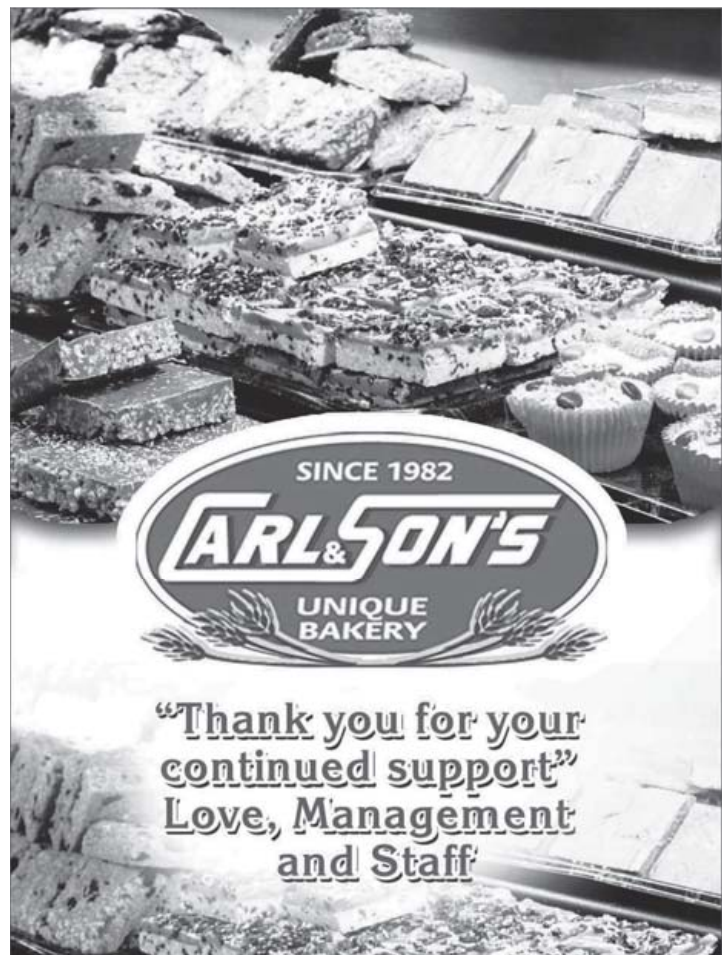
## Thank You

The management and staff of Intertoys Sint Maarten would like to thank all our customers for their support and votes.

Congratulations to all the other businesses that were chosen for the Best of 2019.

Intertoys Sint Maarten, the one and only Dutch toy store on Sint Maarten!

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*Thank  
you*



*Affordable*  
DEPARTMENT STORE



# SXM Paws

1<sup>st</sup>

SXM PAWS' goal is making sure animals have a better chance at life. They have rescued, rehabilitated and found loving homes for more than 400 animals on the island, as well as finding them forever homes in the United States, Canada, France and the

Animals are kept and nurtured in foster homes until they find their forever families. Often rescues have suffered abandonment, neglect and abuse; this is why SXM PAWS is dedicated to making a positive difference in their lives from the moment they enter the foster programme. The group takes care of the emotional, social and physical needs of animals to aid in the transition to their forever homes.

2nd

3<sup>rd</sup>



# Little Jerusalem Restaurant



## St Maarten's #1 Middle Eastern Restaurant

*We appreciate all the support  
and look forward to serving you  
only the best throughout the  
coming years*

*"The Best There Was, The Best There Is, The Best There Will Ever Be."*

# Little Jerusalem Restaurant

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# Best Volunteer

## Mélanie Choisy

A young woman of many talents, Mélanie Choisy loves to volunteer. She received the Soldier of Orange prize in 2019. Every year, the Soldier of Orange Fund, which is part of Oranje Fonds, awards young people for addressing a social problem within their community, just like the original Soldier of Orange (Soldaat van Oranje), Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema, did in his day.

One of the coordinators of the annual SXM Doet, Mélanie has worked tirelessly for Be the Change Foundation, which she created together with her late aunt, Erika Cannegieter, in 2012. The foundation selects a non-governmental organisation's (NGOs) project each month, to raise money by means of crowd funding to support that project, or to create awareness within society of a variety of topics, such as poverty, culture and the environment.

Mélanie volunteered tirelessly after hurricanes Irma and Maria pummelled the island in 2017. She coordinated water distribution and helped boost volunteers at this very trying time for the island. Recently, she joined St. Maarten Development Fund where she serves as its primary liaison with local NGOs.



Mélanie Choisy

1<sup>st</sup>

Christina Hodge

3<sup>rd</sup>

Carmen Lake

2<sup>nd</sup>

# Best Photographer

## Elvis Harrigan

Elvis Harrigan has been chosen once again as St. Maarten's favourite photographer. This is the second time he's gained the recognition, with last year being the first. "I guess I must be doing something right," he joked when hearing the good news.

This young, local entrepreneur started really delving into photography in 2010, after receiving a camera as a gift from family. The hobby grew into something more, and after learning the tricks of the trade on his own, he started taking it on as a fulltime job after a few short years. He's always had an artistic eye, and studying graphic design in college also gave him an advantage when it comes to editing.

Elvis does a bit of everything, but loves the interaction that goes along with pho-



Elvis Harrigan

1<sup>st</sup>

tographing people. Capturing moments at weddings is one of his specialties; maternity shoots are another favourite. Working with kids and babies? Now that's a fun challenge that he's getting a lot more used to, as a proud father of a five-month old baby girl.

Impressions and information: [www.eharriganphotos.com](http://www.eharriganphotos.com)



Cameron Hyman

2<sup>nd</sup>

Pete's Photo

3<sup>rd</sup>

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## Best Radio Personality

### Suppa Kid

Kevin "Suppa Kid" Petrona was voted the Best Radio Personality of 2019 by the St. Maarten public. Suppa, as he is affectionately known by his listeners, stumbled into radio hosting by accident. The then-wanna-be pilot started all the way back in 2000 on Laser 101.1FM's hit teen radio show, Loud N' Lovin' It. But instead of flying the skies, Suppa turned to flying the airwaves instead and, as they say, the rest was history.

Suppa Kid eventually started his own radio show in 2015 – The Suppa Duppa Morning Show. This fun programme soon became an island favourite, featuring a fun and exciting combination of the latest in news, weather, sports, gossip and more. Some of the more well-known segments on the show include the Hot Coffee Spill, Ratchet

Rewinds, Question of the Day, and Hashtag Headlines. Suppa and co-hosts Rumer and Big Homie Spoon are sure to keep you entertained with their vibrant style and energy.



Kevin 'Suppa Kid' Petrona

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best MC

### Gee Money

Whether it was hosting St. Maarten Heineken Regatta or St. Maarten Hospitality Association's (SHTA) Crystal Pineapple Awards, Gee Money seems to have done it all last year. He opened comedy nights and even got the entire Carnival Village to do the Electric Slide. It can hardly be a surprise that he was voted Best MC for 2019 by the St. Maarten public.

Born in New York City with St. Maarten roots, Gee Money has been an MC on the island since the late 1990s. His first MC gig came in 1998 when he hosted the Miss Carnival Teen Pageant. The following year, he began hosting "The AM/PM Workload Show" on Laser 101.1FM.

Gee Money took to the MC life like a duck takes to water. He is a natural entertainer and loves to make people laugh and feel good. Regarding his selection as Best MC for 2019, Gee Money thanks his fans for their love and support throughout the years, and looks forward to a bigger, brighter 2020.



Gee Money

1<sup>st</sup>



Suppa Kid

2<sup>nd</sup>



Duffy Sham

3<sup>rd</sup>



Jeffrey 'Dr. Soc' Sohrin

2<sup>nd</sup>



Grace 'Lady Grace' Blijden

3<sup>rd</sup>



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