



THE BEST OF 2025  
is a  
Special Publication of



Publisher  
Paul De Windt

Coordinators  
Darlene Hodge  
Martha Marsden

Contributors  
Daniella De Windt  
Darlene Hodge  
Jenny Steel  
Judy Fitzpatrick  
Martha Marsden  
Claudienne Peterson  
Breanna Barrie

Graphic Design / Layout  
Evadney Henriques

Copy Editor  
Cindy Carter

Operations Manager  
Steven De Windt

Advertising Coordinator  
Moira Marcelle

# Meant to encourage

Welcome to the already 25th edition of "The Best Of," our annual publication based on an online survey from mid-December to early January regarding people's favourite business establishments, products, services and personalities in a range of categories during the past year.

Always keep in mind that this is an otherwise completely unscientific popularity contest intended to encourage rather than discourage. Not being among the winners should merely stimulate those involved to do better in 2026, which will only help make "The Friendly Island" an even more amazing place.

The Publisher



# THE **BEST** OF 2025

## Table of Contents

|  |    |  |    |   |    |
|--|----|--|----|---|----|
| Best Breakfast/Brunch Spot .....           | 3  | Best Live Music Venue .....            | 25 | Best Accounting Agency .....                        | 50 |
| Best High-End Restaurant .....             | 3  | Best Place for a Burger .....          | 26 | Best Bank .....                                     | 50 |
| Best New Restaurant .....                  | 4  | Best Chinese Restaurant .....          | 27 | Best Children's Store .....                         | 52 |
| Best Place for Desserts .....              | 6  | Best Bartender .....                   | 28 | Best Construction Company .....                     | 52 |
| Best Place for a Sandwich .....            | 6  | Best Beer Brand .....                  | 28 | Best Real Estate Company .....                      | 54 |
| Best BBQ .....                             | 6  | Best Musical Producer .....            | 30 | Best Party DJ .....                                 | 54 |
| Best Sushi .....                           | 7  | Best Telecommunication Provider .....  | 30 | Best Radio Personality/ Podcast Personality .....   | 54 |
| Best Pizza .....                           | 8  | Best Photographer / Videographer ..... | 31 | Best Men's Boutique .....                           | 56 |
| Best Thai / Vietnamese / Korean Food ..... | 8  | Best Bakery .....                      | 31 | Best Department Store .....                         | 57 |
| Best Seafood Restaurant .....              | 9  | Best Flower Shop .....                 | 32 | Best Shipping/ Mail Company .....                   | 58 |
| Best Best Bar/ Happy Hour .....            | 9  | Best Casino .....                      | 32 | Best Non-profit organisation .....                  | 60 |
| Best Latin Restaurant .....                | 10 | Best Night Club .....                  | 34 | Best Hardware/ Construction Material Provider ..... | 60 |
| Best Mexican Food .....                    | 10 | Best Musical Artist .....              | 34 | Best Home Supplies & Furniture Store .....          | 60 |
| Best Local Food .....                      | 12 | Best Local Band/Duo .....              | 34 | Best Law Firm/ Notary Office .....                  | 61 |
| Best Italian Restaurant .....              | 12 | Best Hair Salon .....                  | 38 | Best Local Products .....                           | 62 |
| Best Place for Vegetarian Food .....       | 12 | Best Nail Salon .....                  | 39 | Best Women's Boutique .....                         | 63 |
| Best Place for Steak .....                 | 14 | Best Electronics Store .....           | 40 | Best Gift / Souvenir Shop .....                     | 64 |
| Best Place to Have Coffee .....            | 14 | Best Gym .....                         | 40 | Best Writer/Poet .....                              | 64 |
| Best Sports Bar .....                      | 14 | Best Resort / Hotel .....              | 41 | Best Sportswear .....                               | 65 |
| Best Beach Bar .....                       | 16 | Best Spa .....                         | 42 | Best Dancer/Choreographer .....                     | 65 |
| Best Excursion / Activity .....            | 16 | Best Dance / Yoga Studio .....         | 42 | Best MC .....                                       | 66 |
| Best Indian Restaurant .....               | 18 | Best Radio Station .....               | 43 | Best Store to Purchase Jewelry .....                | 66 |
| Best Shoarma Place .....                   | 20 | Best Barber Shop .....                 | 44 | Best Visual Artist .....                            | 68 |
| Best Middle Eastern Restaurant .....       | 20 | Best Pharmacy .....                    | 44 | Best Supermarket .....                              | 68 |
| Best French Cuisine .....                  | 22 | Best Insurance Company .....           | 48 | Best Place for Makeup / Beauty Supplies .....       | 70 |
| Best Guest House .....                     | 22 | Best Auto Dealer .....                 | 48 | Best Perfume Store .....                            | 70 |
| Best Fast Food Place .....                 | 24 | Best Travel Agency .....               | 49 |   |    |

Voting our restaurant as  
**#1 BEST BREAKFAST SPOT**  
4 CONSECUTIVE YEARS  
and  
**#2 BEST PLACE FOR COFFEE**  
in 2025!

Your support means the world to us, and we're thrilled to know our pancakes, omelets, and morning specials have become part of your routines.

And being named the third-best coffee? That's just the cherry on top! We'll keep brewing, cooking, and working hard to make every visit as warm and delicious as possible.

Thank you for making us part of your mornings!



REVEIL MATIN Breakfast & Lunch,  
#68 Welfare Road, Plaza Del Lago, Tel: (721) 544-7007  
SEE YOU SOON 😊

*Thank you*  
to our patrons and our  
dedicated and friendly staff.

## Best Breakfast/ Brunch Spot —

### Réveil Matin

Since opening its doors six years ago, Réveil Matin has quickly become the most beloved breakfast and brunch destination on St. Maarten/St. Martin, earning the title of Best Breakfast/Brunch Spot for the fourth consecutive year. Inspired by Canadian breakfast culture, Réveil Matin has perfected a winning formula that keeps guests coming back year after year.

The menu celebrates home-made and fruit-forward dishes with a gourmet and local twist, from the waffles, crêpes, eggs, club sandwiches, Johnny cakes, to the famous breakfast potatoes, which are seasoned with a special spice blend made in Canada. Other standouts include breakfast nachos and apple-and-caramel speciality waffles.

Owner Daniel believes the restaurant's success comes down to the warm, profes-



Réveil Matin



Zee Best

## Best High-End Restaurant —

### Jax Steakhouse

When it comes to refined dining in comfort and style, few experiences compare to Jax Steakhouse (upper level of Maho Village). Dining at Jax is about more than just an exceptional meal; it's definitely a complete experience. Here, elegant ambiance, attentive service, and perfectly prepared dishes come together to delight every guest's appetite.

Jax Steakhouse is best known for its succulent steaks, but the menu extends far beyond, offering a diverse selection of expertly crafted dishes to satisfy a range of palates. Guests choose to dine indoors in the chic, modern dining room or outside on the inviting patio. The restaurant features a fully stocked indoor bar, complemented by an outdoor bar, while a cozy lounge area welcomes those looking to relax with cocktails, appetizers, and great conversation.



Jax Steakhouse

The Jax family shared their appreciation, saying: "From the entire staff at Jax Steakhouse, we would like to thank all our friends, followers, regulars, and new patrons for voting us Best High-End Restaurant of St. Maarten. We're incredibly grateful and look forward to welcoming you all soon. Thank you — and great job, Team Jax!" Every visit is an invitation to indulge, unwind, and savor the best of high-end dining on the island.



Bamboo House



Big Fish



Baratié



# Best New Restaurant

## Baratié

Since officially opening its doors on January 27th, 2025, Baratié has quickly become a beloved addition to the local culinary scene – and now, has been crowned Best New Restaurant of St. Maarten/St. Martin.

Baratié's concept is rooted in locally inspired cuisine, elevating familiar flavours into memorable dishes. Guests rave about top sellers like the Ox-cellent Pasta and the Slammin' Salmon, served with sweet potato and sweet plantain purée. Breakfast has taken on a life of its own, with creative sweet and savoury favourites such as the Breakfast Sushi Roll and Smash Burger Pancakes.

Open seven days a week for breakfast and lunch, Baratié welcomes guests Monday through Saturday from 8:00am to 4:00pm, and Sundays from 8:00am to 3:00pm. With its growing demand reservations are highly encouraged – especially on weekends.

The team believes their win goes beyond food and service. As a locally owned, home-grown establishment, Baratié offers a space that feels personal and welcoming. The team extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who voted, supported, and believed in them.



**THANK YOU**  
For voting us among  
**the Best New Restaurants**  
in St. Maarten/St. Martin 2025.

Open everyday except Tuesday.  
From 4:00 PM - Late

151 Union Road, Cole Bay  
+1 (721) 588-3994  
+1 (721) 588-3905



#1 Best  
New

Best Restaurant

# BARATIÉ



THANK  
YOU!

BECAUSE OF YOU, BARATIÉ IS OFFICIALLY A COMMUNITY FAVORITE

FROM THE VERY FIRST PLATE, OUR GOAL WAS SIMPLE: BOLD CARIBBEAN FLAVORS, HONEST COOKING, AND A SPACE THAT FEELS LIKE HOME. TO EVERYONE WHO VOTED, SUPPORTED, SHARED A MEAL, OR TOLD A FRIEND ABOUT US, THIS WIN BELONGS TO YOU. THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN OUR VISION, OUR FOOD, AND OUR JOURNEY.

WITH GRATITUDE, THE BARATIÉ TEAM



UP NEXT...

9 RUE LEOPALD HYMAN

+590 690 06 58 68

BARATIEPRIE@GMAIL.COM

BARATIE\_SXM



**NARUTO**  
SUSHI RAMEN & ASIAN CUISINE

**Thank You**

**Sint Maarten for choosing us**

**TOP SUSHI RESTAURANT 2025**

"WHERE SUSHI IS ART" - ANIME VIBE -

**f:Naruto\_sxm** **@:Naruto\_sxm** **5448008/5811151**



## Best Place for Desserts —

### La Sucrière

*La Sucrière Bakery has once again proven that quality never goes out of style. Voted the Best Place for Desserts in St. Maarten/St. Martin, this beloved establishment continues to set the standard for quality and consistency for two decades after opening its doors.*

1<sup>st</sup>

Founded in June 2006, La Sucrière offers authentic French pastries, breads, and desserts crafted using traditional techniques and high-quality ingredients. From buttery croissants, pain au chocolat, éclairs and delicate macarons to freshly baked baguettes and sourdough breads, every item reflects a passion for French baking.

Beyond desserts that satisfy any sweet tooth, the bakery is a popular stop for breakfast and lunch, serving sandwiches,

2<sup>nd</sup>

quiches, navette sandwiches, and classic ham and cheese croissants. La Sucrière also caters to special occasions with custom orders such as pizza dough, mini croissants, and beautiful tarts.

Open daily from 6:00am to 7:00pm, including holidays, La Sucrière credits its success to a dedicated team and loyal customers. As the bakery looks ahead, it remains committed to its roots while thoughtfully developing new creations.

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Place for a Sandwich —

### Carl & Son's

When it comes to sandwiches in St. Maarten, Carl & Son's has long been the go-to spot. The iconic bakery has once again been named Best Place for a Sandwich in St. Maarten/St. Martin, a title that reflects more than four decades of consistency, quality, and community trust.

Established in 1982 in Grand Case, Carl & Son's has perfected the art of making sandwiches. From classics like turkey & cheese, salami, club, roast beef, and tuna, to customer favourites such as turkey, egg & cheese and ham & eggs, there's something for everyone. Their famous Johnny cakes, stuffed with cheese, chicken, bacon, eggs, saltfish, tuna, turkey, and more, are a must-have for locals on the go.

With three convenient locations on Pond-

1<sup>st</sup>

fill, in Cole Bay, and inside the St. Maarten Medical Center, Carl & Son's opens early and makes it easy to grab a fresh and affordable sandwich any day of the week.

The team credits their success to quality ingredients, fair prices, and delicious food. Carl & Son's looks forward to serving award-winning sandwiches for generations to come.

## Best BBQ —

### The Captain's Rib Shack

*If there's one place that defines BBQ bliss in St. Maarten, it's Captain's Rib Shack. Named Best BBQ on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025, this Simpson Bay favourite continues to set the standard for smoky, savoury, and downright irresistible island barbecue.*

At Captain's Rib Shack, every meal is a flavour-packed adventure. The fall-off-the-bone ribs, perfectly spiced jerk bar-b-cued chicken and its wide range of meals and sides all burst with Caribbean zest. Each bite proves why locals and visitors keep coming back for more, year after year.

The atmosphere is just as inviting as the food. With open-air seating, picnic-style tables, and a friendly, relaxed vibe, dining here feels like a backyard cookout where everyone is family. Guests rave about the generous portions, unforgettable flavours, and the warmth of island hospitality that infuses every dish.

1<sup>st</sup>

From juicy ribs and signature sauces to lively ambiance and top-notch service, Captain's Rib Shack proves once again why it's the island's ultimate BBQ destination — a place where every meal celebrates the bold, smoky soul of Caribbean barbecue.

2<sup>nd</sup>

Original Fat Boy Jimmy's

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

La Sucrière

3<sup>rd</sup>

Original Fat Boy Jimmy's

Ribs Shack

# Best Sushi

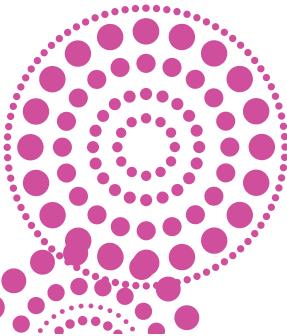
## Ginger Sushi & Grill

Ginger Sushi & Grill is a true destination for sushi fanatics combining authentic flavours, great value, a warm atmosphere, and friendly service. If you're craving classic sushi and sashimi or looking to try something new, the diverse menu offers many options from sushi pizzas and maki rolls to inventive chef's specials, every dish is crafted to impress. Even non-sushi fans are well catered for, with flavourful rice, noodle, and hot dish options that are just as satisfying.

A multiple-time winner of the Best Sushi title, Ginger Sushi is proud to once again be voted number one for 2025 – a testament to its consistent quality and dedication.

"Heartfelt thanks to our loyal customers for voting for us," said manager Lisa. "We are truly honoured to be named Best Sushi Restaurant. This recognition affirms our passion for sharing the art and taste of authentic

sushi. We remain committed to maintaining the highest standards of service and food quality and look forward to serving our community for many years to come."

1<sup>st</sup>

Ginger Sushi &amp; Grill

**Voted #1 BEST SUSHI PLACE 2025**

**Thank you to all the voters for choosing us  
#1 BEST SUSHI PLACE  
in St. Maarten/ St. Martin 2025**



GINGER SUSHI



GINGER\_SUSHI

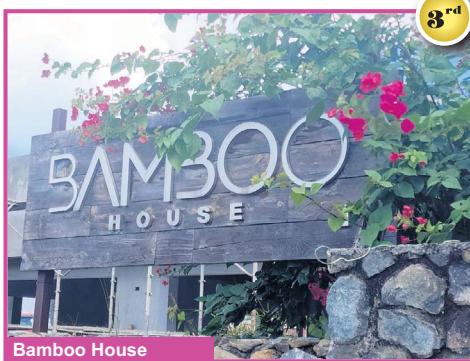


GINGERSUSHISXM@GMAIL.COM

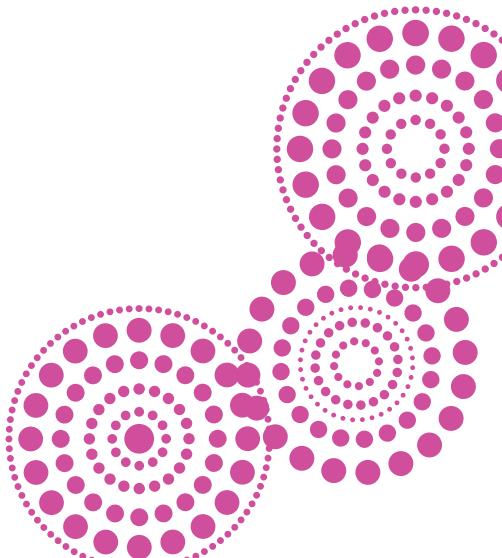
CALL US FOR RESERVATION,  
TAKE OUTS & PARTY ORDERS

Paradise Mall • Welfare Road  
#71 • Cole Bay, St. Maarten.  
(Close to Megaplex Cinemas)

Monday - Thursday: 12:00pm - 11:00pm • Friday- Sunday: 1:00pm - 12:00am  
Opening Hours:  
1-721-544-4573 OR 1-751-554-3628

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

Bamboo House



**YOU CAN'T  
SAY DOMINO'S  
WITHOUT SAYING**



**Dommmino's**

©2025 Domino's Pizza LLC. Domino's, the Domino's logo and the related logo are registered trademarks of Domino's Pizza, LLC.

**Thank You  
Sint Maarten!**

**For voting Dominos  
as #1 BEST PIZZA  
#3 BEST FAST FOOD**



**www.dominos.sx**



**Bush Road 542-4397 | Cole Bay 544-5954 | Union Road 544-9090  
PJIA Departure/Arrival Halls 546-7722**

## Best Pizza

### Domino's Pizza

When it comes to satisfying those pizza cravings on St. Maarten, the people have spoken – Domino's Pizza reigns supreme! With multiple locations across the island serving both Dutch and French sides, Domino's has mastered the art of consistently delivering hot, fresh, and delicious pizzas that keep customers coming back for more.

It's not just about the pizzas that have made Domino's a household name worldwide; it's about their commitment to serving the St. Maarten community with quick delivery times, friendly service, and a menu that caters to all tastes. From their Crispy Thin, Hand Tossed, and Pan Crust options, every pizza is crafted with quality ingredients and attention to detail.

Whether you're ordering for a family din-



**Domino's Pizza**

ner, a beach party, or a late-night craving, Domino's ensures you're never far from your favourite slice. Their easy-to-use online ordering at [www.dominos.sx](http://www.dominos.sx) also sets them apart from the rest. The voters have recognized Domino's dedication to excellence, crowning them #1 in the Best Pizza category.

## Best Thai/Vietnamese/ Korean Food

### Avantika

This one-of-a-kind destination in the heart of Simpson Bay at Puerta Del Sol, has long been praised for bringing authentic Thai cuisine to St. Maarten.

With its commitment to fresh ingredients, fragrant herbs, and traditional recipes, the restaurant stands out among the island's diverse dining scene. Owner and chefs emphasise health-conscious preparation while delivering bold tastes, from rich curries and pad Thai to fresh spring rolls and signature cocktails.

"We are thrilled and deeply grateful," said a representative from Avantika. "This award belongs to our loyal guests, hard-working team, and vibrant community of St. Maarten that keeps us inspired every day."

The recognition highlights Avantika's consistent excellence, including high ratings on platforms like TripAdvisor (where it



**Avantika**

holds a Traveler's Choice award and ranks among the island's top spots).

Enjoy Avantika's contemporary, chic atmosphere, a full bar, and both indoor and outdoor seating, happy hour specials, and an extensive menu with plenty of vegan and gluten-free options.

Congratulations to Avantika, where you don't just share meals, you share unforgettable experiences.



**Mr. Chow**



**Oppa Korean BBQ**



**Pizza & Co.**



**Pizza Italy**



**Mr. Chow**



**Oppa Korean BBQ**

*Voted "Best Seafood Restaurant"*



The SkipJack's Crew would like to express their gratitude

to our loyal customers and the readers of

The Daily Herald for voting us St. Maarten's "BEST SEAFOOD RESTAURANT" of 2025!

SkipJack's is all about you.... Thank you!!!

## Best Seafood Restaurant —

### Skip Jack's

The best seafood on the island can be found at SkipJack's. Their Chefs seek out the finest products of land and sea, and they have daily specials in addition to their varied menu.

With their very own fish market, there's no better place for fresh seafood dishes such as fish n' chips. You may also enjoy Skip Jack's Seared Ahi Tuna Salad with a Soy Ginger Sauce. Look out for specials such as their ripe tomatoes and fresh mozzarella with olive oil and Balsamic vinegar. But what they're really known for is their Lobster, go and pick out your live lobster yourself and enjoy a delicious feast!

Conveniently located on the Simpson Bay strip, it's easy to find, but you can also dock



Big Fish



at the restaurant if you're coming by water. Skip Jack's offers a unique waterfront dining ambiance with spectacular views of the world's largest mega-yachts. It's also a great place to hang out if you just want to chill at their bar, start the Happy Hour with two for one drinks and enjoy the view.



Pineapple Pete

## Best Bar / Happy Hour —

### Tap & Still

When it comes to nightlife and flavourful drinks, Tap & Still has set the standard – earning readers' votes as Best Bar and Best Happy Hour for 2025.

From the moment guests walk in, Tap & Still delivers a welcoming, lively vibe. The friendly, knowledgeable staff are always ready with the perfect recommendation: BURGERS – BOOZE – BEER.

Happy hour at Tap & Still is a great deal, from 3:00 to 6:00pm, US \$3 premium drinks! But it's more than a deal – it's an experience. With unbeatable specials, a vibrant crowd, and music that keeps the energy flowing, it's a favourite for both locals and visitors looking to unwind. Whether you're catching up with friends or striking up a conversation solo, the bar makes every hour feel like the happiest one.

Tap and still – the bar and its kitchen are



Tap & Still

open from 11:00am till you drop, always ready to serve you an amazing drink or burger!

The award belongs as much to the community as to the restaurant. Every guest, every toast, and every shared meal helped shape what The Tap & Still is today – a place where quality, comfort, and connection come together. And that's the real reason people keep coming back.



Buccaneer Beach Bar



Topper's Restaurant & Bar

+1721-5560978  
SIMPSON BAY  
#65 AIRPORT ROAD

4  
Be st 2019-2021-2022-2023-2024-2025  
Beryllium

57  
La tin Restaurant  
Lanthanum



+1721-5241818  
PHILIPSBURG  
#52 CANNEGIETER ST.



[www.PollosHermanos.sxm.com](http://www.PollosHermanos.sxm.com)

## Best Mexican Food

### La Patrona

It's no surprise that La Patrona restaurant has won the title of Best Mexican Food; it is a family favourite, a favourite among professionals, diners looking for a romantic getaway and everybody else in between. Their professional, friendly service and delicious Mexican dishes, at a beautiful ocean setting, make it a restaurant that diners love returning to.

La Patrona offers a diverse menu that includes authentic Mexican dishes, beautiful buffets and casual lunches along with handcrafted cocktails in a beautiful seaside setting. The restaurant is known for its use of premium ingredients and aims to provide an elevated dining experience.

Both their Breakfast Buffet and their Brunch Buffet have been quite popular for many years.



La Patrona is easy to find right at the beautiful Simpson Bay Resort, which happens to also have a number one spot for the Best Of competition: the Best Hotel/Resort, now that's a winning combination.

La Patrona has it all: delicious Mexican dishes, great service and ideal location. Visit them for the Best in Mexican food on the island of St. Maarten.



2<sup>nd</sup>

3 Amigos



3<sup>rd</sup>

Come y Calla

## Best Latin Restaurant

### Pollos Hermanos

For satisfying, generous portions and exciting Latin dishes, Pollos Hermanos is always a win. Their menu offers a wide range of tasty meals, drinks and desserts.

Whether it's the SXM Burger, The Henessey Burger, the Hermanos Taco Salad, the Chilli Con Carne wrap, or one of their famed roasted, grilled or fried chicken meals, everything on the menu is a hit.

You also have the option of a combination meal, as everything on their menu is so good, sometimes it's hard to choose just one item. The kids get in on the fun too of course, with their yummy kids' menu – Pollos Hermanos is always an enjoyable family go-to!

Open for Lunch and Dinner, Pollos Hermanos is where you can pick up a rotisserie



Pollos Hermanos

1<sup>st</sup>

chicken on your way home from work, have it delivered from their kitchen to yours in minutes, or kick back with friends and family in the restaurant to celebrate a birthday.

St. Maarten just can't get enough of the Best Latin Food on the island – your taste buds will thank you!



La Patrona

2<sup>nd</sup>



Oasis Food & Drinks

3<sup>rd</sup>



# THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING US!



## *Mexican* RESTAURANT



RESERVATIONS: +1 721 544 2503 EXT. 5500 • OpenTable®

La Patrona Sint Maarten @lapatronastmaarten

## Best Local Food

### Yvette's

Year after year, island food lovers return to Yvette's, and 2025 is no exception. Named Best Local Food on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025, Yvette's continues to deliver the kind of authentic, crave-worthy dishes that have earned it a beloved spot in the hearts (and stomachs) of locals and visitors alike.

Having savoured their menu myself, I can attest: the fresh fish is perfectly seasoned and flaky, the Conch Yvette bursts with Caribbean brightness, and the oxtail melts in your mouth with rich, comforting flavour. The Johnny cakes? Absolutely to die for – golden, soft, and irresistible. And the crab backs and salt fish cakes? Super excellent from start to finish, packing flavours that keep you coming back for more. Every bite feels like a celebration of island cuisine at its finest.

Nestled in a warm, inviting setting, Yvette's blends Creole and Caribbean classics with heartfelt hospitality. From seafood straight from the ocean to comforting local favourites, each dish reflects the passion and care



Mark's Place



Yvette's

1<sup>st</sup>



The Captain's Rib Shack

3<sup>rd</sup>



Plaza del Lago, Simpson Bay, at the entrance of Simpson Bay Yacht Club • Tel: 544-3381

Don't  
Fight

Eat  
Right

TOP CARROT

## Best Italian Restaurant

### Sale & Pepe

Sale & Pepe Marina Italian Sicilian Restaurant in Simpson Bay has been voted #1 Best Italian Restaurant in 2025 in local and visitor polls and it's easy to see why. Overlooking the lagoon with scenic marina views, Sale & Pepe combines authentic Sicilian tradition with fresh Caribbean flair.

At the heart of its success is the commitment to freshness. Much of the seafood comes straight from the Caribbean Sea, from shrimp and calamari to daily fish catches, with some selections even echoing the flavours of the Sicilian Sea. This commitment to fresh ingredients shines through in every dish.

What truly sets Sale & Pepe apart is its home-made pasta. Each plate is prepared al dente with sauces that showcase deep Italian roots, whether paired with fresh clams, mussels, and shrimp or rich tomato and cream sauces. Guests repeatedly praise



Sale & Pepe

1<sup>st</sup>



Roma @ Oasis

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

## Best Place for Vegetarian Food

### Top Carrot

At Top Carrot in Simpson Bay, food, wellness, and community come together under one roof. Sitting comfortably at the top as the island's Best Place for Vegetarian Food, Top Carrot serves fresh, feel-good meals from 7:30am until 3:00pm, while the shop stays open until 5:00pm.

Over the past year, Top Carrot has focused on continual evolution. They admit that running a business on this little paradise comes with its own challenges, so they strive to serve locally caught fish and source ingredients whenever possible from nearby islands. Beyond the kitchen, they've also brought new and exciting flavours to the smoothie and coffee bar, with treats like the "Wake Me Up" smoothie and their own unique chai lattes. Alongside food, the



Top Carrot

1<sup>st</sup>



Fit Foods

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



Freedom Fighter's Ital Shack

conscious living boutique and gift shop has continued to grow, featuring handcrafted ethnic pieces, crystals, and holistic items. This has allowed their menu and overall experience to remain fun and dynamic, while celebrating the flavours, craftsmanship, and recipes their clients love.

"Looking ahead, we want to keep building momentum into 2026, pushing our creativity further and continuing to showcase fresh, healthy, high-quality ingredients while staying true to what makes Top Carrot so unique."

# sale & pepe Marina

ITALIAN SICILIAN RESTAURANT



Thank you for voting us as the  
**#1 Best Italian restaurant.**

AIRPORT RD. #40, (SKYPORT) SIMPSON BAY, TEL: +1721 527-5019

## Best Sports Bar

### Pineapple Pete

Pineapple Pete is widely considered the best sports bar in St. Maarten – and for good reason – making it a favourite among both locals and visitors. Its lively Caribbean atmosphere provides the perfect place to relax after a day of exploring the

island. Guests can enjoy an impressive selection of ice-cold beers, expertly crafted cocktails, and a diverse, mouthwatering menu that caters to every

craving, from fresh seafood and hearty burgers to jerk chicken wings and even sushi.

Known for its extensive live sports coverage, Pineapple Pete broadcasts all major leagues and games, so you never miss a moment

of the action. The venue also features multiple pool tables, the largest arcade and gaming room on the island, and new VIP pool room extension all adding to the fun. With live music, nonstop sports, and an energetic vibe, there's always something happen-

ing. Whether you're watching the big game, enjoying a great meal, or simply soaking up the atmosphere with friends, Pineapple Pete delivers consistency, variety, and unbeatable island spirit – making it the perfect place to eat, drink, and unwind in St. Maarten.



Pineapple Pete

1<sup>st</sup>



Replay Bar

2<sup>nd</sup>



Cappuccino

3<sup>rd</sup>



Management and Staff  
thank you for voting us  
# 2 BEST SPORTS BAR  
on the Island in 2025!!!

## Best Place for Steak

### Jax Steakhouse

Jax Steakhouse in Maho has firmly established itself as the island's go-to destination for exceptional steaks. Consistently voted by readers as the Best Place for Steaks year after year, taking home the Best Steakhouse on the island for 2025 is truly the cherry on top – an achievement the entire Jax team accepts with gratitude and pride.

"On behalf of the entire Jax Steakhouse team, we would like to sincerely thank our friends, followers, loyal regulars, and first-time guests for voting us the Best Place for Steak in St. Maarten," shared management. "We are incredibly grateful for your continued support and can't wait to welcome you back. Thank you all – and congratulations to Team Jax on another great accomplishment."

Jax proudly serves Certified Angus Beef



Jax Steakhouse

1<sup>st</sup>

## Best Place to have Coffee

### Coffee Lounge

Coffee Lounge has once again been named #1 Best Place to have Coffee in St. Maarten/St. Martin, reflecting its commitment to quality, community, and caffeine since opening its first location in 2017 in Philipsburg.

Only months after opening, Hurricane Irma struck the island. Coffee Lounge quickly reopened, providing a safe space for children to continue online education and offering tablets to those without access. That same community-first mindset carried the business through the pandemic, when a second location opened in Cole Bay in late 2019.

Known for its handmade beverages, Coffee Lounge exclusively uses locally roasted coffee beans and offers more than 86 varieties. Customer favourites include matcha coconut lattes, pistachio lattes, Dubai chocolate lattes, tiramisu iced lattes, and lavender



Coffee Lounge

1<sup>st</sup>

creations, all made without preservatives or chemicals.

"We are incredibly grateful and honoured to receive this award again," says owner Seema. "This award belongs as much to our loyal customers and dedicated team as it does to us." Looking ahead, Coffee Lounge plans to launch "Going Healthy with Coffee Lounge", a new concept focused on fresh and organic menu options.



Réveil Matin



Zee Best

2<sup>nd</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup>



Topper's



Bovin Steakhouse

2<sup>nd</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup>


 Simpson Bay  
RESORT, MARINA & SPA


*Best* YOUR SATISFACTION  
IS OUR REWARD!  
RESORT



*Thank you!*

TO OUR MEMBERS, GUESTS AND  
WONDERFUL STAFF.

**BOVIN**  
STEAK HOUSE



*Thank you for  
choosing us!*

*Best* STEAKHOUSE



•  OpenTable® Reservations: +1 721 544 2503 Ext. 5505



# Thank you St. Maarten

for voting us



#1 Best beach bar (again!)

#2 Best happy hour

BUCCANEERBEACHBAR

+1 (721) 523 0402

10 Billy Folly Road Kimsha Beach

## Best Beach Bar

### Buccaneer Beach Bar

Buccaneer Beach Bar is The Daily Herald's Best Beach Bar once again, and looking at what's been on offer for the past year shows why it's top. On Kim Sha Beach in Pelican Key, Buccaneer – aka Bucs – serves great food, live music and a relaxed vibe attracting all. Open daily, including holidays, live bands perform from Friday to Tuesday, playing everything from rock to reggae and pop.

Last year saw a new beach bar added for superb sunset views and a boutique for Buccaneer branded souvenirs. Happy hour runs daily from 5:00 to 7:00pm, with all-you-can-eat chicken and ribs at the same time on Mondays and Tuesdays. Bucs now serves "Breakfast in Paradise" and an experienced team mixes some of the island's best tropical cocktails.

Bucs also made island history as the first



Buccaneer Beach Bar

beach bar to offer its own beer – a 3% tropical blonde ale on draught, Buccaneer Beer. Beach chairs are free with a US \$30 spend, weekend evenings feature a Taíno-inspired bonfire pit, and families can enjoy a play area with Friday night kids' activities.

The Buccaneer team are full of gratitude. "A beach bar is nothing without its support and we cherish all our visitors, both tourists and the local community. Thank you!"

## Best Excursion/Activity

### Topper's Rhum Tour

The team at Topper's is honoured and deeply grateful to have been voted best in Tours, Activities, and Excursions by our local community. This recognition means everything to us, because it comes from the very people who share our island, our culture, and our passion for hospitality.

What makes the Topper's Distillery tours the best is the experience itself – authentic, immersive, and proudly rooted in St. Maarten. Guests don't just taste rum; they step inside the heart of the island's only export and discover the craftsmanship, history, and innovation behind every bottle. From award-winning signature rums and rare small-batch creations to culinary pairings, cooking demonstrations, and hands-on barrel experiences, each tour is thoughtfully designed to educate, entertain, and delight.

The knowledgeable and engaging guides, world-class setting on the Caribbean's



Topper's Rhum Tour

largest lagoon, and commitment to quality create an atmosphere that is welcoming, memorable, and truly one of a kind. Every guest leaves feeling connected to real Caribbean rum, the creation of Topper's Rhum and its manufacturing History!

This award belongs to our community, our team, and everyone who has walked through our doors. Thank you for trusting us, supporting us, and celebrating Topper's Rhum as a proud symbol of St. Maarten's many amazing things to go taste, learn and enjoy!

2<sup>nd</sup>



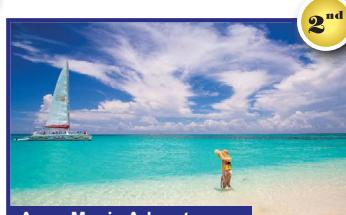
Da Waterhole

3<sup>rd</sup>



Cocky Turtle

2<sup>nd</sup>



Aqua Mania Adventures

1<sup>st</sup>



Rainforest Adventures

3<sup>rd</sup>

Thank You For Voting Us #2  
Best Beach Bar For 2025!



# Best Indian Restaurant —

## Shiv Shakti

*In a flavourful celebration of spice, aroma, and authentic cuisine, Shiv Shakti has been named Best Indian Restaurant on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025. With a menu steeped in Indian tradition and a reputation for bold flavours, Shiv Shakti has become a must-visit destination for fans of curry, tandoori, biryani, and more.*

Located in the heart of Pelican with a second outpost in Philipsburg, Shiv Shakti offers a vast selection of Indian classics – from creamy butter chicken and hearty lamb vindaloo, to aromatic biryani, freshly baked naan, and vibrant vegetarian dishes. Guests can also pair their meals with refreshing mango or sweet lassi, enhancing the rich spice and complexity of every dish.

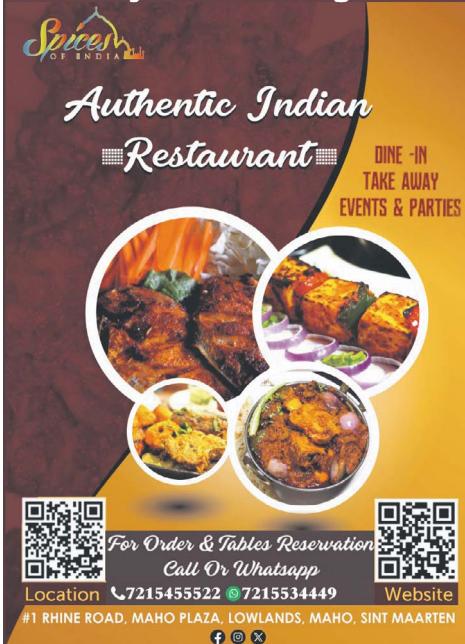
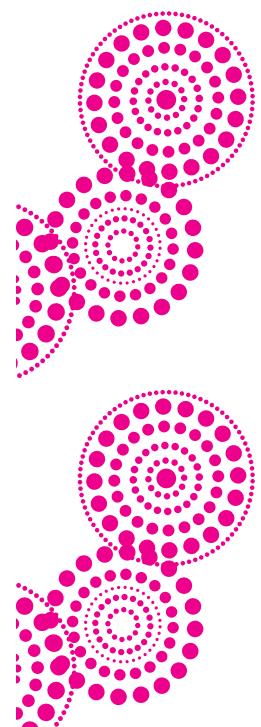
1<sup>st</sup>

While its unassuming exterior might surprise first-time visitors, the restaurant's welcoming vibe and extensive menu have drawn locals and travellers alike. Diners consistently praise the depth of flavour, generous portions, and the way dishes capture authentic Indian culinary traditions with every bite.

Whether planning a cosy dinner, a group feast, or a flavourful take-out night, Shiv Shakti stands out as the island's premier Indian culinary experience – and this year's well-deserved Best Indian Restaurant winner.

3<sup>rd</sup>

Thank you for voting for us!

2<sup>nd</sup>



# Thank You!

TO EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOU WHO TOOK THE TIME TO VOTE FOR US

Little J Shawarma Restaurant

Little Jerusalem

#1 SHAWARMA SPOT 2025  
VOTED #1

#2 MIDDLE EASTERN RESTAURANT 2025  
VOTED #2

SHAWARMA'S, SHAWARMA PLATES  
VEGGIE, VEGAN & GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS  
DINE-IN & TAKEAWAY  
EASY ACCESSIBLE PARKING

LOCATED ON  
**SIMPSON BAY ROAD 25B**  
OPEN FROM 12 NOON TO 10.30PM (CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS)

## Best Shoarma

### Little J Shawarma

For shoarma lovers across St. Maarten, Little J Shawarma is a name that keeps winning hearts, and now, the crown. Named Best shoarma on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025, this beloved spot continues its streak as a local favourite, proving that some legends only get better with time.

The story began in 2012 when Abraham founded the restaurant as Little Jerusalem, delighting fans with his flavourful shoarma and welcoming service. In February 2025, his son Jamal took the reins. Having mastered every technique from his father, Jamal maintained the same authentic taste and quality that kept customers coming back year after year.

In September 2025, the restaurant was renovated and relaunched as Little J Shawarma, honouring both its roots and Jamal's dedication. Little J Shawarma continues to offer top-notch flavours with a personal touch.



Little J Shawarma

Tragically, Abraham passed away on January 9, the same night Jamal learned of the win. Family members recall how proud he was that his legacy would carry on. Little J Shawarma remains a symbol of family, tradition, and unbeatable shoarma excellence.



Abu's Shawarma (Cole Bay)



The Fresh Shawarma Man

1<sup>st</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup>

1<sup>st</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Middle Eastern Restaurant

### Beirut

When island food lovers vote, flavours speak loudest and this year Beirut has taken centre stage. Named Best Middle Eastern Restaurant on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025, Beirut has quickly become the go-to destination for authentic Lebanese cuisine here in St. Maarten.

Nestled on Airport Road in Simpson Bay, Beirut brings the rich, aromatic tastes of the Levant to Caribbean shores with dishes that celebrate tradition and bold flavour. From shoarma and grilled kebabs to creamy hummus, crunchy falafel, and mezze favourites, the menu delights both meat lovers and plant-based diners alike. Guests can also unwind with flavourful hookah, refreshing drinks, and decadent desserts in a warm, welcoming atmosphere that feels like a home away from home.



Beirut

What sets Beirut apart isn't just its menu, it's the island vibe combined with genuine hospitality. Diners praise the friendly staff, fresh ingredients, and vibrant taste journey that each meal delivers. Whether you're dropping in for a leisurely dinner after a day exploring the island or enjoying a relaxed evening with friends, this beloved spot has made its mark.



Little J Shawarma

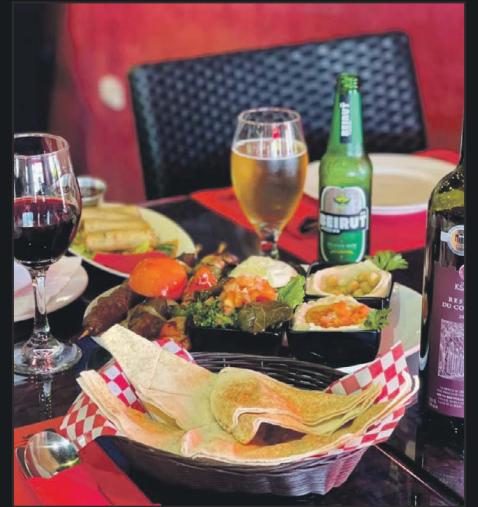


Le Marocain

**THANK YOU  
FOR VOTING US  
AMONG THE BEST SHOARMA  
IN ST. MAARTEN/ST. MARTIN.  
FROM MANAGEMENT & STAFF!**



Thank you  
for voting us  
**#1 BEST**  
**MIDDLE EASTERN**  
**RESTAURANT**  
*5 years in a row*



**R** MAITRE  
RESTAURATEUR

**RANCHO DEL SOL**  
SINCE 2006

**#2 BEST FRENCH CUISINE**

Thank You  
For your loyalty and  
your trust !

ORIENT BAY ENTRANCE  
OPEN NON STOP - 10 AM TO 10 PM  
PANORAMIC VIEW  
WWW.ELRANCHODELSOL.COM - 05 90 51 12 12

## Best French Cuisine —

### Pardon My French

Open since early 2025, Pardon My French has quickly earned #1 Best French Cuisine. Originally welcoming guests for lunch only, the restaurant has since expanded to dinner service, transforming in the evening into a romantic, cosy setting perfect for relaxed fine dining.

Specialising in classic French cuisine, Pardon My French pairs refined flavours with warm, attentive service and an inviting environment. Its most popular offerings are the affordable three-course menus, designed to make fine dining accessible without compromising quality. Lunch features a refined three-course selection for just US \$34.95. As the sun sets, dinner service offers a three-course gastronomic journey with rich textures and bold flavours for US \$59.95, alongside an extensive wine list to elevate the experience.



Pardon My French

The restaurant's success is driven by an excellent kitchen rooted in classic French technique and its ability to combine affordability and fine dining. As part of the Maho Wine & Dine Hospitality Group, Pardon My French upholds high standards of food,

service, beverage, and ambiance. Looking ahead, the team plans to expand the concept throughout the Caribbean, sharing their award-winning approach with new audiences.



Ocean 82



Rancho del Sol

## Best Guest House —

### Baker's Suites Boutique Hotel



Baker's Suites Boutique Hotel

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

*Baker's Suites Boutique Hotel has clinched the title of Best Guest House on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025 – a win that puts this beloved Simpson Bay boutique hotel squarely in the spotlight.*

Just steps from the turquoise waters, Baker's Suites Boutique Hotel has become a go-to choice for travellers seeking comfort, value, and genuine Caribbean warmth. With its charming condo-style suites, each boasting a fully equipped kitchen, pri-

vate balcony, and thoughtful touches, guests feel right at home from the moment they arrive.

Founded by the Baker family with a vision of sharing true St. Maarten hospitality, the hotel has grown into more than just a place to sleep, it's a hub of local experiences with nearby eateries, vibrant nightlife, and island activities all within easy reach.

This award celebrates the team's dedication to personalised service, welcoming

atmosphere, and consistent quality that keeps visitors returning year after year. Whether you're seeking a beachside escape, an adventure-filled getaway, or a relaxing home base, Baker's Suites continues to shine as a standout on St. Maarten's hospitality scene.



Simpson Bay Suites

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



Seaview Beach Hotel

**3<sup>rd</sup>**

# THANK YOU!

ST. MAARTEN'S ORIGINAL HOTEL  
EST. 1947

BOOKING@SEAVIEWSXM.COM  
CALL +1 (721) 542 2323 OR  
WHATSAPP +1 (721) 584 2323  
HOTEL, CABANA & DAY PASS RESERVATIONS



# PARDON MY *French*

VOTED #1 **BEST FRENCH  
RESTAURANT**

JOIN US FOR DINNER EVERY NIGHT OF THE WEEK. LUNCH IS SERVED  
MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY.

# Still your favorite. Still #1. Thank you!



## New opening hours:

### Simpson Bay

Sun - Thu: 7am - 12am

Fri - Sat: Open 24/24



### Belvedere

Daily: 7am - 10pm



### Marigot

Daily: 10am - 11pm

## Best Fast Food

### McDonald's

In a year full of burger battles and flavour face-offs, McDonald's has again claimed the crown as Best Fast Food Place on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025. A global giant with a local footprint in St. Maarten, McDonald's has become a familiar and comforting stop for families, travellers, and fast-food fans across the island.

With multiple outlets on the island, McDonald's serves up the classics people crave: iconic burgers, crispy fries, creamy milkshakes, and other favourites that start days right. The Golden Arches are more than just a global symbol here; they represent consistent, quick-served meals that fit island life and busy schedules.

Visitors and locals alike appreciate the blend of familiar comfort and island convenience that McDonald's brings, whether grabbing a quick lunch between beach days or enjoying a late-night snack after exploring the vibrant nightlife. The drive-



McDonald's

1<sup>st</sup>

through, friendly service, and reliably fast orders make it easy to see why so many chose McDonald's as their top fast food pick.

This latest accolade proves that even in a sea of diverse dining options, McDonald's stands strong: a beloved fast-food staple with a place in St. Maarten's heart (and appetite).



KFC



Domino's

2<sup>nd</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup>



# Best Live Music Venue

## Nowhere Special

*Nowhere Special stands out as the best live music venue in St. Maarten for several reasons. Its intimate, street-side atmosphere, top-tier acoustics, and vibrant community make it the go-to spot for live performances on the island. Located in the heart of Simpson Bay, Nowhere Special is known for hosting an eclectic range of music, highlighting Caribbean local talent spanning genres like soca, zouk, reggae, rock, modern pop and classics.*

What truly sets it apart is the sense of connection it fosters between artistes and their audience. With its cosy, Caribbean, laid-back vibe, every show feels personal and interactive, as if you're part of something special! The venue also offers

stunning views of the lagoon and there is always a welcoming environment where both locals and visitors feel like family as they crowd around the bar, the dance floor, and the performers themselves.

Moreover, the staff's warmth and passion for the music only enhances the experience, ensuring every guest has a memorable time. The excellent sound quality, coupled with the vibrant energy of the crowd, makes every performance feel dynamic and alive. Nowhere Special always delivers an incredible experience, cementing its reputation as the best live music venue in St. Maarten.

1<sup>st</sup>

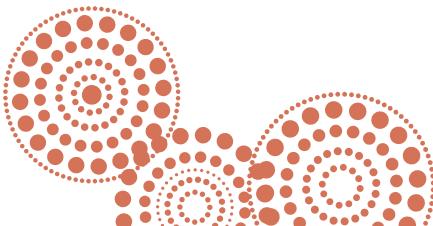
Nowhere Special

2<sup>nd</sup>

Red Piano

3<sup>rd</sup>

Soggy Dollar Bar



# Best Place for a Burger —

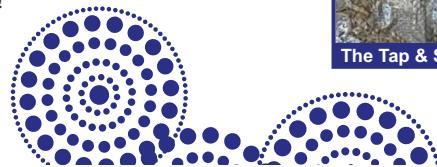
## The Tap & Still

*The best burgers in St. Maarten are more affordable than ever at Tap & Still – our readers' pick for Best Place for a Burger on the island in 2025. At Tap & Still, you can enjoy a loaded, juicy burger for just US \$9. Yes, you read that right: a tasty, never-frozen burger, made fresh, carefully packaged in a charming paper bag for a casual yet satisfying experience.*

Tap & Still is located along the main road in Simpson Bay, next to Lotus nightclub. Just fill out an order form specifying the type of burger you want and your preferred sauce and toppings – and the chef will expertly prepare it. It's not just burgers, they have delicious wings, tenders, sandwiches and fresh cut fries. Pair your meal with

something from their milkshake bar or enjoy your choice of cocktails/beers or spirits from their stocked bar. Don't forget dessert: funnel cake or a cookie sandwich. The funnel cake is huge and perfect for sharing.

Daily happy hour is from 3:00 to 6:00pm, featuring \$3 premium drinks! Before happy hour they have a weekday lunch special – Monday through Friday – burger, fries and a drink for only \$10. Can't go wrong with that!



The Tap & Still

1<sup>st</sup>



**Thank you to our wonderful island community for voting Hong Kong bar & Restaurant one of the Best Chinese Restaurants on the Island!**

**For the past 50+ years, you have welcomed us into your lives—celebrating birthdays, grabbing quick lunches, and sharing family dinners at our tables. This recognition belongs to our hardworking staff and, most importantly, to you, our loyal customers.**

**Thank you for making us part of your traditions. We look forward to serving you for many more years to come.**

**- From all of us at Hong Kong Bar & Restaurant**

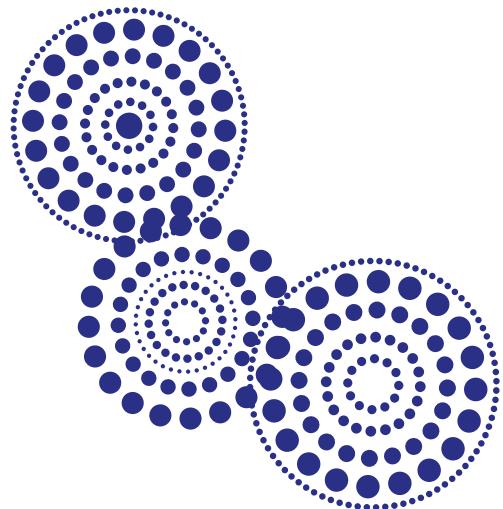
# THANK YOU



2<sup>nd</sup>



3<sup>rd</sup>





FINE CHINESE CUISINE

**WHITE SWAN**

CHINESE RESTAURANT

TEL: (+1721) 54-52477



*Best Chinese Restaurant  
for the past 23 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 Chinese Restaurant —****White Swan**

A reputation for delicious, authentic cuisine has earned White Swan the title of Best Chinese Restaurant on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025. A favourite in Simpson Bay, this welcoming restaurant has become known for its generous portions, friendly service, and a menu that celebrates classic and diverse Chinese dishes.

Step through the doors and you'll find a menu that satisfies every craving. Guests rave about their Peking Duck, lemon chicken, General Tso's chicken, and a variety of seafood and vegetable plates – all

prepared with fresh ingredients and carefully balanced seasonings that keep appetites satisfied.

While peak hours can bring a lively, bustling atmosphere, it reflects the care and attention that goes into each dish. Meals are made to order, ensuring that every plate delivers flavour and quality.

From hearty mains to comforting soups and vegetarian options that delight every palate, White Swan is more than a restaurant, it's a cherished spot where Chinese cuisine truly shines.



White Swan



Happy Family



Hong Kong

**Best Bartender****Ziggy Chang**

Ziggy is an eight-time, award-winning architect of good vibes. Known for turning every pour into a party, Ziggy even stars in a viral island song set to the tune of "Peru" by Fireboy DML. Tourists find themselves singing along before they've even ordered. "They go home, play the song, and relive their vacation," Ziggy says proudly.

His mission is simple: keep the energy alive. "No awkward moments...Whether it's two people or forty, I make sure everyone's talking. If you come alone, you'll leave knowing everybody." When guests ask, "Who is Ziggy?" he grins and fires back, "Depends... what did Ziggy do?"

Splitting his time between Simpson Bay Resort and Secret Seafood House, and appearing at hotspots like Replay Bar and La Patrona, Ziggy has become a beloved island fixture. A guest, Emilio Williams, even made songs and videos inspired by Ziggy's smiles, laughter, and bar-side camaraderie.



His iconic hat customised after seven consecutive wins and marked with seven lines, will soon be christened with the eighth. Guests especially love his bar-time slogans like "You're drinking too slow – you need to ketchup!" as he hands them the ketchup. Ziggy's bar is a true island experience that is unforgettable, unless you drink too much!

**Best Beer Brand****Heineken**

Heineken has proudly been named Best Beer Brand of St. Maarten/St. Martin, a well-deserved recognition for a brand that has been part of the island's lifestyle for decades. Instantly recognisable by its famous green bottle and renowned for its premium quality pilsner, Heineken continues to be a favourite among locals and visitors alike.



Beyond the bar, Heineken plays a vital role in the island's sporting and cultural scene as the title sponsor of the iconic St. Maarten Heineken Regatta, this year celebrating its 46th edition from March 5 to 8. As the largest regatta in the Caribbean, this world-class sailing event delivers four days of elite racing paired with unforgettable entertainment at the Regatta Village at Port De Plaisance.

over 20,000 visitors annually, welcoming everyone from young professionals and business leaders to party-goers and international sailors. Participants travel from more than 37 countries, while locals look forward to the seriously fun concerts and parties that are made possible by Heineken year after year.

The St. Maarten Heineken Regatta attracts



# Best SPORTS BAR

February Free Previews

2nd

THANK YOU REPLAY FANS!

RESERVATIONS: +1 721 544 2503 EXT. 5513

Replay  
RESTAURANT & BAR

SXM  
I LOVE SXM

1st

THANK YOU!  
FOR CHOOSING OUR  
VERY OWN ZIGGY AS  
Best ST. MAARTEN  
BARTENDER

SXM  
I LOVE SXM

1st

# Thank you, SXM!

We truly appreciate you  
expressing your green hearts  
and voting Heineken as Best Beer  
of St. Maarten / St. Martin



Thanking the voters for choosing us as the #1 best telecommunication provider in St. Maarten/St. Martin for 2025



For more information contact:

+1 (721) 587-5345  
 sales@LVC.sx  
 Luxury Villa Care  
 Home Automation & System Integration  
 Opal Bldg. Cole Bay – Check us out at LVC.sx



## Best Musical Producer

### Xavvo Knockin

Behind many of the island's most recognisable sounds stands Xavvo Knockin, a producer whose influence has quietly shaped St. Maarten's modern music landscape. That behind-the-scenes excellence took centre stage in 2025, when he was voted Best Musical Producer in The Daily Herald Best Of awards.

Known for his sharp ear, clean production, and ability to bring an artiste's vision to life, Xavvo Knockin has built a reputation for quality and consistency. His work spans recording, mixing, and production, supporting both emerging talents and established performers. Artistes value his hands-on approach, technical skill, and creative input that elevates tracks from concept to polished final product.

Beyond the studio, Xavvo Knockin plays an important role in nurturing local talent and strengthening the island's music industry. His commitment to professionalism and sound excellence has helped raise production standards and showcase



Xavvo Knockin

St. Maarten's creativity beyond its shores.

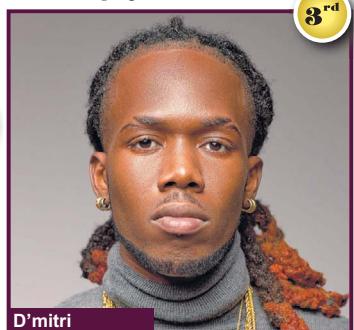
Artistes and listeners place their trust in him. As local music continues to evolve, Xavvo Knockin remains one of the key architects shaping the scene.

1<sup>st</sup>



Sherman de Vries

3<sup>rd</sup>



D'mitri

1<sup>st</sup>



Starlink

3<sup>rd</sup>



TelEm Group

## Best Telecommunications Provider

### Starlink

A clear signal, a simple setup, and dependable service have earned Starlink top honours as Best Telecommunications Provider in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025. The award reflects the growing confidence island residents and businesses have placed in this modern internet solution.

Starlink operates through a network of low-Earth-orbit satellites developed by SpaceX, delivering high-speed, low-latency internet without relying on traditional cables or cell towers. On an island where connectivity can be challenged by terrain and weather, this technology has proven to

be a game changer.

Since launching in St. Maarten, Starlink has become a popular choice for homes, small businesses, and remote professionals seeking reliable and fast internet with minimal installation. Its flexibility and reach have made it especially attractive to those working beyond conventional infrastructure.

Starlink is shaping a more connected future for the island. By combining innovation with reliability, the company continues to raise the standard for telecommunications in St. Maarten, one satellite signal at a time.



Flow

2<sup>nd</sup>

# Best Bakery

## Carl and Son's

An iconic establishment, Carl & Son's has once again proudly earned the title of Best Bakery in St. Maarten/St. Martin. Since opening its doors in 1982 in Grand Case, the family-run business has been dedicated to delivering freshly baked goods that feel like home.

Specialising in fresh bread, cakes, and pastries, Carl & Son's offers a wide selection of bakery favourites, including raisin rolls, doughnuts, muffins, croissants, sliced bread, rolls, and beautifully crafted cakes. Signature treats such as Ponche Kuba cakes, cashew cakes, and rich black rum cakes have become island favourites, enjoyed by generations of loyal customers.

With locations in Philipsburg, Cole Bay, and inside the St. Maarten Medical Center, Carl & Son's makes quality baking accessible throughout the island. Known for opening early and maintaining consistent



## Carl and Son's

quality, the bakery continues to be a daily stop for breakfast, lunch, and special occasions.

Looking to the future, Carl & Son's plans to introduce online ordering and delivery services, making their products even easier to enjoy. Grateful for the community's continued support, the team remains committed to offering fresh, affordable, and great-tasting baked goods.



# Best Photographer / Videographer

# Elvis Harrigan

*Moments matter and in 2025, readers of The Daily Herald agreed on who captures them best. Elvis Harrigan has been voted Best Photographer/Videographer on the island, a title that reflects years of creative vision, consistency, and storytelling through the lens.*

Well known across the island, Harrigan has built a reputation for turning real moments into lasting visuals. From major events and corporate productions to personal milestones and artistic projects, his work is recognised for its clarity, emotion, and strong sense of composition. When behind a camera, Harrigan's attention to detail ensures each project tells a compelling story.

ling story.

Beyond technical skill, what truly sets him apart is his ability to connect with people and environments, capturing St. Maarten's energy, culture, and spirit in an authentic way. His work has become familiar to audiences both locally and beyond, contributing to how the island is seen and remembered.

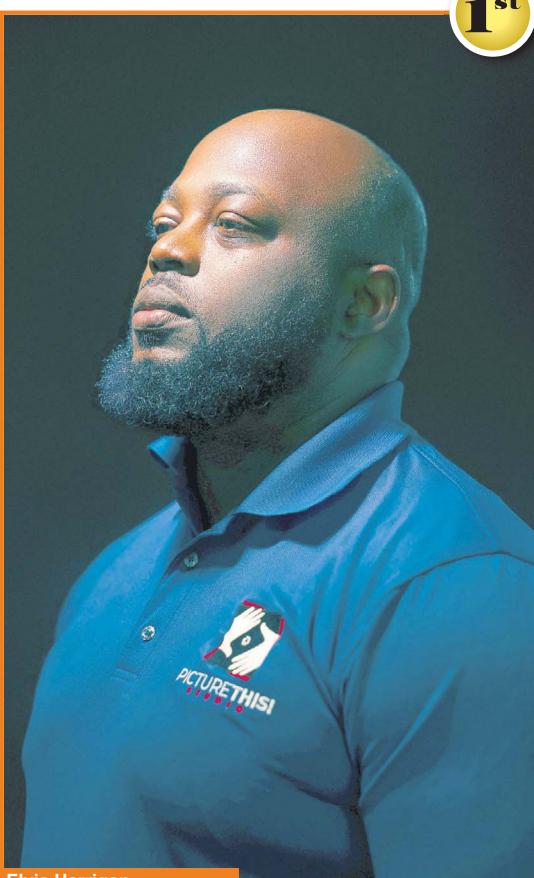
Winning Best Photographer/Videographer for 2025 is a fitting acknowledgment of a creative professional whose images continue to speak long after the shutter clicks.



Cameron Hyman



## Larry Photo



## Elvis Harrigan



## THANK YOU FOR VOTING FOR US

PROUD TO BE NAMED BEST FLORIST OF THE YEAR 2025 -  
4 YEARS IN A ROW.

YOUR TRUST INSPIRES EVERYTHING WE DO.



**FLOWERS "R" US SXM**  
79 BUSH RD, PHILIPSBURG, ST. MAARTEN  
(NEXT TO CARREFOUR MARKET)  
+1 (721) 588 6829 | +1 (721) 588 8753  
email: [flowers.are.sx@gmail.com](mailto:flowers.are.sx@gmail.com)

flowers "R" Us @flowersrussxm +1 (721) 588 6829

**BEST FLORIST — 2022 • 2023 • 2024 • 2025**

## Best Flower Shop

### Flowers "R" Us

*Serving up fresh blooms for over ten years now, Flowers R Us has kept its coveted top spot as our readers' favourite flower shop for 2025. Whether you're out to show someone you care with a beautiful bouquet, organise lavish flower arrangements for a special occasion, or buy a long-lasting plant to liven up your home, Flowers R Us has what you need.*

Surprise that special someone with a custom, thoughtful and lively gift. Enquire about their colourful and fresh fruit/flower baskets, and make things extra sweet and unique with add-ons like chocolate, balloons, or teddy bears. Planning for a grander occasion? Contact them as soon as possible and the florists will provide guidance, expert customisation, and coordinate excellent décor for the big day.



**Flowers "R" Us**

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

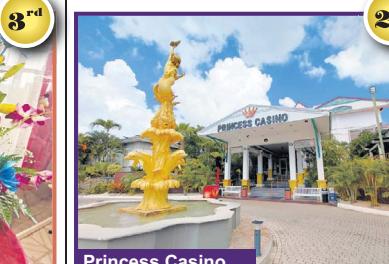
In case you missed it, the company moved to the business complex of Carrefour Bush Road a little over a year ago – a larger space to accommodate the growing business. Not to mention the ample parking and convenient location. Keep Flowers R Us in mind the next time you need that special touch that only flowers can give!



**Flowers by Flores**



**Lydia's**



**Princess Casino**

**FOR VOTING US AMONGST THE BEST FLOWERSHOPS IN ST. MAARTEN IN 2025**

**"Flowers by Flores"**

**VISIT US AT:**  
CANNEGIETER ST. #129, PHILIPSBURG,  
TEL. +1721 542 1935  
WHATSAPP. +1721 559 8782  
WEBSITE: [WWW.FLOWERSBYFLORES.SX](http://WWW.FLOWERSBYFLORES.SX)  
FACEBOOK: FLOWERS BY FLORES

## Best Casino

### VEGAS (Starz)

*The newly opened VEGAS Casino has quickly emerged as the island's hottest gaming destination, earning the prestigious title of #1 Best Casino. This recognition reflects local and visitor enthusiasm for its vivacious atmosphere, diverse gaming options, and high-energy entertainment that truly sets it apart from the competition.*

VEGAS Casino brings the excitement of a classic Las Vegas experience to the Caribbean, featuring a lively gaming floor with traditional table games, modern slot machines, and popular raffle events that attract crowds week after week. The energetic vibe is amplified by live DJs, themed nights, and regular cash-prize raffles, making every visit feel like a celebration.

Guests consistently praise the friendly staff, generous promotions, and welcoming so-



**VEGAS (Starz)**

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

cial atmosphere that make both seasoned gamblers and first-time players feel right at home. With comfortable seating, well-stocked bars, and a prime location in Cole Bay – adjacent to the French-Dutch border and just minutes from the Causeway and Princess Juliana International Airport – VEGAS Casino is more than a place to play; it's a true entertainment hub that lives up to St. Maarten's reputation as the Caribbean's own "Small Las Vegas!"



**Casino Royale**

**3<sup>rd</sup>**



# THE RED PIANO

ST. MAARTEN

VOTED 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE  
BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUE & BEST NIGHT CLUB  
THANK YOU, ST. MAARTEN!

LIVE MUSIC 365 DAYS A YEAR & DRINK SPECIALS DAILY!

**PIANO SHOW**  
Tuesday-Sunday  
Doors: 7 PM  
Show: 8 PM-12 AM

**CHURCH ON MONDAY**  
Doors: 8 PM  
Live Band: 9 PM-12 AM  
DJ: 12 AM-LATE

[THEREDPIANOSXM.COM](http://THEREDPIANOSXM.COM) +1.721.527.4266 37 BILLY FOLLY ROAD, PELICAN KEY, SINT MAARTEN

**PIANO SHOW**  
Tuesday-Sunday  
Doors: 7 PM  
Show: 8 PM-12 AM

**CHURCH ON MONDAY**  
Doors: 8 PM  
Live Band: 9 PM-12 AM  
DJ: 12 AM-LATE

[THEREDPIANOSXM.COM](http://THEREDPIANOSXM.COM) +1.721.527.4266 37 BILLY FOLLY ROAD, PELICAN KEY, SINT MAARTEN

## Best Musical Artist

### King James

From packed dance floors to major island events, King James has become a powerful and familiar force in St. Maarten's music scene. That impact was recognised in a big way when he was voted Best Musical Artist in The Daily Herald Best Of awards for 2025.

Known for his energetic performances and crowd-connecting stage presence, King James has built a brand that goes far beyond the microphone. His music blends Caribbean rhythms with contemporary sounds, creating a style that resonates with both locals and visitors. Whether performing live, hosting events, or collaborating with other artists, he brings consistency, professionalism, and passion to every appearance.

Over the years, King James has performed at some of the island's most popular venues and cultural celebrations, earning a reputation as an entertainer who understands his



King James audience and delivers every time. His ability to adapt to different crowds while staying true to his sound has helped solidify his place in the industry.

As St. Maarten's music culture continues to thrive, King James remains one of its most recognisable and celebrated voices.

2<sup>nd</sup>

BRG Hollywood



Tamillia

## Best Night Club

### Lotus

Lotus Nightclub has been a defining force in St. Maarten's nightlife since 2019 and has once again been recognised as the island's #1 Nightclub. Its continued success reflects a unique ability to merge upscale hospitality with the vibrant urban and Caribbean culture that defines the destination.

From the moment guests arrive, Lotus delivers an immersive experience. Sophisticated lighting, refined décor, and a state-of-the-art sound system create an energetic yet elegant atmosphere. A spacious dance floor anchors the venue, while VIP tables and private lounges provide exclusivity and comfort for guests seeking a premium nightlife experience.

Music is at the heart of Lotus's identity. The club is celebrated for its dynamic programming, featuring urban, hip-hop, Afrobeats, dancehall, and Caribbean-inspired open-format sets. International and regional



Lotus

DJs, along with live performances, create an authentic soundscape that resonates with both locals and visitors, reflecting the island's cultural diversity and global appeal.

Exceptional service further elevates the experience. Guests enjoy expertly crafted cocktails, premium bottle selections, and attentive hospitality that meets international luxury standards. Conveniently located in the heart of Simpson Bay, Lotus is easily accessible while maintaining an exclusive feel. The venue is also available for private events and special occasions.



Red Piano



We Lounge

## Best Local Band/Duo

### Skillful Band

Few groups capture the heartbeat of St. Maarten quite like Skillful Band, and in 2025, the island made that clear by voting them Best Local Band/Duo in The Daily Herald Best Of readers' poll.

A staple of the local entertainment scene, Skillful Band is known for delivering energetic, crowd-pleasing performances that blend Caribbean rhythms with international favourites. From major events and festivals to private celebrations and hotel stages, the band has built a loyal following through versatility, tight musicianship, and a deep connection with its audience.

Skillful Band has the ability to read a crowd



Skillful Band

and create an atmosphere that keeps people dancing, singing along, and coming back for more. Their professionalism and consistency have made them a top choice for organisers looking for reliable, high-quality live music.

Over the years Skillful Band has displayed hard work and dedication to entertaining the island. As St. Maarten's music scene continues to thrive, Skillful Band remains one of its most trusted and celebrated live acts.



Control Band

3<sup>rd</sup>

Big Bad XP Band



**LOTUS**

NIGHTCLUB

St Maarten

---

**THANK YOU ST MAARTEN  
FOR MAKING US  
NUMBER #1 IN 2025**

---

OPEN WEDNESDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY

---

**VOTED #1 NIGHTCLUB IN SXM SINCE 2018**

**LOTUS 8TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY**  
**SATURDAY MARCH 7**

VIP RESERVATIONS CALL +1 721 5887977 OR +590690637568  
18 AND OVER | 111 WELFARE ROAD SIMPSON BAY

JAX

THANK YOU FOR



ROMA

BROUGHT

MA  
W  
D

JAX

PARDON  
MY  
*French*  
- BY JAX -

OASIS

CHOW



ROMA



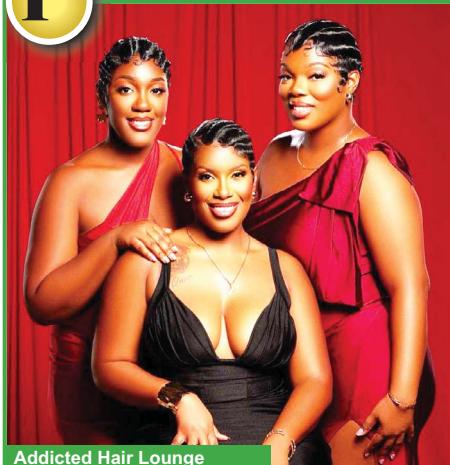
**Addicted** Hair Lounge  
Since 2006 Your Ultimate Accessory

180 Backstreet, Philipsburg, Sint Maarten (721) 523-2158

*Thank you*  
A big thank you to  
all my supporters  
for choosing us  
#1 Hair Salon again.

## Best Hair Salon

### Addicted Hair Lounge

1<sup>st</sup>

Addicted Hair Lounge

*At Addicted Hair Lounge, versatility isn't just a skill, it's a promise. Whether you arrive with natural curls, relaxed textures, or a pixie cut in need of perfection, this salon handles it all with equal expertise.*

Owner Rachel has built a reputation that speaks for itself. Cuts, colour, blowouts, styling for special occasions, the team navigates every texture and length with confidence. Their signature finger wave pixie cut remains iconic, a testament to precision and artistry that keeps clients coming back, or rather, staying addicted.

That loyalty runs deep. Clients don't just book appointments at Addicted Hair Lounge, they commit to them. They know that when Rachel or her team is behind the chair, the results will be exactly what they envisioned or even better. There's an unspoken understanding: when you've found a stylist who truly gets your hair, you don't go elsewhere.

Located on Back Street, the salon's modern atmosphere and personalised approach create more than appointments, they build trust. Each service uses premium products and

the latest techniques, ensuring every client walks out feeling confident. Once you experience the quality and care that defines Addicted Hair Lounge, it's easy to see why the name fits perfectly.



### MIGUEL'S SALON

THE ATRIUM RESORT LOBBY | PELICAN - ST. MAARTEN

Thank you for choosing us among the best  
salon's in St.Maarten/ St. Martin.

WHATSAPP: +1 721 522 8543 OR  
+1 721 544 2162



Miguel's Salon



The Five Salon

# Best Nail Salon

## Vietnam Original Nails

Walk into Vietnam Original Nails with a photo on your phone, a spark of an idea, or absolutely no clue what you want. Either way, you'll leave with nails that feel uniquely yours. That's the magic happening daily at both their Bush Road and Pondfill locations.

A five-time Best Nail Salon winner, Vietnam Original Nails has earned its reputation through a skilled team dedicated to bringing your vision to life. Whether you desire an intricate chrome finish from Pinterest or need a technician to guide your creative direction, no style is too complex. Their Facebook portfolio proves it. The salon stays busy year-round, with demand peaking during Carnival, Christmas, New Year's, and other celebrations when eve-

ryone wants picture-perfect nails for the festivities.

From fingertips to toes, the same meticulous attention applies. Whether you book an appointment or walk in for acrylic nails, gel polish, custom designs, manicures, pedicures, massages, or waxing, the commitment to quality remains consistent. Each service is delivered with precision and premium products that ensure lasting results.

What truly sets this salon apart isn't just the services, it's the relationships built chair-by-chair. Open every day, they deliver personalised care that keeps clients coming back, season after season.

1<sup>st</sup>

# VIETNAM ORIGINAL NAILS



Vietnam Original Nails

2<sup>nd</sup>

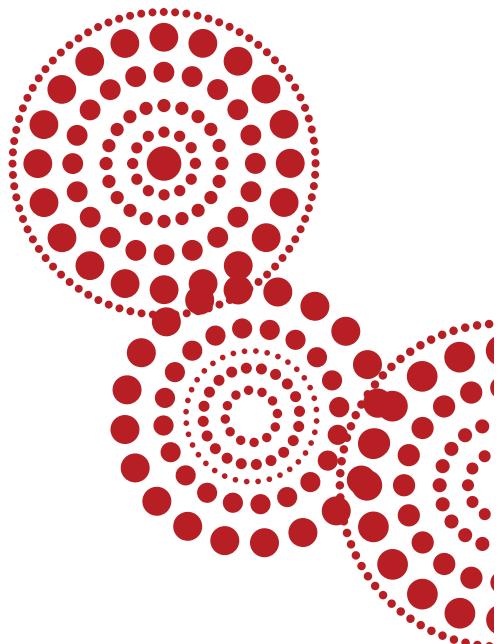


Tracy's Nails

3<sup>rd</sup>



Georgina's Nails



## Thank You For Voting Us Your #1 **BEST NAIL SALON** 5 years in a row



### VIETNAM ORIGINAL NAILS N.V.

#45 W.J.A. NISBETH RD, UNIT C  
PONDILL, (Blue Point Building)  
++1(721) 542-6789 +1(721) 556-6789

### BUSH ROAD #70 BUILDING 1C

Cul De Sac (Next to Cost U Less)  
PHONE, +1(721) 543-1090  
++1(721) 543-1090 +1(721) 524-4077

VIETNAM ORIGINAL NAILS N.V. has been voted your top nail salon for 5 years running! We are honored and grateful to our amazing clients!

### VIETNAM ORIGINAL NAILS

#45 W.J.A. NISBETH RD, UNIT C  
+1(721) 542-6789 +1(721) 556-6789

### Bush Road #70 Building 1C

Cul De Sac (Next to Cost U Less)  
+1(721) 543-1090 +1(721) 524-4077

## Best Gym

### Belair Fitness Center

Step into Belair Fitness Center and you're greeted with more than just a smile, you're welcomed into a community that's been thriving since 2005. Winning Best Gym consistently for several years in

a row, this Belair staple has perfected the formula: exceptional facilities, unbeatable value, and service that makes every member feel like a priority.

3<sup>rd</sup>

The Country Club at Port De Plaisance

B-Fit Fitness Center

What sets Belair apart? It's the only gym on the island offering both a squash court and a single padel court, giving members access to amenities no other facility can match. Add in a swimming pool, dedicated cardio and weight training areas, and you have a true fitness destination.

The group fitness programme is equally impressive, with multiple classes per week. From Dance Fitness and Bootcamp to Sunrise Vinyasa Yoga, Full Body Workout, and Aerobics, there's something for every fitness style and schedule. With ample parking and all-inclusive membership packages at convenient prices, every detail is designed around member convenience.

1<sup>st</sup>

Belair Fitness Center

But what truly defines Belair is the atmosphere. The knowledgeable trainers, modern equipment, and genuine sense of community create an environment where fitness goals become achievable realities. This isn't just a gym, it's where people commit to healthier living.

## Belair Fitness Center

Supportive Fitness for Healthy Living

### THANK YOU! #1 GYM

We appreciate your continued support and always look forward to being a part of your fitness and wellness journey.



## Best Electronics

### Boolchand's

A household name on the island, Boolchand's has once again been crowned Best Electronics Store on St. Maarten/St. Martin in The Daily Herald Best Of Readers' Survey for 2025, marking its third consecutive win and another milestone in a history of multiple past victories, cementing its reputation as the island's go-to destination for the latest in technology.

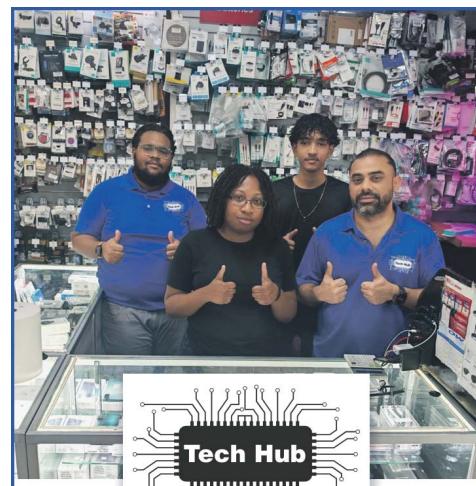
1<sup>st</sup>

Boolchand's

Conveniently located in Philipsburg, Boolchand's is known for its wide-ranging selection of top-tier electronics, from smart-

2<sup>nd</sup>

## Tech Hub

3<sup>rd</sup>

### Thank you for voting for us!

#79 Bush Rd Philipsburg, Sint Maarten.  
(Located Inside Carre Four Supermarket)

phones, laptops and televisions, to cameras, audio equipment, gaming consoles and accessories. Shoppers are drawn not only by competitive duty-free pricing, but also by the assurance of authentic products from globally recognised brands.

What truly sets Boolchand's apart is its customer-focused approach. Knowledgeable staff guide customers through fast-changing technology, helping them find the right product to match their needs, whether for work, entertainment or travel. The store's commitment to after-sales support and reliable service has earned the trust of locals and visitors alike.

The 2025 win is a testament of the years of consistency, innovation and dedication to quality. As technology continues to shape everyday life, Boolchand's remains at the forefront, powering St. Maarten with dependable electronics and service that keeps customers ahead of the game.

### THANK YOU

For your support and for voting us  
your #1 Electronics Store again!



**B** BOOLCHAND'S  
SINCE 1950

# Best Resort/Hotel

## Simpson Bay Resort

*Beloved by both visitors and locals, Simpson Bay Resort, Marina & Spa is a beachfront sanctuary that offers the flexibility of spacious suites and Oceanview villas designed to accommodate every style of travel, from romantic getaways to memorable family vacations.*

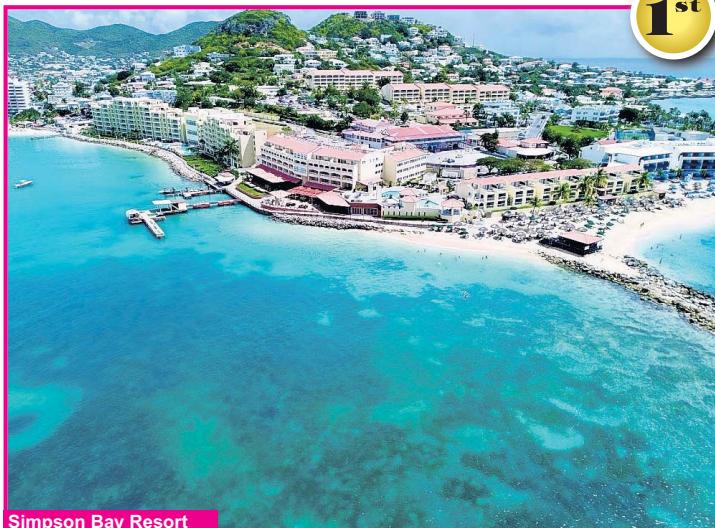
Conveniently positioned on the beach, halfway between the island's most popular nightlife and shopping, where good restaurants abound to tempt your palette, and an activity centre that makes it convenient for trips to diving/snorkelling sites, as well as a variety of water sports.

Wake up to breathtaking views, spend the day relaxing in one of their multiple pools,

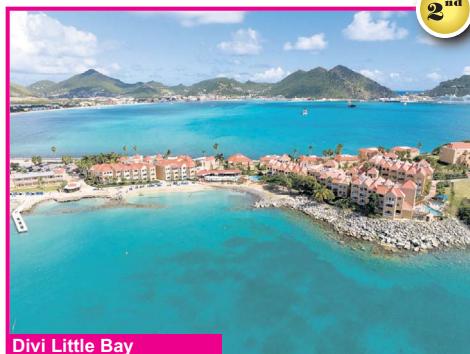
or enjoy direct access to one of the island's most popular beaches. In addition, Simpson Bay Resort, Marina & Spa offers elegant and versatile venues ideal for both intimate and large-scale events, including corporate meetings, weddings, private celebrations, and special social gatherings.

Conveniently located in Simpson Bay and minutes away from French St. Martin, the island's best adventures are always within easy reach.

Combining an exceptional location, stunning sunsets, memorable experiences, and outstanding amenities, Simpson Bay Resort, Marina & Spa remains the best resort on the island.



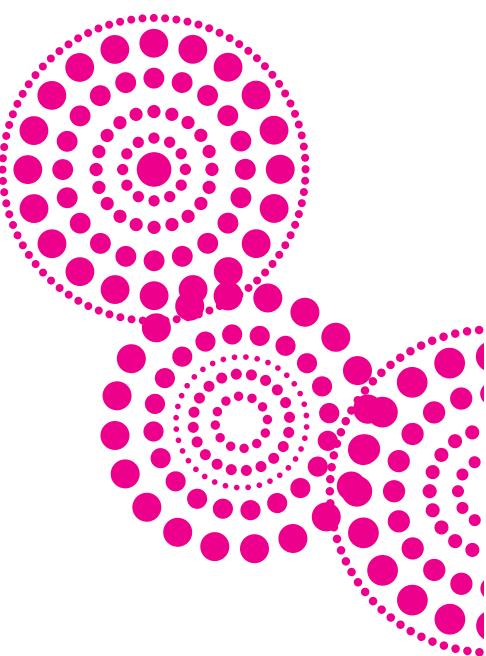
Simpson Bay Resort



Divi Little Bay



Sonesta Resorts



*Staycation*  
DIVI LITTLE BAY STYLE

Promo Code:  
**STAYCATION**

As Low As  
**\$225**  
/night

for up to 2 guests!

*Breakfast included!*



This package is available for locals only; proof of island residency is required upon check-in. All reservations are based on general availability. Prices are for room-only stays and based on double occupancy. A two-night minimum stay is required. For more information about our terms and conditions, please ask when you contact the resort. Price does not include taxes and fees. Staycation rates are based on double occupancy (up to 2 guests per room). An additional fee applies for extra guests at \$25 per night for children ages 3-12 and \$65 per night for guests ages 13 and above. Breakfast is included.

## Best Spa

### Indulgence by the Sea

Hidden within the breathtaking surroundings of Divi Little Bay Beach Resort lies Indulgence by the Sea Spa, St. Maarten's ultimate sanctuary for relaxation, renewal, and radiant well-being.

Among their most sought-after treatments are the Custom Deluxe Massage, the Heaven & Earth Hot Stone Massage and the Luscious Papaya Body Polish Massage & Wrap.

Facial enthusiasts will fall in love with their signature offerings, including the Eminence Organic Signature Facial and the Phyto-Estrogen Rejuvenating Facial, both delivering visible results while embracing the power of organic ingredients.

One of the spa's newest innovations is the LumiMax PL Laser Hair Removal, a state-of-the-art, non-invasive diode laser system featuring the latest advancements in laser technology. This treatment offers painless,



Indulgence by the Sea

1<sup>st</sup>



Angelic Touch Day Spa

2<sup>nd</sup>



Sunset Spa (Simpson Bay Resort)

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Dance / Yoga Studio

### National Institute of Arts (NIA)

Founded in 2013 by Arlene Halley Nehouse and Clara Reyes, the National Institute of Arts (NIA) has become a creative force on the island, offering programmes that span far beyond traditional dance studios.

Located at the John Larmonie Center in Philipsburg, NIA offers an impressive spectrum of programmes: ballet and hip hop, percussion and brass, gymnastics for all ages, and theatre that develops both talent and confidence. Their recent ceramics workshop series, from handcrafted coal pots to Christmas ornaments, demonstrates how NIA continuously expands the boundaries of what arts education can be.

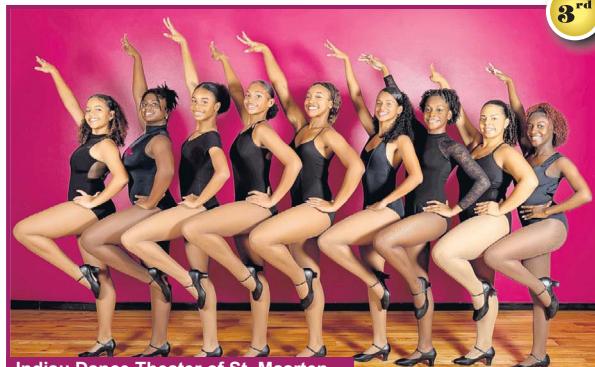


2<sup>nd</sup>



National Institute of Arts (NIA)

1<sup>st</sup>



3<sup>rd</sup>

Indisu Dance Theater of St. Maarten

VOTED 2025 #1 BEST SPA!

## THANK YOU SINT MAARTEN!



### LOCAL PRICING

AVAILABLE ON THESE SPECIALS, FOR RESIDENTS ONLY.

Therapeutic Massages & Organic Facials 50 or 80min

LumiMax PL Laser Hair Removal

Luscious Papaya Body Polish, Massage & Wrap 80min

Hot Daddy Whiskey or Island Mama Manicure & Pedicure

\*Offer is valid until Valentine's Day, February 14, 2026

Selected specials cannot be combined with any other vouchers or coupons.



The Spa located in Aruba & St. Maarten

Mon - Sat 9:00 am - 6:00 pm | [www.spastmaarten.com](http://www.spastmaarten.com)  
Spa at Divi Little Bay Beach Resort (721) 542-9024 • WhatsApp (721) 587-3032



**Angelic Touch**  
Massage Therapy & Esthetics

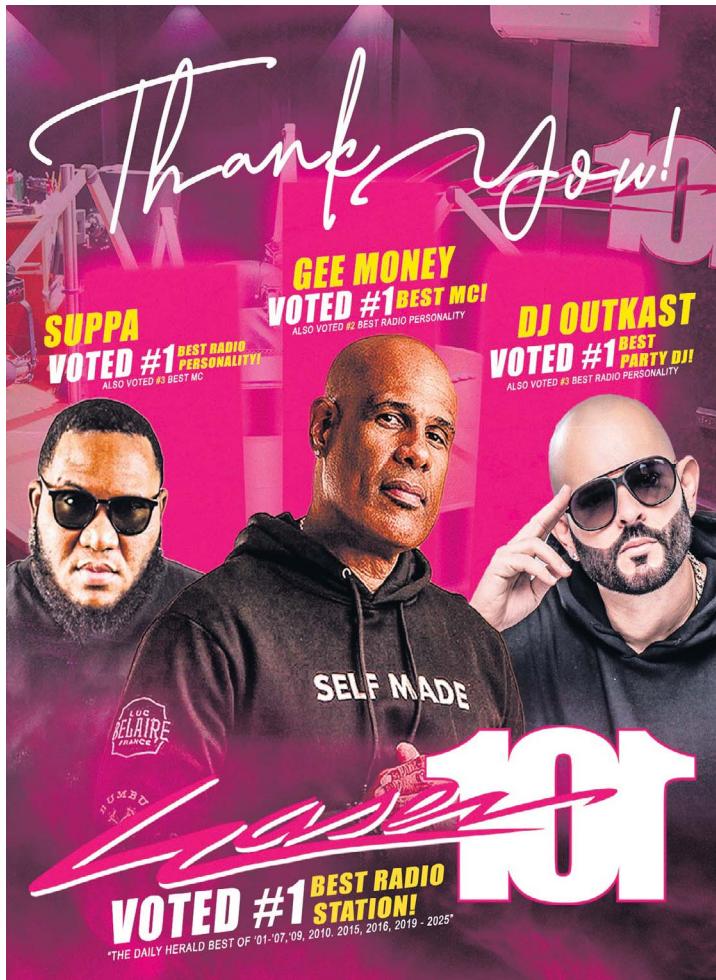
*A Big  
thank  
you*

to all for choosing Angelic  
Touch Spa & Beauty Salon  
as # 2 in  
St. Maarten/St. Martin.

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

and adults, culminating in three annual performances that showcase growth beyond technique. The Youth Orchestra brings music education directly into local schools, while NIA's professional development programmes train teachers to integrate creative learning into their classrooms.

With attending hours Monday through Friday 4:00-6:30pm and Saturday 8:30am-12:30pm, their social media stays active with student and teacher spotlights, performance photos, class schedules, and workshop announcements. From dance floors to concert stages, NIA keeps the island's creative community growing.



## Best Radio Station

Laser 101



1<sup>st</sup>

*Laser 101 has been on the airwaves in St. Maarten for more than 20 years. Listeners showed their love for the station, voting it Best Radio Station. Over the past year, the station stayed loud and visible, taking broadcasts outside the studio with live, on-location shows across the island. During hurricane season, Laser 101's Storm Watch team was essential, delivering fast, reliable updates when the community needed them most.*

Inside the studio, local and international talent passed through for interviews and to play sets, including Ras Mosera, Mene-

lik, NU Vybes Band International, Sherwin Gardner, Romain Virgo, Kes, Tamillia and General Pye to name just a few. You can catch the Laser crew chatting over new music, culture, sports and trends. You can also catch the Laser team outside with high-energy live coverage from Dominica's World Creole Music Festival.

Online, the station continued to level up with new content available on social media: interviews, highlights and the Friday Frukus Podcast can all be downloaded on streaming services. The team at Laser101 wants to thank listeners and voters for their continued support, and says they are locked in on the future, staying forever "The Station with the Attitude!"



Thank you for choosing My 88.3 as one of  
Your Best On-Air Choices

in the The Daily Herald's Best of Sint Maarten/Saint Martin 2025 Survey



2<sup>nd</sup>



3<sup>rd</sup>



# Voted #2 Pharmacy



**BENU Pharmacy Bush Road**  
Bush Road 79, Carrefour Shopping Plaza next to Mark's Place  
Telephone: 1 721-542-4900

**BENU Pharmacy Dutch Quarter**  
A.T. Illidge Road 70  
Telephone: 1 721-542-1980

BENU Pharmacy Sint Maarten  
 DA Drugstore SXM

Thank you!

Thank you to the St. Maarten community  
for choosing **BENU Pharmacy Bush Road**  
as their 2<sup>nd</sup> best pharmacy!



## Best Barber Shop —

### MLB (Major League Barbershop)

*Fresh cuts, flawless fades, and a reputation built on excellence have earned MLB (Major League Barbershop) the title of Best Barber Shop on the Island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025.*

This well-deserved recognition reflects more than popularity, it celebrates a barbershop that has mastered both the craft of bartering and the art of exceptional customer experience. Located on the Pondfill Road, in Philipsburg, MLB Barbershop has become a premier destination for clients seeking precision, style, and consistency.

The shop blends modern bartering techniques with timeless traditions, delivering everything from sharp professional looks to trend-forward styles. Each barter brings skill, creativity, and attention to detail, ensuring every client leaves the chair confident and looking like a true major leaguer.

MLB operates like a championship team, disciplined, passionate, and continuously evolving while honouring the roots of classic bartering. In a highly competitive field, MLB Barbershop didn't just make the cut – they set the standard.



1<sup>st</sup>

The owner credits the win to God's guidance, the continued trust and loyalty of clients, and the unwavering support of the MLB team. He thanked his wife and dedicated colleagues, whose hard work, commitment, and belief in the vision, make MLB Barbershop what it is today.



2<sup>nd</sup>



3<sup>rd</sup>

TIED



Top of the Line

## Best Pharmacy —

### Philipsburg Pharmacy

*A household name in island healthcare, Philipsburg Pharmacy has proudly claimed the title of Best Pharmacy for 2025 in The Daily Herald's Best Of awards.*

Nestled in the heart of Philipsburg, this long-standing establishment has become synonymous with trust, accessibility, and personalised care. Serving generations of residents and countless visitors, Philipsburg Pharmacy offers far more than prescriptions. Its shelves are thoughtfully stocked with health and wellness essentials, beauty products, vitamins, and medical supplies, all backed by a knowledgeable and attentive team.

The pharmacy's new Walter Nisbeth Road (Pondfill) location makes it a convenient stop, but it's the warm service and professional guidance that truly define the experience.



1<sup>st</sup>

Philipsburg Pharmacy

Over the years, Philipsburg Pharmacy has built strong relationships within the community by placing people first. Whether offering clear medical advice or simply greeting customers by name, the team consistently goes the extra mile. Being voted Best Pharmacy for 2025 is a well-earned recognition of the dedication, reliability, and care that have shaped this beloved business into an island staple.



2<sup>nd</sup>

Benu Pharmacy



3<sup>rd</sup>

Simpson Bay Pharmacy

# philipsburg

## pharmacy



# Thank you!!

Thank you to our amazing community for voting Philipsburg Pharmacy **the Best Pharmacy of 2025** - two years in a row! We are deeply grateful for the trust and loyalty of our customers who make this honor possible.

### ***A Message of Gratitude from Philipsburg Pharmacy***

We are deeply honored and grateful to be recognized as the Best Pharmacy of 2025. This achievement is a shared one - a testament to the trust and support of the community we serve. Philipsburg Pharmacy was founded in 2002 by Dirk (Dick) Luttekens, who began this journey with very few staff and humble resources, serving the patients with a personal commitment to care and professionalism.

Over the years, Philipsburg Pharmacy together with its Maho branch team has grown. A development made possible by our faithful and loyal clients who believed in us and grew together with us to support this expanding establishment. Your continued confidence turned Philipsburg Pharmacy into the thriving institution it is today.

Now under the leadership of Pharmacist Joris de Groot, and proudly located at #1 Walter A. Nisbeth Road, we continue that legacy of Community Care. Putting the local community first remains at the heart of what we do. This recognition encourages us to keep striving for excellence - always with you, our community, first.

*Thank you, St. Maarten, for believing in us.*



# Thank You St. Maarten

Our cup is overflowing with love and gratitude.

Thank you for your continued trust in us and for voting us your #1 Insurer.

**We are happy to serve you!**



 **NAGICO**  
INSURANCES



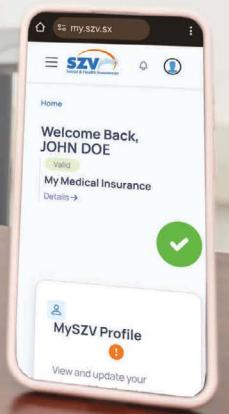
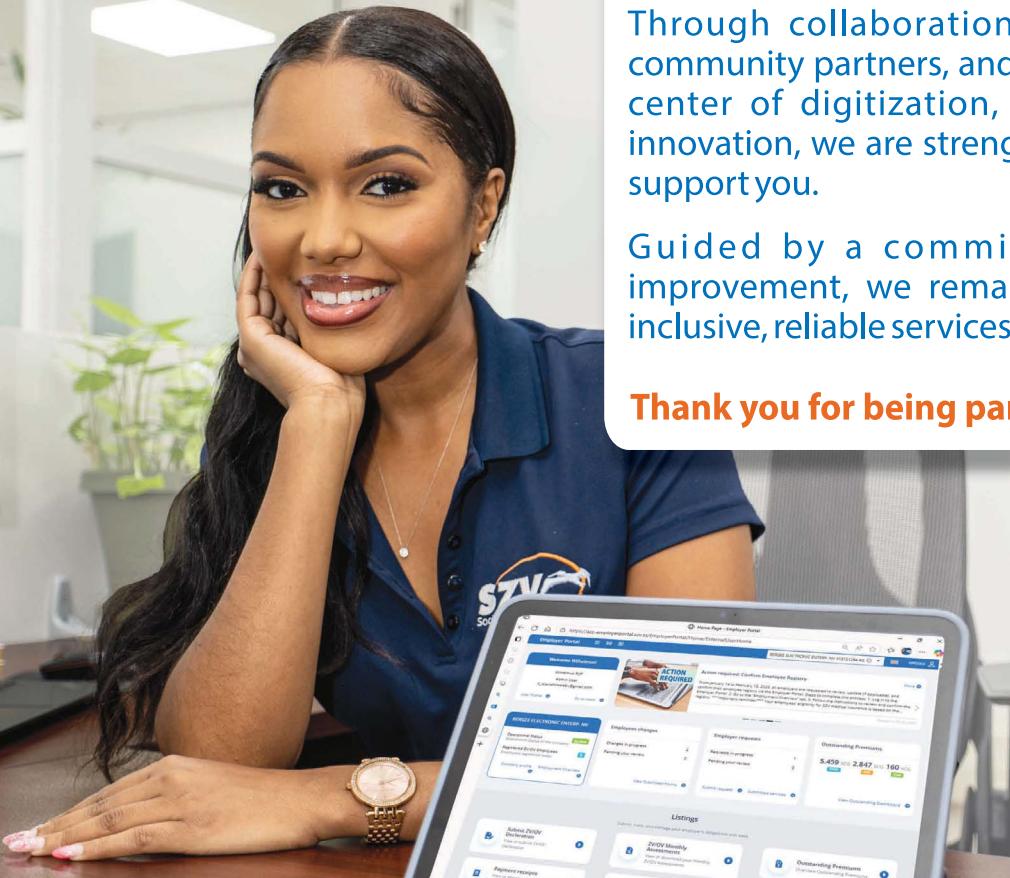
## Here for You, Online and In-Person !

We are proud to be recognized in the Daily Herald's Best of 2025, in a category traditionally reserved for private insurers. This recognition reflects the steady progress SZV continues to make as a trusted public service organization for Sint Maarten.

Through collaboration across our teams and community partners, and by keeping people at the center of digitization, service excellence, and innovation, we are strengthening how our services support you.

Guided by a commitment to continuous improvement, we remain focused on delivering inclusive, reliable services now and into the future.

**Thank you for being part of this journey with us.**



**Learn more about Sint Maarten's Social & Health insurance benefits at [www.szv.sx](http://www.szv.sx)**

SZV provides access to medical insurance benefits to employees and their families, pension allowances, loss of wages for employers and ensures compliance in premium collection. Our vision is to provide social well-being in the palm of your hand.



**WWW.SZV.SX**



## Best Insurance Company —

### NAGICO

NAGICO Insurances is deeply honoured and grateful to have been voted the #1 Insurer for the 19th consecutive year. "This recognition... is a strong endorsement of the trust our community continues to place in us, and we do not take that trust lightly. St. Maarten is our flagship market, where our group began and where our values are rooted. It is home, and it is truly a privilege to serve this community year after year," NAGICO said.

"This achievement would not be possible without our dedicated staff and valued business partners who deliver on our behalf every single day. Their commitment, professionalism, and shared values ensure that our promise to customers is lived, not just stated. Sincere thanks go out to them. They are the backbone of our success."



NAGICO

NAGICO's A- Excellent rating from AM Best reflects its strength and stability, independently validating its ability to meet its obligations and be there for the long term. Alongside financial strength, NAGICO continues to enhance the customer experience through technology. WhatsApp communication, customer portals, and simplified processes make doing business with them easier. "We remain committed to caring for you, our people, investing in our community, and serving St. Maarten with heart, strength, and reliability."

2<sup>nd</sup>

SZV



Guardian Group

3<sup>rd</sup>

## Best Auto Dealer —

### Motorworld

From first-time buyers to lifelong motorists, Motorworld has long been a familiar and trusted name on the road, and in 2025 that reputation again earned top honours. Readers of The Daily Herald have once again voted Motorworld Best Auto Dealer on the island for the tenth consecutive year, a recognition that reflects years of consistency, service, and customer confidence.

More than just a showroom, Motorworld is a full-service automotive hub, offering new and pre-owned vehicles, professional servicing, genuine parts, and after-sales support under one roof. Known for representing a wide range of internationally recognised brands, the dealership caters to diverse driving needs, from compact cars to SUVs and commercial vehicles.

What sets Motorworld apart is its customer-focused approach. A knowledgeable



Motorworld

TIGGO 4

able sales team, skilled technicians, and a strong emphasis on reliability have helped the business build lasting relationships with generations of drivers. Whether purchasing a vehicle, scheduling routine maintenance, or seeking expert advice, customers know they can count on quality and professionalism.

Winning Best Auto Dealership for 2025 is not just a title, it is a reflection of trust earned mile by mile. For many, the journey begins, and continues, at Motorworld.

2<sup>nd</sup>

Real Auto

3<sup>rd</sup>

Saint Martin Cars

# MW

## MOTORWORLD

# Thank You!

Ten years in a row! Thank you for choosing us as your #1 Auto Dealer once again. We're honored to serve our amazing community.



**TRAVEL  
PLANNERS**

**#1**

Thank you for choosing Travel Planners.  
Another year, another honor!  
Voted Best Travel Agency 2025  
Thanks to our dedicated team, esteemed clients and partners!

C.A. Cannegieterstreet 129, Philipsburg | Tel: 542-5022 / 542-5502 | WhatsApp: +1 721 55 34397  
Cineta Building 2b, Airport Blvd #29 | Tel: 545-3980 / 545-4038 | WhatsApp: +1 721 55 31815

## Best Travel Agency —

### Travel Planners

Travel Planners is honoured to be recognised as Best Travel Agency on the island for 2025, a distinction it shares with its loyal clients, trusted partners, and the dedicated team behind every journey.

Since opening in 1993, Travel Planners has stayed true to one mission: delivering personalised, reliable travel experiences built on trust and consistency.

Travel Planners says this award reflects more than its years in business, it represents the care and discipline behind every trip it plans. From prompt responses and accurate details to anticipating challenges before they arise, excellence in travel is never by chance. It's the standard Travel Planners live by, even when the work happens quietly behind the scenes.

"Travel has evolved dramatically since 1993, and so have we. Through industry changes, new technologies, and shifting client needs,



our focus remains the same: dependable service and meaningful experiences," says Managing Director Zaida Franca-Urvina.

"You may not see every detail we manage, but you feel the difference. We are deeply grateful to our clients and partners for their continued support, and proud of the team that makes this recognition possible. This honour inspires us to keep raising the bar, for every journey, every client, every time," she adds.



Thank you St. Maarten/St. Martin for choosing us

## #2 Best Travel Agency

93 Walter Nisbeth Road, Phillipsburg, St. Maarten.

Tel: 1 (721) 543-8971

Email: info@kktravelssxm.com

# Best Accounting Agency

## A&A Accounting Business Support and Training Centre

Behind every successful business is a strong financial backbone and in 2025, readers of The Daily Herald made it clear who provides that support best. A&A Accounting, Business Support & Training Center has been voted Best Accounting Agency on the island, a recognition that reflects trust, expertise, and consistency.

A&A Accounting offers a wide range of services designed to support entrepreneurs, small businesses, and established companies. From accounting and bookkeeping to tax support, payroll services, business consulting, and professional training, the firm has positioned itself as more than just an accounting office, it is a true business partner.

What sets A&A apart is its practical, hands-on approach. The team places strong emphasis on guidance, education, and compliance, helping clients not only manage their



**A&A Accounting Business Support and Training Center**

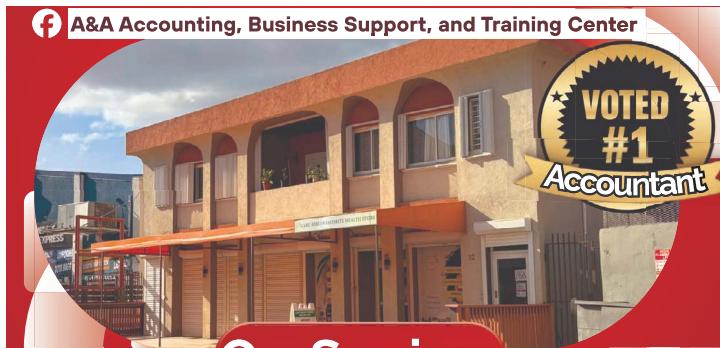
1<sup>st</sup>



2<sup>nd</sup>



3<sup>rd</sup>



### Our Services

#### Accounting

- Audit & Assurance
- Business Tax
- Payroll
- Consulting & Advisory
- Outsourced Accounting

#### Business Support

- Business Incorporation
- Business Plan
- Financial Projections
- Work Permit
- Residence Permit

#### Marketing

- Graphic Design
- Content Creation
- Social Media Marketing
- Website Design
- Website Management

#### Training Center

- Computer Training for all ages
- Corporate Training
- Corporate Workshop

# Best Bank

## Windward Islands Bank (WIB)

When it comes to banking excellence in St. Maarten, one name consistently rises above: Windward Islands Bank (WIB). Voted Best Bank on the island in the 2025 Daily Herald Best Of, WIB continues to set the standard for trust, innovation, and community connection.



1<sup>st</sup>

**Windward Islands Bank (WIB)**

Founded in 1960, WIB is more than just a financial institution, it's a pillar of the island's economy and a partner to residents, businesses, and investors. With multiple branches and ATMs across the island, WIB provides a full range of services, from everyday banking and loans to digital banking solutions that make managing finances easier than ever.

Under the leadership of Country Manager Daisy Tyrol-Carolus, the bank has combined personalised service with modern

innovation, helping customers navigate everything from business growth to personal financial goals. Its commitment to reliability, accessibility, and community support has made it a trusted name for generations of islanders.

Winning Best Bank is more than a title, it's a reflection of decades of dedication, a reputation for excellence, and a bank that truly understands and invests in the people it serves.



2<sup>nd</sup>



3<sup>rd</sup>

Follow us on social media! [aaaccountingsxm](#)

## A&A Accounting, Business Support, and Training Center



### We Thank You

Thank you for choosing us as **Sint Maarten's #1 Accountant**. We truly appreciate your trust in us, and we are committed to providing the best service while supporting your financial and business needs every step of the way. Our team is here to guide you with excellence, accuracy, and accountability as we help you grow and succeed.

**-Dr. Ann Marlin-Evans, Director**



*"Professional, reliable, and always on time!"*  
- Happy Client, St. Maarten

+1 (721) 542-2025

[Admin@aa-accounting.sx](mailto:Admin@aa-accounting.sx)

Cannegieter Street #32, Philipsburg

[Contact Us](#) [On Whatsapp](#)





*Thank You St. Maarten*

**Voted the #1 Bank by the people we serve, this recognition is an honor we do not take lightly.**

*Your trust continues to guide our commitment to dependable financial solutions and long-term partnership.*



## Best Children's Store —

### Bébé n' Kids

Winning Best Children's Store on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of Readers' Poll for 2025 is a proud moment for the team at Bébé n'KIDS and a reflection of the strong support the store continues to receive from families across St. Martin.

Located in Bellevue, just outside Marigot, Bébé n'KIDS has become a trusted one-stop shop for parents, offering everything needed for babies and children of all ages. From children's clothing and baby gear to toys, educational games, and outdoor play items, the store is designed to make shopping convenient and enjoyable for families.

Bébé n'KIDS carries well-known brands such as Orchestra, Carter's, JouéClub, LEGO, and Barbie, and also assists parents with nursery preparation and special wish list services for children. The store focuses on comfort, happiness, and practicality,



Bébé n'KIDS

creating a welcoming space where parents can find quality products under one roof.

The 2025 readers' poll win highlights the loyalty of its customers and the trust Bébé n'KIDS has built within the community. The team remains grateful for the continued support that earned them this recognition.



Affordable



Penny's

## Best Construction Company —

### Windward Roads

Windward Roads has once again proven why its name is synonymous with solid foundations and smooth journeys, taking home the Best Construction Company title in The Daily Herald's Best Of 2025.

This recognition celebrates a company that has been shaping the very backbone of our built environment for decades. Founded in 1986 and rooted in Philipsburg, Windward Roads has grown from a local contractor into the premier infrastructure and construction force across the Windward Islands.

The firm delivers everything from roadways to general construction, civil engineering, concrete and asphalt production, all backed by an extensive fleet and a team whose expertise shows in every project.

But it's more than heavy machinery and technical know-how that sets Windward Roads apart. It's the company's commitment to quality, reliability, and community,



Windward Roads

building not just structures, but lasting relationships on St. Maarten, Saba, St. Eustatius, and Anguilla.

This Best Of win highlights a construction leader that not only moves earth but also moves the island forward, one road, one project, one vision at a time.



SBS (St. Maarten Building Supplies)



St. Maarten Concrete

# bébé n'KIDS

VOTED #1 CHILDREN'S STORE

THANK YOU!

**JouéClub!** **carter's** **premaman** **ORCHESTRA**  
KIDS FASHION • MATERNITY • CHILDCARE

**1st**

# WINDWARD Roads

## general contractor

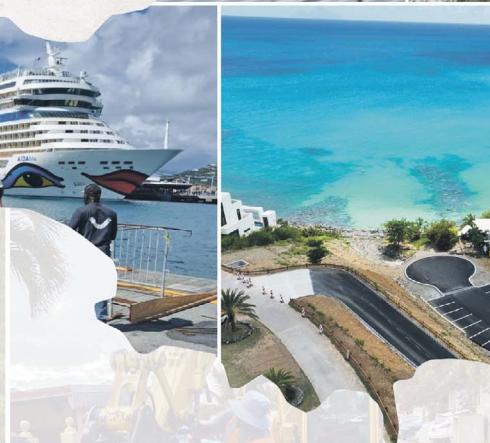




# Thank you

# FOR VOTING FOR US!

**#1**



## CONTACT US

**+1 (721) 542-7520**

**INFO@WWR.JAJO.COM**  
**WWW.WINDWARDROADS.COM**

**@WINDWARDROADS**





**Island**  
REAL ESTATE TEAM

Find your dream property today!  
[WWW.IRETEAM.COM](http://WWW.IRETEAM.COM)

## Best Party Dj

### DJ Outkast

DJ Outkast "The Cut Creator" has been voted Best Party DJ after another year of big moves, on island and beyond. Go to any of the hottest parties in St. Maarten, and chances are DJ Outkast was on the decks. Clubs, bars, casinos, boats, beaches, pools, VIP... He also hosts the Power Hour on Laser 101 and continues to drop his annual Carnival mix featuring local bands and artistes.

Like most years, last year saw him take the SXM vibe off island. He rang in the new year in St. Kitts and played sets in Anguilla, Atlantic City, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and the British Virgin Islands. On stage, he celebrated major highlights, including performing alongside Machel Montano as his DJ in Anguilla.

For Carnival, Outkast deejayed for winning troupe Rio Productions, and says he's excited to represent again. And for the first time you can catch him on the road this year for Trinidad carnival. Giving back is also important for Outkast with appear-



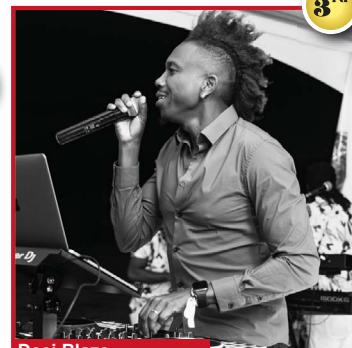
ances reading to students for Literacy Day, volunteering at St. Dominic School, and speaking at career and motivation events. Now 16 years in the game, Outkast says the support still hits hard. "The world will come to know my name."



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



King Kembe



Deej Blaze

**3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Real Estate Company —

### Keller Williams

When it comes to finding the right property and the right guidance, readers have spoken. Keller Williams has been voted Best Real Estate Company, a recognition that reflects the firm's growing impact and trusted reputation in the local real estate market.

Formerly known as Antilles Realty, the company took a bold step forward under the leadership of Regional Director Maayke de Haan by joining Keller Williams, the number one real estate company in the United States. With this move, De Haan was awarded and entrusted with leading the Keller Williams St. Maarten region. The move was made with one clear goal: to better serve clients by combining local market knowledge with world-class systems, education, and technology.

With more than 180,000 agents worldwide, Keller Williams is the largest real estate franchise in the world. On St. Maarten, the team is driven by a mission to build careers



Keller Williams

worth having, businesses worth owning, and lives worth living, while remaining guided by strong values including faith, family, honesty, positivity, accuracy, and hard work.

Located at 76 Balsam Drive, Cay Hill, Keller Williams St. Maarten continues to position itself as the real estate company of choice for both local and international clients, setting a high standard for service and professionalism on the island.



Century 21



Island Real Estate Team

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

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

**3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Best Radio/Podcast Personality —

### Suppa Kid

Suppa Kid has been named The Daily Herald's Best Radio Show/Podcast Personality of 2025, and it's no surprise considering the 11 years he's spent crafting his art on air and building connections through St. Maarten's communities. Suppa says his heart is at the centre of everything, "I do it because I love it, and for the positive impact it has on others."

As the host of the Suppa Dupp Morning Show on Laser 101, Kevin "Suppa" Petrona spills that hot coffee and wakes up St. Maarten with positive vibes, honest conversation, great music and real-life discussions on trending topics. He's also taken that energy off island, presenting live broadcasts from events like Dominica's World Creole Music Festival and Soul Beach. During hurricane season, Suppa is part of Laser101's Storm Watch team, helping to keep the island updated and reassured when it matters most.

Beyond the studio, he's committed to community work. Hosting events like the Christmas Doggy Walk in support of SXM



Suppa Kid

Paws, volunteering with SXM Doet, and his annual tradition of donating a Christmas tree. It's that consistency, care and genuine love for St. Maarten that keeps votes rolling in for Suppa Kid year after year.

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

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

**3<sup>rd</sup>**



Gee Money



DJ Outkast



# KW Sint Maarten voted BEST REAL ESTATE COMPANY!

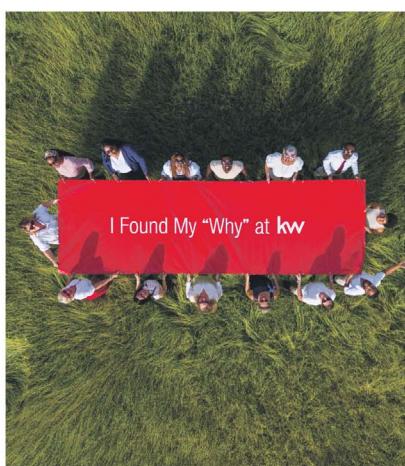


## SCAN HERE!

Stay Updated

&

Join the KW team!



**To our clients** — Thank you for trusting us with your homes, your investments, and some of the most important decisions of your lives.

**To the people of St. Maarten** — Thank you for holding us to the highest standards year after year.

**To our agents** — Thank you for the passion, professionalism, and integrity you bring to your work every day.

Winning Best Real Estate Company on St. Maarten is not about volume alone.

It is about integrity, local knowledge, professional guidance, and showing up consistently for our community.

At Keller Williams Sint Maarten, we combine global reach with deep local expertise — connecting our island to an international network while remaining firmly rooted in the community we proudly serve.

We believe that when agents are trained, supported, and empowered, clients win.

When clients win, the community grows stronger.

We are honored.

We are grateful.

And we remain committed to raising the bar for real estate on our island.

Thank you, St. Maarten.

Maayke de Haan

*Regional Director*

Keller Williams Sint Maarten

*Luxury - Residential - Investment*

**kw** SINT  
MAARTEN  
KELLERWILLIAMS

KELLERWILLIAMS  
*Luxury*  
SINT MAARTEN

# SEBASTIANO

CARIBBEAN LIFESTYLE

Voted **ST MAARTEN**  
**#1 Men's Store**

**"Thanks to the readers!"**

KRYS



OPAL BUILDING  
 COLE BAY / SXM



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED TRUST AND VOTING US  
**#2 BEST MEN'S BOUTIQUE**



RUE DU GÉNÉRAL DE GAULLE  
 MARIGOT +590 590 520 916

## Best Men's Boutique

### Sebastiano SXM

Shoppers and fashion enthusiasts have spoken: Sebastiano Caribbean Lifestyle SXM has been voted Best Boutique on St. Maarten in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025 poll. This stylish ready-to-wear boutique has become a must-visit destination for those seeking trendy clothing, sneakers, and accessories with a Caribbean flair.

Located in the heart of Cole Bay, Sebastiano SXM offers a carefully curated selection of clothing and accessories for men, women, and children. From casual pieces perfect for island life to more refined looks for evenings out, including a stylish range of sneakers, the boutique's collection blends current trends with timeless style.

Customers particularly appreciate the warm atmosphere and the attentive, knowledgeable staff, who make every visit



Sebastiano SXM

feel personal and enjoyable. Whether updating a vacation wardrobe or finding a bold statement piece, shoppers consistently discover items that match their style and mood.

This Best Boutique award highlights Sebastiano's role in shaping the island's fashion scene, offering the perfect balance of quality, variety, and customer service. More than just a shop, it's a true retail experience that reflects the vibrant and stylish spirit of St. Maarten, making every visit as memorable as the outfit – or pair of sneakers – you take home.



Celio



Tommy Hilfiger

# Best Department Store

## ACE Mega Center

From functional staples and artistic extras, to the big ticket items needed for major home improvement projects – and everything in between – ACE Mega Center is a true one-stop shop, with top brand items all under one roof. The sheer diversity of useful items that make life simpler, more efficient, and easier, is what makes it a

great department store – the top choice, once again, according to our 2025 Best Of survey.

The store is conveniently located in Cole Bay, with ample parking, and boasts two floors of quality products, plus a dedicated lumber yard. Even a spontaneous visit is worth your while, if you're in the zone to im-

prove your surroundings. Upgrade to better garden tools, browse thoughtfully curated full bedroom sets, elevate your tableware, or revamp your bathroom into an organised, relaxing space.

Whether you're a contractor, weekend warrior, or simply want to keep your spaces fresh, clean, and organised, ACE Mega Center offers the cream of the crop when it comes to product quality and variety.



1<sup>st</sup>

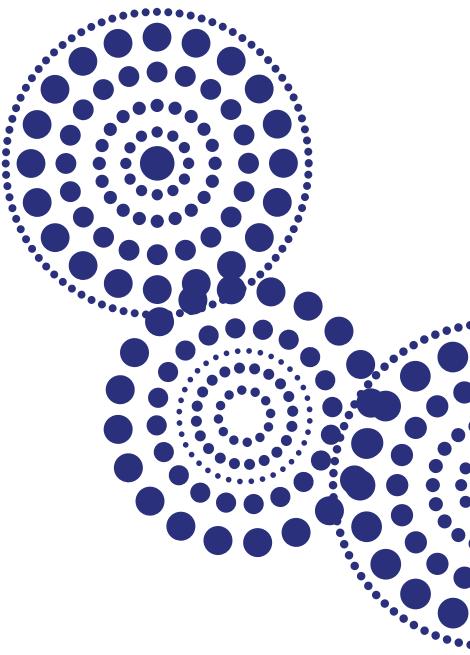
ACE Mega Center



2<sup>nd</sup>



3<sup>rd</sup>



*Thank you, Sint Maarten,  
for voting us among the best!*

# INTERLINE CONNECTIONS

CUSTOMIZING YOUR OCEAN SHIPMENTS

• Weekly ocean freight from Miami to Sint Maarten  
• Package consolidation (ONE FLAT FEE)  
• Rates as low as **\$5.50** per package

**WE SHIP IT ALL!**  
From Toothbrushes to Vehicles / Heavy Equipment

**#3**  
Best Shipping

Visit us  
Point Blanche #2 Ground Dove Road  
Get your free US Address  
[interline-connections.com](http://interline-connections.com)  
+1721-54-20031 / + (1721) 522-5743  
[sales@interline-usa.com](mailto:sales@interline-usa.com)

## Best Shipping/ Mail Company

### West Tech Shipping

*Moving goods across borders and keeping island commerce flowing is no small task and in 2025, readers of The Daily Herald made it clear who does it best. West Tech Shipping has been voted Best Shipping Company on the island, a distinction earned through reliability, experience, and trusted service.*

A long-standing name in the local logistics sector, West Tech Shipping provides shipping and freight solutions for both businesses and individuals. From ocean freight and air cargo to customs clearance and door-to-door services, the company has built a reputation for making complex shipping processes feel straightforward

and manageable.

What keeps customers coming back is West Tech's hands-on approach. A knowledgeable team, clear communication, and attention to detail ensure shipments are handled with care from origin to destination. Whether importing vehicles, commercial goods, or personal items, clients rely on West Tech to deliver on time and with professionalism.

Winning Best Shipping Company for 2025 reflects more than operational strength, it highlights the trust the community places in a company that keeps the island connected to the world.

1<sup>st</sup>

West Tech Shipping

2<sup>nd</sup>

Safe Cargo Services

3<sup>rd</sup>

Interline

**Best Shipping Company 2025!**

**West Tech Shipping**

**Thank you to all of our clients!**

The background features a dark, starry space theme with a large, stylized blue and white logo of a ship or airplane on the left. The text is in a bright, glowing font. A small four-pointed star is in the bottom right corner.



## To our Valued and Loyal Customers,

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your continued trust and support. With so many shipping options available, we are truly honored that you continue to choose Safe Cargo Services.

Because of your confidence in us, we are proud to share that we have been voted Second Best Cargo Service in Sint Maarten for 2025, for the second year in a row. This recognition means more to us than words can express, as it reflects the strong relationships we have built with you, our valued customers.

Your loyalty inspires us every day and drives us to keep improving, growing, and delivering the reliable service you deserve.

We are deeply grateful for your support and look forward to serving you for many years to come.

With sincere appreciation,  
**Safe Cargo Services**  
*“Your Friend in the Cargo Business”*

**Safe Cargo Services**  
*“Your friend in the cargo business”*

Airport Tel: +1-721-545-2952  
Pt Blanche Tel: +1-721-542-3506  
E-MAIL: [info@safe.sx](mailto:info@safe.sx)  
[www.safe.sx](http://www.safe.sx)

## Best Non-Profit Organization —

### SXM Paws

Since opening in 2019, SXM Paws has been rewriting what rescue means. While traditional shelters confine dogs to kennels, SXM Paws created something different: a no-kill sanctuary in Cay Bay where rescue dogs, both puppies and adults, roam freely, play together, and rediscover what it feels like to be loved.

The work happens on multiple fronts. Inside the shelter, the team rehabilitates abused and abandoned dogs with medical care, rigorous health protocols, and individualised attention where every dog has a themed name and personality the staff knows by heart. Through their Paws in Flight programme, adoptions reach as far as Canada, France, Finland, and beyond. Twice weekly, dogs visit the airport departures hall, turning travellers into advocates and sometimes, adopters.

The organisation thrives through its network of dedicated volunteers and foster families. From dog walking and bathing to coordinating airport shuttles and serving as flight partners, volunteers keep the mis-



SXM Paws

sion moving forward. Foster homes provide temporary safe spaces where dogs can heal and learn to trust again before finding their forever families.

Open Monday through Friday 10:00am-3:00pm and Saturday 9:00am-12:00pm, their social media stays active with updates on adorable adoptable dogs, success stories, and more.



721 Kids Foundation



Freegan Food Foundation



### THANK YOU ST. MAARTEN

for choosing SXM Notary Richards as the  
#1 Notary in St. Maarten and  
#2 in The Daily Herald's

'Best of 2024: Best Law Firm/Notary Office category'



[@sxmnotaryrichards](#)

[www.sxmnotaryrichards.sx](#)

+1 721 542 6817

## Best Hardware/ Construction Material Provider —

### Kooyman

Kooyman continues to reign supreme in the voters' eyes, when it comes to home improvement, hardware, and construction material – everything you need for some serious building or home improvement projects.

The store, with its wide selection of products and brag-worthy loyalty programme FunMiles, is a true one-stop-shop for homeowners, renters, and contractors.

You'll find everything from structural hardware, to durable paints, and from kitchen fixtures to power tools. Kooyman also has an impressive section dedicated to lumber, steel, doors, and a variety of quality construction supplies.

The selection is one to beat, and making the experience even better is the convenient drive-through set-up, with an option of ordering these bulky items in advance. Se-



Kooyman

rious clients such as contractors can also benefit from additional perks including priority-ordering.

Customers can easily keep up to date, and inspired, by signing up to Kooyman's newsletter, and it's always worth passing by to see what's new. Whether you're a professional or DIY enthusiast, Kooyman has what you need to make your project a success!



ACE Home Center



ACE Mega Center

## Best Home Supplies & Furniture Store —

### ACE Home Center

When it comes to home supplies and furniture, the ACE line of businesses continues to dominate. The group of stores has been serving St. Maarten since 1997, with the latest addition to the group of businesses being Ashley Furniture; all three top spots are from the same impressive family of businesses. They are absolutely the first to come to mind, in the realm of home improvement and décor.

Time to give your living spaces some new life? You'll have your options laid out for you as you stroll through ACE Home Center's thoughtfully curated bedroom and living room sets that are stylish, comfortable and inviting. Let your eyes wander around the entire top floor to discover everything you need to bring it all together, from tableware to bathroom linens, to bold art prints.



ACE Home Center

Friendly staff is on hand to guide you through your options, and answer any questions you may have. Reliable delivery and assembly options for larger items make it all the more worthwhile – a seamless experience from first impression to ownership.



ACE Mega Center

3<sup>rd</sup>



Ashley Furniture

# Best Law Firm/Notary Office

## Brooks & Associates

Clear advice, steady advocacy, and a deep understanding of the law have earned Brooks & Associates top recognition once again. In The Daily Herald Best Of awards for 2025, the firm was voted Best Law Firm on the island, a reflection of the confidence and trust placed in its work by the community.

Brooks & Associates is widely respected for delivering legal services that balance professionalism with a personal approach. The firm handles a broad range of legal matters, serving individuals, families, and businesses with careful attention to detail and a strong commitment to ethical practice. Clients often value the firm's ability to explain complex legal issues clearly while providing practical, solution-oriented guidance.

Over the years, Brooks & Associates has built a reputation for consistency and reliability, supported by a dedicated team that understands both the legal landscape and the local context in which it operates. That combination has made the firm a steady presence in moments that matter most to its clients.

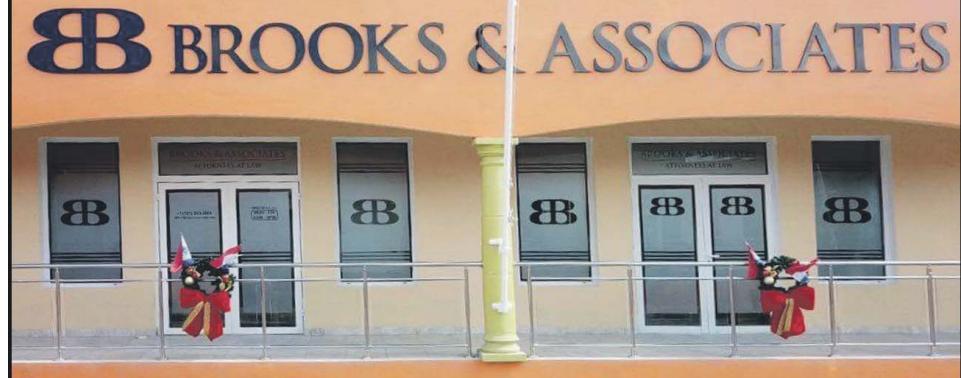
Winning Best Law Firm for 2025 is more than an accolade, it underscores a continued standard of excellence. For many on St. Maarten, Brooks and Associates remains a trusted partner in navigating the law with confidence and care.



SXM Notary Richards



Brooks &amp; Associates



## Thank you, Sint Maarten

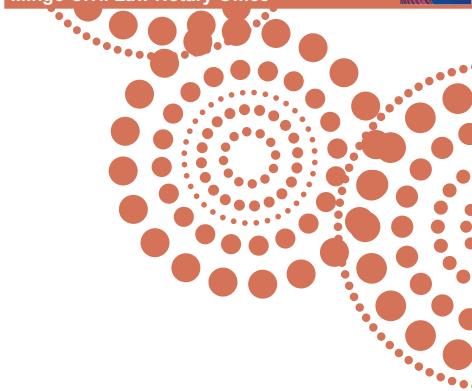
Brooks & Associates is honored to have been voted #1 in the category Best Law Firm /Notary Office for 2025.

This recognition reflects the trust placed in our attorneys by clients, colleagues, and the wider community. We remain committed to delivering sound legal advice, strong advocacy, and principled representation across every area of practice.

Thank you for your confidence in Brooks & Associates.



Mingo Civil Law Notary Office



# Best Local Products

## Etna Ice Cream

For the fourth consecutive year, readers of The Daily Herald have crowned Etna Ice Cream as their favourite local product! This rich, creamy, and flavour-packed treat has become a beloved staple not only in St. Maarten/St. Martin but also across the neighbouring islands, available in supermarkets, grocery stores, and top restaurants.

Etna's story began in 1980 with a quaint ice cream parlour on

Kennedy Avenue in Marigot, where locals first fell in love with its handcrafted delights. Today, owner Paolo Smiroldo continues to honour his Sicilian roots, meticulously crafting every pint by hand using the finest ingredients sourced from around the world including Madagascar, the Netherlands, Italy, New Zealand, and the United States.

The flavour selection is nothing short of irresistible. From classic

Vanilla and indulgent Cookies and Cream to rich Chocolate and the timeless Gianduia, there are 15 additional creations featuring everything from nuts to raisins, ensuring there's something to delight every palate.

With decades of dedication and a passion for quality, Etna Ice Cream has truly earned its place in the hearts and taste buds of the islands.



1st



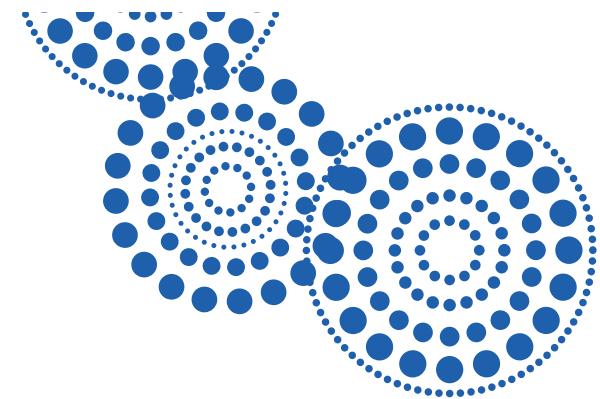
Columbier Tradition (Guavaberry)



Topper's Rhum

2nd

3rd





# MANGO

Dear Customers

Thanks for choosing us  
as the best stores of  
Sint Maarten

  @lookinggoodsxm34  
   @mangostores\_sintmaarte





**Looking Good**  
shoes-apparel-accesories

We would like to thank to all our customers, for choosing us as,

**BEST SPORT STORE 2025**

We are committed to continuing to offer the best quality, performance and service in 2026

#34, Backstreet, Philipsburg, Sint Maarten  
Tel/ Fax +1721-5421042 lookinggood@hotmail.com



# Affordable

DEPARTMENT STORE

12 YEARS. 12 WINS.  
ONE BIG THANK YOU!



Affordable Department Store  
is proud to be your  
#1 Women's Boutique &  
#2 Kids Boutique.

This journey wouldn't be possible  
without you- our loyal customers who  
have supported us, believed in us,  
and grown with us. Your trust and  
support are what keep  
Affordable shining.



Facebook



WhatsApp



Instagram

#16A BACKSTREET, SINT MAARTEN. CARIBBEAN WIDE DELIVERY!

## Best Women's Boutique

### Affordable

Being named Best Women's Boutique for 2025 in The Daily Herald Best Of Readers' Poll marks a proud milestone for Affordable Department Store and the customers who continue to support it.

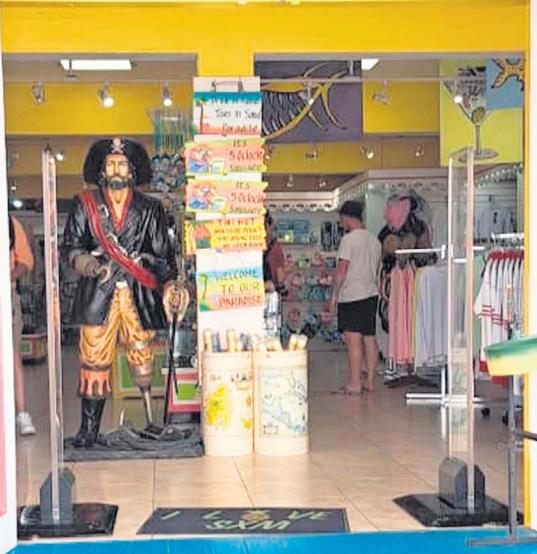
The recognition reflects the store's strong reputation for variety, accessibility, and customer care.

Located at 16A Back Street, in Philipsburg,



Affordable Department Store has established itself as a reliable one-stop shop, offering a wide selection of clothing for women, including dresses, skirts, pants, blouses, and a broad range of accessories, alongside children's and men's wear. Its central location makes it a convenient shopping destination for both residents and visitors. The store is also known for its friendly and helpful staff, who strive to create a pleasant shopping experience for every customer. The team expressed sincere appreciation to all who voted. They see the recognition as a reflection of the continued trust and loyalty of the community.

## Shipwreck Shop



To our valued customers and friends in

### St. Maarten

### THANK YOU

for making Shipwreck Shops the  
#1 Souvenir & Gift Store on the island!

Your loyalty and support, from **both visitors**  
**and locals**, means the world to us.  
We are truly honored to be a part of  
your **island memories**.



**PROUD TO BE NUMBER ONE AGAIN!**

**11 LOCATIONS ISLAND WIDE**

## Best Gift/Souvenir Shop —

### Shipwreck Shops

Dotted across every tourism hot-spot in St. Maarten, and perhaps the most recognisable name of them all, it will come as a surprise to no-one that Shipwreck Shops continue to dominate the souvenir/gift category. The iconic line of stores offers a stunning array of fun, artistic, gourmet, and practical items that celebrate the island and the region. Visit them at any time and you'll be sure to discover new products.

From island-inspired apparel, to sauces, spices and cakes, and from beach hats to home décor and local books, there is always something exciting that would make the perfect gift or souvenir. A visit to Shipwreck Shops is not just a pleasant shopping experience, it's a great way to discover new, proudly local products – yes, even if you live here!

A fan of the St. Maarten Heineken Regatta? Shipwreck Shops is the official distributor of branded Regatta gear, offering an exclu-



sive line of collectable merchandise. Stock up before the big event.

Come to Shipwreck Shops curious, and leave with a great keepsake!

## Best Writer/Poet —

### Ralph Cantave

It's been an active year for Ralph Cantave, who has secured the #1 spot for Best Writer/Poet. The author, best known for books including "Steve takes a stand", has been actively touring schools and hosting storytelling workshops, in the name of literacy advocacy and promotion. He also contributed two essays to Soualichi Stories, an animated video-essay series about local heritage and folklore presented by Foresee Foundation. His stories, "Bring back me comb" and "The Birth of St. Martin" are available on the foundation's YouTube channel.

Connecting people to literature, culture, and history is what makes Cantave tick, driving the direction and tone of his work. Faith is important to him, and he is proud to share that he has become a pastor this year – exciting times for the community-minded creative.

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



Ralph Cantave

Soon, he plans to launch some new activities, including "Reading with Ralph", aimed at promoting a love for literacy among school-aged children and their families.

Continuing onward, Cantave is currently working on bringing more local historical fiction to life, in a fun and accessible way. Stay tuned for details of his upcoming book in the near future!

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

**TIED**



Tamara Groeneveldt

**3<sup>rd</sup>**



Lasana M. Sekou



Amsterdam Cheese Store

## Best Sportswear

### Sports Gallery and Fanbase by Sports Gallery

When it comes to staying stylish on the go or gearing up for action, sports fans know exactly where to look – and this year they made their voices heard loud and clear. Sports Gallery and its sister brand Fanbase by Sports Gallery were chosen as Best Sportswear on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of 2025 reader survey, capturing local hearts and sneaker soles alike.

Nestled in the vibrant heart of Philipsburg, Sports Gallery has been a go-to destination for premium sports fashion and footwear for over two decades, stocking top brands like Nike, Jordan, Adidas, Puma, Under Armour, New Balance and more. Whether you're picking up fresh kicks before a beach run or shopping the latest athletic trends, customers rave about the store's unbeatable selection and personal service.

Side-by-side with Sports Gallery, Fanbase,



Sports Gallery and Fanbase by Sports Gallery

located across the street from Sports Gallery, brings island pride and team spirit to life with brands such as New Era, Fanatics, Goorin Bros, Mitchell & Ness and more. Together, these two beloved shops are more than retail spots: they're local hubs where fans, athletes, and fashion lovers meet, explore, and outfit their ambitions.



Looking Good I and II

## Best Dancer/Choreographer

### Bianca Dijkhoffz

Bianca Dijkhoffz has impressively continued on her winning streak, claiming the #1 spot every year since the Best Dancer/Choreographer category was introduced for the Best Of 2022. Dancing/choreographing has become truly intertwined with her second, ever-growing passion – deejaying. The blending of worlds has made for unique, custom entertainment experiences, as she continues to evolve in her career path and build her brand.



Bianca Dijkhoffz

ille Gibbs and Otmar Martina.

An amazing highlight of the year was headlining at Aruba's Flip Flop Festival for a crowd 1200-strong. There, she performed her set as DJ BB Bad alongside two dancers that she flew down from LA, in a multifaceted show of her own making – crafting it from the ground up. These mixed performances have been a way to grow as a DJ, while living out the dance dream.



Rudolph Davis



Natori Illidge



SPORTSGALLERY



FANBASE

## SPORTS GALLERY & FANBASE TAKE THE TOP SPOT!



Thanks to you,  
we've been named the  
#1 Best Sports Store on the island!  
We are incredibly grateful  
to our amazing customers  
for the love and support.  
We're proud to be your  
trusted sports destination!



Instagram

sportsgallery.sxm



Instagram

fanbasesxm



WhatsApp

+1-721-542-8306



Facebook

sports gallery sxm

#12A & #11 BACKSTREET, SINT MAARTEN. CARIBBEAN WIDE DELIVERY!



# CARIBBEAN GEMS

ESTABLISHED 1983

FRONT STREET, PHILIPSBURG

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOTE!  
WE ARE PROUD TO BE ONE OF  
SINT MAARTEN'S TOP JEWELRY  
STORES



## Best MC —

### Gee Money

Gee Money takes home The Daily Herald's Best MC of 2025 after another standout year of hosting, entertaining and connecting with audiences. Gee achieved recognition from the Government of St. Maarten with the SAGE award, the country's highest cultural honour for a lifetime dedicated to St. Maarten's creative legacy.

On air, he's shared his love of radio with listeners hosting the AM/PM Workload Show on Laser 101 for 27 years. Gee also creates events. Alongside King Vers, he launched Joints & Jams, a night of slow jams, lovers rock and R&B at Emilio's. Off the mic, catch him on social media as the RealAuto ambassador.

Travel filled his calendar too, Gee's been working and playing in the US, UK, the Netherlands, Curaçao and Aruba. He hosted at the St. Kitts Music Festival, Soul Beach, and delivered live broadcasts from Dominica's World Creole Music Festival. Back



home, he presented online series' including PJIA's Making a Princess, GEBE's Power Talks and hosted village shows, corporate events and conferences including with the Dutch Caribbean Cooperation of Airports. Whether Gee is on stage, on air or on the move, his mantra is king, "Just be yourself or you might find yourself by yourself."



Rummer



Suppa Kid

## Best Store to Purchase Jewellery —

### Joe's Jewelry

A legacy of craftsmanship and trust continues to shine at Joe's Jewelry, which has been voted Best Store to Purchase Jewellery. The honour marks the third consecutive year the family-owned jeweller has earned top recognition, cementing its place as a favourite among both residents and visitors.



Joe's Jewelry

Established in 1980, Joe's Jewelry International has built a reputation grounded in personalised service, exceptional craftsmanship, and a carefully curated selection of fine jewellery and luxury timepieces. The store offers 14 and 18 carat gold, certified loose GIA and lab-grown diamonds, and watches from internationally recognised brands, all available at duty-free prices that add to its appeal.

Joe's Jewelry is also widely praised for the relationships it builds with its customers.



Caribbean Gems

"Our greatest achievement is seeing our customers return year after year, not just for our jewellery, but for the trust and relationships we've built. Being named the top jeweller for three consecutive years is an incredible honour, and it's all thanks to our loyal customers, dedicated team and local partners who make every experience special," the establishment said.

With a continued commitment to quality, authenticity, and heartfelt service, Joe's Jewelry remains a cornerstone of St. Maarten's luxury shopping experience and a destination that continues to sparkle year after year.



Zaveri Jewelers



## St. Maarten's #1 Jewelry Store

2023, 2024, 2025

Joe's Jewelry *celebrates* its  
*third* consecutive year  
thanks to *you*!

We are over the moon to announce our  
recognition as the top jewelry store for  
**2023, 2024, and 2025** by *The Daily Herald*,  
St. Maarten's most-read newspaper.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the  
voters for your incredible support.

*Joe's Jewelry*  
INTERNATIONAL  
Est 1980

WWW.JOESJEWELRY.COM 1 (721) 543-7020

40,60,66 FRONT STREET, PHILIPSBURG

CHRONOSWISS  
MODERN MECHANICAL

NORQAIN  
SWISS MADE WATCHES

MÉMOIRE

SEIKO

TISSOT

HAMILTON

MOVADO

LONGINES

GP  
GIRARD-PERREGAUX

CARRERA Y CARRERA  
MADE IN SWITZERLAND

VICTORINOX

CITIZEN

BULOVA

BAUME & MERCIER

SWAROVSKI

IPPOLITA

FREDERIQUE CONSTANT

MICHELE

RADO

G-SHOCK

## Best Visual Artist —

### Patty Meotti

Patty Meotti, no stranger to our top three picks for Visual Artist, is an Italian-born painter that has lived on St. Maarten for about 30 years. She uses acrylic paints – applying it to canvas, wood, or even walls, depending on her mood, using brushes, knives, and sometimes, her hands.

Patty remains inspired by memories of the Italian period La Dolce Vita "when my father and grandfathers wore beautiful Borsalino hats." She's also fascinated by the colours of the Caribbean, especially the variety of blues in our sea.

"When inspiration strikes, I love painting abstracts and colourful fish, with strong colours...but my speciality lies in composing a red that doesn't already exist. I create it by mixing different colours, and it has been compared to the famous 'Red Valentino' whose famous creator has sadly just passed away."

Patty, who will celebrate her 64th birthday soon, on Saint Valentine's Day, specialised at the European Institute of Design in Milano, where she earned a diploma in hyperrealistic illustration. She has been painting since her teenage years. Unfortunately, for medical reasons, Patty is not hosting exhibitions, preferring to see customers by appointment only. Interested persons can contact meottigallery@gmail.com or find her on social media.



**SUPER U**  
Howell Center      Hope Estate

**THANK YOU FOR VOTING SUPER U YOUR  
#2 BEST SUPERMARKET**

**SUPER U WILL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE**

**OPEN MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS & HOLIDAYS FROM 8:00AM TO 8:00PM**  
**SUNDAYS FROM 8:00AM TO 12:45PM**

## Best Supermarket —

### Carrefour Market



Carrefour

In St. Maarten, where variety, quality, and convenience matter, Carrefour continues to set the standard for supermarket excellence. Stepping into Carrefour feels less like a routine grocery run and more like a global shopping experience. Wide, inviting aisles and shelves stocked with products from around the world create a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere

for every shopper.

Carrefour Market stands out as a clear favourite, earning top recognition for its exceptional selection of fresh produce, including an impressive range of organic fruits and vegetables. From everyday essentials to international specialities, there is something for every household and taste.



Super U

Beyond produce, Carrefour excels across all departments, featuring an extensive selection of liquors and beverages, a well-stocked dairy section, fresh bakery items, quality cleaning supplies, and much more. Everything is thoughtfully organised, making shopping efficient and convenient.

Adding even more value are Carrefour's popular monthly "\$7 Weekend" and "Super Deals", offering great savings without sacrificing quality. Open daily with four locations island-wide, Carrefour remains a trusted choice for both residents and visitors.

Congratulations to Carrefour Market on being voted Best Supermarket, a well-deserved honour year after year.



Fairway Mark it

# Thank You!

ST. MAARTEN FOR VOTING US

Carrefour market

1

**4 LOCATIONS**

- BUSHROAD**
- COLEBAY**
- PORTO CUPECOY**
- JORDAN VILLAGE**

**OPENING HOURS** ☰

MON TILL SAT 08AM - 08PM  
SUNDAY 09AM - 02PM

**AMERICAN EXPRESS**  
**Maestro** **VISA** **MasterCard**

+1(721)-5424400 [CMSXM.NET](http://CMSXM.NET)

**Thank you!**  
For your **LOYALTY** and **SUPPORT**.  
You are truly **APPRECIATED**.

**BEST**  
PERFUME STORE  
2025

While you've voted us #1, we will continuously strive to give you **THE BEST SERVICE YOU DESERVE**.

www.penhadutyfree.com

📞 (+1721) 5423254

🌐 PenhaDutyFreeStMaarten

📍 PenhaDutyFreeStMaarten

#### Opening Hours

**Penha Frontstreet**

**Penha Maho**

**Penha Cole Bay**

**Mon – Sat 09:00 – 18:00**

**Mon – Sat 10:00 – 21:00 Sun 12:00 – 21:00**

**Mon – Sat 10:00 – 19:00 Sun 10:00 – 19:00**

## Best Place for Makeup/ Beauty Supplies

### Vanity First

A celebration of beauty, expertise, and community support surrounds **Vanity First**, which has been voted **Best Place for Makeup and Beauty Supplies** on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of awards for 2025.

The team at **Vanity First** expressed deep appreciation for the recognition, sharing how honoured and proud they are to be voted number one by readers. They extended heartfelt thanks to everyone who took the time to vote and support the brand, indicating that the award belongs just as much to their loyal customers as it does to the business itself.

At **Vanity First**, beauty goes beyond products. The perfumery and beauty stores offer a carefully curated selection of iconic and highly sought-after brands, including Dior, Chanel, Black Up, Fenty Beauty, Guerlain, Lancôme, Clarins, Kylie Cosmetics, Pupa Milano, and many more.



What truly defines **Vanity First** is its people. Passionate and highly trained makeup artists and beauty advisors are always ready to listen, guide, and create personalised beauty experiences, whether clients are discovering a new routine, selecting a signature fragrance, or preparing for a special moment.

The 2025 win reflects a journey built on passion, trust, and a shared love for beauty.

## Best Perfume Store

### Penha

*A true island institution, Penha has once again captured the hearts and senses of shoppers after being voted Best Perfume Store on the island in The Daily Herald Best Of readers' poll for 2025.*

With a history that spans well over a century, Penha is one of the oldest and most recognisable retail establishments on the island. With several locations on the island, including the main branch in the heart of Philipsburg, the iconic store is known for its elegant atmosphere and extensive duty-free selection of perfumes and fragrances from some of the world's most sought-after brands.

it a must-visit stop for both residents and visitors.

The 2025 award reflects Penha's continued commitment to excellence and its ability to evolve while staying true to its roots. More than just a perfume store, Penha remains a landmark of St. Maarten's shopping scene where heritage, luxury, and memorable experiences come together under one historic roof.



**Vanity First**



**Princess Perfumes**



**INGLOT**



**Penha**

# THANK YOU

For your Loyalty and Support  
We are Incredibly Honored

VOTED  
**BEST**

COSMETICS  
STORE | BEAUTY  
SUPPLIES 2025



Vanity First

- FRONTSTREET 35 & 72
- LE WEST INDIES MALL - MARIGOT



# Thanks for the Support! **2025**

**#1 BEST M.C./HOST**  
**#2 BEST RADIO HOST**

