

THE BEST OF 2023

St. Maarten • St. Martin

A YEARLY SUPPLEMENT OF THE DAILY HERALD



THE BEST OF 2023
is a
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Meant to encourage

Welcome to the already 23rd edition of "The Best Of" – our annual publication based on an online survey in late December and early January regarding people's favourite business establishments, products, services and personalities in a range of categories during the past year.

The number of votes for this edition again increased, confirming its still growing support, as nominees also seek active endorsements from their fans and/or patrons for the informal poll.

Always keep in mind that this concerns 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 2024, which will only help make "The Friendly Island" an even more amazing place.

The Publisher



The Best of 2023

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Best New Restaurant

The Tap & Still

The Tap & Still is an all-round fun pub/restaurant where one gets great pub food and a seemingly never ending choice of booze at the bar. Located along the strip in Simpson Bay, this popular establishment is set up in one of the old wooden structures that has stood the test of time and exudes a great atmosphere. Not a glass window is in sight, the openings are all shuttered but wide open for business.



The Tap & STILL

1st

the area.

The food is good, wholesome and served with a novel twist, no flatware or silver is offered and you won't find tablecloths on any of the tables. Get there early for lunch, stay till the early hours the next morning.

A large prettily appointed courtyard at the back is the place to be when there is live entertainment. The service is on the ball and there is easy parking in front and nearby in



Don Pizza

2nd



Amore

3rd

Best Breakfast/Brunch Spot

Réveil Matin

Having Breakfast/Brunch out is a very special thing – head towards Simpson Bay to the #1 Breakfast/Brunch spot you can go to at Réveil Matin!

Whether it is the youngsters needing a treat, or the “next morning head” that needs a good pick-me-up, you will find Réveil Matin fits the bill every time. The menu has so much to offer from savoury to sweet and a mix of the two. Order a luxurious dish of sweet and savoury; pancakes, waffles, eggs in all forms, vegetarian, meat, and the very best coffee choice imaginable – and, yes, they do have wine!

There is a great choice of juices, grilled cheeses, crepes, French toast, bagels and an “oh so special” island-creation Johnny



Réveil Matin

1st

cake with various fillings.

The menu is written with a sense of humour. The service is slick and everyone is welcomed with a big smile. Parking is easy. It is completely understandable that Réveil Matin is the Best Breakfast/Brunch Spot to go to on island. A well-deserved winner!



Zee Best

2nd



Chesterfields

3rd



Team “Reveil Matin “extends a Huge Thank You to all our patrons for voting us Best Breakfast Restaurant and ranking us in the top 3 best coffees.

We are only able to be # 1 thanks to you support.

We are truly honored to have been voted

“Best Breakfast Restaurant “ and we look forward to the privilege of serving you again for many years to come.

Thank You Saint Maarten!!!

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

CHESTERFIELDS

Waterfront Restaurant & Bar

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Dock Maarten Marina, St. Maarten

Serving Sint Maarten/
Saint Martin for over
42 years.

On behalf of the Management and Staff,
we thank the readers for voting us
Top 3 Best Restaurant for :

- Breakfast
- Seafood
- Steak
- Local Food



Best High-End Restaurant

Thank you



Best High-End Restaurant — Best Place for a Sandwich —

Emilio's

Romancing your appetite in luxurious comfort has never been more pleasurable to the palate and soul than dining at Emilio's, voted the Best High-End Restaurant of 2023.

The skilled team at Emilio's puts in the effort to ensure that every diner leaves satisfied. "We're beyond grateful and thrilled... that Emilio's has been voted Best High-End Restaurant 2023," says the Emilio's team.

"This honour is not just ours, but belongs to each of you, our valued guests, who supported us and shared in our journey. Your unwavering support and appreciation for our culinary offerings and service



Emilio's

have touched our hearts... Thank you for recognising our efforts and for choosing Emilio's as your culinary destination. We look forward to many more years of serving you and celebrating the rich flavours and culture of our beloved island."



Jax Steakhouse



Bamboo House

Best Thai/Vietnamese/ Korean Food

Avantika

Combine Avantika's friendly staff, its welcoming atmosphere and its fresh, authentic mouth-watering menu options, and you get appetites that always win. A multiple-time "Best Of" winner, The Daily Herald readers agree that Avantika was the #1 go-to spot for Thai/Vietnamese/Korean Food on the island in 2023. Avantika is known for its fresh, authentic, delicious, traditional Thai delicacies, bringing the exotic and unique tastes of Thailand to its dining tables on the second floor of the Puerta Del Sol complex in Simpson Bay.

Avantika's menu is wide and caters to everyone, offering a wide range of starters, soups, salads, fried rice, noodles, curries and stir. You can get your meals however spicy you want (mild, medium or Thai spicy) or not spicy at all. It caters to gluten-free appetites and also has delectable options for vegan



Avantika

and vegetarians. Pair your meal with an option from the wide selection of beverages including its impressive wine collection. You can dine indoors or under the stars, making for an overall great experience.



Mr. Chow @ Oasis



Mandarin

Carl & Son's

Known for their commitment to fresh ingredients and culinary creativity, Carl & Son's Unique Bakery in St. Maarten proudly received the recognition as Best Place for a Sandwich in 2023.

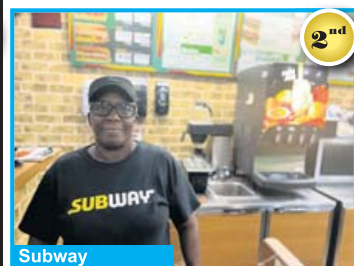
Acknowledging that the Best Sandwich award is a collaborative achievement with the community, General Manager Kenrick Housen says, "Management and staff would love to thank all who voted for us and everyone who has continued to support us over the years. We aim to remain consistent and offer affordable products while also being strong supporters of our local community."

Last year, Carl & Son's supported a number of local foundations, including K1 Britannia and Art Saves Lives. With locations on



Carl & Son's

the Pondfill and in Orange Grove, Cole Bay, Carl & Son's menu features an impressive selection of sandwiches, savoury bites, local favourites and seasonal creations. "Our plans for 2024 include continuing to try and improve our products and services and the reopening of our dine-in section in Philipsburg," Housen concluded.



Subway



La Sucriere

Best Happy Hour

The Greenhouse

In a sea of happy hour options on St. Maarten/St. Martin, winning the hearts of both locals and visitors across different age-groups is no small feat. But The Greenhouse was once again voted Best Happy Hour location. The key lies in delivering a consistently exceptional experience, and The Greenhouse has mastered this art with its two fantastic locations for your convenience. Not only that but both locations - Philipsburg and Simpson Bay - have dazzling views.

Once again, The Greenhouse stands out, offering an award-winning experience that ensures no one misses out on the fun. Join the fun staff for their daily Happy Hour. From 4:30pm to 7:00pm, you can revel in the good vibes with a 2-for-1 deal on all



The Greenhouse

drinks and reduced prices on appetizers.

Come and enjoy the unbeatable atmosphere that has earned The Greenhouse the coveted title of Best Happy Hour spot on the island for 2023 Cheers to making every moment memorable - and every hour happy!



Buccaneer Beach Bar



Bamboo House

Best Sushi

Ginger Sushi & Grill

Ginger Sushi blends Japanese artistry with Caribbean charm. The restaurant, nestled in the vibrant culinary scene, offers a welcoming space that seamlessly combines modern chic with traditional warmth.

Sushi chefs craft each dish with meticulous precision, turning fresh ingredients into delightful works of art. Whether savouring the delicate nigiri or the inventive rolls, like the Angry Dragon Roll, patrons experience a flavourful journey reminiscent of Japan.

The menu caters to diverse tastes, featuring both traditional options like sashimi and nigiri, and creative selections such as the Irma Roll. Ginger Sushi goes beyond sushi, presenting grilled delightful dishes and comforting stir fries, each showcasing the restaurant's commitment to quality.

More than just a restaurant, Ginger Sushi invites patrons on an immersive journey into sushi. With an attentive and knowledgeable staff, every diner is made to feel like an honoured guest exploring a world of gastronomic delights. For an unparalleled dining experience in St. Maarten, Ginger Sushi stands as a testament to tradition and innovation.



Ginger Sushi & Grill

1st

Thank you to all the voters for choosing us
#1 BEST SUSHI PLACE
in St. Maarten/ St. Martin 2023



GINGER SUSHI



GINGER_SUSHI



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Bamboo House

2nd

Naruto

3rd

NARUTO
SUSHI • RAMEN • & ASIAN CUISINE

Thank You
Sint Maarten for
choosing us
TOP Sushi Restaurant 2023

"WHERE SUSHI IS ART"

— ANIME VIBE —

f: Naruto_sxm @: Naruto_sxm ☎ 5448008/5882228

Best Pizza Domino's

Party time is anytime you eat Domino's pizza! Why is it that Domino's rules as the Best Pizza of 2023? Well, there are many reasons. The following are some of them:

Domino's provides customers with exceptional products. Domino's tries its very best to make all customers happy, no matter the age. Domino's makes pizzas big enough to feed a crowd and is therefore the most popular choice when having a celebration – be it at school, while watching a match or heading to the beach.

Domino's menu has more than pizzas – also offering sandwiches, penne pastas and chocolate lava crunch cakes, breadsticks, stuffed cheesy bread, Cinna Stix, wings and boneless chicken nuggets. At Domino's, service is a priority.

Domino's delivers – not only on flavour, but also to your hotel, home, office, school, wherever you may want pizzas! Where else can you get such excellent service for the tastiest food and at such a good price? No



Domino's

1st

wonder Domino's Pizza has won Best Pizza in *The Herald's* "Best Of" survey of 2023!



Pizza & Co.

2nd



Don Pizza

3rd

Thank You
for Voting Domino's as
St. Maarten's
Favorite Pizza!

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Bush Road 542-4397 | Cole Bay 544-5954 | Order Online www.dominos.sx

Best Seafood Restaurant

Skip Jack's

This #1 Seafood Restaurant in The Herald's "Best Of" survey 2023 is abuzz with happy diners. The seafood ranging from local to Maine lobster, shrimp, clam, salmon and local fish hits the right spot for so many. The setting, in a wooden building, is reminiscent of seafood houses up the East Coast, but here it is situated on the shores of the Simpson Bay Lagoon.



Skip Jack's

1st

choices of seating are in the large main dining area; at bar stools around the bar or at a long counter overlooking the hustle and bustle below.

There is a list of exciting cocktails to choose from and a good range of wines. Easy access from parking right outside, excellent repast, great drinks and staff, who are so very welcoming, all make Skip Jack's the Best Seafood Restaurant of 2023.

The reflected lights and sights of the mega yachts add to the ambiance. The music is not overly loud so one can converse easily (very important when dining out). The



Big Fish

2nd



Chesterfields

3rd

Best Place for Desserts

La Sucriere

"La Sucriere is a little bit of a French bakery here on the Dutch side. We're not anything fancy, we're like the kind of bakery you could find anywhere in France. We just offer good quality products at a good price. Tourists give us a plus, but we cater mostly to local people who live and work in St Maarten. Without them, we wouldn't be here. We're thankful and grateful to win Best Place for Desserts in St Maarten/St. Martin for 2023" - that's Emmanuel Julienne, who's been boss at La Sucriere since 2014.



La Sucriere

1st

improve the quality of customer service and could lead to us opening franchises, but we're doing it step-by-step. Overall, we're happy we've not been forgotten and that our customers are loyal to us, refer us, and vote for us."

"Customers won't see this, but for 2024 we're hoping to improve the consistency of our products so everything you buy will be exactly the same. It will tremendously help



The Sugar Mill Cafe

2nd



Carousel / Topper's

3rd



BIG FISH

SEAFOOD GRILL
HURRICANE BAR

A BIG Thank You!

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Daily Herald for nominating Big Fish as one of the best high-end restaurants in St. Martin/Maarten, where we proudly secured the second-place position. Heartfelt congratulations to the outstanding Jaxs, securing the first-place spot, and a special commendation to the esteemed ChesterFields in third place. ChesterField's remarkable 50-year legacy is a testament to their unwavering commitment to excellence, consistency, and local engagement. A profound thank you goes out to the incredible team at Big Fish. The dedication and hard work of our staff have played an instrumental role in establishing the esteemed reputation of Big Fish. Without their unwavering commitment, we wouldn't have achieved the recognition we enjoy today. A big thank you to each and every member of our team. To our valued customers and voters, your support is the cornerstone of our success. Thank you for casting your votes in the Daily Herald. Your trust and loyalty mean the world to us. With much gratitude, we look forward to serving you again this year. Here's to another year of culinary excellence and continued success. Thank you, thank you, thank you for being an integral part of the Big Fish journey.



Best Mexican Food

3 Amigos

Immerse yourself in the vibrant world of 3 Amigos, where each bite is a journey into the heart of Mexico. The chefs here know their stuff when it comes to cooking up Mexican delights. We're talking about tacos that'll make your taste buds do a happy dance, enchiladas with a kick, and guacamole that's basically a party in your mouth.

1st



3 Amigos



La Patrona

2nd



La Chingona Taqueria

3rd

It's not just about what's on the plate, the place is also decked out with lively decorations that set the mood for a fiesta. But that's not all! The kitchen is open until 11:30pm. On Taco Tuesday, enjoy \$2 tacos on veggie, beef, pork, and chicken. Taco Thursday brings \$3 tacos; and Saturdays are for indulging in \$0.50 chicken wings. The daily happy hour from 3:00 to 6:00pm offers discounted classic margaritas and Modelo.

Whether you're a seasoned connoisseur or a newcomer eager to explore, 3 Amigos welcomes all with open arms. It's the go-to destination for those seeking a Mexican culinary fiesta.



THE SUGAR MILL CAFE thanks their voters who've voted for us in our category:

2nd place for best place for dessert!



Ms. Lalie's Commercial Center, Bush Road | Tel: +1-721-5802003



THANK YOU **3 AMIGOS**
Sint Maarten/St. Martin
For voting us, again,
1 BEST MEXICAN RESTAURANT!!!



Best French Cuisine

Villa Royale

Selected by The Daily Herald readers as the Best French Restaurant on the island for 2023, Villa Royale does cuisine right. Bursting with flavour, it is a traditional type restaurant near the bridge in Grand Case. When it comes to authentic Caribbean cuisine in a traditional French creole setting, Villa Royale in Grand Case is a must-try.

The restaurant carries a range of appetizers, salads, meat, poultry and seafood dishes as well as burgers, pastas, desserts, and a special menu for the little ones. Sink your teeth into grilled sirloin steak roasted with creole spices and grilled chicken breast marinated with local spices, or grilled Mahi Mahi marinated the creole way, and grilled shrimp kebab with creole sauce. Yum!

Chef Leo Saintil has created an array of delicious options and whips his magic in the



Villa Royale

kitchen to pamper appetites. Villa Royale's warm and welcoming atmosphere, with traditional creole colours adorning tables combined with indoor and outdoor seating, makes for the perfect spot to enjoy a good meal in a hospitable setting.



Bacchus



Ocean 82

Best Italian Restaurant

Sale & Pepe

Sale & Pepe is once again living up to its reputation! Overlooking Simpson Bay Lagoon, this gorgeous restaurant with its blue-, white- and yellow-themed décor is, at the moment, offering diners a great up-close look at the mega-yachts which are tied stern-to on the dock right outside the windows, creating that feeling that one is indeed most fortunate.

The plating Chef Davide does with the best, freshest food sourced every day, is as appealing to the eye as to the taste. Hailing from Sicily, Chef's food certainly brings the best from his Mediterranean island to our Caribbean island. Some seafood and wines are especially imported from Sicily bringing you that "back home" flavour so significant to this cuisine. However, the local lobster and freshly caught fish is all Caribbean!

This is a great restaurant to go to with a crowd for any celebration. There is indoor air-conditioned dining and terrace



Sale & Pepe

dining. Three cheers for the #1 Italian Restaurant in the "Best Of" 2023 survey.



Izi



Isola

Thank You...

VILLA ROYALE
thanks all the
people of Saint
Martin for their
support and thanks
them for their vote.

#47 Boulevard de Grand Case, Grand-Case, Saint Martin

THANK YOU
for your trust & loyalty
again this year

#2
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2024

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ITALIAN SICILIAN RESTAURANT



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

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Don Pizza

- TASTE OF SICILY -



VOTED ONE OF THE BEST NEW RESTAURANT AND BEST PIZZA IN ST. MAARTEN/ST MARTIN 2023

SICILIAN PIZZA

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BY THE HILLS, RESIDENCE
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Best Indian Restaurant

Shiv Shakti

It is no wonder that Shiv Shakti has once again clinched the title of Best Indian Restaurant on the island for 2023. As you step into the restaurant, the irresistible aromas of authentic Indian cuisine immediately captivate your senses. Every dish is expertly crafted to perfection, boasting unique and comforting flavours that set Shiv

Shakti apart. Nestled in the heart of Pelican, conveniently situated between several hotels and resorts, Shiv Shakti has carved out a stellar reputation over the years, earning the admiration of both tourists and locals alike. With a prime location overlooking the renowned Kim Sha Beach, patrons indulge in the rich and delectably flavoured Indian dishes that have them returning time and again.

The demand for Shiv Shakti's exceptional food became so pronounced



Shiv Shakti

1st

that shortly after inaugurating their Simpson Bay establishment in 2009, a

second location in Philipsburg became a necessity. It's a testament to the fact

that clients simply can't get enough of this beloved Indian restaurant.

Spices OF INDIA
Authentic Indian Cuisine

Savor the taste of India at Spices of India, voted #3 in the Indian restaurant category!

Immerse yourself in a symphony of spices and culinary excellence. Thank you, customers, friends, and family, for making us your choice. Join us for an unforgettable dining experience!

Thank YOU



Bombay Bites

2nd



Spices of India

3rd

शक्ति

Thank you, Sint Maarten, for voting

Shiv Shakti Restaurant #1 Best Indian Food for 2023!!!

restaurant

Best BBQ

The Captain's Rib Shack

Indulge in the finest BBQ that has secured The Captain's Rib Shack the #1 ranking again this year. Conveniently located in the heart of Kim Sha Beach, this iconic eatery started as a cosy spot and has now inspired a bustling string of restaurants.

From mouth-watering ribs to delightful drinks, a vibrant nightlife, and an all-around good time, Captain's Rib Shack promises an unforgettable experience.

While the menu boasts a tempting array of soups, stews and curries, the star of the show remains the orgasmic ribs – a dish that truly speaks for itself. We even consulted the Captain himself for the perfect pairing, and he recommends the garlic shrimp.



The Captain's Rib Shack

1st

What sets The Captain's Rib Shack apart is the extensive opening hours. From 9:00am to 10:00pm, Sunday through Wednesday, and stretching until 11:00pm on Thursday, and midnight on Friday and Saturday, The Captain's Rib Shack ensures you can savour their delicious dishes whenever you crave them.



Original Fat Boy Jimmy's

2nd



Buccaneer Beach Bar

3rd

Best Beer Brand

Heineken

Heineken has emerged as the epitome of beer enjoyment, celebrated as the island's favourite – the iconic green one. Its enduring popularity is a testament to the unwavering trust and preference from the esteemed consumers who consistently choose Heineken as their favourite beer brand. The brand, born in 1864 in Amsterdam, has expanded its reach to be enjoyed in 192 countries, showcasing its global appeal.

Heineken embodies accessibility and reliability, with the beer readily available everywhere you go. Crafted with only four key ingredients, Heineken's golden hue and enchanting flavour are a result of its simple yet magical recipe, offering a refreshing option that strikes the perfect balance for those seeking a beer that is not overly potent. As a Dutch brand, Heineken seamlessly integrates into the fabric of the Dutch Caribbean island. Its compelling presence,

marked by accessibility, balanced taste, and rich heritage, makes it the island's preferred beer brand, reinforcing its status as the ultimate choice of participants of *The Daily Herald's* "Best Of" survey for Best Beer Brand for 2023.



Heineken

1st



Corona

2nd



Carib

3rd

Best Non-Profit Organization -

Art Saves Lives

Over the past 10 years, Art Saves Lives has impacted so many. The passion project of founder Nicole de Weever – a proud St. Maartener based in New York, and a prominent dancer/choreographer of 'Fela!' Broadway fame – Art Saves Lives conjures up images of dance training, but it also includes many different disciplines, and continues to develop and expand in scope.

For a week every year, there is an intense flurry of training, community, and development, offered by passionate, top rated professionals from all over the world, to young

and old, free of charge. This feat takes an incredible amount of coordination, vision and dedication, all for the driving force, baked into the foundation's name.

Participants – around 180 youngsters and 200 in total last year, which also included guest participants from the region and abroad – delve into intense programmes including various visual and performing arts (like dance, drumming, orchestra), entrepreneurship, financial literacy, technology, photography, pattern design, and yoga... developing hard- and soft-skills for success and fulfilment.



Art Saves Lives

1st



Freegan Food Foundation

2nd



K1 Britannia Foundation

3rd

Heineken DIVICO

Cheers to over 150 years of celebration & good times on our jewel island. Thank you for voting Heineken as the #1 beer brand on St. Maarten.

Hoink

Best Latin Restaurant

Pollos Hermanos

Born out of the chaos of Hurricane Irma in September 2017, Pollos Hermanos, featuring mouth-watering rotisserie chicken and more, offers a taste sensation like no other. Since February 2018, the Simpson Bay location has been delighting taste buds.

Led by Chef Andrea Fernandes, who reflects her culinary adventures across Venezuela, Peru, Argentina and Spain, the kitchen crafts authentic dishes inspired by Latin America. The restaurant's vibrant atmosphere ensures every meal is a celebration, with laughter and good times flowing freely. From herb-infused delights to zesty sensations, the menu promises a carnival of flavours. Don't miss the stacked burgers and Latin classics like roasted chicken with cassava, tostones, and sweet plantains.

As Pollos Hermanos sets sight on expansion, including to the French side of the island, the establishment invites you to enjoy a flavour fiesta. With two Dutch side locations, open Sunday to Thursday until late, and even later on

weekends, come for the food; stay for the fun – because every meal is a celebration at Pollos Hermanos.



Pollos Hermanos

1st

Best Place for Steak

JAX Steakhouse

Whether you're sinking your teeth into its succulent "Famous Tomahawk" huge bone-in-ribeye steak; its "Bone-in Cowboy Ribeye" or another delectable option, you know you're getting the very best when dining at JAX Steakhouse.

Our readers' pick for "Best Place for Steak", JAX is a chic dining destination that must be experienced. Perched on the second floor of the Maho building overlooking the bright and bustling Maho Village, JAX offers an upscale see-and-be-seen atmosphere. Patrons can opt to dine in the air-conditioned indoors, which pairs traditional dining with modern lounging, or in the breezy outdoors.

JAX's commitment to great food, service, and a perfectly cooked steak is unmatched. It serves the best cuts of certified Angus beef prime along with a selection of seafood, vegan and other options. The quality cuts at JAX are well-marbled to make the juiciest and most tender, melt-in-your-



JAX Steakhouse

1st

mouth steak. From Filet Mignon to New York, and bone-in rib to Porterhouse, each steak served at JAX becomes the perfectly prepared centrepiece for an unforgettable experience.



La Patrona

2nd



Flaco Café

3rd



Emilio's

2nd



Chesterfields

3rd

POLLOS HERMANOS

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THANK YOU



**Travelers' Choice
Best of the Best
Winner 2023**

***NO 1 STEAKHOUSE IN SXM (DAILY HERALD)
NO 6 FINE DINING IN CARIBBEAN (TRIPADVISOR)
BEST ASIAN IN SXM (DAILY HERALD)***



**mr.
CHOW**



SCAN ME



VOTED **#1 BEST BEACH BAR** ON ST. MAARTEN | 2023



OPEN: LUNCH AND DINNER

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Best Beach Bar

Buccaneer Beach Bar

Buccaneer Beach Bar is the place to be for the ultimate beach experience! Located in Pelican, it has once again been voted Best Beach Bar. Whether it's for a day of sun and fun, or an evening of live entertainment, Buccaneer Beach Bar has got you covered.

This accolade is not just a reflection of the weekly food and drink specials, serene views, delicious food, or the inviting ambiance Buccaneer offers; it's a testament to the connections the staff has made with patrons, believing that every visitor is not just a customer, but a part of their ever-growing family.

Whether you're here to enjoy the sunset, relish signature cocktails, or just feel the sand under your feet, you have helped Buccaneer create a haven that's not just about relaxation but about creating memorable experiences. Open daily from 11:00am until 11:00pm, Buccaneer thanks voters for their unwavering support and for choosing them as the #1 Beach Bar on the island.



1st

Buccaneer Beach Bar



2nd

Da Waterhole



3rd

Taloula Mango's / Blue Bitch Bar



Best Place for Vegetarian Food

Top Carrot

At Top Carrot in Simpson Bay, tasty and mindful eating go hand-in-hand. Our reader's pick for Best Place for Vegetarian Food, Top Carrot's main focus is on your wellbeing through healthy eating and living.

Here, you can pamper your palate with healthy vegetarian treats, including sandwiches, salads and wraps, made with the freshest ingredients primarily from the garden to your plate.

Quench your thirst at their juice bar, with your pick from the range of fresh natural juices, smoothies and yogurts made from the freshest fruits and veggies from scratch, right in front of your eyes. They open early, so head over for your morning coffee or tea.

Owners Lydia and Peter with their always



1st

Top Carrot

helpful and friendly team have created a family-friendly environment at the restaurant, where patrons can go for tasty, cruelty-free food and drinks and engage in friendly chats, while enjoying the warm Caribbean breeze and bustling, yet serene scenes of the Simpson Bay strip.



2nd

Fit Foods



3rd

Freedom Fighters Ital Shak

Thank you Sint Maarten/St. Martin for voting us:

#1 BEST Vegetarian Restaurant

#1 BEST Health Store

for 2023!!!

We the Top Carrot family has made it a priority to serve you with all of our affection. We want to thank you for being a loyal customer. It has been a joy to serve you. We appreciate your choice as Times have changed and so have your options, but you still make the choice of Top Carrot. You are the reason we are in business, and your loyalty is the driving force behind everything we do. We value your trust, confidence in us and your support. So grateful!!!

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

CARIBBEAN BBQ, CARIBBEAN CUISINE AND SANDWICHES
BOUTIQUE, LIVE MUSIC EVERY DAY



THANK YOU!
FOR VOTING US
#2 BEST BEACH BAR

📍 Mullet Bay Beach 📞 +1 721 520 82 44 ✉ info@dawaterhole.com

📘 @dawaterholebeachbar

📷 @dawaterhole_sxm

Best Place for a Burger

The Tap & Still

The Tap & Still is definitely the place to go for a burger – a unique experience loved by so many, at the Best Burger place in St. Maarten for 2023! The menu is small at first glance, but peruse it and see just what is offered. Mark a cross against your choice of single or double, circle the toppings you fancy. Or go for a Patty Melt, which is a burger between slices of toasted bread instead of a regular burger bun.

Hand your menu to one of the lovely wait-staff and enjoy a great frosty ale or drink of your choice – and all too soon a brown paper bag will be placed in front of you. With no flatware or silverware in sight, open said paper bag and then open the wrapping around your order – using fingers, consume with gusto and much lip-smacking. You can't go wrong enjoying a burger at The Tap & Still!



The Tap & Still

Best Shawarma Place

Little Jerusalem

There's little that delights Little Jerusalem owner, Abraham, more than seeing the contented smile, gentle belly-rub and satisfying finger-lick from a customer who's dined at the modest roadside eatery.

Preparing a good Shawarma is more than just a job for Abraham; it's a passion that he takes immense pleasure in carrying out since opening Little Jerusalem on the Simpson Bay strip in 2012. His efforts are evident in the accolades the restaurant has picked up over the years for its Shawarma, from being #1 on Trip Advisor to a multiple-time winner of the Best Shawarma in the Best Of survey.

If you've never tried the "Famous" shawarma that explodes with flavours, the "Roti" shawarma or "The Special" variety plate that's so loaded it can be shared be-



Little Jerusalem

tween two persons, you're missing out on delectable luxury. So when you hear their tagline: "We are the best there is, the best there was, and the best there ever will be", rest assured they mean business!



Pollos Hermanos



Burger King



Abu Ghazi Signature



The Fresh Shawarma Man

Little Jerusalem
RESTAURANT

THANK YOU

Thank you for voting us the
#1 Best Shawarma for 2023.



AL PASHA

MEDITERRANEAN GRILL & SEAFOOD
HOOKAH LOUNGE

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A BIG THANK YOU

TO OUR ST. MAARTEN/ST. MARTIN & OVERSEAS CUSTOMERS
FOR CHOOSING US A WINNER AGAIN AMONG

ONE OF THE BEST MIDDLE EASTERN RESTAURANT 2023



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+1-(721) 526 61 45
@alpashaxm
alpashaxm@hotmail.com
Airport Road #15, Travel Inn
Simpson Bay, St. Maarten

Best Middle Eastern Restaurant

Beirut

Indulge in the timeless flavours of authentic Lebanese-influenced cuisine without stepping a foot outside of St Maarten, at Beirut restaurant on the Simpson Bay strip, our reader's choice of Best Middle Eastern Restaurant for 2023.



Beirut

1st

The distinctive red and black roadside eatery, welcomes diners with a wide selection of dishes, including the must-try range of shawarmas, hummus and falafel plates. Try their hurricane platters to experience an explosive surge of flavour.

The menu features options for meat lovers, as well as gluten-free choices and cruelty-free selections for vegetarians and vegans, plus a wide selection of homemade desserts. Pull up to their well-stocked bar and enjoy some nice concoctions from their friendly bartender.

Beirut has won this title on multiple occasions, a testament of its dedication to maintaining high standards of its award-winning dishes. Beirut opens for lunch and dinner and features both indoor and outdoor seating. Relax and unwind after dinner with the intoxicating aroma and taste of various hookah flavours. Catering and takeout are available.



Little Jerusalem

2nd



Al Pasha

3rd

Best Place to Play Pool

Pineapple Pete

Discover the unparalleled pool-playing experience at Pineapple Pete, once again crowned as the Best Place to Play Pool for 2023. While other establishments on the island boast a single pool table, Pineapple Pete takes it to the next level with three pool tables – and two additional pool tables are set to be introduced this week, bringing the total to a truly impressive five.



Pineapple Pete

1st

At Pineapple Pete, enthusiasts of the game can gather with their friends and indulge in unlimited play. The pool room mirrors the restaurant's operating hours, ensuring non-stop entertainment from 11:00am to 11:00pm daily. And while you wait for your turn, you might as well check out the arcade room for even more fun!

Beyond its gaming allure, Pineapple Pete stands out with its charming ambiance and a menu that goes above and beyond. Unlike traditional pool bars, patrons can savour the restaurant's exquisite cuisine, featuring highlights like the renowned lobster thermidor, Wasabi Charlie's award-winning sushi, and perfectly-cooked steaks.



The Greenhouse

2nd



Red Piano

3rd

Best Live Music Venue

Nowhere Special

Unlike the name suggests, this bar and restaurant holds a special place in our voters' hearts. Open daily, the leading place for fun and local flair has an amazing view, great food, delicious drinks and, of course, the best live music.



Nowhere Special

1st

Currently under new ownership, Nowhere Special has a fresh new vibe, while retaining its eclectic Caribbean charm. Its live music every night of the week is what makes this place truly special.

Monday is old-school hip hop night with DJ Silk; Tuesday is Latin and taco night; and Wednesday is reserved for Caribbean

vibes with Zouk, Kompa and Soca. Ladies won't want to miss the iconic Ladies Night on Thursday with a live performance by Roxsy and free prosecco and sex on the beach. On Friday, Remo and the Barbwire Band will fire up the dance floor and on Saturday Royalty will take to the stage. On Sunday the Hybrid Band will ensure that you end the weekend on the right note.



Soggy Dollar Bar

2nd



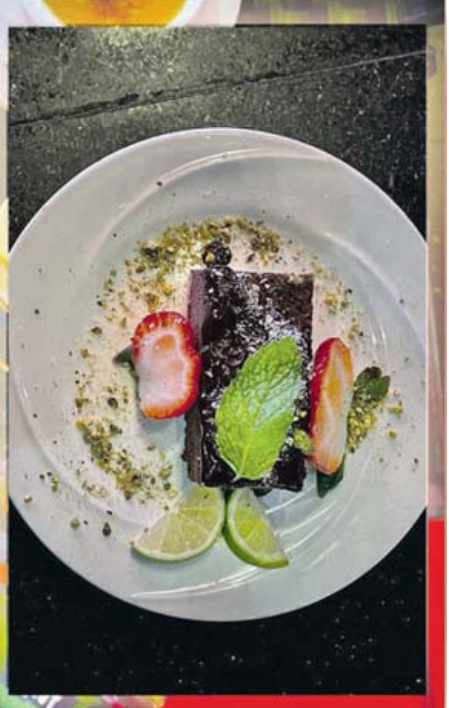
The Red Piano

3rd



The Management and staff wants to thank our customers and the readers of The Daily Herald for voting us

#1 BEST Middle Eastern Restaurant for 2023.



KFC

Thank you to all of our CUSTOMERS who has placed us among the best restaurants.



Best Fast Food Place McDonald's

McDonald's, well-known and popular fast food chain, rates top fast food place for several reasons! Around the world, you will find consistency as they have a standardized menu and for preparation process. Customers will find the same quality and taste of food, no matter where they go!

McDonald's prices are very affordable. The fast food restaurant has easy access for drive-through and very pleasant and helpful folk. McDonald's is there when one feels peckish; needs a quick meal in a rushed life-style; or has to get the hungry children something on the way home from school. McDonald's is also there if one wants to languish over a meal in their dining area.

You will also find a kids playground area in many McDonald's – perfect for kids birthday parties with Happy Meals, cake,

decorations and party favours – just talk to a McDonald's manager and all will be arranged. There are three McDonald's on the island, making it easy to choose when a need for a good, quick meal calls.



McDonald's

1st



KFC

2nd



Domino's

3rd

Thank you!



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

Best Health Store

Top Carrot

Top Carrot is not just a place to get fresh and tasty vegetarian foods, snacks, drinks, smoothies, and yogurts; it's also a place that still offers a healthy body, mind and soul experience to everyone who steps into the establishment.



Top Carrot

Top Carrot has an integrated boutique and gift shop, which carries a small but meaningful selection of all natural products, such as soaps, toothpaste, conditioners, essential oils and body creams for personal hygiene. You'll also find some items for spiritual home cleaning such as sage, incense, candles, oil sprays and cologne.

Check out their selection of crystals, unique books, tarot and journals. Lydia, who runs the shop with her husband Peter, says that writing appears to be a powerful and surprisingly accessible means to

insight, healing, growth and change, hence the journals. Be sure to pick up one of their vegetarian cookbooks to create your own healthy delicacies at home. Top Carrot strikes a wonderful balance between relaxing restaurant and unique integrated boutique.



Nature's Best (formerly Nature's Discount)



Natural Health Center

Best Chinese Restaurant

White Swan

Craving some of the finest flavours from China? Then head down to White Swan Chinese Restaurant. Selected by readers as the Best Chinese Restaurant on the island for 2023, White Swan has been dominating this category being voted the #1 in this category year after year for over two decades.



White Swan

This hotspot in Simpson Bay is a fine dining Chinese Restaurant, without the fine dining prices. Their menu includes a selection of dim sums, appetizers, soups, beef dishes, seafood dishes, pork dishes, duck dishes and a wide selection of vegetarian dishes. They carry eight different types of fried rice from salmon fried rice to eel fish fried rice and egg and vegetable fried rice. Their special vegetarian menu has 23 different options to choose from.

et to dine at the best; White Swan carries a line of 18 different daily lunch specials for the very affordable price of US \$8 to \$9.50. At White Swan, you can't go wrong.

You don't have to burn a hole in your pocket



Happy Family



Bamboo Garden

天鵝酒家

FINE CHINESE CUISINE

WHITE SWAN

CHINESE RESTAURANT

TEL: (+1721) 54-52477

Best Chinese Restaurant for the past 21 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 Place to have Coffee — Best Local Food

Coffee Lounge

With locations in Simpson Bay, Front Street, and the Boardwalk, Coffee Lounge once again bags the award for the Best Place to Have Coffee. Owner Seema Marchandani puts their success down to the locally roasted beans sourced from Guatemala and Brazil, boasting unique flavours like hazelnut, or whisky-infused blends.

Beyond coffee, the menu includes jumbo bacon egg burgers, vegan quinoa burgers, creamy lobster rolls, and poke bowls, whilst paninis, frappuccino, fresh fruit smoothies and house-made French pastries and crepes keep customers returning. Seema says the Boardwalk location is a must-visit, with its happy hours and cocktails, including the speciality dragon fruit rum punch.

"My logo is 'where friends meet friends' – when you come to the Coffee Lounge, you always make friends with customers and our friendly staff too." Coffee Lounge plans to sell their signature coffee beans and merchandise and introduce fresh walnut



Coffee Lounge

and pistachio croissants. Marchandani is thankful for the support of customers and dreams of more franchises in the future.



La Sucriere



Reveil Matin

The Captain's Rib Shack

Accolades go to The Captain's Rib Shack scoring first place in the category "Best Local Food" in The Daily Herald's "Best Of" 2023 survey. Situated on the busy main road in Simpson Bay within walking distance of many hotels, time-shares and marine docks, Captain D's has grown over the last few years.

The unpretentious setting is a drawcard for those who like to eat local. The menu covers great Caribbean cuisine. You will find the tastiest ribs marinated in a special dry



The Captain's Rib Shack

rub, then smoked; jerk chicken wings (not too spicy); seafood platters; delicious sides – like macaroni pie, potatoes, coconut rice 'n peas, and a spicy bami – are much in demand. Luscious oyster soup and barbecued pigtails are on the menu over the weekend.

All you can eat Thursday special is ribs; and there are ribs and shrimp Thursday/ Friday specials. Entertainment includes a local band playing Caribbean tunes and over the weekend, local DJs come out! Service with



Yvette's



Chesterfields

COFFEE LOUNGE
WHERE FRIENDS MEET FRIENDS

Thank You!

To all our loyal customers who have voted for us once again for the best coffee place on the island!

COFFEE LOUNGE FRONTSTREET
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COFFEE LOUNGE SIMPSON BAY
THREE PALM PLAZA, UNIT 12
WELFARE ROAD 62, COLE BAY
+1721-544-0188

COFFEE LOUNGE BOARDWALK
HORIZON VIEW HOTEL
FRONT STREET 49, PHILIPSBURG
+1721-523-2119



Thank You!



Thank You Sint Maarten!
For Your Support & Continued Patronage

Best Nightclub/ Disco

Lotus Nightclub

Prepare for a night of non-stop dancing at Simpson Bay's premier nightlife hotspot – Lotus Nightclub – once again acclaimed as the top nightlife destination on St. Maarten / St. Martin. Doors swing open at 10:00pm, and the party doesn't stop until 4:00am.

Evolving from modest origins to becoming the island's hottest nightlife hub is no small achievement. Lotus has dedicated itself to crafting an environment that exudes fun and vibrancy, making it a place you'll be reluctant to leave. Delight in the music and

dance, but linger for the energetic ambiance, stunning décor, and effortlessly cool atmosphere.

The bar is fully stocked to cater to your every nighttime whim, and a diverse array of performances awaits on different nights – from internationally acclaimed DJs to local up-and-coming talent. With the fun bar staff and attentive bottle service, you'll feel embraced and well looked after. For an unforgettable night, make your way to Lotus Nightclub and dance the night away with a refreshing drink in hand.



1st

Lotus Nightclub



2nd

Soggy Dollar Bar



3rd
TIED

Moonbar



Red Piano

Best Excursion/ Activity

Caribbean Cinemas

Caribbean Cinemas is basking in the glory of winning the award for the best excursion/activity in St. Maarten/ St. Martin. General Manager Cleopatra Reid put this year's success down to the impact of blockbuster movies like Barbie capturing audiences and drawing crowds.

Caribbean Cinemas plans to bring more movies and promotions to the island, starting with Valentine's Day-themed decorations for the up-coming holiday. The concessions area has also undergone a face-lift and now features a deli section offering fast-food including pizzas and burgers.

Despite facing competition from online streaming services, the cinema remains optimistic. Cleopatra says they are not just about movies, but offer things like gaming, parties and private events. The arcade, for example, has new grabbing machines and games like Halo.

Expressing gratitude for the votes and support, the cinema wants customers to know they are committed to delivering top-notch entertainment. With a focus on innovation and customer satisfaction, Caribbean Cinemas thanks everyone who voted for them.



1st

Caribbean Cinemas

BEST EXCURSION COMPANY #3

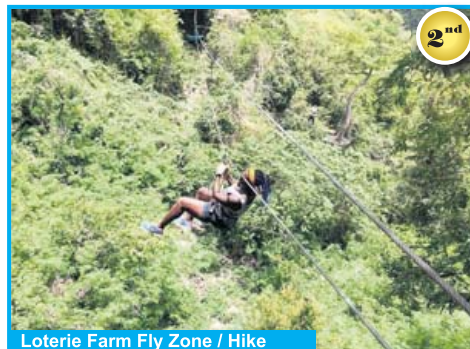
AQUA MANIA ADVENTURES ST MAARTEN
BOAT TRIPS & EXCURSIONS

Thank you for your votes

It really is all about our staff... awesome and excellent people on each and every trip... come meet them!

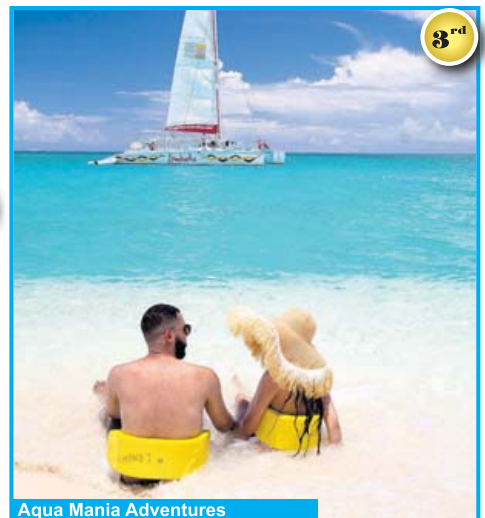
71 4 751 0882268 / 7088223

WWW.STMAARTEN-ACTIVITIES.COM



2nd

Loterie Farm Fly Zone / Hike



3rd

Aqua Mania Adventures



LOTUS

NIGHTCLUB
St Maarten

**THANK YOU ST MAARTEN
FOR MAKING US
NUMBER #1 IN 2023**

OPEN WEDNESDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

**NUMBER #1 CLUB IN SXM
SINCE 2018**

**LOTUS 6TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY
SATURDAY MARCH 9TH**

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111 WELFARE ROAD SIMPSON BAY

TROPICANA PRINCESS CASINO

BIG BINGO NIGHT

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING US AMONG THE BEST CASINOS IN ST. MAARTEN

Best Casino

Princess Casino

A gamer's paradise awaits you at Princess Casino – voted Best Casino on the island for 2023. Located in the sprawling Port de Plaisance complex and with some 500 machines spread across its floor, Princess Casino offers the biggest range of options for gaming fanatics. Try your hand at one of the slot machines or indulge in one of the table games: Blackjack, Roulette, Caribbean Stud Poker, Texas Hold'em and Baccarat.

Princess Casino offers several progressive and mystery jackpots and, yes, their jackpots are definitely the biggest on the island. You can win quick cash in their popular weekly cash raffles held on Sundays from 6:00 to 10:00pm. The raffle changes every few months, and currently stands at US \$5,000 for five winners.

The casino has live music and shows to entertain you while you play, making for a



Princess Casino

1st

nice evening out. While you roll the dice, enjoy complimentary refreshing drinks of your choice, and grab a bite at one of the restaurants on the property Princess Casino operates from 12:00 noon to 3:00am daily.



Casino Royale

2nd



Tropicana Casino

3rd

WE CREATE WINNERS!

VISIT THE 3 BEST CASINOS IN SXM!

THE BEST CASINO EXPERIENCE

- NEW GENERATION SLOT MACHINES
- LIVE TABLE GAMES
- COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS
- COUNTLESS FREE FACILITIES



Thank you to all customers

Best TV Provider

TelTV

TelEm Group's online TV service TelTV+ has become a firm favourite with tele viewers island-wide, emerging as Best TV Provider on the island for 2023.

TelEm says the popularity of TelTV+ is not only based on affordable pricing, but also on the fibre network on which the service is delivered to customers. Add the different package levels, local and regional programme content and high-quality HD channels and you can understand why TelTV has become established in most households.

"We're very proud of how we're developing our online TV service from the old Cable TV analogue system to a brand new digital system with high quality HD channels and even the ability to follow your favourite shows on other devices while on the go," says TelEm Group CEO Kendall Dupersoy. Being named TV provider in the latest



TelTV

Daily Herald's "Best Of" the Best polling of its readers is an honour for everyone involved and gives us much-needed motivation to continue to provide excellent service to our customers and clients."

Best Sports Bar

Pineapple Pete

Looking for a place to cheer on your favourite team? Look no further than Pineapple Pete, once again voted Best Sports Bar on St. Maarten/St. Martin. Besides its renowned culinary delights, inviting atmosphere, and top-tier entertainment, Pineapple Pete stands out as the ultimate destination for sports enthusiasts.

Located within the restaurant, the sports bar boasts four large flat-screen televisions strategically positioned throughout, ensuring an optimal viewing experience from any vantage point. At Pineapple Pete, you watch any game you like – from South African cricket to Australian soccer to Ultimate Fighting Championships.

Immerse yourself in the live action while enjoying your favourite beverages from the generously stocked bar, and food from



Pineapple Pete

both Pineapple Pete and Wasabi Charlie's extensive menus. Extend the excitement by indulging in Pete's acclaimed Pool Room, showcasing multiple state-of-the-art pool tables. Take a shot at darts or revel in the lively atmosphere of the arcade, featuring a variety of games suitable for both the young and the young at heart.



Kiwisat



MSR Cable TV



Cappuccino



Eden Rooftop

**Management and Staff
thank you for voting us
2 BEST SPORTS BAR
on the Island in 2023!!!**

Best Nail Salon

Vietnam Original Nails

Located on Bush Road, Vietnam Original Nails stands for excellence in nail care, earning the distinguished title of the Best Nail Salon on the island for 2023. Boasting a legacy of unparalleled service and a commitment to perfection, this esteemed salon has redefined the nail care experience for locals and visitors alike.

With a focus on delivering exceptional nail services, Vietnam Original Nails has garnered a reputation for setting the standard in the industry. From meticulous manicures to stunning nail art and rejuvenating pedicures, the salon offers a comprehensive range of services tailored to meet the diverse tastes and preferences of its esteemed clientele.

Vietnam Original Nails has clinched the title of the Best Nail Salon on the island due to its unwavering commitment to their clients, great pricing, and con-



venience. For an unparalleled nail care experience in St. Maarten, Vietnam Original Nails stands as the ultimate destination for those seeking impeccable service and stunning results.



1st

Vietnam Original Nails

VIETNAM ORIGINAL NAILS

THANK YOU FOR VOTING US YOUR #1 BEST NAIL SALON



2nd

Tracy's Nails



3rd

Georgina's Nails

VIETNAM ORIGINAL NAILS N.V.

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VIETNAM ORIGINAL NAILS N.V.

BUSH ROAD #70 BUILDING 1C CUL DE SAC (NEXT TO COST U LESS) PHONE: +1(721)543-1090 +1(721)524-4077



Best Hair Salon

Addicted Hair Lounge

Voted Best Hair Salon for 2023, Addicted Hair Lounge isn't just a salon; it's a kingdom of style and celebration. Led by Rachel, the queen of hair transformations, this salon has been perfecting crowns for over 20 years.

For eight years, Addicted Hair Lounge has been a bea-

con of creativity and self-expression on the island, turning every visit into a celebration of individuality. More than a salon, Addicted Hair Lounge radiates a ca-

sual yet celebratory vibe. Clients don't just get a haircut; they become part of a community that applauds every unique style choice.



Addicted Hair Lounge

Whether you want a chic cut, a bold colour change, or an intricate style, Rachel and her team ensure that every client walks out not just looking great, but feeling like royalty. Step into Addicted Hair Lounge,

where each appointment is a celebration, and every day is a good hair day. Addicted Hair Lounge is a destination where your style is celebrated, and you leave crowned with confidence and flair.



The Five Salon



Miguel's Salon



Thank You...

For voting us
#2 Best Hair Salon
On The Island!!!!


Simpson Bay
RESORT, MARINA & SPA



Best
RESORT

YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR
REWARD!



Best

MEXICAN FOOD
& LATIN FOOD



Thank you!

TO OUR MEMBERS, GUESTS AND
WONDERFUL STAFF.

Thank you!

TO OUR DINERS AND
WONDERFUL STAFF.



THANK YOU!
FOR CHOOSING OUR
VERY OWN ZIGGY AS

ST. MAARTEN
BEST
BARTENDER



Best Guest House Simpson Bay Suites

Remaining the #1 guest house among vacationers on the island year after year speaks volumes about the dedication of the Simpson Bay Suites team. The guest house has been providing comfort to travellers and locals for years and – with amenities that include a spa and wellness centre, room service and facilities for physically challenged guests – it is a competitive contender in the industry.

Booking your stay is always a pleasure – the manager is multilingual and can communicate with you in Arabic, English, Spanish and French. Rooms are air-conditioned, each featuring a balcony, and a seating area with TV and cable channels. Each is furnished with a fully-equipped kitchenette with a dining area and a coffee maker, a microwave and refrigerator. Free Wi-Fi, free private parking, laundry and dry-cleaning service are available, and water-sports such as canoeing, kayaking, snorkelling and windsurfing can be arranged on-site.



Simpson Bay Suites



Seaview Beach Hotel



L'Esperance Hotel



Best Resort / Hotel Simpson Bay Resort



Divi Little Bay

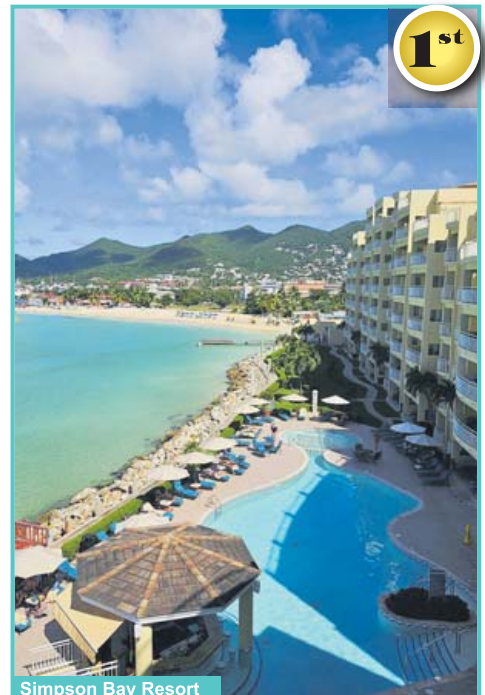


Sonesta Resorts

Nestled on a captivating shore, Simpson Bay Resort stands for luxury and comfort, earning the esteemed title of the Best Resort/Hotel on the island for 2023. Boasting a legacy of exceptional service and a commitment to perfection, the resort has redefined the hospitality experience.

With a focus on delivering unparalleled guest experiences, Simpson Bay Resort offers a harmonious blend of refined accommodations, breath-taking views and an extraordinary and wide culinary experience. From spacious suites to pristine beaches and rejuvenating spa facilities, the resort provides an extensive array of services crafted to cater to the diverse needs and desires of its guests.

What sets Simpson Bay Resort apart is its dedication to customer satisfaction and its ability to transform ordinary vacations into unforgettable memories framed with sunset views. Combined



Simpson Bay Resort

with a serene ambiance and a wealth of recreational activities, the resort's attentive staffers help create an atmosphere of relaxation and indulgence, ensuring that every stay is nothing short of extraordinary.





THANK YOU TO THE ST. MAARTEN COMMUNITY FOR VOTING US #1 FOR THE 5TH TIME!

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT AND WILL CONTINUE TO PRIORITIZE OFFERING THE BEST SERVICE.

Best Gym

Belair Fitness Center

Boost your energy levels and nurture your body and mind at Belair Fitness Center in Cay Hill – The Daily Herald readers pick as the #1 go-to fitness facility on the island for 2023.

Standing firm on its motto “Supportive Fitness for Healthy Living”, Belair Fitness Center is an extensive all-inclusive facility that boasts a spacious and fully-equipped gym. Membership packages include unlimited access to amenities such as squash courts, tennis courts, a table tennis room, a 25-meter lap pool, padel courts and group fitness classes.

Located obliquely opposite the St. Maarten Medical Center, Belair Fitness Center offers a range of well-maintained equipment at its strength and cardio studios on the



Belair Fitness Center

1st

lower and upper floors and has experienced attendants to help you stay in shape. This is the fifth time Belair Fitness Center has been voted the #1 gym on the island. Start your journey to fitness at the Belair Fitness Center today!



Country Club at Port de Plaisance



Fire Fit Gym

2nd

3rd

Best Spa

Indulgence by the Sea

A coastal haven of tranquility, Indulgence by the Sea is a spa that invites seekers of ultimate relaxation to surrender to the rhythmic whispers of the ocean. This wellness gem offers therapeutic massages amid the gentle sea breeze and waves that create a natural symphony. Signature treatments, enriched with locally sourced botanicals, transport guests into a realm of indulgence.



Indulgence by the Sea

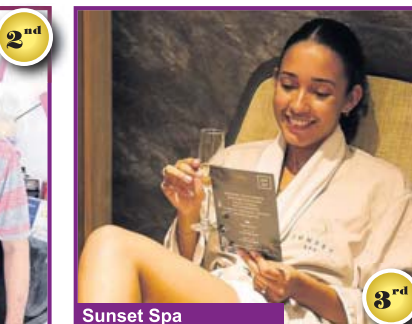
1st

In celebrating 20 years of serving their loyal locals, Indulgence recognizes the vital role locals play in its success. The spa uses products that locals know, love, and trust, creating a sense of familiarity and connection that make them more than just patrons. Locals are an integral part of the spa's journey.

The ambiance, blending coastal elegance and tropical charm, features private treatment rooms with panoramic sea views. From holistic facials to rejuvenating body scrubs, each treatment is meticulously crafted to restore balance and vitality. For those yearning to reconnect with their senses, Indulgence by the Sea is an invitation to a luxurious escape where self-care becomes an art form.



Angelic Touch



Sunset Spa

2nd

3rd

2023 BEST SPA IN SINT MAARTEN!

THANK YOU



LOCAL PRICING IS BACK! DOLLARS TO NAF ON GIFT CARDS

(SOME EXCLUSIONS APPLY)
*Offer is valid until February 29, 2024



The Spa located in Aruba & St. Maarten

Mon - Sat 9:00 am - 6:00 pm | www.spastmaarten.com
Spa at Divi Little Bay Beach Resort (721) 542-9024 • Resort ext. 3280

Best Electronics Store

Boolchand's

Established over 60 years ago in St. Maarten, Boolchand's is a trusted name in electronics, watches, and jewellery. With stores on Front Street and in the Harbour area, the store has been a reliable choice for generations.

The stores stock a wide range of products, including jewellery, watches, consumer electronics, digital cameras and laptops, with an impressive selection of accessories available. The knowledgeable staffers provide expert advice and help customers find the right product at a great price – and the store stands behind its products with extended warranties.

Boolchand's is known for its top-notch customer service, offering a personalized experience that makes customers feel valued. If you're in search of electronics, watches, and jewellery with friendly and profession-

al customer service, Boolchand's should be your first choice. With two convenient locations, it's easy to find what you need at this long-time favourite store.



Boolchand's



Klass Electronics



Blue Point

Best Travel Agency

Travel Planners

Travel Planners consistently ranking as the island's premier travel agency year after year is a testament to its team's unwavering commitment.

Since its inception in 1993, the agency has established itself as a trusted partner of businesses and individuals. The diligent team strives to secure the best travel deals for customers, offering expert guidance and insights into the ins and outs of travel through the changing times.

In an era where online bookings are increasingly prevalent, Travel Planners prides itself on keeping service people oriented, even as the agency itself faces the increasing automation of the travel industry. The team is honoured and thankful to be recognised as the Best Travel Agency, expressing heartfelt gratitude to their devoted clientele and supporters for their continued trust and support.

Managing Director Zaida Franca Urquina is dedicated to improving the services provided at Travel Planners as they embrace an ever-evolving travel industry. Whether you wish to travel by air or by sea, Travel Planners will always be your trusted travel partner.



Travel Planners



Maduro



KK Travels

TRAVEL PLANNERS

Thank You

THANK YOU ST. MAARTEN/ST. MARTIN FOR CHOOSING US

#1 TRAVEL AGENCY

FOR SO MANY YEARS IN A ROW.

OUR TEAM IS LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER YEAR OF SERVING OUR COMMUNITY.

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 Cineta Building 2b, Airport Blvd #29 | Tel: 545-3980 / 545-4038 | WhatsApp: +1 721 55 31815

Best Radio Station

Laser 101

Discover the station with the attitude – Laser 101 – once again crowned as the Best Radio Station in St. Maarten/St. Martin. Boasting a captivating line-up of programs, Laser 101 ensures good entertainment, whether you're navigating traffic, tidying up your home, or tackling your work tasks.



Laser 101

1st

In November 2023, Philipsburg broadcasting marked a remarkable 30 years of radio excellence, with Laser 101 standing out as the most beloved among our readers from their portfolio of five radio stations.

Money, the Power Hour with the talented Cut Creator DJ Outkast, and the vibrant Sagan's Playground.

Manager Francis Carty expresses gratitude to the loyal listeners and advertisers who have contributed to the station's 30 years of success. When asked about Laser's secret to success, Carty attributes it to "the dedicated and hard work of our staff, which makes the radio station attractive for our listeners."

Tune in to Laser 101 from Monday to Friday for a diverse range of shows, including The Suppa Duppa Morning Show, the AM/PM Workload Show featuring Gee



My 88.3



Island 92

THE CUT CREATOR
DJ OUTKAST

VOTED #1
BEST PARTY DJ
FOR THE 14TH YEAR
IN ROW!

Thank you!

Once again, I am overwhelmed by the support each and everyone of you has shown me over the years! Thank you to all that took the time out to cast their vote for and once again voted me The Daily Herald's

"BEST PARTY DJ 2023"

"I'm not everyone's favorite DJ, but cheers to those who appreciate me!"

www.DJOUTKAST.com

Thank You!

Laser 101

VOTED #1 BEST RADIO STATION!
"THE DAILY HERALD BEST OF '01-'07, '09, 2010, 2015, 2016, 2019 - 2023"

GEE MONEY

DJ OUTKAST

SUPPA

SELF MADE

VOTED #1 BEST MC!
#2 BEST RADIO PERSONALITY + #3 BEST WRITER/POET

VOTED #1 BEST PARTY DJ!

VOTED #1 BEST RADIO PERSONALITY!

Best Party DJ

Outkast

DJ Outkast, aka The Cut Creator, is not just a musician but a celebrated public figure. Once again crowned Best Party DJ on the island, his rapid moves and lightning-fast fingers have earned him a reputation both locally and internationally – evident in his numerous victories at DJ battles. Not only does Outkast dominate the stage, but he also contributes his signature sound to Laser 101 with his popular show – The Power Hour.

Reflecting on his journey, Outkast expresses gratitude to everyone who voted for him: "I still can't put into words how to express 14 years of St. Maarten's overwhelming support to me and what I love to do, and I can't thank them enough."

In an exciting development, this year marks DJ Outkast's return to Europe for the first



Outkast

1st

time in over 15 years as he embarks on a tour across the continent. Additionally, he is set to grace The Utopia Cruise stage, sharing it with acclaimed artistes such as DJ Puffy, Burna Boy, Shenseea, Morgan Heritage and Spice.



King Kembe

2nd



DeeJBlaze

3rd

Best Musical Producer

D'Mitri

When it comes to music and music production, local music producer "D'Mitri" is in his element. Born Dimitri Panthier, D'Mitri is a prominent force in the industry running his own D'Mitri Beats Studio.

With the help of individuals like Skelet, Fred York and King Kembe, he got involved in the industry over a decade ago and has worked on many hits from "Jack N Rose", "Maggie", "In She Garden" (Lyte), "We Don't Wanna Leave (Lyte)", "OutSide" (King James) and "C'est La Vie", to "Best Friend" (Adam O)", and "Doh Tell Me Dat" (Mr. Killa x King James).

He works on all genres and says that being around creatives like Dizzell Bueno; Dr. Fire; Sound Masters & DirectorSM has helped propel him in the industry. "Each of them has their own unique lessons that are helping me grow in the music business... What I love about music is when the tone



D'Mitri

1st

and melody hit you, and everything and everybody stops. It's tranquility no matter the genre."



Xavvo Knockin

2nd



Sherman de Vries

3rd



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Best Auto Dealer Motorworld

If you're looking for a hassle-free vehicle experience, be it purchasing or repairing, then Motorworld is your one-stop shop. For the eighth year in a row, Motorworld remains our readers' pick for Best Auto Dealer. In 2023, Motorworld expanded its wide range of brands to include the impressive Changan Automobile, introducing a new level of luxury and value at an affordable price.

"It's important to us to never become complacent, focusing on improvement and continuously advancing our products and services. We're extremely humbled to have

the public's support, and it's definitely not something we take for granted," says Managing Director Tariq Amjad. "Thank you so much for voting for us. Our goal is to continue giving out the best service possible, providing customers with reason after reason to choose Motorworld."

Motorworld is a modern multi-brand dealership and garage service, offering a wide array of new and used vehicles. Certified technicians, consultants, and service advisors are all ready to help you purchase, repair, service, and customise your vehicles.



Motorworld



Real Auto



Saint Martin Cars



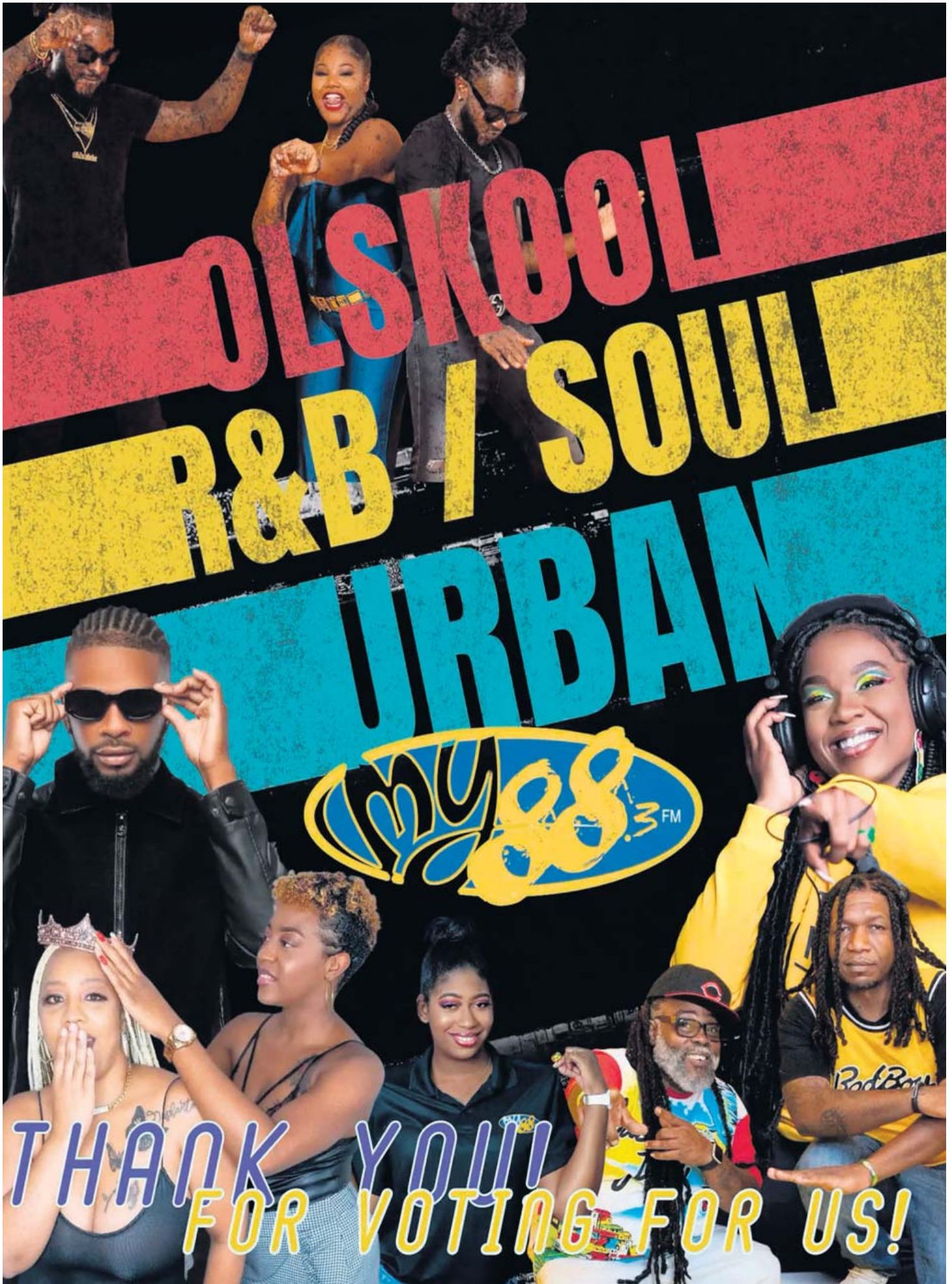
MW

Thank You!

MOTORWORLD

We sincerely thank you for voting us your #1 Auto Dealer for the 8th time in a row!
It is our absolute pleasure to serve you.







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FRIDAY	8:15AM - 7:30PM
SATURDAY	9:00AM - 1:00PM
SUNDAY	4:00PM - 6:00PM

Simpson Bay Pharmacy
www.sxmpharmacy.com

Thank you for Voting for us!

follow us for the latest updates and specials!

Best Pharmacy —

Benu Pharmacy

Benu Pharmacy is not just a place for prescriptions; it's your trusted partner on the road to well-being. The friendly and knowledgeable staffers are more than professionals – they are dedicated health companions.

Step into Benu Pharmacy, and you'll find more than shelves stocked with medications. It's a one-stop destination for all your health needs, offering not only over-the-counter remedies, but also personalized prescription services. What sets Benu apart is its commitment to community health. Beyond dispensing medications, the pharmacy actively engages in health



1st

Benu Pharmacy



2nd

Philipsburg Pharmacy

Philipsburg Pharmacy
 4 CH E. Vogesstreet Philipsburg Sint-Maarten | 542-3001 | 585-3001 | info@philipsburgpharmacy.com
 Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm | Sat 9am - 3pm | Sun / Hol 10am - 12pm

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24/7 PICKUP SERVICE
 After hours pickup from our locker system located outside our pharmacy

FAST PICKUP SERVICE
 Fast pickup service inside the pharmacy

THANK YOU!
 FOR VOTING FOR US



3rd

The Simpson Bay Pharmacy

education programs and outreach initiatives, ensuring you receive comprehensive care.

The inviting ambiance at Benu Pharmacy combines modern efficiency with a warm atmosphere, making every visit a reassuring experience. Using the latest technology for efficient service, the pharmacy still maintains a personal touch, fostering trust and connection. Whether you're a regular customer or a first-time visitor, you'll find that Benu is a health partner committed to enhancing your quality of life. Discover the difference at Benu Pharmacy, where your well-being is not just a duty but a heartfelt passion.

Best Bakery —

Carl & Son's

Carl & Son's Unique Bakery has once again taken the cake as the island's Best Bakery for 2023. This family-owned business has been a staple in the community for over four decades. General Manager Kenrick Housen says, "We're honoured to be recognized as the Best Bakery in St. Maarten. Our commitment to quality, freshness, and a diverse menu has been at the heart of our success."

With locations in Philipsburg and Cole Bay, Carl & Son's Unique Bakery offers an extensive array of mouth-watering delights, from custom cakes for special occasions to seasonal pies and tarts and a local fridge stocked with homemade drinks. The bakery is a haven for those with a sweet tooth.

Customers have long praised the warm and friendly atmosphere, making each visit a delightful experience. The bakery is grateful for its loyal customers and acknowledges



1st

Carl & Son's

how they are all part of Carl & Son's success: "We believe in not just satisfying cravings, but creating lasting memories through our baked goods," stresses Kenrick Housen.



2nd

La Sucriere



3rd

Zee Best

SINCE 1982
CARL & SON'S
 UNIQUE BAKERY

"Thank you for your continued support!"
Love, Management and Staff

Follow us on @carlnsons



Thank You St. Maarten!

Our roots run deep in St. Maarten

The NAGICO Team extends our heartfelt thanks to our clients, partners and the wider community for their continued patronage and support.

Thank you for voting us the Best Insurance Company on the island for the 17th consecutive year. We are deeply humbled and remain committed to serving you and investing in St. Maarten, our home.



Fast, Fair & Always There

Best Insurance Company

NAGICO

NAGICO Insurances is humbled to again be voted as the #1 Insurer on the island for 17 years. The board, management and staff are deeply honoured.

NAGICO Group Chairman and majority shareholder, Imran McSood Amjad, and CEO Kyria Ali, said they are truly humbled by the news and would like to express gratitude to their clients, exceptional team, and the community of St. Maarten for their continued trust, support and appreciation.

"We are truly grateful for this award, which we recognise reflects your trust and confidence in our people, products and service. We are deeply humbled and reaffirm our commitment to always be there for you."

Managing Director Eric Ellis says the award validates NAGICO's commitment



NAGICO

to excellence and reflects the company's passion to serve: "With your trust and support and our exceptional team, who has consistently gone above and beyond to deliver outstanding results, we will continue our mission to serve you. We are people-centric, purpose-driven and you are our focus. Thank you, St. Maarten."



Social and Health Insurances (SZV)



Guardian Group

Best Flower Shop

Flowers R Us

Nothing says how you feel like flowers – and Flowers R Us has been chosen as the #1 Flower Shop on the island for 2023. Open for 10 years now, the store has many loyal and satisfied customers, and recently moved to a bigger space to accommodate its growing business.

Whether you need to stop by unexpectedly to make someone's day with fresh-cut flowers or it's time to start planning extensive wedding decor, Flowers R Us has got you covered. The boutique flower shop is now located within the business complex

of Carrefour Bush Road, between Vision Center and Subway.

Open weekdays from 9:00am to 5:00pm and from 10:00am to 5:00pm on Saturdays, Flowers R Us offers a wide selection of flowers and custom floral arrangements to fit any occasion or mood. Ask about their floral or fruit basket and make festive occasions extra special with teddy bears, chocolate and balloons. Flower lovers will also love their orchid plants, classic and long-lasting beauties.



Flowers R Us



FOR VOTING US AMONGST THE BEST FLOWERSHOPS IN ST. MAARTEN IN 2023

"Flowers by Flores"

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FACEBOOK: FLOWERS BY FLORES

FLOWERS BY FLORES



Lydia's



Flowers by Flores





A heartfelt thank you

Your support and patience during our period of change and digital advancement have been remarkable. Your trust in us drives our commitment to providing better services every day.

We are dedicated to making your experience with us smoother and more efficient. We promise to keep improving and adapting to serve you better.

Thank you for your continued support and feedback.

Learn more about Sint Maarten's Social & Health insurance benefits at 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.

Best Hardware Store

Kooyman

With more than 25,000 items in stock across its seven regional stores, Kooyman should be number one on your list when it comes to all your hardware needs.

This spacious shopping centre in Cay Hill has in stock an impressive range of hardware supplies for home improvement including building materials; cleaning and household supplies; doors and win-

dows; electrical supplies; fasteners; home decorations; kitchen, lawn and garden items; lighting products; lumber; outdoor living and patio; paint and sundries; panels; plumbing; sanitary; storage and organization; tiles and flooring; tools; and window treatments.

Kooyman constantly updates its assortment so customers always know they are getting the latest trends.

The store loves educating, inspiring and connecting with customers and is always hosting do-it-yourself projects involving the public. It also hosts several staple annual events including the handyman challenge, the paint challenge and Tool Fests; educational events such as cancer awareness; and other community events. It's easy to see why Kooyman is our readers' pick for Best Hardware Store on the island for 2023!



Kooyman



ACE Mega Center



ACE Home Center

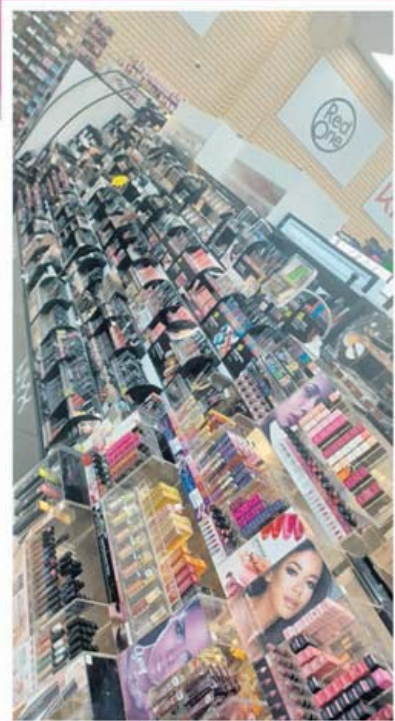


**Thank you
for your vote!**

**#1 Hardware store
#1 Construction
materials provider**

Whatever project, big or small,
**Kooyman has everything
you need to succeed!**

kooymanbv.com



Management and staff of Beautylicious would like to thank our greatest customers for choosing us as your Number 1 beauty supply store.



BeautyLICIOUS
Your Premier Beauty Outlet

Beautylicious would not have been here now without your support.

We appreciate you all!!!!

Best Place for Makeup/Beauty Supplies

Beautylicious

Maintaining great hair, skin, nails and makeup is a breeze – thanks to the well-stocked Beautylicious stores in St Maarten.

Picked by readers as the #1 place to get makeup and beauty supplies, Beautylicious carries just about every go-to brand for makeup, hair supplies, nails, skincare, perfumes, salon equipment, hair extensions, clothing, shoes and accessories. Get your modern wigs, edge controls and skin creams at Beautylicious. There are two convenient locations: Bush Road and Cole Bay.

Owner Gehad Jadallah is grateful for the win: "I would like to give our customers the credit to have us again named the best in beauty and makeup, not to forget our friendly staff, who work hard to receive our customers and provide the best service possible. We invest in our products, so we carry a huge line of makeup and beauty products as well as hair and wigs. We promise to develop our service and maintain our position as the number one choice for St Maarten."



INGLOT



Beautylicious



Victor's Cosmetics




Victor's Cosmetics

**THANK YOU FOR VOTING US AS ONE OF
 THE BEST PLACES FOR MAKEUP SUPPLIES.**

**Your support means the world to us,
 and we're committed to providing you
 with the best products and service
 in the beauty industry!**

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provider today for
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Conditions apply
1 Month free only applicable to TelEm Fiber

TELEem
Connecting You

Best Telecommunication Provider

TelEm Group

TelEm Group CEO Kendall Dupersoy has credited the company's 6th straight win as Best Telecommunications Provider to the company's personnel, whom he said made it happen!

"We strive to be better each year and the recognition of the efforts our staff makes on behalf of their customers is truly deserving of recognition," said Dupersoy.

This is the sixth year in a row that the award has gone to TelEm Group. Dupersoy says it has become something of a cliché to pour all the accolades on personnel for the public recognition, but seeing how some staff members go above and beyond to keep their customers satisfied, it's no wonder they think of TelEm Group when voting.



TelEm Group

The CEO sent a message personally thanking his staff: "In the coming year, there are some exciting plans for the company that will make us more customer-centric with many new innovations in the pipeline, but for now we'll accept the trust our customers and the public are putting in us with a big thank you for their vote."

Best Gift / Souvenir Shop

Shipwreck Shops

Established in 1972, Shipwreck Shops has solidified its position as a premier shopping destination with 11 convenient locations in major hotels and shopping areas across the island. The wide array of offerings, encompassing quality gifts, souvenirs, casual clothing, and products that encapsulate the essence of the Caribbean, caters to diverse preferences and budgets, ensuring there's something for everyone.



Shipwreck Shops

a testament to the store's commitment to offering unique items from renowned Caribbean brands like PinkSand Apparel and Del Sol. The stores also present enticing discount packages on multiple items, further enhancing the value of your purchase.

Unparalleled customer service awaits at Shipwreck Shops, where you'll discover the best prices in town for exceptional gifts tailored for family and friends back home. The exclusive designs available are

Make a stop at one of the Shipwreck Shops to unearth an extraordinary souvenir or gift item. You are guaranteed to find something truly unique at these stores, ensuring a memorable shopping experience that exceeds expectations.



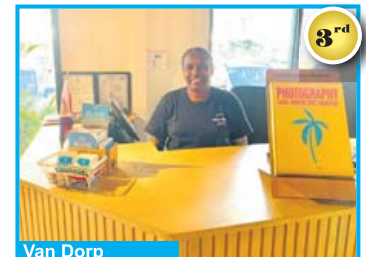
Flow



Digicel



Amsterdam Cheese Store



Van Dorp

Management and staff of Shipwreck Shops would like to thank

St. Maarten

for making us the #1 Souvenir & Gift Store, where we transform shopping into an experience.



NUMBER ONE AGAIN

10 LOCATIONS ISLAND WIDE



Affordable

DEPARTMENT STORE

YOUR SUPPORT, OUR VICTORY!

Cheers to a decade at the top! Your support has made us the #1 women's boutique for 10 years and #2 kids boutique. Thank you for your your unwavering trust and love.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★	 <p>1 Best Women's Boutique</p>	 <p>2 Best Kids Wear Store</p>	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
-----------------------	---	--	-----------------------



SPORTSGALLERY

YOUR KNIGHT IN SPORTY ARMOUR, WINS!

Thanks for choosing us as the top rated men's boutique on the island! We're thrilled to score this victory, and we'll keep bringing our A-game to provide you with the best in sports fashion. Cheers to winning together!

We are voted as #3 in Men's Boutique



Best Women's Boutique

Affordable

Affordable Department Store has once again landed the top spot, when it comes to its incredible offer of women's clothing. Worth mentioning is that more than 100 stores were listed in this category! Affordable also placed second in children's clothing. With a wide selection of trendy styles for men, women and children, and its offering of accessories and even electronics, it's not hard to see why this store is so popular. It's a go-to for anyone that wants to look and feel their best without breaking the bank.

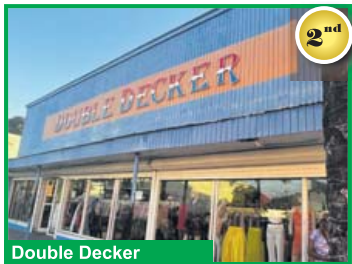
As the name suggests, Affordable offers



Affordable

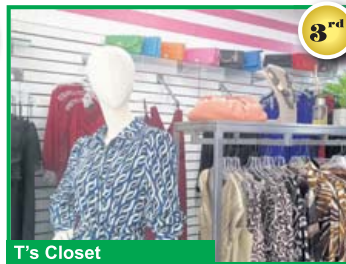
1st

its products at competitive prices, without sacrificing quality or style. Here you'll find a wide selection of everything you need, for many different occasions. With the help of friendly staff, put together the perfect look for date night, the office, brunch with the ladies, or even the gym. The variety in bags and shoes is equally as impressive, so you're sure to find an outfit that speaks to your style.



Double Decker

2nd



T's Closet

3rd

Best Men's Boutique

Calvin Klein

The Calvin Klein boutique on Front Street, dedicated to one of the world's leading and most iconic fashion lifestyle brands, has been chosen as having the island's best selection of men's wear. Since its opening in 2019, the store has been a hit with locals as well as cruise visitors and crew. With the brand's mission of elevating everyday essentials, it's easy to see why the products remain a favourite.

Located in the St. Rose arcade in the heart of town, this is the only Calvin Klein branded boutique on the island. Friendly staffers are there to help you put together an outfit, so that you look effortlessly chic from head to toe with the brand's bold, minimalist style. The store carries all sorts



Calvin Klein

1st

of clothing, as well as shoes and other accessories to finish the look. What's more, it's an outlet store which offers discounts throughout the year, keeping it interesting for customers. If you haven't already, check out this great little boutique – a top find for men's clothing!



Alberto's Fashions

2nd



Sports Gallery

3rd

Best Department Store

ACE Mega Centre

When ACE says in its tagline that "it's the helpful place", it isn't joking. The company has been helping consumers fulfil household and construction needs under one roof since opening its first branch called Liteline in 1990. The company expanded with a second location called ACE Home Center in 1997 and then a third called ACE Mega Center in 2007. The Cay Hill location also has a section dedicated ACE Lumber, and the family offered more stylish furniture options with the opening of Ashley Furniture in 2021.

ACE Mega Center is a spacious well-stocked store that offers everything from personal beauty products, to household décor, construction supplies, houseware, cleaning supplies, plumbing, electrical and lighting, hardware, lumber, hand- and power-tools, sporting goods, automotive, lawn and garden, outdoor living, air con-



ACE Mega Center

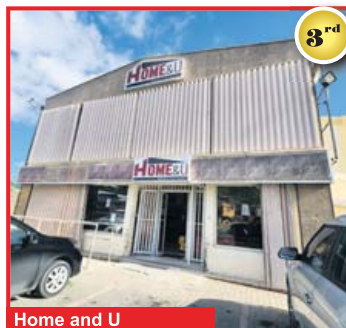
1st

ditioning, and paint in all the colours of the rainbow. It's one of the more comfortable department stores to shop in. Service is top notch and staffers are friendly and always ready to assist you.



ACE Home Center

2nd



Home and U

3rd

Best Barbershop

Top of the Line

Top of the Line Barbershop is more than just a friendly spot to get an award-winning haircut from a skilled professional. It's a place where you can indulge in respectful conversations, catch up on current affairs, engage in friendly debates and enjoy a nice ambiance. Manned by self-taught professional Jack Williams, Top of the Line has been making men, women and kids look sharp for almost three-and-a-half decades.

Jack is a barber that loves what he does and does what he loves. "I have been barbering for the past 35 years," he says. "I love making people look good and it is all about the conversation in the shop. The shop is open since 2005. We provide great service for all. You can come relax and have great conversation and we always keep it professional."



Top of the Line

1st

"I give thanks to my clients and everyone who voted for Top of the Line Barber Shop," Jack says, adding that the name "Top of the Line" speaks volumes about the service provided.



Cuchi's

2nd



MLB (Major League Barbershop)

3rd



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Best Home Supplies & Furniture Store

ACE Home Center

Sprucing up your home with furniture, décor or whatever home supplies you need has never been more gratifying than picking them up from ACE Home Center. Conveniently located in Cay Hill and with ample parking, the store boasts two floors of shopping pleasure, plus a large lumber section.

The top floor has a wide selection of furniture, décor and supplies for the bedroom, kitchen, living room, bathroom and patio. They also carry a line of ACE products and a selection of Ashley Furniture so customers know they are getting good quality every time. Pick up your hardware, electrical, plumbing, paint, tools, garden and other needs on the lower floor.

ACE Home Center is part of a line of ACE



ACE Home Center

1st

stores in St. Maarten. It has been making homes beautiful and well-maintained since opening its doors in 1997.



ACE Mega Center

2nd



Ashley Furniture

3rd

Best Children's Store

Bébé n' Kids

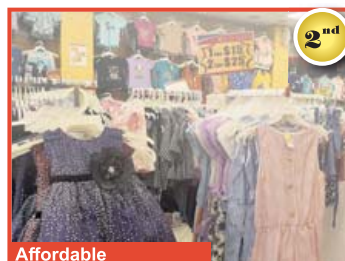
Bébé n Kids is a true one-stop store, offering a vibrant selection of everything needed for those precious little ones. With an amazing range of quality products in its spacious Bellevue location, Bébé n Kids is no stranger to the Best Of, and it's no surprise that it has been chosen once again as the island's favourite Children's Store.

Whether it's for a birthday, Christmas, or a baby shower, Bébé n Kids is the go-to spot for everything on your list. For kids of all ages, you'll find fun toys, games, books, costumes, backpacks and much more. The upstairs area is dedicated to a beautiful selection of clothes and shoes for kids as young as new-borns. Here you'll also find everything you need to prepare for baby's arrival, from cribs and strollers, to walkers and baby bags. A great place for a baby shower registry!



Bébé n' Kids

1st



Affordable

2nd



0 to 14 Kids

3rd

Best Construction Material Provider

Kooyman

No construction project is complete without a visit to Kooyman. Selected by readers as the Best Construction Material Provider for 2023, Kooyman has an entire section of its store dedicated to construction supplies.

Kooyman has it all – lumber, steel, doors, tiles, cement, grout, tin set, nails and much more. Kooyman's construction section has a convenient drive-through so you can load up right in the store. The establishment also has a team of knowledgeable and friendly staffers, ready to help you with top of the line service.

Kooyman has also expanded its range of service with the recent launch of its PRO Service, designed to help local tradesmen and professional contractors get construction material needs swiftly with priority ordering,



Kooyman

1st

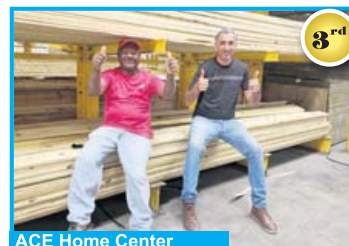
delivery and a special cashier check-out lane, allowing PROs to get back to the job site in no time.

Whether you're a DIY-er, home-improver or professional contractor, Kooyman has all you need to succeed. Walk with your Fun-Miles card, to build points or to redeem on purchases.



ACE Mega Center

2nd



ACE Home Center

3rd

Thank You

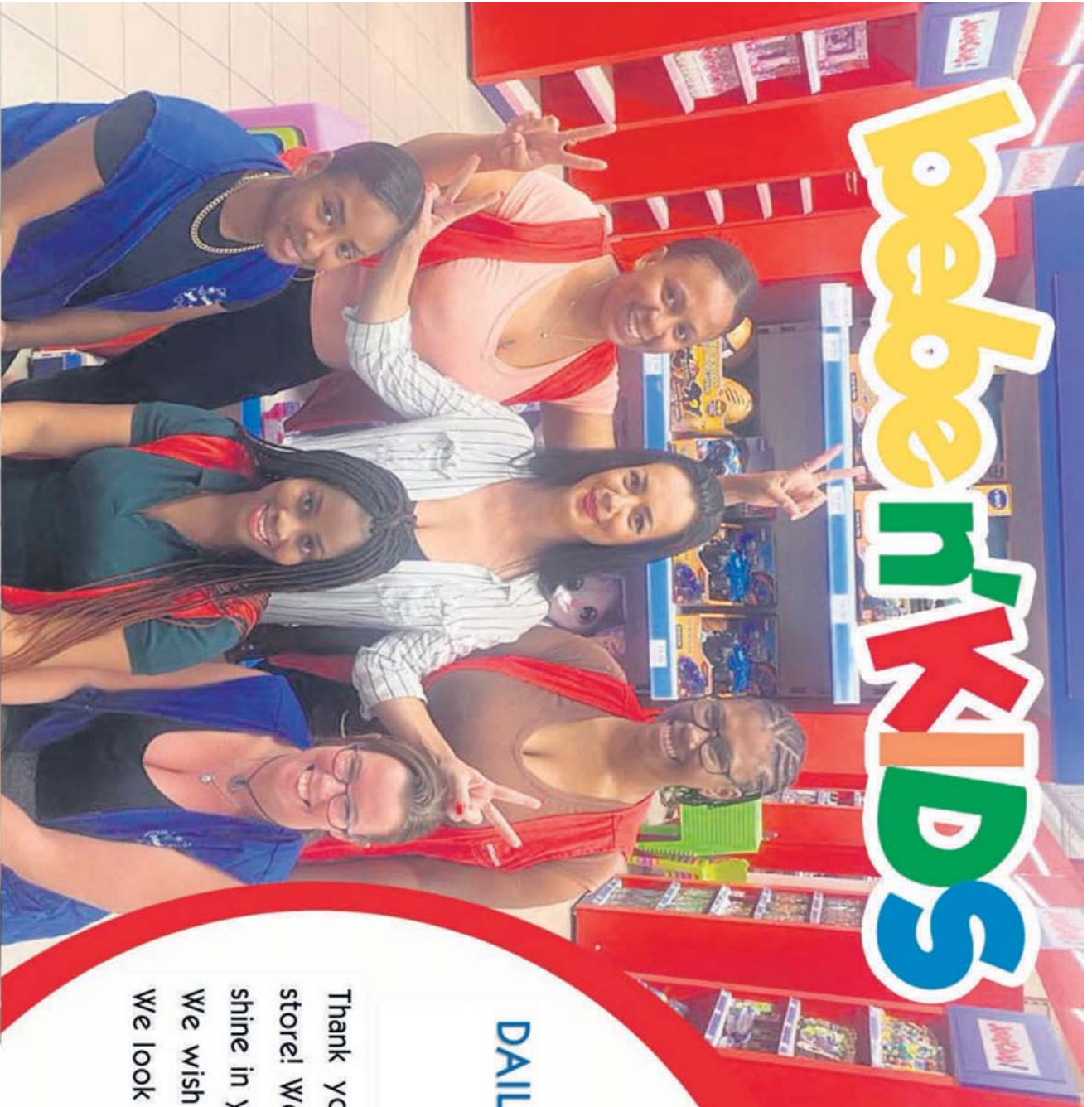
ST. MAARTEN

Looking forward to serve our loyal clients in 2024!

Like us on Facebook /homeandusxm

MAKING LIFE EASIER

bebe n' kids



DAILY HERALD BEST OF 2023

BEST KIDS STORE

Thank you for voting us the best 2023 kids store! We hope to continue to see the magic shine in your eyes and those of your children. We wish you a happy and healthy New Year. We look forward to seeing you soon.

BELLEVEUE, ST. MARTIN



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2010	2015

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2016	2021
2018	2022
2019	2023

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Thank you for your appreciation.



FirstCaribbean
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Best Bank

Windward Islands Bank

Winning the title of Best Bank on the island 14 times is a testament to the consistency and dedication of the Windward Islands Bank (WIB) team. The Bank prides itself on providing alternatives in banking, allowing clients options and convenience.

In 2023, WIB focused on digitalisation for all with online banking sessions for seniors, after-hours online sign-up drives, and upgrades to its business online banking platform. The Bank maintains an active presence on social media, providing customers with up-to-date information. WIB is constantly looking into ways to improve customer experience.

Also in 2023, the Bank upgraded its website platform providing easier navigation between personal and business banking needs and information. With the introduction of its new Bankomatiko plus MasterCard debit for personal and business



Windward Islands Bank (WIB)

1st

clients, WIB provides another solid alternative for banking. WIB continues to strive in its endeavour to adjust with the times, technology, and overall customer experience. WIB never stands still, but remains true to its slogan "Your Partner in Progress".



CIBC FirstCaribbean

2nd



RBC

3rd

Best Local Band/Duo

Control Band

If there is one thing that local sensation Control Band is known for it's consistency in providing great sounds year after year. And year after year, *The Daily Herald* readers have rewarded them with the title of Best Local Band on the island.

With more than four decades of entertaining under its belt, Control is one of the longest serving local bands, whose members – among whom are several groups of siblings – take immense pleasure in making sure their audience is well entertained. Lead vocalist Mirougia Richardson is humbled by the win.



Control Band

1st

Control Band was formed when some of the island's leading musicians decided to pool their talents. They began playing at a local establishment and as their popularity blossomed, so did their gigs. They are known for drawing crowds and creating names for many dancing spots back in the day and have performed alongside many top names in the industry.



Skillful Band

2nd



Big Bad XP Band

3rd

Best Photographer/ Videographer

Elvis Harrigan

Elvis Harrigan, once again voted Best Photographer/Videographer of St. Maarten/St. Martin, has revolutionized the island's photography scene since his debut in 2010. With a commitment to showcasing his unique brand in every project, Elvis has secured the prestigious title of Best Photographer for an impressive four consecutive years.

Elvis has a special eye for finding beauty and capturing it with his lens. Dedicated to inspiring fellow creatives, he has also organized various photography and makeup workshops.

"Despite reducing our social media presence earlier this year due to studio relocation and business restructuring, with a heightened focus on our growing clientele, we are honoured to have been selected as the top photographer in SXM for 2023,"



Elvis Harrigan

1st

says Elvis, who celebrated 14 years in photography this January.

Elvis thanks the voters for their continued support. "We couldn't have asked for a better start to the year as we expand and maintain our commitment to delivering top-quality work to both new and returning clients."



Cameron Hyman

2nd



Benjamin Photography

3rd

Best Bartender

Ziggy Chang

For over 15 years, Ziggy Chang has been a staple figure in the St. Maarten hospitality scene, delivering exceptional service and unforgettable drinks. Starting at Pineapple Pete as a waiter, Ziggy's journey into bartending began six years ago, after which he has garnered much recognition as a bartender and waiter at Simpson Bay Resort.

Specializing in creating a wide range of cocktails, his talent lies in concoctions featuring real lime juice, such as margaritas, mojitos and amaretto sours. However, his ultimate specialty is ensuring customer satisfaction, tailoring his skills to match the energy of each individual, bringing creativity, laughter, and a calming presence to even the busiest of bars. His success as the best bartender is attributed to his dedication to customer service. Ziggy's commitment to self-improvement and unique approach to bartending set him apart.



Ziggy Chang

1st

Currently working as a bar supervisor at Simpson Bay Resort, overseeing various bars including Coco Beach Bar, Chill Out Pool Bar, Paradise Pool Bar, and Treasure Island Pool Bar, Ziggy's influence continues to create memorable experiences for all who visit.



Paul Peterson

2nd



Kevin Kellowan

3rd

Best Visual Artist

Ruby Bute

Creating beautiful pieces of art for over 60 years is an accomplishment that few can boast of. But for local artist Ruby Bute, it's been a journey of love. The 81-year-old enjoys creating art today just as she did back in 1969, when she sold her first piece professionally.

Operating from her Friars Bay home, Bute considers herself a mother – always eager to guide youngsters on their artistic projects. “The young people come and ask for help with ideas and I’m right here, not as active as before, but I’m always ready to help with whatever project you have,” says Bute.

She’s a proponent of art and culture being incorporated in schools’ curriculum, noting that focus cannot solely be on academics. “It’s important to touch the lives of people with art. It inspires you and nur-



Ruby Bute

1st

tures inspiration.” While she’s not as mobile as before, Bute’s art speaks, telling the St. Maarten story and sharing its culture: “When I put it on canvas, I’m showing the true identity of my people.”



LaRich Audain

2nd



Roland Richardson

3rd

Best Radio Personality

Suppa Kid

Suppa Kid has landed the number one spot yet again when it comes to radio personalities. Bringing good vibes, humour and discussion to the public for almost 25 years, Suppa is still humbled when getting positive feedback from listeners and manages to bring his magnetic energy to every show.

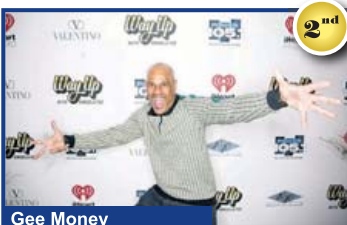
The Suppa Duppa Morning Show from 6:00-10:00 keeps you sane through the morning rush-hour and work, with hot topics, news and entertainment. Suppa chalks up the show’s success to its different personalities that compliment and feed off each other’s energies. The best part of being on air, he says, is knowing that his team can uplift peoples’ spirits and connect to all demographics.

While he has lots of good memories over the past year, one that stands out was getting his scleral lens and finally being able to see the screens, buttons and faces again after almost four years of struggling with his eyes. “The listeners knew about the journey, and I know they were also happy for me!”



Suppa Kid

1st



Gee Money

2nd



King James

3rd

Best Construction Company

St. Maarten Concrete

All lanes lead to St. Maarten Concrete – our readers’ pick for Best Construction Company for 2023, and a multiple-time winner in this category. One of the more established companies in the field, St. Maarten Concrete offers high-quality concrete and concrete products for construction projects, big or small.

Serving customers since July 1, 2010, after acquiring one truck, St. Maarten Concrete blossomed into one of the biggest and most competitive in the field today, supplying concrete to all projects no matter how big or how small.

St. Maarten Concrete has a line-up of mixers and pump trucks to help get the job done. It was the first to acquire a line pump to supply concrete to hard-to-reach areas and is equipped with a dry and a wet mix



St. Maarten Concrete

1st

plant, acquired in 2021. Customers can also get their sand and gravel from the Sucker Garden-based establishment. Their hardworking team is always ready to provide you with a quote for your next project.



Windward Roads

2nd



Tula Design and Construction

3rd

Best MC

Gee Money

Gee Money triumphs once again, being crowned best MC of the island. This charismatic personality can’t be missed. You’ll recognise him from commercials for local companies including Kooyman and Sixt, the mini-series on Princess Juliana International Airport ‘Restoring a Princess’, as a radio personality on Laser 101 (our #1 Radio Station), and from hosting some of the island’s biggest, most exciting events. Not surprisingly, he’s also landed in our top three as an Actor and Radio Personality.

It’s hard to keep track of all the hosting accomplishments of this magnetic and confident personality, but recent highlights have included the Brown Pelican Awards, St. Maarten Heineken Regatta, International Men’s Day (by WICSU), the Lagoon Fest, Island Vibes Comedy Jam, Kool Run-



Gee Money

1st

nings Festival, the Byron Messia concert, and the openings of the World Bank local branch and new St. Maarten Tourist Bureau. Not to mention lots of weddings, company Christmas parties and international appearances – jet setting to Aruba, Martinique and Indonesia for the art! Gee Money’s career shows what happens when talent meets hard work!



Rummer

2nd



Dutty Sham

3rd

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2023



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For voting us
#3
Best Construction
Company in St. Maarten



1st

Best Real Estate Company

Century 21

Discover unparalleled excellence with Century 21, a leading name in real estate. Place your home investment journey in the capable hands of their team of professionals, guaranteeing a serene and stress-free experience.

Strategically situated on Airport Road #34, Century 21 boasts an illustrious history of transforming aspirations into reality. Whether your heart desires an idyllic island sanctuary, a lavish residence, a perfect apartment, a coveted piece of land, or a serene vacation rental, they have every option meticulously covered.

Century 21 presents a diverse portfolio tailored to accommodate all budgetary considerations. Whether you're in search of a beachfront condo, an oceanfront home, developmental land, or require expert assistance in renting or selling your property, Century 21 stands as your ultimate destination.

For over a decade, Century 21 has demonstrated dedication and commitment to meeting the unique needs of clients, and the agency's relentless pursuit of excellence has resulted in the recognition that Century 21 is the Best Real Estate Company on the island.



2nd

Island Real Estate Team

Top 3 for 15 years!
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www.ireteam.com



3rd

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VOTED #3

THANK YOU!
 #3 Best Real Estate Company

A heartfelt thank you to our incredible clients and supporters for voting KW Sint Maarten as the #3 Best Real Estate Company on the island. After just one year of rebranding, your trust has fueled our journey. Congratulations to Century21 and Island Real Estate Team for securing the top spots! We're honored to share the podium with such colleagues. Here's to many more years of helping you find your dream home.

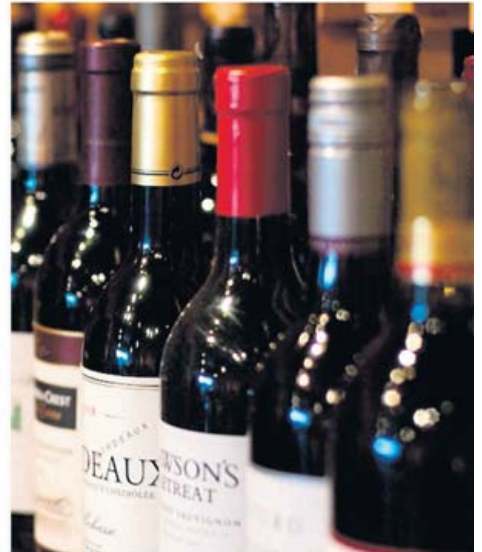
Cheers to the community and to the thriving real estate landscape of Sint Maarten!

Location
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www.kwsintmaarten.com

Carrefour market



Thank You

ST. MAARTEN FOR VOTING US # 1

4 Locations

 BUSH ROAD, PHILIPSBURG

 UNION ROAD, COLE BAY

 PORTO CUPECOY, CUPECOY

 JORDAN VILLAGE, CUPECOY

Best Supermarket

Carrefour

Coming in as the number one supermarket on St. Maarten/ St. Martin, is Carrefour once again. With four convenient locations across the island, each with a great selection of products, Carrefour is a truly international one stop shop.

Carrefour has everything needed for your weekly shopping, from fresh fruit, vegetables, meat and fish, to specialised products from all over the world, catering to the island's many communities as well as visitors. Here you'll find great French, Latin American, Dutch, Indian, Chinese, American, and regional products.

What's more, you'll often find something new among the selection, as well as products suitable for different dietary needs, nice bonuses for home cooks looking to experiment with new ingredients. Need something ready-to-eat? Don't miss the daily hot breakfasts and lunches – the su-



Carrefour

permarket offers tasty and satisfying meals, ready to serve. Not to mention the fresh baked delights offered at the in-house bakery.

Add to the list other products such as cosmetics, cleaning products and kitchen supplies, and you'll see why Carrefour is considered a great one-stop supermarket.



Super U



Fairway Mark It

Best Perfume Store

Penha

Think refreshing. Think perfumes. According to The Daily Herald readers, the best place to feel and smell good is Penha Duty Free, voted the #1 Perfume Store.

Penha is one of the largest beauty retailers in this part of the region and operates four locations in St. Maarten, the main one being on Front Street. There are also locations in Maho, Cole Bay and at the Airport.

Penha stocks a wide selection of all major brands of authentic fragrances, including top brands such as Cartier, Montblanc, Jimmy Choo, Creed, Parfums de Marly, Acqua di Parma, Loewe, Moncler, Yves Saint Laurent, Valentino, Gianni Versace, Dolce & Gabbana, GUCCI, Hermès, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Prada, Chanel, Tom Ford, Armani, Dior and Lancôme.

Penha is constantly updating its stock to ensure it carries the latest fragrances on the



Penha

market and ever so often, there are major sales where you can cash in on your favourite brands for competitive prices. Penha also sells an array of cosmetics, skin care items, liquor and tobacco.



Lipstick



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Mon - Sat 09:00 - 22:00 Sun 13:00 - 22:00

Mon - Sat 09:00 - 18:00 Sun 10:00 - 21:00

Best Dance/Yoga studio

NIA

When it comes to nurturing and developing artistic talents, National Institute of Arts (NIA) does a phenomenal job. Founded in 2013 by cultural and artistic development leaders Arlene Halley Newhouse and Clara Reyes, NIA has moulded hundreds of students in various art forms over the years. NIA sees upwards of 1,500 students weekly and works with several educational institutions.

NIA offers dance, music, theatre, fitness, gymnastics, yoga, stretch and special classes. Dance classes include Bharatanatyam, ballet, brain dance, creative dance, folk dances, hip hop, jazz, modern, afro-Caribbean, contemporary, modern Horton based technique, parent and child dance, street jazz, urban dance and improvisation.

Accomplishments include its talented Youth Orchestra, a group of vibrant young



National Institute of Arts (NIA)

1st

musicians playing various instruments. The orchestra, which plays regularly at different events, also played for the King and Queen during their last visit. NIA encourages students to join the Youth Orchestra, even as the institution strives to establish itself as an accredited Institute of interdisciplinary arts education.



INDISU Dance Theater of St. Maarten

2nd



Dance and Arts Dimensions Academy

3rd

Best Musical Artist

King James

If there's an artist that knows how to truly command a crowd, it's King James, who continues to lead the pack in our 2023 Best Of survey – once again winning the title of Best Musical Artist. King James is celebrating 10 years since bursting onto the scene and making a mark in the local music industry. He's had a great year, and is gearing up to release a lot of hot, new music and a brand new project.

Do keep an eye out, because King James is planning to shake things up and elevate the island's music, highlighting local talent on another level. He looks back on 2023 with pride at collaborating with Mr. Killa to release the song Doh Tell Me Dat, at being the artiste to represent the island for Flag Fest during carnival, and simply being on the road together with revellers in the parade jammin' to his music. Special thanks to the voters, producer Fridge the Drummer and sound engineer Dizzle Bueno.



King James

1st



Benjamin Bell

2nd



The Alpha Lee

3rd

Best Dancer/Choreographer

Bianca Dijkhoffz



Fabiana Richardson

2nd

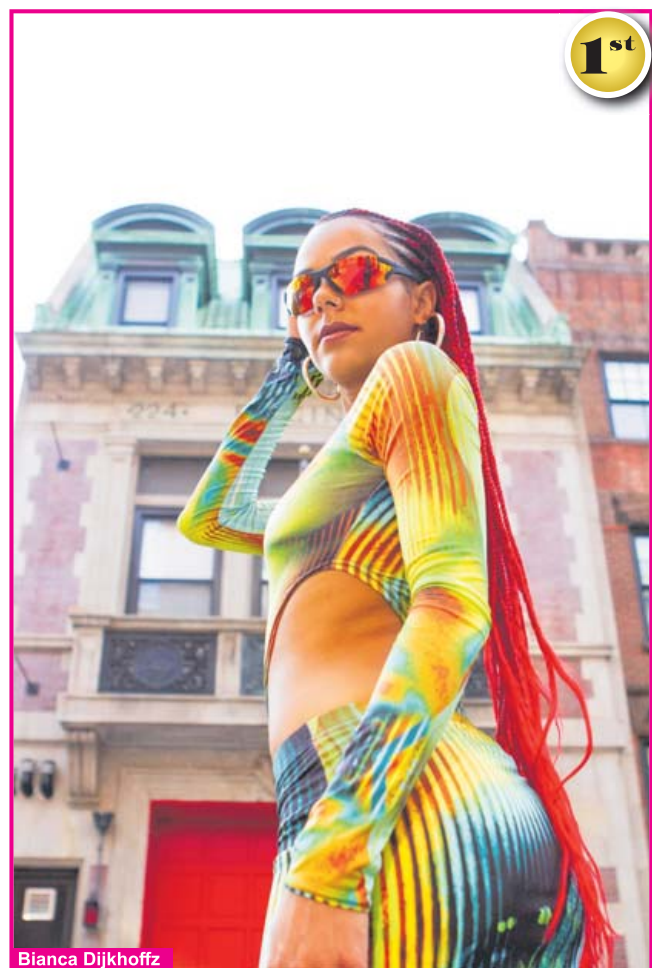
Bianca has made it to the big stage, and keeps working on her talent and brand in new and exciting ways, taking advantage of new opportunities, putting her best foot forward and giving it her all. She's taken leaps of faith after putting in all the hard work, and it continues to pay off. She's not afraid to chase her dreams, while travelling for work and always keeping St. Maarten close to heart.

She's about to embark on her second months-long tour, to South America and Europe, as the official DJ (combining the art with dancing) for star singer and songwriter Karol G. Just to name a few more accomplishments: she's appeared in music videos with stars like Sean Paul and Chris Brown, in movies "In the Heights" and "Isn't it Romantic", and regularly choreographs for St. Maarten Heineken Regatta. Bianca was also voted our #1 dancer last year, when the category was first introduced to the "Best Of" survey, and was named Person of the Year 2023 by our youth publication Teen Times.



Rudolph Davis

3rd



Bianca Dijkhoffz

1st





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#2 BEST JEWELRY STORE

Ballerina
JEWELERS
SINCE 1987

Best Store to Purchase Jewellery

Joe's Jewelry

Established in 1980, Joe's Jewelry International stands as one of the pioneering family-owned jewellers in St. Maarten. With a rich history and a devoted clientele, Joe's Jewelry takes pride in providing a personalized shopping experience and a remarkable array of duty-free offerings.

The store features a diverse collection including designer pieces, 14 KT Gold, fine jewellery, Swiss and Japanese timepieces, certified loose and lab grown diamonds, and exotic precious gems. Brands such as De Beers, Gucci, Rado, Girard-Perregaux, Movado, Tissot, Michele, Frederique Constant, Baume & Mercier, SEIKO, SWAROVSKI, Fossil, Hugo Boss, and Swatch adorn the shelves, ensuring a wide selection to choose from.

Ranked No. 1 on TripAdvisor, with over 3,000 five-star reviews, Joe's Jewelry is celebrated for its warm hospitality, offering visitors a complimentary serving of cham-



pagne and a welcoming smile. The experienced staffers are dedicated to making the selection process seamless and enjoyable, understanding the significance of each jewellery piece as a symbol of love, appreciation, and cherished moments.



Best Local Products

Etna Ice Cream

When it comes to locally produced products, *The Daily Herald* readers agree that the mouth-watering and deliciously luscious Etna Ice Cream led the list in 2023.

Voted Best Local Product on the island last year, this rich, creamy, flavourful and fulfilling, palate-pleasing sweet treat is available all over St. Maarten/St. Martin in the frozen section of almost every supermarket as well as in most restaurants. It is also available in the neighbouring islands of St. Barths and Anguilla.

It is available in a range of flavours to suit just about every taste including the popular vanilla, rum raisin, strawberry, "chocolat", orange pineapple, and cookies & crème. It is also available in several sizes, so you can get either the larger sizes for heartier appetites and big groups or a small size for

smaller appetites. Pick up your favourite flavour or get all the flavours today. Your taste buds will thank you!



Etna Ice Cream



Topper's Rhum



St. Marten Nectar



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Best Writer/Poet/Actor

Clara Reyes

Clara Reyes is no doubt one of the most recognisable and prolific artistes on the island, not to mention the Head of St. Maarten's culture department. While many will immediately think of her as an accomplished dancer and choreographer – also having founded Imbali and co-founded National Institute of Arts (NIA) – Clara is and always has been an interdisciplinary performing artiste. Deeply immersed into the world of visual and performing arts for decades, Clara has a passion for musicals, drama and storytelling.

In earlier years, she worked with the theatre troupe Committed Artists of "Sarafina!" fame as an actor, choreographer and vocalist, and brought acting, singing and song-writing to Shujah Reiph's play 'Spitfire, The Lohkay Story' in 2023.

Clara has written original songs, including "Walk my way to freedom", which was originally written for Emancipation Day 2021. Clara's character, the wise elder Madoto, rallied the community, sharing the mean-



Clara Reyes

ing of revolution. For the role, she drew inspiration from her great grandmother, who spoke with a regal aura, and lived to be 97.



King Vers



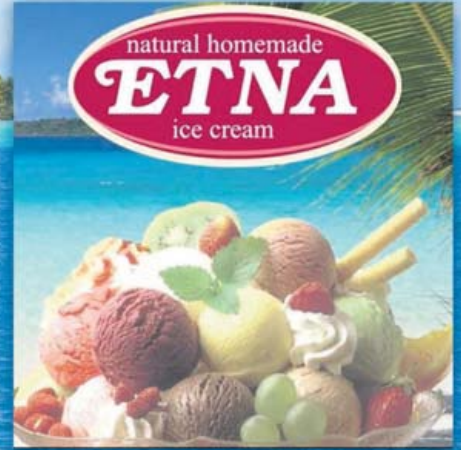
Gee Money

We Thank Each of You

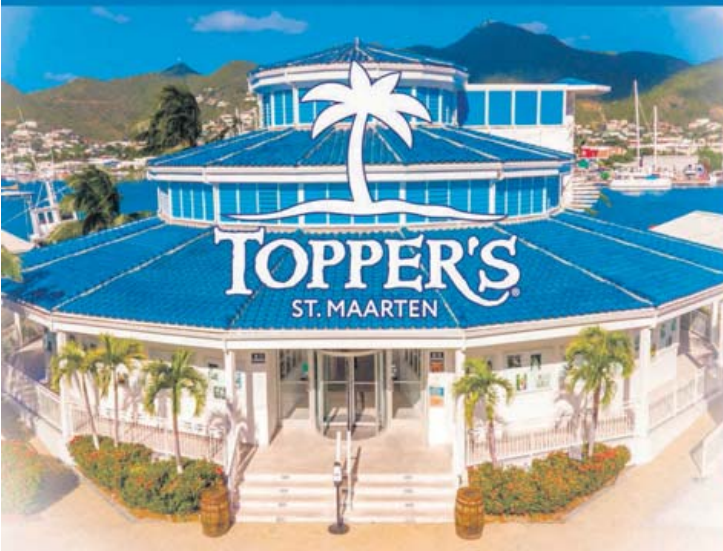
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The Best Of 2023



- #1 BEST M.C. / HOST
- #2 BEST RADIO PERSONALITY
- #3 BEST WRITER, POET, ACTOR

THANK YOU SO MUCH!