

This Island Paradise Is The Caribbean's Best-Kept Secret



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Lifestyle

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- Here's what it's like to visit Saba and what will make you fall in love with this enchanting Caribbean paradise.
- No other island in the region rivals the exquisite natural beauty, quirky history and refreshing small-town feel of Saba. Just think twice before letting the secret out on this special place.

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Looking for a different kind of Caribbean vacation? Visit Saba, an untouched paradise just 20... [+]
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You won't find it on many maps. And you certainly won't know it by name. But once you discover Saba, you'll have a serious conundrum on your hands: Do you share the secret of the best Caribbean island with others, or do you keep mum and preserve it as an off-the-beaten-path destination for in-the-know travelers? It's a tough call.

Getting to Saba, a 5-square-mile island that brims with rare orchids, quaint cottages and a surprising amount of cultural diversity, is relatively easy—but not for the faint of heart. You'll hop on one of Winair's 19-passenger Twin Otter propeller planes from St. Maarten and embark on a 20-minute journey over the azure sea.

The wind picks up as you approach the distinctive island, instantly recognizable by its volcanic silhouette, which was featured in the original "King Kong" movie from 1933. And then you'll begin your rapid descent onto arguably the most famous feature of Saba: its runway. At less than 1,300 feet, the world's shortest commercial runway leaves no room for error. Your pilot has just seconds after touching down to bring the aircraft to standstill. Welcome to Saba.