

NECKER BELLE

Mediterranean Sample Itinerary 7 Nights

Experience the ultimate privacy, freedom, elegance and style aboard Necker Belle when sailing the Cote d'Azur this summer. Just don't forget your Jackie-O sunglasses!



Antibes > St Tropez 35 miles

Chosen as the setting for the 1956 film starring Bridget Bardot "And God created Woman", St Tropez is today renowned as one of Europe's most glamorous, sultry and sexy resorts. Once a small fishing village hidden in the coastline, now it is a Mecca for the rich and famous and most definitely deserves a visit when cruising on Necker Belle. Despite its never ceasing popularity as a yacht charter destination, the village still maintains its original charm.

St Tropez > Ile de Porquerolles 35 miles

The Island of Porquerolles is situated parallel to the Cape of Corsica and shares the same climate, enjoying more than 300 sunny days a year! Famed for its vineyards and producing top quality wine, it is in fact one of the first to be classed "vins des Côtes de Provence". As soon as you arrive at the port, you will be captivated by the island. In the north, three superb beaches offer fine sand with the coast sloping gently down to the sparkling sea. In the south, vertical cliffs rise out of the sea, admire this wild and majestic landscape from the lighthouse where there is a 360° view of the island and the sea... it is truly breathtaking! In the

interior, explore a mosaic of vineyards, olive trees and lemon, orange and mandarin trees by bicycle or foot.

After being owned by a succession of people, the island was bought in 1912 by Monsieur Fournier who apparently bought it as a wedding present for his wife. In 1971, the island became protected by the state so the architecture is original and blends perfectly with the beautiful surroundings, then in 1988 Porquerolles became a French National Park to further protect her.

Ile de Porquerolles > Cannes 50 miles

It would be a shame to visit the South of France without experiencing Cannes, the "star" of the French Riviera, famed for the International Film Festival (usually held in May) and the glitzy cars, beaches and visitors who are attracted here. The "old town" is called Le Suquet where narrow streets climb up around the hill. At the top you are rewarded with a panoramic view across the city, the port, and the bay to the Cap de la Croisette. The 12th-century ramparts and 12th-16th-century church Notre-Dame-de-l'Espérance give a touch of medieval flavour to the city.

Cannes is a shopper's paradise for chic and expensive items with an endless collection of top-of-the-line jewellery shops, haute-couture clothes shops and art galleries. If you're not busy shopping, eating or ogling, there are miles of sandy beaches along the Golfe de la Napoule or along the famous boulevard "La Croisette" in the Rade de Cannes.

Cannes > Cap d'Antibes 8 miles

Antibes is one of the most well known resorts on the Côte d'Azur, located between Nice and Cannes. The old town of Antibes is a temple of elegance in the dazzling French Riviera, as is the more lively neighbouring town of Juan-les-Pins. The Cap d'Antibes is a small piece of paradise in one of the most beautiful parks in Europe, at the most Southern tip of the Cape of Antibes, jutting out into the sea. It's also home to a number of millionaires' chateaux and dream residences, at the point of the "Cap" you will find the famous "Eden Roc" hotel – a refuge for many of the Worlds Greats!

For a long time Antibes was the only large town between Marseille and Italy. It was the only town on the coast to be protected by ramparts, today the Chateau, bastion and towers been transformed into a magnificent collection of Modern Art, History and Archaeology Museums. We recommend visiting the historic town centre on foot, meandering between pretty squares on its narrow streets. Let yourself be guided by the charm of the craft workshops where crafts persons often leaving the doors of their workshops open for all to see.

Cap d'Antibes > Villefranche 12 miles

Villefranche is a wonderful self-contained little bay offering its visitors a unique opportunity to experience everything French. A pretty and quaint fishing village in a busy part of the Côte d'Azur, Villefranche resides on a steep hillside that surrounds the beautiful bay. While walking around can be demanding at times, the paths penetrating Villefranche's parks, old section and village are simply breathtaking and worth the effort. Looking down from the main road above, the red tile roofs of the old town with the distinctive church and bell tower in the centre make a magnificent photo. With narrow cobblestone and bricked streets sloping steeply down towards the sea and vaulted passages beneath the houses, there's definitely a medieval feeling here. The citadel 'Fort Sainte Elme' dates back to the 14th century and now houses the city buildings and some wonderful gardens, it also hosts theatre shows during the summer season. There is a small Provençal market in the new town on Saturday mornings, and an antiques/ bric-a-brac market on the square on Sunday mornings. Overall Villefranche-sur-Mer

has soul, you can still buy fish from the fisherfolk on the seafront and meet genuine locals. U2, John Travolta and Lance Armstrong have been spotted in the fancier eateries, but Villefranche simply takes them in its stride.

Villefranche > St-Jean Cap Ferrat 5 miles

Saint-Jean Cap Ferrat is an exceptional site and one of the loveliest places on the Mediterranean coast. Its tranquillity and warm climate make it a favourite holiday destination amongst European aristocracy and international millionaires. In order to better appreciate the beauty of Saint Jean Cap Ferrat, we recommend a walk along the coastal path. Or visit the zoological park which houses 300 animals – where Necker Belle meets Ulusaba. Discover crocodiles, big-cats, exotic birds which live in semi-freedom amongst the Mediterranean and tropical vegetation. You can visit one of the most beautiful villas on the peninsula; Villa Ile de France is open to the public and is like a palace from "One Thousand and One Nights". This mansion is decorated with the treasures of the baroness Béatrice Ephrussi de Rothschild, and features more than 5000 works of art... it's simply fabulous! The gardens were inspired by The Baronness' travels. Surrounded by the sea the seven themed gardens are designed in Spanish, Florentine or Japanese styles, plus there is a garden of the Muses, garden of the Lapidary and the rose garden all linked by impeccable walk-ways, palm-trees and rare fragrances surround this paradise.

St-Jean Cap Ferrat > Monte-Carlo 5 miles

Once in your life you have to visit Monaco, a country of monarchy with Prince Albert II as head of state. The country is only about two squared kilometres, but boasts a population of over 30,000 people, making it the most populated country in the world. Monaco is well known for its tax haven status, and has a great deal to do with its exclusivity and appeal. It is also well known for tourism as a playground for the rich and famous, with its renowned Monte Carlo Casino. Exceptionally located between the South of France and Italy, between the Alps and the bright blue Mediterranean Sea, coupled with its gardens and athletic events these are all qualities which make it the ideal destination for a romantic or fun filled visit! The Grand Prix is another major part of Monaco which sees the public roads turn into a track each year as Formula1 cars race their way around the hairpin bends between hotels and residents homes! On April 14th, 1929, Prince Pierre inaugurated the first Grand Prix circuit of Monaco, with a lap of honour in a Torpedo Voisin car driven by the director Charles Faroux. "Williams" won the 1st Monaco Grand Prix in a Bugatti 35 B car. The race was a genuine triumph and has continued almost every year since except around the time of World War II. 'Monte-Carlo'; two words which evoke a magical dream world is a highly cultured place providing many stunning and elegant discoveries.

NECKER BELLE

Caribbean Sample Itinerary 7 Nights

Sunbathe on a secluded beach, snorkel coral reefs with vibrant marine life, scuba dive ancient shipwrecks, hike valleys of sugar cane, banana and coconut plantations, discover the charm of the Caribbean people and party into the wee hours at St Barths - the opportunities are endless. And with a maximum sailing distance of 40 miles between each destination, this makes the Caribbean the perfect place to island hop.



Antigua > Guadeloupe 42 miles

Antigua is one of the most beautiful island getaways in the Caribbean. Antigua has a distinctive flair all its own, from the historic Nelson's Harbor, to the chic but fun Antigua Yacht Club, to the bustling streets of St. John's, filled with shops and activity.

The island of Antigua on the Leeward Islands in the Eastern Caribbean, is 14 miles long and eleven miles wide. It is the largest of the English speaking Caribbean islands, and is surrounded by pristine coral reefs. It is part of the island country of Antigua and Barbuda - together these two islands offer unspoiled powdery white sand beaches (365 of them - one for each day of the

year!), amazing snorkelling and world-class scuba diving on the reefs, fantastic dining, and as many spectacular burnt orange sunsets as you want.

Discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1493, Guadeloupe was made a French region in 1974. It is a mix of modern cities, rainforests, stunning landscapes, sun-drenched beaches, attractive architecture and friendly people. Guadeloupe's National Park of 17.300ha offers one of the most beautiful and best preserved tropical forests of the West Indies, where you'll find more than 300 different kinds of trees, bushes or giant ferns. You can also visit several interesting sites, as for instance "la Soufrière", the 1.647m high volcano, or the natural waterfalls "les chutes du carbet" on over 300 kilometres of tracks. Or why not visit an orchid garden, coffee, cocoa or banana plantation... or for those in search of the famous Caribbean tippie, the Museum of Rum?

Five other islands belong to the archipelago of Guadeloupe: Les Saintes, la Désirade and Petite Terre, Marie Galante, and finally in the north Saint Martin (split into a French and a Netherland section) and Saint Bartholomew.

Guadeloupe > Iles des Saintes 20 miles

Just 10 km (6 mi) south of Guadeloupe, these idyllic tropical jewels float like exotic dreams in the Caribbean sea. Of the eight little islands, only two are inhabited, and picturesque Terre-de-Haut is the one most people don't miss. In addition to superb beaches, gorgeous bays, exceptional snorkelling and fascinating historical sites, this romantic island offers a charming village with excellent restaurants, interesting shops and unique art galleries. The other populated island, peaceful Terre-de-Bas, is only a few minutes by boat from Terre-de-Haut and is definitely worth a visit.

The men of Les Saintes are fishermen, reputedly the best in the West Indies, and watching them haul in their *filets bleus* (blue nets dotted with burnt-orange buoys) is memorising! On Bourg's main street you still occasionally see some of the men in an odd kind of headgear, a flat straw or bamboo platter covered with cloth called a salako. It is patterned after one said to have been brought here a long time ago by a seafarer from China or Indonesia. Whatever its origin, the salako is unique to the Iles des Saintes.

Iles des Saintes > Dominica 20 miles

Dominica sits midway along the Eastern Caribbean archipelago, just a few miles from Martinique to the south and Guadeloupe to the north. The island's official name is the Commonwealth of Dominica, to distinguish the island from its northerly Caribbean sister, the Dominican Republic.

Dominica is an arcadia of unspoiled nature. Tropical forest dominates two thirds of the island, which is home to 1,200 plant species and the Morne Trois Pitons National Park was the first UNESCO World Heritage Site in the eastern Caribbean. Whether you're into trekking high into the mountaintops or exploring the watery world below, Dominica is the place to go for those who prefer hiking boots over high heels and are content with a nightlife where the only music is the murmur of the jungle. If you can do it in the mountains (hiking, bird-watching, searching for hidden pools and waterfalls) or the water (diving, snorkelling, kayaking), you can do it in Dominica. Don't miss the ancient forests of the Morne Trois Pitons National Park, home to the world's second largest boiling lake and the spectacular Trafalgar Falls.

Dominica > Martinique 40 miles

Located in the heart of the Caribbean archipelago, Martinique is one of the Windward islands in the Lesser Antilles group. Its eastern coastline borders the Atlantic Ocean while its western coast is flanked by the Caribbean Sea. Martinique is a cultural melting pot and is home to a mix of Amerindians, Europeans, Africans, Indians, Levantines and Asians. So it's not surprising that Martinique is truly a land of tradition and culture, with a rich history of crafts and literature by renowned authors and famous poets, as well as music and dance.

And it's a place for beach lovers. And foodies. And divers. And hikers. Volcanic in origin, the island is crowned by Mont Pelée and there's plenty of hiking and nature-watching on the slopes of the volcano. And since this is often called the 'Isle of Flowers' there are botanical gardens tucked into the rugged landscape.

Martinique is also one of the best scuba diving locations in the Caribbean. With waters offering warm temperatures (80 to 86°F), whatever the depth is an array of colors, exceptional visibility and calm conditions.

And for any shopaholics amongst you, you'll find the latest fashions in the harbourside capital Fort-de-France.

Martinique > Marigot Bay/St Lucia 40 miles

Marigot Bay has been playing host to foreign visitors for more than three centuries. The bay, described by novelist James Michener as "the most beautiful bay in the Caribbean", was once a favourite haunt of pirates. Facing west, it provided shelter from storms and it was also the setting for a famous sea battle between the navies of France and Britain.

The famous Marigot marina is a great base for discovering the island or indeed the bay itself. With lively local restaurants and bars, Marigot Bay has become a well-known holiday destination. It consistently ranks as one of the Caribbean's most exclusive yachting destinations.

Marigot Bay > The Pitons/St Lucia 15 miles

The Pitons are the most notable and the most photographed landmarks in St Lucia are without doubt the Pitons. The towering twin Volcanoes of Gros Piton and Petit Piton dominate the landscape to the west coast of St Lucia. Gros Piton stands 797 metres above sea level and its smaller twin Petit Piton stands 750 metres above sea level; close to the town of Soufriere in the southwest of the island. The Pitons, which are now dormant volcanoes, are one of the most famous landmarks in the whole Caribbean region. Covered in lush green vegetation, the Pitons seem to majestically rise from the blue waters of the Caribbean. What makes them so spectacular is that they rise straight from Piton Bay and viewed from every angle they are just as impressive a sight. Tucked underneath Petit Piton is the old town of Soufriere. Soufriere was the capital of St Lucia (before Castries) during the period of French rule. Today it's a small fishing village with a few tourist attractions including the Diamond Botanical Gardens and the nearby Soufriere Volcano (known as the 'drive-through' or 'drive-in' volcano) as there is a convenient road through the very centre of the active crater.

The Pitons > St Vincent 25 miles

Discover an enchanting Caribbean island that is brimming with exciting adventures, captivating land and water activities, outstanding natural beauty and very friendly and welcoming people. Visit tropical gardens, go bird watching, take in a cricket match, explore beautiful bays, sail into natural anchorages, scuba

dive pristine reefs and dramatic caves, encounter delightful fishing villages, or replay scenes from Pirates of The Caribbean - the possibilities are endless!

St Vincent is home to the capital, Kingstown. This lively town is a throwback to colonial times with cobblestone streets and locals rushing about. On the south coast, Indian Bay Beach and Villa Beach are great beaches for an afternoon dip.