

Destination Seychelles

...passionately Seychelles

The Islands

The Seychelles archipelago consists of 115 islands, scattered between 450 - 1600 km off the coast of East Africa in the Indian Ocean, and categorised into the Inner and Outer islands.

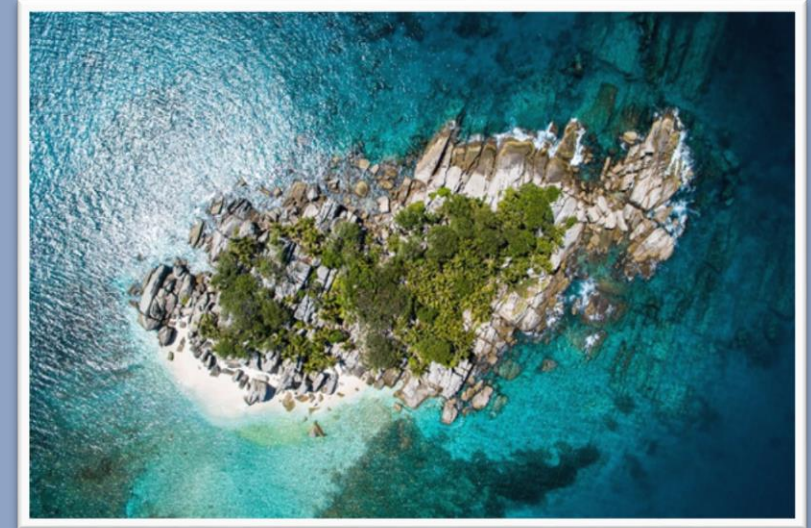
LOCATION	4° – 10° South of the equator
TOTAL LAND MASS	455 km ²
LAND TYPE	Granitic and Coralline
EEZ	1.4 million km ²
CAPITAL	Victoria on Mahé island
POPULATION	97, 739 (2019 estimation)

INNER & OUTER ISLANDS

The 41 inner islands consists of some of the oldest mid-oceanic granitic islands in the world, including the three main islands of Mahé, Praslin & La Digue. The remaining 74 outer islands form the 5 groups of low lying coral atolls and reef islets, including one of two of the country's UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the Aldabra atoll.

CLIMATE

As the land of perpetual summer, the temperature ranges between 24° - 34° C throughout the year. It is generally cooler in the months of November – March during the Northwest Monsoon (mostly raining in December – February), and hottest around May – October during the Southeast Monsoon season.



The People

FIRST SETTLERS

Seychelles (originally uninhabited) has been a multicultural society since its very first settlers in 1770, when the French came along with Indian and African people. Upon the defeat of Napoleon, Britain took over from France in 1814. The country finally gained its independence in 1976, becoming a republic within the Commonwealth of Nations.

GOVERNMENT

The Seychelles has a multi-party political system, headed by the President of the Republic, and supported by a cabinet of 13 Ministers and the Members of the National Assembly.

The country is a member of the United Nations, African Union, Commonwealth and *La Francophonie*.

RELIGION

A country of religious harmony, the Seychelles is predominantly Roman Catholic, with further denominations such as Anglican, Protestant, Pentecost and many more. Hindus, Muslims and Bahais also thrive peacefully on the islands.

LANGUAGE

Three official languages are taught in schools and fluently spoken by the majority of the population: the mother tongue Seychellois Creole, English and French.



Island Hopping

There is only one Seychelles International Airport, and it's located on mainland Mahé. Praslin has a domestic airport only, while outer islands that have airstrips include Alphonse, Assumption, Astove, Coetivy, Desroches, Farquhar, Marie-Louise, Platte, Poivre and Remire.

Seychelles has a well established public transport system for buses, taxis and car hires.

Unfortunately, Seychelles does not have designated bicycle lanes as yet, therefore cycling is not recommended... unless you're on La Digue island, of course!

To get across the channel, from mainland Mahé to Praslin and La Digue (or to further islands), you can go:

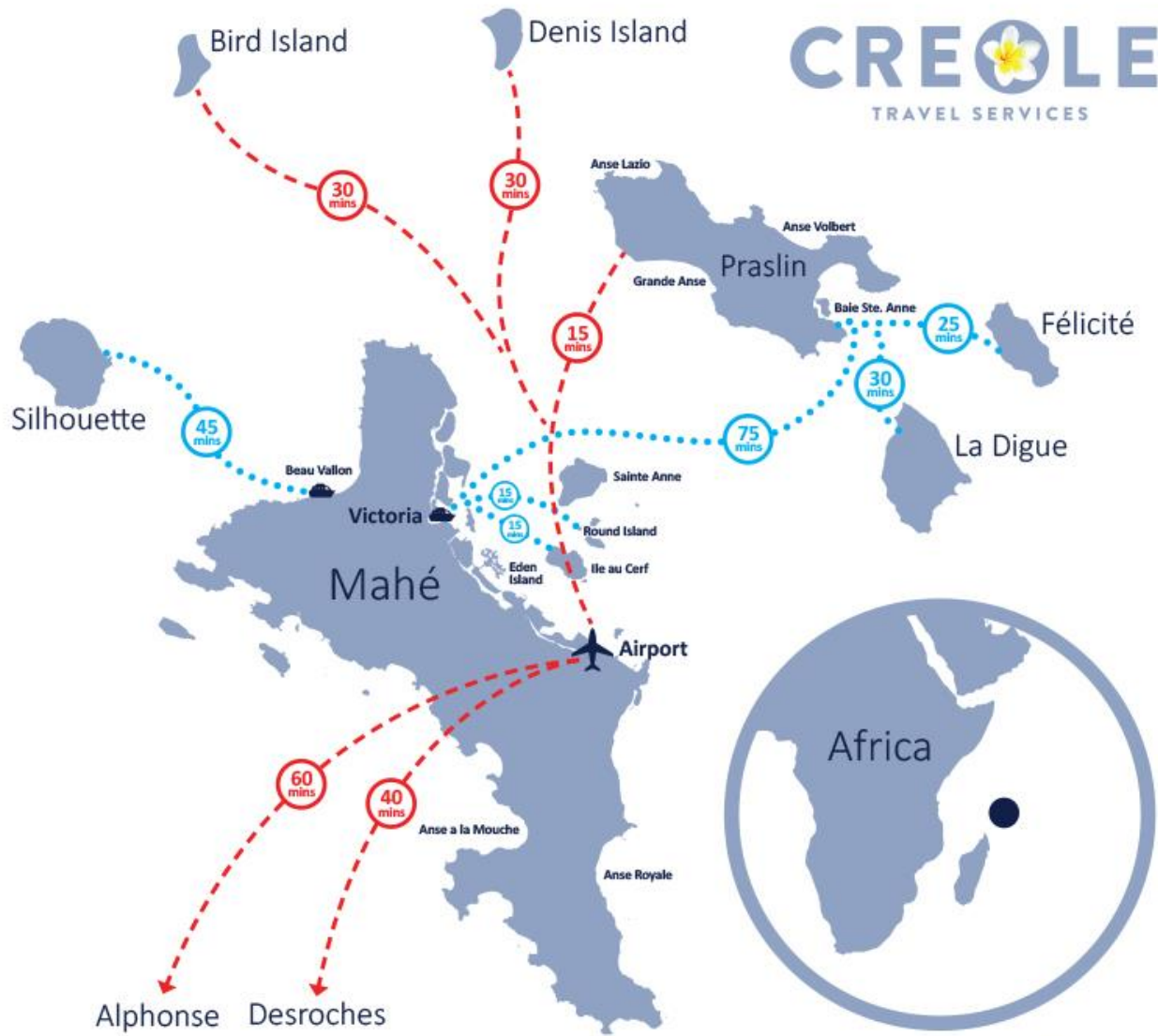
BY SEA

- Cat Cocos (Inter Island Ferry)
- Private catamaran/yacht excursions
- Hotel boat transfer (i.e. Hilton Seychelles Labriz Resort on Silhouette island has their own private boats to transport clients to and from Mahé)

BY AIR

- Air Seychelles domestic flights
- Island Development Company (IDC) Aviation
- Zil Air helicopter charter





CREOLE
TRAVEL SERVICES

CREOLE
TRAVEL SERVICES

...passionately Seychelles

--- Flight
..... Sea

**All transfer durations are dependent on weather/sea conditions*

Flora & Fauna

A tiny country we may be, but we are global leaders by having nearly 50% of our land protected as nature parks and reserves. This ensures that our fragile eco-system and unique endemic species can continue to thrive for future generations.

UNESCO HERITAGE SITES

Not one but two! The mystical **Vallée de Mai**, rumoured to be the original garden of Eden, is one of only two locations on Earth where the rare **Coco de Mer** grows naturally in its palm forests.

Aldabra, part of the Outer Islands, is the world's largest raised atoll described as "one of the wonders of the world" by Sir David Attenborough, and became a UNESCO heritage site in 1982.

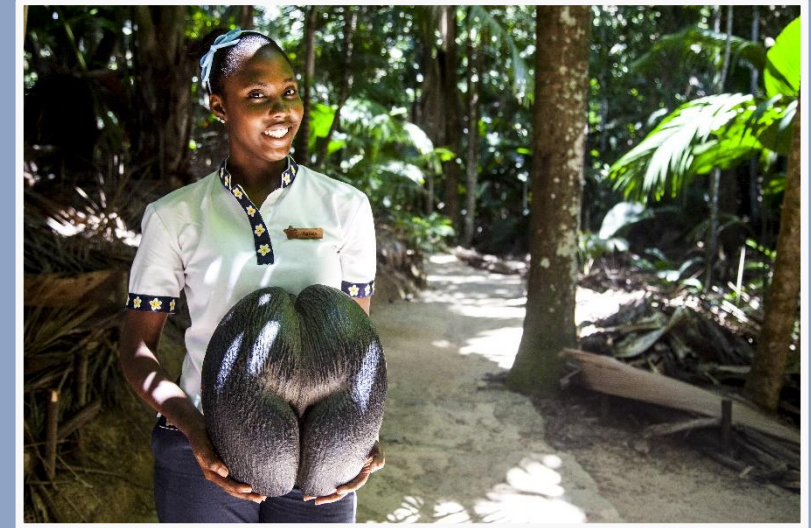
It should be noted that in late 2021, the traditional *moutya* dance of Seychelles was officially inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

UNIQUE SPECIES

The Aldabra giant land tortoise is the only one of its species left in the Indian Ocean.

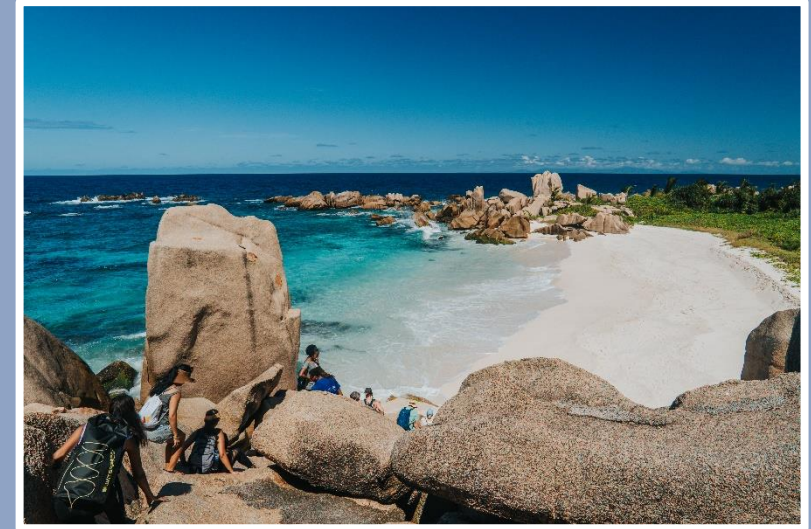
The Seychelles palm frog is possibly the smallest in the world, averaging at only 1cm in size.

The Aldabra rail is the last flightless bird left in the Indian Ocean, avoiding extinction like Mauritius' dodo bird, due to its isolated atoll home away from mankind.



Travel Tips

- Ensure to have the right currency! The most widely used currencies are Euro, US Dollar and Pound Sterling. The Seychelles currency is the Seychelles Rupee (SCR).
- No VISA is required to enter the country as a tourist. You must, however, possess a valid passport and a return or onward ticket.
- Flip flops are the islands' shoe wear of choice!
- Otherwise, wear hiking shoes, reef walkers or waterproof sandals for adventures.
- Bring wide brimmed hats, sunglasses, strong sun screen and light, airy clothes.
- It's good to have cash for smaller purchases, especially outside of hotels.
- Travel Insurance for peace of mind.
- A camera to share your beautiful moments with your loved ones!
- Kindly refer to HTA Seychelles at <https://seychelles.govtas.com/> under the general information section for pre-arrival information.



See you on the islands!