

Cabrits, Portsmouth, Dominica

Dominica's northern cruise berth puts you inside a national park the moment you step ashore — 18th-century fort ruins, hand-rowed river tours, and volcanic rainforest all within easy reach of Portsmouth.

Docked pier

Typical call: 7-9 hrs

Eastern Caribbean dollar / USD widely accepted

English (official)

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Timber wharf inside Cabrits National Park, ~5 min walk to Portsmouth town

Best For: History, nature hikes, Indian River boat tour

Walk to Fort Shirley: 10–15 min on foot from the pier

Don't Miss: Hand-rowed Indian River tour with a stop at the riverside bush bar

Getting around: Taxi \$5–\$15 USD · Rideshare not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Fort Shirley & Cabrits National Park** — Walk 10 minutes from the pier to explore the restored 18th-century British garrison at Fort Shirley.
 - Indian River Rowboat Tour** — Glide through Dominica's widest river in a hand-oared wooden boat — no motors allowed.
 - Titou Gorge Swim** — Swim through a narrow volcanic canyon to a hidden waterfall — a surreal spot also used in Pirates of the Caribbean.
- Emerald Pool & Morne Trois Pitons** — A grotto waterfall inside the UNESCO World Heritage rainforest, reached by an easy 15-minute trail.
 - Whale Watching off Dominica** — Dominica is one of the best places in the Caribbean to spot sperm whales year-round.

BEST WALKS

- Pier to Fort Shirley Loop** 1.5 km · 30–45 min · Easy — Walk the park trail from the cruise terminal north to Fort Shirley's restored garrison ruins.
- Portsmouth Waterfront Stroll** 1.5 km · 25 min · Easy — Head south along the Prince Rupert Bay waterfront into Portsmouth town.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		86°	73°	9d
Jun		88°	76°	14d
Aug		89°	76°	17d
Sep		89°	76°	18d
Oct		88°	75°	18d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:51AM–6:20PM · Jun 5:35AM–6:37PM · Aug 5:51AM–6:29PM · Sep 5:54AM–6:07PM · Oct 5:57AM–5:44PM

Representative sunrise/sunset — 2025, 15th of each month; local civil time including DST (America/Dominica). Source: Astral; not a forecast or climate average.

Eastern Caribbean dollar / USD widely accepted

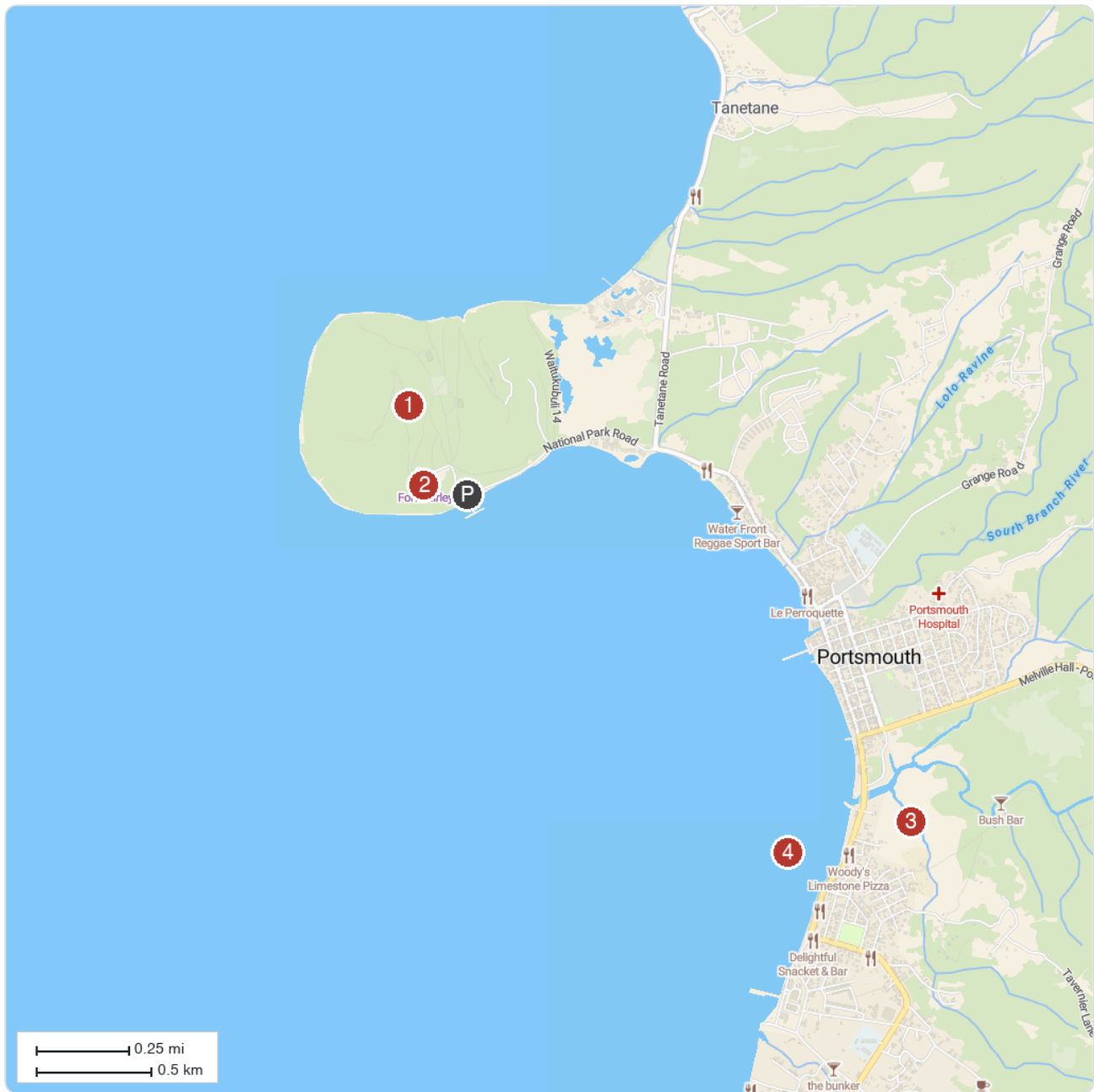
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- USD is widely accepted in Portsmouth and at the terminal. Eastern Caribbean dollars (XCD) give slightly better value at local stalls; rate is fixed at ~2.7 XCD to 1 USD.
- Dominica is the wettest island in the Caribbean — pack a light rain layer even on a sunny morning. Showers pass quickly.
- The Indian River sells out on busy ship days — head straight there after docking if it's a priority. The boatmen at the bridge fill up fast.
- Parks pass is required for both Cabrits National Park and the Indian River (separate fees). Buy at the terminal visitor center or the river entrance booth.
- Taxis congregate at the terminal — negotiate the full tour price before you get in. A round-trip to Roseau-area waterfalls runs roughly US\$60–80 for a private car.
- Toucari Bay, 10 minutes north of the terminal by taxi, offers calm, clear snorkeling from the beach — no boat required and far quieter than ship-organized snorkel tours.

Cabrits, Portsmouth, Dominica — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Cabrits National Park | A peninsula park combining rainforest, coral reef, and historic fort ruins. | 2 Fort Shirley | A well-preserved 18th-century British fort with restored garrison buildings and ocean views. |
| 3 Indian River | A tranquil mangrove-lined river near Portsmouth navigated by rowboat, featured in Pirates of the Caribbean. | 4 Prince Rupert Bay | The sheltered bay off Portsmouth where cruise tenders and yachts anchor. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |