

Cayenne, French Guiana, France

France's slice of the Amazon: a sun-baked colonial capital where Creole spice markets share space with the European Space Agency's rocket pads, and the infamous Devil's Island sits just offshore.

Docked (Degrad des Cannes pier)

Typical call: 8-10 hrs

Currency: Euro

Language: French

Tropical climate — pack light rain gear

MY DAY IN PORT

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

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Degrad des Cannes commercial port, ~13 km from city center on the Mahury River estuary

Best For: History buffs, space enthusiasts, wildlife seekers, and anyone curious about French overseas territories

Walk to center: Not walkable from port — taxis or ship shuttles required; ~15-20-min ride to Place des Palmistes

Don't Miss: A boat tour to the Salvation Islands (Île Royale ruins) or the Guiana Space Centre in Kourou

Getting around: Taxi \$65–\$80 · Rideshare not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Salvation Islands — Île Royale & Devil's Island** — The most iconic excursion from this region.
- Cayenne City & Creole Market Walk** — Explore Place des Palmistes — the palm-lined central square — then browse the lively Place du Coq market on Rue du Lieutenant Brassé (Wednesdays...
- Guiana Space Centre (Centre Spatial Guyanais), Kourou** — Tour the European Space Agency's primary launch facility, one of the best spaceports open to visitors worldwide.
- Rorota Trail — Jungle Hike** — A 2.5-hour circular hike through dense Amazonian rainforest just 10 km from Cayenne.
- Montjoly Beach** — A long, wild Atlantic beach about 10 km east of Cayenne — sandy, uncrowded, and backed by palms.

BEST WALKS

- Place des Palmistes to Fort Cépérrou** ~2 km • 1.5 hrs • Easy–moderate — Start at Place des Palmistes, Cayenne's grand central square framed by royal palms.
- Montabo Coastal Trail** ~3 km • 1 hr • Easy — A leafy coastal trail west of Cayenne city, winding through secondary forest along the shoreline.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		82°	75°	27d
Jun		83°	74°	29d
Aug		86°	75°	22d
Sep		88°	76°	14d
Oct		88°	76°	14d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:22AM–6:35PM · Jun 6:17AM–6:42PM · Aug 6:25AM–6:41PM · Sep 6:20AM–6:28PM · Oct 6:14AM–6:15PM

Currency: Euro

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Euro cash is essential. French Guiana uses the euro; card acceptance outside major hotels and supermarkets is unreliable. ATMs in central Cayenne are the safest source.
- Rain gear is non-negotiable. Cayenne averages nearly 3,000 mm of rain per year. Sudden downpours are common even in the 'dry' season — a compact poncho weighs nothing and saves your day.
- Mosquito repellent (DEET strength). The jungle and beach areas have mosquitoes year-round. Malaria risk is low in the city but higher in forested areas; check current advisories.
- Book Salvation Islands in advance. The ferry from Kourou to Île Royale has limited daily capacity. Pre-book through your cruise line or independently at ilesdusalut-guyane.com to avoid selling out.
- Try Creole cuisine. Cayenne's market and city restaurants serve excellent Colombo (curry), bouillon d'awara (palm-fruit stew), and fresh grilled fish. This is French-influenced Creole cooking — very different from the Caribbean.
- Heat and humidity are serious. Temperatures hover around 30°C (86°F) with high humidity year-round. Drink water constantly, wear light breathable clothing, and schedule outdoor activities for the morning.

Cayenne, French Guiana, France — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



P Cruise port / terminal