

Cousin Island, Seychelles

One of the Indian Ocean's last truly wild islands — fearless seabirds nest inches from your feet, giant tortoises roam freely, and hawksbill turtles come ashore on pristine granite beaches. Only small expedition ships call here, and every visit is a guided, conservation-funded experience.

 Tender — warden boats only (no pier)

 Typical call: 3-4 hrs (Mon–Fri only)

 Entrance fee: ~SCR 600 / €40 per person

 English & Seychellois Creole

 Nature reserve — guided visits only

MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Anchor offshore; transfer to reserve warden patrol boats ~200 m from shore
Don't Miss: Seychelles warbler, Seychelles fody, fearless white terns, giant tortoises

Best For: Wildlife photography, rare endemic birds, hawksbill turtles, pristine beaches
Important Limits: Open Mon–Fri 9:45 am–12:30 pm only; no restaurants, shops, or toilets on island

 Getting around:  Taxi  SCR 250–600 (~\$15–\$37 USD)

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Guided Nature Walk with Reserve Wardens** — The island's own young conservationists lead a ~90-minute circuit through granite outcrops, coastal forest, and nesting colonies.
- Hawksbill Turtle Watching** — Cousin Island hosts one of the densest nesting populations of hawksbill turtles in the Indian Ocean.
- Birdwatching — Seychelles Endemics** — Cousin Island is one of the last strongholds of the Seychelles warbler and Seychelles fody, both globally threatened species.

BEST WALKS

- Guided Island Circuit** ~1.5 km · Easy · ~90 min · Guided only — A single looping trail led by reserve wardens takes in the granite interior, coastal forest, nesting bird colonies, turtle nesting beaches, and patches of native Pisonia...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		84°	81°	18d
Jun		81°	79°	18d
Aug		79°	77°	14d
Sep		80°	78°	18d
Oct		81°	79°	17d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 6:17AM–6:17PM · Jun 6:21AM–6:13PM · Aug 6:22AM–6:20PM · Sep 6:10AM–6:14PM · Oct 5:57AM–6:08PM

 Entrance fee: ~SCR 600 / €40 per person

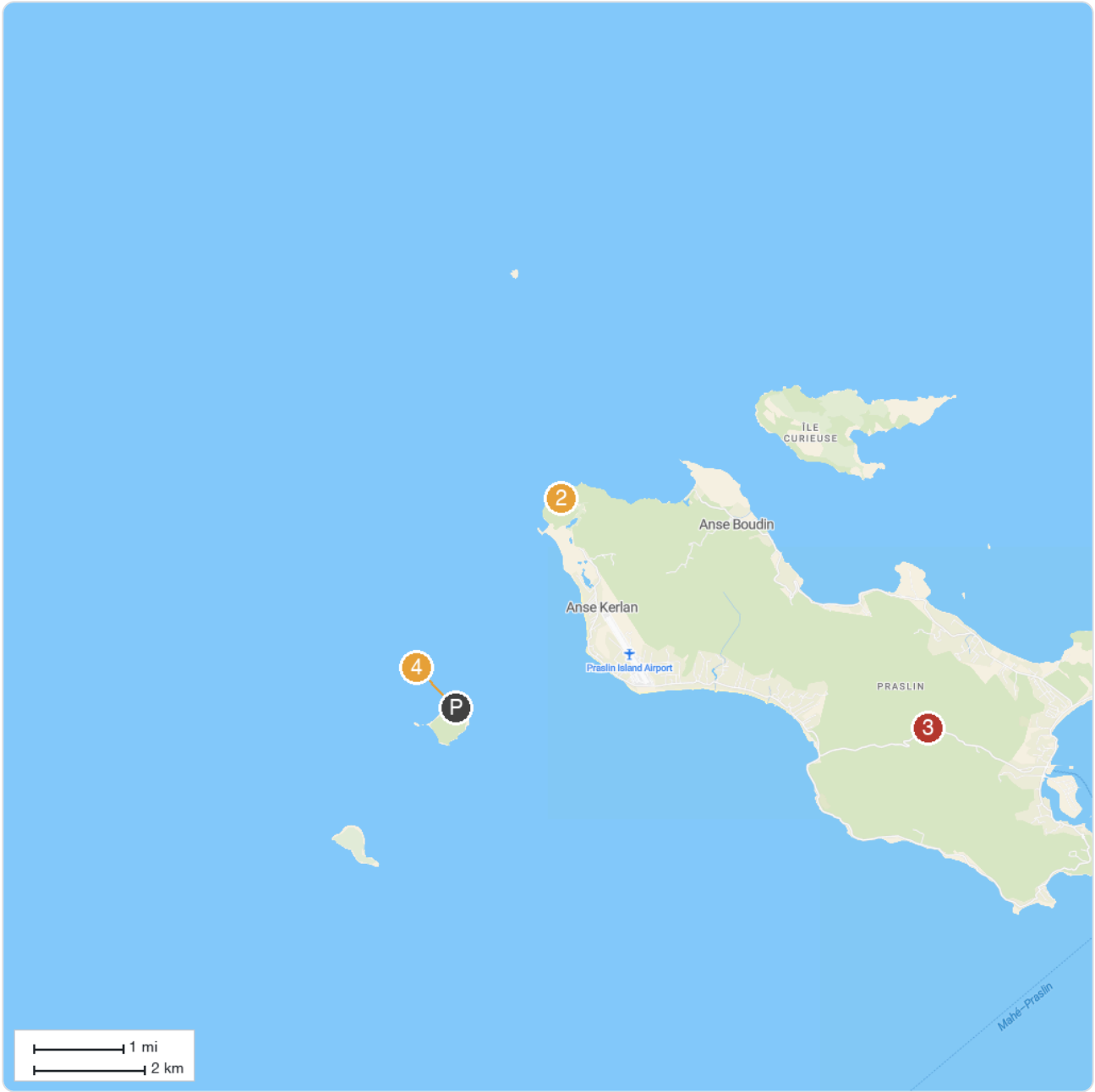
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Apply insect repellent before boarding the warden boat. The island's swamp forest is a mosquito breeding ground with no chemical control. DEET or Picaridin, applied on the ship, is essential — once on the island it's too late.
- Wear water-resistant sandals or water shoes. The beach landing gets your feet wet. Flip-flops will be lost; sneakers will stay soaked all visit.
- No flash, no tripods, no selfie sticks. Reserve rules strictly prohibit flash photography and large equipment near nesting birds. A compact camera or phone is fine — animals are close enough you don't need a long lens.
- Bring cash in Euros or SCR for the entrance fee (~SCR 600 / €40 per adult). There are no card readers on the island.
- No food, drink, toilets, or shops on the island. Use your ship's facilities before going ashore and carry only a sealed water bottle. All rubbish must return to the ship.
- Visits are Mon–Fri only, 9:45 am–12:30 pm. If your ship arrives on a weekend or Seychellois public holiday, the reserve is closed. Confirm access with your cruise line before sailing.

Cousin Island, Seychelles — 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 | Cousin Island Special Reserve | Managed nature reserve and former coconut plantation restored as a seabird and hawksbill turtle sanctuary. | 2 | Anse George | Secluded white-sand beach on nearby Praslin with turquoise water, often cited as one of the region's finest. |
| 3 | Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve | UNESCO World Heritage palm forest on Praslin, home to the giant coco de mer palm. | 4 | Anse Lazio | Granite-boulder-framed beach on Praslin's northwest coast, popular for swimming and snorkeling. |
| P | Cruise port / terminal | | | | |