

# St Eustatius, Caribbean Netherlands

Tiny, tranquil, and loaded with history — Statia was once the 'Golden Rock' of the Atlantic trade and the first foreign territory to salute the American flag. Cruise ships anchor offshore and tender in to Lower Town, a short walk from Fort Oranje and a trove of 18th-century ruins.

Tender port

Typical call: 6-8 hrs

US Dollar

English

World-class diving

## MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrive: \_\_\_\_\_ All aboard: \_\_\_\_\_

Excursion: \_\_\_\_\_ Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## GETTING ASHORE

**Docking:** Tender — ships anchor in Oranje Bay; boats land at Lower Town pier

**Best For:** History buffs, divers, hikers, and travelers seeking off-the-beaten-path Caribbean

**Walk to center:** Lower Town pier to Fort Oranje (Upper Town): ~10-min uphill walk

**Don't Miss:** Fort Oranje, Honen Dalim Synagogue ruins, The Quill volcano hike

Getting around: Taxi \$10–\$20 USD · Rideshare not available

## TOP THINGS TO DO

- Fort Oranje & Historical Museum** — Built in 1636, Fort Oranje overlooks Oranje Bay with a row of old cannons and a plaque commemorating the first foreign salute to the American flag...
- Honen Dalim Synagogue Ruins** — One of the oldest Jewish synagogue ruins in the Western Hemisphere (1738), located in Upper Town.
- The Quill Volcano Hike** — A 2,000-foot dormant volcano covered in lush rainforest — the crater interior shelters rare bird species including the red-necked pigeon.
- Scuba Diving — St Eustatius National Marine Park** — The entire island is ringed by a protected marine park with pristine reefs, volcanic fissures, and historic shipwrecks down to 100 feet.
- Miriam C. Schmidt Botanical Garden** — A 52-acre garden on the Atlantic slope of The Quill, showcasing native flora and fauna with ranger-led tours available.

## BEST WALKS

- Lower Town to Fort Oranje** 0.5 km · 10 min · Easy uphill — From the tender landing pier, follow the waterfront north past dive shops and the Old Gin House, then take the Bay Path (Slave Path) up the cliff to Upper Town.
- Upper Town History Loop** 1.5 km · 30-40 min · Easy — From Fort Oranje, walk Kerkweg to the Dutch Reformed Church ruins and cemetery, then continue to the Honen Dalim Synagogue ruins and Three Widows' Corner.

## WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

|     | Mon | High | Low | Rain |
|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| Apr |     | 79°  | 76° | 7d   |
| Jun |     | 82°  | 79° | 7d   |
| Aug |     | 83°  | 80° | 14d  |
| Sep |     | 83°  | 80° | 15d  |
| Oct |     | 83°  | 79° | 17d  |

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:55AM–6:28PM · Jun 5:37AM–6:47PM · Aug 5:55AM–6:37PM · Sep 6:00AM–6:13PM · Oct 6:05AM–5:49PM

## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Tender-only port: No pier exists — all passengers tender. In rough swells, calls can be delayed or cancelled. Check conditions and don't book non-refundable excursions far from the pier.
- Sunday warning: If your ship visits on a Sunday, Upper Town shops and the museum are typically closed. Waterfront restaurants and dive operators usually stay open for cruise passengers.
- Currency: US Dollars are the official currency, accepted everywhere. ATMs are available in Upper Town near the square.
- The Quill hike: Requires a trail tag (purchase at hotels or tourist board before heading out). Bring water and sturdy footwear — the crater path is steep and can be muddy.
- Divers: Book your dive in advance — Golden Rock Dive Center and Scubaqua are both in Lower Town, steps from the tender pier. The marine park is world-class and rarely crowded.
- Beaches: Oranje Bay Beach (calm, swimmable) is near Lower Town. Zeelandia Beach on the Atlantic side has dramatic surf but strong currents — not suitable for swimming.

# St Eustatius, Caribbean Netherlands — Port Map

[cruiseports.org](https://cruiseports.org)

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



- 1

**Fort Oranje** Cliff-top Dutch fort dating to 1636, site of the 1776 'First Salute' to the American flag, with cannons and bay views.
- 2

**Honen Dalim Synagogue Ruins** Roofless 1739 yellow-brick synagogue, one of the oldest Jewish house-of-worship ruins in the Western Hemisphere.
- 3

**St. Eustatius National Park (Quill)** Dormant volcanic crater 'The Quill' with rainforest crater-floor trails and views over the island.
- P

**Cruise port / terminal**