St. George's, Grenada

A gorgeous, steep harbour town with the Spice Isle's best beach a short ride south.

Facts checked on 26 October 2026

I haven't sailed into Grenada yet, so I built this guide the way I'd want one built for me: from the cruise lines' own port pages, the US State Department and what the port has published about its terminal, and I'll tell you plainly where the official numbers run out. St. George's is one of the prettiest harbour towns in the Caribbean. It's also one of the steepest, and that's the thing to plan around.

THE QUICK TAKE

- Most ships **dock** at the Melville Street Cruise Terminal, right on the edge of downtown St. George's. Small ships may use the inner harbour (the Carenage). On very busy days, extra ships anchor and tender.
- Town is walkable from the pier, but **steep**: a big hill sits between the terminal and the Carenage.
- Grand Anse Beach is roughly **10 minutes** south by taxi, by travellers' reports. Water taxis also run there on cruise days, weather permitting.
- Agree every taxi and water-taxi price, in which currency, before you go. I couldn't confirm a current official fare sheet.
- **Camouflage clothing is illegal** for civilians, and drones need police approval.
- The US State Department rates Grenada at **Level 2** (increased caution) for crime. Go by **ship time**.

Grenada at a glance

Getting ashore	Most ships dock at the Melville Street Cruise Terminal. Smaller ships may dock in the inner harbour on the Carenage. When the port is full, extra ships anchor and tender.
Ship to town	You walk off the pier, through the terminal and the Esplanade shopping mall, and you're downtown. The streets climb steeply from there.
Currency	Eastern Caribbean dollar (EC$). US dollars are widely taken in tourist areas, but not at every small business, and change often comes back in EC$.
Language	English
Time zone	Atlantic Standard Time all year (no daylight saving): 1 hour ahead of Eastern in winter, the same in summer. **Be back by ship time.**
Taxis	Plentiful at the terminal. Registered taxis carry an "H" on the licence plate. Agree the fare and currency first.
Drive on	The left. Seat belts are compulsory.
Watch out for	Camouflage clothing is illegal. Drones need police approval.

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Grenada travel advisory
US State Department

St. George's port guide
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Map of the island



Everything a cruise day needs is in the southwest corner; the rainforest and waterfalls are a half-hour climb inland.

Which pier you'll use

St. George's has more than one place to put a ship, and it's worth knowing which one you'll get. Ask your cruise line, because it can change on the day.

Melville Street Cruise Terminal (most ships)

This is the main cruise pier, opened in 2005 on reclaimed land at the edge of downtown. The port says it can take two mega-ships and one mid-size ship at once, or four small ships. Tour vehicles can pick up right at the pier. If you're on your own, you walk through the welcome centre and the Esplanade shopping mall and come out downtown.

The Carenage / inner harbour (smaller ships)

Smaller ships can dock in the inner harbour and step passengers straight onto the Carenage, the horseshoe-shaped waterfront with restaurants and shops. It's the prettiest arrival in Grenada. The Tourism Authority has also referred to a Burns Point Cruise Welcome Centre for some calls; ask your line if that's where you'll be.

Anchoring and tendering

When the berths are full, extra ships anchor off the town and bring passengers in by tender. If you use a walker or wheelchair, check this before you sail.

Melville Street to the Carenage

The Carenage is on the other side of a steep hill from the cruise terminal. You can climb over it on stairs and steep streets, or walk through the **Sendall Tunnel**, a tunnel built in 1885. A taxi or a water taxi across the harbour is the easier way.

At the Grenada cruise port: what's there

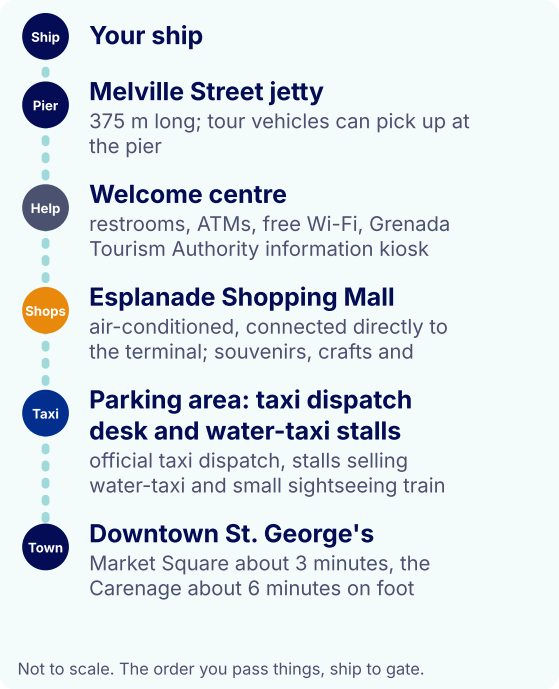
Port facts checked on 30 October 2026. Shops, prices and opening hours change, so check on the day.

I haven't sailed into Grenada yet, so this is the planner's version. The Melville Street Cruise Terminal is a proper little complex: a welcome centre with restrooms, ATMs, free Wi-Fi and a tourism information kiosk, and then the air-conditioned Esplanade Mall, which you walk straight through into downtown St. George's. There's no beach or pool at the port, and the town beyond is steep, so a stay-at-port day here means the mall, the spice market a few minutes away, and a cool drink before the hills.

Port map: this port doesn't publish a map of its own that we could find, so we drew the simple walk below from the port's and cruise lines' own descriptions.

From the ship: Melville Street Cruise Terminal

Main cruise pier, opened in 2005 on reclaimed land at the edge of downtown. A 375-metre jetty that can take two mega-ships and one mid-size ship, or four small ships (Grenada Ports Authority via Business View Caribbean, 2015). Smaller ships may dock in the inner harbour on the Carenage; extra ships anchor and tender when the berths are full. Burns Point Cruise Welcome Centre has also been used for some calls.



Our own simple drawing, not the port's map.

Free things to do inside the port

Free Wi-Fi Free — Free Wi-Fi inside the terminal building (GPSmyCity). No speed or time limit published.
Terminal building · about 0 min walk from the ship

Tourism information kiosk Free — Run by the Grenada Tourism Authority, with maps, brochures and tips; experience storyboards about the island were installed at the terminal in 2019.
Inside the terminal · about 0 min walk from the ship

Market Square spice market Free to browse — Island spices, fresh produce, crafts, food and drink; prices are set, so no haggling (AFAR). Saturday is the busiest vendor day.
Downtown, about 3 minutes on foot (Caribbean Authority) · about 3 min walk from the ship
Access: Town streets are steep with deep gutters and narrow pavements

The Carenage Free — St. George's horseshoe-shaped harbour front with restaurants and shops; the classic view.
About 6 minutes on foot, over the hill or through the Sendall Tunnel · about 6 min walk from the ship
Access: Steep route; a taxi or water taxi is easier

Food and drink

Esplanade Mall and downtown cafés — No named food outlets are published for the terminal itself; restaurants line the Carenage and the market sells local food and drinks.
Esplanade Mall, Market Square, the Carenage

Shopping

Esplanade Shopping Mall — Air-conditioned mall that's part of the terminal complex: locally made souvenirs and crafts plus duty-free stores (GPSmyCity names Colombian Emeralds and Milano). Number of shops not published.
Directly connected to the cruise terminal · about 0 min walk from the ship
Access: Indoors; you pass through it on the way out

Duty-free hall — The port's welcome centre includes a duty-free hall (Business View Caribbean, 2015).
Melville Street complex · about 0 min walk from the ship

Worth paying for (and what it costs)

Sightseeing train tour — A small sightseeing train tour; tickets are sold at stalls outside the terminal (GPSmyCity). Price not published.
Stalls outside the terminal

Restrooms, Wi-Fi, money and help

Restrooms — Restrooms inside the terminal building.
Terminal building · about 0 min walk from the ship

ATMs — ATMs inside the terminal (GPSmyCity); which currency they dispense isn't published. The local money is the Eastern Caribbean dollar; change often comes back in EC$.
Terminal building · about 0 min walk from the ship

Getting out of the port

Official taxi dispatch desk — Arranges taxis at the port. Registered taxis have an H on the plate. Cruise Critic reports government-set fares and a $10 ride from St. George's to Grand Anse, but no current official fare sheet could be opened; agree the price, currency and per-person or per-car first.
Outside the terminal

Water taxis to Grand Anse — On cruise days small open boats run to Grand Anse Beach and across the harbour; tickets at stalls outside the terminal. Reported prices: about $4 from the Carenage (Cruise Critic) or about $5 per person (Caribbean Authority, 2023).
Stalls outside the terminal; boats from near the pier and the Carenage
Access: Stepping down into an open boat; weather permitting

Tour pick-up — Tour vehicles load in the parking area right at the pier.
Parking area outside the terminal
Access: The easiest option if walking is hard

Minibuses — Public minivan buses with marked stops in St. George's.
Town
Access: A step up and tight seats

A whole day without leaving the port

If I were spending the day at the port here, I'd take my time in the welcome centre, use the free Wi-Fi to send my photos home, and browse the cool Esplanade Mall for spices and crafts. Then a short walk to the spice market at Market Square, and back before the heat. For a beach, I wouldn't walk: I'd buy a water-taxi ticket at the stall outside, or take a taxi to Grand Anse. The Carenage is lovely, but it's over a steep hill, so I'd save it for a taxi or the water taxi.

At the port with a cane, walker or wheelchair

- Most ships dock at Melville Street, and tour vans can pick you up right at the pier.
- The welcome centre and the Esplanade Mall are indoors and on the way out; restrooms are in the terminal.
- Beyond the mall, St. George's is steep, with deep gutters and narrow pavements; a hill or the old Sendall Tunnel separates the terminal from the Carenage.
- No wheelchair or scooter rental, accessible taxis, or beach wheelchairs are published for the port.
- Water taxis mean stepping down into an open boat.
- On busy days some ships anchor and tender. Check with your own cruise line which berth you'll get and how they handle mobility aids.

More on cruising with mobility & health needs. Rules differ by cruise line, so check with yours.

Questions about the port

What is there to do at the Grenada cruise port?
The Melville Street terminal has a welcome centre with free Wi-Fi and a tourism kiosk, and you walk straight through the air-conditioned Esplanade Mall for souvenirs and duty-free. The spice market is about 3 minutes away and the Carenage about 6.

Is there free Wi-Fi at the Grenada cruise terminal?
Yes, GPSmyCity lists free Wi-Fi inside the Melville Street terminal building. No time limit is published.

How do you get from the Grenada cruise port to Grand Anse Beach?
Take a taxi from the official dispatch desk or a water taxi, with tickets sold at stalls outside the terminal. Agree the fare and currency before you go.

Where the port facts come from: GPSmyCity: Cruise Ship Terminal, St. George's (30 October 2026); Beyond Ships: Grenada cruise port (30 October 2026); Business View Caribbean: Grenada Ports Authority (Feb 2015) (30 October 2026); Cruise Critic: Grenada port page (reported) (30 October 2026); Caribbean Authority: Getting to Grand Anse on a cruise (2023/2024, reported) (30 October 2026); AFAR: A local's guide to St. George's for cruise visitors (Dec 2024) (30 October 2026); Travel World News: Grenada improves cruise guest experience (Mar 2019) (30 October 2026); NOW Grenada: Burns Point Cruise Welcome Centre notice (Nov 2017) (30 October 2026); US State Department: Grenada travel advisory (26 October 2026)

How I'd spend the day

If walking is hard

Skip the hills. Take a taxi straight to Grand Anse, rent a chair and an umbrella under the sea grapes, and have lunch at one of the beach bars on the sand. Or book a short island drive by van that stops at viewpoints, so you see the harbour from Fort Frederick or Fort George without climbing to it. **see Grenada island tour St George's on Viator**

Beach day

Grand Anse, a short drive south. Calm water most days and a long sweep of sand. Go by taxi, or take a water taxi if they're running and the sea is calm. **see Grenada Grand Anse beach on Viator**

See the island

A half-day tour up into the hills: Grand Etang National Park's rainforest (about 30 minutes inland), Annandale Falls (about 20 minutes), and a spice plantation or nutmeg station, then back via the Carenage for photos. Snorkellers can swap the falls for the Underwater Sculpture Park instead. **see Grenada Underwater Sculpture Park snorkel on Viator**

Getting around

Taxis

Taxis wait outside the terminal, and many drivers offer island tours. Registered taxis have an **H** on the plate. Cruise Critic's port page says the government sets taxi rates, but I couldn't open a current official fare sheet, so I'm not printing a fare. Agree on the price, the currency (US$ or EC$), and whether it's per person or per car before you get in. If you're coming back, set a pick-up time. Celebrity suggests tipping drivers 10 to 15 percent.

Water taxis

On cruise days, small boats run from near the pier and the Carenage to Grand Anse Beach and across the harbour. It's quick, but it's an open boat, and visitors report they don't run when it's windy. Climbing in and out from a dock or the beach takes some balance. The fare isn't published officially; agree it before you board and keep your return ticket or wristband.

Buses

Grenada's buses are privately run minivans, numbered by zone, leaving from the bus terminal in St. George's. Route 1 goes south past Grand Anse. They're cheap, crowded and fast, and you pay in cash. Not the best choice if steps or tight seats are a problem.

Driving

You drive on the left, and the roads are narrow and winding, with blind corners and steep drops. The State Department recommends getting a local temporary driving licence, which rental companies can arrange. For a single port day, I'd let a local drive.

What to see

St. George's and the Carenage

Red-tiled roofs piled up the hillside around a horseshoe harbour. The Carenage waterfront is the classic photo, and it's where you'll find cafés with a view. Allow an hour or two, and wear shoes with grip.

Fort George

Built by the French in **1705** on the headland above the harbour, with views over the town and the sea. It's a steep climb from the pier. I couldn't confirm a current entry fee or opening hours.

Fort Frederick

Up on Richmond Hill behind town, with the best panoramic view of St. George's harbour. Go by taxi or tour.

Grenada National Museum

A small museum in town on the island's history. I couldn't confirm current hours or fees.

Molinere Underwater Sculpture Park

Sculptures sunk on the seabed off the west coast, about 15 minutes north by car. You see it on a snorkel, dive or glass-bottom boat trip, not from the shore.

Grand Etang National Park and Annandale Falls

Grand Etang's rainforest is about 30 minutes inland, and Annandale Falls about 20 minutes. Both are tour-friendly, but paths can be wet and uneven.

Beaches, ranked for a cruise day

1. **Grand Anse Beach**, roughly 10 minutes south of the pier by taxi. A long sweep of sand, usually calm and clear water, beach bars on the sand, and vendors renting chairs and umbrellas (prices aren't published, so agree them first). The beach is free and public. The seabed drops off a few steps from shore, so weaker swimmers should stay close in.
2. **A beach-day tour**, if you want a guaranteed chair, shade and a restroom waiting for you. Several operators sell Grand Anse beach breaks with transport from the pier.

No lifeguards are mentioned for Grand Anse in anything I could find. Swim with a buddy, and take the State Department's warning about strong surf and rip currents seriously.

Where to eat and what to try

- **Oil down**, the national dish: breadfruit, salted meat, dumplings and greens simmered in coconut milk. It's cooked in a big pot, so it isn't on every menu.
- **Nutmeg everything.** Grenada is the "Spice Isle": nutmeg ice cream, nutmeg jam, and nutmeg sprinkled on your rum punch.

- **Fresh fish and roti** from the cafés on the Carenage, where you can sit with a view of the harbour.
- **Grand Anse beach bars** such as Umbrellas and 61 West, right on the sand.
- **Spices to take home** from the market in town. Check your cruise line's rules and US customs before buying fresh produce.

Money, language and local rules

- **Currency:** The Eastern Caribbean dollar. US dollars are widely accepted in tourist areas, and cards work in many places, but smaller businesses and rural areas expect cash. Change often comes back in EC$.
- **ATMs** are plentiful in St. George's. Some take US cards but may charge high fees.
- **Camouflage:** Illegal for anyone outside law enforcement, and customs can confiscate it.
- **Drones:** Legal, but you need approval from the Royal Grenada Police Force first.
- **Language with police:** Swearing in front of a police officer can get you arrested. Keep your cool in a taxi dispute.
- **Drugs:** Penalties are severe.
- **Tipping:** Many restaurants add a service charge, so check the bill before you tip.
- **Ship time:** Your phone may switch to local time. Your ship may not. Go by the ship.

What the videos don't show you

- **The hills.** St. George's is built up the sides of an old volcanic harbour. The streets are steep, the pavements are narrow, and the gutters are deep. Watch where you step.
- **The tunnel.** The short cut from the cruise terminal to the Carenage is an old 1885 tunnel. The other way is a climb.
- **Busy days.** When the berths fill up, extra ships tender, and Grand Anse gets crowded near the beach bars.
- **Water taxis and weather.** They're the fun way to the beach, but they're small open boats and may not run when it's windy. Have a taxi plan for the trip back.
- **Crime.** The State Department raised Grenada to **Level 2** in January 2026 because of crime, including against visitors. In daytime tourist areas, normal care is enough: don't flash valuables, don't leave bags on the beach, and don't wander after dark.
- **Hurricane season.** August to October, peaking in September. Itineraries sometimes change.

With a cane, walker or wheelchair

If your ship docks at Melville Street, the good news is that you can step off and board a tour van **right at the pier**, and the welcome centre and mall are close by. The hard news is the town itself: steep streets, narrow pavements and deep gutters, with a hill between the cruise terminal and the Carenage.

The State Department says accessibility in Grenada is generally limited, including public transport. Grenada's buses are minivans with a step up and tight seats. Water taxis mean stepping down into an open boat. Neither the port nor anything official I could reach publishes accessible taxis, beach wheelchairs or beach mats, so plan as if there are none.

The easiest day: a taxi from the pier to Grand Anse and back, or a van tour that does the viewpoints for you. If there's a chance your ship will tender, ask the cruise line how they handle mobility aids at this port.

For more on piers, tenders and planning, see Mobility & Health Needs, and always check with your cruise line about your berth.

The biggest mistake

Setting out to walk from the cruise terminal to the Carenage, the forts and back in the midday heat. On the map it's tiny. In real life it's a steep climb, an old tunnel, and narrow pavements. Take a taxi up the hill and walk down, or take a water taxi across the harbour, and save your legs for the beach.

Grenada FAQs

Do cruise ships dock or tender in Grenada?

Most dock at the Melville Street Cruise Terminal in St. George's, and smaller ships may dock in the inner harbour. When the port is full, extra ships anchor and tender.

Can you walk from the Grenada cruise port to St. George's?

Yes. You walk through the terminal and the Esplanade mall and you're downtown. But the town is steep, and a hill separates the pier from the Carenage, which you cross by stairs or through the old Sendall Tunnel.

How far is Grand Anse Beach from the Grenada cruise port?

Roughly 10 minutes south by taxi. Water taxis also run there on cruise days when the sea is calm. Agree the fare and currency before you go.

Do they take US dollars in Grenada?

Yes, widely in tourist areas, but the local money is the Eastern Caribbean dollar. Small businesses may prefer cash in EC$, and change often comes back in EC$.

Is Grenada safe for cruise passengers?

The US State Department rates Grenada at Level 2, exercise increased caution, because of crime. Stick to busy areas in daylight, keep valuables out of sight and go by ship time.

Can I wear camouflage in Grenada?

No. Camouflage clothing is illegal for anyone outside law enforcement, and customs officials can confiscate it.

Where these facts come from

- US State Department: Grenada travel advisory and country information (https://travel.state.gov/en/international-travel/travel-advisories/grenada.html) (checked 26 October 2026; Level 2 issued 5 January 2026, page updated 6 August 2026)
- Celebrity Cruises: St. George's, Grenada port guide (https://www.celebritycruises.com/ports/grenada) (checked 26 October 2026)
- International Cruise & Ferry Review: Grenada Port Authority on the Melville Street Cruise Terminal (https://cruiseandferry.net/articles/grenada-port-authority-shares-how-to-build-destination-appeal-1) (checked 26 October 2026; published 26 December 2017)
- NOW Grenada: Grenada Tourism Authority cruise arrivals notice (https://nowgrenada.com/?p=41761) (checked 26 October 2026; November 2017)
- CruiseMapper: St. George's, Grenada (https://www.cruisemapper.com/ports/st-georges-grenada-port-1375) (checked 26 October 2026)
- Cruise Critic: Grenada port page (https://www.cruisecritic.com/find-a-cruise/port-grenada) (checked 26 October 2026; used for traveller reports only)
- Beyond Ships: Grenada cruise port (https://www.beyondships3.com/grenada-cruise-port.html) (checked 26 October 2026; used for the Sendall Tunnel and the hill)
- Wikivoyage: Grenada (https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/Grenada_(island)) (checked 26 October 2026; used for bus zones only)
- The Trip Verdict: Grand Anse Beach (https://www.thetripverdict.com/grand-anse-beach-grenada) (checked 26 October 2026; published 5 June 2026; used for beach bars and the drop-off only)

Facts checked on 26 October 2026. Ports change their rules and prices, so check before you sail.

About the "I" on this page. AI Cruise Granny™ is the AI twin of Cruise Granny™, a real human being who actually sails. Every experience written here in the first person is hers. The AI twin is what writes it up, checks the facts against official sources and keeps it current. We tell you that openly on every page, because you should know who is talking to you. More about how this works.