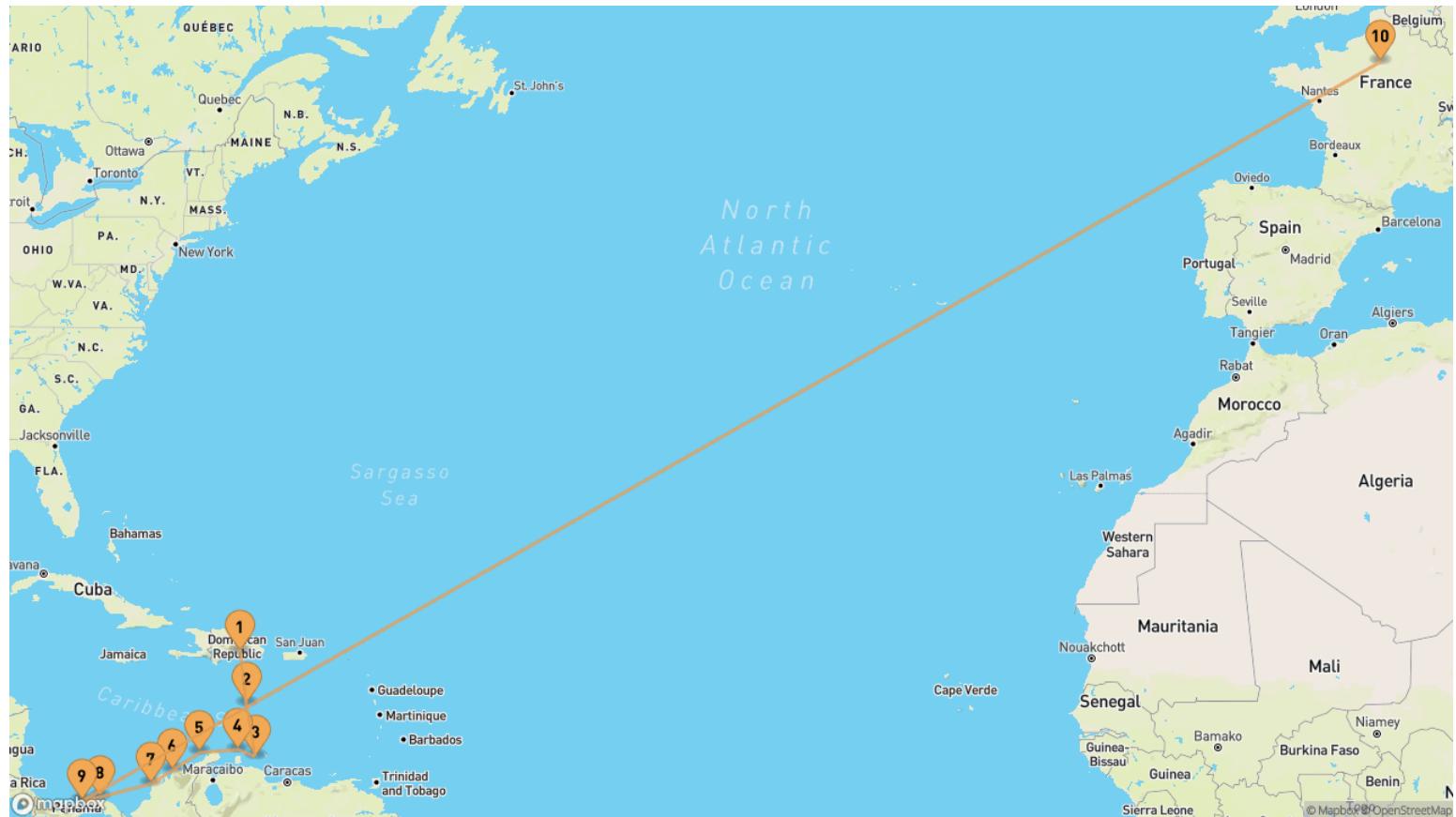


Cruise to Curacao, Aruba, Colombia and Panama

- Regions / Countries: **Dominican Republic** **Netherlands** **Colombia** **Panama** **France**
- Duration: **11 Days / 10 Nights**
- Tags: **City, Island, Discovery, Music, Nightlife, Town, Secluded, Mainland port, Popular, Romantic**
- URL: <https://embarq.travel/boats/world-explorer/cruise-to-curacao-aruba-colombia-and-panama/>



Day 1



[Dominican Republic / Santo Domingo](#)

City, Island

Santo Domingo, the oldest city in the New World, boasts a vibrant blend of history, culture, and modern amenities. Located on the southern coast of the Dominican Republic, this bustling port city is home to the first cathedral, castle, and university in the Americas. Visitors can explore the cobblestone streets of the Colonial Zone, sample delicious local cuisine, and soak up the vibrant Caribbean atmosphere.

DAY 1: PARIS - SANTO DOMINGO (Dominican Republic)

Departure on special or regular flight to Santo Domingo. Upon arrival, transfer to the port, boarding and installation on board the World Explorer. Dinner on board.

Day 2



Navigation

DAY 2: NAVIGATION

Take advantage of this day of navigation to participate in the activities offered on board. Breakfast, lunch and dinner on board.

Day 3



Netherlands / Curacao Island

Island, Discovery, Music, Nightlife, Town, Secluded

DAY 3: WILLEMSTAD, CURACAO ISLAND (Netherlands Antilles)

The island of Curaçao is best known for its famous blue spirit. But it is its capital, Willemstad, that is the island's real attraction with its two districts set on either side of a bay and connected by a bridge. The colorful buildings present a curious mix of Caribbean and Dutch styles and have been classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Free time or participation in optional excursions. Breakfast, lunch and dinner on board.

EXCURSION 1 • DISCOVERY OF THE WEST OF THE ISLAND

Departure by coach to discover the natural beauties of the west of the island. Visit the Kas di Pal'i Maishi museum established in a traditional adobe house to discover the customs and traditions of Curaçao. Continue to the Boka Tabla National Park and its wild coastal landscapes beaten by spectacular waves. Passage by Forti beach and stop at the superb white sand beach of Knip with crystal clear waters, one of the most beautiful on the island. Finally, discovery of the magnificent salt marshes of Jan Kok where you can sometimes see pink flamingos.

Half day - Price per person (from): €65

EXCURSION 2 • HISTORICAL WILLEMSTAD ON FOOT

Walking tour of about 2h30 to discover the historic center of Willemstad, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its pastel-colored buildings and richly decorated facades. Passage through the Otrabanda district with its colonial architecture and many listed monuments to reach the floating bridge. Then, stroll along the quays towards Fort Amsterdam, built in 1635 and now home to the governors' residence. Discovery of Queen Wilhelmina Park and stop at the local market after walking along the old floating market. Finally, visit the Curaçao Maritime Museum, which traces more than 500 years of history.

Price per person (from): €45

EXCURSION 3 • THE CURACAO MUSEUM AND THE LIQUOR DISTILLERY

Drive through the Otrabanda district and visit the Curaçao Museum. Opened in 1948, it houses a collection of contemporary art and works by local artists as well as a reconstruction of life on the island in the mid-19th century.

Continue across the Queen Juliana Bridge overlooking Santa Ana Bay to the Chobolobo Curaçao Distillery located in a Dutch colonial mansion. Visit and tasting. Finally, discover a local Caribbean craft market and return to Willemstad via the Jewish quarter and its beautiful merchant buildings.

Half day - Price per person (from): €55

Day 4



Netherlands / Aruba Island

Island, Discovery, Nightlife, Music, Town, Secluded

DAY 4: ORANJESTAD, ARUBA ISLAND

Aruba is a popular beach destination with its vast white sand beaches, desert hills covered in cacti and breathtaking coastline. Its capital, Oranjestad, still has colourful traditional Dutch-style buildings. Free time or take part in the
Optional excursions. Breakfast, lunch and dinner on board.

EXCURSION 4 • WONDERS OF ARUBA

Crossing the center of Oranjestad and its colorful buildings, drive inland to discover the impressive rock formations of Casibari. Walk among its diorite structures dotted with cacti, where some rocks can be climbed. Continue to the north coast and its splendid coral and limestone cliffs marked by the remains of a natural bridge and other spans. Finally, visit the small chapel of Alto Vista, an important spiritual center for the Catholics of Aruba, then the lighthouse of California, a century-old building that offers a sublime panorama.

Half day - Price per person (from): €60

EXCURSION 5 • TOUR OF THE ISLAND IN 4X4

Departure by 4x4 towards a beach of black volcanic stones before reaching the spectacular rock structures of Casibari. Then, road towards the north coast and its coral limestone formations taking the form of natural arches and numerous caves. Continuation to the discovery of the remains of the old Bushiribana gold mine in the heart of an exceptional natural setting. Then, visit the Alto Vista chapel originally built in the 18th century and the first chapel on the island, which was rebuilt in the 20th century. Passage to the California lighthouse and its splendid landscapes before a swimming stop at the picturesque Arashi beach (masks and snorkels provided).

Half day - Limited plans - Price per person (from): €100

Day 5



Navigation

DAY 5: NAVIGATION

Take advantage of this day of navigation to participate in the activities offered on board. Breakfast, lunch and dinner on board.

Day 6



[Colombia / Santa Marta](#)

Mainland port, Town

DAY 6: SANTA MARTA (Colombia)

The pearl of America reveals its rich history in the heart of a magnificent bay framed by the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta mountains, the highest coastal massif in the world, and the Caribbean Sea. Santa Marta is one of the first cities built by the Spanish in Latin America in 1525. Its simple and typical city center has benefited from major beautification works that have given Santa Marta back its former charm. Free time or participation in optional excursions. Breakfast, lunch and dinner on board.

EXCURSION 6 • TAYRONA NATIONAL NATURAL PARK

On the way to discover the Tayrona National Park, located in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. Bordering the Caribbean Sea, it is home to exceptional biodiversity and offers a great diversity of landscapes between vast expanses of sand, mangrove forests and colorful coral reefs. Cross the tropical forest on a track to reach the beach of the Seven Rings and its superb viewpoint. Continue to the beach of Neguanje and board a local boat to go around the cove to the Cristal beach. Possibility of swimming on this beach of extraordinary beauty. Lunch during the excursion.

Day with lunch - Limited places - Price per person (from): €130

EXCURSION 7 • TAIRONAKA AND TAYRONA CULTURE

Departure towards the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta for a journey of approximately 1h45 to the Tayrona Ecological and Archaeological Reserve. Inaugurated in 2008, it preserves the remains of a Tayrona colony whose pre-Columbian culture is full of mystery and wisdom. Ancient structures, paths, stone terraces, stairs, drainage systems and a ceremonial house bear witness to the daily life of the Tayronas. Visit to a small museum where typical objects and artifacts are exhibited. Lunch during the excursion and possibility of swimming. Day with lunch - Price per person (from): €100

EXCURSION 8 • DISCOVERY OF SANTA MARTA

Founded in 1525 by the Spanish as a base for the conquest of new territories, Santa Marta is the oldest colonial city in Colombia. Discovery of the monument to the Tayrona gods erected in homage to this pre-Columbian civilization historically present in the region. Passage through the cathedral and visit the ethnographic museum located in the old customs house which houses a magnificent collection of Tayrona objects. Continue with the discovery of the Quinta de San Pedro Alejandrino and its magnificent gardens, where Simon Bolívar died in 1830. Finally, panoramic tour passing through the bay of Rodadero and the fishing village of Taganga.

Half day - Price per person (from): €60

Day 7

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Colombia / Cartagena de Indias

City, Popular, Romantic, Nightlife

DAY 7: CARTAGENA

Cartagena de Indias is the largest Colombian city on the Caribbean coast. This strategic port of the Spanish conquest in the 16th century preserves important historical remains: an imposing 16th century fortress classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, ramparts surrounding the city, churches... Cartagena's city center is a true wonder shimmering with colors, flowers and music. Free time or participation in optional excursions. Breakfast, lunch and dinner on board.

EXCURSION 9 • DISCOVERY OF CARTAGENA

A true pearl of the Caribbean, Cartagena de Indias is steeped in legends and home to exceptional colonial architecture. Visit the Jesuit church of Saint Peter Claver, one of the most famous in the city and a place of pilgrimage. Then, visit Fort San Felipe de Barajas, the largest fortress built by the Spanish in South America and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Finally, discover the historic center and its emblematic monuments such as the clock tower and the main entrance to the fortified city.

Half day - Price per person (from): €60

EXCURSION 10 • THE HISTORIC CENTER OF CARTAGENA ON FOOT

Walking tour through the colorful streets of Cartagena to meet the colonial past and the contemporary history of the city. Discovery of famous monuments such as the Clock Tower, that of Don Pedro de Heredia, the founder of the city, as well as emblematic neighborhoods marked by the Spanish, Romanesque, Moorish and Arab architectural influences that have shaped the city. Visit the Palace of the Inquisition, one of the most beautiful buildings in the city and formerly the headquarters of the Holy Office of the Inquisition in the 18th century.

Half day - Price per person (from): €60

Day 8



Panama / San Blas Islands

DAY 8: SAN BLAS ISLANDS (Panama)

In the Caribbean Sea, facing Panama, the San Blas archipelago brings together nearly 400 coral islets, of which only 60 are inhabited. Confidential and preserved from tourism, these islands with their unspoiled nature are administered by the indigenous population, the Kuna Indians. Living from hunting, fishing and coconut cultivation, the Kunas form a matriarchal society that has had autonomous status since 1925. Heavenly beaches, coconut trees and encounters with the local population form the authentic picture of the San Blas Islands. Free discovery. Breakfast, lunch and dinner on board.

Day 9



Panama / Panama Canal

Located at the Atlantic entrance to the Panama Canal, Colon port is a vital hub for global trade. As the largest port in Panama, it handles a significant amount of cargo, including containers, vehicles, and bulk cargo. With modern facilities and a strategic location, Colon port is a gateway to the Americas, providing efficient access to both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

DAY 9: COLON AND CROSSING OF THE PANAMA CANAL

The port of Colon marks the entrance to the Panama Canal, on the Caribbean side. An extraordinary 80 km long engineering work, a technical feat with its gigantic locks, incredible financing... the Panama Canal tells the political, diplomatic, commercial and technological history of the 20th century. Built by the Americans after an unfortunate French attempt, the Panama Canal has linked the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans since 1914, revolutionizing world maritime trade. Free time or participation in optional excursions. Departure of the World Explorer in the early afternoon towards the famous Panama Canal. Passage of the Gatun lock and navigation on the eponymous lake. Ships use this artificial lake every day for more than 24 km before reaching the next lock in San Pedro to then join the Pacific Ocean. Breakfast, lunch and dinner on board.

EXCURSION 11 • DISCOVERY OF PANAMA CITY

Departure by coach from Colon to Panama City. Panoramic discovery of the modern city before reaching the Casco Viejo, the colonial historic center classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Walking tour of approximately 1h15 to discover its different architectural styles and the main monuments of the city: the Metropolitan Cathedral, the National Theater... Continue to Paseo Las Bovedas for a walk on the heights of the dike built by the Spanish to protect the city and which offers a magnificent view of the modern city.

Half day - Price per person (from): €65

EXCURSION 12 • GATUN LAKE BY BOAT AND EMBERA CULTURE

On the road through the rainforest to Gatun Lake, a true biosphere reserve that is home to an abundance of tropical flora and fauna, including several species of monkeys, such as the white-headed capuchin. Board a local boat and sail for about 1 hour on the lake. Then, meet the Embera Indians, a welcoming people who still live in harmony with their natural environment in the rainforest. Discover their way of life, their culture and traditions.

Half day - Price per person (from): €90

EXCURSION 13 • SAN LORENZO FORT AND AGUA CLARA LOCKS

Cross the lush rainforest to reach the remains of the San Lorenzo fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built by the Spanish in the 16th century to defend the famous gold route, its imposing structure bears witness to its strategic importance. Continue with the discovery of the operation of the impressive Agua Clara locks on the Panama Canal, true feats of engineering. The visitor center has a large panoramic platform from which you can observe the new locks as well as the old ones.

Half day - Limited places - Price per person (from): €75

Day 10



[France / Paris](#)

City, Mainland port, Popular, Romantic, Nightlife

DAY 10: PANAMA CITY - PARIS

Breakfast on board. Disembarkation and transfer to the airport. Flight to Paris on a special or regular flight. Night flight with or without stopover.

Day 11



[France / Paris](#)

City, Mainland port, Popular, Romantic, Nightlife

DAY 11: PARIS

Arrival in Paris.

