

# January

## **Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – New Year’s Day Celebration**

Officially a public holiday, the first day of the New Year is celebrated by many with traditional religious services followed by visits to family and friends. In Grenada, New Year’s Day is a public holiday, when banks and most shops are closed.

## **Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – Lush (The All White Event)**

## **Jan 26<sup>th</sup> (Annual event) – Spice Island Billfish Tournament**

Grenada’s water is home to an abundance of game fish. This tournament which is held annually, brings anglers together in competition.

## **Jan 26<sup>th</sup>– Jan 31<sup>st</sup> (Annual event) – “Spice it up” Water World Grenada Sailing Week**

Originally part of Grenada Sailing Festival, Grenada Sailing week is now a well-established event in its own right. This six-day regatta kicks off the start of the racing season in the southern Caribbean with four days of exciting racing plus a lay day, all in the beautiful blue waters of Grenada. Two fabulous host venues, Camper & Nicholson Port Louis Marina and Secret Harbour Boutique Hotel and Marina will host fantastic parties every night showcasing the best live entertainment Grenada has to offer, making this is a regatta not to be missed.

## **First or last Sunday of each month – Mt. Moritz Breakfast**

Typically held on the first or last Sunday of each month, the Mt. Moritz Breakfast offers a smorgasbord of traditional Grenadian fare.

# February

## **Feb 1<sup>st</sup> (Annual event) – Grenada Sailing Festival Work Boat Regatta**

Colourful and fun event at Grand Anse beach, with locally built boats and crews from various communities on the island in competition. In late January and early February, the seas are alive with sails of every colour as yachtsman pit their skills against each other in a series of thrilling races. The après atmosphere is electric!

## **Feb 7<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day**

Each year on February 7th, Grenadians celebrate the anniversary of their independence, with national ceremonies and parades featuring the Royal Grenada Police Force, Boy Scouts, Girl

Guides and various schools. Independence Day is a public holiday. Banks and most shops are closed.

### **Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Day**

Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is celebrated annually on February 14. It originated as a Western Christian feast day honouring one or two early Christian martyrs named Saint Valentine and is recognized as a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world.

### **Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – La Poterie Saraca (Friday before Ash Wednesday)**

The word La Poterie means the Potter's it is a small village in the parish of St Andrew's a little way down from the village of Tivoli. This is where the action takes place with the tasting of all kinds of local dishes, along with their favourite dish the Grenada oil down one of the best that I have tasted.

### **Feb 24<sup>th</sup> (Annual event) – Carriacou Carnival**

Carnival on Grenada's little sister island of Carriacou. This carnival encompasses wonderfully expressive street dances, soca, fancy mas' bands, calypso, the Jab Jab and even the authentic Shakespeare Mas.

### **Feb 26<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday**

Ash Wednesday is a Christian holy day of prayer and fasting. It is preceded by Shrove Tuesday and falls on the first day of Lent, the six weeks of penitence before Easter.

## March

### **Mar 1<sup>st</sup> – St. David's Day / Food Festival**

Saint David's Day is the feast day of Saint David, the patron saint of Wales, and falls on 1 March, the date of Saint David's death in 589 AD.

### **Mar 17<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick's Day or Feast of Saint Patrick**

It is a cultural and religious celebration held on 17 March, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick (c. AD 385–461), the foremost patron saint of Ireland. Saint Patrick's Day was made an official Christian feast day in the early 17th century. Celebrations generally involve public parades and festivals, Irish traditional music sessions (céilithe), and the wearing of green

attire or shamrocks. There are also formal gatherings such as banquets and dances, although these were more common in the past.

### **Mar – Round the Island Race**

The Round the Island Race is a yacht race that takes place each March. Competitors start and finish in St. George's Harbour, where on shore events are taking place, such as beach side family activities, barbecues, and cocktail parties.

### **Mar – Grenada Classic Yacht Regatta**

Classic Yachts are classified as such once that hit the 200-year-old age mark. The Grenada Classic Yacht Regatta is unique because each boat that sets sail has a unique history. The grandfather ships set sail each March.

### **Mar – Grenada Drum Festival**

Live performances by drummers and dance groups from around the world seek to promote the importance of African drumming at the Grenada Drum Festival. The March event features performances and workshops.

### **Mar – La Poterie Saraca**

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## April

### **Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> – Good Friday**

On Good Friday, many Christian Churches in Grenada commemorate the anniversary of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Religious services are held marking Holy Week which starts on Holy Thursday, continues through Good Friday, and climax with the commemoration of the resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. Good Friday is a public holiday. Banks and most shops are closed.

### **Apr 6<sup>th</sup> – Easter Monday**

Easter Monday is an official public holiday given after Easter Sunday. Banks and most shops are closed.

### **Apr 17<sup>th</sup> – La Poterie Saraca**

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### **Apr 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> – Carriacou Maroon and String Band Music Festival**

Carriacou Maroon & String Band Music Festival merges the maroon celebration and string band music into one setting with one spirit. Its African origins are depicted through the drumming, singing, smoked food and other rituals practiced by the local people. It epitomizes food, music, and culture by bringing people together. As we say, once you have experienced the Carriacou Maroon & String Band Music Festival, your life will never be the same.

### **Apr – Kite flying competition**

One the many ways Grenadians celebrate Good Friday, they put up kites and tie them off and leave them up flying for the next week, all swinging away on 1500 - 2000' of line.

### **Apr – Gouvaye Easter regatta**

The Gouyave Easter Regatta will showcase fourteen locally-built work-boats with crews from a number of fishing-communities around Grenada, including Woburn, Sauteurs and Gouyave, contending to become champions on the sea. A number of other water-sports are lined up, including canoe and engine boat races, and swimming.

### **Apr – Easter bike ride**

The weekend's festivities will commence with a welcome party at the Grenada Yacht Club, followed by a scenic tour and group social and the Annual Bike Exhibition at Port Highway, culminating with a coordinated island-wide bike ride.

### **Apr - Grenada Invitational International Athletic Championship**

It is an annual track and field competition held at the Kirani James Athletic Stadium in St. George's, Grenada as part of the NACAC Outdoor Area Permit Meet Series. The Grenada Invitational, with Michael Bascombe as the brainchild and main organiser, was first organised and held on April 8, 2017.

# May

## **May 1<sup>st</sup> – Labour Day**

Labour Day is an annual holiday to celebrate the achievements of workers.

## **May 1<sup>st</sup> – Indian Arrival Day**

The Government of Grenada has officially declared 1 May as Indian Arrival Day, when Grenadians of Indian descent will officially celebrate the arrival of their ancestors to the island.

## **May 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> (Annual event) - 7th Annual Grenada Chocolate Festival**

A programme of chocolate-themed events and activities hosted by True Blue Bay Resort, including visiting cocoa farmers and Grenada's chocolate factory and learning how to make and cook with chocolate. Experience sustainable and ethical tree-to-bar chocolate with all of your senses!

## **May – Mother's Night Concert**

A concert tribute for all the mothers.

## **May - Pure Grenada Music Festival**

During the first weekend in May, was created to nurture the talented youth of the island. All proceeds go to Music & Beyond, which is a non-profit organization supporting this endeavour. Showcasing the islands most talented, guests can prepare themselves for an authentic Grenada experience.

## **May – St. Mark's Festival**

Celebrating its very own festivity, St. Mark's will be transformed into a hub of cultural and culinary expression each year. Named for Queen Victoria, this little fishing town on Grenada's northwest coast in St. Mark's Bay is popularly referred to as 'Sunset.'

The Annual St. Mark's Sunset City Festival normally encompass a cultural extravaganza, a best talent & fish cooking competition, a health fair, exhibitions and more through a specific theme.

## **May – Grenada Drum Tivoli Festival**

In the North-eastern part of Grenada, lies the rural community of Tivoli. With a rich history in drumming, it is home to the Tivoli Drummers and the natural birthplace of the Grenada Drum Festival.

### **May – King of the Grill**

Grenada Broadcasting Network (GBN) Annual cooking competition.

### **May 25<sup>th</sup> – Whit Monday**

Whit Monday is an official public holiday given the day after Whitsunday (Pentecost), a religious festival celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. Banks and most shops are closed.

### **May-June – Whitsuntide Games**

## June

### **Jun 5<sup>th</sup> (Annual event) – Grenada Music Festival**

It's an epic three nights of extraordinary musicians, spectacular performances, mouth-watering local cuisine and a dose of Grenadian culture and hospitality.

### **Jun 29<sup>th</sup> – St. John's Festival – Fisherman's Birthday Celebration**

Sail boat racing, greasy pole competition and a street parade in the fishing village of Gouyave.

### **Jun 4<sup>th</sup> – Corpus Christi**

Corpus Christi is celebrated in the Latin Church on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday to solemnly commemorate the institution of the Holy Eucharist. In Grenada, religious services are held. Corpus Christi is a public holiday. Banks and most shops are closed.

### **May 29<sup>th</sup> – Jun 1<sup>st</sup> – Petite Martinique Whitsuntide Regatta (May-June)**

The exciting Petite Martinique Whitsuntide Regatta consists of a weekend of activities including a welcome party, cultural performances, onshore activities, round the island races, open boat races and more. This event is scheduled for Friday, May 29th to June 1st 2020.

### **Jun – Father's Night Concert**

A concert tribute for all the mothers.

# July

## July – Beginning of Spicemas Celebration

## July – Mas' band launch

## July – Carriacou Regatta

Locally built work boats race around the island of Carriacou in July or August, while regatta-goers on land participate in wet t-shirt contests, donkey races, and more.

# August

## Aug 1<sup>st</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> – SOCA Monarch

- Panorama
- Carnival Queen Show
- Children's Carnival
- J'ouvert
- Dimanche Gras
- Prey Day
- Jab Fest
- Pageant
- Monday night mass
- Parade of the bands
- Street jam
- Hot Wednesday
- White Fete
- Cooler Fete
- Carnival Boat Cruise

## Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> – Emancipation Day - St. Andrew's Festival

Emancipation Day is a public holiday celebrating the abolition of slavery. Although officially acknowledged worldwide as of August 1st, in Grenada Emancipation Day is celebrated on the

first Monday of August with Cultural activities. Emancipation Day is a public holiday. Banks and most shops are closed.

### **Aug 10<sup>th</sup> (Annual event) – Carnival ‘Spicemas Festival’**

Grenada’s carnival is a must-see celebration of music, creativity, colour and revelry. It begins in July, gaining momentum in early August and climaxing in the second Monday and Tuesday with Carnival Monday and Tuesday celebrations. A true Caribbean carnival! Dazzling costumes, non-stop music, dancing till dawn, it’s amazing!

### **Aug 10<sup>th</sup> – Carnival Monday**

From dawn on Carnival Monday, the streets of Grenada’s towns are filled with traditional masqueraders depicting Devils (Jab-Jabs) and social commentaries of the highlights of the past year (Ole Mas). Spectators and masqueraders dance to the sounds of steel bands and DJ’s playing the latest carnival melodies.

On Monday afternoon the fancy or pretty bands appear briefly on the streets. Later in the evening, the Monday Night Mas bands make their way through the streets from 8 pm onwards dancing and waving brightly colored lights. Carnival Monday is a public holiday. Banks and most shops are closed.

### **Aug 11<sup>th</sup> – Carnival Tuesday**

Carnival Tuesday, also known as Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday, takes place on the day before Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, the 40-day period that precedes Easter. As the date of Easter changes each year so does the date of Carnival Tuesday.

### **Aug – Rainbow City Festival**

In August, the streets of Grenville come alive with the Rainbow City Festival. Craft and food booths, live music, and tours of local historic sites typify this event.

### **Aug – Grenada Chocolate Fest**

As the chocolate industry has grown on Grenada over the years, it has become an important part of the local culture and economy. Beginning in 2014, August will be the time to celebrate the local cocoa crop and all that can be made from it. The festival spans a week and features such events as cooking demonstrations and lessons, tastings, showcases of other products that come from cocoa that are not edible, and tours of estates that produce cocoa.

Though there is a heavy emphasis on sailing events on Grenada, visitors have plenty of other options to choose from. From music festivals to the Caribbean's ubiquitous Carnival (which visitors can experience twice on Grenada!) there is never a dull moment in the Spice Islands



# September

## **Sep 1<sup>st</sup> – Kirani Day (Not a Holiday)**

Kirani James Day celebrates the achievements of Kirani James Grenada's first Olympic Gold Medalist. The day is not a Public Holiday.

# October

## **Oct - Pure Dive Festival**

## **Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> – Aunty Tek Spice Word Festival**

The first annual Spice Word Literary Festival was held in 2010. Fully supported by a visionary private sector it was voted a timely intervention and a resounding success by all Grenadians.

## **Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Day**

Thanksgiving in Grenada is a public holiday commemorating the anniversary of the 1983 Caribbean and American military intervention in Grenada. On October 25th, a joint military force landed in Grenada to restore order to the country following the deaths of then Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and a number of his colleagues. Today, more than 25 years after the event, Grenada remains a peaceful society, welcoming visitors from North America and Europe on a daily basis. Thanksgiving in Grenada is a public holiday. Banks, business places and most shops are closed.

## **Oct - Carriacou Con Festival**

# November

## **Nov 1<sup>st</sup> – All Saint's Day / Halloween**

All Saints' Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, Hallowmas, the Feast of All Saints, or Solemnity of All Saints, is a Christian festival celebrated in honour of all the saints, known and unknown.

### **Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> – All Soul's Day**

### **Nov – Carriacou Sailing Series**

Five classes of races take place on Carriacou over a week long period in November. As the races are going on, there are beach parties, live entertainment, and fetes to keep landlubbers entertained.

## **December**

### **Dec – Carriacou Sailing Series**

Five classes of races take place on Carriacou over a week long period in November. As the races are going on, there are beach parties, live entertainment, and fetes to keep landlubbers entertained.

### **Dec – RORC Transatlantic Race**

Departing from the Canary Islands, yacht racers head for Grenada, which hosts the finish line at Camper and Nicholson's Port Louis Marina. Of course, in celebration of both the victory of winners and the spirit of the race, there will be a party atmosphere at the finish.

### **Dec 4<sup>th</sup> – Dec 6<sup>th</sup> – Camerhogne Folk Festival**

The first Camerhogne Folk Festival was held in 2010. This festival was initiated by the Division of Culture upon the recognition that the number of folk groups and performances during major National festivals and other cultural events had declined considerably over the years.

### **Dec - Carriacou Parang Festival**

Parang music is a type of folk music that originated on Trinidad and Tobago, out of the islands' Hispanic community. The Carriacou Parang Festival takes place in Hillsborough just before Christmas, and features a series of parang concerts and dances.

### **Dec 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Day**

Christmas Day in Grenada is marked by religious celebrations and increased generosity of spirit among the local population. Christmas traditions include the display of Nativity scenes, the decoration of Christmas trees and homes, Christmas parties with Santa Claus being the special guest at children's parties and the exchange of gifts during the festive season.

Christian Churches celebrate with midnight services on December 24th. Christmas Day is spent with friends and family, eating traditional Christmas meals and exchanging of gifts. Malls and Stores open late into the evening on Christmas Eve while restaurants offer special

Christmas Day menus for both lunch and dinner. Christmas Day is a public holiday. Banks and most business places are closed on this day.

**Dec 26<sup>th</sup> – Boxing Day**

December 26, the day after Christmas Day, is celebrated as Boxing Day. Boxing Day is a public holiday and is used by many to continue visiting friends and family in the spirit of the Christmas season. Banks and most business places are closed on Boxing Day.

**Dec 31<sup>st</sup> – Old Year's Night Celebration**