

An aerial photograph of a tropical beach in the Seychelles. The scene is dominated by large, smooth, rounded granite boulders scattered across a white sandy beach and extending into the shallow, turquoise water. Lush green vegetation, including palm trees and dense shrubs, grows between the rocks. In the background, a small island with a thick forest of palm trees is visible across the water. The sky is a mix of blue and white, with soft, wispy clouds. The overall atmosphere is serene and idyllic.

We Know SEYCHELLES

Seychelles is an unspoiled tropical paradise with palm-fringed beaches and warm crystal-clear seas. The islands lie in the western Indian Ocean, about 500 miles northeast of Madagascar and roughly 1000 miles east of Mombasa, Kenya. About a third of the 115 islands, including Mahe and Praslin, are made of granite, the only mid-oceanic group of granite islands in the world, and the remainder coral.

SEYCHELLES

Useful Information



Whether you come to dive among hundreds of species of fish in the island waters, marvel at flocks of colorful birds flitting among rare jungle trees, soak up the equatorial sun on silver sands, the Seychelles archipelago will impress as being just about as close to paradise as it is possible to get on earth.

CLIMATE

The main islands of Mahe, Praslin and La Digue lie only a few degrees south of the equator, but because they are so far out in the ocean, weather patterns can be variable. There are two monsoons. The south-east monsoon from May to October is strong, cool and dry, bringing with it overcast skies and choppy seas. The north-west from December to March is calmer though hotter and rainy. The best time to visit the islands is from May to October.

CURRENCY & CREDIT CARDS

The Seychelles currency is the Rupee (SCR). The country's foreign exchange regulations require visitors to pay for all services provided by hotels, guesthouses and self-catering enterprises, as well as things like rental cars, entrance fees to parks and reserves, scuba diving and boat charter, in major foreign currency notes or by credit card. Taxis and restaurant bills are payable in foreign currency or Seychelles Rupees. Rupees can only be used in local shops, markets, and bars. Exchanging a moderate amount of money at the airport upon arrival is recommended. Money can be exchanged at banks and the airport on Mahé, or at hotels. Check with your bank for any fees you may be charged. NOTE: If carrying cash, take only recently minted U.S. currency.

Credit cards are widely accepted. ATMs are available at major banks in the three main inhabited islands of Mahé, Praslin and La Digue.

BANKING

In general, banks are open 8:30am - 2:30pm Monday to Friday and 8:30am to 11:00am on Saturday. Several banks are located outside the arrivals area at the International Airport and are open to meet all incoming and departing flights.

SHOPPING HOURS

Shops are generally open between 8:00am - 12:00noon and 1:00pm - 5:00pm, Monday to Friday. On Saturdays shops are only open 8:00am - 12:00noon.

LANGUAGE

Seychellois Creole, English and French are the official languages of the Seychelles.

VOLTAGE

Electricity runs on 240 volts, type G. Hotels can provide adaptors.

ELECTRICAL PLUGS



240V 50Hz

PHOTOGRAPHY

Visitors should only use cameras if they have permission from the person or people the picture is being taken. Never try to "steal" a photo against the will of the person concerned. Let your tour guide or escort help you negotiate terms before you start shooting! It is also against the law to take photographs of border posts, persons in uniform, and of course, military installations.

