



Paramaribo City Tour BASIC



Location

Paramaribo is the capital of the Republic of Suriname. The city lies on the left bank of the Suriname River, 23 kilometers from the Atlantic Ocean.

General information

The city probably derives its name from a former indigenous village called Parmirbo. In the beginning of the 17th century European seafarers established a trading post in this area. In 1650 the English captured this post. They built the Fort Willoughby at that area while Torarica, the first capital of Suriname, was located 50 km upstream. On November 25, 1975, Suriname became politically independent of the Netherlands. Since 2002, the center of Paramaribo, due to its unique architecture, is on the Unesco World Heritage List of historical monuments. One of the 250 protected buildings is the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, which is entirely made of wood. The Cathedral Basilica is the tallest wooden building in the Western Hemisphere. Paramaribo is a city that consists of diverse population groups, cultures and religions. The vibrant city life takes place in the streets with many historic buildings, built in ancient times, colonial style, interspersed with modern hotels and office buildings. Paramaribo is one of the few places in the world where people

from all continents and all world religions live peacefully and side by side and where a Jewish synagogue and an Islamic mosque stand next to each other as good neighbors. Suriname is also rightly referred to as "Little United Nations".

The Tour description

We start our tour at the Sommelsdijckskreek. This street is named after one of the former governors of Suriname, named Cornelis van Aerssen van Sommelsdijck. As we walk, we continue our way to the Palmentuin and the presidential palace. After this we will visit the oldest existing building complex in Paramaribo, Fort Zeelandia. You will receive an extensive tour of this building complex from our experienced guide. We continue by foot to the Independence Square surrounded by historic buildings. After visiting the beautiful historic buildings we continue our way to the Lim a Po straat, one of the most beautiful streets of Paramaribo. In this street you will find the Numismatic museum (coin museum) where you can get a guided tour. After this you walk past the most prominent historical buildings of Paramaribo with their unique architecture. You will also see the cathedral that has been declared the highest wooden building in the Western Hemisphere. Then you will see a Jewish synagogue and an



Islamic mosque located next to each other. After this we walk via the old shopping center to the largest Surinam market where you are surrounded by an aroma of tropical fruit and herbs. You can enjoy and make a choice at one of the many sales booths where, among other things, brightly colored fabrics, hand-crafted gold jewelry, woodcarvings and especially fresh fruit and vegetables are sold. After you have gained a few experiences, after this visit we will board the bus where we give you the opportunity to visit the well-known statue of Kwakoe and Hindu temples.

Included in the tour

Transport by car or bus, a bottle of water and a snack, tour guide (Dutch and English speaking).

Length of time:

| Time | Activity |
|----------|------------------------|
| 9.00 am | start City Tour |
| 13.00 pm | lunch en end City tour |

Notes:

- When treading houses of prayer, long pants / skirt over the the knee is required. Sleeveless clothing is not allowed.
- Keep in mind that Fort Zeelandia Museum is closed on **Mondays** and **Saturday**.

Subject to changes

What to bring / carry on the tour:

- walking shoes
- sunscreen
- a cap
- film camera and / or camera is recommended
- Surinamese money for your personal expenses.