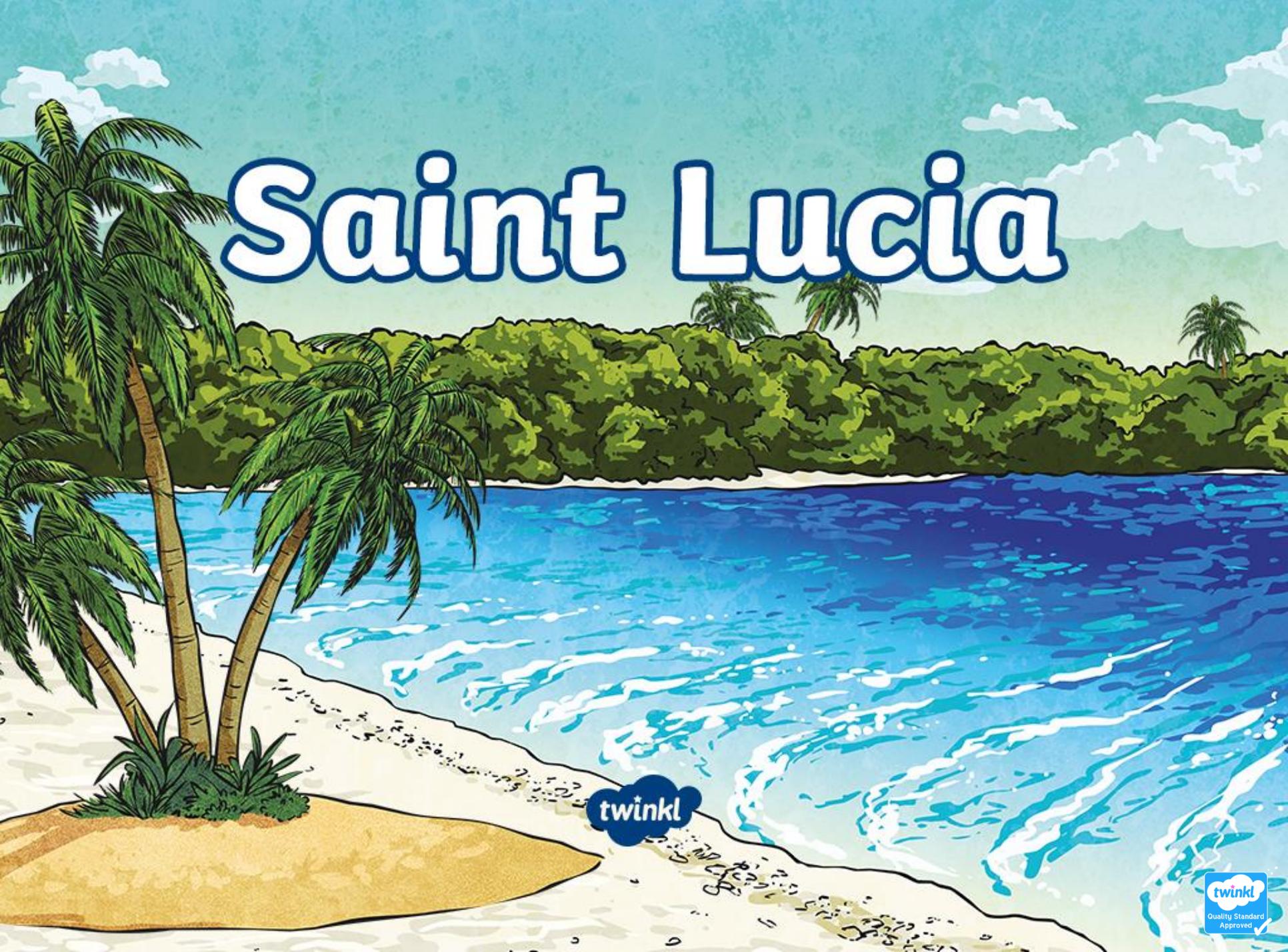


Saint Lucia

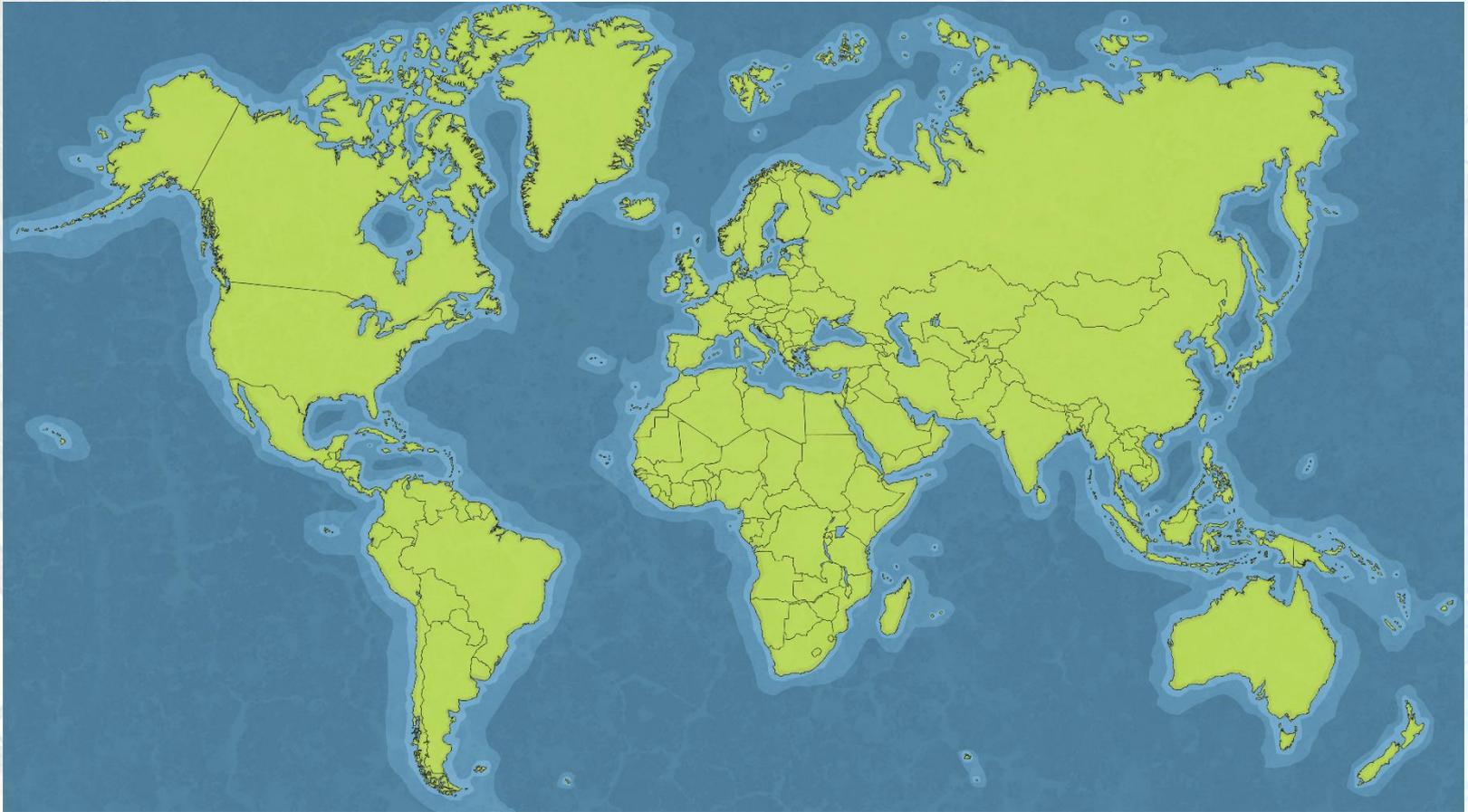


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Where is Saint Lucia?

Saint Lucia is an island.

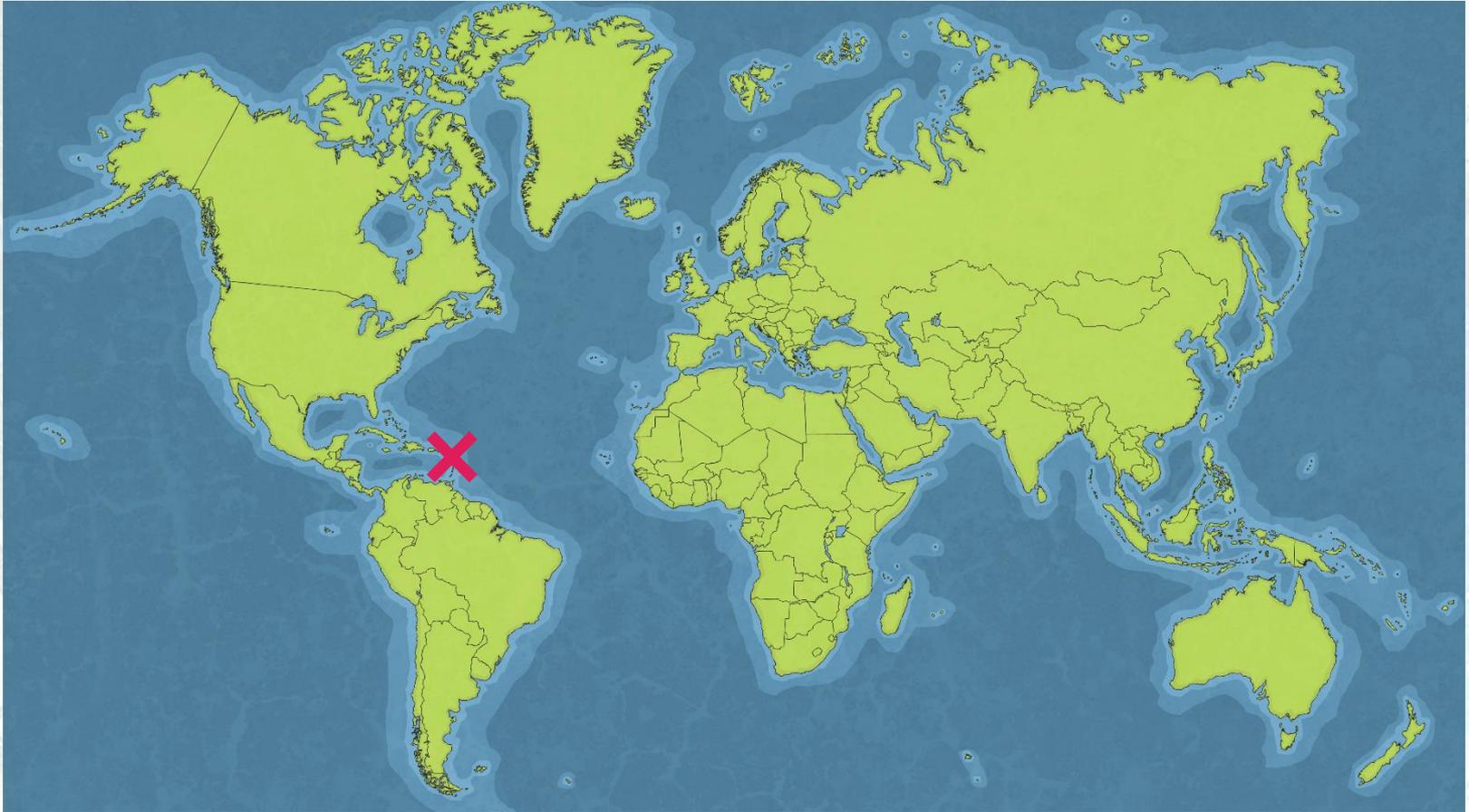
Where do you think it is?



X Marks the Spot!

Which **countries** are nearest to Saint Lucia?

Which **continents** are nearest to Saint Lucia?



The Windward Islands



The Windward Islands are a line of West Indian islands.

The islands are Saint Lucia, Dominica, Martinique, Grenada and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Saint Lucia

- Saint Lucia is an eastern Caribbean tropical island and belongs to the North American continent.
- The island gained independence from Britain in 1979.
- Saint Lucia has a population of over 180 000.
- The capital city is Castries.
- Mainly French patois (a regional form of French) and English are spoken there.
- The island is 43km long.
- Forests covers more than 70% of the island.



The Climate



Saint Lucia has a hot, tropical climate.

Dry season usually lasts from January to April, followed by wet season which runs from May to November.

An average daily temperature is 29 degrees Celsius.

As the island is located near to the Equator, the temperature doesn't alter very much between the winter and summer.

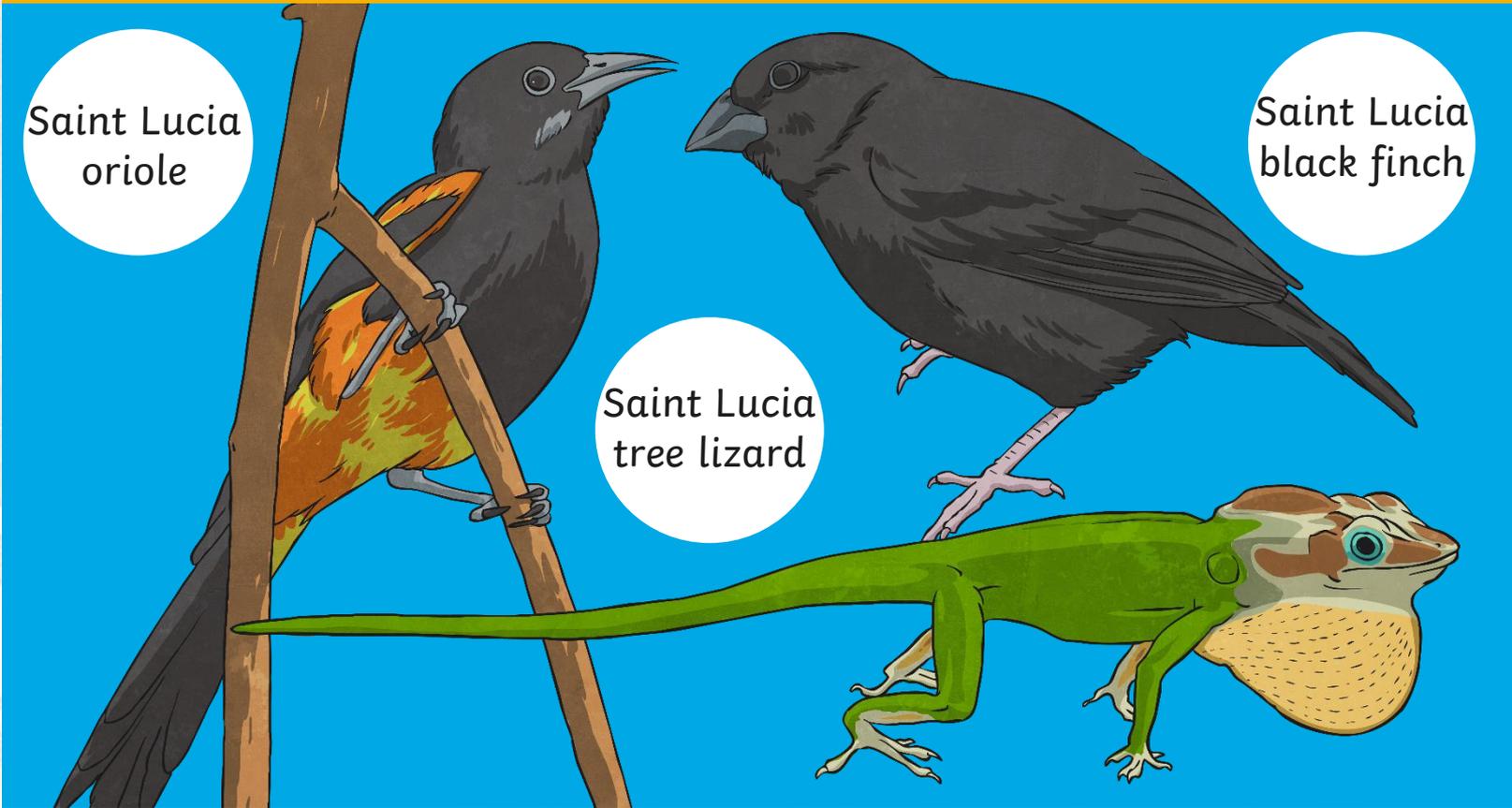
Wildlife

Saint Lucia is rich in birdlife and home to some unique species.

Saint Lucia
oriole

Saint Lucia
black finch

Saint Lucia
tree lizard



Education

- Education is compulsory in Saint Lucia.
- Children begin primary school at five years old and leave when they are twelve.
- Pre-school is available from three years of age.
- The secondary school attendance age is from 12 to 16.
- Some Saint Lucians go onto study at university.



Our Cultural Facts

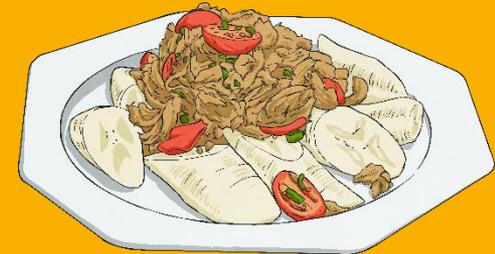
Saint Lucia Jazz Festival is held every year in May. Visitors and musicians visit from all over the world.



Cricket is a very popular sport in Saint Lucia.



The national dish is green figs (banana) and salt fish.



Physical Features of Saint Lucia

The Pitons

The Pitons are located in the west of the island and are linked by the Piton Mitan ridge.

The larger mountain is Gros Piton (786m) and the smaller is Petit Piton (739m).
The Pitons are a very popular destination for hikers and mountain climbers.
The Pitons are represented on the Saint Lucian flag.



"Untitled" by [James Slipshop Photog] is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/)

Physical Features of Saint Lucia

Mount Gimie

Mount Gimie is Saint Lucia's highest peak, measuring over 950 metres tall.



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Physical Features of Saint Lucia

Sulpher Springs (Soufriere Volcano)

A road takes you through the crater of the volcano which emits sulphur and steam.

Be warned, this smells a bit like rotten eggs!

Soufriere volcano is classed as dormant as it hasn't erupted since the 18th century.



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Human Features of Saint Lucia

The Capital City of Castries

The city contains the country's main harbour.
You can find busy shops and markets here.



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Human Features of Saint Lucia

The Towns of Saint Lucia

Soufrière is a town in Saint Lucia.

It was colonised by France and was the original capital of the island.



Today, Soufrière is a popular tourist destination.

Human Features of Saint Lucia

Shanty Towns

Some Saint Lucians can't afford a safe, modern house so they build their own makeshift homes. The homes are built close together and are collectively known as shanty towns. The shanty towns are often seen on hillsides as this land isn't used to build modern houses due to the possible danger of mud slides.



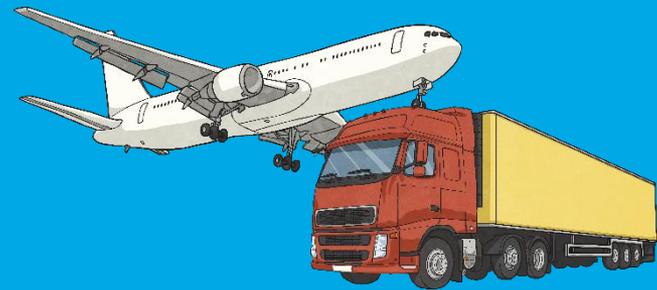
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Saint Lucia's Economy



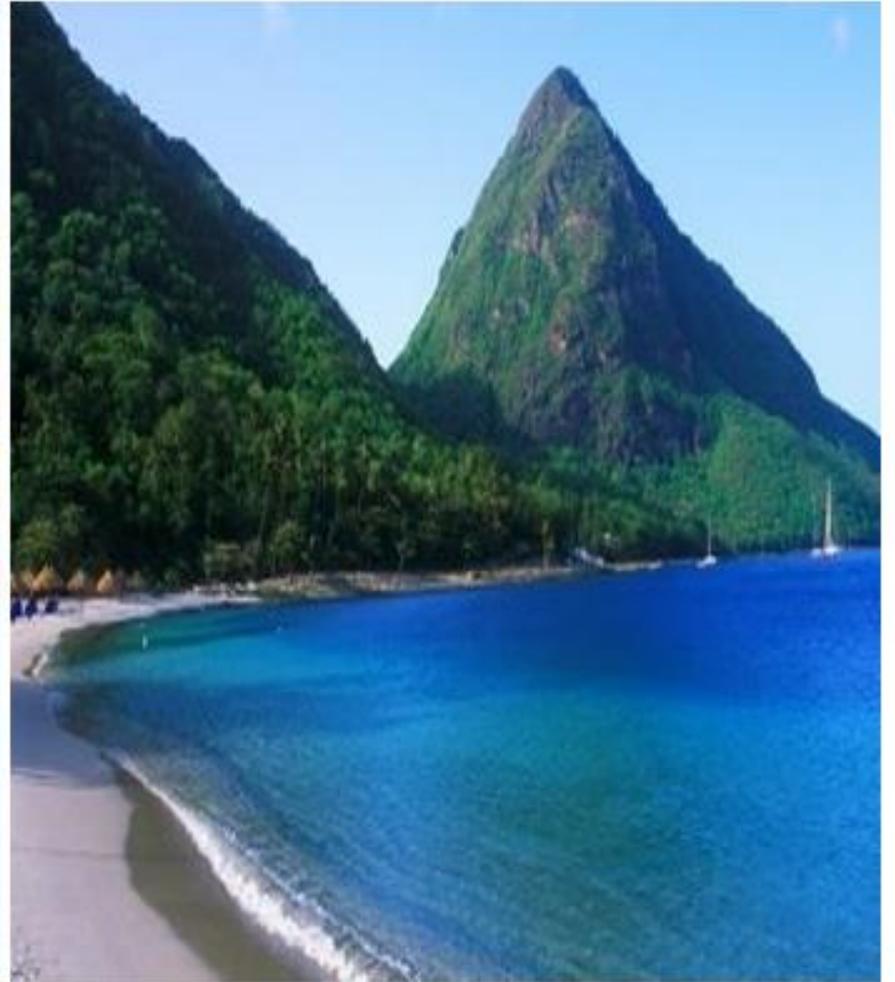
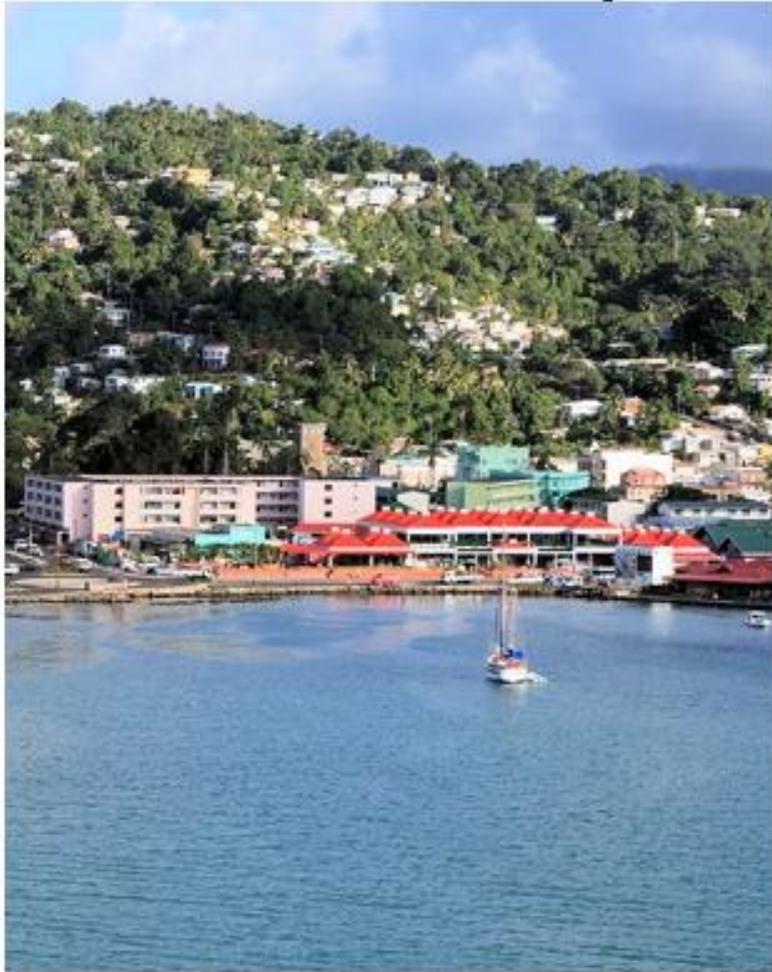
The currency is the East Caribbean Dollar.

The main exports are bananas, vegetables, cacao and clothing.



Saint Lucia is also a very popular holiday destination.

Imagine yourself in one of these pictures



Why do people visit St Lucia?

The island's steep coastlines and lovely reefs offer excellent snorkelling and scuba diving.

The rainforest preserves of St. Lucia's mountainous interior are one of the Caribbean's finest locales for hiking and birdwatching.

Of course, the island also possesses excellent facilities for golf, tennis, sailing, and a host of other leisure pursuits.

Not to be missed is St. Lucia's Soufriere volcano, the world's only drive-in volcanic crater.

How would I get to St Lucia for a holiday?



Where would I stay?



Some of the advantages and disadvantages of tourism for St Lucia.

Advantages

- ✓ Bring in money
- ✓ Spend money on food
- ✓ Spend money on somewhere to stay
- ✓ Spend money on my travel
- ✓ Buy souvenirs
- ✓ Tell my friends to go there

Disadvantages

- X Litter
- X Damage the natural environment
- X Walk in people's private places
- X What food will I want - will I want to have the food I am used to eating? Could this lead to less of the genuine St Lucian experience?

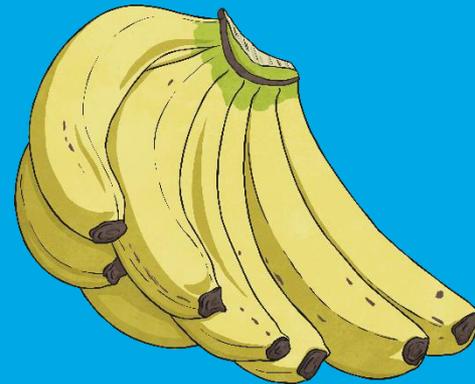
Cacao and Bananas

Cacao is the purest form of chocolate. Cacao pods, which grow on trees, contain cacao beans which can be processed in order to produce cocoa, cocoa butter and chocolate.



The soil and tropical climate are ideal for growing bananas. Bananas make up 22% of Saint Lucia's exports.

Around 30% of the island is used for growing crops.



An Unfair Deal

Bananas are the biggest profit-making item sold in supermarkets in the UK, but over the years banana prices have been pushed down.

It's the banana plantation workers and farmers who can least afford the price cuts, and their work often fails to provide them with enough money.

A huge number of plantation workers live in poverty and have few rights.

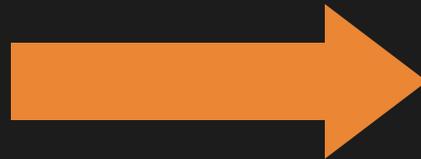


On average, a
single banana
costs 30 pence.



GROWER

1p



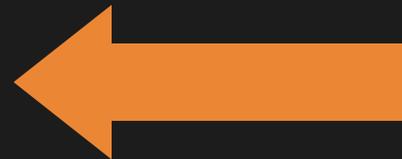
PLANTATION OWNER

5p



WHOLESALE
R/IMPOR
TER

3p



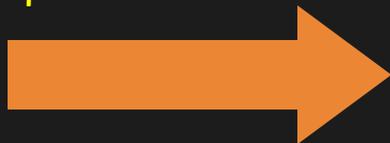
SHIPPER

4p



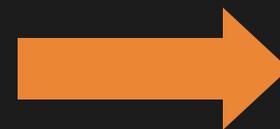
RIPNER

4p



RETAILER

13p



BUYER

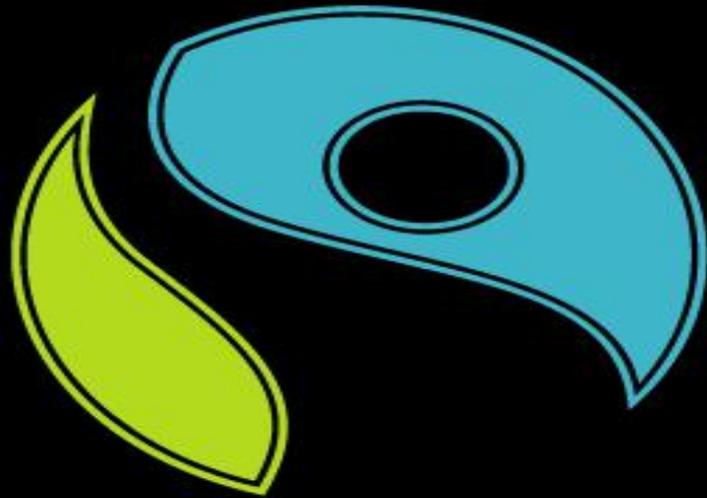
0p

BANANA
GROWER

1 pence

EVERYONE
ELSE

29 pence



FAIRTRADE

Guarantees
a **better deal**
for Third World
Producers

Fairtrade are an organisation whose aim is to put a stop to the unfairness in the world and ensure the grower of crops receives what they rightly deserve!

What is Fairtrade?



A growing international movement which ensures that producers get:

- Fair price for their goods (that covers the cost of production and guarantees a living income)
- Long term contracts which provide real security
- Support to gain the knowledge and skills they need to develop their businesses and increase sales

Benefits of Fairtrade for the farmer:

- Regular income
- Fair pay and working conditions
- Cleaner environment
- New housing
- Improved health and sanitation
- Increased efficiency



A Fair Deal

WINFA stands for The Windward Islands Farmers Association.

WINFA became Fairtrade certified in 2000 and supports over 3 500 banana farmers from The Windward Islands. WINFA campaigns and promotes the sale of Fairtrade bananas from the islands, which are then sold in supermarkets in England and other parts of Europe.

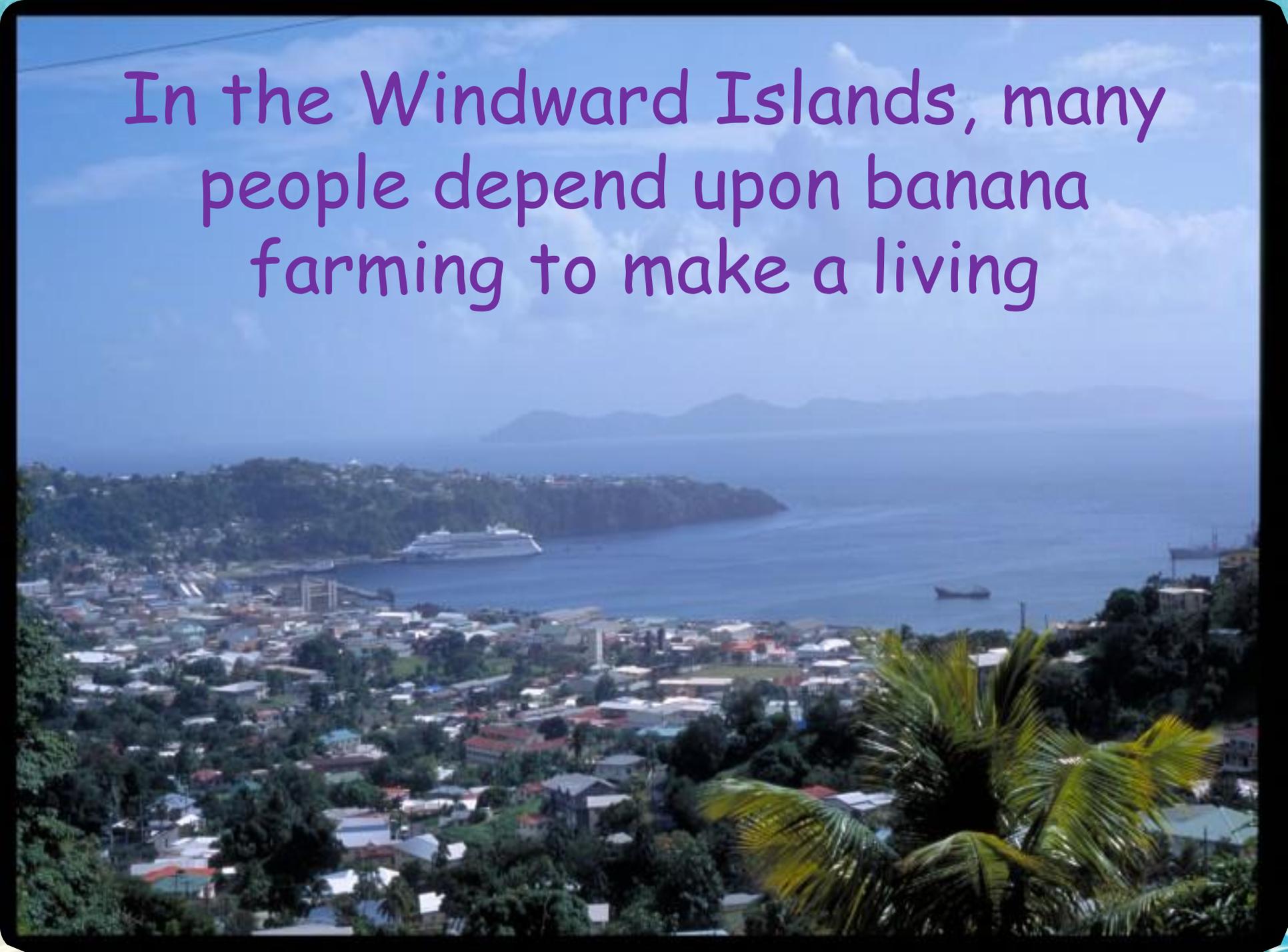
By choosing Fairtrade bananas, farmers and workers get a better deal, allowing them the opportunity to improve their lives. Today, over 85% of Windward Island bananas are Fairtrade, which ensures that farmers receive a fair price for their crop.



A close-up photograph of a bunch of green, unripe bananas resting on a large, vibrant green leaf. The leaf is wet, with several water droplets scattered across its surface. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the leaf and some brown, out-of-focus elements. The overall lighting is natural and soft, highlighting the texture of the banana peels and the leaf's veins.

The Journey of a Banana

In the Windward Islands, many people depend upon banana farming to make a living





Growing bananas is hard-work. It takes a lot of work to grow and care for the banana trees.



Bananas are wrapped in blue plastic to protect them while they grow

A close-up photograph showing a person's hand reaching towards a bunch of green, unripe bananas. The bananas are arranged in several bunches on a surface that appears to be covered with large, green banana leaves. The background is slightly blurred, showing more banana bunches and a blue object in the upper right corner. The lighting is bright and natural, highlighting the texture of the banana peels and the veins on the leaves.

After 9 months the bananas are harvested

The bananas are washed, labelled and boxed to ready to be shipped to the UK





Fruit buyers are very picky. Each banana is measured and checked to ensure it meets UK supermarkets needs.

Bananas travel by boat from the Windward Islands to the UK. The journey takes 6 days.



Fairtrade



It's not just bananas either!

Look out for the Fairtrade Certification Mark on products when you next go shopping.





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