Ready for Climate Change

By hiking La Soufrière and staying with us you support our efforts in making Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Ready for Climate Change.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is among the world’s most disaster prone countries. Hurricanes and floods have always affected Saint Vincent and in recent years these disasters have increased in frequency and severity. Lives have been lost, homes have been demolished, and communities have been left devastated.

As Vincentians have suffered greatly, so too has Saint Vincent’s natural environment. Plants and trees that are important to preserving healthy and bio diverse ecosystems have taken a heavy toll and large amounts of topsoil have been degraded and/or washed away by storms and floods.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines contributes much less than 1% of the total global greenhouse gas emissions driving Climate Change; and yet, the country is already experiencing the impacts of global warming at disproportionate and alarming levels.

The St. Vincent Climate Compliance Conference

In the light of this Richmond Vale Academy started a 10-year program to make St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ready for Climate Change.

So far 600 people from more than 70 countries have joined our 1, 6 or 10 Months courses planting trees, doing beach clean ups, making organic home gardens and teaching in schools and communities.

You are welcome to visit and have a sustainability tour at our premises!

Read more about our efforts!

Students and staff at Richmond Vale Academy
richmondvale.org
La Soufrière Trail from the Leeward side
La Soufrière is an active volcano, which last erupted in 1979, 1,234 metres (4,048 feet) above sea level. The trail has recently been restored from a hurricane in 2010 and severe flooding. It is now being kept in shape by the National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority. Walking to the top takes around 3 hours. At the top, you can rest, eat, relax or go down into the crater. Returning takes 2 to 3 hours so a total of 6-8 hours. Unlike many tour operators, we offer the Leeward Side ascend, which is a tougher hike than the one on the Windward side, but it is worth it! It is more scenic and on your way back, you can take a nice swim in the Caribbean Sea to cool off. Remember to wear good hiking boots or strong trainers and bring a long sleeve shirt (it can be cold at the top) and a light rain jacket; It is OK to wear shorts. We recommend that you stay with us overnight and go on the hike early the next morning. The tour starts at 7.30 am.

La Soufrière Volcano Hike
USD 85.00, one person • USD 75.00, 2 or more people
- The costs includes a guide, an introduction, snacks and water to take on the hike.
- For every staying guest, we give a USD 10.00 discount for the volcano hike.
- For bigger groups, there is a discount.

Overnight stay
USD 35.00 single room • USD 50.00 double room

Breakfast USD 5.00

Directions: Vans for Chateaubelair leave frequently from Leeward bus station or you can take a taxi. Call us and we will guide you.

Biodiversity of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines boasts a diverse collection of biological resources. Saint Vincent is rugged and mountainous with steep slopes and fertile yellow earth, volcanic ash and alluvial soils. The country has about 12,700 ha of tropical forests, including primary and secondary rainforest, palm brakes, elfin woodland, littoral woodland, dry scrub woodlands and mangrove forest. The significant tropical forests provide natural habitat for wildlife including the St. Vincent Parrot and other endemic species. The Grenadines, in contrast, consists of low dry islands surrounded by extensive coral reefs and sea grass beds.

Along the volcano trail you will come across 16 signs with interesting and important facts about our biodiversity.

Source: nationalparks.gov.vc

Pristimantis shrevei
If you look among the leaf litter you may see a little brown frog leap away. It may be the endemic Whistling Frog. This frog is very vocal and more active at night when predation is lowest. Its natural habitats are rainforests and montane forest at elevations of 275–922 m (902–3,025 ft) above sea level. It lives both on the ground and on vegetation.