December 30, 2023 UMV: 1,172,151

**AFAR** 

## 10 Best Places to Travel in March

By Mark Ellwood • December 30, 2023



## 3. St. Barths

**March is great for:** seeing an alternative side to this party-powered island.

Sure, come to St. Barths to sashay round the pool. But there are other reasons to visit this slice of France, just a short flight off the coast of St. Maarten—like the Bucket Regatta this month, which takes place from March 21-24.

This race is a four-day, invitation-only race that's a point of pride for super-yachts worldwide. This year, there will be no yacht hop party, but instead a dockside bash at the Capitainerie on Saturday night for the ultimate mingler. If you're not schmoozing or racing, though, it's still a spectacular chance to see some of the world's finest yachts performing at their peak, all on some of the bluest waters of the West Indies.

## Where to stay

• Book now: Le Barthélemy Hotel & Spa

The eight-year-old, 44-room property has a fitting sits on the eastern reaches of Grand Cul de Sac beach and with understated, ultra-luxe décor from French designer Sybille de Margerie.

## How to get to St Barths

Book a flight to SXM in St Maarten—there are countless services from the U.S. on everything from Spirit (FLL) to Sun Country (MSP). From there, take the knuckle-biting puddle jumper over to SBH on Tradewinds. At just over 2,100 feet this is one of the shortest runways in the world, so you'll be in a tiny plane piloted by a seasoned captain.