

# CHRISTMAS SPECIAL 2024

Holiday Inspiration with a  
Dash of Cheer

# Compassionate Christmas

While the celebration of Christmas has obviously become increasingly commercialised, it still means something special to many all over the world – and that’s certainly not limited to persons of the Christian faith, who mark the birth of Jesus Christ 20 centuries ago in Bethlehem. Although there is undoubtedly a major religious aspect involving the churches and their followers, it is really much more than that.



The gifts, foods, music, trees, mangers, decorations and lights, along with the story of Santa Claus, add to that unique feeling often referred to as “the Christmas spirit”. But most of all, this is “the season of giving” and sharing love with family, friends and people of goodwill in general, no matter their class, creed or colour.

The past year has been a challenging one politically, but mainly due to St. Maarten’s energy crisis. However, this should not discourage residents from treating others extra kindly during the holidays in particular, because – especially in difficult times – the less fortunate can use whatever additional assistance is available so they too may have a pleasant Christmas.

It’s important to remember that those doing the giving, whether it’s their time and/or material things, are often themselves dealing with the effects of various serious problems the country faces. They, nevertheless, continue to do so, knowing that their local brothers and sisters need such now, perhaps more than ever.

And that is exactly what Christmas is all about: Sharing, not just because one is able, but primarily because one has the desire to. It’s this kind of compassion that was indeed personified by the legacy of Jesus of Nazareth, born on Christmas Day.

Happy Holidays  
The Publisher



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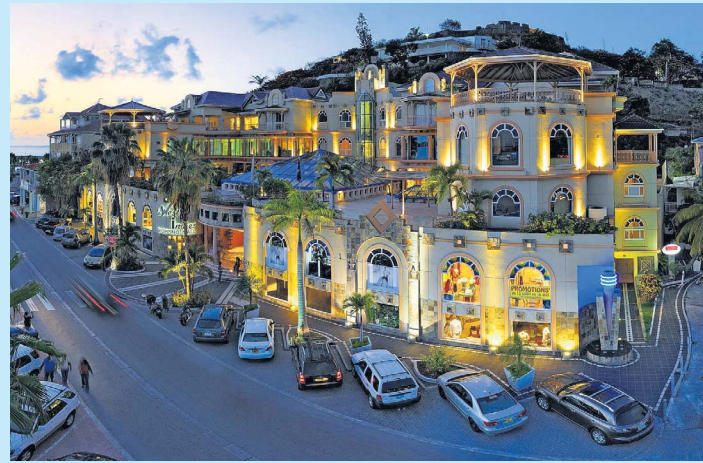
# WEST INDIES SHOPPING MALL

West Indies Shopping Mall is one of a kind on the entire island. It is the largest indoor shopping mall with over 20 different stores, and two restaurants. Bring the entire family, as there are many items to browse through and choose from, including things for men, women and children.

It’s your “one stop shopping” since you can find a gift here for anyone or everyone, making it perfect for all you Holiday shopping. We suggest you make it a pleasant day – enjoy the mall experience,

try on clothing in the cool air, and even relax for a coffee break or schedule in time for lunch.

With items ranging from perfumes and beauty products, to jewellery and other accessories, there are lots of gift options to check off your “gift list”. There are men- and women-wear, daytime beachwear, fancy evening attire, and lots of quality, luxury items and brands – it’s a palace of treasures! Make your plans to check out each shop, as there is just so much to choose from. But that’s not all!



This Sunday, December 22, and next Sunday, December 29, there will be a special holiday event at mid-day, featuring a live Caribbean Steel Pan Band.

Visit the West Indies Mall in the French capital of Marigot every day, including Sundays this Holiday season, from 10:00am to 6:00pm. It is located just in front of the waterfront marina and the boardwalk, and there’s convenient parking in front and around the mall.

Check out the West Indies Shopping Mall SXM on Facebook or Instagram @ Westindieshoppingmall

## Holiday Fun

@ Hope Estate Christmas Market

As the holiday season draws near, it’s time to once again embrace the festive atmosphere! The Hope Estate Christmas Market is back for the 3rd time, this Christmas Season! The fun, shopping, and delectable food offerings continue until January 5th! The Harley Davidson Club Niglo de Saint Martin (HDC Niglo FWI), is excited to announce this instalment of the Christmas Market, which has become a must-visit for young and old during the holiday season.

With its 15 wooden chalets housing exhibitors, its igloo and inflatable Christmas trees, the event promises a complete immersion in the magical atmosphere of the festive season. Kids can enjoy an XXL slide and a great obstacle course. And, there’s big news this year for gamers: 40-foot container has been transformed into a video game temple. The Christmas market has been steadily making improvements every year, bringing the magical feeling of Christmas to life!

Taste some truly delicious foods as the kids play and you browse the offerings of local businesses and artisans, there is foie gras, mulled wine, sparkling crémant, burgers and even oysters. To satisfy the sweet tooth, have a taste of melt-in-your-mouth waffles, golden churros and crêpes.

There is also a collection point for both new and second hand toys (in good condition!) for children in need this year. If you’d like to take part, drop gift items off at the market cash desk, or at the Instant Floral flower store.

The Hope Estate Christmas Market in front of Aventura Mall will be open every day from 5:00pm to 9:00pm on weekdays and from 5:00pm to 10:00pm on weekends. The Christmas Market will also be open on Christmas Eve: Tuesday December 24, from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Closed on Christmas Day.



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# DADA's Christmas Helping Angels 8th Annual 1000 Gifts Give Away

The Dance Arts Dimensions Academy (DADA) International Foundation's 1000 Gifts Give Away is a long-time running event. Many local families attended it last weekend on Saturday, December 14, at the Asha Stevens Hillside Elementary School from 11:00am to 4:30pm.

DADA's Christmas Helping Angels hosted this exciting and festive family and community event. There was a grand entrance of the

one-and-only Santa Claus! DJ Chubs kept up the Caribbean Christmas vibes and the Dutch side's Fire Department brought their team along with a fire truck. The little ones lined up with excitement for a ride on the fire truck. There was also a unique cultural dance performance by Grain D'Or.

Parents brought their children for a free gift, there were sponsored raffle giveaways and a variety of other activities including face painting, bouncy

castle, a basketball shooter booth, crafts, local food, and even an award for Best Christmas Costume.

DADA, which is fully involved with the arts, does a lot of community initiatives, hosting dance events throughout the year. This event is one that is very close to the hearts of the organizers of DADA. Since the passing of Hurricane Irma in 2017, they decided to fill a void for the many children who may be without gifts. They wanted to initiate this very heart-warming event to give back to the children of the community of St. Maarten. The Dance school is accepting

enrolment for continuing and new dancers in January. The Asha Stevens School is located in Cay Hill, just past the Sint Maarten Medical Center and next to the Fire Department.

For more information, contact [dance.da85@gmail.com](mailto:dance.da85@gmail.com) or 1 (721) 522-5466 / 522-5801 / 523-4436.

This event is sponsored by Tropical Shipping, Winair, Orco Bank, Modern Homes, STM Shipping, Sunset Beach Bar, Captain's Rib Shack, Sun Insurance, Nagicco, and Asha Stevens Hillside Elementary School.



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Conveniently located on #79 Bush Road in the Carrefour business complex between Vision Center and Subway, Flowers R Us offers a wide selection of flowers and custom floral arrangements to suit your specific holiday vibe. They are open on weekdays from 9:00am to 5:00pm and on Saturdays from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

In addition to floral arrangements, the flower shop also offers floral or fruit baskets, adding that extra special touch to your festive occasion this year. Proudly serving the community for 10 years and counting, their dedication to quality and customer satisfaction has earned them the title of the #1 Flower Shop in St. Maarten.

Flowers R Us takes this opportunity to wish all their loyal and satisfied customers a Happy Holiday Season! To get in touch, you can reach them on WhatsApp at +17215886829 or follow them on Instagram @flowersrusxm.

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Facebook: flowers "R" Us Instagram: @flowersrusxm

# The Boon Beach Hotel, Restaurant & Bar

SXM's iconic Mary's Boon Beach Resort, Restaurant and Bar invites you to experience the Magic of its boutique hotel over the Holidays! Mary's Boon has a great combination of charming Caribbean beach vibes interlaced with modern day FUN! Operating since the 1970s, Mary's Boon has hosted some great disco-techno beach parties on Sundays! Although the resort is tucked away from

the crowds, it is right in the centre of the vast, three-mile, white sand Simpson Bay Beach.

For all you beach lovers, Mary's Boon has what you need - crystal clear Caribbean ocean water for you to take a dip, amazing food, yummy frozen drinks, cold beers and specialty cocktails. Voted most CHILL spot on Sint Maarten, Mary's Boon is absolutely the perfect

spot for your holiday break, rest and relaxation. Bring the whole family and invite your friends - kids and doggies are also welcome!

The restaurant and bar, which is always open throughout the Christmas season, is a favourite spot for those wanting to celebrate a white sand Christmas with beach vibes. They have a special Christmas Eve dinner menu at \$65 per person with an appetizer,

main and dessert. With seating times at 6:00pm or 8:00pm, main-course options come with a choice of honey roasted ham and roasted turkey, pan seared salmon or filet mignon, with entertainment by Christmas carollers at 7:30pm.

There is also a Christmas Special Dinner menu with live music - be sure to make your reservation in advance. Guests can also

enjoy all-day food and drinks on the beach. They serve fine island-dining from 7:30 to 10:30pm.

Located at 117 Simpson Bay Road, right in the centre of Simpson Bay Beach, all the way around the bending fence of the Princess Juliana International Airport (only a five-minute drive from the airport terminal), Mary's Boon is recommended as a Holiday HOT SPOT as they have amazing staff, food, drinks, a fantastic atmosphere, and incredible guests to meet at their two bars!

Contact details:  
Email: [Info@marysboon.com](mailto:Info@marysboon.com) / Facebook: [The Boon Beach Hotel, Restaurant & Bar](https://www.facebook.com/TheBoonBeachHotelRestaurantBar/) / Instagram: [@marysboon](https://www.instagram.com/marysboon/) / Phone: 1 (721) 545-7000.

Reservations are recommended.

THE BOON

## Christmas Eve Dinner

\$65 Per Person

MENU

*Appetizers*

Creamy Pumpkin Soup  
Spinach & Arugula Salad

*Main Course*

Honey Ham & Roast Turkey  
*Holiday Stuffing, Steamed Carrots, Brussels Sprouts, and a Cranberry Sauce*  
Pan Seared Salmon  
*Asparagus, Vegetable Rice Pilaf, and a Lemon Butter Sauce*  
Filet Mignon  
*Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, and a Mushroom Sauce*

*Dessert*

Pecan Pie  
Tiramisu  
Strawberry Cheesecake

6pm & 8pm Seating  
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Reservations Recommended  
(Please specify which meal you would like)  
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# Peaceful Christmas Morning 2024!

By Lucinda Frye

Life is very contentious these days – it seems the world has gone mad! Thankfully, there are some occasions that bring many folks together. In America, it is Thanksgiving in November; but in all other Christian countries, it is the tradition of Christmas that means so much to so many. It is this time of year that – even if one is not terribly religious – the

rites of yuletide are performed again and again.

The main Christmas meal differs in some countries – some have it on Christmas Eve night, while others have it on Christmas Day, usually as a late lunch.

As we previously have discussed, the centerpiece of this Christmas dinner is generally a large and overstuffed tur-

key – but that is not true these days, as “stuffing” appears to be cooked on the hob rather than stuffed in the bird. Served separately, stuffing lessens the cook-time of the turkey if it is not in the belly of the bird.

For a lot of folks, the Christmas meal does not necessarily have to be held on December 24 or 25; it is often held in July! “Christmas in July”

seems to be a tradition down south of the Equator because it is winter-time there – winter with snow even, in some regions. Christmas in July is held by those who are desperately homesick for the cold winter weather that takes place north of the Equator in December.

Down south, Christmas weather is much the same as it is on our wee island. “It always rains on Christmas Day” is a saying we have known for years and years; this is true, strangely, in many parts of the world, even right here on St. Maarten/ St. Martin. It may not be pouring, but for sure there are often sprinkles here and there.

No matter the time of year, or where exactly one celebrates Christmas, it is very labour intensive, especially for those who are hosting! With more mouths to feed, more places at the table to set and more drinks to pour, the host needs to have an easier time at breakfast. The Christmas breakfast



Baked Rice Pudding. Tasty Kitchen photo.



Ham and Cheese Croissants. Insanely Good Recipes photo.

Continued on pg. 8



# K1 Britannia Christmas Angels: A Tradition That Matters to Many

By Chiara Bowers

*K1 Britannia's Christmas Angels program has become a cherished tradition, offering the community a meaningful way to give back since 2014. In this article, two long-time participants, Jen-*

*nifer Thomas and Rose Pooran-Fleming, share their heartfelt experiences and the joy this tradition brings to their lives.*

Jennifer Thomas began par-

ticipating in 2017, following Hurricane Irma. Introduced by a colleague, she felt compelled to join and hasn't looked back. "Christmas can only be Christmas when we celebrate by giving unto others," Jennifer explains. She adds, "Just as God sent His son to love and save us, we need to show that same light and love to others during this season."

Rose Pooran-Fleming also treasures her involvement, which she began in 2016 with her sister. "We thought it was something nice to do for the community," Rose shares.

**The joy of giving**  
Each year, both women eagerly anticipate participating, carefully selecting the perfect gifts for their angels.

"I enjoy doing it. I look forward to it every year," Rose shares. "I always try to get exactly what the person wants. I hope the people who receive the gifts feel



**Rose Pooran-Fleming**

the same happiness my children do when opening theirs."

Each angel holds a special place in Jennifer's heart. "Even though I can't celebrate with the children and their families, it brings joy to my heart knowing that on Christmas morning, I'm part of their celebration," she shares. "To know I'm making a difference makes my heart leap with joy. I know how it felt to open gifts as a child, and I want to bring that same happiness to others."

For both Jennifer and Rose, the joy of giving extends

beyond the gifts – they proudly display their angels as lasting symbols of their deep connection to the program and its recipients.

**Angels on display**  
Rose proudly displays her angels on her office wall: "Each time I move offices, I take my angels with me. I love seeing them every day," she shares. "When I look at them, I hope the people who made them are doing well. Even if I don't know them, I was happy to make a difference in their lives, even for a moment. When I have writer's block, looking at my angels is relaxing, fun and brings me joy."

Jennifer, like Rose, also treasures her angels, incorporating them into her annual Christmas decorations at home. "I still have every angel since 2017," she says with pride. "They remind me to never stop giving and make me feel like all the children who made an angel are part of my home at Christmas – as the saying goes, 'Everybody is FAMILY at Christmas.'"

For both women, the angels have become more than just decorations; they symbolize a lasting bond with the community, a bond they now share with their families.

**A tradition worth sharing**  
Both Jennifer and Rose have incorporated this tradition into their families. In 2020, Jennifer brought her mother, Stephanie Thomas, into the tradition, and she also displays her angels in her home.

Rose's children are already curious about the program, often excited to see which angels she chooses each year. "Next year, I plan to take them with me to shop for the gifts," she says.

The Christmas Angels tradition stands as a testament to the power of giving, uniting hearts during the holiday season and leaving a lasting impact on the community. As Jennifer and Rose's stories demonstrate, this tradition is a beautiful reminder of the love, kindness, and togetherness that define the Christmas season.



**Jennifer's angels hung up at home as part of her holiday decorations.**



**Jennifer Thomas**



# Salt Restaurant and Bar

## Holiday Special 3-Course Menu

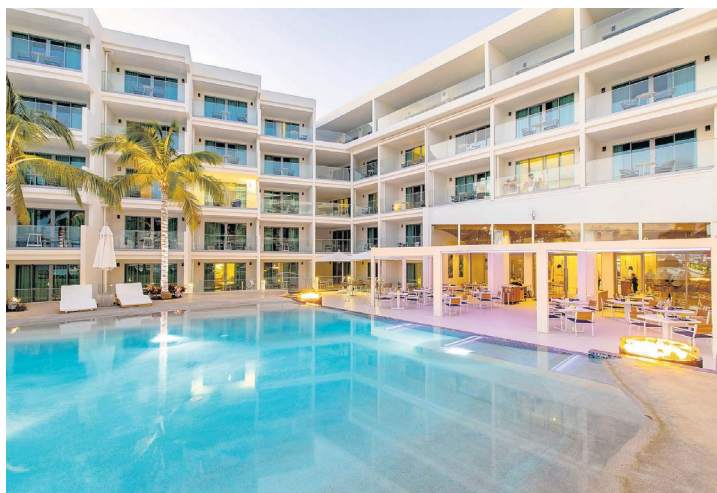
Escape to The Morgan for the Holidays! Make a reservation and try the tantalizing, gourmet Holiday special menu at SALT.

Escape to The Morgan for the Holidays and indulge in the exquisite Holiday special menu at Salt Restaurant and Bar. The Morgan and Salt welcome all ages, families, and friends to join

them from 5:00 to 10:00pm for a special Holiday season blessing. Chef Derio Boyce has curated a Christmas Dinner Special comprising a three-course prix fixe menu set at \$75 (plus service charge). This menu is exclusively available on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and provides a sleek and spectacular dining experience in a luxuri-

ous four-star setting.

The appetizer section of the menu offers festive options that include Cinnamon Roasted Butternut Squash Soup, Roasted Brussels Sprouts Salad, Christmas Quinoa Salad, and Sundried Tomato Hummus Poke. We prefer not to give away too many details since you need to go



“taste for yourself”, but the main course has a section of Christmas Ham, Rack of Lamb, Atlantic Salmon and Braised Short Ribs. Of course, there is a wonderful dessert selection as well.

To add to the festive atmosphere, there will be complimentary live entertainment throughout the night, and children will be delighted by a scheduled visit

from Santa around 8:00 on both evenings.

If you're looking to make the most of your day, The Morgan also offers a “day pass” for access to the pool and beach chairs through the guest service concierge desk. Additionally, they have a full-service salon and spa for those seeking extra indulgence.

Make a reservation at Salt for a memorable Holiday dining experience. You can find more information about Salt at The Morgan on “Open Table” or by visiting their website at [www.themorganresort.com/salt](http://www.themorganresort.com/salt).

Contact Salt Restaurant and Bar at [Salt@themorganresort.com](mailto:Salt@themorganresort.com) or +1 (721) 545-4000. Please note that delivery is not available.

December 24th & 25th, 2024

# Christmas Dinner



## 3-COURSE DINNER MENU

### Appetizer

(CHOOSE 1)

**CINNAMON ROASTED BUTTERNUT SQUASH SOUP**

with truffle parmesan cream

**ROASTED BRUSSELS SPROUTS SALAD**

with pomegranate, bacon lardons and feta

**CHRISTMAS QUINOA SALAD**

**SUNDRIED TOMATO HUMMUS POKE**

### Main Course

(CHOOSE 1)

**HONEY MUSTARD GLAZED CHRISTMAS HAM**

with traditional rice & peas, market vegetables, mango chutney, aromatic ham jus

**ROSEMARY & THYME ROASTED RACK OF LAMB**

with spiced couscous, lamb jus

**PAN SEARED ATLANTIC SALMON**

with roasted new potatoes, sauteed vegetables, salmon valouté

**MOLASSES & GUINNESS BRAISED AROMATIC SHORT RIBS**

roasted garlic pomme puree and cucumber pickle salsa

### Dessert

(CHOOSE 1)

**FRENCH TOAST**

Caramel sauce, vanilla ice cream

**ROASTED PINEAPPLE**

Almond crumble, coconut sponge, coconut sorbet

**BASQUE CHEESECAKE BRÛLÉE**

Raspberry sauce, fresh berries

### RESERVATIONS

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# Peaceful Christmas Morning 2024!

Continued from pg. 4

is eaten the morning of Christmas Day, December 25.

On top of everything else going on, one generally has a house full of guests. No matter if it is just two of you before the onslaught, or 10 of your guests, it is important to serve a hearty and filling breakfast that does not require much prep or clean-up.

Of those who celebrate Christmas Eve, how many wake up to find a totally clean and uncluttered kitchen in which to start breakfast prep? How many wake up Christmas morning panicking about getting the turkey into the oven for it to be cooked on time for lunch about 1:00pm? How many go to church first and then return for something light to eat whilst opening the gifts left under the tree?

We all fit into one of the above brackets – so just what is the tradition of breakfast on Christmas Day around the world? Christmas breakfast traditions are just as important as the rest of the traditions that happen throughout the celebration.

In France, Christmas breakfast is not terribly different to every breakfast which we can and do enjoy right here on island. The bakeries have gorgeous pain au chocolat, croissants and brioche just asking to be bought fresh in the early morning, taken home and enjoyed with tea, coffee or hot chocolate.

In Jamaica, it is traditional to start Christmas morning with ackee, the country's national fruit. Ackee has a flavour akin to scrambled eggs and goes well with salt fish

(generally salted cod). The starch on the Christmas breakfast table could be breadfruit and plantain. These can be boiled, baked, roasted or fried.

In Germany, stolen – made from yeasted dough, candied fruit and almonds – is made two weeks in advance. This fruit cake/bread is sprinkled with lots of icing sugar and kept in a cool, dark place until it is sliced. I like it toasted and spread with butter before it is served.

Porridge for breakfast? Not so unusual; but in Finland the traditional breakfast is Riisipuuro. This porridge is made by cooking rice in milk and seasoned with cinnamon, and served with a pat of butter and splash of milk. As a Christmas traditions in some other countries, a whole almond is stirred into the porridge. The one who finds this in their porridge bowl is said to have luck for the rest of the year. Ahhh, you found it, now you make a wish – shush, don't tell anyone!

In Mexico, the most traditional Christmas breakfast item is atole. This is a thick chocolate porridge-like drink. It is made with cornflour and served hot. Buñuelos are fried balls of dough that are often found on the Christmas table, but are also eaten throughout year.

Perhaps the most unusual sounding traditional Christmas breakfast is that found in the Philippines. Bibingka is a sweet and sticky food made of rice flour and coconut milk. This is baked in a clay pot lined with torn sections of banana leaves. Served topped with cheese and grated coconut and occasionally

a salted duck egg on the side, it is quite unusual for a Westerner's idea of a special breakfast.

The country on our doorstep is America and so I think we are all quite used to the large breakfasts served there on special occasions. Most days, the folk are in a rush, running late, and a quick smoothie, a bowl of cereal, or toast and cheese is enough to satisfy the early-morning cravings. However, on special days such a Christmas, the folk like to get up slowly and gather together to enjoy an unrushed breakfast with a lot more dishes.

This may include French toast (in America it is eaten topped with icing sugar, fruit and syrup; in England, it is eaten with tomato ketchup or homemade real tomato sauce). Cinnamon pancakes, rolls, monkey bread and bagels are also served, as well as a big bowl of fruit salad. The most special dishes, though, are breakfast casseroles and/or quiche. I hear that in a few areas in the mountains, oysters, often fried, are also eaten at special breakfasts like that on Christmas morning.

However you choose to celebrate your traditional Christmas morning breakfast, we all wish you the happiest and most blessed Christmas.

## RECIPES

### Bibingkahan – Filipino Rice Cake

The Filipinos love rice in many forms – this glutinous rice cake is one of them. You can bake them in a clay pot, but you can make very good ones in cake tins in the oven too.

#### Ingredients

#### Batter

- 1 cup rice flour
  - ¼ cup flour
  - ½ cup sugar
  - ¾ cup fresh milk
  - ¼ cup water
  - 2 tsp baking powder
  - ¼ tsp salt
  - 4 TBL vegetable oil
  - 1 egg
- #### Toppings
- Grated cheese
  - Grated coconut
  - 1 salted egg cut into 8 to 12 thin slices (this is traditional, but no problem if you don't have any)
  - Butter (melted at room temperature for brushing)

#### Method

Use large muffin tins or a large cast iron frying pan that can go into the oven (or a cake tin). Line the pans with banana leaves cut to fit the bottom and around the sides with a little overhang. Cut circle/s of banana leaves to go over the top. Rinse and pat dry these cut banana leaves. Run each leaf quickly through a flame to make them supple and pliable. Line the pans/moulds with the leaves and brush them with melted butter, set aside.

Combine all the ingredients for the batter, mix well until mixture becomes smooth yet still runny. Divide between the pans/moulds half way up each pan/mould. Add 2-3 slices of salted egg on each. Do not top with a cut banana leaf yet. Bake in the centre of a preheated oven 390° F for 10 minutes. Remove from the oven and now top with the buttered, prepared banana leaf cut to fit – butter side facing down. Now place in oven on top rack and broil for 5 mins – the banana leaf should be charred.



Riisipuuro. Risella photo.

Remove from oven, brush each Bibingka with butter. Top with grated cheese and grated coconut. Serve warm.

### Baked Microwave Eggs - for this recipe, one needs a small bowl per person

#### Ingredients

- Eggs
- Cream
- Butter
- Salt and fresh ground pepper
- Cheese (such as grated Cheddar or Gouda)
- Finely diced green spring onion tops
- A shake or two of red paper flakes – to taste

#### Method

Crack an egg into each bowl. Carefully puncture the yolk with a fork (you don't want the egg bursting all over the microwave)! Sprinkle with salt and a grind of fresh pepper – to taste. Pour some cream gently around the egg, not too much. Top with a small knob of butter. Sprinkle some green tops over (and a few pepper flakes to taste). Top with as much cheese as you would like. Pop in microwave individually and cook in increments of 30 seconds. Check after each spin to see how the eggs are, according to taste. We like ours soft!

### Simple Ham and Cheese Croissants – make one or two per person

#### Ingredients

- 2 large croissants
- Chutney of your choice (we love a little tomato chutney)
- 50g thinly sliced ham, shredded
- 50g Gruyère grated,
- Dijon mustard for spreading

#### Method

Pre-heat oven to 375° F or preheat air fryer.

Split croissants through the middle. Place on baking sheet. Spread lightly with chutney. Top with ham and cheese. Close croissants. Spread a little mustard over the top. Sprinkle with grated cheese. Bake for 8-10 mins. Cool, serve.

### Riisipuuro – (This rice porridge is served as a pudding in some countries, simply delicious)

#### Ingredients

- ¾ cup short grain rice (Arborio rice)
- 1¾ cups water
- 1 tsp salt
- 3 cups whole milk
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 almond (optional)

#### Method

Combine rice, water, and salt in a 3-quart saucepan. Bring to a simmer; cover and cook over low heat for 10 minutes. Stir in milk, add cinnamon stick. Bring to a boil, stirring often. Reduce heat to low, cover and simmer 20-25 minutes until rice is tender, stirring occasionally. Once cooked, add one almond and stir well. Serve warm with butter, sugar, ground cinnamon, and cold milk.

### Variation – Baked Rice Pudding

- Add a few drops of vanilla to 400g milk
- 100g short grain rice
- 1 ½ TBL castor sugar
- 200g cream
- One small stick cinnamon
- Nutmeg to grate over

#### Method

Butter an oven dish well. Add milk, cream, rice, sugar, cinnamon stick – stir well. Cover with tin foil. Bake slowly on low for a couple hours. Take out the cinnamon stick and grate nutmeg over the top.



Baked Microwave eggs. Lucinda Frye photo.





# Merry Christmas and A HAPPY NEW YEAR

From premium decorated table and bar ware to hard-to-find chef's tools, elevate your holiday gatherings and find the perfect gifts for the kitchen enthusiasts in your life.

**Visit our showroom today!**  
Wellington Road 24, Colebay



**PDG**

**HOTEL & RESTAURANT  
EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES**

*Sint Maarten's Trusted Source for Hotel & Restaurant Essentials Since 1987*

## PDG Supplies

As you may know, PDG Supplies caters to hotels and restaurants, but it is also open to everyone interested in professional-grade culinary tools and equipment. The store offers an impressive selection of beautiful plates, glasses, barware, and specialized culinary gadgets to make Holiday meals memorable. Whether you're hosting a festive gathering or looking for unique gifts for food- and wine-lovers, they have you covered.

Gift ideas on popular products this time of year at PDG Supplies include the KitchenAid Mixers for avid bakers, wine coolers, and new cocktail glasses for entertaining. They have elegant tableware and glassware options that will really elevate your Holiday table décor, as well as a wide variety of kitchen tools to make your festive cooking a breeze, or to gift to your favour-



rite home-chef to keep them inspired to cook for you!

Drop in and explore PDG Supplies. The store is open to the public for Holiday browsing for useful gift ideas. There is something for everyone:

- Food enthusiasts and home cooks, who want the best tools for their kitchen.
- Hosts and entertainers seeking stylish dining accessories for the Holidays.
- Gift shoppers looking for high-

quality items for culinary- and wine-lovers.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm and Saturday from 8:00am to 12:00pm.

Note: On December 24 and 31, the store will be closing at 3:00pm.

*PDG Supplies wishes everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!*

## Meringue Christmas Trees

After scouring the web for the perfect Christmas treat that's cute, festive, fun to make, and a joy to present; we landed on the website of Apple Cake Annie, whose recipes and photos really stand out. These meringue Christmas trees are just one of the treats she makes with the versatile and easy French meringue recipe.

Check out the giant meringue cookies on the same website; we think they'd be perfect with tropical fruit jams – a fun alternative to traditional Christmas pies.

Tip: Make sure eggs are room temperature, and use gel food colouring. If you don't have cream of tartar, replace it with the same amount of white vinegar or lemon juice.

### Ingredients

- 75g egg whites (approx. 2 eggs)
- ¼ tsp Cream of tartar
- 150 g Caster sugar (superfine sugar)
- ½ tsp Vanilla extract or paste
- 2-3 drops Green gel food colouring
- Sprinkles for decorating

### Instructions

- Pre-heat your oven to 212 °F (convection setting).
- Line 1-2 baking sheets with silicone baking mats/baking paper.
- In the mixer bowl of a stand mixer, place the egg whites and cream of tartar.
- Using a hand mixer on low to medium speed, whisk them until beginning to form soft peaks.
- Place bowl onto the stand mixer and



using a whisk attachment, whisk on low to medium, while adding the caster sugar, 1 tablespoon at a time in 30-second intervals.

After adding all the sugar, stop the mixer and scrape the side of the bowl with a silicone spatula.

Mix again on medium speed for 3 minutes, until it forms stiff, glossy peaks.

Add the vanilla extract and food colour, and whisk again until combined.

Transfer mixture to a large piping bag fitted with a large star tip, then pipe out your meringue Christmas trees onto lollipop sticks.

Add sprinkles.

Bake for 2.5 hours.

Turn off the oven and leave the meringues to cool, with the oven door slightly ajar.

*Photo and (adapted) recipe from Apple Cake Annie.*





Unwrap the Perfect Presents!

*Wellness around the tree*

At Flow Wellness Boutique you'll find gifts that'll make the whole tribe merry!

Luxe athleisure, scented candles & aromatherapy, teas, yoga & active gear, body care, organic oils, bags & accessories and curated gift boxes.

Make this holiday season truly special with the gift of wellness.

GIFT IDEAS

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133 Union Road, Cole Bay

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**HDC NIGLO FWI**  
Caribbean chapter



# Flow Wellness Boutique

Flow Wellness Boutique invites you to embrace a lifestyle that enhances health and wellbeing.

During the holiday season, shoppers can explore their exclusive collection of luxurious "athleisure" wear, handcrafted candles from St. Maarten, aromatherapy products, teas, yoga gear, active wear, organic oils, bags, and accessories, curated gift boxes – a variety of wellness-inspired gift ideas perfect for the season.



Flow caters to women, men, fitness enthusiasts, and any-

one looking to enhance their wellbeing and focus on self-care.

The boutique is counting down to Christmas with their Holiday Calendar. They have daily drawings, which began since December 14, featuring special discounts and prizes. They

will even announce flash sales on their social media platforms on Christmas Eve!

Flow Wellness Boutique is located at Tamarind Plaza, 133 Union Road, Cole Bay, with parking right outside the door. Regular opening hours are from 10:00am to 6:00pm Monday through Saturday. Special Holiday hours are from 10:00am to 7:00pm on December 20, 21, 23, and 24.

Follow them on Instagram and Facebook at @flowwellness.sx.

## Christmas Characters Find them all!

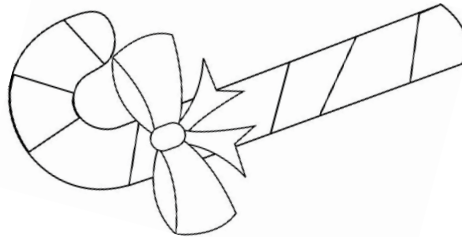
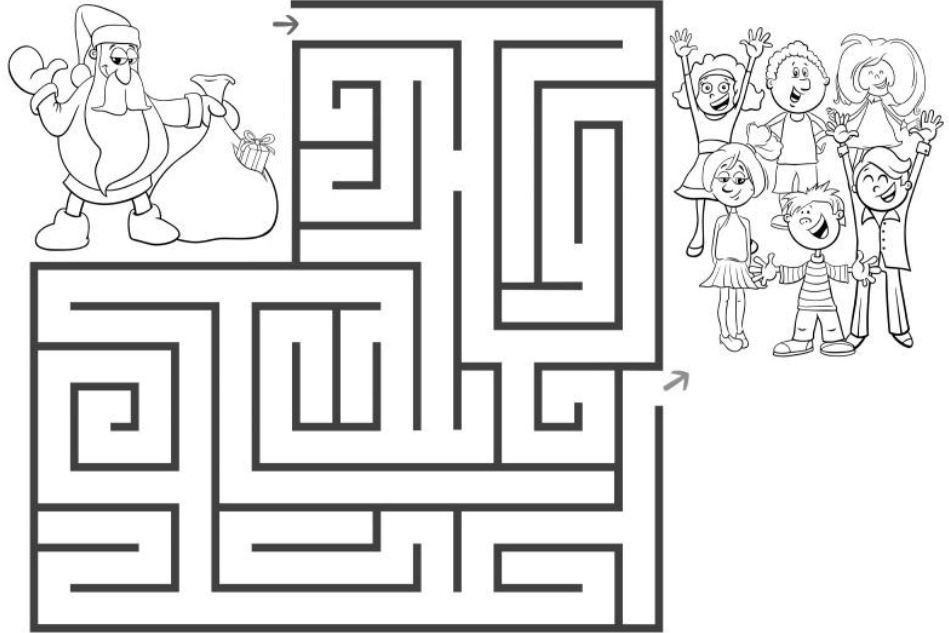
- SANTA
- ELF
- GRINCH
- MAX
- RUDOLPH
- ST. NICK
- SNOWMAN
- SCROOGE
- SKELLINGTON
- ANGEL
- WISE MEN
- DRUMMER BOY



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X U V F L E G O R C S H Z W F  
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W L A T  
B I U T



# Colour me in!



## THESE REINDEER JOKES WILL HAVE YOU LAUGHING ALL THE WAY!

**Why do reindeer like Beyoncé so much?**  
She sleighs.

**Why was Rudolph's mom sad about his report card?**  
Because he went down in history.

**What do reindeer say every time they take a picture on a rooftop?**  
"Click click click."

**What do you call Santa's reindeer wranglers?**  
Jolly ranchers.

**Do Santa's reindeer make a great team?**  
Yeah, that's what I've herd!

**What's got four legs and flashes red?**  
Rudolph needing his nose changed.

**What does Rudolph call his girlfriend?**  
Cari-boo.

**How do reindeer decorate the Christmas tree?**  
With horn-aments.

**Why do you like the reindeer?**  
Because they are very deer to me!

**What do reindeer take when they have a belly ache?**  
Elk-a-seltzer.

**For which reindeer is Christmas not their favourite holiday?**  
Cupid.

**What is a reindeer's favourite cereal?**  
Deer-ios.





### Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

*May your holidays be as bright as your ideas and your new year as secure as your IP*

Please note that our office will be closed to the public from: **December 23rd, 2024 through January 1st, 2025**

Regular business hours will resume on **January 2nd, 2025**

The online trademark registration system continues to be available for filing your application for a trademark via our website: [www.bip.sx](http://www.bip.sx)

For trademark filings, kindly email [trademarks@bip.sx](mailto:trademarks@bip.sx)

For all urgent matters, kindly email [info@bip.sx](mailto:info@bip.sx)

Warmest Wishes  
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## Mingo Civil Law Notary office

### SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM STAFF & MANAGEMENT

We hereby would like to take the opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to the entire community of Sint Maarten. Your continued trust and support are valued and greatly appreciated.

As Christmas approaches, we would like to take a moment to extend our warmest wishes to you and your loved ones. We hope the upcoming holidays bring you much deserved peace, comfort and joy, while being in the company of all those you hold dear.

Let us all embrace a spirit of gratitude, while appreciating the blessings of today and looking forward to the promise of tomorrow.

### HAVE A WONDERFUL & PROSPEROUS HOLIDAY SEASON!



### WEST INDIES SHOPPING MALL WISHES YOU A

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

**ALSO OPEN ON SUNDAYS DECEMBER 22ND AND 29TH FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.  
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