



HBD

PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

Sustainable Tourism

FACT SHEET 2021/2022

PRÍNCIPE – SUNDY PRAIA | ROÇA SUNDY | BOM BOM
SÃO TOMÉ – OMALI



TRAVEL INFORMATION

SÃO TOMÉ & PRÍNCIPE

MAPS & ACCESS

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OUR PURPOSE

SUNDY PRAIA

ROÇA SUNDY

OMALI LODGE

(BOM BOM closed for renovation until
further notice)

SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

With geo-coordinates 1°N,7°E, São Tomé and Príncipe, the second-smallest country in Africa, is located at the centre of the world. Created by volcanic activity millions of years ago, these striking islands rise out of the Gulf of Guinea and the vibrant rainforests are amongst the most biodiverse on the planet. In particular, Príncipe, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, is home to several endemic terrestrial and marine species. The people are deeply Earth-connected, warm and welcoming.



The islands blend natural wonders with a gripping history. Once the world's largest producer of cacao, they were known as "the chocolate islands." Today, visit the historic roças and vintage cacao plantations and experience the sustainable, thoughtful revitalisation of the industry established by HBD Príncipe.

VISAS

- **No visa required:** Valid passport holders from the USA, Canada, the EU* and CPLP (Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries) may stay in São Tomé and Príncipe for a maximum of 15 days without a visa. A valid Schengen visa or a valid visa for the USA that is present in the passport also entitles the holder to the visa-waiving program.
- **Visa required:** Travellers of all other nationalities must apply for a visa, either on arrival in the country or online (recommended) at the following website: <https://evisa.st/visa-policy.html> If the online service is used, documents should be printed and presented at the border. Please note there is a € 20 fee on arrival at São Tomé airport, payable in cash, for everyone who requires a visa, whether or not an online application has been completed.

**As the UK is no longer part of the EU, all British passport holders require a visa.*

CURRENCY

- **Cash:** Euros (€) are widely accepted, and it is recommended that travellers bring some cash as ATMs are not readily available. The São Tomé & Príncipe Dobra is the local currency, which can only be exchanged upon entering the country.
- **Cards:** All our lodges and hotels accept Visa, Mastercard and Amex.

COVID-19 & VACCINATIONS

- **COVID-19:** Proof of a negative PCR test for COVID-19 is required upon entry to São Tomé and Príncipe. The test must be taken **within 72 hours of this departure** to the country. When flying to Príncipe Island from São Tomé, an antigen test is required 24 hours prior to this departure. The same applies for return to São Tomé from Príncipe. Both of these antigen tests are free of charge and the results are provided within approximately 30 to 60 minutes.

Please refer to the COVID-19 information on our website for details.

- **Yellow Fever:** If guests have visited or travelled through (including connecting flights) any another African country during the prior three months upon arrival to São Tomé and Príncipe, a valid "International Vaccination Certificate" for Yellow Fever must be presented at the airport at São Tomé.
- **Malaria:** São Tomé and Príncipe are low-risk malaria areas.
- **Other:** No other vaccinations are required. It is recommended that a travel medicine specialist is consulted before arrival, especially for guidance on malaria.
- **HBD Medical Support:** A nurse is available at our hotels and lodges should any medical assistance be required.

WEATHER AND SEASONS

There are two rainy seasons in the year, and although their dates can vary from year to year, the normal pattern is that the first occurs between February and May and the second between October and December. There is variability during the season, too; weather fluctuates between periods of sun, cloud and rain. Exploring São Tomé and Príncipe is enjoyable throughout the year with temperatures ranging from 20° to 30° Celsius depending on the time of day and season. Online weather forecasts will generally show rain and thunderstorms. Although the island has a high rainfall, there are many balmy days with beautiful sunshine. The island has a microclimate and there is seldom a day when you are not able to head out somewhere to catch the best weather for your chosen activity.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Average Day Temperature	29°C 84°F	29°C 84°F	29°C 84°F	29°C 84°F	29°C 84°F	29°C 84°F	27°C 81°F	27°C 81°F	27°C 81°F	28°C 82°F	28°C 82°F	28°C 82°F
Average Night Temperature	22°C 72°F	22°C 72°F	22°C 72°F	21°C 70°F	21°C 70°F	21°C 70°F	20°C 68°F	20°C 68°F	20°C 68°F	21°C 70°F	21°C 70°F	21°C 70°F
Rainy Seasons		LONG RAINS								SHORT RAINS		
Whale and Dolphin Watching												
Turtles Nesting												
Turtles Hatching	45 DAYS AFTER NESTING											
Birds Breeding Plumage												

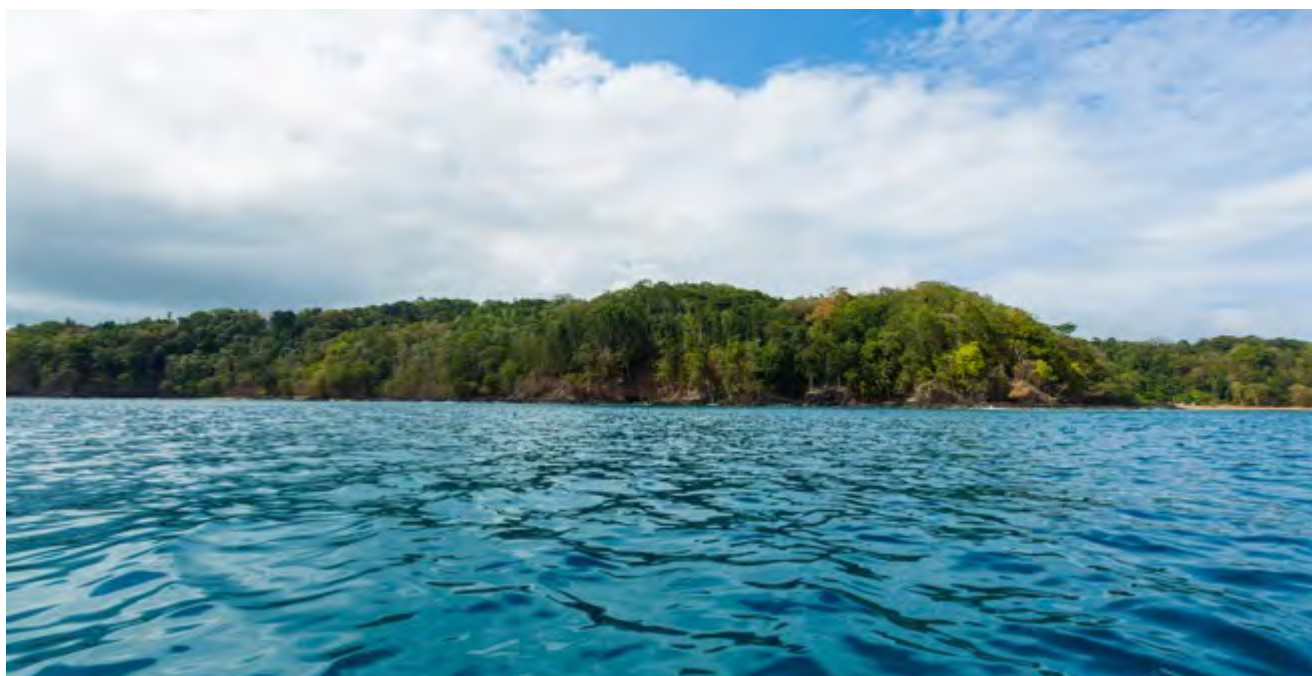
WHAT TO PACK

During all times of year, loose, light-fitting clothing in natural fibres (cotton and linen) or synthetic fabrics that breathe are recommended. In the evening, a light sweatshirt may be useful.

Beach days: Swimming costume and beach wear. Sunscreen, sun hat and sunglasses.

Forest days: Good walking shoes (e.g., sneakers, trail running sneakers, sturdy hiking sandals) that can get wet.

Comfortable walking clothes and a small day backpack. A light raincoat or jacket is suggested for all times of year.



OUR PURPOSE

SUSTAINABILITY

HBD Príncipe's Vision is More than Words

At HBD Príncipe, our commitment has always been to the people and natural environment. With a vision of the sustainable social and economic development in Príncipe and conservation of the island's UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, guests can be assured that while they discover the land, sea, and culture, we are committed to protecting these things in return. We know that what makes the island special – from nesting sea turtles to clean air and clear skies to the verdant tree canopy – is what sustains our business, too. Príncipe's nature and communities make it different; and we have a differentiated commitment to protecting them.

HBD Príncipe believes that we have the opportunity and responsibility to disrupt the status quo: our mission is to become a global inspiration through sustainable integrated ecotourism, agroforestry, support services, and social initiatives. Moreover, *how* we operate – by striving to minimize negative effects and increase positive contributions – is essential. In essence, this is sustainability; the HBD Príncipe team considers the direct impact and ramifications that our actions and decisions have on our vision, our operations, and the Biosphere Reserve – today and in the future. One thing we know for certain: this work takes time. While the HBD Príncipe team is hard at work and making progress, we still have more to do to align with and achieve our goals. As guests explore the island's beaches and forests, learn about and admire flora and fauna, and enjoy local food and drinks, guests are also contributing to the journey of sustainable development.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

If you would like to bring school supplies or clothing for the local communities of São Tomé and Príncipe, please contact the reception of your hotel when you arrive, who will advise on the best course of action. Please do not bring sweets or candies as these can be harmful to health and create waste.





1 Bedroom Tented Villa

SUNDY PRAIA PRÍNCIPE ISLAND



Inspired by the wood-panelled fishermen's huts that once stood in this sheltered nook above the beach, the tented villas at Sundry Praia exist in harmony with their lush, forest surroundings. Locally handcrafted pieces and designer accents complement the spacious wooden interior. Vast floor-to-ceiling sliding doors bring the outside in and offer sweeping views of to the sea.

All villas have stunning bathrooms that feature freestanding granite bath tubs with views of the jungle. Aligned with our ethos of sustainable development, most oils and creams are handmade on our organic farm, Paciência, led by the local community. Each tented villa comes with an individual dressing area and maxi bar which is replenished daily with local fruits and juices.

HOTEL DETAILS				ROOM DETAILS			
Number of rooms	14	Airport transfer	Yes	Extra beds	Yes	Aircon	Yes
Check-in	12:00	Guided Experiences	Included	Terraces	Yes	Telephone	Yes
Check-out	11:00	Private dinners	Yes	Private pool	Only 3-bed villas	Wi-Fi	Yes
Children	All ages	Swimming pool	Yes	Shower	Indoor	Safe	Yes
Electricity	220V (EU plugs)	Bar	Yes	Bath	Yes	Mini Bar	Maxi + coffee/tea
Wi-Fi	Yes	Gym	No	Mosquito nets	No	Hair dryer	Yes
Credit cards	Accepted	Spa	Yes	Fan	Yes	Laundry	Yes

- Please enquire for details on disability accessibility.
- Tipping is by no means compulsory, but always greatly appreciated by the staff at the lodges and hotels. Should you feel like leaving a tip, a good guideline is around € 10 per person per night, which will be shared with the team.



Roça Sundy Eclipse Lounge

ROÇA SUNDY PRÍNCIPE ISLAND



Roça Sundy is the centre of Príncipe's chocolate story; it was once the second largest cacao plantation on the island. Roça Sundy is also significant for its role in a keystone scientific discovery: observations just outside the building during the solar eclipse in 1919 confirmed Einstein's theory of general relativity. The two buildings, which have been thoughtfully restored, are aptly named the Eclipse House and the Cacao House. Today they share the grounds with local community members giving guests a true insight into the character and history of Príncipe.

Eclipse House: In this charming building, which used to be the main house of the roça, are 6 en-suite bedrooms. Three on the ground floor: one Suite and two Yard rooms. The first floor includes three Panoramic rooms each with a private balcony and panoramic views. (Two are inter-connecting rooms.)

Cacao House: With a slightly more contemporary style, this building includes nine en-suite bedrooms: four Yard rooms, four Panoramic rooms with a balcony and view of the landscape and one Cacao Suite.

HOTEL DETAILS				ROOM DETAILS			
Number of rooms	15	Airport transfer	Yes	Extra beds	Suites & Eclipse Yard	Aircon	Yes
Check-in	12:00	Guided Experiences	Included	Verandas	Panoramic & Suites	Telephone	Yes
Check-out	11:00	Private dinners	On request	Private pool	No	Wi-Fi	Yes
Children	All ages	Swimming pool	No	Shower	Indoor	Safe	Yes
Electricity	220V (EU plugs)	Bar	Yes	Bath	Eclipse Suite only	Bar	Mini + coffee/tea
Wi-Fi	Yes	Gym	No	Mosquito nets	No	Hair dryer	Yes
Credit cards	Accepted	Spa	No	Fan	No	Laundry	Yes

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Omali Family Room

OMALI LODGE SÃO TOMÉ ISLAND



Omali, meaning "ocean" and "source of life," is a fitting name for this hotel, which is located next to Lagarto Beach. A mere 1.5 kilometres from the airport, Omali Lodge is a great base for exploring São Tomé or connecting to Príncipe. Tastefully decorated with lovely gardens and well-known for its excellent restaurant, the hotel offers 30 comfortable rooms and suites for holiday-makers and business travellers.

Classic Room (10): A 20m² room with all the essentials to ensure a comfortable stay.

Premier Room (10): Suited to business travellers or those looking for extra space, these 45m² rooms offer a seating area for small meetings.

Suite (4): The suites offer a living room and a balcony overlooking the tropical gardens which offers more privacy.

Family Room (6): The family suite allows for maximum comfort with an area of 55m², which can comfortably accommodate 4 people with 1 double bed and 2 single beds.

HOTEL DETAILS				ROOM DETAILS			
Number of rooms	30	Airport transfer	Yes	Extra beds	Yes	Aircon	Yes
Check-in	12:00	Guided Experiences	Excluded	Verandas	Yes	Telephone	Yes
Check-out	11:00	Meeting facilities	Yes	Private pool	No	Wi-Fi	Yes
Children	Welcome	Swimming pool	Yes	Shower	Indoor	Safe	Yes
Electricity	220V (EU plugs)	Bar	Yes	Bath	No	Bar	Mini + coffee/tea
Wi-Fi	Yes	Gym	Yes	Mosquito nets	No	Hair dryer	Yes
Credit cards	Accepted	Spa	No	Fan	Yes	Laundry	Yes

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#DiscoverPrincipe
www.hbdprincipe.com

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