



## **INFORMATION AND SERVICES**

**April 2008**

## Summary of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <i>Summary of Contents</i> .....                     | 2  |
| <i>Air Conditioning Systems</i> .....                | 3  |
| <i>Baby Sitting</i> .....                            | 3  |
| <i>Banking</i> .....                                 | 3  |
| <i>Barbeque</i> .....                                | 4  |
| <i>Birdwatching</i> .....                            | 4  |
| <i>Business Facilities</i> .....                     | 5  |
| <i>Car Rental</i> .....                              | 5  |
| <i>Checking In</i> .....                             | 5  |
| <i>Checking Out</i> .....                            | 5  |
| <i>Chemist</i> .....                                 | 6  |
| <i>Communication</i> .....                           | 6  |
| <i>Cooking</i> .....                                 | 6  |
| <i>Currency</i> .....                                | 7  |
| <i>Dangerous animals/insects/trees</i> .....         | 7  |
| <i>Departure Tax</i> .....                           | 8  |
| <i>Domestic Appliances</i> .....                     | 8  |
| <i>Drinking water</i> .....                          | 8  |
| <i>Electricity supply</i> .....                      | 9  |
| <i>Entertainment</i> .....                           | 9  |
| <i>Finding Things in the Villa</i> .....             | 10 |
| <i>Fire Precautions</i> .....                        | 11 |
| <i>First Aid</i> .....                               | 11 |
| <i>Food</i> .....                                    | 11 |
| <i>Gardener/ Caretaker</i> .....                     | 11 |
| <i>Garden Lighting</i> .....                         | 11 |
| <i>Golf</i> .....                                    | 12 |
| <i>Horse Riding</i> .....                            | 13 |
| <i>Housekeeping Services</i> .....                   | 14 |
| <i>Laundry</i> .....                                 | 14 |
| <i>Main Gate and Intercom</i> .....                  | 14 |
| <i>Managing Agent</i> .....                          | 14 |
| <i>Maps of Tobago</i> .....                          | 15 |
| <i>Massage</i> .....                                 | 15 |
| <i>Meals on Arrival</i> .....                        | 15 |
| <i>Medical Services</i> .....                        | 15 |
| <i>Nightlife</i> .....                               | 15 |
| <i>Orchard</i> .....                                 | 16 |
| <i>Pool, Pool Lighting and Pool Towels</i> .....     | 16 |
| <i>Restaurants</i> .....                             | 17 |
| <i>Safes</i> .....                                   | 17 |
| <i>Sailing</i> .....                                 | 17 |
| <i>Scuba Diving</i> .....                            | 18 |
| <i>Seafood</i> .....                                 | 19 |
| <i>Security Personnel and Security Systems</i> ..... | 19 |
| <i>Shopping Tips</i> .....                           | 20 |
| <i>Sight Seeing</i> .....                            | 21 |
| <i>Snorkelling</i> .....                             | 24 |
| <i>Sound System and TV</i> .....                     | 24 |
| <i>Taxis</i> .....                                   | 25 |
| <i>Telephone and Internet Connectivity</i> .....     | 25 |
| <i>Tennis</i> .....                                  | 26 |
| <i>Vegetable Garden</i> .....                        | 26 |
| <i>Villa Rules</i> .....                             | 26 |
| <i>Wine</i> .....                                    | 26 |

## *Air Conditioning Systems*

Each bedroom has its own independently controlled. Air conditioning system, with its own infrared handset which can be found in a cradle near the light switch in each room. The only exception is the master bedroom, which has its own control panel near the light switch.

If you experience any difficulties operating the air conditioning in your room please seek assistance from Floyd. It can sometimes be something very simple such as flat batteries in the infrared handset – Floyd has spare batteries – or a switch that needs to be turned on.

The air conditioning systems are maintained regularly so do not hesitate to use them. We would appreciate it however if you would switch them off when you are not in the room and during the day generally, unless taking a nap of course!

The Villa has been designed with cross flow ventilation in the plantation style to take advantage of the wonderful breezes that we get in the hills. You will find that air conditioning may often be unnecessary at Villa Petrus.

## *Baby Sitting*

Baby sitting costs US\$ 6 per hour. There is a list of babysitters for hire in the directory of this booklet or please speak to Anthony or our Managing Agent for baby sitting requirements.

## *Banking.*

Banking hours are Monday to Thursday 8:00am to 2:00pm and Friday 8:00am to 12:00 noon then 3:00pm to 5:00pm. The closest banks are situated at:

Republic Bank- Crown Point Airport and Scarborough

Royal Bank of Trinidad & Tobago – Crown Point (near Coco Reef hotel) and Scarborough

There is also The Bank of Nova Scotia located in lowlands mall which is opened Monday – Friday 10am - 5pm

Cash point machines are available at each of the banks and at Marie's Store just above Stonehaven beach and at various shopping areas. These machines will allow access to your account back home if you have the right card. For example, a card with Cirrus access will allow withdrawals of cash in local currency.



## *Barbeque*

The Villa has a large gas fired barbeque on the verandah outside the kitchen. A gas flame starter is stored in the kitchen in the elevated cupboard to the right of the sink or on top of the fridge. **Please pay special attention to never leave this flame starter within reach of small children.**

Floyd will show you how to start the barbeque and operate the electric winch for raising or lowering the grill. If the gas runs out, a spare tank is stored on the property and Floyd can change the bottles over for you. Floyd will also keep the barbeque clean but its always helpful to let it burn for two or three minutes after you have finished, with the oven cover closed, to burn off the food residue. Always a good idea to burn it for a few minutes before you use it as well for the same reason. When turning off the gas please take care to turn off the valve at the gas tank first and only turn off the regulators on the barbeque after the flame has extinguished.

## *Birdwatching*

Although Tobago is a small island, it has 210 recorded species of birds. As a result, birdwatchers can be assured of a very satisfying experience as Villa Petrus is built in the hills of Tobago it is virtually a bird sanctuary in itself. This is aided by two factors:

- the gardens surrounding the Villa have been planted with birds in mind. Hummingbirds can be seen gathering nectar from the flowers around the pool and woodpeckers are sometimes spotted on the trunks of coconut palms;
- a bird feeding table not far from the verandah near the kitchen doors;and
- the growing of an orchard on the southern side of the property leading into a valley with its own micro climate. The orchard backs onto an almost vertical hillside of natural forest and the fruits of the orchard trees bring an abundance of birds. Even the beautiful Mot Mot visits the orchard.

Specialist bird watching tours can be arranged. A good guide to some of the bird watching sites can be found at [www.essentiallytobago.com](http://www.essentiallytobago.com) . Alternatively, Frankies Tours offers various tours and also offers Villa Petrus residents a ten percent discount.

Prices vary depending on the tour. A trip to Buccoo Marsh and the Grafton Bird Sanctuary which will see over 60 species.



## *Business Facilities*

Villa Petrus has a Study next to the Living Room. It is away from the pool end of the Villa and both doors can be closed. It is also air conditioned and has a full complement of communications facilities – computer with internet access and printer, telephone and facsimile machine with a large desk and comfortable desk chair.

We are not able at this stage to install a broadband connection as it is not available yet. However, you can rent a Sony Ericsson wireless PC card from Digicel that will give you a very acceptable broadband connection..

**Please read the section on “Electricity supply” below carefully. On no account should a laptop computer be plugged into a power socket without a surge protector.** You will find one in the Study behind the bookcase near the desk that can be used.

## *Car Rental*

Car rental is strongly recommended in order to have access to all the facilities on the island. A reasonably robust vehicle is ideal, so that you can visit all areas. For six bedroom bookings a rental car is now included in the basic price of the Villa for our guests.

There are a number of car rental firms on the island. Companies that we recommend are Island Touch Car Rentals and Tours, Sherman Rentals and Frankies Tours and Rentals. Each one will provide Villa guests with a 10 percent discount and deliver the car to the Villa. Frankies may be able to supply larger vehicles for transportation of groups of people.

The Villa’s Managing Agent can arrange car rental for you in advance. Assuming your flight arrives in the evening, we recommend vehicles be delivered early the following morning (Floyd or Anthony will meet you at the airport on arrival and bring you to the Villa).

## *Checking In*

Not before 2 pm on your arrival day please.

## *Checking Out*

Most flights depart in the evening and you will no doubt want to make the most of your last day. If there are no other guests arriving that day, you are welcome to use all of the facilities of the Villa until you depart. However, if guests are



arriving that day we will need you to vacate your room by 11 am to allow sufficient time to clean it and prepare for new arrivals.

## *Chemist*

There are a number of local chemists. The closest is Dove Drugs at Carnbee where you can also get prescriptions. Please phone to check opening hours.

## *Communication*

There are full office facilities with computer, internet access, printer and fax machine in a separate air-conditioned Study. These are all available for use by guests, with appropriate care being exercised. You will only be charged for your use of the telephone, fax or internet connection. Please see the sections on Business Facilities, Telephone and Internet.

## *Cooking*

The Villa has a well equipped kitchen if you wish to self cater. However, if cooking is not your scene or you just want a break from it now and then a cook can be arranged by our Managing Agent as required. This can vary from lunch and dinner cooked daily or a few meals here and there. Sample local dishes include:

### **Hot Dishes**

Calaloo soup

Cinnamon chicken with plantains, served with lemon and garlic rice

Chicken breasts stuffed with bananas and mango sauce, served with coconut rice

Fish curry served with plain rice

Seafood gumbo served with cornbread

Shrimp sautéed in garlic butter and served with coconut rice

### **Cold Dishes**

Caribbean chicken salad



Avocado and papaya salad

Avocado and crab salad

Saltfish buljol

### **Sweet Dishes**

Banana bread

Carrot cake

Banana cream pie

Mango cheesecake

To pre order a meal for your first evening please arrange this by emailing your requirements to our Managing Agent.

If you are a very large party who will require all of your meals cooked daily on a large scale then please discuss with our Managing Agent who will hire in a separate chef who can tailor the cooking to meet your requirements.

**Prices vary but on average \$60.00 per person when food is supplied. This will vary on requests.**

You will need to agree cooking arrangements with the chef ahead of time. You can either purchase the food and ingredients yourself or ask your chef to organise it. The best places for food shopping are Morshead, just off the Shirvan Road behind Meshell's restaurant on the way to Crown Point or Pennysavers at Carnbee.

### *Currency*

The local currency is Trinidad & Tobago Dollar (TT\$). Foreign exchange with the US Dollar is at the time of printing: US\$1.00 = TT\$6.20. If you run out of local currency almost all shops and even traders on the beach will take US dollars at the 6:1 exchange rate. It is illegal however for them to give US dollars back so any change must be given back in local currency.

### *Dangerous animals/insects/trees*

Tobago is mostly free of dangerous animals, reptiles and insects. There are no dangerous snakes on the island. Although the tarantula spiders look fearsome they are fairly harmless.



There is a large centipede that can give a nasty sting and should be avoided and a bite from a particular variety of mosquito may result in Dengi fever (although few cases have actually been seen). So do take precautions with repellents but we are fortunate at Villa Petrus in being in the hills where the mosquitoes are much fewer.

Avoid picking up the frogs – they are very slimy to touch and it is difficult to get the slime off your hands once its on them.

Be careful not to touch the leaf of the Manchineel tree. This tree produces a milky sap which is a severe irritant to the skin and eyes and bad cases of blistering have been reported from tourists on the island who have handled the leaves of this species or even worse, stood under this tree to shelter from rain. It has a green roundish fruit which is also extremely poisonous. Many hotels and beaches display signs warning of the danger of this tree.

### *Departure Tax*

All passengers leaving Tobago are required to pay a departure tax of TT\$100.00 or US\$17.00. This is payable at the airport before departure.

### *Domestic Appliances*

A number of appliances are available for use by guests – including dishwasher, washing machine, and tumble drier. Their operation is standard, but if you have any questions, Anthony will be pleased to assist you and please see the section below on Laundry.

### *Drinking water*

Whist the Villa has mains water supply it is not really suitable for drinking. Bottled water is of course available from most shops if you require it but the Villa has its own filtered water supply for drinking purposes. A sophisticated carbon filter Culligan system is installed under the sink. It provides very high quality drinking water and stores a couple of gallons at a time so you shouldn't run out. This filter system is maintained regularly by Floyd and spare carbon filters are stored in the Villa should they need changing.

The ice machine near the drinks fridge also has a carbon filter so don't be concerned about using ice liberally in your drinks.

Its always a good idea to take a bottle of water to the beach or to a sporting activity – just ask Anthony for an empty bottle from the store room and you can fill it from the filter supply and top up with ice before you go!



## *Electricity supply*

The voltage is 110 volts. Power sockets are American standard but the Villa has UK to US adaptors available should you need them – please ask Anthony.

The Villa's electricity supply can suffer outages but a standby generator will automatically cut in within 10 minutes of any outage and cut back out when the normal power supply returns. The generator is large enough to provide power for all critical requirements such as fridge, freezer, lighting etc. However, fans, air conditioning and the filtration system on the pool, for example, will not operate from the generator power supply.

Outages are never for very long, sometimes only minutes, but there is enough diesel fuel stored on the property to run the generator for two weeks so don't be concerned if there is an outage.

The generator has its own separate fuse box opposite the Store room alongside the normal fuse box. Should you experience any problems with the generator, don't hesitate to call Floyd.

The interruptions to the power supply can also cause power surges and appropriate protection must be installed for all devices. The Villa has surge protectors fitted to all of its electrical equipment. However, it is **critical that no appliance is connected to a power supply in the Villa without a suitable surge protector. This is particularly true of laptop computers.**

The most suitable location for working on a laptop is at the desk in the Study. You will find a suitable surge protector (double socket) plugged into the power socket behind the bookcase for the fax machine. This can also be used for your laptop. Alternatively, you can use the Villa's computer in the Study which has a UPS permanently fitted to it and its associated devices (printer etc).

If you need a surge protector for another location, there are additional spares in the Villa and Anthony can provide one.

## *Entertainment*

If you would like some entertainment at the Villa such as a steel band, drummers, singers and belly dancers, please ask Floyd and he will arrange it for you. You will need to pay these performers directly on the night of the performance.



## *Finding Things in the Villa*

### **Laundry Area**

Washer/Dryer/Wash Sink/Ironing Board & Iron/First Aid Kit

### **Kitchen**

Refrigerator/Dishwasher/Coffeemaker/Icemaker/Oven/Stove/Blender/

Microwave/ Cooking Utensils/Cutlery/Toaster

### **Servery Room**

Additional plates, mugs and glasses

### **Hallway**

Powder Room

### **Dining Room**

Dining Table/Dining chairs/wine glasses in dresser

### **Living Room**

CD Player/Bose Stereo System/Cable TV/Living Room Chairs

### **Study**

Computer with printer and internet connection /Library/Fax Machine/Air conditioning

### **Outdoor Deck and Swimming Pool**

22-metre salt-water pool/Lounge Chairs/Hammocks/Outdoor table and 12 chairs/outdoor shower and Pool Wash Room

### **First Floor - 6 Bedrooms**

All have ceiling fans, mosquito nets and air conditioning.

The master bedroom has its own patio and own bathroom with both bath and shower. There is additional shelving under the sink.

There are two other king size double bedrooms with en suite bathrooms. Three twin bedrooms have two single beds and a pull out bed each, so as to



accommodate up to 3; one of the twin bedrooms has its own bathroom and the other two share a bathroom.

There is an additional study area on the first floor landing with several electrical sockets.

### *Fire Precautions*

The Villa is fitted with a smoke detector and fire extinguishers are located near the kitchen outside the Store room, in the Study and in the corridors of both wings of the Villa upstairs.

### *First Aid*

There is a First Aid kit in the laundry room.

### *Food*

Anthony can advise the best shops for food shopping. There are fresh fruits in the orchard which are there for our guests to enjoy and fresh vegetables in the vegetable garden. Please ask Floyd what is in season.

Floyd can also arrange for fresh seafood to be delivered directly to the villa.

### *Gardener/ Caretaker*

Floyd is in charge of the pool, the verandah, the garden and general maintenance. Please speak to him if you have any concerns or problems that he can help you with. In case of an emergency please also call him after hours at home.

### *Garden Lighting*

The lighting in the garden creates a wonderful ambience in the evenings and we encourage you to turn all of the garden lights on each evening. There are switches in the kitchen near the telephone, on the verandah near the pool shower room, near the front door and the driveway lights are in the dining room. The orchard should you need to go there also has lights and the switch for these is in the panel near the staircase.



Please also turn all of these lights off when you retire for the evening other than the driveway lights – see the section on Security. Be careful not to turn off the security lights at night.

If any of the lights are out be sure to let Floyd know as it's hard for him to keep on top of this on a daily basis as he departs before nightfall.

## *Golf*

Golf in the Caribbean is famous for being a wonderful experience and Tobago is no exception. Tobago boasts two courses with international reputations; they have very different characters and provide different golfing experiences. Between them, they offer variety and the ability to choose anything from a comprehensive dedicated golfing holiday to just the odd round on a 'holiday with golf'.

### **Tobago Plantations Golf and Country Club**

The modern Plantations championship course has been built in the old sugar plantation of Lowlands Estate. It is sited alongside the Atlantic Ocean and was planned around the mature trees and landscape features, including an old sugar mill. The landscape varies greatly throughout the course with lakes, wetlands, woodland copses, beaches, mangrove and wild grasses providing each hole with a distinctive character.

The course was only established a few years ago and was designed by Bob Hunt and Marcus Blackburn of PGA Golf Management Ltd. The comments book at the club records Brian Huggett as saying 'Magnificent' and Nick Job 'A great course, one I would like to play again'.

The 72-par course has a distinct links feel. It measures 7,009 yards (6,380 metres) from the back tees, with four Par 5's, ten Par 4's and four Par 3's. Water comes into play on eleven of the holes. The course is very well maintained. The greens are Tif dwarf Bermuda Grass and the fairways and tees are Tifton 419 Bermuda Grass. Buggy tracks run through the course and these have to be followed. The course has been designed as a good test of the game for golfers of all levels, but will require the golfer to have some experience.

The Clubhouse provides full bar and restaurant facilities, catering for breakfast, bar snacks and a more substantial a la carte menu.

All green fee prices are inclusive of a shared golf buggy. There are very good practice facilities and the Golf Academy at Tobago Plantations features a variety of golf programmes, with state-of-the-art teaching facilities.



## **Mount Irvine Bay Golf Club**

This award-winning championship quality course was carved out from the grounds of an old coconut plantation and has magnificent views of the Caribbean Sea. It is set in gently rolling countryside along the north coast of Tobago.

The course was established in 1968 and was designed by the late Commander John D. Harris and considered to be his finest. It has been a regular host to Pro-Am competitions and winners have included Andrew Sherborne, David Gilford, Ronan Rafferty and Stephen Ames.

This 72-par course is 6,793 yards (6,182 metres) from the back tees, with five Par 5's, eight Par 4's and five Par 3's. Water comes into play on four of the holes. The course has natural grasses on tees, fairways and in the rough, with good quality grasses on the greens. Buggies are allowed on all parts of the course, but players can walk and use trolleys if they so wish.

This is an ideal course for a relaxing round of holiday golf, at the same time as offering a testing challenge to lower handicap golfers. The course will suit almost any standard of golfer.

Refreshments can be obtained from the bar and either the restaurant alongside the clubhouse or from the Mount Irvine Bay Hotel, which is just across the road.

Buggies and trolleys are available for hire and caddies can be booked. There is a practice facility and there are two resident golf professionals.

With reasonable notice, it is normally possible to arrange starting times to suit most requirements.

## *Horse Riding*

Although most people associate holidays in the Caribbean with beach activities, Tobago offers horse riding adventures along the beaches and up through the high hills overlooking both coastlines. On a calm day you can even swim the horses after a canter or gallop along the beach.

Looking Out Stables is a three minute drive from Villa Petrus along the Orange Hill Road in the direction of Scarborough. It has good horses (a number of them are ex racers) and professional management who can cater for all standards of riding, from novice through to highly experienced riders.

Residents of Villa Petrus will be given a 10 percent discount.



## *Housekeeping Services*

Anthony is in charge for breakfast. Veronica is responsible for cleaning the Villa and laundry. (Cooking and babysitting by separate request). Ironing should be kept to a minimum please.

Please speak to Veronica if you need extra towels, bathmats, sheets or pillows. The Villa also has a cot and a high chair.

## *Laundry*

Please leave dirty laundry in the laundry room and make sure that all sand is washed or shaken out before doing so.

## *Main Gate and Intercom*

The main gate is operated with a small infrared “clicker” – Floyd will provide you with sufficient clickers for your use on arrival. An intercom at the gate entrance allows visitors to announce their arrival and you can open the gates using the intercom system. When a visitor presses the button on the intercom at the front gate, a bell sound is heard in the Villa. There are intercom handsets in the Villa in the kitchen, upstairs at the white desk in the hallway and in the Cottage. To answer, simply pick up the handset and speak. To grant entry (i.e. open the gates) press the red button firmly. After the visitor has passed through the gates they can be closed again by pressing the red button again firmly. Alternatively, they will close automatically after a brief period.

In the event of a power failure or if for any reason the gates cannot be operated electronically, Floyd has a key that can be used to release the hydraulic pressure so that they can be opened manually.

You can also use the intercom to communicate between the Villa upstairs, the Villa kitchen and the cottage. To do so, pick up the handset and press the following numbers to communicate with the:

- Villa upstairs:           press 1
- Villa kitchen:            press 2
- Cottage:                   press 3

## *Managing Agent*

Marian Lee Qui is our managing agent. Marian is in charge of accounts and the general management of the Villa. Please call Marian for any ad hoc enquiries and Marian can also be contacted on her mobile in an emergency.



## *Maps of Tobago*

Maps of Tobago can be found in the Study on one of the bookshelves along with a large amount of material about things to do in Tobago. Please help yourself.

## *Massage*

Speak to Anthony who is a very experienced masseur to make an appointment. You can have your massage in a bedroom or on the verandah – the choice is yours.

Anthony is skilled in various types of massage, including shiatsu and reflexology. His ability to put you in a relaxed holiday mood is legendary! Anthony has agreed a special deal for Villa guests of TT\$400 per session which is usually around one hour.

## *Meals on Arrival*

Since most flights arrive in the late afternoon/evening, you might not want to go out again the first evening, once you have settled into the Villa. The Villa's Managing Agent will be pleased to arrange for food to be bought for you so that you can have a bar-b-que or some other meal. Alternatively, you might like to make arrangements for one of the chefs to prepare a meal for you (see "Cooking").

## *Medical Services*

In the event that you need the assistance of either a doctor or a dentist we have included telephone numbers in the Directory attached and visits to the Villa can be arranged if necessary. Should you experience any difficulties please contact our Managing Agent on her mobile.

## *Nightlife*

There are numerous bars and places to party in Tobago but one of the most popular is "Sunday School". Each Sunday night in Buccoo alongside La Tartaruga restaurant, there is a disco that is very popular with both tourists and local residents. Its worth a visit. Crown Point hotel has a bar which on Friday night has live entertainment and drink specials coupled with a spectacular view of the sea and coast. For a night club experience the Shade in Bon Accord is a true Caribbean clubbing experience.



## *Orchard*

Access to the orchard is via steps near the guard hut. Guests are welcome to use all fruits grown on the property and Floyd will be pleased to give you a guided tour. There are 30 different varieties of fruit trees grown. At the bottom of the orchard you will discover that it has its own microclimate.

Another surprise also awaits you in the orchard – it is where you will find an abundance of birds that feed on fruits from the trees. You will find some birds feeding down there at most times of the day!

## *Pool, Pool Lighting and Pool Towels*

The pool is 22 metres in length, 4 ½ feet deep at the Villa end, 6 feet deep at the opposite end and 8 ½ feet at its maximum depth. There are no lifeguards and therefore children need to be properly supervised at all times by an adult. You will find gates on the verandah which will assist in the control of toddlers but children should not be left alone downstairs even when these are closed.

We recommend that you keep the Villa doors closed until an adult is present downstairs – that way you can sleep without worrying about children in the pool.

The pool filtration system uses natural salt and an electrolysis process to convert the salt to a mild chlorine. You will find that the pool has a soft silky texture and is gentle on the eyes and hair relative to most pools.

The pool also has a multi coloured fibre optic lighting system. A panel of three switches for the pool lights is on the verandah wall outside the verandah pool shower room – one switch is to control the pool lights, one to stop the colour wheel if desired to a chosen colour (it will normally rotate through several colours unless it is switched off on one chosen colour) and one to control the garden lights around the pool. Floyd can show you how to operate the pool lights if you are having difficulty. When first switched on they take a few seconds to start because they are fibre optic. Please turn off the pool lights when you retire for the evening.

There is a separate switch for the lights in the pool steps in the panel in the Dining Room near the Driveway light switch.

Floyd will provide a fresh supply of towels for the pool each morning as required and dirty towels should be put in the laundry at the end of the day. However, in the interest of the environment, please don't hesitate to re-use any towels a second day if they are not soiled.



## *Restaurants*

For eating out, among the particularly good restaurants in Tobago is La Tartaruga, where residents of Villa Petrus will receive a 10% discount. This offers uncompromisingly Italian dishes, with an emphasis on fresh local seafood, and has an extensive 160-selection cellar. La Tartaruga's Italian owner, Gabriele, and his staff all operate with high enthusiasm, performing con brio each item on the menu for each table.

There are many other restaurants offering a range of cuisines, including Shirvan Water Mill (creole / international / seafood), Dillons Seafood Restaurant (seafood), Kariwak Village Restaurant (Caribbean/creole) and Seahorse Inn (international cuisine). Melange offers nouvelle-style cuisine, with fusion food based on French cooking.

New to the island is la Cantina, an Italian style café. It offers an impressive wine selection from across the world and has a stone oven for authentic Italian pizzas. This is located opposite RBTT bank in Crown Point.

Bamboo Mile is new also to the restaurants on the island but brings a wealth of cooking methods from around the world to the island. Be sure to check out their unusual cooking combinations such as BBQ guava glazed ribs. Located in Bon Accord just off the main road.

This is only a small sample of the possibilities and you will undoubtedly want to explore others.

## *Safes*

The two safes in the Villa, one in the master bedroom and the other large en suite have unfortunately not functioned well despite attempts to repair them. If you have valuables, they can be put in a safe by Floyd which is kept in a separate locked room.

## *Sailing*

Island Girl (a fast katamaran) offers a great day's sailing. Island Girl includes a barbeque lunch of fish caught during the morning's sailing cooked on board on a portable barbeque. The sailing is combined with plenty of snorkelling at various spots along the coast and can include dolphin chasing.



## *Scuba Diving*

Tobago is prized with having some of the best scuba diving and snorkelling in the Caribbean. It is a destination for both advanced and amateur divers.

If you want to learn then you can do this by completing your PADI training with one of the registered PADI training centres on the island – we recommend World of Watersports at the Hilton and Wild Turtle Dive Safari at Pigeon Point. Alternatively, you can ask for them to come to the villa and do it in the pool here (useful for those with young children).

Diving can be enjoyed in virtually any area of the island. Tobago has a relatively untouched underworld; its waters teem with marine life – manta rays, stingrays, angelfish, sharks, barracuda, triggerfish and hundreds more. The waters abound with nutrients, an underwater world of thriving barrel sponges, sea fans and some of the largest brain coral. Wrecks are another attraction on the island.

Drift diving is popular in Tobago, and several sites are well known for the intense currents which allow this challenging type of dive.

The seas are at their roughest from December to April and the temperature is highest from July to September – reaching around 80°F. Manta rays are best seen in the winter months when the waters are cooler.

### **Wild Turtle Dive Safari**

There are a number of diving companies on Tobago. The Wild Turtle Dive Safari has offered a 10% discount to Villa Petrus residents. It is based at Pigeon Point in the south of the island and only minutes away from many of Tobago's best dive sites, offering gentle reefs, high speed drift dives, the wreck of the MV Maverick or the thrill of a night dive.

Wild Turtle Dive Safari is a full PADI resort training centre and offers a comprehensive range of courses including Discover Scuba Diving (a half day beginner's course), PADI open water diver, Advanced diver, rescue and dive master as well as specialties like drift, wreck, night, deep and underwater photographer. Two fully covered professional dive boats with VHF radios, oxygen kits, GPS and fishfinders allow diving all around Tobago.

### **World of Watersports**

Based at the Hilton Hotel, World of Watersports is a five star PADI IDC. It has Tobago's only dedicated dive pool for training and the largest and most comfortable dive boat in every day use in Tobago. World of Watersports will give a 10% discount (after tax) to Villa Petrus residents and also offer a complimentary pick-up and drop-off service from their dive shop at the Hilton to



and from the Villa. They have access to all the best dive sites in Tobago and can also arrange for you to dive in Speyside if you would like to do so.

They can meet you at Mt Irvine beach once you have filled in all the paperwork and you have been fitted for equipment. This will save you driving to the Hilton every day.

World of Watersports caters for all diving from Discover Scuba (a half day course requiring no formal training) to Instructor's Exams. They have a full range of rental equipment as well as being a Scubapro and Mares dealer.

Additionally, World of Watersports offer fishing, coastal cruise trips (with or without a rum punch beach bar-b-que) and snorkelling trips to Buccoo Reef and the Nylon Pool

## *Seafood*

If you would like to have fresh seafood such as fish or lobsters delivered to the Villa, please ask Floyd and he will arrange it.

## *Security Personnel and Security Systems*

For your comfort and well-being, a security guard with a dog comes on duty at 6 pm each evening and departs again at 6 am the next morning. The guard is stationed in the guard hut at the top of the drive but will also patrol the grounds regularly.

The Villa also has an internal security system and an external perimeter beam at the upper level. Our recommendation is that you do not activate either of these systems when you retire for the evening. The guard has a control panel in the hut and a light will show on the panel (with no alarm sound) if a perimeter beam is broken which will allow him to immediately investigate.

No perimeter system is fault free as beams can be broken by falling branches for example and if you set it with the sound alarm activated it can cause unnecessary distress. If you do feel the necessity, however, to set either of the alarms, Floyd can provide you with instruction and codes.

You can, however, assist the guard by ensuring that the security lights and driveway lights are left on in the evening. All other external lighting should be turned off as selected dim lighting is the optimum for security purposes. The security lights are clearly marked with a red dot on the wall switches at the bottom of the staircase and on the first floor landing near the study area.



## *Shopping Tips*

There are a number of supermarkets on the island which supply the basic requirements. Floyd or Anthony can point you in the right direction for the closest one. By far the best variety is available from Morshead, just behind Meshells restaurant off the Shirvan Road. Morshead supplies everything from local seafood and American beef to French cheeses and Scottish smoked salmon.

For fresh fruit and vegetables you can't beat some of the roadside stalls. You will find very good ones at Carnbee near the supermarket and the main road to Crown Point.

You can buy most types of sports equipment at Sports and Games in Scarborough.

It is also worth visiting Radical Designs in Scarborough for linen wear and fashionable Caribbean style clothing for both men and women.

A new shopping mall has opened near the Hilton Hotel opening from 10am till 7pm Monday till Saturday and has numerous shops including:

- Francis Fashions
- Zippers
- Miccles
- Ronnie and Caro
- Zoom
- City Fashions
- Radio Shack
- Westport
- Kitchen Corner
- Payless Shoes
- Caribbean Jewellers
- Detour
- Nigel Khan book store
- Wine and cigar shop
- Electro Sounds
- Light n Styles
- Scotia Bank
- KFC
- Subway
- Pizza Hut
- Chinese
- Local Cuisine
- Movie Towne (Cinema Complex....opening early 2008)

Most shops are closed from midday on Saturday and all day on Sunday. Otherwise there are a few shops at the Coco Reef Hotel or at the Hilton.

## *Sight Seeing*

Villa Petrus is a five minutes drive away from the beach (Stonehaven) or the golf course and tennis courts at Mount Irvine, and 10 minutes drive from Tobago Plantations Golf Club. We are also 10 to 20 minutes drive from Scarborough and a number of fine restaurants. Tobago has lots to offer. Here are some of the attractions.

### **The Southern Course - Scarborough - Plymouth – Crown Point**

Courland Monument, Plymouth

Some of Tobago's earliest settlers were from Courland (now part of Latvia): descendants gather regularly in Tobago to maintain the link. A fine sculpture by Janis Minitiks commemorates the 17th century settlers who gave their name to the great sweep of the south of Plymouth.

Mystery Tombstone, Plymouth

The inscription on this 18th century tombstone has long puzzled passers-by. It records that Betty Stiven "was a mother without knowing it, and a wife without letting her husband know it, except by her kind indulgence to him".

Adventure Farm and Nature Reserve, Arnos Vale

This 12 acre estate on the Arnos Vale Road is notorious for; birds, butterflies, iguanas, mangoes and citrus orchards . Open Monday through Friday; 0700 to 1700.

Grafton Caledonia Wildlife Sanctuary, Black Rock

This bird sanctuary was once a cocoa estate, but after the devastating hurricane of 1963, the owner took to feeding the wild birds whose forest habitat had been destroyed. After she died, the estate was willed to her family on the condition that it remained a wildlife sanctuary. The Mot mots sometimes still come out of the forest at four in the afternoon, the old feeding time. These shy birds allow themselves to be fed by hand. Trails into the bush have been cleared for nature hikers.

Kimme Museum

A little way up the road past Mt. Irvine Bay Hotel is the workshop and gallery of German sculptor Luise Kimme, who has made Tobago a large part of her life's work. Massive wooden blocks are turned into graceful dancers, young girls, lovers and mothers with children. Viewing on Sunday or by appointment.



Samples of Luise Kimme's work can be found in the Villa in the form of a statue of Calypso Rose, three carved panels of dancers and a few crayon drawings.

#### Mt. Irvine Golf Course

An 18-hole championship course attached to Mt. Irvine Bay Hotel.

#### Buccoo Reef

A protected marine park off Pigeon Point/Store Bay bounded by Tobago's most famous reef. Daily glass bottom tours allow even non-swimmers the opportunity to see the reef life. Trip includes a swim in the Nylon Pool, a warm shallow area in the middle of the lagoon. Trips begin at 1100.

There is a whole day excursion to No Man's Land - a sandy spit reaching into the lagoon, this makes for an excellent beach Bar-B-Que. and rum punch party.

#### Pigeon Point

Tobago's most famous beach, a white sand idyll, an entrance fee gives you access to changing rooms, thatch shaded seating areas, restaurant and bar. There are also a number of shopping stalls.

#### Store Bay

This is Tobago's most popular beach. A hearty appetite should be brought because of the congregation of local food vendors. Itinerant vendors and craftsmen sell everything imaginable in the kiosks located by the beach.

#### Fort Bennett, Black Rock

From the ruins of one of Tobago's oldest forts, you get a beautiful view of the west coast.

### **The Windward Course - Scarborough - Roxborough - Speyside - Charlotteville**

#### Fort Granby

Not much remains of this fort, which once guarded Georgetown, Tobago's first capital, except for the grave of a young unknown soldier. But the wild, windswept promontory with its sweeping view is worth the visit.

#### Richmond Great House

An elegantly restored plantation house, Great House dating from 1766, with early 20th century furniture. It houses a collection of African textiles and



carvings, and is now a five-room guesthouse with restaurant. Guided tours available.

#### Argyle Waterfall, Roxborough

A lovely three-tiered waterfall near Roxborough, with deep cool pools for swimming. Trained guides are available.

#### Louis d'Or Nurseries, Roxborough

The nurseries house has a wide range of flowering plants, shrubs, and tropical fruit trees, etc. Open daily.

#### Little Tobago Island, Speyside

Facing the village of Speyside, this small offshore island is one of the most important seabird sanctuaries of the Caribbean. The Red-billed Tropic birds are spectacular from October to June. Tours held at 1000 and 1400.

#### Flagstaff Hill, Charlotteville

This is the northern tip of Tobago, reached via an unsurfaced road from the crest of the hill before descending into Charlotteville. During World War II, it was the site of an American military lookout and radio tower. The view is panoramic, encompassing St. Giles Islands and the village of Charlotteville. Sunsets from this spot are spectacular.

### **The Northside Course - Scarborough - Moriah – Bloody Bay – Main Ridge**

#### Witch's Grave, Golden Lane

In the hill village of Golden Lane is the grave of Gang Gang Sara, according to local legend, she was an African witch who flew to Tobago centuries ago and was unable to fly back because she had eaten salt.

#### Englishman's Bay

There is no village here - just emerald forest and brilliant blue sea. It is one of the loveliest beaches in Tobago.

#### Castara, Parlatuvier, Bloody Bay and L'Anse Fourmi

The villages of the north coast are extremely picturesque, with small houses and sheltered blue bays. The approach to Parlatuvier from the hills to the south is particularly memorable.

## Main Ridge Forest Reserve

The mountainous spine of Tobago supports the oldest forest reserve in the western hemisphere. It was established in the 1760's, shortly after the island fell into British Rule.

## *Snorkelling*

Tobago is renowned for its snorkelling. You don't need to be able to scuba dive to enjoy some of the delights of the underwater world. It is possible to experience truly magnificent snorkelling directly from the shore. Mount Irvine beach and Arnos Vale beach provide ready access to beautiful coral reefs with an abundance of marine life.

Alternatively, you may want to combine it with a boat trip and all of them provide plenty of snorkelling opportunities at various spots along the coast.

## *Sound System and TV*

The TV is in the living room where you can watch both local Channels and Cable TV.

There is also an integrated Bose stereo system with two infrared handsets allowing you to listen to music both inside and outside – CDs and radio. For the system to function both inside and out, both amplifiers on the shelf below the TV must be turned on (a green light must be showing on both).

The indoor system plays out in the Living Room, the Dining Room and the Kitchen. The outdoor system plays out on both wings of the verandah and through five outdoor speakers in the garden around the top of the pool.

Of course, you can have both systems turned on to enjoy the optimum performance of the system.

You will find a small selection of CDs in the cabinet next to the TV but we do hope that you have brought some of your favourites as it is such a pleasure to listen to them by the pool. Try some of the Caribbean and Putamayo music – its certainly got the right flavour for the environment. You can buy some of these to enjoy on your holiday and to take home from Horizons which is in the small shopping mall above Morshead, the supermarket.

The CD player will load six CDs at a time and play through them continuously if left on. Please take care to always put CDs back in their cases to ensure their performance is retained for future guests.

The operation of the system with the infrared handsets is very intuitive but if you need any assistance, please speak to Floyd or Anthony.



In the event of an electrical storm please turn both the TV and the Bose stereo off at the power socket

## *Taxis*

Reliable taxi services are provided by Pin and Hilton but please take care to provide clear instructions for collection. Telephone numbers are provided in the Directory. If you need a large mini bus to cater for more than 5 people, please ask Floyd and he will arrange it for you.

Royal Taxi Service, Crown Point 639-8153

Tobago Taxi cab Co-op, Canaan 639-2707

## *Telephone and Internet Connectivity*

The Villa and the Cottage have separate telephone lines as follows:

Villa            +1 868 631 0430

Cottage        +1 868 631 0431

Telephone handsets in the Villa are in the Kitchen and the Study and there are numerous telephone sockets throughout the Villa, particularly in the Study.

Telephone sockets in the Cottage are in both the living room and the bedroom.

International dialling codes are as follows:

USA and Canada: 1 + (area code) + (number)

Rest of the world: 011 + (area code) + (number)

Please feel free to use the telephone at your discretion and the charges for any calls can be settled on departure. There is however, always a delay in obtaining the bill from the telephone company so our Managing Agent will either retain a portion of your damage deposit for a few days or take a credit card imprint to be filled in when the bill is available – please discuss this with our Managing Agent and agree one of these payment methods. Telephone usage is charged at cost of the call as billed by the telephone company.

You are also welcome to use the computer in the Study if you need internet access. The Villa has a local ISP so you can access the internet for the cost of a local call.



If you need a broadband connection for any reason, it is possible to rent a Sony Ericsson wireless PC card from Digicell that can be installed on your laptop. Please refer to the section, Business Facilities.

## *Tennis*

There are tennis courts nearby at Mount Irvine Hotel or at the Grand Courland Hotel. For tennis coaching please contact Anthony Williams or David Denune. Anthony is very good with children as well as adults of all standards. Telephone numbers are in the Directory.

## *Vegetable Garden*

Anthony is in charge of the vegetable garden and he will advise you on what is in season. Some typically Caribbean vegetables are christophine, dasheen, plantains, patchoi, okra, shadowbeni and sweet potatoes. We also have sweet peppers, tomatoes and lettuce.

## *Villa Rules*

There are always a few dos and don'ts at any Villa and we have a few as well.

There is **strictly no smoking inside the Villa** but you are welcome to smoke on the verandah or in the gardens

The floors are all natural teak grown on the island. Please do not wear any shoes in the Villa other than those with a soft sole and preferably go barefoot – you will find it is by far the nicest way to live when staying at Villa Petrus.

Golf clubs and other large sporting equipment should not be taken beyond the Store Room. Please ask Floyd to make suitable arrangements for the storage of your sporting equipment and luggage in the Store Room.

Sandy garments should not be put in the washing machine until they are thoroughly rinsed either with the hose outside or in the laundry sink.

## *Wine*

It can be a chore to find a good supplier of quality wines in Tobago, so after many years of experiencing this problem, we now have our own supply at the Villa.

The Villa has its own air conditioned cellar in which wine is stored at 18 degrees centigrade. From December 2007, you will find a bottle of rose and a



bottle of red wine have been provided as a welcoming present and to introduce you to the wines.

Villa Petrus is supplied by Chateau Pontet Bagatelle in Coteaux d'Aix in Provence. This is a boutique vineyard that produces about 20,000 bottles of wine per year from 4 hectares. The emphasis is on quality and the red wine is matured longer than most other wines in the region before being released for sale.

The wine can be purchased for drinking in the Villa and if you ask Anthony or Floyd, they will provide you with your selection of bottles. You will find a separate wine list including prices in the study and in the kitchen.

There is a form that we would like you to use (Anthony or Floyd will help) to keep track of your consumption and payment for the wine can be made at the end of your stay when you settle your bill with our Managing Agent



## ***Helpful Telephone Numbers***

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>Villa Petrus</b>                                       | 1 (868) 631 0430 (also fax)   |
| <b>Wellbeing Director</b><br>Anthony Joseph               | 631 0431<br>754 7337 (mobile) |
| <b>Caretaker/Gardener</b><br>Floyd Scipio (home)<br>Floyd | 631 1400<br>788 3662 (mobile) |
| <b>Housekeeper</b><br>Veronica                            | 306 2030 (mobile)             |
| <b>Managing Agent</b><br>Marian Lee Qui                   | 639 5252<br>493 1292 (mobile) |
| <b>Emergency numbers</b>                                  |                               |
| Fire  | 990                           |
| Ambulance   | 639 4444                      |
| Police  | 999                           |
| Old Grange Station  | 639 8888                      |
| Crown Point Station                                       | 639 0042                      |
| Scarborough Hospital                                      | 639 2551 / 639 4292           |
| Doctor Madoo  | 480 8276 / 631 0196           |
| Dentist (Dr Steele)                                       | 660 6725                      |
| <b>Art</b>  |                               |
| Art Gallery   | 639 0457                      |
| Kimme's Sculpture   | 639 0257                      |
| <b>Baby sitting</b>                                       |                               |
| Katherine Day-care  | 639 2606                      |
| Natalie   | 745 8795                      |
| <b>Banking</b>  |                               |
| Republic Bank- Crown Point Airport                        | 639 0808                      |
| Republic Bank- Scarborough                                | 639 2561                      |
| Royal Bank of Trinidad & Tobago Crown Point               | 660 8616                      |
| Royal Bank of Trinidad & Tobago Scarborough               | 639 1396/7                    |
| Bank of Nova Scotia Lowlands Mall                         | 635 1256                      |
| <b>Car Rental</b>   |                               |
| Island Touch Car Rentals & Tours                          | 631 8615                      |
| Sherman Auto Rentals                                      | 639 2292                      |
| Frankie Tours & Rentals                                   | 631 0369                      |
| Thrifty Auto Rental                                       | 639 8507                      |
| Gremlin Car Rentals                                       | 639 8400                      |
| <b>Chemist</b>  |                               |
| Dove Drugs Ltd (Carnbee)                                  | 639 2976                      |
| Scarborough Drugs   | 639 4161                      |
| <b>Cooking</b>  |                               |
| Speak to Veronica, or<br>contact our Managing Agent       | 639 0929                      |

**Dive Operators**

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Wild Turtle Dive Safari | 639 7936 |
| World of Watersports    | 660 7234 |

**Golf**

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Mt Irvine          | 639 8871 |
| Tobago Plantations | 631 0875 |

**Massage**

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Anthony Joseph | resident in cottage |
|----------------|---------------------|

**Restaurants**

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| La Tartaruga (Buccoo Bay)       | 639 0940 |
| Italian and very good food      |          |
| Kariwak Village(Crown Point)    | 639 8442 |
| Shirvan Water Mill (Shirvan rd) | 639 0000 |
| Seahorse Inn (Stonehaven Bay)   | 639 0686 |
| Bamboo Mile (Bon Accord)        | 631 8484 |
| La Cantina (Crown Point)        | 639 8242 |
| Melange (Shirvan Road)          | 631 0121 |
| Colours (Crown Point)           | 631 8184 |
| Hilton Tobago                   | 660 8500 |

**Riding**

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Looking Out Stables | 639 9379 |
|---------------------|----------|

**Taxi Service update**

|                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Pin                             | 639 8129 / 639 9882 /<br>678 1032 |
| Hilton                          | 639 0967 / 685 9315               |
| Royal Taxi Service, Crown Point | 639-8153                          |
| Tobago Taxi cab Co-op, Canaan   | 639-2707                          |

**Tennis**

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Mount Irvine   | 639 8871 |
| Grand Courland | 639 9667 |
| Turtle Beach   | 639 2851 |

**Tennis coaching**

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Anthony Williams | 660 8632 |
| David Denoon     | 681 5504 |

**Water activities**

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Frankie Tours & Rentals            | 631 0369 |
| Island Girl                        | 639 7245 |
| Hews Glass Bottom Boat tours       | 639 9058 |
| Fishing Trips (Frothy, Hard Play)  | 682 3474 |
| Dillon's Deep Sea Fishing charters | 639 8765 |