

10-DAY CHECKLIST

Van trip across Reunion Island

Location Van La Réunion · location-van-la-reunion.re

Everything you need to prepare your 10-day van adventure across Reunion Island: gear to pack, essential bookings, practical advice and useful contacts. Print this checklist, tick each item, and take off serenely.

■ BOOKINGS TO MAKE IN ADVANCE

2 to 3 months before departure

- Van rental (contact Location Van La Réunion)
- International flight to Saint-Denis (Roland Garros airport)
- Travel and medical insurance
- If volcano sunrise hike: accommodation in Bourg-Murat the night before

2 to 4 weeks before departure

- Boat trip: dolphins (year-round) or whales (July–October)
- Kélonia sea-turtle observatory visit (recommended)
- Provanille vanilla cooperative visit in Bras Panon
- Evening restaurant reservation in Cilaos
- Airport transfer if needed (we offer it free)

■ TIP: For the 10-day format, no Mafate or Piton des Neiges to prepare.
This is a 'van only' circuit: simpler, everything is reachable by road!

■ PACKING LIST

Clothing

- Light clothing (T-shirts, shorts) — daytime temps 25–30 °C
- Warm fleece or light down jacket (nights at altitude, Maïdo, Cilaos, volcano)
- Lightweight waterproof jacket (windbreaker, breathable)
- Long trousers (hiking + chilly evenings at altitude)
- Swimwear (lagoon, waterfalls, beaches)
- Hiking socks (at least 3 pairs)
- Hat or cap + sunglasses
- Warm hat and gloves (sunrise volcano hike)

Footwear

- High-ankle hiking boots (volcano, trails)
- Trail running shoes or lightweight trainers
- Sandals or flip-flops (beach, van showers, lagoon)

Hiking & outdoor gear

- Daypack 20–30 L
- Headlamp with fresh batteries (sunrise volcano hike)
- 1.5 L reusable water bottle (per person)
- High-factor sunscreen SPF 50+
- Insect repellent (mosquitoes in the Highlands)
- Power bank for phone

Personal & toiletries

- Biodegradable soap and shampoo (respect nature)
- Quick-dry microfibre towel
- Basic first-aid kit (plasters, paracetamol, antiseptic)
- Personal medication (if applicable)
- Motion sickness tablets (winding mountain roads)

Tech & documents

- ID card or passport (depending on nationality)
- Driving license (EU license valid, otherwise international)
- Credit card + some cash (for local markets)
- Van rental reservation confirmation
- Confirmations for boat trips and activities
- Travel insurance certificate
- Camera or smartphone with SD card
- Standard French sockets (no adapter needed for EU)

■ TIP: Travel light! The van has limited storage space. Anything you forget can be bought on the island.

■ WHAT'S ALREADY IN THE VAN

Our vans come fully equipped. You'll find on board:

- ✓ Bed with sheets, pillows, and duvet
- ✓ Gas cooktop and cookware (pots, pans, utensils)
- ✓ Cutlery, plates, bowls, glasses (2 to 5 people)
- ✓ Fridge / cooler with ice packs
- ✓ Water reservoir + sink
- ✓ Table and chairs for outdoor dining
- ✓ Basic cleaning kit
- ✓ Road maps and tourist guide
- ✓ Phone / USB charger

■ FIRST SHOPPING LIST

After picking up the van, head to a big supermarket (Jumbo, Leclerc, Carrefour) to stock up. Budget: about €30–50 for 3–4 days.

Breakfast & snacks

- Coffee / tea / cocoa
- Bread, butter, local jam (try guava or pineapple jam!)
- Fresh fruit (mango, pineapple, passion fruit — local and cheap)
- Energy bars or dried fruit for hikes

Lunches & dinners

- Pasta, rice, or local Cilaos PGI lentils
- Tinned food (tuna, tomato sauce, coconut milk)
- Vegetables and fresh meat (buy along the way at farmers' markets)
- Olive oil, salt, pepper, Creole spices (Bourbon vanilla, curry)
- Fresh bread (bakeries in every village)

Drinks

- Large-format mineral water (6L bottles, cheaper)
- Fruit juice, local soft drinks
- Dodo or Bourbon beer (local beers — try them!)
- Cilaos wine or flavoured rums (at farmers' markets)

■ USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Service	Number	When to call
Emergency (all)	112	Any emergency
SAMU (medical)	15	Medical emergency
Fire dept.	18	Fire, rescue, road accident
Police	17	Police incident
Mountain rescue	02 62 93 37 37	Hiking accident / SAR
Weather (Météo)	08 92 68 08 08	Weather forecast, alerts

Location Van La Réunion — your contact team

WhatsApp	+262 693 03 45 10
Email	contact@location-van-la-reunion.re
Website	location-van-la-reunion.re
Booking	gestion.teori.fr/Teori_resa2?cx=2BNJGa0

- We reply on WhatsApp in less than 5 minutes during opening hours. Don't hesitate to text us if you have any questions or a road issue.

■ PRACTICAL TIPS

- **Weather:** Favour the dry season (May–November). In rainy season (December–April), cyclones and flooded roads are possible.
- **Sunrises:** Leave at 4 AM for Maïdo and volcano. The sea of clouds fades by 8 AM.
- **Altitude:** Volcano (2,500 m), Maïdo (2,200 m) and Cilaos (1,200 m) are cold. Bring fleece and windbreaker for early wake-ups.
- **Mountain roads:** Expect 2x more time than Google Maps says (tight turns, slow driving). Always fuel up before climbing Cilaos, Volcano or Salazie.
- **Swimming:** Only in supervised pools or in the lagoon. Open-sea currents are extremely dangerous.
- **Mosquitoes:** Few on the coast, but many in the Highlands and forests. Bring repellent.
- **Markets:** Saint-Paul (Fri/Sat) is the most beautiful. Saint-Pierre (Sat) the biggest. Cilaos (Sun) for local crafts.

■ **Wildlife:** Respect turtles, whales, dolphins. No feeding. Stay at least 100 m from whales.

■ BEFORE YOU LEAVE — FINAL CHECK

The day before departure

- Van tank full for the first day
- Cooler stocked with essentials
- Phones and power banks fully charged
- Hiking gear ready (boots, bag, headlamp)
- Offline maps downloaded (Google Maps + Visorando)

D-day

- Check vehicle papers in glovebox
- Note emergency van-technical number
- Check tyre pressure and oil level
- Weather check for the first 48 h
- Review Day 1 itinerary with the team
- Save all useful numbers in your phone

Day of return

- Van tank full before drop-off
- Van cleaned (interior vacuumed + exterior rinsed)
- Personal belongings collected
- Cooler emptied and cleaned
- Rubbish disposed of
- Allow 30 minutes for vehicle inspection
- Free shuttle to the airport (if agreed)

Ready for the adventure? ■

We're with you from Day 1 to Day 10. A question, an issue, a last-minute change? Text us on WhatsApp — we reply in less than 5 minutes.

■ **WhatsApp: +262 693 03 45 10**

■ **location-van-la-reunion.re**

« *Ten days on our island: a concentrate of emotions you will not forget.* »

— **The Location Van La Réunion team**