

Réunion Island's virtual journey launches blog

A new tourism blog for Réunion Island - <u>blog.welcometoreunionisland.com</u> launches today - on the eve of an international and South African blog trip to Réunion Island, taking place from 26 June - 3 July 2014



Atout France appointed South African destination marketing agency Destinate on behalf of Réunion Island, and Destinate then partnered with Flow Communications, to create the blog for Réunion Tourism. The blog aims to engage the South African market for Réunion with experiential accounts, local tips and stories, people profiles and insider travel notes.

South Africans no longer need a visa to visit Réunion Island, and the Indian Ocean paradise has become an appealing destination to the South African in search of adventure, authentic culture and absorbing natural beauty.

To start the blog with a bang, international bloggers Keith Jenkins, founder/publisher of the <u>Velvet Escape</u> luxury travel blog; Matthew Karsten from <u>expertvagabond.com</u>; Priscila Reis Magalhaes from <u>voali.com.br</u>; Matthew Ryan Brown <u>vimeo.com/matthewbrown</u>; and National Geographic Channel Adventure Ambassador, Yann Macherez (<u>nubuck.500px.com/home</u>) will be landing in Réunion along with South African's Kati Auld (<u>getaway.co.za</u>); Selene Brophy from <u>News24 Travel Island Guide</u>; Meruschka Govender of <u>Mzansigirl.com</u>; and Natalie Roos, who will represent <u>Destinate</u>, whilst also writing as <u>tailsofamermaid.com</u>. Together these travel bloggers will string together some exceptional Réunion experiences and insights around the hashtag <u>#gotoreunion</u>.

Virtual armchair travellers will watch as the bloggers enjoy the Hermitage Lagoon; do some whale and dolphin watching; meet local street artists; go canyoning at St. Joseph, visit the, St. Pierre Market and take a trip to Piton de la Fournaise volcano located within Réunion National Park, a World Heritage site. The volcano erupted on Saturday, 21 June 2014, after lying dormant for four years.

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