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What you need to know

Level of difficulty:

Beginner to intermediate

Best time of the year to visit:

April to October

Where to stay:

Mahé Island for convenience, culture, and a range of waves. Explore the more than 100 granitic and coralline islands for hidden gems.

What to bring:

Fish or longboard for cruising.

Local contacts:

Tropicsurf has professional surf guides and an outpost at the Four Seasons Resort. They can help you dial in your understanding of conditions, equipment, local breaks, and set-ups.

What to do while waiting for the surf:

Head to the World Heritage-listed Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve on the island of Praslin, where towering palms create such a profound sense of calm that it feels like a monastery aglow with canopy-filtered sunlight. The Seychelles' isolation

has led to at least one very special coconut varietal, the coco de mer, or coconut of the sea, the largest, heaviest and most suggestive coconut on the planet, now found only in the Vallée de Mai: it bears a striking resemblance to the bottom half of a curvy woman, both from the front and back. The sweet, jelly-like flesh of the coco de mer is a prized aphrodisiac once worth its weight in gold. It was nearly hunted to extinction before being protected by legislation.

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02 Your editor here traveled for more than 24 hours to hold this vulva-esque, aphrodisiac coco de mer.

03 There is much untapped potential for peaks and points, but nobody's going to show you where.

04 The common coconut flourishes here, but mind your conversion rates, this one cost about \$30 (€27).