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Local News  
in English

FREE

# W St-Barth WEEKLY

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## Au Revoir Peter

**P**eter O’Keefe was not only a good friend, but one of the two people who taught me how to write (better!). The first was my friend Pat MacKay, who taught me how to write an article rather than a press release. Peter on the other hand, who I met in Saint Barth in 1992, taught me to add a dash of drollness, an unusual angle, a different twist. He had asked me to write a few short items for his “Letter From Saint Barth” newsletter, so I tried (shamelessly) to imitate his wit, dry sense of humor, and smart style. He read the first piece, looked at me, and said “Bullseye!”—I had passed the test. That grew into a monthly column I wrote called “The View From Here,” for his website. The first column in 1999 got me called to the gendarmerie but that is another story for another day!

Often the center of attention, due to his storytelling ability, Peter offered advice to visitors: “Bring a big bag of money and when it’s empty, go home!” He had a way of synthesizing a situation into one or two pithy lines, and was quick on the trigger. When someone asked how deep the water was around Saint Barth, he quickly retorted it was generally pretty shallow by the shore but got deeper as you waded out. He was also a good cook, often standing over a big pot of boiling water for spaghetti, his yellow lab Tommy standing watch.

His death at age 82 this week makes me sad I did not do better in keeping up with him in the four years since he and his family left the island. But we chatted on facetime and sent occasional Facebook messages, and I assumed he’d be around for many more years. I will do my best to maintain his writing style and inject his sense of humor, it’s the least I can do!

*Ellen Lampert-Gréaux*

## Peter O’Keefe: 1939-2022



**B**orn on January 30, 1939, Peter O’Keefe was among the earliest full-time American residents of Saint Barthélemy. He passed away on January 22, 2022 at the age of 82. A native of Stamford, CT, O’Keefe graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1965. He first discovered Saint Barth in 1968 while sailing in the Caribbean, and returned to live on the island in 1974. More than 40 years later, in March 2018, he once again packed his bags and moved to Paris.

A sharp, witty writer, with a keen eye on island happenings, O’Keefe started Saint Barth Magazine, the island’s first local newspaper. At various times he also had an antique shop, ran a jazz club in Gustavia, and started the subscription-only English-language newsletter, “Letter

From St. Barth,” in which he shared his wry observations of island life.

He and his wife, Laurence Hervieux-O’Keefe, born in France and a graduate of the Ecole Nationale de Commerce de Paris, founded the first major website to promote the island of St Barthelemy, launching [www.st-barths.com](http://www.st-barths.com) in 1996, and running it for 10 years until 2006. It began as less than 100 pages as what O’Keefe called a “comprehensive guide to a unique flavor of France under the sun of the FWI,” and grew to include almost 15,000 pages, offering the most complete, bi-lingual web site about the island at the time. They also raised their two children, Clara (23) and Julian (29) in Saint Barth.

« *Nothing compares* »

St. Barth | **Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Close to shops and St. Jean beach | View on the bay | Terrace with Jacuzzi



### Condo | St. Jean

2 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms

Offered at: €1,749,000

Gustavia Office: +(59) 0590 29 90 10 | USA: +1-508-570-4481

Gorgeous view of the bay | Spacious terrace and infinity pool.



### Private Villa | Marigot

4 Bedrooms | 4 Bathrooms

Offered at: €6,200,000

Gustavia Office: +(59) 0590 29 90 10 | USA: +1-508-570-4481

Stunning views | Infinity pool | Close to a famous 5 star hotel.



### Private Villa | Grand Cul-de-Sac

5 Bedrooms | 5 Bathrooms

Offered at: €7,900,000

Gustavia Office: +(59) 0590 29 90 10 | USA: +1-508-570-4481

Close to the beach | View on the lagoon | Private and peaceful



### Private Villa | Grand Cul de Sac

3 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms

Offered at: €4,750,000

Gustavia Office: +(59) 0590 29 90 10 | USA: +1-508-570-4481

Close to shops and St. Jean beach | Community pool | Parking



### Apartment | St. Jean

1 Bedrooms | 1 Bathrooms

Offered at: €1,380,000

Gustavia Office: +(59) 0590 29 90 10 | USA: +1-508-570-4481

In town location | Within walking distance to shops and restaurants | Bonus room



### Condo | Gustavia

2 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms

Price upon request

Gustavia Office: +(59) 0590 29 90 10 | USA: +1-508-570-4481

St. Barth Sotheby's International Realty | Rue Samuel Fahlberg - Gustavia Harbor | stbarthsir.com | sothebys@stbarth.com

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# A Roller Coaster Year For The Port of Gustavia



In spite of a busy start for the Port of Gustavia in 2021, the year was once again subject to the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic. According to the director of the port, who presents his numbers in an annual report, all sectors of the port were impacted. From yachts and cruise ships to the ferrying of passengers between Saint Martin and Saint Barthélemy and activity at the commercial dock.

In fact, January 2021 kicked off last year in an encouraging manner, marked by an upswing in the final months of 2020. Yet after that, overall port activity slowed down on all fronts. The regattas traditionally held in March and April were cancelled (notably The Saint Barth Bucket and Les Voiles de Saint-Barth) and there was also a major cancellation of cruise ships last year as well. “Hopes rose in May when the Transat Concarneau Saint-Barth set sail,” notes the report. In reality, the arrival of the Transat in the Port de Gustavia was a

positive relaunch of activity for the port.

And yet it was the last months of 2021 that really saw a large uptick, especially for mega yachts and sailboats. After recording 388 boats in January 2021 (compared to 609 in 2020) then 203 in April, the numbers continued to drop. To the lowest point in September, with just 49 arrivals in the port. On the other hand, the following months of 2021 saw a steady increase (145 in October, 351 in November, and 618 in December). Numbers definitely superior to those of 2020 (167 in November and 510

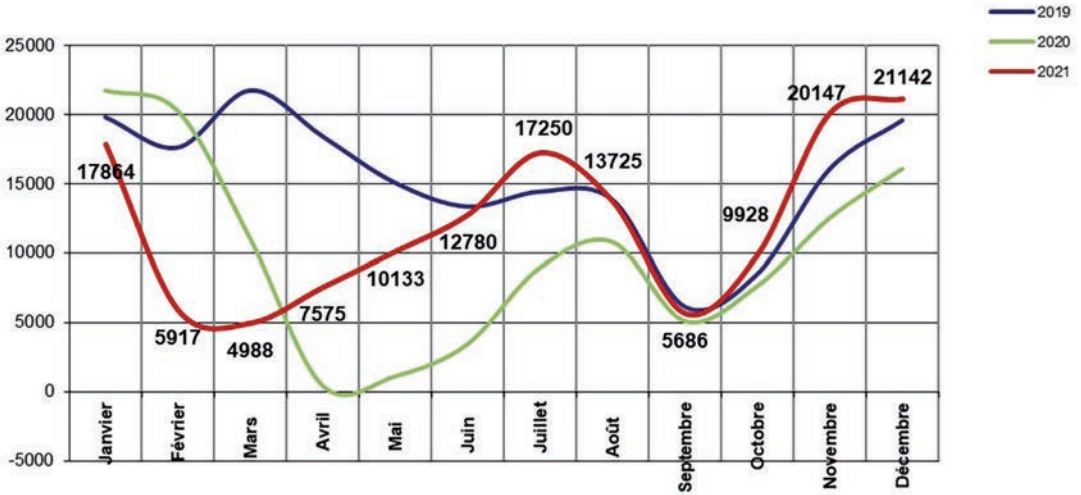
in December).

At the same time, inter-island traffic was also heavier in 2021 than in 2020, primarily as there were no lockdowns on the islands. In 2020, only 1,412 ferries were recorded, compared to 2,140 in 2021. It goes without saying that the number of passengers followed the same curve, with 89,244 in 2020 compared to 127,827 in 2021.

As for cruise ships, 2021 was even worse than 2020, which was already much weaker than 2019, with only 204 ocean liners in the



After a slow year in 2020, the overall number of passengers rebounded in 2021.



At Rémy de Haenen Airport, the number of passengers jumped strongly at the end of 2021.

harbor, compared to 63 in 2020 and only 37 in 2021. In contrast, and in spite of global difficulties in shipping and supply chains (increases in transportation costs, cost of containers, etc.), the commercial port experienced a “rather full” year.

As proof, 1,014 boats delivered goods in 2021, while there were only 844 in 2020 and 921 in 2019. That represents the largest number in the past 10 years. At the same time, the number of containers unloaded jumped from 7,838 in 2020 to 8,892 in 2021, or exactly the same number as in 2012, which was a record year (beaten with 9,656 containers in 2018, the year after hurricane Irma).

In regard to the goods imported in 2021, there were 68,204 tons of sand, 43,100 tons of gravel, and 26,991 tons of cement. Numbers higher than those for of 2020 and the highest for the past 10 year in fact, except for the sand, which has been imported at the same level since 2018.

During the same period, 1,113 cars were imported, while only 844 were brought in during 2020.

And finally, concerning fuel imports for 2021, gasoline exceeded six million liters (6,377), which corresponds to the annual average over the past 10 years. In 2020, 4.9 million liters of gasoline were transported to Saint Barth. Diesel fuel jumped from 32.8 million liters imported in 2020 to 36.4 liters in 2021.

**At the Airport**

Like the port, the airport also experienced an unusual year in 2021, which can be measured by the flux of passengers. And like the port, the month of January 2021 was healthy, with just about the same number of passengers on the tarmac at Rémy de Haenen Airport as in 2020 and 2019 (17,864 to be exact). Yet the next month saw a major decline with

only 5,917 passengers. However, as of the month of April, the numbers started to climb sharply through July, when they surpassed 2019 (the year of reference) with 17,250 passengers. Followed by the typical softening between August and October. But after that, it was high flying, with 20,147 travelers in November and 21,142 in December, exceeding the numbers for 2020, and also those of 2019.

As in 2019, Winair was the airline with the largest slice of the pie (38%), followed by Saint-Barth Commuter (24%), Air Antilles (15%), and Tradewind Aviation (14%).

**MASTHEAD**

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## News Briefs

### Vax Pass On Standby

For now, the French “vaccinal pass” has not been applied to Saint Barthélemy, or the majority of the other overseas islands. Which means the former “sanitary pass” remains active until we are told otherwise, but a date has not yet been set. Those who are not fully vaccinated with a booster and want to go to places that are open to the public (bars, restaurants, etc...) can still do so by presenting the negative results of a PCR test (within 24 hours).

### Alarm System Tests

The Collectivity held a series of tests for the alarm system that alerts the population of Saint Barth in case of a natural disaster, especially in the event of a tsunami. Tests took place in various neighborhoods of the island between Wednesday, January 19 thru Thursday, January 27.

### Stéphane Margolis: Photographs At Galerie Asie

Photographs of flowers are all the mode this year, with the large floral images by Iran issa-Khan at the Wall House Museum, and now the “Hatchings” exhibit by French artist Stéphane Margolis at Galerie Asie in Gustavia, through February 20, 2022. Born in Hyères, France, and based in Paris, Margolis has shown his work in solo and group exhibits, primarily in France and Belgium. His love of flowers and subsequent images were inspired by the Japanese art of Ikebana or “the way of flowers.” Combining imagination and fantasy, and evoking the delicacy of nature. Some of his works are printed on thick, textured cotton paper, which adds substance to the quality of the images. And as with Ikebana, his work commands the gaze, and Margolis often creates collages with plants, leaves, coral, and other objects for a range of color and forms.



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Northern Islands Challenge this Saturday

On January 29 and 30, the second edition of the Northern Islands Challenge will take place on the beach in Saint Jean. Organized by the Saint Barthelemy Nautical Center (CNSB) along with CaribWaterplay comprises Wind-Foil, Kite-Foil, Windsurf

Slalom, and for the first time, Wing-Foil. “The kids are have are good enough to compete in the Windsurf Slalom category,” points out Lucas Marot of CaribWaterplay, “and they will get their first taste of real competition.”

The two days of regattas start on Saturday, January 29 with confirmation of registrations and verification of equipment. At noon, after the briefing, the starting signal for the first race will be at 2:30pm. Sunday, January 30 begins at 9am with a briefing, at which the various courses for the day will be presented. The starting signal for the first race will be at 10:30am off the coast of Saint Jean. The races will continue until 1pm. The Challenge concludes with the awards ceremony on the beach in Saint Jean at 4pm.

Last year, eight windsurfers and seven kite-surfers competed with steady winds and the overall victory went to Mahé Stakelborough in Kite-Foil.

Registration is open until Saturday, January 29. The 40€ participation fee includes lunch on Sunday. Contact the CNSB on the beach in Saint Jean on its Facebook page.

### Registration Open for 2022 Saint Barth Half Marathon

The fourth edition of the Saint Barthélemy Half Marathon, organized by the Saint-Barth Triathlon Association, will be run on Sunday, February 20. In 2021, this 21.1 km race accredited by the track and field federation, attracted close to 128 individual runners and 41 relay teams. This year, the organizers have limited registrations to 300 places, or 150 individuals and 50 relay teams (3 X 7 km). The basic itinerary for this hilly race course is the same as in the past, starting at 5:45am at the stadium with a tour of 2km around Saint Jean before heading to Lorient, the parking lot in Saline, back to Lorient, direction Saint Jean, then the Tourmente, Public, Gustavia, the Collectivity, exit Gustavia by way of the Dispensary, back to the Tourmente, Saint Jean by Eden Rock, and finish at the stadium. The time to beat is that set in 2021 by Cécilia Mobuchon: 1h18'57”.

For 2022, registration can be done online. You can upload your track and field or triathlon license or a medical certificate stating that you are fit to run; payment is by credit card. Registration is 40€ per individual runner and 115€ for a relay team. The final date to register is Friday, February 18 at 12 noon.

Additional information about the race can be found on the Facebook group Semi-Marathon de Saint Barthélemy 2022, via email at saintbarthtriathlon@gmail.com or on the Facebook page SBH Triathlon. Get ready, get set, run!

# TIME OUT

Where to go dancing? See an art exhibit? Listen to live music?  
Time Out keeps you up to date on local happenings. Let's party !

## Live Music

- Thursday, January 27**  
 - Dinner Cabaret with show at 9:30pm @ Ti St Barth  
 - Live music by Will from 7pm @ Arawak café  
 - Sunset Lounge. Music by Sebastien Roche 5-7pm at Christopher, Pointe-Milou  
 - Welcome to the 80's 90's. Dj Set by Fabien Lanciano at Bagatelle, Gustavia
- Friday, January 28**  
 - Traditional Crazy Week-End (show at 10pm) @Ti St Barth  
 - Tribal touch. Tribal deep house by dj Yoshee from 7pm @ Arawak café  
 - For her. DJ set by Fabin Lanciano @Bagatelle  
 - Friday Friendly after work from 5pm @Pearl Beach  
 -Apero deep from 5pm to 11pm at Modjo
- Saturday, January 29**  
 - White Party with DJ Set by Fabien Lanciano @ Bagatelle  
 - Let's Flamingle : Bikini Day with DJ Set, Fashion Show from noon @ Pearl Beach  
 - Chess hour from 3pm @Arawak café  
 - Live music by Stella et Carbo from 7pm @Arawak café
- Sunday, January 30**  
 - Amazing Sunday from 12pm to 7pm @ Nikki Beach  
 - La vida es Una Fiesta @ Peal Beach
- Monday, January 31**  
 - Dj Set for Sunset with Sacha from Iris Records from 5.30pm to 11pm @ Carl Gustaf  
 - Live Music with Soley from 7pm @ Le Sereno Al Mare  
 - Keep your Good Vibes & Dj set Nex from 7pm @ Arawak Café, Gustavia  
 - Sunset Lounge. Music by

- Sebastien Roche 5-7pm at Christopher, Pointe-Milou
- Tuesday, February 1st**  
 - Dinner Cabaret with show at 9:30pm @ Ti St Barth  
 - Gypset Night with Live Music @Manapany Hotel  
 - Live music Rock'n roll ZIG ZAG @ Arawak café, Gustavia
- Wednesday, February 2**  
 - Dinner Cabaret with show at 9:30pm @ Ti St Barth  
 - Dj set " Do you remember " live dj set , vynil et old school music by Dj Bring at Arawak Café, Gustavia

## Exhibitions

**High Season**  
 Mehdy Maxor  
 Exhibition Photos  
 Airport Rémy de Haenen

- Through February 12**  
 Exhibition HOBOKI "Noir Printemps" with the French painter and sculptor Mr Pascal Philippon at Barthelemy Hotel
- Through February 20**  
 "Eclotions" by Stéphane Margolis at Galerie Asie, Gustavia
- Through March 31**  
 - Daniel Arsham @ Eden Rock  
 - Victor Matthews exhibition @ Eden Rock
- Through February 12**  
 Wanda Koop & Richard Nonas at Fergus McCaffrey
- Through February 10**  
 - The Vintage Polaroids, Marco Glaviano @Space Gallery, Gustavia

**Forces of Nature**  
 The photographs of Iran Issa-Khan  
 Exhibition Photos  
 Musée territorial du Wall House

- Textural Geographies - an

- exhibition of 20th century European art incl. Boetti, Bonalumi, Castellani and Christo @Space Gallery  
 - Eclotions by Stéphane Margolis at Galerie Asie.  
 - Bronze Sculptures @ The Collectivity  
 - @Les Artisans Paintings : Tony Caramanico, Alain Le Chatelier, Gery Langlais, Marie-Anne Chaygneaud-Dupuy, Stanislas Defize, David Wegman and Sculpture : Dave Stevenson, Michael Rumiz
- Artist's Collection**  
 - Pompi, Petit Cul de Sac  
 - Hannah Moser, Cul de Sac  
 - Kay Quattrocchi, Pointe Milou
- Art Galleries**  
 - Antoine Heckly ArtGallery  
 - Clic Gallery, Gustavia  
 - Eden Fine Art St Barts

**A Heritage Museum**  
 The Collectivity has opened Le Brigantin as a museum intended to "preserve the heritage and history" of Saint-Barthélemy.  
 @ Le Brigantin, Gustavia

- Les Artisans, Gustavia
- Camaruche Gallery
- SpaceSBH Gallery
- Pipiri Palace, Gustavia
- Pati's Gallery, by Artists of Saint-Barth
- Galerie Asie
- Fergus McCaffrey

## Night Club

- @ Modjo St-Jean
- @ Casa Night Club
- @ After-dinner Party
- @ Tavern TiBar, Ti St Barth

STEPHANE MARGOLIS

ÉCLOSIONS



GALERIE ASIE

39 RUE S. FAHLBERG GUSTAVIA  
SAINT BARTHELEMY



# Stay forever..



## Villa BJJ - 3 Bedrooms - Gouverneur

**8,900,000 €**

Located within minutes of the beach and shopping. Two bedrooms are located in another pavilion, which opens to the pool area. The third bedroom is in a separate cottage with its own private terrace.



## Villa MAG - 2 Bedrooms - Lorient

**4,500,000 €**

Minutes to beaches and shopping. Spectacular ocean views. Air-conditioned bedrooms. Possibility to build a third bedroom.



## Villa MCL - 4 Bedrooms - Marigot

**6,500,000 €**

Designed and decorated by famed interior architect Christian Liaigre, this waterfront villa has direct access to Marigot Beach. The villa consists of three separate bungalows. Three private parking spaces.



## Apt SJD - 2 Bedrooms - St Jean

**1,749,000 €**

Ocean views, terrace with Jacuzzi, private parking. The apartment has an interior space of 61m<sup>2</sup> plus a 15m<sup>2</sup> terrace.



## Villa HEM - 5 Bedrooms - Grand Cul de Sac

**7,910,000 €**

Newly built, turnkey, 5 bedroom villa at walking distance to the beach.



**Land TEG1, 292m<sup>2</sup>**

**Gustavia**

**Land TEG2, 393m<sup>2</sup>**

**5,800,000 € each lot**

Two lots, each with a possibility for a 3 bedroom villa. Or, combine the two for an exceptional larger property.



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