

## Key Components of the PMA

- Pitons
- Nature Trails
- Sulphur Springs
- Endemic Species
- Botanical Gardens
- Unique dive and snorkel sites
- Waterfalls

## Land Ownership within the PMA

50% of the lands in the PMA are publicly owned. Crown Lands include substantial areas of the Petit Piton, Gros Piton and the Sulphur Springs and the Queen's Chain, which is the area between the high water mark and a distance of 186.5 feet landward.

## Is sustainable development within the PMA possible?

The Government of Saint Lucia (GOSL) has developed instruments to facilitate the sustainable management of the PMA. They include the Hyder Report (2008) and the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) Study (2013). The LAC Study incorporates some recommendations of the Hyder Report (2008). It identifies the following Policy Areas (PA) or development zones (See PMA Map) and recommends strategies for protecting the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the PMA. The Policy Areas are:

- **PA1: Gros Piton, Petit Piton and Ridge** - Essentially No Development
- **PA2: The Sulphur Springs** - Limited Development Opportunities
- **PA3: Coastal Area (Jalousie and Beausejour)** All Development Limited and Restricted by Size & Design
- **PA4: Settled Areas and Plantations** - Development Permissible But Strictly Within Size & Design Parameters
- **PA5: Maritime Zone** - No Development

## How can the Public help ?

1. Become a member of groups which support actions geared towards the sustainable development of the PMA
2. Inform the PMA office of any questionable activity within the PMA
3. Participate in stakeholder meetings and activities related to the PMA
4. Sharing the knowledge within this publication

## PMA Management

The PMA Advisory Committee (PMAAC) facilitates a coordinated and integrated approach to the management of the PMA. It comprises agencies responsible for overseeing the sustainable management of the PMA as well community representatives and organisations involved in nature and heritage preservation.

- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science & Technology (MSDEST) or Designee (Chair)
  - Director, Saint Lucia National Trust (Vice Chair)
    - Manager, Protected Areas/PMA, MSDEST
  - Secretary General, National Commission for UNESCO
    - Soufriere Marine Management Authority (SMMA)
    - Soufriere Regional Development Foundation (SRDF)
      - Chief Forestry Officer, MSDEST
  - Chief Sustainable Development and Environment Officer, MSDEST
    - Ministry of Physical Development, Housing and Urban Renewal
      - Fond Gens Libres Community
      - La Pointe/Delcer Community
    - Ministry of Social Transformation

## PMA Office

Established in 2006 to:

1. Preserve the World Heritage status of the PMA
2. Serve as the secretariat for the PMAAC
3. Increase community and national awareness of the PMA and build support for its effective management
4. Facilitate compliance with guidelines of the 1972 World Heritage Convention and the Physical Planning Act of 2001 and the LAC (2013) for the PMA by monitoring development activities and supporting conservation measures
5. Reporting to the World Heritage Committee



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# Pitons Management Area (PMA) Facts



Source: <http://www.kraul.dk/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/petit-and-gros-pitons-across-soufriere-bay-st-lucia-1024x775.jpg>



**PITONS MANAGEMENT AREA (PMA)**  
**OFFICE**  
an Agency of the  
**Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy,  
Science and Technology**



## What is the Pitons Management Area (PMA)?

An area of exceptional beauty covering 2,909 hectares south of the commercial centre of Soufriere, a town on the west coast of the Caribbean island of Saint Lucia. In addition to its exclusive biodiversity, the PMA also comprises unique archaeological and geological features. It was established as an **Environmental Protected Area** under the Physical Planning Act No. 29 of 2001 and inscribed as a Natural Site on the UNESCO World Heritage List on June 30, 2004.

## Why did the PMA attain World Heritage Status?

Under Criteria vii and viii of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention Operational Guidelines, the PMA was deemed to contain:

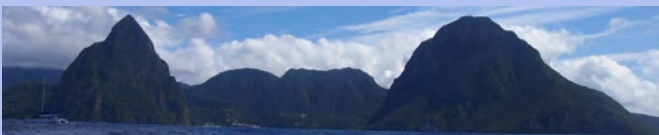
- **superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance** (Criteria vii)
- **outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's geological history** (Criteria viii)

## What are the unique geological features within the PMA?

The PMA is a physical illustration of the volcanic history of an andesitic composite volcano associated with crustal plate subduction. It contains eroded remnants of lava domes (Gros and Petit Piton), cumulo domes, explosion craters and pyroclastic deposits (lava flows).

## Noteworthy species of fauna in the PMA?

Many of the 22 reptile and 33 amphibian species in Saint Lucia are within the PMA. Two have been identified as endemic species. There are 5 endemic species of birds found on the Gros Piton along with indigenous rodents, opossum, bats, reptiles and amphibians.



## Noteworthy species of flora and marine life within the PMA?

Gros Piton is one of the few areas left in the Caribbean where native dry and moist forest remains more or less unmodified. The team of Roger Graveson and Melvin Smith recorded 254 indigenous flowering plant species on the Pitons: of these, 3 are endemic to Saint Lucia; 22 are endemic to the Lesser Antilles and 35 are endemic to the Caribbean. Of these species, 46 are only or almost only found in the PMA. Two new indigenous tree species were also discovered (Graveson, 2012). Coral reefs cover almost 60% of the marine area and contain 168 species of fin fish and 60 species of chidaria. The marine ecosystem also contains hawksbill turtles, whale sharks and pilot whales offshore.

## Cultural and historical components of the PMA?

The Pitons were sacred to our Amerindian ancestors. Local excavations and casual finds in areas such as Beau Estate, Ravine Chute d'Eau, Stonefield, Anse l'Ivrogne, Fond Gens Libres, Gros Piton Point, La Pointe, Jalousie, Malgretoute and Sauzay within the PMA have revealed archaeological evidence of the Amerindian peoples. Remnants of estates such as sugar mill ruins, copra ovens, cocoa bean drying racks sugar cane crushers and military buildings and fortifications established by the early colonizers are still existent in various areas within the PMA.

