



Explore the valley of RINCON



ACTIVITIES

CADUSHY DISTILLERY
Relaxed, educational and delicious!
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 AM - 5 PM
Tel. +599 786 8769 / 788 2952

CULTURAL PARK MANGAZINA DI REI
See, feel & taste the culture of Bonaire
Tuesday - Friday 9 AM - 4 PM
Every last Saturday of the month local market 8 AM - 2 PM

ECHO'S CONSERVATION CENTRE
Conserving the endangered Parrot of Bonaire
Tours every Wednesday at 5 PM
info@echobonaire.org - Tel. +599 701 1188

KUNUKU MOTAN
Traditional farm with animals, vegetables and fruit
Visit kunuku on appointment
Harold and Nia Dammers Tel. +599 786 0349

KUNUKU PUNTA CARDON
Meet Ms. Maria, who tells about culture and history
Visit kunuku on appointment
rinconcity@gmail.com Tel. +599 796 7870

LOURDES GROTTTO
A place of rest and contemplation
Open daily.

MUSEO CHICH'I TAN
Experience a traditional house, and get a personal tour
Visit the museum on appointment
Tel. +599 785 1045 / 717 3183

WASHINGTON SLAGBAAI NATIONAL PARK
The first nature sanctuary of the Dutch Caribbean
Open daily 8 AM - 5 PM
www.stlnapa.org



LOCAL FOOD & SNACKS

KAS DI HADREI
Chinese food
Open every day, 10.30 AM - 12 PM

KOS BON SO
Home of the holy grill
Monday - Friday, 3 PM - 12 PM
Saturday & Sunday, 12 AM - 12 PM

LE-MA-SE
Best homemade milkshakes on the island
Open every day, 8 AM - 6 PM

POSADA PARA MIRA
Local food, breathtaking views, free wifi
Monday, Wednesday and Friday - Sunday, 11 AM - 6 PM

ROSE-INN BAR & RESTAURANT
The best local food
Thursday - Sunday, 11 AM - 4 PM

THE SANDWICH STATION
Get a freshly made sandwich
Monday - Friday 7 AM - 2 PM
Saturday 8 AM - 5 PM

THIRSTY & HUNGRY
Delicious homemade burgers and fries
Tuesday - Sunday 8 AM - 6 PM

TOUCHED PRODUCTS MADE IN RINCON
Local food & beverages, cosmetics and souvenirs
Monday - Saturday 8 AM - 4 PM
Tel./Whatsapp +599 795 6500


VERONA BAR & RESTAURANT
Local food and drinks
Open every day, 10AM - 10PM

LODGING IN RINCON

HAMAKA APARTMENT
Enjoy your hammock in a quiet part of Rincon
Tel. + 599 796 2531 or +599 717 2061

HERITAGE DESIGN INN
Two charming low cost family inns under one roof
www.heritagedesigninnbonaire.com

RINCON VILLAGE VACATIONS HOUSE
A house in a residential area.
Your host can tell you about the history of Rincon
rinconcity@gmail.com - Tel. +599 796 7870

-  STARTING POINT DRIVING TRAIL
-  ONIMA DRIVING TRAIL
-  GOTO DRIVING TRAIL
-  STARTING POINT HIKING TRAIL
-  STARTING POINT MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAILS



IMPORTANT TO KNOW

- Using the driving, hiking and biking trails is at your own risk
- Respect the people who live here, drive with limited speed
- Follow the yellow route signs
- Don't leave any valuables in your vehicle
- At the Onima driving trail cars with high ground clearance are recommended

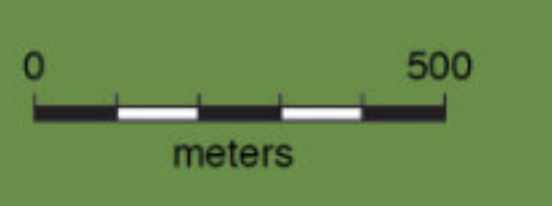
Hiking

There are three hiking trails, marked with pink stones. The starting point for both the Dos Pos (1 hour) and the Montaña (1,5 hours) hiking trails is at Dos Pos. It is recommended to park your car here. The starting point of the Roi Sango (1 hour) hiking trail is near the entrance to Altamira Unjo. Closed shoes, hat, sunscreen and drinking water are recommended.

Guided walking tours through the village and its surroundings are provided by Soldachi Tours (+599 796 7870). A historical walking tour booklet is available at Cadushy Distillery.

Mountain biking

The valley of Rincon can be explored by mountain bike. The blue markers in the field guide bikers along three trails that start near Dos Pos. Contact the Freewieler for more information.





Explore the valley of RINCON

Visit the website Explore-Bonaire.com for more information and to watch a movie about the driving trails at Rincon.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Exploring the valley gives every visitor the opportunity to see a different side of Bonaire and enjoy the variety of landscapes, a different kind of nature and many hidden treasures.

You're about to enter the valley of Rincon. Two driving trails and various hiking and biking trails are marked to experience it at its best.

Rincon is a very friendly town with a wide variety of cultural and historical attractions. The atmosphere in Rincon is entirely different than the ambience of Kralendijk. It is worth parking your vehicle in the center of Rincon and explore it on foot. Try one of the local dishes!

DRIVE • HIKE • BIKE



Explore the valley of RINCON

NOS TA BIBA DI NATURALESA



Traha huntu na un desaroyo duradero pa Boneiru

Look for the maps of Bara di Karta and Tras di Montaña



For more information:
www.echobonaire.org
www.mangazinairei.org

ONIMA DRIVING TRAIL (1.5 HOURS)

This driving trail will take you from the oldest stone building in Rincon to small farms, water catchments, the dynamic east coast of Bonaire and its unique vegetation. After heavy rains the roads can be inaccessible.

1 CULTURAL PARK MANGAZINA DI REI



Mangazina di Rei (Storehouse of the King) was used in the 19th century to store the crops for the Dutch Government. After working in the salt flats for a whole week, the slaves received their provisions here. Nowadays, Mangazina di Rei is a Cultural Park where you can "See, Feel and Taste the Culture of Bonaire". Visit the exhibition center to discover the uniqueness of Rincon's flora & fauna and get a historical overview of the most interesting sights in the valley of Rincon. Once you have had a glimpse inside, you will recognize a lot more outside; the perfect start for driving the trails in the Rincon valley!

2 PIEDRA DI RINCON



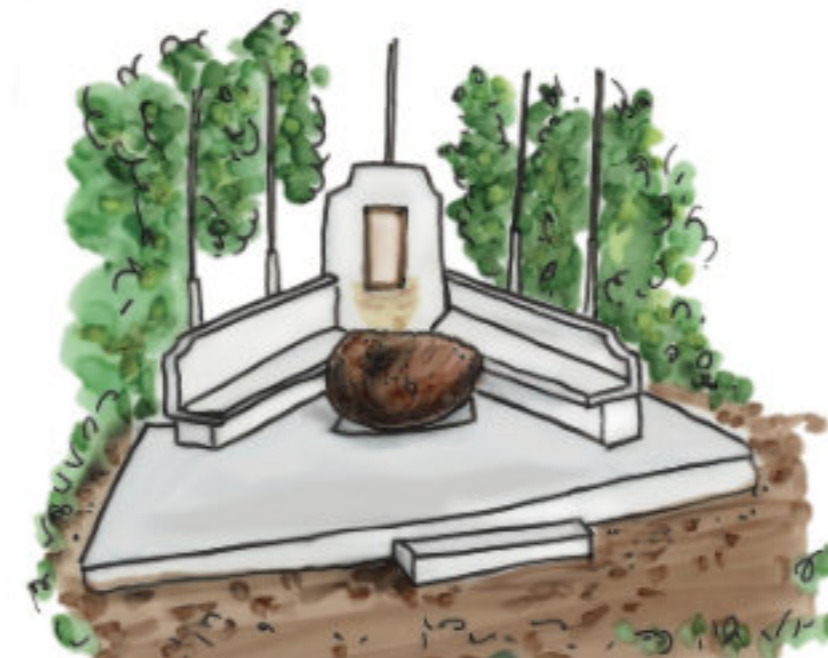
1492 - 1992 Encounter of two worlds.
Translation of the text on the stone from Spanish to English:
"We remember with this simple monument the Hispanic era (1525 - 1636) in Bonaire. The name of this village is Rincon, it is the oldest of the island founded on the year of the Lord of 1527. It is of Spanish origin"
In 2027 Rincon will celebrate its 500 year existence.

3 CADUSHY DISTILLERY



At the Cadushy Distillery you can see how the world's only liqueur made from cactus is created right on the premises. And of course, you are invited to sample some for yourself! Come and relax in the tranquil, shaded garden under the calabash trees to enjoy a variety of artisan distilled liqueurs and spirits. In the garden you can enjoy the birds while the kids play in the playground. Some parts of the Cadushy estate are over a century old. Have a look at the 'Kas di Hala' heritage house and Cinetandia, Bonaire's oldest theater., Bonaire's oldest theater.

4 PIEDRA PRETU



At Piedra Pretu, or 'Black Rock', musicians would gather to play the Bari drums, made from a hollow tree trunk topped with goat skin. Some people would be driven by the rhythms of the music to dance indecently. Consequently, priests would sometimes intervene to stop the music. Near the end of the year, there is a Bari festival: a group of musicians will go into the streets and sing about events of the past year. Scandals, gossip, misdeeds and remarkable situations are all included.

5 POS SHON LEU

This well is named after Mr. Leu, who used to live here. Wells with windmills are important for the farmers. Most of the groundwater is brackish, but goats can drink this water. Only three windmills in the valley of Rincon provide fresh groundwater that can be used for the irrigation of vegetables. Close to this windmill a dam was constructed to catch the rainwater, thus increasing the groundwater supply.

6 DAM GRANDI

Dam Grandi is a large dam; it was built by the government in 1953 to catch the rainwater coming from the hills. The dam provides water for agriculture and drinking water for goats. After the rain, Dam Grandi forms a lush green place that attracts many birds and butterflies. Bonaire has a semi-arid climate and gets about 450 mm of rain every year on average. The rainfall can range from 200 mm in dry years to 1000 mm in wet years.

7 WATER TANK

This water tank was used to store drinking water for the people living in this area. This is the only public stone water tank still intact today. In 1979 the first drinking water pipes were installed in Rincon. In 1986 the pipes were extended to Washington Slagbaai National Park, making this water tank redundant.

8 PANORAMA EAST COAST

Visiting the Panorama East Coast is optional but highly recommended. The road will lead you to the shoreline from where you have a beautiful view of the east side of the National Park and the dynamic east coast of Bonaire. Big waves ravage the limestone plateau during days of strong wind. On this plain you can see free roaming donkeys and goats. Even though it seems nothing edible grows here, they forage on the mosses that they find in between the rocks. The wooden structures you can see here are the beginnings of a café, but construction has been postponed.

9 PLAYA GRANDI

On days without wind the sea looks inviting, but it is never recommended to swim here. Dangerous currents, undertows and the extremely sharp rocks that are located just under the surface make this a very dangerous place to swim. People from Rincon used to wreck here. Wrecking is the practice of combing the coast for valuables from a ship which foundered close to shore. In the local language Papiamentu this is called 'shete kolo', or 'seven colors': people would find usable products in many colors. This was a place where women would wash their clothes. The sea water kills pathogen and white clothes will get cleaner with seawater. On their way home they would rinse the clothes at a well with fresh water. At home they would hang it to dry on their cactus fence.

10 MOROTIN

These twelve modern windmills on Morotin generate about 35% of the island's total electricity demand. The area was chosen because of the flat landscape and the constant eastern trade winds with a velocity of 25 kph/15 mph. The wind and the salty air that dominate the vegetation, don't bother the melon cactus that you see here all around. They survive because they have the capacity to store water. Its root system can grow 'through' the limestone and it can spread out twelve meters/40 feet.



11 PIEDRA DI BONAIRE

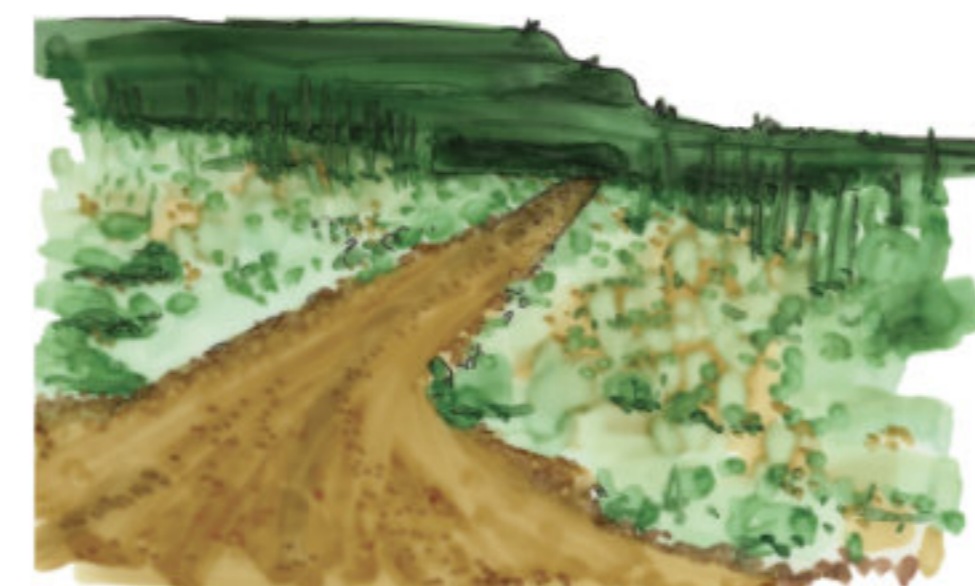
This rock is called Piedra di Bonaire, or Rock of Bonaire. According to mythology, Piedra di Bonaire is an important site associated with the original ancestor whose name is Boynay. Local people in Rincon have many stories to tell about this mythical place. It's worth asking... These rocks were presumably deposited here by a tsunami 3000 years ago.

12 BOKA ONIMA

For the people in Rincon, Boka Onima was a port to the sea, yet it could be dangerous to fish on the windward side. It was only possible to sail away when the wind dropped or during a wind reversal, when the wind is coming from the west.

It is said that Boka Onima was the location on Bonaire where the first Indians arrived about 4000 years ago.

13 MOUNTAIN VIEW



Here two interesting geological structures are visible. Kaomati, a hill of 42 m/138 ft. is on your right-hand side. Its huge blocks are part of a limestone layer originally formed under water on a gently sloping volcanic rock hill. As the land emerged from the sea, the limestone broke into the blocks of Kaomati.

When you look straight ahead you can see the Terraces of Fontein. Three limestone terraces and the surface of a fourth one at road level can be observed. Every terrace was formed during a period with a different sea level.

More information about Bonaire's geology can be found at the museum at the entrance of Washington Slagbaai National Park.

14 INDIAN INSCRIPTIONS

The Indian inscriptions at Boka Onima are the best-preserved inscriptions on Bonaire. These mysterious paintings were made by Indians, who came from Venezuela originally. It is believed that they were made about 1000 years ago. The information board gives more information about the first inhabitants of Bonaire and their expressions. Descendants of the indigenous people regularly visit these holy places to bring a musical ode to their ancestors.



GOTO DRIVING TRAIL (1 HOUR)

Along this driving trail you have an excellent view of the village of Rincon, you can visit an old plantation house and admire Lake Goto.

1 ECHO'S CONSERVATION CENTRE



Echo Foundation is founded in 2010 to protect the yellow-shouldered Amazon parrots on Bonaire, better known as the Lora. This species is listed as vulnerable on the IUCN list because they can only be found on Bonaire and a few other islands on the coast of Venezuela. Echo plants indigenous trees to provide birds such as Lora and Prikichi, the Parakeet, with more food and a better place to live. Reforestation also contributes to the restoration of the dry forest ecosystem. Visit the Conservation Center at Dos Pos to learn more about their work or take a walk in one of the reforestation areas, look for this logo on the map.



2 ALTAMIRA UNJO



Altamira Unjo can be translated into the 'Overlook of Uncle Joe'. From this vantage point Rincon and the valley can be seen at its best. Both the rugged east coast and the generally much calmer west coast can be overlooked from here. For the Spanish this was the reason to build their village here in 1527: they could observe both coasts, while the pirates could not see the village. Rincon is the oldest village in the Dutch Caribbean. It is a fertile valley and has nice cooling winds coming from the ocean.

Hiking trail Roi Sango starts at the entrance of the road to Altamira Unjo.

3 PLANTATION KARPATA

The driving trail takes a turn to the right, but it's worth going left to make a stop at the former Plantation Karpata. This was an important port and a commercial center, where castor oil, aloe vera, charcoal and goats were exported.

The typical yellow mansion was built in 1870 and consists of a large center house, surrounded by various smaller buildings, an oven to cook aloe vera and a limestone kiln, used to heat limestone to produce a kind of cement. The plantation is now deserted; the government is looking for an entrepreneur who can create a sustainable destination for it.



4 REI WILLEM-ALEXANDER MARINE RESERVE

The Bonaire National Marine Park is a legally protected 'underwater park' that surrounds the entire island and Klein Bonaire. The park was established in 1979 and is managed by STINAPA. The Park starts at the high water line and extends to a depth of 60 meters (200 ft.).

This part of the marine park is named after the present Dutch king. It is a reserve, where it is prohibited to snorkel, fish or dive. This reef is similar to reefs on Klein Bonaire. A study is being done to see the impact of recreational diving on the reefs by comparing these untouched reefs with the ones that are visited by divers daily.

5 TRADITIONAL STONE WALL

This wall was the northern border of the Karpata Plantation. After slavery had been abolished in 1863, Bonaire was divided into large plantations like Bolivia, Colombia and America, and sold by the Dutch government. These handmade stone walls were built around all the plantations, to keep the goats in.

Near this site, many archeological artifacts were found of the Indians who used to live here. They were fishermen who would canoe around the whole island.

Behind the wall is Bonaire Petroleum Corporation (BOPEC). It was established in 1974 as an oil transfer station. Oil is brought to Bonaire in small tankers from Venezuela, which has shallow ports where supertankers cannot dock. In this deep-water port on Bonaire, the oil is transferred to supertankers and then shipped around the world. BOPEC provides employment to many people in Rincon.

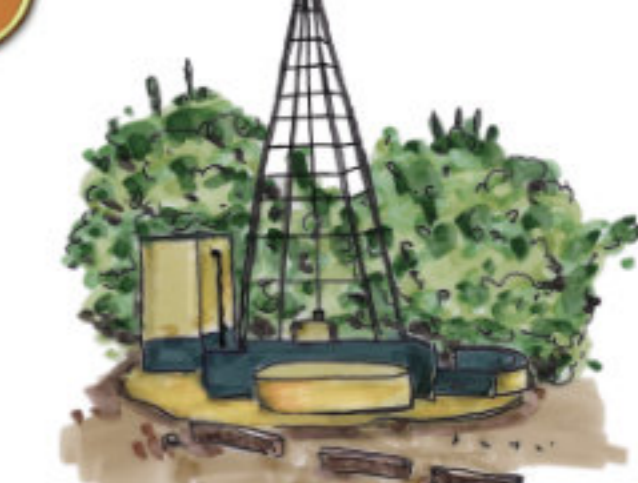
6 LAKE GOTO

Lake Goto is an important foraging and nesting area for various migratory birds, which nest in North America. The water is brackish. Seawater seeps in through the coral between the sea and the lake. Rainwater washes down the hills and adds to the lake. The lake is shallow, which makes it perfect for flamingoes to forage.

The large peninsula in Lake Goto is a farm named 'Falcón'. Here maize, pumpkin and watermelon were grown, and goats and chickens were raised. In the distance you can see our highest hill, the Brandaris (241 m/790 ft.).



7 DOS POS



The meaning of Dos Pos is 'two water wells'. The wells have provided the people of Rincon with drinking water for centuries. Farmers, livestock and wildlife still depend on the water source. Dos Pos is an excellent place to watch birds.

The Dos Pos Plantation, across the road, was one of the island's few areas with a fresh water source and it was possible to grow tropical fruit trees like mango and coconut. Now the Echo Foundation is located here, a sanctuary and research center for the endemic parrot the Amazona Barbadosensis. For a small fee you can visit their site and experience the diversity in wildlife.

The biking and hiking trails Dos Pos and Montaña start here.