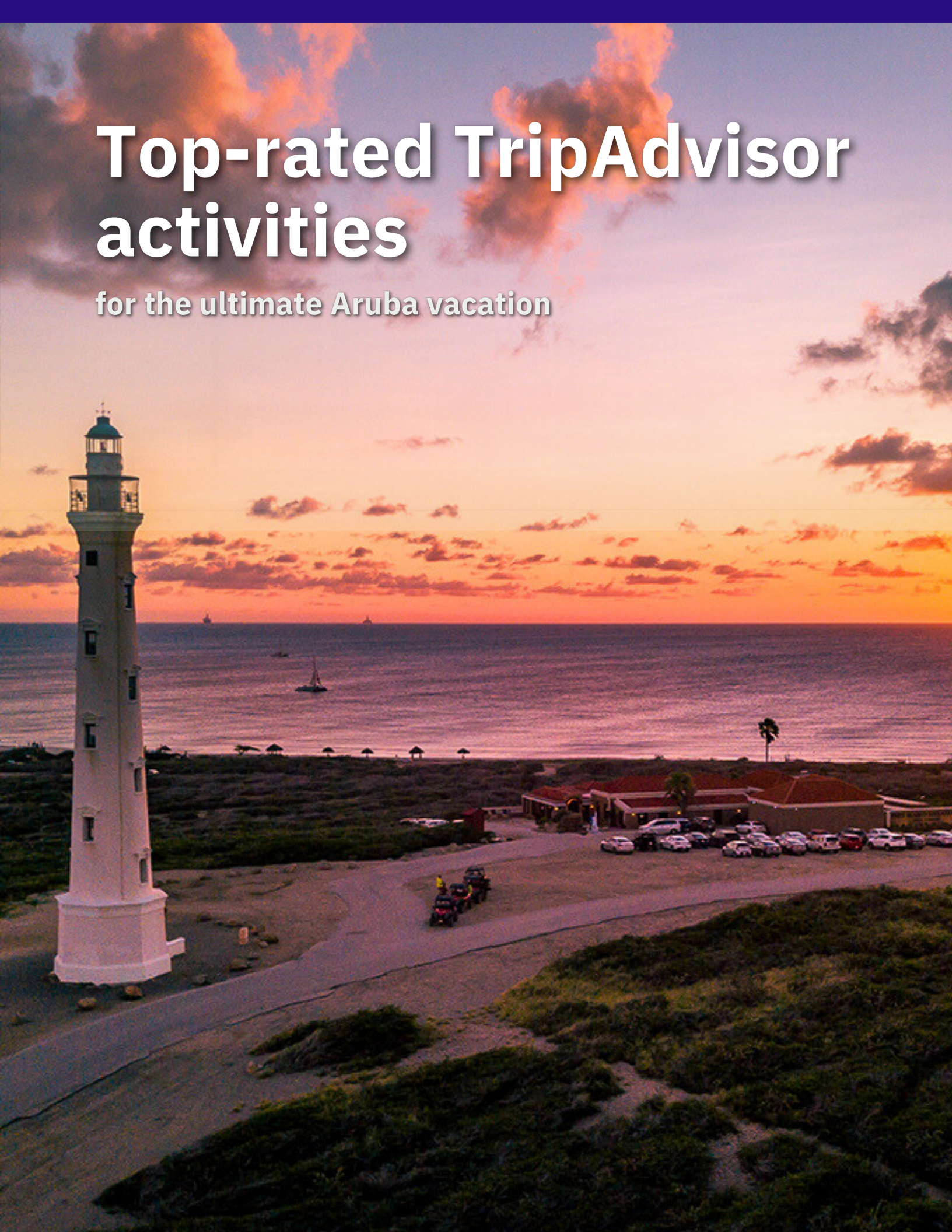


Top-rated TripAdvisor activities

for the ultimate Aruba vacation



A sunset over the ocean with a dark blue text box in the center. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and purple, and the water is a deep blue with white-capped waves.

Who doesn't love scrolling through social media from now and then to uncover hidden gems in dreamy destinations? From the rituals in Southeast Asian Buddhist temples to the photo ops beneath gable roofs in the Dutch Caribbean, one thing is clear: the most beloved places among avid travelers deliver a wide range of exciting experiences... Often more thrilling than anything we encounter in daily life.

Take Aruba, the One Happy Island, as an example. It may be small, but you know what they say: the best things come in small packages. The quote rings especially true here, where there is a surprisingly diverse mix of cultural outings, adrenaline-filled tours across desert landscapes, and more. With so many options, the real dilemma is figuring out which one deserves a spot in your already jam-packed itinerary. In this guide, we'll cover a few fan-favorites on TripAdvisor. Grab a pen, and bon sigui!

Eat, walk, drink, and sail with these tried-and-tested TripAdvisor escapes



1.A CALIFORNIA Lighthouse DINNER

Can you imagine having dinner atop a structure with over 100 years of history? It's possible at the celebrated California Lighthouse. Hundreds of couples from around the world have enjoyed a three-course meal there, paired with a glass of wine and an unbeatable view of Aruba's northwestern coast. With a five-star score, this is something you wouldn't want to miss.

PRICE \$295 per adult

- **What to expect:** Menu selection prior to the visit, 117 steps to the top, international-style cuisine, and two hours of attentive service.
- **Location:** Hudishibana, close to Arashi Beach and the Sasariwichi Dunes.
- **Contact information:** [California Lighthouse Three-Course Dining Experience in Aruba](#)

2. A CLASSIC WALKING TOUR THROUGH THE HEART OF THE ISLAND

As the capital, and the social, political, economic, and cultural epicenter of the island, Oranjestad is a must-see for every tourist. While buses and trolleys run through its streets all day, the best way to soak up its charm is on foot. That calls for a walking excursion with a local guide. This option provides a great introduction to Aruba's history, its most important cultural landmarks, such as Fort Zoutman, Wilhelmina Park and the National Archeology Museum, and its now-famous brightly colored facades.

PRICE \$40 per adult

- **What to expect:** Free hotel pick-up, knowledgeable guides fluent in English, Spanish, Dutch, and Papiamentu, and plenty of photo opportunities.
- **Location:** Oranjestad. Guests can opt for the hotel pick-up or go on their own to Cosecha Aruban Craft Design & Heritage on Zoutmanstraat 1.
- **Contact information:** [Aruba Downtown Historic and Cultural Walking Tour](#)





PRICE

\$100 per adult

3. A DAY OF FUN AND SNORKELING ON A PIRATE SHIP

Some days are made for tranquil wanderings and turning in early. Others are perfect for breaking out of the routine and hitting the Sea aboard an 85-foot-long teak schooner. If the latter is the kind of adventure that floats your boat, this option will be a treat for you. You'll visit three popular spots on the island aboard a vessel pulsing with music. The experience lasts about four hours and usually hosts up to 65 people.

- **What to expect:** access to snorkeling gear, an all-inclusive feel with BBQ and an open bar.
- **Location:** Aruba's northern coast.
- **Contact information:** [Set Sail in Aruba: Jolly Pirate Cruise with Snorkel Adventure](#)

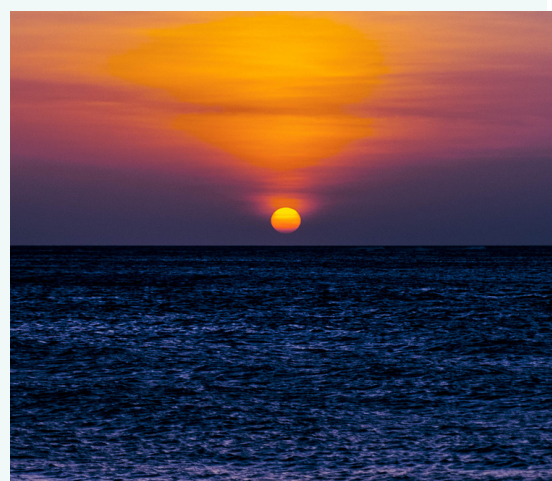
4. CRUISING THE CARIBBEAN TO WATCH THE SUNSET

Aruba sunsets, painted with a broad palette, cotton-like clouds, and the gentle lapping of waves, are a true fest for the eyes. That's why you shouldn't miss the chance to hop aboard a lavish catamaran and admire this natural spectacle. Appetizers and cocktails are taken care of by the crew, so your only job is to bring good company and find a spot on the deck.

- **What to expect:** An onboard open bar with alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, comfortable sitting space, local tunes, and bite-sized treats.
- **Location:** The meeting point is at Piet's Pier Bar (J.E. Irausquin Blvd 85, Noord).
- **Contact information:** [Aruba Sunset Sail with Appetizers and Open Bar](#)

PRICE

\$79 per adult





5. HALF-DAY SNORKELING CRUISE

Since we're on the topic of water-based activities, here's another one tied to the marine world. Unlike the previous outing, this one showcases two coastal treasures: the remains of the imposing SS Antilla and the lively sea life at Boca Catalina, a beach known for its calm waters and tranquil vibe. TripAdvisor users praise the fun rope swing, the light lunch, and the vibrant coral reefs at the second stop.

PRICE

\$69 per adult

- **What to expect:** Morning and afternoon options, access to proper snorkel equipment, unlimited drinks, and guidance from local experts.
- **Location:** **Noord.** The meeting point is on the beach, in front of the Hyatt Regency towel hut.
- **Contact information:** [Aruba Sunset Sail with Appetizers and Open Bar](#)

6. AN ADRENALINE-FILLED OFF-ROAD TOUR ON THE NORTH COAST

Aruba boasts landscapes that shift from soft white sands to desert terrain dotted with cacti and lizards hiding among the rocks. While hiking enthusiasts might enjoy a long trek, thrill-seekers will have a blast on an ATV or 4x4. This four-hour-long alternative features six stops, including the Bushiribana Gold Mill ruins, Sasarwichi Dunes, and Arashi Beach.

- **What to expect:** A complimentary cookie and water, free parking at the designated meeting spot (for guests who do not choose the free hotel pick-up).
- **Location:** The meeting point is on Bushiri 25, Oranjestad.
- **Contact information:** [Aruba UTV, ATV Adventure to Secret Beach and Cave Pool](#)

PRICE

\$162.40 per adult





7. A WILD RIDE THROUGH A NATIONAL PARK

Not every place invites you to discover its hidden corners on horseback, but Aruba is one of the very few that does. This particular adventure, though on the pricier side, includes access to Rancho Loco Aruba and Arikok National Park, safety gear, and guidance to help you bond with the horse you are paired with. The best part? Taking a dip in a place called Natural Pool and getting a true feel for the island's untamed side.

PRICE

\$140 per adult

- **What to expect:** Hotel or port pick-up and drop-off, bottled water, National Park fees, and smaller groups for a more personalized service.
- **Location:** Santa Cruz, towards Aruba's eastern coast.
- **Contact information:** [Horseback Ride Tour to Natural Pool in Arikok National Park](#)

8. A SEASIDE FEST WITH REFRESHING BITES

Is eating your way through a destination your favorite way to truly immerse yourself in it? If so, Ocean Z Restaurant won't disappoint. Praised by Forbes for its "contemporary dining" and oceanfront setting, the menu includes delicacies like seared tuna, the saffron-infused paella (complete with its characteristic sorrocat), and the linguine frutti di mare. Doesn't it make your mouth water just thinking about it?

PRICE Varies by order.
Dishes range from .

\$17 TO \$69

- **What to expect:** A romantic atmosphere, vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free options, local ingredients, and, occasionally, personal attention from the owner.
- **Location:** L.G Smith Boulevard 526, Noord, Aruba
- **Contact information:** [Ocean Z Restaurant](#)



A 5-STAR STAY THAT CELEBRATES ITS GUESTS

Ocean Z Hotel & Restaurant is a boutique-style property located in Noord, often referred to as the Beverly Hills of Aruba. Opened in 2019 by Eva Zissu, both establishments have been carefully curated under her attentive eye ever since. Guests from around the world consistently praise its intimate vibe, upscale accommodations, and, above all, the warm, personalized service. At Ocean Z, it's the details that make the difference, coming together to craft an unforgettable Caribbean experience.

  @oceanzaruba

oceanzaruba.com [TripAdvisor Hotel](#) [TripAdvisor Restaurant](#)