

# Mantis St Helena



## Welcome to Mantis St Helena

There are few undiscovered destinations left in the world, and until recently, the British Territory of St Helena was one of them. The opening of St Helena's airport and the advent of commercial flights has reduced journey times from days to mere hours, making it easier for you, the discerning traveller, to experience this extraordinary island.

Mantis St Helena is located in Jamestown, the island's capital. The 30-bedroom boutique hotel is set in the original East India Company's officers' barracks built in 1774 and boasts a large restaurant, cocktail bar, guest lounge and two spacious outdoor terraces. Luxurious Heritage Suites and newly built Contemporary Rooms have set a new accommodation standard on the island. Luxury, coupled with the breathtaking scenery of St Helena, creates a true bucketlist experience for all.



### It's all in the location

St Helena, one of the most remote places on Earth, packs a lot into 120 square kilometres. From the clear Atlantic waters past sheer cliffs and breath-taking rock formations, through arid red desert dotted with cacti, rolling green fields and flax-covered hillsides to a pinnacle of prehistoric cloud forest.

### Key Attractions in St Helena

Jacob's Ladder  
Walking and Hiking (22 Post Box Walks)  
Napoleon's House and Tomb  
Plantation House and Jonathan the Tortoise  
Watching and swimming with Whale sharks

### Mantis St Helena Hotel

Address: 1-3 Main, Street Jamestown, St Helena  
Restaurant & cocktail bar  
2 terraces  
30 luxury rooms and suites  
1 minute walk to sea front and museum  
Assistance in creating bespoke itineraries  
Venue hire for functions available

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## Hotel Accommodation



### 22 Contemporary Rooms

Situated in a newly constructed building linked to the original buildings by a terrace

Oversized shower in 18 rooms, 4 with baths

Four sets of interleading rooms for family convenience or a chaperone

Two sets of rooms have en-suite bathrooms designed for wheelchair users

Wheelchair friendly access through the front entrance to Dining Rooms, Bar, Terrace and Rooms

Each room has a flat screen TV, tea/coffee making facilities, and in-room safe able to accommodate a laptop

Air conditioning in all rooms

Work top / vanity dresser with international plug array, USB charger and mirror

In room telephone

High quality, branded guest amenities

Generous luggage and storage space

In-Room Dining service available

Guest laundry service

Mini bar available on request



### 5 Heritage Suites

3 Suites in the historic original buildings (1-3 Main Street)

2 Suites in the outside 'Cottage' (the original servants' quarters and kitchen)

Each room has a flat screen TV, tea/coffee making facilities, and in-room safe able to accommodate a laptop

Air conditioning in all rooms

Work top / vanity dresser with international plug array, USB charger and mirror

In room telephone

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Generous luggage and storage space

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## Hotel historical significance

Mantis St Helena, is a combination of restored historic buildings and a new contemporary building situated in the capital Jamestown, a few minutes' walk from the sea front, swimming pool, museum, Jacob's Ladder, public library, archives, shops, bars, restaurants, transport links and tourist information office. The hotel is located adjacent to St James' church, the oldest Anglican church in the Southern Hemisphere. The buildings were built once St James Church was finished in 1774.

The hotel buildings originally served as an officers' barracks for the East India Company, who administered the island at the time. They served as military accommodation up until the last garrison left the island in the 1900's. Most recently they were residential buildings and Government office space.

The original buildings were constructed from stone, bonded together with mud and mortar, pointed and rendered with lime which also formed the whitewash. Any joinery was done with local timber but, along with the rest of Jamestown's buildings, suffered extensive damage as a result of termite infestation from 1840 onwards and the timber was replaced with teak and iroko. The roof was composed of imported slate tiles with wooden supports which were also extensively damaged leading to the replacement of wooden supports with iron framework and corrugated iron sheet roofing and later, asbestos. Though the application of new Victorian design meant none of the buildings have retained their complete Georgian features, these have been carefully and accurately restored, where possible in the construction of Mantis St Helena.

The St Helena Heritage Society conducted an archaeological survey on the buildings and gardens behind the buildings, which originally featured a number of ancillary buildings (like the 'Cottage', now suites 7 and 8), and more recently storage areas and garages. A great number of artefacts were discovered and recorded during the survey, and these were archived at the St Helena Museum, and a number of more interesting items are on display in the hotel's reception area, including Chinese ceramics, stoneware and earthenware and remains of various glass bottles – most likely containing gin or Arrack – painting the picture of a rowdy establishment back in the days of the East India Company, where officers had not much else to pass the time except drinking and gambling.

Other finds include an intricate and detailed archway, now located in the reception area, that was originally Georgian and adapted to Victorian design and later covered up – only to be unearthed during construction works. One of the more significant finds in the garden of number 3 was an old well or 'watering hole' constructed from rubble masonry and pointed lime. And we believe this to be one of the earliest remaining pieces of built heritage in Jamestown. This has been partially restored and kept in situ, as a feature of the hotel. The buildings as they are now more accurately resemble their original Georgian design, albeit with a few Victorian and later features.

