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Government House Montserrat

# MONTSERRAT AN ISLAND ON THE MOVE

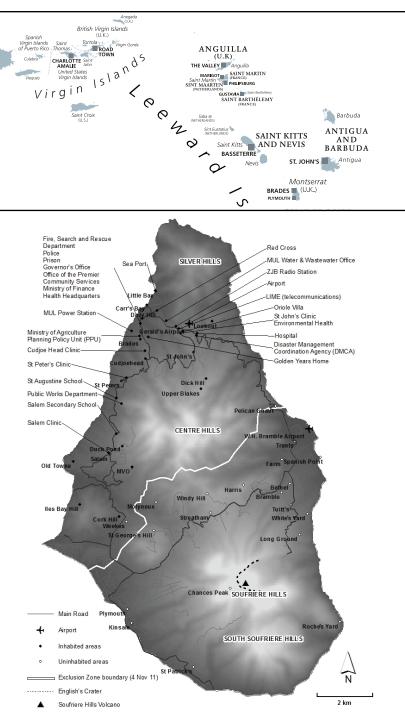
A British Gateway to the Caribbean Market

UK Government Centres of Expertise

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FOREWARD FROM THE GOVERNOR AND PREMIER OF MONTSERRAT	4
THE PEOPLE: MONTSERRATS CORE STRENGTH	8
MONTSERRAT'S STRATEGIC VISION	10
MONTSERRAT STRATEGIC INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES	14
SERVICES TO UK INVESTORS	16
CABINET SECRETARIAT	17





### FOREWORD

"Montserrat stands out as a unique gateway for UK investors to the wider Caribbean community of 16 million people. As the only British Overseas Territory that is a full member of CARICOM, Montserrat offers a strategic platform for businesses looking to access this regional market. Our island's British legal framework, coupled with its Caribbean ties, provides investors with both familiarity and a bridge to the broader Caribbean economic landscape. With Montserrat, UK investors gain a direct link to a vibrant and growing market, rooted in strong trade relations and mutual investment opportunities within the CARICOM network."

Montserrat is a resourceful, and forward-looking island with a unique charm that attracts both visitors and investors. As we continue to rebuild and grow, we are witnessing a renewed sense of optimism and entrepreneurial energy that is shaping our future. The Montserratian spirit—grounded in a strong sense of community, hard work, and innovation—has been the driving force. This forward-looking attitude is what makes Montserrat a prime destination for investment across a variety of sectors.

Montserrat is strategically positioned in the Caribbean, providing easy access to major regional and global markets. While our population may be under 5,000, we are part of a larger Caribbean community that is increasingly interconnected through trade and investment. The island's natural resources—volcanic soil, geothermal potential, and pristine ecosystems—make it a fertile ground for industries such as **eco-tourism**, **renewable energy**, and **sustainable agriculture**. These sectors offer untapped potential for investors looking to make a lasting impact.

Our local businesses, both small and large, are stepping up to meet the needs of our evolving market, particularly in tourism, agriculture, and real estate. The government of Montserrat continues to implement reforms that facilitates the ease of doing business, streamline regulatory processes, in addition to continuing to offer a range of incentives to attract UK investors. From simplified business registration to competitive tax incentives, Montserrat is committed to fostering an environment where businesses can thrive. We understand the importance of a robust regulatory framework that protects investors while promoting sustainable growth.

At the heart of our investment strategy is sustainability. Montserrat is

deeply committed to preserving its natural environment while promoting economic development. This is why we have placed a strong emphasis on eco-friendly projects, renewable energy initiatives, and responsible tourism. Investors who share these values will find Montserrat an ideal partner for projects that balance economic growth with environmental stewardship.

Our people are one of Montserrat's greatest assets. With a well-educated, Englishspeaking workforce, Montserratians are eager to contribute to the island's economic development. Our goal is to ensure that the benefits of investment are shared widely across the island, creating jobs and opportunities for all.

This document has been created to provide you with a window on Monsterrat and understand some of the to exciting opportunities that exist on the island. Whether you are interested in tourism, agriculture, infrastructure, or renewable energy, Montserrat offers a range of possibilities for investors seeking both profitability and purpose.

We invite you to join us on this journey of growth and development. Montserrat is open for business, and we look forward to welcoming you as part of our thriving community of investors, innovators, and entrepreneurs. Together, we can shape a prosperous and sustainable future for our island.

Mrs Sarah Tucker Her Excellency The Governor Honourable Reuben Meade The Premier of Montserrat



the opportunity to capitalize on diverse, emerging markets while leveraging its regional and international advantages.

The island's cultural identity, deeply rooted in Irish and African heritage, is vibrant and celebrated, offering a unique experience for investors and visitors alike. Montserrat is among the few places outside Ireland where St. Patrick's Day is a national holiday, symbolizing its distinctive blend of cultures and traditions that permeate daily life, from festivals to local music and cuisine. This cultural richness contributes to a strong sense of community and pride among Montserratians, creating a welcoming atmosphere that enhances the island's appeal to global investors, residents, and tourists.

This dual status as a British Overseas Territory and a CARICOM/OECS member strengthens Montserrat's regulatory and legal framework, offering investors robust protections for property rights, adherence to global regulatory standards, and access to UK diplomatic support. Montserrat's commitment to maintaining these standards creates a trustworthy and secure investment environment, reinforcing the island's reputation as a stable and resilient destination for capital investment.

Investing in Montserrat offers a gateway to a dynamic and emerging market that honors its cultural heritage while providing modern opportunities through strategic regional partnerships and international ties.

## **MONTSERRAT:** The Country , The Island

Montserrat, known as the "Emerald Isle of the Caribbean," is a premier investment destination that marries rich cultural heritage, resilient people, and significant economic promise. Nestled in the Caribbean with full membership in both the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Montserrat presents investors with unique access to regional markets alongside stable governance and strong ties to the United Kingdom. This British Overseas Territory is primed for sustainable growth and offers forward-thinking investors



## **THE PEOPLE** MONTSERRAT'S CORE STRENGTH

The people of Montserrat are the island's most invaluable asset, known for their resilience, warmth, and deep-rooted pride in their heritage. Overcoming significant challenges, including the devastation of the Soufrière Hills volcanic eruption in the 1990s, Montserratians have shown unwavering strength and determination in rebuilding their communities and creating a sustainable future. This resilience has fostered a strong, united community that is dedicated to preserving the island's culture and supporting one another. This enduring spirit, combined with a unique blend of Irish and African heritage, infuses the island with a rich, vibrant culture that is celebrated through festivals, music, and daily interactions, drawing in visitors and investors alike who value Montserrat's distinct character.

Montserrat's people are not only custodians of their island's natural beauty and culture but are also instrumental in shaping its economic and social progress. Their commitment to community well-being and sustainable development is evident in ongoing initiatives to rebuild infrastructure, promote eco-tourism, and foster local entrepreneurship. With a deep connection to both the island and the global Montserratian diaspora, Montserratians contribute to the island's growth, whether through local investment, innovation, or active participation in Montserrat's development from abroad. This collective dedication to progress, supported by an inclusive and welcoming spirit and the safe and secure environment, is the foundation of Montserrat's strength and a key driver of its potential for a prosperous future.



## MONTSERRAT'S STRATEGIC VISION

Montserrat's strategic vision for the next five years aims to establish a foundation for resilient economic growth, prioritize sustainable development, and strengthen community well-being. This vision is centered on attracting investment and driving economic diversification across key sectors, including eco-tourism, renewable energy, agriculture, and digital services. By enhancing infrastructure, improving market access, and fostering a supportive business environment. Montserrat seeks to leverage its natural and cultural assets while meeting the demands of a modern economy. This approach not only supports local development but also positions the island as a competitive and attractive destination for global investors seeking opportunities in the Caribbean.

A core component of Montserrat's vision is the expansion of its tourism sector. with an emphasis on eco-tourism and cultural heritage. The development of key infrastructure projects, such as the Little Bay port and improved airport facilities, is expected to boost accessibility and appeal to diverse visitor demographics, from eco-tourists to highnet-worth individuals. By aligning with global trends towards sustainable and responsible travel, Montserrat aims to attract visitors who appreciate the island's unique volcanic landscapes, cultural festivals, and unspoiled environment. This sustainable tourism strategy is projected to stimulate local businesses, create jobs, and increase revenue, providing a substantial contribution to Montserrat's economic stability

The government also envisions the growth of the renewable energy sector as both an economic driver and a pathway to energy security. Montserrat has significant potential for geothermal energy, and plans are underway to harness this resource to meet the island's energy needs while reducing reliance on imported fuels. This shift towards green energy aligns with global sustainability goals and enhances Montserrat's appeal to environmentally conscious investors. Additionally, renewable energy development is expected to lower energy costs for local businesses, support infrastructure projects, and serve as a model for sustainable energy use in the Caribbean.

In agriculture, Montserrat plans to strengthen food security through innovative, climate-resilient farming techniques and targeted investment in high-demand crops like breadfruit. Leveraging its duty-free access to the UK market, Montserrat aims to expand its agricultural exports, capitalizing on products with high nutritional value and sustainable growth potential. By fostering partnerships in agribusiness, promoting local production, and exploring niche export markets, Montserrat seeks to create opportunities that benefit both smallholders and large-scale producers. thereby diversifying the economy and building a more resilient food system.

To support this vision, Montserrat is **enhancing its regulatory and business environment** to attract foreign direct investment and encourage local entrepreneurship. Efforts include streamlining administrative processes, adopting transparent governance practices, and enhancing digital infrastructure. The introduction of digital services and improved access to online resources will not only make it easier for businesses to operate but will also attract digital nomads and remote workers seeking a stable and welcoming environment. This commitment to modernizing its regulatory framework underscores Montserrat's dedication to fostering a pro-business atmosphere that will drive long-term growth and innovation.

Montserrat's strategic plan also recognizes the importance of ts diaspora as a source of investment and talent. Initiatives are n place to strengthen ties with the Montserratian diaspora community, particularly those in the United Kingdom, with ncentives aimed at facilitating investment in local **real estate**, entrepreneurship, and cultural projects. By leveraging the diaspora's expertise, networks, and resources, Montserrat seeks o foster a supportive investment environment that bridges ocal development needs with international opportunities.

n summary, Montserrat's strategic vision for the next five years s to create a resilient, diversified economy that respects the sland's cultural heritage and natural environment while meeting the needs of a modern, competitive market. By focusing on sustainable tourism, renewable energy, blue economy, real estate, agriculture, and digital services, Montserrat aims to offer attractive opportunities for investors and improve quality of life for residents. Thisforward-looking approach positions Montserrat as an appealing nvestment destination with a commitment to sustainable and nclusive growth, ensuring a prosperous future for the island.

## MONTSERRAT'S STRATEGIC INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES



### **Tourism Sector**

Boutique Hotel in Little Bay

Development of the "Buried City" of Plymouth as a tourist attraction

Recreational Facilities supporting tourism sector such as zipline, viewing towers

Development of a marina



### **Real Estate**

Redevelopment of Governments existing housing stock

Delivery of new housing stock on the island for all segments in the market, including: affordable, mid range, high end



### Agriculture

Developing new production capacity to deliver food sovereignty and supply markets with products, such as breadfruit, where Montserrat has a competitive advantage to export to the United Kingdom and other markets in OECD and CARICOM



### Renewable Energy

Develop geothermal power production and solar power production and storage to complement the existing power production facilities.

## SERVICES TO UK INVESTORS

The UK Government provides multiple strands of support for UK companies looking to invest in Montserrat.

#### This includes, but is not limited to:

- Direct liaison with Montserrat based organisations with responsibility for start-up of new businesses.
- Coordination of meetings between UK and Montserrat counterparts to facilitate access to incentives (e.g. filing of applications, collation of all required documentation).
- Up to date directory of local services and facilities corresponding to business industries.
- · Promotional materials and information.
- · Requisite details to prospective/potential investors.
- Facilitating meetings with leaders of the Montserrat UK community.
- Disseminate information to members of the wider Montserrat Diaspora
- Provide a secretariat to visiting Ministers and officials.

For further information on the full suite of UK support available to your firm please contact:

#### Montserrat Government UK Office

52 Grosvenor Gardens Victoria, London, SW1W 0AU

#### Email

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http://www.montserrat-gov.org

## **CABINET SECRETARIAT**

Trade, Quality Infrastructure and Business Support, part of the Cabinet Secretariat is the Government of Montserrat's agency for creating a conducive business environment and functions as the business hub for entrepreneurs and investors providing them with the following services, but is not limited to:

- facilitating access to incentives
- liaison with the Customs and Inland Revenue Services for business compliance matters
- · liaison with regional standards regulators for technical advice and support
- · liaison to industry support organizations:
  - Taxi and Tour Association
  - The Hospitality Association
  - Farmers Association
  - Montserrat Chamber of Commerce & Industry

For further information on the full suite of support available to your firm please contact:

Trade and Quality Infrastructure Division Cabinet Secretariat Government of Headquarters Brades MSR 1110 Montserrat

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