



Field Trip

19TH

CARIBBEAN GEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE 2011

Le Gosier - Guadeloupe - French West Indies

La Grande Découverte - Soufrière and the Monts Caraïbes volcanoes

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La Grande Découverte - Soufrière volcano is the only active volcanic center of Guadeloupe. It experienced a series of flank collapse events, the last one occurring during the 1530 AD magmatic eruption. Since this date, numerous phreatic events occurred up to the 1976-77 crisis. South of the Soufrière volcano, the Monts Caraïbes volcanic complex (~500 ky old) was built by dominantly explosive hydromagmatic activity.



The first day will focus on the summit area of La Grande Découverte - Soufrière volcano:

- The Soufrière lava dome and its surrounding
- Deposits from the recent magmatic and phreatic activity
- Visit of the Volcanological and Seismological Observatory of Guadeloupe

The second day will be dedicated to the pyroclastic deposits in the basal part of La Grande Découverte - Soufrière volcano and the Monts Caraïbes complex:

- Pintade pumiceous deposits and debris avalanche deposits from Soufrière volcano
- Hydromagmatic deposits from Monts Caraïbes volcanic complex