

Charles Lindo, Countrystyle Caribbean Director of Community Tourism

Charles Lindo's life revolves around tourism, his passion for it beginning at a very early age. He is a man of diverse talents, all of which he has applied to the industry throughout the Dutch Caribbean, including his native St. Eustatius.

Mr. Lindo's passion for his country is unquestioned and his dedication to the upliftment of the people of the 11 square mile island through tourism is unrelenting.

Mr. Lindo, the director of tourism for St. Eustatius, is a graduate of Johnson and Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island, where he achieved his Master's Degree in Hospitality/Business Management. He has served for many years in top management positions in both the private and public sectors across the Dutch Caribbean.

Raised by his grandfather on the Island of St. Eustatius (or Statia), Mr. Lindo developed a craving for culinary arts during his early childhood. It was no surprise, therefore, that upon completion of his secondary education in Curaçao, he secured a scholarship to pursue his passion.

Immediately upon completion of his studies at Johnson and Wales, he was recruited by Wyndham hotels and Resort and joined the company's manager in development programme. Mr. Lindo served in various managerial positions at hotels in Aruba (Wyndham), Curacao (Kura Hulanda) and St. Maarten, where he was instrumental in securing franchise rights from Wyndham for Sapphire Beach Club. He also played a leading role in the establishment of Hotel Kura Hulanda Lodges on Westpoint in Curaçao.

But his love for culinary arts never waned and Mr. Lindo left the hotel sector to start a sushi restaurant in St. Maarten, even as he taught hospitality at the Sundial Secondary School as an assistant instructor.

After returning to Statia in 2008, he was offered a position as deputy director of tourism, a position he held until 2011 when he was appointed director of tourism at the St. Eustatius Tourism Development Foundation.

He is member of numerous boards and organizations on his native island Statia.