

Simply LUXURY ESCAPES

Caribbean \ Cruise \ Cyprus \ Dubai \ Greece \ Maldives \ Mauritius

A SNAPSHOT OF SANTORINI

Get truly spoilt at the Santo Maris
Oia Luxury Suites & Spa

Sustainable luxury in the Maldives

An exclusive interview with the
Fairmont Maldives

Win a holiday for two in Barbados

Please see the back
cover for details





Welcome

With the world opening up to travel after many months of restrictions, we understand that you're desperate to get away from it all. You want to make the most of every moment and enjoy precious time with loved ones.

Has there ever been a better year than 2022 to take that bucket list trip?

That's why we've spent the past two years forging partnerships with the very best resorts and hotels worldwide to create our new collection: Simply Luxury Escapes. Building on a decade's expertise with Simply Caribbean, we can now help you discover all corners of the globe and find your little piece of paradise. Rest assured, we're still your local Sevenoaks specialist, but with an even broader reach.

I've personally visited many of the properties so you can continue to expect the same insider knowledge and attention to detail when you travel with us. On p3 read about my most recent trip to the stunning islands of the Maldives, where I was lucky enough to stay at the Amilla Resort and Residences as well as at Conrad Rangali Island. I'm so thankful for their warm hospitality and can't recommend them highly enough. Closer to home, our family summer holiday to Eagles Palace in Halkidiki was another travel highlight last year. Find out more about this beautiful destination on p19.

In this issue, there's plenty more besides. Come with us to explore an idyllic eco-resort in the Indian Ocean, discover an island oasis in Dubai, play world-class golf courses in Mauritius, soak up a perfect sunset in Santorini and savour the best tuna tartare in the Caribbean.

Stop dreaming of your perfect holiday. Let us make it a reality.

Best wishes,

Natasha Griffin – Founder

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A personal guide

My Maldives

Travelling the world is part of my job and the Maldives has long been on my wishlist. After finally making the trip in 2021, here's my personal guide to just two of the destinations we offer.

Arriving at **Conrad Maldives, Rangali Island** is an experience in itself: from Malé Airport either take the seaplane, a speedboat, or treat yourself to a luxury three-hour yacht charter.

The resort is picture-perfect. Overwater villas and suites (most with private pools) perch around a spit of pure white sand and lush vegetation, surrounded by turquoise ocean. There are two parts to the resort: Rangali Island for adults and Rangali-Finolhu Island for families. We stayed in one of the newly-renovated Water Villas on Rangali Island.

Of course, the Maldives is bliss for water babies and we had an unforgettable swim with a whale shark – just incredible!

The Muraka is another unmissable experience. Sitting in glorious solitude at the end of a wooden walkway, this villa has a glass underwater bedroom so you can sleep in a tropical ocean paradise. And finally the amazing dining, where options include supper in the wine cellar, dinner on the beach, or Ithaa, the world's first undersea restaurant.



Our next destination was the equally wonderful eco-friendly luxury resort **Amilla**. Here the accommodation is quite something, from spacious pool villas either overwater or beachside (great for singles or couples), to treetop villas perched in the forest canopy, complete with suspended, glass-walled pools, situated just twenty metres from your private beach. With between one to eight bedrooms, these are a great option for an unforgettable trip with friends or family.

Environmentalism sits at the heart of Amilla. Homegrown, homemade and locally-sourced products abound in the restaurants and spa, the water comes from their own desalination plant, every part of the coconut is used in an array of products, and recycling and composting minimise waste.



The wonders of the natural world are central to the activity programme, with choices such as night-time snorkelling, bicycle tours, picnicking on a sandbank and painting with the resident artist. And don't miss a trip to the underwater wonderland of the Baa Atoll UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, renowned for mantras, whale sharks and its remarkable diversity.

After eating our way through the delicious Wellness Your Way menus (options such as vegan/low carb/keto/paleo/gluten-free), we left Amilla feeling completely reenergised and in awe of this wonderful island nation.

Conrad Maldives
7 nights from £2,850 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022
Amilla
7 nights from £3,370 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022



The Maldives

THE BEST OF THE REST

Lying southwest of Sri Lanka and India, the Maldives is a chain of 26 atolls strung like pearls in the Indian Ocean. The stuff of fantasy vacations, this archipelagic nation is deservedly at the top of many people's bucket lists.

One of our favourite all-inclusive resorts is the **Emerald Maldives Resort and Spa**, a self-proclaimed 'oasis of bliss' and a member of the Leading Hotels of the World. Located on the Raa Atoll in the northern part of the Maldives, it's set in twenty hectares of lush vegetation fringed by 1.5km of soft white sand. There are 120 villas, many with private pools, of which sixty are located on the island and sixty perch on stilts over the sparkling ocean.

A sanctuary from modern life, this award-winning resort offers informal elegance

for guests truly looking to unwind. The Emerald Spa offers Balinese and Thai treatments in air-conditioned bungalows. While you enjoy a treatment, the children can explore the huge Dolphin Kids' Club complex, complete with pool, restaurant and indoor and outdoor activities. If working up a sweat is your idea of relaxation, there are plentiful watersports, diving, tennis courts, a gym and a soccer field available. Dining options are varied too, with six excellent restaurants, cafés and grills with varied cuisines from Mediterranean to Asian.

The excellent staff are friendly and attentive yet unobtrusive. Coupled with the all-inclusive offering, this makes for a totally stress-free experience.

Also located in the Raa Atoll is a brand new sister resort, **Emerald Faarufushi**,

opening in April 2022. The minimalist, sophisticated architecture is captivating, using natural stone and wood to blend harmoniously with the surrounding environment. The air-conditioned villas, most with a private pool, are situated either overwater or right on the beach, and all are beautifully appointed with 'under the stars' showers.

Another all-inclusive resort, the numerous restaurants and bars will offer a dazzling choice of menus to suit all tastes and a host of complimentary activities and sports are available. The luxurious spa comprises eight treatment huts, a steam room, a relaxation area with plunge pools, a yoga pavilion and manicure and pedicure stations.

A stay at the Emerald Faarufushi will rejuvenate mind and body alike and is particularly recommended for couples as it's wonderfully romantic too.

Emerald Maldives Resort and Spa
7 nights from £3,220 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Emerald Faarufushi
7 nights from £3,090 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

If you have a passion for diving and snorkelling, you can do no better than the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of Baa Atoll. A stay at **Vakkaru Maldives** situates you right in the reef, surrounded by unique marine biodiversity along with powder-soft white sands and endless ocean. The scenic seaplane flight from Malé International Airport gives a real sense of the expansive beauty of the atoll.

If you like to feel the sand between your toes, choose one of the gorgeous beach villas nestled in the shade of a palm, or for those who prefer to dive into the ocean before breakfast, an overwater villa is the answer. Couples, families or groups of friends are well catered-for and everyone will love the brilliant butler service.

Aside from the beach and pool areas, there are numerous spaces to unwind, including two bars, five superb restaurants and a gorgeous over-the-

water spa and gym. Exercise fans can hit the tennis or badminton court or try out a range of watersports. The Parrotfish Club and Coconut Club ensure that kids and teens have plenty of fun too.

Vakkaru offers the finest luxury accommodation in a one-of-a-kind location, a place where lasting memories are made.

Another fantastic destination for exploring the wonders of the ocean is **Angsana Velavaru**, a resort in the pristine waters of the South Nilandhe Atoll. Close to more than 30 dive sites, the five-star PADI centre offers a range of courses and excursions for novice to experienced divers, including children.

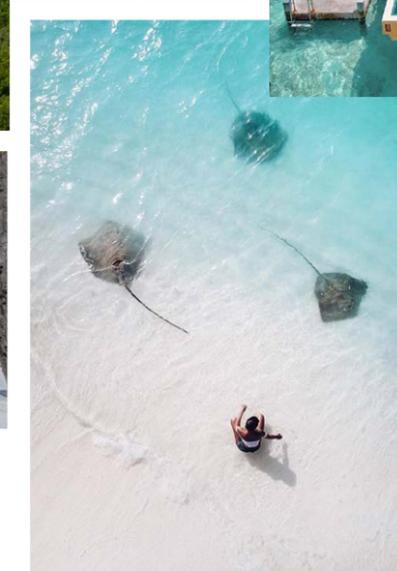
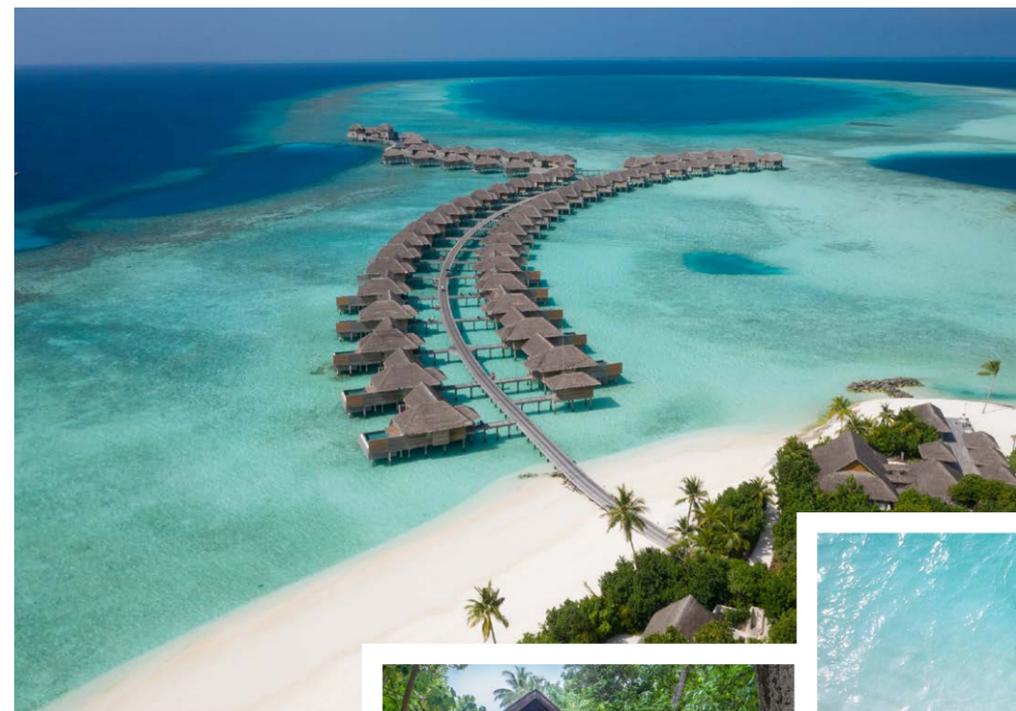
Above sea level the setting and accommodation reflect the high standard you'd expect from a luxury resort. In fact, the iconic Maldivian overwater villa was invented here, the first hotel to build offshore lodges on

stilts. As well as the InOcean villas, there are beachfront villas just steps from the sand, and almost all the properties enjoy a private pool.

The beauty of these small island resorts is that they are safe and relaxing for all the family, with children able to enjoy the freedom and wonder of nature or take part in a host of creative and sporting activities. For adults there's the luxury to choose to do everything or nothing at all!

There are five all-inclusive packages at Angsana Velavaru (Dine, Play, Style, Plus or Max), so you can select exactly the right one for you. But whichever you choose, the outstanding service and location come as standard.

Vakkaru Maldives
7 nights from £3,620 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022
Angsana Velavaru
7 nights from £2,398 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022





Sustainability matters at FAIRMONT MALDIVES

Fairmont Maldives is well on the way to being the first carbon neutral resort in the Maldives and has put sustainability at the heart of its ethos. We caught up with Samuel Dixon, sustainability manager, to find out more.

"Guests come to the Maldives for the incredible marine environment and we take our responsibilities towards it very seriously. I joined the team before the resort was built and one of my first roles was to ensure that the construction didn't harm the ecosystem."

After working in the Maldives on a whale shark research project for his Masters in marine biology, Samuel jumped at the chance to return to the region once he'd completed his studies. His previous work on coral restoration was put to good use too, as protection of the reef was a key objective.

"We ensured that the coral reef wasn't damaged during the building work and have since set up a coral nursery, where guests can help us to collect broken coral from the sea bed and bring it to our nursery to grow before we return

it to the ocean. We tag the coral with the guest's details and send them email updates and photos of how their coral is growing. Guests also love our turtle conservation programme which has already released over 1,200 turtles."

More than half of the resort's staff live on one of the five closest islands, so Fairmont Maldives is keen to build on these strong links with its neighbours. They work together on a range of eco projects, sharing knowledge and collaborating to protect species such as manta rays.

Samuel is particularly excited about the new Fairmont Schools Award Scheme: "We've signed up all fourteen schools on our neighbouring islands to help us collect plastic for our recycling programme. While the resort is 99% free of single use plastics, we sadly get marine debris washing ashore. Guests too can join us on our regular reef and beach cleans and then, along with the plastic collected by the schools, we process it in our Sustainability Lab to make furniture, toys and luggage tags, as well as equipment for local schools."

Another major investment is the Solar Sea project which will (by February 2022) generate 10% of the Maldives' total solar production and, by 2023, satisfy 100% of the resort's energy needs.

Fairmont Maldives
7 nights from £3,220 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

A Golfer's PARADISE

There are some places around the world where every golfer dreams of playing, and if you choose the right destination, even non-golfers are guaranteed a holiday to remember. Let us introduce you to some of our favourite top-class courses which just happen to be in idyllic locations too.

Mauritius is rightly famed for its crystal-clear waters and white-sand beaches, but did you know it's also home to several amazing golf courses, including some designed by Peter Alliss, Ernie Els and Bernard Langer? It's no surprise that both the European Tour and the Staysure European Tour bring tournaments here as part of their schedule.

On the northeast of the island lie two luxury Constance hotels, **Prince Maurice** and **Belle Mare Plage**, which have access to both the Legend Course and the Links Course, offering an exhilarating playing experience.

Surrounded by water, be sure to pack plenty of balls if you play the Legend Course as it's quite a challenge. It is built to USPGA specifications and the signature hole is the seventeenth, a par 3 which plays 166 yards across a small creek on the seafront. A test for the nerves!

The Links plays a little shorter but the threat of water is still present on six of the holes. There are drivable par 4s at



the fourth and seventeenth, but the most eye-catching hole is the eighteenth, where a good drive sets up a tense approach shot over a pond onto the green, right in front of the club house.

Guests at the Constance hotels enjoy unlimited play at both courses so are a great option for any golf lover. And when you're not on the fairway, their stunning beachside settings offer all the amenities you'd expect from a luxury resort: sumptuous suite or villa accommodation, top-class restaurants, a spa, watersports, kids' club and much more.

Arguably the best golf in the Caribbean can be found at the luxury **Sandy Lane** resort, which boasts three courses, each with their own distinct character.

The renowned eighteen-hole Green Monkey is carved from an old limestone quarry, the exposed rock face creating a dramatic contrast to the lush, rolling greens of the fairways and offering tremendous elevation change. The



Country Club course has five lakes, immaculately cut greens and breathtaking views of the Caribbean Sea and is a real treat to play.

The famous nine-hole Old Nine course meanders through the Sandy Lane estate and, with a combination of par 3s, 4s and 5s, provides a tough challenge while being quicker and more affordable to play.

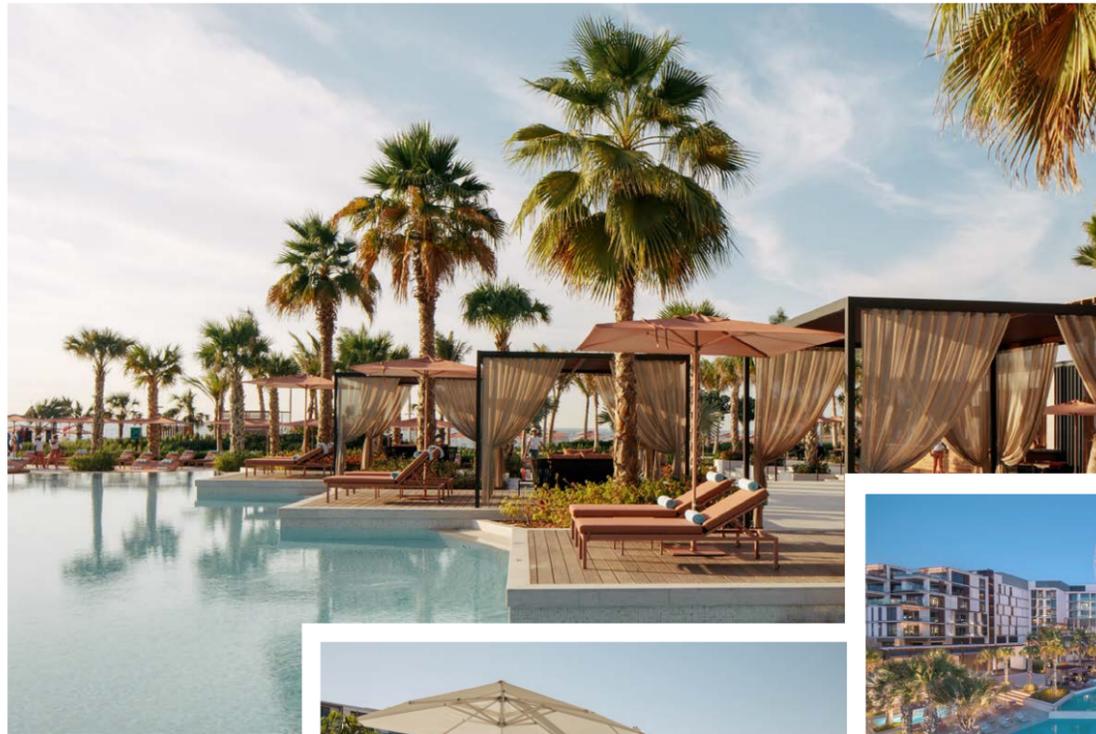
If you're hoping to play Stateside, one of our top picks is California's **Pebble Beach**, a world-famous golf course with world-class facilities, not to mention out-of-this-world scenery in the stunning Monterey Peninsula. It's no exaggeration to say it's every golfer's ambition to experience the wonders of this US Championship course, following in the footsteps of greats like Tiger Woods and Arnold Palmer.

Constance Prince Maurice
7 nights from £1,720 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Constance Belle Mare Plage
7 nights from £1,695 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Sandy Lane
7 nights from £4,048 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022





AN ICON OF INDULGENCE

Pleasure seekers the world over acknowledge Caesars Palace as the pinnacle of indulgent fun and glamour. Rising majestically on Bluewaters, Dubai's island oasis, **Caesars Palace Dubai** doesn't disappoint, delivering an immersive luxury experience on every level.

The range of stylish, contemporary rooms and suites in the Palace Tower and Julius Tower make the most of the beachfront location, while the Apartments and Residences are a great option for larger parties or those wanting the luxury of even more living space. Views of the Arabian Sea as well as the soaring ultra-modern architecture of the city can be enjoyed through almost every window, including the huge Ain Dubai, the world's largest observation wheel.

As you'd expect, the entertainment options are outstanding, including three infinity pools, watersports galore, a fitness gallery, kids' and teens' clubs, 500m of beautiful private beach and the luxurious Qua Spa. You'd have to check in for at least a month to be able to try out all the activities available!

It's worth dwelling on the food because dining at Caesars Palace Dubai is in another league. Gordon Ramsay's Hell's Kitchen draws inspiration from the reality TV show, but here the Red and Blue teams collaborate to produce some of Ramsay's signature dishes. Head to Zhen Wei for handmade dim sum and a variety of pan-Asian dishes to tingle the tastebuds, or visit Italy at Cleo's Table for Mediterranean delights. Chill out to the Cuban vibe in the Havana Social Club, or if you don't want to stray too far from the water, there are tantalising menus on offer at Neptune, Fortuna and Venus Pools, as well as at Cove Beach. With a total of fifteen restaurants and bars, you really can eat and drink your way around the globe here.

Caesars Palace Dubai
5 nights from £1,155 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022



low rise LUXURY

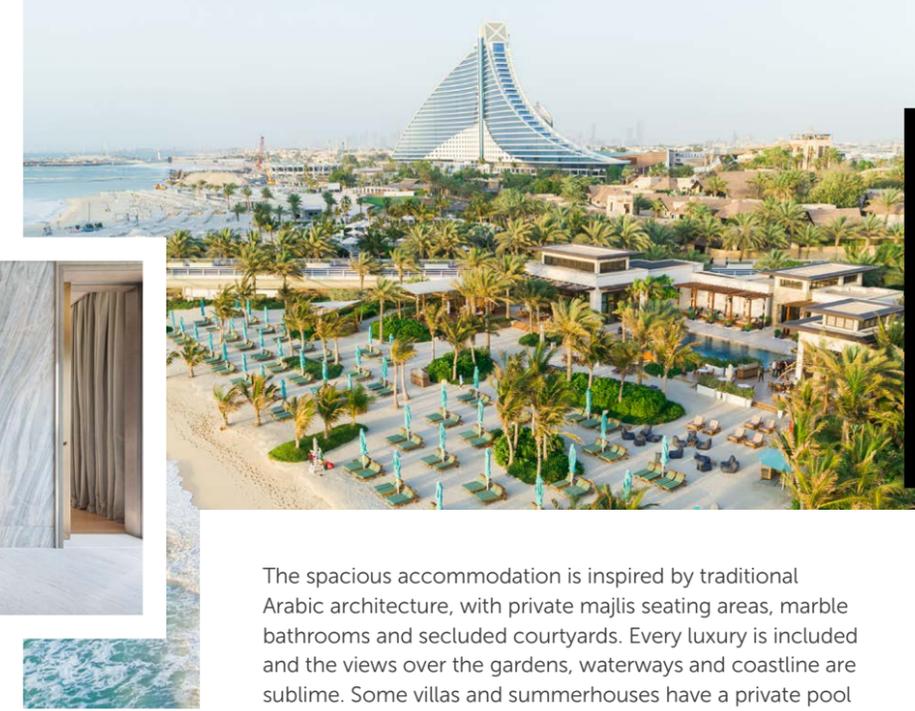
In a city famed for its high-rise skyline, it's still possible to find more traditional architecture in Dubai which combines the best of both worlds. If you're looking for exotic Arabian ambience coupled with top-end luxury, in a 21st Century setting, these hotels tick every box and more.

Built from natural stone in a contemporary style, **Jumeirah Al Naseem** sits beautifully in its beachfront situation. The surrounding gardens are an oasis of cool, with oversized hanging chairs, three large pools and a seawater sanctuary for rescued turtles.

As the city's closest hotel accommodation to the coast, you'll enjoy exclusive use of the two kilometres of pristine white sands and the gentle waves of the Persian Gulf, just steps away. All bedrooms and suites have either a garden or ocean view and for families there is the option of interconnecting rooms or a family suite. Facilities include a kids' club and complimentary access to the Wild Wadi waterpark nearby.

With a choice of ten restaurants featuring global cuisine, your palate will never get bored. Guests also have access to over fifty bars, restaurants and lounges in the Madinat resort. Other activities include rock climbing, tennis, windsurfing, sailing, water skiing, kneeboard, wakeboard and kayaks. At Jumeirah Al Naseem it really does feel as though the world is your oyster.

Another beautiful luxury retreat is sister property **Jumeirah Dar Al Masyaf**, a stunning collection of villas, summerhouses and suites set in immaculate gardens among the waterways. Arrive by traditional abra water taxi and be greeted by your personal butler who will cater to your every need for the duration of your stay.



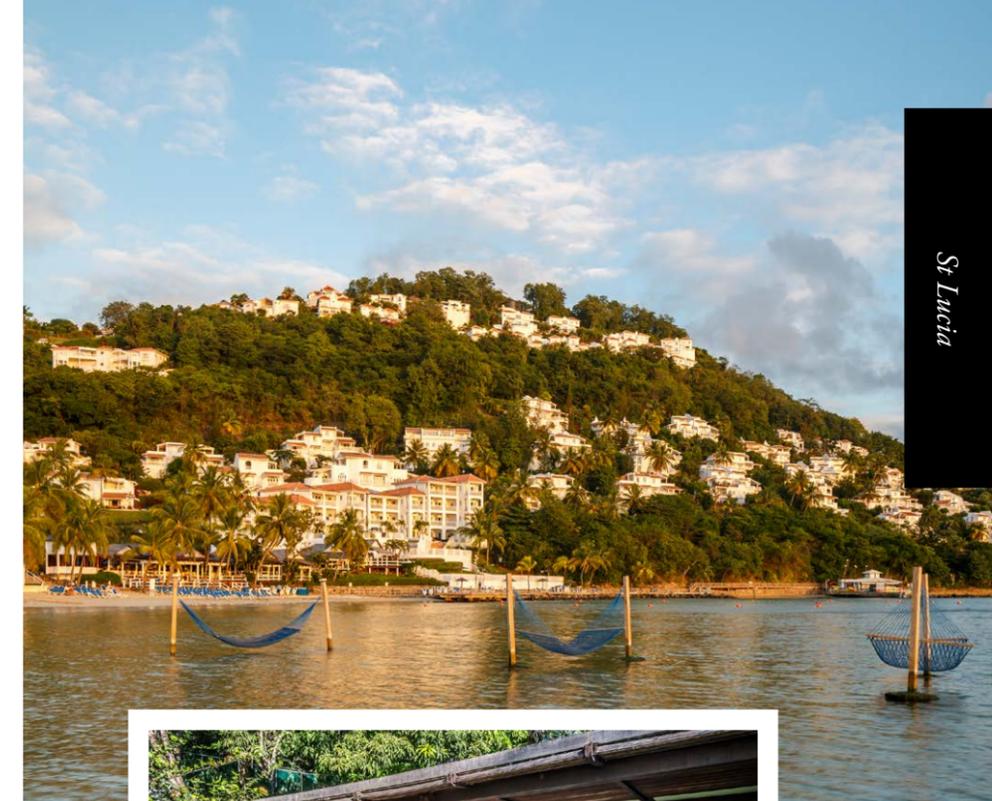
The spacious accommodation is inspired by traditional Arabic architecture, with private majlis seating areas, marble bathrooms and secluded courtyards. Every luxury is included and the views over the gardens, waterways and coastline are sublime. Some villas and summerhouses have a private pool or direct access to the beach, and the additional benefit of free membership of the Club Executive and Premium Leisure Club Lounges.

In addition to a large, shared pool, guests can make full use of the wider resort facilities, including the dazzling array of restaurants. There's plenty of entertainment available too, such as a theatre, spa and Souk Madinat, plus a daily shuttle service to Mall of the Emirates and Ski Dubai.

If you think you know Dubai, think again.

Jumeirah Al Naseem
5 nights from £1,980 per person
Jumeirah Dar Al Masyaf
5 nights from £1,750 per person
Both valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022





spotlight on ST LUCIA



With strong family connections to St Lucia, this magical island has a special place in our hearts. The warmth of the people is matched only by the year-round balmy climate, which is reflected in the breath-taking tropical scenery wherever you look.

Arriving at **Sugar Beach**, a Viceroy Resort, you'd be forgiven for imagining yourself as an intrepid explorer. The winding road through lush rainforest, with a backdrop of the majestic Piton mountains, opens out to reveal a shimmering white-sand beach and the sapphire waters of the Caribbean Sea.

Your personal butler will greet you with a cooling glass of the resort's signature rum punch, while you kick off your shoes and pause to absorb the beauty of this former sugar plantation.

The accommodation ranges from romantic rooms furnished with four-poster beds, to hillside villas and

beachfront bungalows, many with private pools. Amenities include the celebrated Rainforest Spa, world-class diving in the National Marine Park, an irresistible selection of restaurants and extensive family-friendly features. If sports are your thing, you're spoilt for choice here, with some of the best provision on the island for land- and water-based activities.

We've stayed at Sugar Beach numerous times and really can't fault it. It's the complete package of elegance, luxury and tranquillity and, in our opinion, is the very definition of a bucket list destination.

If your idea of the perfect holiday is a culinary adventure, then a stay at **Cap Maison** boutique hotel should sate your appetite. Caribbean Chef of the Year Craig Jones oversees the Cliff at Cap, while the Naked Fisherman was recently named one of the top ten beach bars in the Caribbean. Local, seasonal produce is used wherever possible, even in the

daiquiris served at the bar! The famous Rock Maison private dining space – a candlelit platform on a rocky outcrop – has been described as one of the world's most romantic tables. Your drinks are delivered via the Champagne zipwire as you savour the unobstructed views, surrounded by gently lapping waves.

Stunning suites of various sizes, many with a hot tub or pool, are complemented by a range of two- and three-bedroom villas. Situated above a private sandy beach, this gorgeous resort enjoys a panoramic vista in every direction and nothing is too much trouble for the highly attentive staff. A stay at Cap Maison is just like home, but even better.

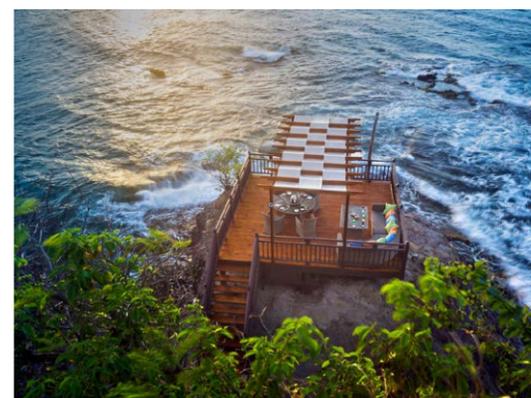
Sugar Beach
7 nights from £2,979 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Cap Maison
7 nights from £2,095 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

One of our favourite family-orientated resorts on the island is **Windjammer Landing**, an excellent all-inclusive four-star hotel at a reasonable price. There is so much to do here that every day will be jampacked with fun, so be sure to check out the blackboard in reception for the ever-changing list of activities, from beach cricket and coconut bowling to pizza parties, tube rides, yoga and aquafit.

The six swimming pools and stunning sandy bay are the perfect setting to unwind, or just hang out at your villa away from the hustle and bustle of the main resort. Dotted up the hillside or hugging the beach, the villas here have a choice of one, two, three or four bedrooms, and all are perfectly positioned for a sunset view.

Culinary choices range from fine dining to casual meals, with four restaurant locations and menu choices to suit all palates. You can also order in-villa



room service or celebrate in style with a private dining experience. Jammers Bar is the place to go if you want a quick bite throughout the day, or a drink in the evening overlooking the turquoise Caribbean Sea. If you like creamy cocktails, be sure to try the divine Coco Loco!

If you're looking for something extra special from your stay in St Lucia, the all-inclusive boutique resort at **East Winds** could be for you. Situated in twelve acres of tropical gardens, right on Labrelotte Bay, this charming property can even be hired in its entirety for large parties, groups of friends or a big celebration. Just thirty cottage-style suites and an oceanfront beach house are tucked away in the trees, surrounded by exotic bird life and stunning flora.

Enjoy the undivided attention of the discreet and considerate staff,

many of whom have worked at East Winds for more than a decade. Every aspect of your stay is imbued with love and care, from the organic fruit and vegetables grown in the kitchen garden, to the medicinal plants and herbs used in the all-natural treatments at the Garden Spa. The smallest details of your stay can be tailored to your needs – even your choice of pillow!

If you're planning a wedding, celebrating an anniversary or marking a major milestone in 2022, call us to find out more about a stay at East Winds. This is one holiday destination you'll never forget.

Windjammer Landing
7 nights from £1,219 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

East Winds
7 nights from £2,102 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022



Unmissable BAJAN BEACH RESORTS

Travel round Barbados and you could be forgiven for feeling right at home, thanks to a distinctly British influence dating back to colonial times (it's known as the Kent of the Caribbean).

That said, the appropriately named 'platinum' west coast is somewhat more tropical than our Channel coastline, with a temperate year-round climate. A short walk from vibrant Speightstown you'll find **Saint Peter's Bay**, a resort of beautiful three-, four- and five-bedroom villas and apartments, perfect for multigenerational families. The atmosphere is low key and exclusive, so if you are looking for a fun but relaxing family escape, this would be top of our list.

Every balcony and terrace has a view of the white-sand beach, but for a change of scene there's always the option of a plush sun lounger by the lagoon-style swimming pool. There's a great selection of watersports available, from paddle boarding to kayaking, but one activity not to be missed is the famous turtle tour. Cruise down the coast in the hotel's speedboat to meet, feed and swim with the turtles, who are extremely friendly!

In addition to the excellent kids' club, restaurant and beach bar, guests also have full access to the sister resort Port Ferdinand, just a short hop away by water

taxi. Enjoy fine dining, luxurious spa treatments and all the water-based fun you can handle at the beach club and marina.

Another enduring favourite is the fabulous all-inclusive **Sea Breeze Beach House**. Offering high quality at a reasonable price, this is a great choice for families or couples seeking a typically Bajan warm welcome, with facilities which are hard to beat.

Vital for an all-inclusive resort, there's an outstanding choice of five restaurants plus four bars, along with three swimming pools and 1,000 feet of glorious white sands and crystal-clear blue Caribbean Sea.

With a kids' club and teen lounge, gym, watersports and in-room spa services there's plenty to keep all ages entertained, but they've cleverly designated some areas adults-only to ensure couples can have a bit of 'me time' too. As they say at Sea Breeze, here it's a case of 'paradise included'!

Situated on the beautiful south coast of Barbados, between Oistin Bay and St Lawrence Gap, Sea Breeze is a good base for exploring the local nightlife and guests can also book a huge range of island activities and excursions via the resort.

Saint Peter's Bay
7 nights from £2,019 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022
Sea Breeze Beach House
7 nights from £1,870 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022



Arguably as famous as its celebrity guests, **Sandy Lane** is a super-luxury resort which is fully deserving of its reputation. Their stated goal is to "deliver a level of excellence...that is unparalleled in the world", which is something this incredible hotel has been doing since 1961.

Play one of the three world-class golf courses, indulge your passion for watersports or have a game of doubles at the tennis centre. Feeling lazy? Book a treatment at the #1 spa in the Caribbean or just enjoy the pristine sands of the private beach.

After a tiring day of sun and relaxation, an evening at Sandy Lane is the ultimate opportunity to unwind. The staff really do go the extra mile here: expert mixologists in the famed Monkey Bar can create a bespoke cocktail from your favoured flavours, then you can head off on a culinary journey courtesy of the four outstanding restaurants with dishes from around the world. Our top recommendation is the unforgettable tuna sashimi.

Needless to say, you'll never sleep better than in your palatial room, suite or villa, complete with marble floors, sumptuous furnishings and luxurious personal touches. Stay at Sandy Lane and live your very best life.

If your idea of a Caribbean holiday is the barefoot luxury of warm, white sand between your toes, then the spectacular beachfront setting of **Fairmont Royal Pavilion** delivers in spades. Built in the style of

a traditional plantation house, every room, suite and villa in this recently renovated five-star hotel faces the ocean.

Aside from the gorgeous location, we love the high standard of service here. A recipient of a British Airways Customer Excellence Award for 2020, Fairmont Royal Pavilion is one of their top-rated hotels for exceptional customer service. There's an extensive menu of complimentary guest services and the staff couldn't be more attentive.

And talking of menus, with options including in-room dining, afternoon tea on the terrace, candlelit dinner on the beach or a fun family picnic, the food here is something to write home about. Other facilities include a pool, jacuzzi, hair salon, children's programme and babysitting services. Located on one of the best beaches in Barbados, this is a luxury retreat for families, friends or couples alike.

As you can tell, beach lovers are spoilt for choice on this beautiful island but, rest assured, we're the experts who can find the perfect resort for you.

Sandy Lane
7 nights from £4,048 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022
Fairmont Royal Pavilion
7 nights from £2,320 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022





Dive into Antigua

There are numerous reasons to visit Antigua – 365 beautiful beaches, the sunniest climate in the Eastern Caribbean, a rich heritage – but its spectacular dive sites and almost unbroken wall of coral reef are among the most persuasive.

Scuba fans should head to **Curtain Bluff** on the south side of the island. Perched between two stunning sandy beaches, this all-inclusive resort offers complimentary diving and a wide range of other sporting activities.

For those looking for a more restful stay, the spacious suites and guest rooms all offer unrivalled views of the beach and coastline, just a few steps from the sand, so a sun-drenched lounge or shady hammock is never far away. Children are well-catered

for too at the excellent kids' club. Gastronomy is a serious business here, with two outstanding restaurants offering imaginative dishes inspired by local and international cuisine. The well-stocked wine cellar is reputed to be the largest in the Caribbean, containing more than 4,000 bottles from around the world.

Still family-owned and with an unrivalled reputation for excellence, Curtain Bluff is a place where lasting memories are made.

Just around the headland you'll find **Carlisle Bay**, another of the island's premiere destinations. Lining a picture-perfect palm-fringed horseshoe beach, with rainforest at the rear, this resort is the epitome of understated luxury. The all-suite oceanfront accommodation is thoughtfully laid

out with separate areas for families. Floor-to-ceiling windows and a subtle colour palette create an instant calm, flooding the stylish interior with light and the gentlest of sea breezes. The informal dress code and quiet professionalism of the staff allow for instant relaxation from the moment you arrive.

As you'd expect, watersports are plentiful, alongside nine tennis courts (tuition available), a yoga pavilion, a private screening room and a library. So, whether you want to dive into a good book or the deep blue ocean, take the plunge at Carlisle Bay.

Curtain Bluff
7 nights from £3,158 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Carlisle Bay
7 nights from £2,380 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

For the independent-minded traveller, **Tamarind Hills** offers something a little different: a holiday home of your wildest dreams. Stay here and live out your desert island fantasy (we have, and it's amazing).

This unique collection of villas and suites on Antigua's west coast is perched on a cliff between two white-sand beaches. When the sun sets, bathing your private infinity pool in a twilight glow, you won't want to be anywhere else.

Choose from a stunning contemporary oceanfront or beachfront villa, with two, three or four bedrooms, a fully-equipped kitchen and bathrooms, private pool and large terrace. The suites have a kitchenette, indoor and outdoor dining spaces, a terrace with panoramic views and, in many cases, a jacuzzi.

There's a full concierge service too, on-hand to meet your every need: excursions, sports, babysitting, in-villa spa treatments, a private chef and much more. Some of the island's best restaurants and entertainment

are within easy reach, including Sheer Rocks restaurant, the famous Dennis's Bar (delicious Sunday suckling pig and Friday beach BBQs), and Jackie O's, a popular cocktail spot. The only problem? Rent a villa at Tamarind Hills and you might never want to go home!

For a slice of authentic Antiguan history, head to the northernmost tip of the island to **Blue Waters Resort and Spa**, one of the original luxury hotels of the Caribbean. Set in seventeen acres of tropical gardens, with three white-sand beaches, plus several freshwater swimming pools, it could hardly be called anything else! Opened in 1960, Blue Waters is still family-owned and has all the sophistication you'd expect from a multi-award-winning destination.

Three restaurants and two bars, as well as some unique private dining options, mean that you'll never go hungry, and there's plenty of opportunity to work

up an appetite playing tennis, golf or practising beachside sunset yoga. Charter the hotel's own fully-crewed 24-foot Axopar motor boat to discover the coastline, enjoy offshore swimming or snorkelling, or make a day of it with a cruise to Great Bird Island.

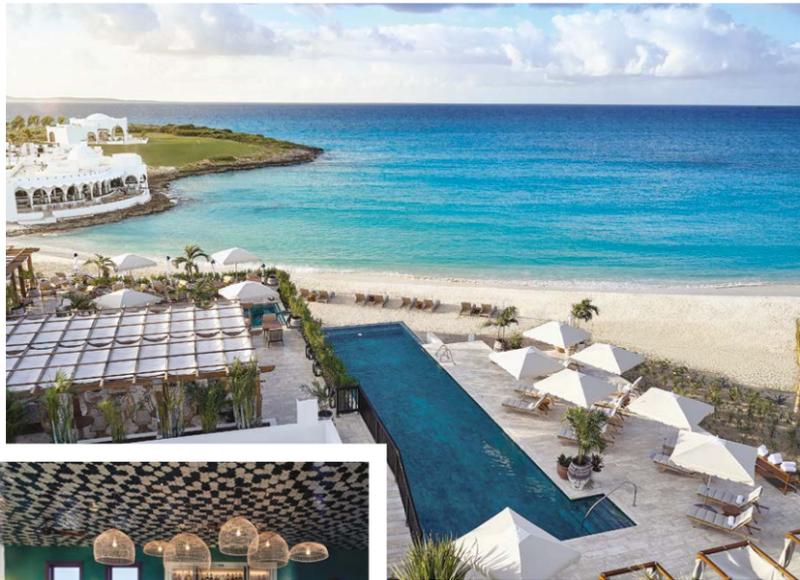
With a range of luxury room types and villas, the very pinnacle are the Cove Suites and Penthouses. Situated slightly away from the rest of the resort, they offer seclusion and sophistication in equal measure and the Cove Concierge will ensure that you'll want for nothing.

Is it any surprise that guests return here time after time?

Tamarind Hills
7 nights from £2,110 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Blue Waters
7 nights from £1,590 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022





Best-kept secrets of the CARIBBEAN

If your dream holiday involves an exotic island paradise, you've come to the right place. We've scoured the Caribbean to find some of the less well-known destinations where you can truly escape.

Belmond Cap Juluca is the ultimate barefoot luxury resort on the small island of **Anguilla**. All the rooms, suites and villas have an uninterrupted sea view right on the shoreline of Maundays Bay, a secluded stretch of pearlescent sands on the southernmost tip of the island. Relax on your private terrace or amble a few paces onto the beach.

Many of the suites and villas have private pools and there's the sociability of the shared infinity pool too, or indulge yourself at the Arawak Spa. And when you get tired of lazing around, why not try sailing, kayaking, scuba diving, windsurfing, water skiing, golf, tennis, basketball or croquet?

Once you've worked up an appetite, the restaurants of Cap Juluca won't

disappoint. From Anguillan and Caribbean classics to the very best Italian flavours, your tastebuds will be dazzled (the tuna tartare is out of this world!). And when the sun goes down, there's no better spot than the chilled out beach bar. Frankly, this could be the very definition of a bucket list destination.

For an even smaller island retreat **Saint Martin** is another dream destination. Shared between the French and Dutch since 1648, the European influence here has a distinct Caribbean twist. **La Samanna** is a boutique hotel in the appropriately-named Baie Longue, an expanse of platinum beach, and is consistently ranked in the region's top ten hotels.

Accommodation comprises deluxe rooms, suites and three- and four-bedroom cottages, many with ocean views and private pools, each with a private terrace. The laidback luxury starts from the moment you step over

the threshold, with the option of a 'just arrived' spa package to ease travellers' tension.

Surrounded by lush gardens, there are numerous places to lounge, from shady hammocks to beachside cabanas. Take a day cruise around the island or just sip Champagne at sunset aboard the resort's own 32ft catamaran.

As you'd expect from the French influence, food is a serious business here. Classic cuisine is on the menu at L'Oursin while casual poolside meals are served at Corail. For something special, guests can experience private dining in La Cave, the candlelit wine cellar, or enjoy exclusive use of the cliff-top gardens of Villas Green.

Belmond Cap Juluca
7 nights from £3,818 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

La Samanna
7 nights from £2,754 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

At the other end of the Windward Islands you'll find gorgeous **Grenada**, the 'Spice Island' of the Caribbean. Smaller than the Isle of Wight, it's packed with natural wonders: rainforest, waterfalls, sandy beaches and the spectacular Levera National Park.

For a luxury home-from-home, **Calabash** has it all. Family-owned, multi-award-winning, this boutique hotel is small but perfectly formed. Here the staff know you by name and you will want for nothing during your stay.

The intimate scale instantly puts you at ease. There are just 30 spacious suites, some with a private pool, and each has a private terrace and gorgeous views of the ocean or gardens. The white sands and warm waters of Prickly Bay are just a few metres away, with all the water-based sports you'd expect, plus scuba diving, sailing, sport fishing and boat excursions. Don't forget to take a trip to the island's

famous underwater sculpture park. Start your day with breakfast delivered to your balcony or served beachside. At lunch The Beach Club covers all the bases from tapas to salads, and in the evening discover the delights of the Rhodes Restaurant, where fresh, seasonal ingredients are served with local flair.

At seven square miles, islands don't come much more boutique than Bequia (pronounced Beck-way) and the **Bequia Beach Hotel** is one of the finest properties on the island.

Set in ten acres of tropical gardens, adjoining the white sands of Friendship Bay, the accommodation comprises luxury rooms, suites, cottages and villas (some on the beach and others nestled in the hills).

The beauty of staying on such a tiny island is the opportunity to explore every inch of it during your stay, but if you

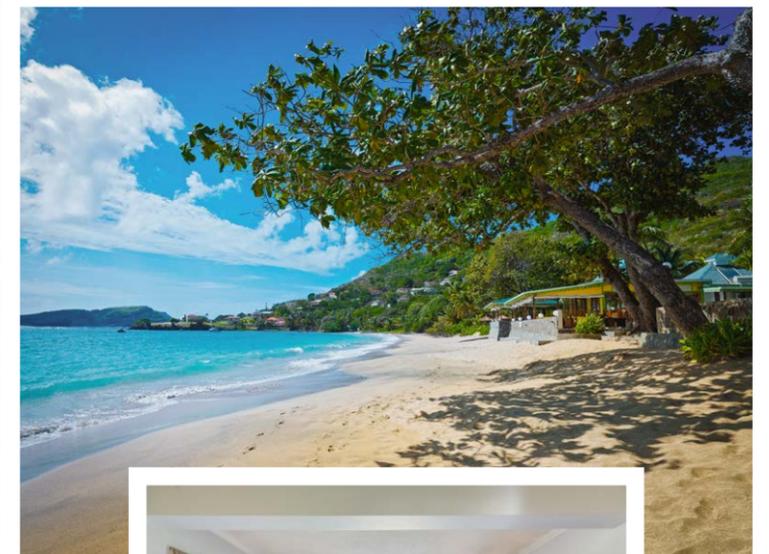
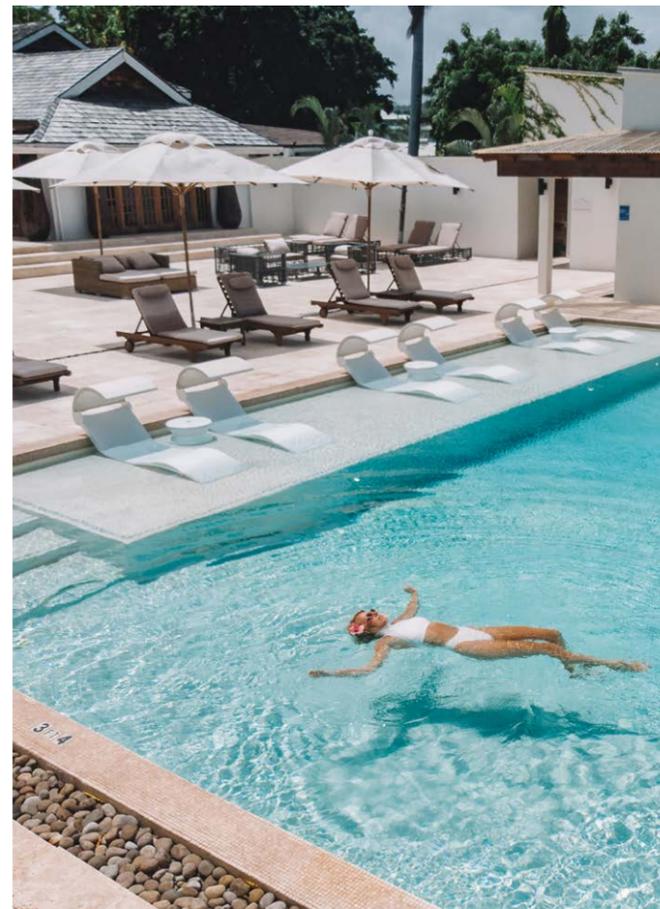
prefer to hang out closer to home, there are plentiful watersports at the private beach, as well as two swimming pools, a spa, fitness centre and kids' club.

Get here by sea from Barbados or St Lucia, or arrive in the hotel's own private plane, Bequia Air. Throughout your stay you'll be treated like a VIP so why not charter the resort's fully-crewed superyacht, the 35m Benetti 'Star of the Sea'? It can accommodate up to twelve guests in six generous en suite cabins.

If you're struggling to choose the right island hideaway for you, allow us to be your Man Friday.

Calabash Grenada
7 nights from £2,175 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Bequia Beach Hotel
7 nights from £1,798 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022





holiday on the **HIGH SEAS**

If you're struggling to choose which of the irresistible destinations of the Caribbean to visit first, perhaps it's worth looking at the problem from a new angle. How about taking a cruise and island-hopping to your heart's content?

Regent Seven Seas Cruises offers dozens of itineraries and departure points include Miami, Bridgetown (Barbados), San Juan (Puerto Rico), Cartagena (Colombia) and New York and there are literally hundreds of land excursions on offer.

The ships themselves are floating palaces, with spacious suites rich in luxurious touches. Every cruise is all-inclusive, giving you the freedom to indulge in the full range of onboard delicacies, from on-deck dining to the poolside grill. And when you're not exploring on land you can enjoy the thrill of the casino and live theatre shows, perfect your culinary skills at a cookery class, attend a lecture, soak up the sun on deck, or book a relaxing spa treatment.

A Regent Seven Seas cruise is an incredible experience not just for the five-star standards, but the opportunity to see so much of this beautiful region. Marvel at the Mayan ruins in Mexico, take a treetop walk through the rainforest canopy in Guadeloupe, stroll the historic streets of San Juan and discover the charms of Old Amsterdam in Curaçao. A cruise brings the entire Caribbean within touching distance.

For singles, couples or groups of voyagers who seek the intimacy of a smaller vessel, **SeaDream Yacht Club** could be the answer. With just 56 staterooms, they offer the perfect balance of informality and luxury. Small enough that the bartender knows your favourite tipples and your waiter remembers your name, there's still ample room onboard to seek out treasured 'me time'.

Gastronomy is an important part of the cruise experience and here the selection is out-of-this-world. In addition to the usual fine dining options you can also select from raw, vegan and organic menus and request sugar- or gluten-free dishes. Alternatively, treat yourself to the incredible Dessert Extravaganza buffet of exquisite puddings.

SeaDream itineraries include access to some of the more intimate, less-travelled ports of the Caribbean. From November until April they take in the delights of Barbados, Grenada, the Grenadines, French West Indies, British Virgin Islands and St Barts. Jost Van Dyke in the British Virgin Islands, for instance, is the venue for the signature Champagne & Caviar Splash™ beach party.

For those wanting to explore closer to home, **Tradewind Voyages** is a fabulous way to sail the Mediterranean Sea. Aboard the Golden Horizon – the largest square-rigged sailing ship in the world – you'll experience the romance and exhilaration of yacht travel at its finest.

With itineraries visiting Spain, France, Italy, Croatia, Malta, Greece, the Canaries and the Balearics, there



are numerous voyages available, taking in the islands and mainland of southern Europe. Spend seven, nine or ten nights at sea and travel through history as you explore stop-offs as varied as Rome, Corsica, Dubrovnik, Venice and Ephesus.

The luxuriously-appointed cabins all enjoy a sea view and many have a private balcony. Larger parties can stay in interconnecting suites, accommodating up to eight guests. As well as the spa, gym, three pools, five bars, two restaurants and a library, there are a host of other activities to enjoy, from paddleboarding and snorkelling to onboard lectures and wine tastings.

This is how to discover the magic of the Mediterranean in style.

Regent Seven Seas
7 nights from £4,125 per person, Miami round trip (Antiguan Allure)
Valid for travel on 5th November 2022

SeaDream
8 nights from £2,740 per person, Athens round trip
Valid for travel on 9th July 2022

Tradewind Voyages
7 nights from £2,645 per person, Barbados round trip
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022



A dreamy day at... *Eagles Palace*

If a luxury family villa in beautiful Halkidiki, Greece, appeals, here's a little taster of our stay at **Eagles Palace**.

As our first post-COVID holiday we were so excited to be there!

9:00am A relaxing stroll to breakfast, where the staff have our table ready in the sunshine.

10:00am Drop two of our girls at 'The Shack' on the beach. They adore the kids' club!

11:00am Peace and quiet at the adults-only beach and a wonderful swim in the stunningly clear sea. Too early for a cocktail? Never!

1:00pm Pick up the girls, who tuck into deconstructed pork gyros while we enjoy shrimp bao buns at Ammos

Beach Bar. Feeling lazy, we order a golf cart straight to our villa.

2:00pm Family fun at our villa's private pool. Proper quality time together.

5:00pm Time to get ready for dinner. We love our spacious, well-equipped villa.

6:45pm Cocktails at sunset – what a view! Live music and space for the kids to explore safely.

7:30pm Authentic Asian cuisine at Washi restaurant. Delicious, and happy to cater for children and dietary needs.

Can't wait to do it all again tomorrow!

Eagles Palace
7 nights from £1,102 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022





Mythical Greece

For centuries Greece has attracted visitors drawn by its natural beauty, ancient culture, culinary delights and friendly people. Easily accessible and with an outstanding choice of mainland and island destinations, we've struggled to select our favourites for you.

According to legend, the Greek goddess Athena created the olive tree, so where better to stay on the idyllic island of Corfu than an 18th Century former olive mill? The aptly-named **Olivar Suites** hotel on the south east coast is the last word in architectural elegance, adjoining the azure waters of the Ionian Sea on Messonghi beach.

Tranquillity and privacy abound, where indoor-outdoor living is second nature as every suite comes with a private pool or sundeck. Let your senses bathe in birdsong and the

scent of the sea, stroll along 200m of sandy beach and end the day with a cocktail among the bougainvillea.

The luxurious pool and spa, gym and beautiful beachfront restaurant are designed with your wellbeing in mind, with every detail taken care of. You can even order a bespoke picnic to enjoy at a secret location. Trust us, this place pours oil on even the most troubled waters.

Heading south to the equally alluring Greek island of Crete, if you look hard enough you'll discover the secluded **Daio's Cove Luxury Resort** and Villas. Book a premium suite or villa at this sought-after property and become a member of the Residents' Club, giving you access to a range of all-inclusive benefits: a dedicated concierge to cater to your every whim,

complimentary meals, free 24-hour room service, signature cocktails and unlimited ice cream for the children.

This five-star resort blends seamlessly with the rugged surroundings of Agios Nikolaos, with uninterrupted views of the deep blue Aegean Sea and exclusive access to the private beach. The onsite spa, fitness centre, tennis courts, swimming pools and kids' club ensure that guests of all ages will feel right at home from the moment they arrive. Each villa and premium suite also has a private pool, so what are you waiting for? Dive in!

Olivar Suites
7 nights from £1,290 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Daio's Cove
7 nights from £2,185 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022



A snapshot of SANTO MARIS OIA

Santorini is famed for its sunsets and **Santo Maris Oia Luxury Suites and Spa** is arguably the best vantage point of all.

Just a few minutes' walk from Oia and nearby Caldera, the resort is spacious yet private. With stunning views and warm weather from April until November, this is a fabulous destination if you want to extend your summer.

Some of the best food on Santorini is served at the award-winning Alios Ilios restaurant while the Akrotos pool bar is perfect for a glass of rosé or a cocktail. A more romantic location would be hard to find, but Santo Maris Oia isn't just for couples. It's ideal for a holiday with friends or family too.

Book a Santo Wellness Junior Suite with private hydromassage pool for the most rejuvenating holiday you'll ever have. Inspired by traditional 'yposkafa' cave-style architecture, these beautiful suites are designed to help you reconnect with nature and your senses. We recommend the Relax & Recharge package, which includes healthy meals, yoga, massage, a guided bike tour of Santorini and even a menu of essential oils for your room diffusers.

Santo Maris Oia is stylish while retaining a strong sense of place: gorgeously Greek with an international standard of sophistication. And the beds are beyond comfortable! Of course, faultless service is a given and the staff's passion for the wellbeing of their guests is palpable.

Santorini is a bucket list destination that commands a premium, but Santo Maris Oia offers perfection worth every penny.

Santo Maris Oia
7 nights from £1,940 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022



The award-winning Alios Ilios restaurant



Santo Wellness Junior Suite

Discover authentic
Cretan luxury

At the northern end of Crete's Mirabello Bay you'll find one of the most sought-after destinations on the island, **St Nicolas Bay Resort and Villas**. Conceived by the owner, a professional architect, this aesthetically-stunning boutique property is perfectly poised above the inviting waters of the Cerulean Sea.

With a wide range of rooms, suites and villas, many with private pools, it's ideal for couples, families or groups of friends. Facilities include a private sandy Blue Flag beach, an infinity pool, a spa, five restaurants, two bars, a fitness centre, kids' club and watersports. Impeccable service, sleek contemporary design and a laid-back atmosphere mean that your stresses will melt away as soon as you step over the threshold.

Recent additions include a coastal jogging trail, open-air gym facilities and yoga pavilion, electric bike hire, children's nature play area and a teen hangout complete with PlayStation, music bar, video wall and table tennis. There is even

an exquisite beachside private chapel available for weddings or vow renewal ceremonies.

The on-site restaurants cater to all tastes and occasions, from candlelit fine dining at Minotaure to organic produce, fresh fish and an open barbecue kitchen at The Greek Kafenion, right at the water's edge.

For larger parties or guests seeking home-from-home accommodation, there is also the option of **Thalassa Villas**, a collection of eight luxury properties situated just a few steps away from the St Nicolas Bay Resort. Guests can enjoy full use of the facilities at St Nicolas while staying in their fully-equipped villa, each with a private pool and uninterrupted sea views.

With either three or four bedrooms, they provide deluxe Cretan-style living in a glorious setting. A personal concierge,

24-hour room service, twice-daily maid visit, spa treatments on your terrace, in-villa dining options and 24/7 professional security ensure that your every need is met.

Discover the charming fishing town of Elounda just a few minutes away, or take a boat trip to nearby Spinalonga (the setting for Victoria Hislop's best-selling novel *The Island*). The bustling town of Agios Nikolaos is also within easy reach and there are plentiful beaches along the coastline. Private excursions to many local attractions are bookable via reception, or get your culture fix at the resort's very own museum and art gallery.

St Nicolas Bay
7 nights from £1,630 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Thalassa Villas
7 nights from £7,043 for a 3 bed villa
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022



Sensational
CYPRUS



Birthplace of the goddess Aphrodite, Cyprus is a little slice of heaven in the eastern Mediterranean. And, with one of the warmest climates in Europe, it's a wonderfully accessible year-round destination. It's no surprise that Brits have been falling in love with the island since the days of Richard the Lionheart.

Derived from the Greek word *Amarantos*, meaning everlasting, the stunning **Amara** hotel in Limassol is true to its name. Stay here and experience never-ending indulgence, from the panoramic 180-degree view of the sea from every room, to the magnificent Michelin-starred restaurants, Nobu Matsuhisa and Giorgio Locatelli.

Amara offers deluxe rooms and suites, as well as one- and two-bedroom seafront cabanas with private pools. Beyond your bedroom there's no shortage of spaces to relax: a luxuriant spa and well-equipped sports centre, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a juice bar and library. Enjoy a cooling cocktail or homemade ice cream at the pool bar or soak up the atmosphere – and the incredible views – in the rooftop bar.

We can see why Amara has been voted a top 30 European Resort in the Conde Nast Traveller Readers' Choice Awards 2021. Is it time you judged for yourself?

Travel west along the coast and you'll find yourself in Paphos, an ancient city with UNESCO World Heritage status. Awaiting you there is the aptly-named **Elysium**, an award-winning five-star hotel that lives up to its heavenly moniker.

Set on a private beach and with extensive sporting facilities (gym, tennis courts, scuba diving, indoor and outdoor pools), this is a fantastic family destination. The kids' club caters for three to twelve-year-olds and there's also an entertainment room for teens. Meanwhile, mum and dad can kick back at the Opium Spa or one of the five exquisite restaurants, two bars or the chic Café Occidental.

There's plenty of choice of accommodation, from superbly-appointed deluxe bedrooms with balconies, to enchanting Cyprian Maisonettes, Royal Luxury Studios and Royal Garden Villas, complete with private pools.

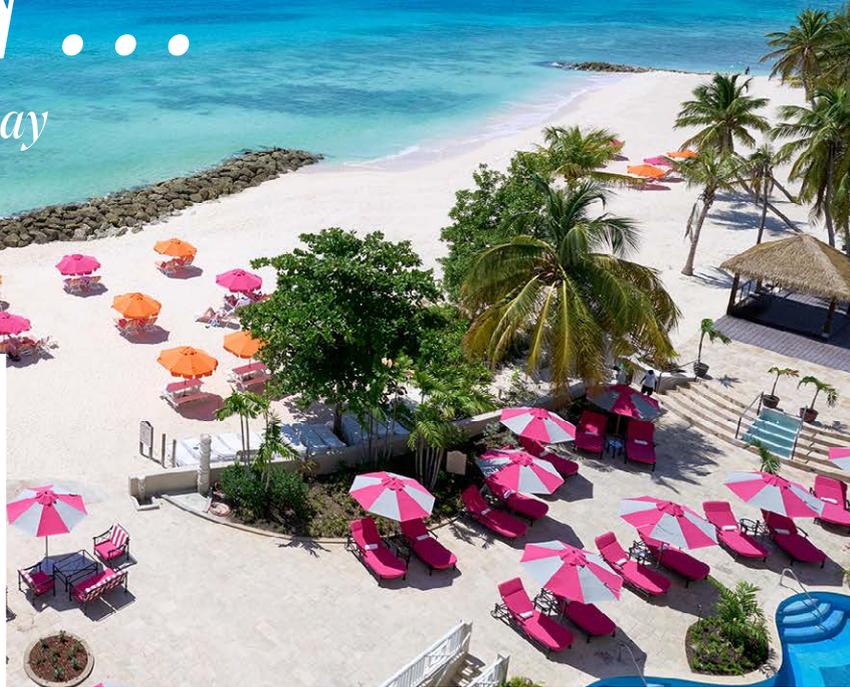
For those wanting to strike out and explore beyond its beautiful beaches, Cyprus has plenty to see and do. The Archaeological Park and numerous castles give a glimpse of the island's history while thrill-seekers can get their fix with karting, kayaking, water parks and horse riding, among other activities. A boat safari is a wonderful way to explore the surrounding waters and coastline.

Amara
7 nights from £1,688 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

Elysium
7 nights from £1,610 per person
Valid for travel between 1st June - 31st July 2022

WIN...

An all-inclusive luxury holiday for two in Barbados



Imagine waking up between crisp, cool bedsheets in a luxury oceanview suite. The warm Bajan breeze carries the sound of the crystal clear Caribbean Sea lapping the white sands just beyond your window.

Enter our competition and this could be you, enjoying a seven-night stay for two people at the **O2 Beach Club & Spa**, a beautiful luxury all-inclusive retreat in Barbados.

Just opened, the newest resort from Ocean Hotels has a cool beach club feel and incredible spa. Located on the south coast of Barbados in the famous St Lawrence Gap area, there's no better way to end a day of relaxation than with a cocktail in the Brisa tapas lounge, soaking up the amazing 270-degree views over Oistins Bay. Choose a different dining option every day of your stay, from barefoot beachside brunch to the finest fusion cuisine.

If ever you get tired of chilling out under the palm trees, why not try the O2 programme of 'Learn to' and 'How to' activities? Guests can sign up to experience the joy of playing steel pan, mixing a Bajan rum punch, or cooking up a Caribbean classic in the kitchen. A fantastic way to discover the local culture!

The stunning accommodation can't be faulted. We love the brand-new adults-only Luxury Oceanfront Junior Suites, some of which are swim-up, while the Concierge Collection of exquisitely-furnished spacious one- and two-bedroom suites are great for families with teenagers or groups of friends. Guests booking Luxury or Concierge Collection suites also get unlimited access to and exchange dining at sister resort Sea Breeze Beach House.

To enter our prize draw to spend an idyllic week at this fabulous property, just answer this question:

What is the name of Ocean Hotels' newest resort in Barbados?

To enter, scan the QR code below with your smartphone and follow the instructions online. **Best of luck!**



Prize details: 7-night stay at the luxurious O2 Beach Club & Spa in a Luxury Oceanview Junior Suite for 2 adults. All meals, premium drinks and non-motorised water sports are included. Prices include return scheduled economy flights, from Gatwick/Heathrow/Manchester and private airport transfers. Holiday must be taken May 1, 2022/2023 – October 31, 2022/2023. This prize is not transferrable without permission of the management of O2 Beach Club & Spas. Room levy rate is NOT included in the prize. Any other items purchased will be charged at checkout.