

# The Ultimate Caribbean

**INSIDE**

7 Family Resorts for Kids of Every Age.

BY MICHELLE HIGGINS 6

6 Beaches to See Before You Die.

BY JEREMY W. PETERS 4

5 Specialty Hotels New This Season.

BY ELAINE GLUSAC 3

**AND**

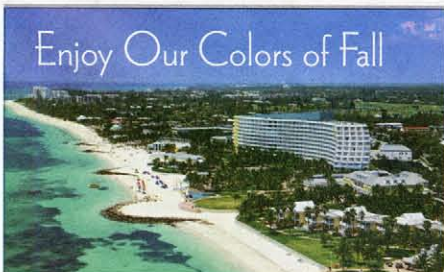
1 Man on His Own Private Island.

BY DAVID CARR 8

**PLUS**

Luxury Villas From \$1,500 to \$74,000 a Night, Action Adventures And a Frugal Traveler's Where-to-Go Guide.

Off Little Deadman's Cay, an uninhabited private island where he stayed for a week, David Carr takes a break from being on land.



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## THE CARIBBEAN LUXURY

## Your Own No-Fly Zone? If Price Is No Object

By MICHELLE HIGGINS

When it comes to luxury in the Caribbean, there is no shortage of offerings.

Want a butler for your beachfront room? Done. Need a place to park your megayacht? No problem. How about a fully staffed estate on your very own private island? Take your pick.

Yes, the sluggish economy took a toll on the lower end of the up-

scale market, with mere \$500-a-night resorts like Rosewood's Caneel Bay on St. John and Little Dix Bay on Virgin Gorda effectively cutting rates last year with five-nights-for-four promotions. But travel agents who cater to the wealthy say there was little impact on those coveted haunts with uniquely decadent offerings like gilded bathrooms (see below) that send prices into the stratosphere.

"The clients are around for that kind of property," said Bill Fischer, a New York travel agent who charges a \$100,000 member-

ship fee for his services and a \$25,000 annual retainer. "This client wants the best accommodations and is willing to spend to obtain those accommodations."

Whether you have the means or just the aspirations, here is a sampling of the most over-the-top Caribbean escapes. Rates are per night for the high season, which begins in mid-November for most resorts, not including the holidays, when prices are often higher.



\$74,300

## ◀ Calivigny Island

**WHERE:** Off the coast of Grenada  
**WHAT YOU GET:** Your very own 81-acre Caribbean island with six sandy beaches. The fully staffed 13,000-square-foot "beach house" includes 10 suites — each with its own entrance — and is furnished with custom-designed pieces by Oscar de la Renta. There are tennis courts, billiards, a heated freshwater swimming pool with a swim-up bar, a wine cellar and a portable outdoor movie screen for films under the stars.

**OUTRAGEOUS AMENITY:** A 173-foot sailing yacht, Atmosphere, which sleeps 12 people, is moored at the dock. A seven-day charter costs an additional 220,000 euros a week. Information: lacurveillas.com  
*(Price has been converted from euros.)*

\$24,200

## The Sanctuary ▶

**WHERE:** Parrot Cay on a private island in the Turks and Caicos

**WHAT YOU GET:** Bragging rights. Donna Karan owns both four-bedroom homes that make up the Sanctuary. Each two-story house features a second-floor master bedroom with 360-degree ocean views and its own infinity pool. A chef and two butlers are also part of the package.

**OUTRAGEOUS AMENITY:** Rooms are decorated with eclectic pieces Ms. Karan has collected on her travels through Africa and Asia. Information: parrotcay.com.bz



LEUA PHOTO

\$20,300

## Villa Rockstar ▶

**WHERE:** Eden Rock, St. Bart's  
**WHAT YOU GET:** A circular bathroom tiled in pure white gold; four suites with deep-soaking tubs; a butler; a Land Rover and Mini Cooper in the garage; two extra chefs for your entourage or staff; 10-foot walls around the estate for privacy; a pool table, gym, swimming pool and bar.

**OUTRAGEOUS AMENITY:** Your very own recording studio. edenrockhotel.com  
*(Price has been converted from euros.)*



\$11,000

## Falcon's Nest Villa ▶

**WHERE:** Peter Island Resort & Spa in the British Virgin Islands

**WHAT YOU GET:** A six-bedroom, 22,000-square-foot villa atop a private bluff overlooking the Caribbean. The "nest," as it has become known, comes with a private chef, housekeeper and driver. There is a couple's massage room, a gym, a suite for your nanny and a 4,000-square-foot patio with a two-tiered deck, waterfall and infinity pool.

**OUTRAGEOUS AMENITY:** Celebrity guests who want to keep the paparazzi at bay can request a no-fly zone above the resort. (The British Virgin Islands government has the final word on this one, but the no-fly zone is instituted about four times a year, according to the resort.) Information: peterisland.com



\$5,700

## ◀ Shogun

**WHERE:** Mustique, a private island in the Grenadines

**WHAT YOU GET:** A five-acre estate with a five-bedroom house and two adjacent two-bedroom cottages perched on a hilltop 300 feet above Britannia Bay. Designed around a koi pond, the main house is made up of Japanese-style pavilions flanked by a crescent swimming pool. A staff of six, including a chef and butler, is included.

**OUTRAGEOUS AMENITY:** A private one-hole, nine-tee golf course. Information: mustique-island.com



\$3,500

## Viceroy Villa ▶

**WHERE:** Viceroy Anguilla

**WHAT YOU GET:** A four-bedroom villa on a bluff, overlooking Barnes Bay; plush interiors by the designer Kelly Wearstler; silver travertine outdoor showers with rain-head faucets and custom benches; a dedicated "lifestyle assistant" to handle special requests, like stocking the fridge or booking a private chef; a wine chiller and a Nespresso machine. Villa guests also have priority status for the resort's spa, restaurant, lounge and pool cabana reservations.

**OUTRAGEOUS AMENITY:** A private pool and sun deck you don't have to share with other guests. Information: viceroyhotelsandresorts.com



\$1,500

## Jumby Bay Courtyard Suite ▶

**WHERE:** A Rosewood Resort on a private island off the coast of Antigua

**WHAT YOU GET:** One of 15 beachside suites with vaulted ceilings and a sitting area that opens to the bedrooms. There are two resort pools including an oceanfront infinity pool, three tennis courts, snorkeling gear, kayaks, Sunfish sailboats, a putting green and croquet lawn. Rates include meals, afternoon tea and cocktails.

**OUTRAGEOUS AMENITY:** AI fresco bathrooms featuring rainshowers and deep-soaking tubs in a private garden. Information: jumbybayresort.com