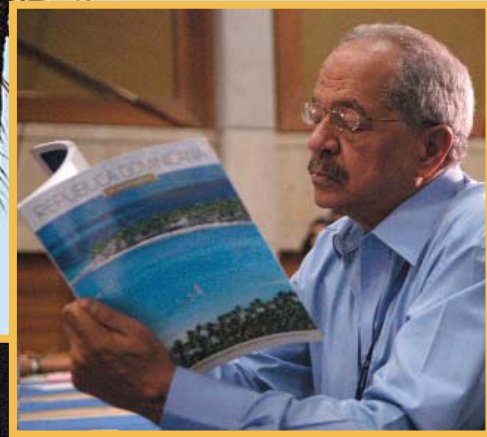


# DATE 2007 – *Showcases the Number One Tourist Destination in the Caribbean*



# CARIBBEAN

TRAVEL WORLD NEWS - SECTION TWO - JUNE 2007



## Experience the Caribbean Luxury renaissance

**Sanctuary Cap Cana Golf & Spa** is located in the easternmost part of the Dominican Republic, in Cap Cana: *the world's new great destination*.

The Hotel's multifunctional hall is equipped for conferences, meetings and banquets of up to 500 attendees.

A number of smaller meeting and function rooms are also available, as are secretarial services and a business center which ensure seamless events.

Among its many amenities the Hotel offers a private beach, access to Cap Cana's Punta Espada 18 hole Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course, deep sea fishing, private boats, water sports, 5 pools, a spa, a casino club, specialty shops, boutiques and heliport service.

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# The Dominican Annual Tourism Exchange Deals a Strong Hand

DATE 2007 showcases the number one tourist destination in the Caribbean.

BY D. O. CHRISTIAN RIEGER IV

The eighth Dominican Annual Tourism Exchange (DATE), the Dominican Republic's most attended tourism trade show, met between April 12th and 14th. It is hosted by ASONAHORES, the country's hotel and restaurant association. Its partner in this effort is the Caribbean Hotel Association.

150 international wholesalers and tour operators and 283 hotel companies, tour operators, condominiums organizations and tourism support activities were represented at the Barcelo Convention Center at the Punta Cana Barcelo resort. Punta Cana is now the number one tourist destination in the Caribbean. And, according to the World Tourism Organization, the Dominican Republic has edged out Puerto Rico as the Caribbean's top tourism destination. The three-day session concluded with a record 1,367 confirmed deals between the suppliers and buyers, 87 more than last year's 1,280.

ASONAHORES is the private sector backbone of the rapidly increasing Dominican tourism industry. It has 120 hotel members, with 33,377 rooms that represent 70% of the

national tourism inventory. It also has 45 restaurants and 189 allied members that supply goods and services to the restaurant and hotel establishments. It handles significant roles with private and public institutions that are interested in highlighting the importance of tourism on the economic and social aspects of the country.

Two Million Tourists Expected  
The opening dinner and welcoming speeches of DATE was at the Cap Cana Resort and Spa.

In his opening ceremonies speech, Luis Lopez, head of ASONAHORES, said "... the country's tourist sector is doing well because of the diversification of the hotel industry, the services it offers, and investment in tourism infrastructure."



FELIX JIMENEZ  
MINISTER OF TOURISM

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



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## DATE FROM PAGE 3

Lopez also pointed out that the DR was the leading golf tourism destination in the Caribbean in 2006 and that new golf courses under construction would consolidate this position. Ernesto Veloz, the president of the local hoteliers association, said that the area currently offers seven golf courses and another three are due to open this year. Veloz stressed that in 2008 there will be 10 courses open to visitors and in 2009 there will be 13 courses. The region now offers 24,703 rooms in 49 hotels, and another 2,900 rooms are under construction. Altogether, two million visitors are expected in Punta Cana this year.

Bill and Hillary Clinton regularly visit the Punta Cana area. This Easter was their seventh visit to the DR since he left office. At their recent visit, the Clintons came with several friends, including Alan Greenspan and his wife. Even the governor of Puerto Rico spent Easter Week in the Dominican Republic. The DR must be doing something right.

## What's Hot in the DR

Caliente Caribe Resort and Spa was a first-time attendee at DATE. It is a 126-room, all-inclusive, clothing optional resort on the north coast, slightly east of Cabarete and adjacent to Playa Grande, the last golf course designed by Robert Trent Jones. The operative words are clothing optional, not tacky nudist camp. And for good reason, for most of the human race, clothing should not be an option. The resort looks as good as any high-end resort, which is why they bill themselves as luxury.

While most resorts ask for "appropriate" dress for dinner, that too is optional. According to Steven Dorsey, the director of marketing and development, travel agents are responding well to the product. One of the main reasons is "they know there is a clientele out there that wants to go to the Caribbean and go skinny-dipping." All rooms face the ocean and the rates range from \$350 to \$480 p/p/do from rooms to villas.

Tortuga Bay is on the 15,000 acre property of the Punta Cana resort. It consists of 15 luxury beach-front, golf view (over the P. Dye golf course) or ocean view villas. This is the place for clients who want to unwind in pampered, private, five-star accommodations.

The villas can be booked in their entirety or they can be divided into one, two and three bedroom units so as to accommodate any size family. All units are designed by Oscar de la Renta and have up-to-date amenities like plasma TVs and DVD player's. Each pair of villas has a manager, and meals can be brought to the units from the property's kitchens.

Although these are certainly salient features, it has the added advantage of being five minutes from the Punta Cana airport. And because the Punta Cana Resort owns the airport, airplanes are not allowed to fly over the property, so peace and quiet to listen to the wind and waves is pretty much assured. The resort has its own welcoming center at the airport from which arriving passengers are privately whisked



The sales staff at Ocean Hotels, DATE 2007 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic: Virgilio Acosta, reservations manager, Chantall Godina, sales executive, Efrain Alvarado, sales manager & group incentives, Anna Juanola, sales manager.

through customs and immigration. No long lines.

Consider a romantic get-away in an ocean view junior suite based on double occupancy for 7 nights — \$3,950.

The long-awaited opening of Sanctuary Cap Cana happens this summer. They have already been training their staff for several months at a cost of several million dollars. It is unusual to train a hotel staff long before an opening due to the cost. Karina Arguello, sales manager for the United States and Canada, says they want to open with a staff so well-trained and accustomed to the surroundings that when the customers arrive on opening day, they will not know the resort just opened.

Additionally, the renowned French chef, Jacques Le Divillec, whose restaurant in Paris has two stars from Michelin, will be opening a restaurant there. Michelin describes a two-star restaurant as one "worth the detour."

Ocean Hotels was there pitching their uniqueness. Their two resort properties, Ocean Blue and Ocean Bavaro with 1040 rooms altogether, are five minutes away from each other at the eastern end of the island. Success lies in details and their details lie in different offerings than other resorts. Each has a coffee shop, serving regular Dominican coffees, espresso, and Dominican pastries — this is included in the all-inclusive price. It is a very popular alternative to the bars and alcoholic beverages. Ocean Blue is the only resort in the Caribbean with a bowling alley.

Amhsa Marina Hotels and Resorts announced the addition of 150 rooms to its Club at Gran Paradise resort in Bavaro, which will make it 378. An additional pool will be built and an additional three bars, a casino, shopping area and new gardens.

In Las Galeras, Samana, it will add another 230 rooms at its Casa Marina Bay in this newly expanding tourism area. The expansion will take the property to 564 rooms. Improvements will also be made to the Casa Marina Beach Reef and Casa Marina Beach so as to raise them to four star properties.

Excellence Punta Cana where excellence is not just an adjective, but the resort's name. It is always smart to have a

business name designed so a potential customer has an idea of what you do. In this case, "excellence" gives us a clue that they are at the top of the line. This is yet another fine example of the high-end resort values in the Dominican Republic.

It is a resort that is planned for vacationers to get away from it all, and with some people, that means taking time off from the kids. This fits that bill by being for adults only and all-inclusive. And it is all suite. — 252 of them. Part of them are in The Excellent Club section.

An important perk, and many Dominican resorts should emulate this, is that no reservations are needed for any dining room. A smart touch on the management's part since people on vacation like to exercise spontaneity. Reservations are required in most Dominican resorts in dining rooms other than the buffets. Just whose vacation is this, anyway? There is a not-to-be-missed option of dinner for two, alone on the beach, at \$150.00 additional — mucho romantic.

### Bring on the Games

An oddity to the Dominican tourism landscape is opening this summer in the form of an independent casino, Casino Dominicus. An oddity, because it is the rare independent gaming house. The rest are part of a hotel or resort.

It is located between La Romana and Bayahibe and will feature a players club and the highest limits in the nation. There will be 23 table games and \$5 and \$10 high-paying slot ma-

chines. Additionally, based on casino play, patrons can get free rooms at nearby resorts, meals and airfare. It will also have a 1000 seat theater for local and international acts, two restaurants and stores for patrons to spend their winnings. Continuous nightly shuttle service will be offered to nearby resorts such as Casa del Mar, Casa de Campo, Gran Dominicus and others.

**Dominican Republic National Hotel & Restaurant Association (ASONAHORES),**  
**asonahores@codetel.net.do, www.drhotels.com**

### FLYING HIGH WITH HELIDOSA

There are quite a few luxury hotels in the Punta Cana resort area like Sivory and Excellence Punta Cana. These are about 50 minutes away from the Punta Cana Airport by car. Such establishments recommend using helicopter transportation to make the transfer speedier and more pleasant. The flight to the hotels doubles as a sightseeing trip over the spectacular land and seascape of the eastern end of the Dominican Republic. Sivory clientele generally fly with Helidosa, founded 1992, and now the largest helicopter flight business in the Dominican Republic. Transportation per person, one way, is about \$150, prices can change without notice due to gas price fluctuations. Helicopter tours are also available from \$60 to \$130 per person. Helidosa, [reservacion@helidosa.com](mailto:reservacion@helidosa.com)



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## AROMA SENSATION PACKAGE AVAILABLE AT SUN VILLAGE RESORT & SPA COFRESI



The Spa at Sun Village Resort promises to provide excellent quality spa treatments and salon services, using the finest quality spa care products. It is their goal to maintain great relationships with guests and to be a primary reason to visit the Resort.

The Caribbean's newest Spa is located at the Sun Village Resort & Spa Cofresi on the north shore of the Dominican Republic. This 17,000 square foot spa features seven treatment rooms, a full service hair salon, two massage pedicure chairs, two manicure stations, a fitness center, men's and ladies' dressing rooms with steam baths, hot tubs, and private lockers, two outdoor Cabanas, a one of a kind outdoor bamboo shower, swimming pool and a 10 person outdoor hot tub. Herbal tea, smoothies, juices, bottled water and light snacks are available in the relaxation lounge and in the Asian inspired garden.

For a limited time, guests can enjoy the new Aroma Sensation Package during their stay at Sun Village Resort & Spa Cofresi. The new Aroma Sensation Package includes Aromatherapy Body Salt Glow, Aromatherapy Massage, and a deep cleansing facial. This package is available for singles and couples.

Sun Village Resort & Spa Cofresi,  
888-446-4695, [reservations@sunvillageresorts.com](mailto:reservations@sunvillageresorts.com),  
[www.sunvillagebeachresort.com](http://www.sunvillagebeachresort.com)

## STARZ RESORTS LAUNCHES NEW RESIDENCES CONCEPT IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Starz Resorts, a Dominican Republic based Hospitality Service Group founded in 1999 by its present President & CEO, Ian Schembri-Sant, is once again raising the bar in the hospitality industry in the Dominican Republic with their new projects, The Victorian Residences in Sosua and The Cabarete Bay Residences in Cabarete. Starz was the first group to introduce the Boutique Hotel concept in the North Coast of the island. Also, Starz raised the bar in the all inclusive concept with defining what the four-star all inclusive resorts should have as a standard in food, beverage and services. The new projects introduced by Starz have a fusion concept between residences and a resort's services and amenities. They offer a combination of ultra luxury apartments with professional kitchens, state-of-the-art bathrooms, infinity pools, and ocean and beach views without the hassles that usually

come with a second home.

A second home ownership can only be truly leisurely if someone else is handling the "behind-the-scenes" hassles. At Starz Residences, their professional staff handles every detail. Their 24/7 concierge service manages all special requests, from arranging dinner reservations to reserving a flight. Valets take care of grocery and shopping deliveries, plus anything else that comes up. And the Caribbean living amenities at Starz Residences include, among other things, an exercise fitness studio, elegant changing rooms, sauna, Turkish bath, aqua tonic, algae baths, and massage rooms. Starz Resorts, [www.starzresorts.com](http://www.starzresorts.com)

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: A ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL HONEYMOON DESTINATION

To honeymooning couples, the choice of travel destination is equally important as each intricate detail of the wedding. The Dominican Republic (DR) boasts one of the most diverse landscapes in the Caribbean that is complemented by a wide variety of price points, styles and amenities, resulting in the perfect ingredients for a once-in-a-lifetime romantic getaway.

Perhaps the most attractive aspect, however, is the DR's endless range of cost options – both for those on a budget as well as those looking to honeymoon in luxury.

The East Coast features one of the longest stretches of beach in the Caribbean boasting a variety of spectacular resorts, from lavish boutiques to expansive all-inclusives. The area also satisfies the appetite of golf lovers with its assortment of courses, all designed by highly regarded golf architects. And, many of the resorts, specifically in Punta Cana, La Romana and Bavaro, feature world-class spas.

On the North Coast, the surfer town of Cabarete entertains couples striving for a laid-back yet energetic vibe complete with surfing, kiteboarding, windsurfing and beach-side nightlife. The Playa Dorada complex in Puerto Plata features a long list of all-inclusives, a luxury boutique hotel, restaurants and shops, providing a truly inclusive experience to couples. Those seeking dolphin and sea lion interaction can head to Ocean World, a large marine park in Puerto Plata which also features a casino complete with Vegas-style shows and fabulous nightlife.

The Northeast Coast takes visitors to the "off the beaten path" Samana peninsula to interact with whales, waterfalls, coconut-covered mountains and secluded, unspoiled beaches. Several gorgeous, intimate resorts are also available in the area. This is a romantic and less-populated destination where couples will feel like they've escaped from mainstream life.

The South Central Coast is home to the DR's capital of Santo Domingo. This area boasts a metropolitan flare yet has incredible historical charm. Here couples experience history by walking the 16th century cobblestone streets of the Colonial Zone. This cultural area features archeological sites and art museums along with ancient cathedrals and religious structures dating back to 1508 A.D. Santo Domingo's new Hard Rock Café is an excellent dinner and souvenir stop.

Dominican Republic, [www.godomincanrepublic.com](http://www.godomincanrepublic.com)

## FIFTH NIGHT FREE AT MONTEPELIER PLANTATION INN

Montpelier Plantation Inn on Nevis is offering a new 5th Night Free Summer Special.

With this special, guests will enjoy one complimentary night including breakfast and afternoon tea "on the house" when booking a stay of at least four nights.

This summer special is valid May 1 through October 31, 2007 and valid on new bookings only. Room rates begin at \$380 from May 1-31, 2007 and \$280 from June 1-October 31, 2007.

Known for its quiet elegance, refined charm and personal service, Montpelier Plantation Inn is a secluded retreat catering to discerning travelers. One of the newest members of Relais & Chateaux, this intimate and charming hideaway is owned and managed by the Hoffman family. Years of living in Europe, Asia, Bahamas, America and experiencing various cultures and traditions have led the Hoffmans to create a refined yet relaxed atmosphere.

Montpelier offers 17 well appointed guestrooms including one suite, each with canopy or four-poster beds and private verandas affording views of the Caribbean Sea and surrounding countryside. There are no televisions, radios or clocks in the guestrooms, and fresh fruit and flowers are provided in-room daily.

The resort's professional and attentive staff ensures that guests are well cared for.

Guests can spend their days enjoying Montpelier's cool hillside setting with the 60-foot mosaic-tiled pool, manicured gar-

dens, reading gazebo, tennis court and complimentary afternoon tea, or Montpelier by the Sea, the hotel's private two-acre beach. A host of other activities can be arranged.

In the evening guests can choose between Montpelier's two gourmet restaurants: The AAA Four Diamond Terrace restaurant, overlooking Charlestown and nearby St. Kitts, and The Mill, a small and intimate restaurant located in the plantation's original 18th century sugar mill. Prior to dinner each evening guests are invited to gather in the Great Room for canapés, drinks and comfortable conversation.

In 2005 Montpelier Plantation Inn was rated the number two luxury hotel in the Caribbean in the 2005 Trip Advisor Travellers' Choice Awards. It was also ranked #33 in the Top 100 Luxury – World list.

Montpelier Plantation Inn, 869-469-3462, [info@montpeliernevis.com](mailto:info@montpeliernevis.com), [www.montpeliernevis.com](http://www.montpeliernevis.com)

## WIMCO ANNOUNCES VILLA RATES ON ST. BARTS FOR FAMILIES

Wimco Villas offers a selection of villas in St. Barts for families and friends this summer at greatly reduced prices. St. Barts is the perfect island for summer as well as winter holidays.

Summer may be the Caribbean's 'low' season but the weather is still perfect and villas on St Barts are available for a fraction of high season prices.

The very private Villa AUD in Mont Jean has a spacious wooden terrace with ocean

views, as well as a shaded side terrace and brand new teak deck by the infinity pool. With its modern open-plan living room and four separate areas for dining inside and outside, families will love the space and the comfort of this well-equipped villa. Wimco Villas offers Villa AUD at a two or three bedroom rate from \$5,500 per week, including daily maid service.

Villa Ever Sail is a three-bedroom villa set high above Grand Cul de Sac. This property has plenty of space, hand-crafted teak beds, and a relaxed feel, and children will love the nautically themed bathrooms with their round port-hole windows and the mosaic pictures in the swimming pool. Wimco Villas offer Villa Ever Sail as a one, two or three bedroom rate from \$4,200 per week, including daily maid service.

Positioned on the St Jean Hillside, Villa Mystic enjoys views of the bay of St Jean and Eden Rock.

Elegantly furnished, with an infinity pool and large teak dining table that will seat 12, this five bedroom villa is perfect for large groups and entertaining. Wimco Villas offers Villa Mystic at one to five bedroom rates from \$5,500 per week, including daily maid service. Villa Mystic has a minimum age policy; children must be 10 years old.

Although many villas have already been booked, Wimco Villas still have a selection of one, two, and three bedroom villas available for Christmas 2007. For those booking now, Wimco Villas will offer the same villa each year to their clients – starting a new Christmas tradition.

Wimco Villas, 800-932-3222, [www.wimco.com](http://www.wimco.com)

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## SAN JUAN MARRIOTT RECEIVES QUALITY AWARD FROM PUERTO RICO TOURISM COMPANY



The Puerto Rico Tourism Company (PRTC) held their third annual Quality Awards to honor the best in travel and tourism in the region. The San Juan Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino was a recipient of the "Maintenance Consistency Award" in the four-star hotel category.

The award is given to hotels that maintain excellent hotel conditions for the last two years. San Juan Marriott's General Manager, Hans Rohrbein, was at the event to accept the award on the hotel's behalf.

"Consistency is key in the business, especially while flying the Marriott flag on our hotel. With a brand name comes a certain level of expectation and service that we maintain for our guests. Our loyal clientele know what to expect when they make their reservations with us and we don't disappoint," commented Rohrbein. "We appreciate the recognition from the Puerto Rico Tourism Company and commend their efforts to raise the standards in the tourism industry. It was a memorable evening and a nice opportunity to intermingle and acknowledge hospitality colleagues for their jobs well done as well."

More than 200 hotels, inns and restaurants were evaluated by the tourism agency to ensure they maintained a quality index of 85 percent or more to qualify for the award and winners were chosen in one, two, three and four-star categories for each award.

Actress Cordelia Godez and artist Antonio

Martorel hosted the awards event, which was held at the Puerto Rico Convention Center. Special guest presenters handed out the awards, which are designed in the shape of a 'Q' and created by local artist Hector Irizarry.

The San Juan Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino, which recently completed a \$35 million renovation, is located five miles from the airport with immediate access to San Juan's shopping, dining, adventure, nightlife, historical and cultural landmarks. The San Juan Marriott provides a relaxing environment, luxurious guest rooms and suites, full casino, spa, two swimming pools, meeting facilities, six dining options and a lobby lounge for nighttime entertainment.

The San Juan Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino, 800-464-5005, [marriott.com](http://marriott.com)

## AMERICAN AIRLINES INTRODUCES NON-STOP FLIGHT FROM NEW YORK TO ST. KITTS

The St. Kitts Tourism Authority has announced that American Airlines will be commencing a new flight from New York's JFK International Airport to St. Kitts, the island's first from this region. The flight will operate twice weekly, on Wednesdays and Sundays, beginning on November 18, 2007.

American Airlines flight #2051 will depart JFK at 10:45 a.m. arriving into St. Kitts at 3:55 p.m.

The return flight #2052 will depart St. Kitts at 5:05 p.m. arriving into JFK at 8:30 p.m. American Airlines will use a 188 seat, 757-200 aircraft with 22 first class seats and 166 economy seats for these flights.

"This is a key step forward in developing our island's tourism industry," said Richard O. "Ricky" Skerritt, Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism, Sports & Culture for the Government of St. Kitts & Nevis. "The new flight from American Airlines enables us to better access the affluent tourism market of the Northeast U.S., making it easier and faster for travelers from that region to get to St. Kitts than ever before. Further, the flights are ideally timed so as to permit the maximum amount

of time on island without requiring travelers to get to the airport too early or arrive home too late."

St. Kitts Tourism Authority,  
800-582-6208, [www.stkitts-tourism.com](http://www.stkitts-tourism.com)

## CHEAPCARIBBEAN.COM LAUNCHES RESORTFINDER

Finding the right resort in Bermuda, the Caribbean, or Mexico for clients can be a frustrating and time consuming job for most agents. But now agents can find resorts with exactly the amenities clients want, in the destinations they prefer, and at the ratings level they desire, with just one click of the mouse using ResortFinder, CheapCaribbean.com's newest technology feature.

Agents registered with CheapCaribbean.com receive a 15 percent commission when booking their clients online.

"It always drove me crazy searching for resorts and vacation packages on other websites when I was asked questions right away like, 'Where do you want to go?'," stated CheapCaribbean.com President and Founder, Jim Hobbs. "I would look at a list of 35 islands and destinations and have no idea which to choose. Though agents know many of the resorts in the region like the back of their hand, most can still spend a considerable amount of research time in order to match their clients with a resort that provides all their preferences."

ResortFinder gives the agent several resort options to present to their client based on the client's selections in a variety of criteria, including proximity to the beach, pool swim up bar, Kids club, etc. along with vacation interests such as family friendly, honeymoon, spa and wellness and resort ratings, reviews, locations, and meal plans, among others.

ResortFinder is the latest "Finder Filtering" tool to be launched by CheapCaribbean.com, which does all of its own technology with a team of over 20 programmers. Last year it launched CheapFinder, which allows agents to easily find affordable vacation deals for their clients on and around requested dates.

CheapCaribbean.com,  
[www.cheapcaribbean.com](http://www.cheapcaribbean.com)

## NEW TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR BUSINESS CONDUCTED IN CURACAO

As of Thursday, March 22, 2007, the U.S. and Netherlands Antilles tax information exchange agreement (TIEA) was put into action. The new initiatives apply new standards for U.S. taxpayers' concerning business and convention expenses based in Curacao. This tax information exchange agreement allows U.S. taxpayers to claim a tax deduction for expenses associated with a convention held in the Netherlands Antilles to the same extent as a convention held in the United States.

There are limitations applicable to deductions for expenses associated with foreign conventions; however, with the implementation of this TIEA, the five islands of the Netherlands Antilles are considered part of the North American area. Therefore, expenses incurred while attending conventions, business meetings and seminars in Curacao are allowed deductions according to the same regulations as if it were a U.S. territory. The Netherlands Antilles has committed itself since 2000 to improving transparency and establishing effective exchange information in tax matters. Curacao boasts an eclectic mix of history and culture. Curacao attracts the adventure traveler as well as those looking to unwind and enjoy its perfect climate. American Airlines offers daily flights into Curacao through Miami. Continental Airlines provide weekly service to Curacao through Newark. Curacao Tourist Board, [info@curacao.com](mailto:info@curacao.com), [www.curacao.com](http://www.curacao.com)

## ACCRA BEACH HOTEL & RESORT OPENS NEW WING

The Accra Beach Hotel & Resort, situated along the south coast of Barbados, has opened its new wing of 80 rooms which includes four two-bedroom luxurious Ocean Front Suites and 24 Ocean View Luxury Suites. These ultra-modern suites have a unique architectural élan and include in-room Jacuzzis. This brings the hotel's inventory to a total of 222 rooms. The centerpiece of the lush gardens is a large swimming pool complete with swim-up bar. Overlooking the ocean is the 'Coco Patch' Restaurant, serving Caribbean and

International cuisine. For incentive groups and meetings, the resort boasts four meeting rooms. Additionally the beachfront and landscaped property sets the ideal scene for weddings and receptions. The Accra Beach Hotel & Resort carries a AAA three-diamond rating and has received the 'Hotel of the Year' award from the Barbados Hotel & Tourism Association in 2002 and 2005.

The Accra Beach Hotel & Resort, [www.accrabeachhotel.com](http://www.accrabeachhotel.com)

## RECEIVE HOTEL CREDITS WHEN YOU FLY DIRECT ON CAYMAN AIRWAYS

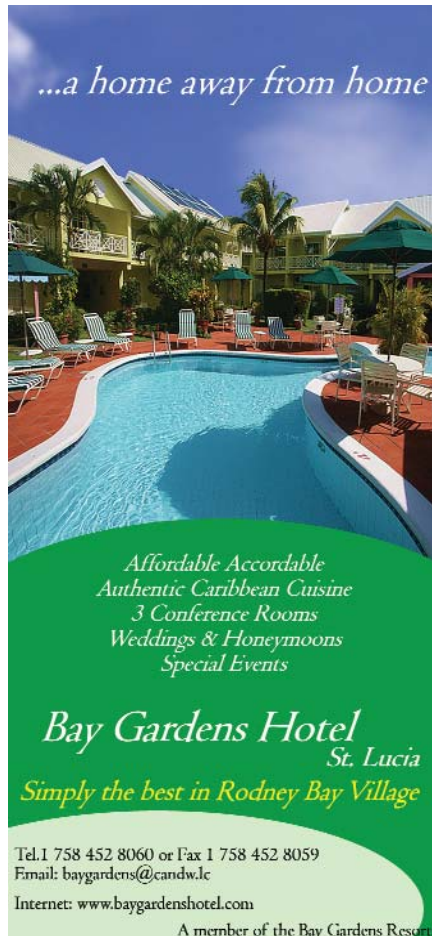
Taking advantage of Cayman Airways' direct flight between New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport and the Cayman Islands' Owen Roberts International Airport is now easier with an array of participating hotels and resorts offering hotel credits. Valid upon the flight's launch June 24 through October 31, 2007, this range of value-loaded hotel credits up to \$500 will reward travelers flying Cayman Airways' new direct flight.

Offers include a \$500 credit with five-

night minimum stay available at The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman; a \$200 credit for food and beverage and spa and golf (where applicable) available at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cayman Beach Suites, The Reef Resort and the Westin Casuarina Resort & Spa; and a \$100 credit with five-night minimum stay available at Beach Club Colony, Cobalt Coast Resort & Suites, Comfort Suites, Grand Cayman Marriot Beach Resort and Sunshine Suites.

Guests must present boarding pass or flight purchase confirmation upon check-in to receive credits. Offer cannot be combined with any other package or promotion, or combined with group or discounted rates. Direct service on Cayman Airways between New York and Grand Cayman begins June 24, 2007 and will operate three weekly flights from John F. Kennedy International Airport. The flights depart New York at 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays, Sundays and Mondays and leave Grand Cayman on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 4:10 p.m.

Cayman Islands, [www.caymanislands.ky](http://www.caymanislands.ky), [www.divecayman.ky](http://www.divecayman.ky)



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## SO MUCH TO DO AT SUPERCLUBS: DISCOVER THE NEW ROOMS RESORT, RELAX WITH A SPA GETAWAY, TAKE A FAMILY VACATION, AND ENJOY "HALFTIME WITH THE GUYS" ROOMS

SuperClubs is adding its second affiliate ROOMS resort in Jamaica, expanding its current holdings on the island to 11 properties. Currently closed for an extensive refurbishment, the former Negril Inn hotel will be renamed and re-opened December 15, 2007, as ROOMS, on the beach, Negril.

Located on Negril's famed seven-mile beach, ROOMS will feature 70 rooms, a swimming pool and Jacuzzi, onsite restaurant and bar, a gym and a conference room. The three-acre property is within walking distance to the town of Negril and its restaurants and shops, and is one hour from Donald Sangster International Airport.

"Since launching our first ROOMS in Ocho Rios, we have been actively looking for additional opportunities to expand this affiliate brand," said John Issa, Executive Chairman of SuperClubs. "The central tenet of ROOMS is to broaden and deepen the island's hospitality options by providing a convenient base for independent travelers looking for affordable getaways."

The new ROOMS will operate on a Continental Plan and welcome singles, couples and families. The current renovation will include the addition of 24 rooms to the property, including family suites, plus a conference room. Sister resort, ROOMS, on the beach, Ocho Rios debuted in January 2005, and marked a departure from SuperClubs' trademarked Super-Inclusive resorts.

"In more than 30 years of actively growing the Caribbean tourism industry, SuperClubs has come a long way, and we're not about to slow down!" Issa added. "We started humbly enough with a single resort in 1976 when I launched Jamaica's first all-inclusive, triggering the all-inclusives boom throughout the island. Since then, we've diversified by extending our resort offerings to the Bahamas, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, Brazil and Panama, and we've also expanded beyond the all-inclusive, with ROOMS Resorts."

The resort will be marketed as an affiliate brand to SuperClubs, similar to Starfish Resorts, currently operating in Jamaica and set to premier in Brazil later this year.

### Grand Lido Resorts & Spas

Jamaica's Grand Lido Resorts & Spas is offering an indulgent, rejuvenating getaway. With every paid five-night minimum booking through December 31, 2007, guests are guaranteed a \$150 spa credit, per room. Credits up to \$350 per room are given to paid seven-night bookings for beachfront suites or higher room categories. These credits can be used at the on-site full-service spas at both AAA Four Diamond Resorts: the Grand Lido Negril and the Grand Lido Braco.

Spa credits are per room, and are available for all room categories. Guests will receive a spa credit of \$150 - \$250 for five- to six-night stays and \$250 - \$350 for seven-night stays or longer.

Grand Lido Resorts & Spas kick off 2007 with a starting nightly rate of \$224 per person, based on double-occupancy; land only. Please request code SPA07 when booking.

### Family Vacations

Starting May 1, SuperClubs kicks off their "Kids Stay, Play &



Eat Free" where children ages 2-13 years can stay free, a saving of \$100 daily for a family of four. And with the "Single Parent" promotion, also premiering May 1, single supplements are waived for single parents looking for some downtime with the kids in tow.

Breezes Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles is offering their Kids Stay Free + Single Parent Promo. Named one of the top 10 family-friendly resorts in the Caribbean by Child magazine, Breezes Curaçao scores high marks for its recently renovated, 12,000 square foot Kids Club. Featuring adventures such as a circus workshop with flying trapeze and trampoline lessons, rock climbing and bouncy boxing, Curaçao's only Super-Inclusive resort is a playground for kids and parents alike. Rates start at \$129 per adult, per night; land only.

At Breezes Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic, Kids Stay Free. Kids can enjoy the Mini-club, with a variety of supervised activities, and parents and grandparents can wind down at the sophisticated Lighthouse spa. Families can regroup at the largest landscaped swimming pool on the island's north coast. Rates start at \$74 per adult, per night; land only.

Starfish Trelawny, Jamaica features a Single Parent Promo. Water lovers can enjoy scuba diving and snorkeling, and on land guests can take part in mini-golfing and ice-skating. The Kids Club offers age-specific programs and even after-hours babysitting. Rates start at \$99 per adult, per night; \$50 per child (age two-12 years), per night; land only.

SuperClubs' summer promotions run from May 1 through December 21. A three-night minimum booking is required.

### Halftime with the Guys

This Father's Day, Breezes Runaway Bay Resort & Golf Club is offering a new "Halftime with the Guys" package, tailored specifically for men, which combines the fun of golfing and thrill of diving and ATV off-roading with relaxation on Jamaica's north coast beaches. Launching June 1, 2007, the four-night/five-day "Halftime with the Guys" package tips off at \$999 per person, and is the ideal getaway to celebrate Father's Day, or simply as an escape for a long weekend with friends. Tee up for more green adventures at the resort's PGA-quality, 18-hole golf course with personalized instruction by a resident golf instructor. Enjoy complimentary green fees and transfers to the nearby nine-hole executive course at Grand Lido Braco Resort & Spa and the 18-hole

Ironshore Golf Course. Cap off a long day on the course with a re-viving 30-minute golfers massage, at the resort's new Blue Mahoe spa. "Halftime with the Guys" packages start at \$999 per person, land only, and includes: accommodations in luxury rooms, stocked daily with Red Stripe, Scotch and Royal Jamaican cigars; meals and premium alcoholic beverages; two island excursions with Appleton Estate and Chukka Adventures; golf and 30-minute golfers massage; scuba diving; and windsurfing. Breezes' Super-Inclusive vacation also includes all land and water sports, entertainment, hotel taxes, airport transfers, and tips. Rates are based on double-occupancy, and a three-room minimum group booking is required.

SuperClubs at 800-GO-SUPER, (800-467-8737), 888-257-6667, [www.superclubs.com](http://www.superclubs.com), [www.roomsresorts.com](http://www.roomsresorts.com), [www.grandlido.com](http://www.grandlido.com), [www.breezesrunawaybay.com](http://www.breezesrunawaybay.com)

## NEW ATTRACTIONS, AMENITIES, AND PACKAGES AT SUNSET RESORTS



Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort & Spa, the 730-room all-inclusive resort in Ocho Rios, has announced the opening of the new Lighthouse Waterslide on April 29, 2007.

The exciting, new Lighthouse Waterslide is a thrill for everyone and is set to become a landmark along the Ocho Rios coastline. Architecturally designed like a traditional lighthouse, the new attraction is nothing like its counterparts. Impressively statuesque, guests climb an enclosed spiral staircase 60 feet up to an observation desk with an awe-inspiring, 360-degree panoramic view over the Caribbean Sea and the entire resort complex. Two separate full body water slides, one enclosed and one open and each 330 and 340 feet in length, twist and turn around the lighthouse.

Sunset Resorts is also offering its new "We Do" wedding package. Guests that stay a minimum of seven nights at Sunset Beach Resort & Spa in Montego Bay or Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort & Spa in Ocho Rios can now get married for free, courtesy of the resort. Set up a splendid affair at the beachfront gazebo at the Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort & Spa or marry barefoot in the sands of Montego Bay. And because the Sunset Resorts are all-inclusive, guests and family can enjoy an affordable vacation while celebrating the marriage. "We Do" includes service of a marriage officer to perform the ceremony; services of the on-site wedding coordinator; picturesque wedding area; chilled bottle of sparkling wine; wedding cake; bridal bouquet and groom's boutonniere; recorded


music; and two "Just Got Married" t-shirts.

All packages are subject to availability and are based on double occupancy only. Reservation of an ocean view category or higher for a minimum of seven nights stay is required. A non-refundable administration, processing, government license and marriage certificate fee of \$280 is required for wedding reservations (processing fee subject to change). This package is valid for new U.S. and Canadian reservations as of June 1, 2007.

Summer rates, valid for travel from April 9-December 22, 2007, range from \$280 - \$500 per room, per night, based on double occupancy at Sunset Beach Resort & Spa and from \$325 - \$575 per room, per night, based on double occupancy at Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort & Spa. Rates include accommodations with a private balcony, all meals, bar beverages, wine by the glass, non-motorized water sports, tennis, entertainment, taxes, and gratuity.

Welcoming guests to Jamaica is Sunset Resorts' newest amenity, the Sunset Resorts Airport Lounge. Travelers can now relax in style upon their arrival to the Montego Bay International Airport where comfort and relaxing amenities offer a refreshing respite after a long journey. "We know that a holiday begins before you arrive the resort," said Sunset Resorts Managing Director Ian Kerr. "That's why we've created an oasis for our guests. Here, they can relax in comfort." The company's knowledgeable staff will advise the hotel that guests have arrived, so it makes check-in that much easier once they arrive at the resort.

Sunset Resorts, 800-234-1707, [www.sunsetresortsjamaica.com](http://www.sunsetresortsjamaica.com), [www.sunsetjamaicagrande.com](http://www.sunsetjamaicagrande.com), [www.sunsetbeachresort.com](http://www.sunsetbeachresort.com)

  
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## FAMILY VACATION PACKAGES AT POINT VILLAGE RESORT



Every family member will get what they want during quality vacation time in the fun-filled yet relaxed atmosphere at Point Village Resort. For kids, Pirates' Cove is ideal for snorkeling, the Rock Pools are ideal for splashing, and the beach is perfect for sunbathing and making sandcastles. The Kiddies' Center supervised program allows kids to make the most of their holiday and features enjoyable tailored activities ranging from face painting, reggae dance classes, and the latest videogames and movies. Parents can enjoy daily activities such as sports and domino tournaments, crazy contests on the beach and simply relaxing. The Family Getaway 2007 special rates range from \$2,260- \$2,706 for seven nights for two adults and two children in a one-bedroom suite.

Point Village also features a new offer for single parents traveling with children. Two children (aged 12 years and under) stay free when you book a one bedroom suite at single occupancy on the all-inclusive plan. If you book a superior studio at the single occupancy rate, two children (six years and under) are free. Rates start at \$2,260 and include airfare, ground transportation and all-inclusive hotel accommodations for seven nights. Private babysitting is available at an additional charge with a minimum 24-hour notice. This offer is available for bookings made by June 15, 2007 for travel by August 31, 2007.

Point Village Resort, [sales@pointvillage.com](mailto:sales@pointvillage.com),  
[www.pointvillage.com](http://www.pointvillage.com)

## FORT RECOVERY BEACHFRONT VILLAS AWARDED GOLDEN COMPASS AWARD AND COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Captains Guide Magazines owners Rob and Theresa Roden have announced that Fort Recovery Beachfront Resorts has been chosen "Best Resort" in the British Virgin Islands by the readers of the Captain's Guide Magazines.

The Proprietor, Anita MacShane, previous Broadway Producer, says, "This is a great honor and we are proud to be amongst the best of the best for the year 2007."

In addition, Columbian Emeralds International has awarded Fort Recovery Beachfront Resorts an exclusive private minted commemorative coin, handcrafted to showcase the unique symbol of the British Virgin Islands.

Regarding this award, Ms. MacShane said, "This is a great honor and we are proud to be part of the collection of coins made for each territory in the Caribbean. The history of Fort Recovery Tower is very unique.

The Fort is a 35-foot diameter stone structure built by the Dutch in the early 1600's. It is said that Jean LaFite the famous pirate landed here and left treasures buried inside the Fort. One day we hope to excavate the Fort to find our hidden treasures."

Columbian Emeralds International is offering, along with the commemorative Caribbean mint coin, a \$75 gift certificate good as cash towards any jewelry purchase of \$500 or more. Fort Recovery Beachfront Resort was founded in 1969 and has proven to be one of the nicest unique luxury boutique hotels in the British Virgin Islands.

With 30 villas ranging from one to four bedrooms, all with large sized living rooms on the beach, bedrooms, bathrooms, and outdoor living areas, they have been frequented by celebrities such as Eric Szemieda from "CSI, Las Vegas," Melissa Joan Hart from "Sabrina the Teenage Witch," and Michael Clarke Duncan from "The Green Mile."

Fort Recovery Beachfront Resorts, 800-367-8455,  
[villas@fortrecovery.com](mailto:villas@fortrecovery.com)

## LE SERENO LUXURY SPECIALS FOR SUMMER

Located beachfront on the Grand Cul de Sac Beach, and designed by famous Parisian designer Christian Liaigre, Le Sereno has 37 suites.

The Hotel is the renaissance of the beloved Sereno Beach Hotel and its design interprets the spirit of St. Barths.

Le Sereno is offering specials for summer. Arrange a spontaneous escape to St. Barth with the Escape to Le Sereno package. This three-nights/four-day package allows guests to getaway to the hotel Vogue magazine called "Pure Island Dream."

The week at Le Sereno package is seven-nights /eight-days and offers a week of pure relaxation with in room Spa treatment and the typical French Bouillabaisse cooking class at Le Sereno.

Le Sereno, 888 lesereno (888-537-3736), [info@lesereno.com](mailto:info@lesereno.com),  
[www.lesereno.com](http://www.lesereno.com)

## MAYAN ADVENTURE QUEST OFFERED BY PARAISO DE LA BONITA



Paraiso de la Bonita in the Riviera Maya introduces guests to soft adventure while using the Yucatan jungles, ancient ruins and underground rivers as breathtaking backdrops.

The four-day/three-night Mayan Adventure Quest includes a one-day excursion which includes land, sea and air thrills. Choices include zip-line flying over the subtropical rainforest, canoeing on a lagoon, rappelling down a cenote (a natural underground fresh water pool), 4x4 trekking through the jungle, snorkeling through underground rivers, sea kayaking by the reef and cycling over farmlands. Removed from the rugged surroundings of the Yucatan Peninsula, luxury accommodations await at Paraiso de la Bonita in an Ocean View Suite with private terrace, oversized bathroom, living room and Bvlgari bath amenities. Ocean View Suites with plunge pool are also available. Rates for the Mayan Adventure Quest start at \$1,899 package based on double occupancy from April 14 to December 19, 2007. Taxes and service charge are additional. Extra nights are available.

Thrill seekers choose one full day excursion from three adventure options. The Mayan Encounter combines Mayan culture with off-road activities. Guests will visit the ancient city of Coba and climb the 'Nohoch Muul temple,' the tallest pyramid in the state. The journey continues up above as guests zip-line over cenotes, rappel down into water and canoe on a lagoon. The Jungle Crossing combines land trekking and sea adventures. Guests go 4x4 trekking in all-terrain vehicles to reach Rancho San

Felipe, where the 'Nohoch Nah Chich' cenote system is found (the second longest underground river system in the world). From there, snorkeling through the fresh waters of the underground rivers and swimming in the caverns follows. At Punta Soliman (close to Tulum) guests can sea kayak to the reefs and observe the Mayan sea life.

The Mayan Zip-Line combines land, air and sea attractions within a protected sanctuary. Guests travel to 'Chikin-Ha', an exclusive nature sanctuary, where cycling begins through the farmlands of Don Silvano with surrounding jungle scenery. Sea activities include snorkeling and swimming through the cenotes system. Guests defy gravity on a zip-line high above the forest canopy.

Complete package activities include three nights in selected luxury accommodations; choice of one-day adventure excursion; one three-course dinner for two; one massage for each; daily yoga classes; and car rental for one day (a value of up to \$100). The Thalasso Center, the only certified Thalasso Spa in North America, is a 16-room spa that uses seawater, marine algae and marine mud for body treatments. Rates include round-trip airport transfers in the resort's private fleet of Lincoln Navigators; daily à la carte breakfast; an in-suite bottle of tequila and a designer hand-made beach bag gift per room. Complimentary use of the Thalasso Spa facilities including whirlpool, sauna, steam-room, warm seawater hydrotherapy pool and 24-hour ocean front fitness center are included.

Paraiso de la Bonita, 866-751-9175,  
[www.paraisodelabonita.com](http://www.paraisodelabonita.com)

## SANDOS HOTELS & RESORTS PRESENT NEW WEBSITE

Sandos Hotels & Resorts, based out of Spain, with properties on the Mayan Riviera, Mexico, and future openings in Mexico and the Caribbean, has introduced their new website, [www.sandoshotels.com](http://www.sandoshotels.com).

The team who redesigned the site took into consideration only the end users' requirements in order to guarantee that it is easy to access, navigate and use. All pages and points, including detailed information, photos and reservations, can be reached with a minimum of effort and clicks. The idea behind the project was to be able to reach all users working on all platforms and equipment, from desktops to laptops, PDA's and cellular devices and ensure full accessibility to all features of the site.

All special events, offerings and price-breaks are very visible on the new website and are maintained and updated on a daily basis. On this website guests will also find the Sandos4U Club sign-on and sign-up, their frequent guest program.

Not only does the site address the need for information of the guests, it also has an area for professionals, accessible through a sign-up page, where all professional information and high resolution images are available.

The final objective of Sandos Hotels & Resorts newly designed site is to serve the travel community better and to offer all information to its potential and frequent guests, while presenting a platform for communication between user and hotel.

Sandos Hotels & Resorts,  
[www.sandoshotels.com](http://www.sandoshotels.com)

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## A DYNAMIC LUXURY EXPERIENCE AT VALENTIN HOTELS

Valentin la Hacienda is the first of four luxurious hotels that will be located at the Valentin Playa del Secreto Beach Resort. Inside the all-inclusive Valentin La Hacienda beach resort is a cenote, something typical and unique to the region. Guests can enjoy the Riviera Maya's beaches, Maya sites, quaint villages and tourist centers.

Room amenities include private and furnished patio or balcony; A/C with in room climate control; direct dial telephone with voice mail; daily stocked minibar; turn down service; and a panoramic elevator.

The Intimate Valentin at Valentin Maya boasts 210 all Jacuzzi suites. Their Golden Junior Suites all have a lagoon and swimming pool view with an oversized balcony or terrace. The Ocean Front Junior Suites are all ocean front and have an ocean view with balcony or terrace.

Valentin Hotels, [www.valentinhotels.com](http://www.valentinhotels.com)

## THE TIDES RIVIERA MAYA UNVEILS NEW AMENITIES AND SERVICES

In celebration of its recent induction into Kor Hotel Group's new collection of Tides-branded resort-hotels, The Tides Riviera Maya unveils new amenities to accompany its new name. Six new Royal Villas present an array of enhanced amenities and VIP services including exclusive Mayordomo VIP service; turndown service of flower petals and aromatherapy and down pillows; and bathrobes.

A unique Fertility Ritual House has recently debuted as part of the resort's Maya Spa and the new 'Ritual de Fertilidad' is performed here. This ancient ritual stimulates the senses through a full-body massage with seeds, a symbol of fertility to the ancient Maya. The Tides can also arrange rentals for such classics as a Mercedes Benz S50, a Hummer H2, a Porsche Boxster, even a Rolls-Royce Silver Wraith 1959. The Tides also operates a new helicopter service available for transportation to archaeological sites and other excursions, as well as for airport-hotel transfers.

The Tides, 866-332-1672, [thetidesresorts.com](http://thetidesresorts.com)

# CARIBBEAN

## resource directory

**Alta Bella Hotels**  
sales@altabellahotels.com  
[www.altabellahotels.com](http://www.altabellahotels.com)

**Amhsa Marina Hotels & Resorts**  
809-562-7474  
[www.amhsamarina.com](http://www.amhsamarina.com)

**Anguilla Tourist Board**  
877-4-ANGUILLA  
[www.anguilla-vacation.com](http://www.anguilla-vacation.com)

**Bay Gardens Hotel**  
baygardens@candw.lc  
[www.baygardens.com](http://www.baygardens.com)

**Blue Haven Hotel**  
868-660-7400  
Fax: 868-660-7900  
[www.bluehavenhotel.com](http://www.bluehavenhotel.com)

**Bucuti Beach Resort & Tara beach Suites**  
888-4-BUCUTI  
[www.bucuti.com](http://www.bucuti.com)

**Caliente Resorts & Spas**  
[www.calienteresorts.com](http://www.calienteresorts.com)

**Carimar Beach Club**  
800-235-8667  
carimar@anguillanet.com  
[www.carimar.com](http://www.carimar.com)

**Ceiba del Mar**  
877-545-6221  
info@ceibadelmar.com  
[www.ceibadelmar.com](http://www.ceibadelmar.com)

**Grand Barbados Beach Resort**  
reservations@grandbarbados.com  
[www.grandbarbados.com](http://www.grandbarbados.com)

**Holiday Inn San Juan**  
800-HOLIDAY  
[www.holidayinnpr.com](http://www.holidayinnpr.com)

**Lifestyle Hacienda Resorts**  
809-970-7777  
[www.lifestylehaciendaresorts.com](http://www.lifestylehaciendaresorts.com)

**Morning Bird Suite Hotel**  
morningbirdhotel@gmail.com  
[www.morningbirdhotel.dm](http://www.morningbirdhotel.dm)

**Ocean Hotels**  
888-403-2603  
[www.oceanhotels.net](http://www.oceanhotels.net)

**Point Village Resort**  
877-764-6852  
pt.village@cwjamaica.com  
[www.pointvillage.com](http://www.pointvillage.com)

**Punta Cana Resorts**  
809-959-2262  
info@puntacana.com

**The Reef Resorts**  
sales@thereefresorts.com  
[www.thereefresorts.com](http://www.thereefresorts.com)

**Riviera Maya Tourism Promotion Board**  
info@rivieramaya.com  
[www.rivieramaya.com](http://www.rivieramaya.com)

**St. Kitts & Nevis**  
800-582-6208  
[www.stkitts-tourism.com](http://www.stkitts-tourism.com)

**Sandos Hotels & Resorts**  
[www.sandoshotels.com](http://www.sandoshotels.com)

**Sirenis Hotels & Resorts**  
bookings@sirenishotels.com  
infousa@sirenishotels.com  
[www.sirenishotels.com](http://www.sirenishotels.com)

**Sunset House**  
800-854-4767  
sunsethouse@sunsethouse.com  
[www.sunsethouse.com](http://www.sunsethouse.com)

**Sun Village Resort & Spa**  
800-941-3364  
reservations@sunvillageresorts.com  
[www.sunvillagebeachresort.com](http://www.sunvillagebeachresort.com)

**Turinter**  
888-240-8284  
[www.turinter.com](http://www.turinter.com)

**For additional listings visit the online resource directory: [www.travelworldnews.com/agent](http://www.travelworldnews.com/agent)**



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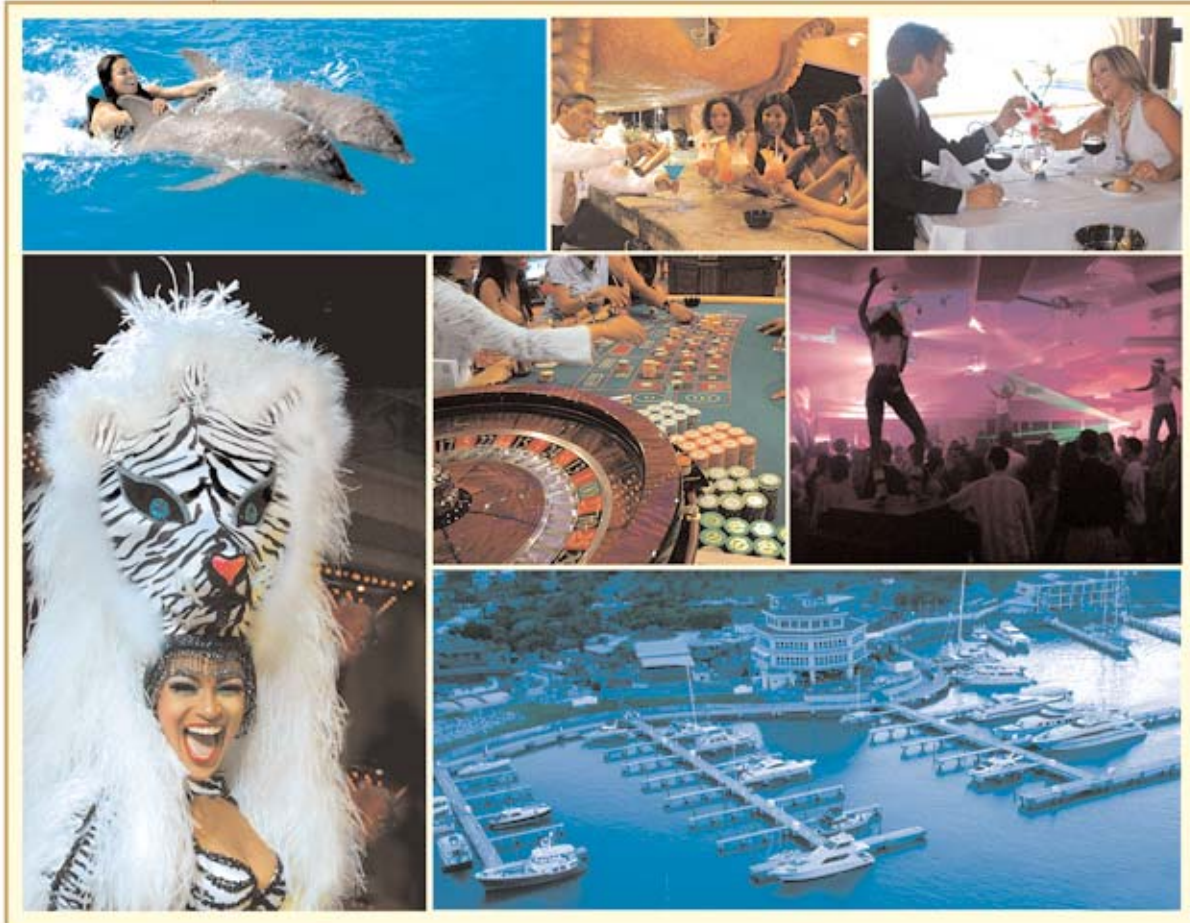
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