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THE LUXURY COASTAL LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

LOS CABOS LUXURY: The Most Desirable Real Estate in the World
GLORIOUS GRENADA: The Caribbean's Best-Kept Secret
THE MERCHANTS OF POOL: The Ultimate Guide to Expert Pool Builders

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THE LUXURY COASTAL LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

March/April 2011

20 Top Oceanfront Developments

The Best Investments
from Kapalua
to Kiawah Island

Page 52

Business

**SOUTH BEACH'S
NEWEST
UPSCALE
OFFERING**

Home

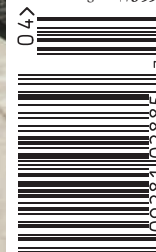
**INSIDE
MELISSA
RIVERS'S
CALIFORNIA
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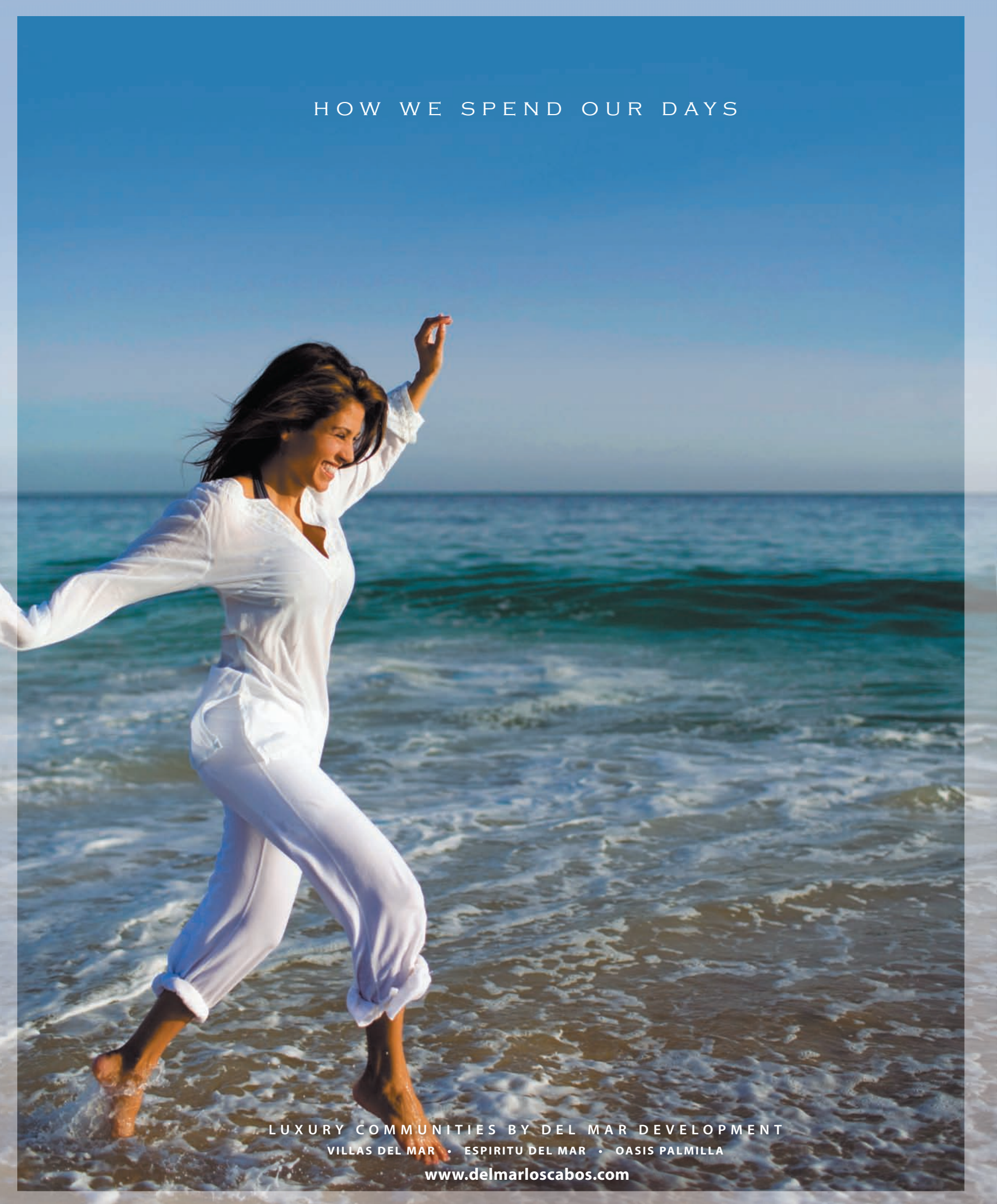
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WITH YOUR
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FRIEND**

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A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white long-sleeved top and white trousers, is running barefoot through the shallow surf of a beach. She is smiling and has her arms raised in a joyful motion. The ocean is a vibrant turquoise color, and the sky is a clear, deep blue. The overall mood is one of freedom and happiness.

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Celebrity fashion cop Melissa Rivers.

ON THE COVER: An oceanfront estate at Espiritu del Mar, one of the most prestigious developments in Los Cabos, Mexico. Corporate leaders and celebrities are among the residents of this exclusive destination. See "Los Cabos Luxury" on page 68. **THIS PAGE:** Hawaii's Four Seasons Resort Hualalai on the Big Island's Kona Kohala Coast. Learn about Hualalai and other notable projects in "The Top 20 Oceanfront Developments," page 52.



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YOUR OCEANFRONT HOME is probably located some place where temperatures hold steady at balmy, and where cool, crisp nights are more the exception than the norm (although temps around the U.S. in 2011 have been all over the board). But whether your home is on South Beach or in the Bahamas or somewhere chillier like Maine or Massachusetts, March and April bring the official arrival of spring, and that itself is something to celebrate.

Among the rites of spring is spending time outdoors enjoying warmer weather and longer-lasting daylight. So, for this issue we thought it pertinent to concentrate on the things that'll give you reason to get outside and get some fresh air (long-awaited, for some of us) at your own oceanfront homes. In "It's Electric!" (page 36) Chris Caswell looks at electric-motor boats that are perfect for cocktail cruises on warm spring evenings. If you're looking for a way to enjoy the outdoors without lifting a finger, check out "The Swing Set" (page 34); awake or asleep, alone or à deux, there are so many ways to enjoy a hammock. But the ultimate spring and summer home accessory is the swimming pool, so we rounded up a few of North America's expert pool builders ("The Merchants of Pool," page 62), along with photos of their most inspired pool projects, to get you in the mood.

If your home is in one of those places that sees warmer weather a little later on, our travel stories will tide you over until beach-ready temps set in. In "Los Cabos Luxury" (page 68), Melissa Gillespie recalls a recent trip to the upscale Mexico destination and gives the low-down on hot neighborhoods and developments for buyers, plus the best hotels. Lisa Rogak is fresh from a visit to Grenada ("Bold Spice," page 44) and came home with a report on the best spots to visit in this yet-to-explode destination. And I'm recently back from my own Mexico sojourn, to the Riviera Maya, where I spent a long weekend getting pampered beyond belief at Grand Velas All Suites & Spa Resort ("Riviera Respite," page 46). I highly recommend it!

Finally, don't miss our cover story, "The 20 Top Oceanfront Developments" on page 52. Scott Kauffman profiles more than a dozen up-and-coming developments, from eco-conscious to golf-focused, along with all the essential details for those who might be in the market for a new warm-weather escape. —*Lindsay Lambert, Editor*



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①



②



③

Contributors

① **SCOTT KAUFFMAN** An expert on golf course real estate and luxury resort and real estate development, Kauffman ("The 20 Top Oceanfront Developments," page 52) has been published by more than 30 publications and is a founding partner of GolfCourseBusiness.com and The APosition.com. ② **DEBORAH GEIGER** "Melissa [Rivers] was extraordinarily warm and down to earth," Geiger says of the "Sea Life" subject (page 80). "The way she described the warm water diving in St. Croix and the Virgin Islands inspired me to plan a trip there this year." New York City-based Geiger writes about entertainment, real estate, architecture, and design. ③ **JOE MCKENDRY** A painter and illustrator whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *London Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Vanity Fair*, *Esquire*, and *GQ*, McKendry ("Market Watch," page 24) teaches painting at the Rhode Island School of Design.

OceanHome

The Luxury Coastal Lifestyle Magazine

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This is
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Nestled between the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian River and the St. Lucie Inlet, at the southernmost tip of Hutchinson Island Florida, lies the private island paradise – Sailfish Point. Truly an island within an island, this is a place of natural privacy.

Private and secluded, yet all the conveniences you might need are nearby. The city of Stuart, Florida, with a full array of shopping, dining and medical services is just 10 minutes away. Approximately one hour south is Palm Beach, which offers every diversion imaginable in a large cosmopolitan area. Access to Sailfish Point is simple and convenient. The West Palm Beach International Airport is less than 50 miles away, and the local airport just 20 minutes away, making it possible to fly in and be on the beach, on the open water or on the links before lunch.

The selection of home sites and homes is spectacular. Only 520 residences complete the 532-acre Sailfish Point community. The 24-hour security patrol of the gated community assures year-round safety to homeowners and their homes. Privacy and security mean that residents feel free to traverse the

island by foot, bicycle, golf cart or car at any time of day or night.

Whatever suits your style, Sailfish Point offers a home that is a perfect fit—from spacious waterfront estates and home sites, to intimate oceanfront condominiums, golf course villas, and town homes with private docks. Sailfish Point homes are unique in style and arrangement, while all are built to the exacting standards of this private island community.

Life at Sailfish Point is about your choices. This completely secure and private island community offers every amenity, makes every option available, and then stands ready to help you enjoy it. Enjoy the amenities of a world-class oceanfront community including: Jack Nicklaus 'Signature' golf; elegant oceanfront clubhouse; five miles of pristine shoreline; a full service 77 slip marina; Har-Tru tennis; a resort style fitness complex, luxurious spa, and the ultimate in private security. The combination of all this, with the opportunity to live in one of the world's most naturally beautiful settings is unparalleled.

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Villa Spotlight

Sunset Strip

Anguilla's Ani Villas combine luxury with rugged natural beauty.



HOT SPOT: Ani Villas bring modern cool to Anguilla. See page 22.



LUXE CAMP
HAMAK's Itaaí.

Eco Endeavors

HAMAK hotels debuts in Mexico with eco-conscious accommodations. By **Melissa Gillespie**

LUXURY HOTEL VETERANS and developers Alberto Ramirez, Nicolas Dominguez, and Federico Carstens have joined forces to form HAMAK, a hotel group in Mexico promising a new dimension of accommodations in the region. The trio launched this endeavor with a focus on the creation and operation of eco-conscious hotels throughout Mexico.

"HAMAK focuses on creating guest experiences that recognize, respect, and revive indigenous cultures," says Dominguez. "We don't bulldoze a culture to build a resort."

On the horizon for HAMAK are three

distinctive properties throughout Mexico, including Ikal Cancun, a luxury all-inclusive resort set to open October 2011 in Cancun. With seven restaurants and bars, three pools, a 17,000-square-foot spa and fitness center, and interior designs by David Rockwell, the hotel promises to offer guests an experience unlike any other in the city. Their second project is Chable, a destination spa resort in Mérida. Scheduled to open in November 2011, Chable will offer the ultimate spa destination experience for guests to immerse themselves in local customs and traditions. Furthermore, HAMAK'S third project,

Itaaí, near Tiburon Island along the Sea of Cortez, will feature 25 luxury tents, allowing guests to embark on a journey of self discovery while fully experiencing nature. Embracing the trend of "glamping," Itaaí plans to offer the best of both worlds by introducing guests to "glamorous camping" in the great outdoors, where camping is taken to a whole new level.

With HAMAK's dedication to creating hotels that preserve civilization comes a new crop of retreats that will awaken guests to authentic experiences. hamakhotels.com.

Va Va Villas!

The owners of **Light-house Bay Resort**, an exclusive nine-suite retreat just off the small Caribbean island of Barbuda, have unveiled the development of Lighthouse Bay Villas, a private community of oceanfront homes spread out over nearly 50 acres. The project will consist of 38 villas, ranging in size from 2,500 to 5,500 square feet, and will front more than one mile of coastline. Owners will choose from



NICE VIEW
Lighthouse Bay
Resort.

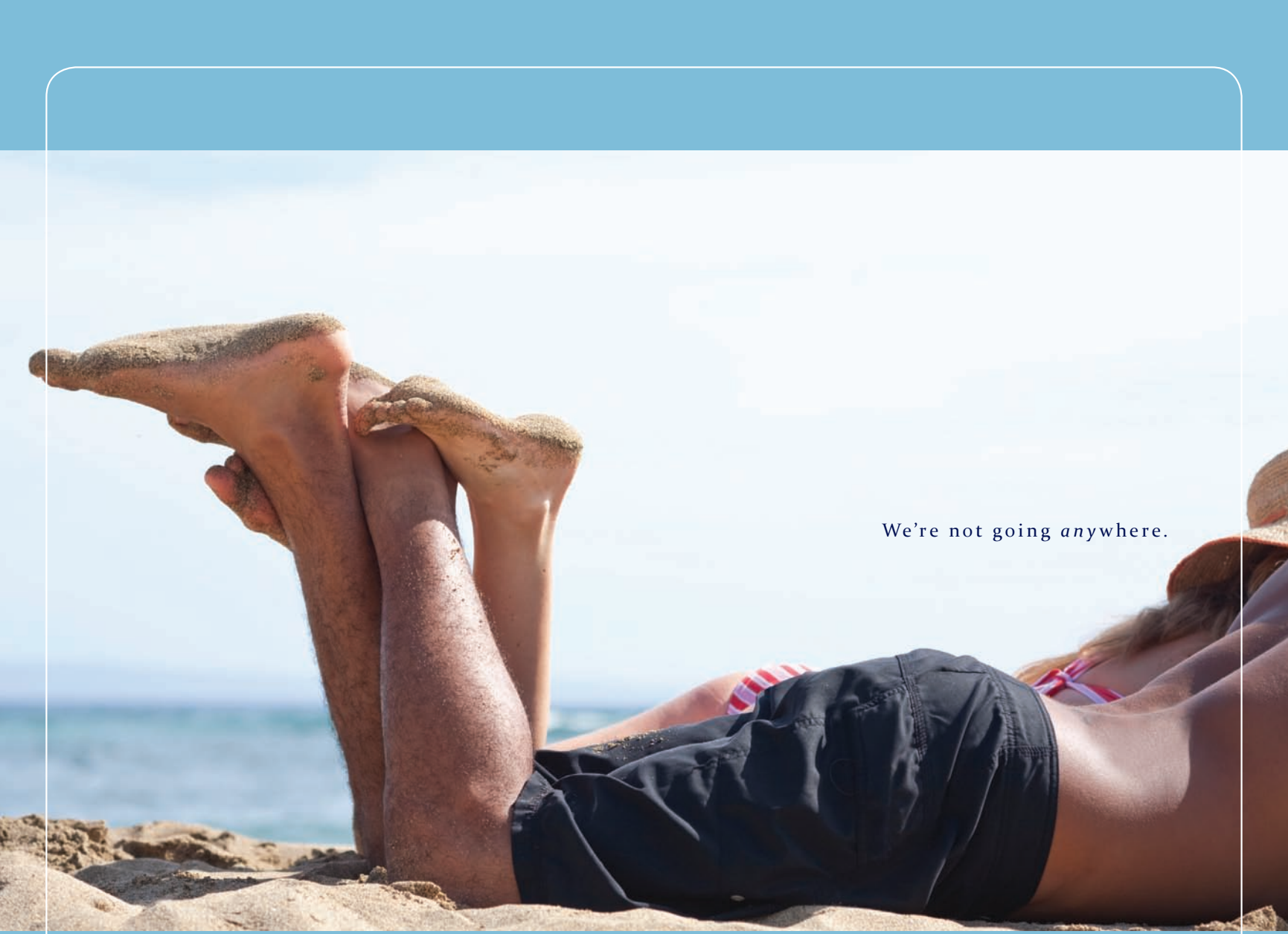
one of four approved "design-ready" villas—all featuring state-of-the-art technologies, views of the water from every room, and direct beach access—which can be completed within 18 months. As part of the Villa Club membership, all owners will be entitled to 10 nights per month in a suite at Lighthouse Bay Resort for their own use or as they see fit during their time of ownership. Club membership also grants owners access to the resort facilities and staff on an ongoing basis. Lots start at \$2.1 million. lighthousebarbuda.com.



COTTAGE INDUSTRY
Petit St. Vincent.

SPRING AWAKENING

Following new ownership of **Petit St. Vincent Resort** in the Grenadines, upgrades will begin this spring. The resorts' existing 22 cottages will be renovated in stages during low season, from April to August. With no structural changes made, rooms will be updated with new bathrooms, A/C, refrigerated minibars, and iPod players. TVs and DVD players won't be added, as Petit St. Vincent aims to be a destination where guests can detach from some modern conveniences. A new activities desk will allow guests to take part in various sports and programs, like hiking, tennis, sailing, art classes, and wine tasting. Planned additions and renovations include an air-conditioned fitness and yoga center, an open-air spa, a children's club, an à la carte beachfront restaurant, and a library. psvresort.com



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Bay Watch

St. Maarten's newest luxury real estate venture, **The Villas at Porto Maho**, is an exclusive residential waterfront community overlooking Simpson Bay. Designed with sustainable practices, the 10 contemporary units offer four-, five-, and



PARADISE FOUND
The Villas
at Porto Maho.



six-bedroom villas with a minimum 18,000 square feet of living space. Each of the residences will overlook the ocean at Simpson Bay Lagoon. Floor-to-ceiling glass panels offer views of the lagoon, the Caribbean Sea, and distant Anguilla. The Villas at Porto Maho project anchors what will be known as Porto Maho, already home to the island's largest casino, exhilarating nightclubs, duty-free shopping, and an array of international restaurants. Available for purchase now, prices start from \$4.2 million. portomaho.com.

Long Beach Luxury

Aqua brings new luxury living to the shores of Long Beach, New York.

RESEMBLING LUXURY LIVING along Florida's Gulf Coast, Aqua truly stands out among other oceanfront properties in the Northeast. Located along the beaches and boardwalk in Long Beach, New York, Aqua is the area's only resort-style oceanfront condominium.

The eight-story building features 36 stunning residences. With prices starting at \$999,000, Aqua offers two- and three-bedroom residences, ranging in size from 1,730 square feet to 2,395 square feet. Every residence has expansive oceanfront views, a private terrace, and floor-to-ceiling windows. The building also offers six penthouse homes with private rooftop terraces and outdoor kitchens.

Adding to the exclusivity and privacy of Aqua, each home is accessible by a private



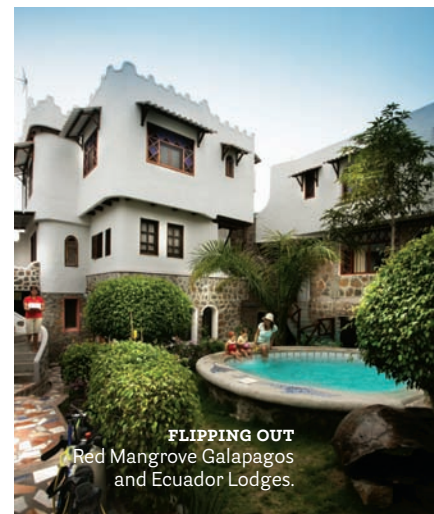
EVERYTHING
ZEN: Aqua.

elevator. Homes also feature rich hardwood bamboo flooring, open kitchens with stainless-steel appliances, gracious marble master baths, and living rooms with gas fireplaces.

The resort-style amenities include a 24-hour concierge, valet parking, a stunning lobby with a dramatic two-story waterfall, cabana service, an indoor pool and sun-deck, an outdoor hot tub, a state-of-the-art fitness center, and an oceanfront club room with a sunset terrace. The building also features a serene Zen garden with a putting green and an outdoor children's play area. aquaontheocean.com.

DIVE IN

Two new scuba lodges opened in December 2010 in the Galapagos Islands, and a new Dive Academy is scheduled to debut later this spring. **Red Mangrove Galapagos and Ecuador Lodges** opened the nine-room Santa Cruz Divers Lodge in Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz Island and the five-room Isabela Divers Lodge in Puerto Villamil on Isabela Island in the Galapagos. The Santa Cruz Divers Lodge is adjacent to the soon-to-open Red Mangrove Dive Academy. The Dive Academy will be a full-service diver education center, the largest in Ecuador, with a 20-foot-deep training pool, classrooms, and state-of-the-art diving equipment. Hernan Rodas, founder and owner, says the two new lodges represent his strategy to create a world-class dive destination in the Galapagos by utilizing sustainable small island-based accommodations scattered throughout the region for multi-island land-based dive packages. All-inclusive lodge/dive packages start at just under \$1,000 per person for two days and three nights and include all meals, excursions with English-speaking naturalist guides, and use of snorkeling gear and diving equipment. Over 45 separate dive sites are accessible off of four different islands, geared to interest and ability. redmangrove.com.



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Red Mangrove Galapagos
and Ecuador Lodges.



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Then Pete Dye.

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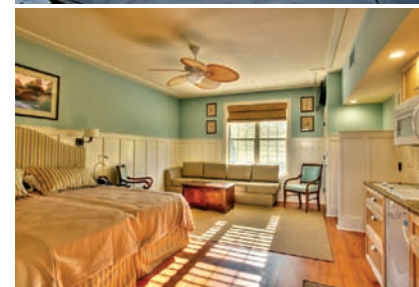
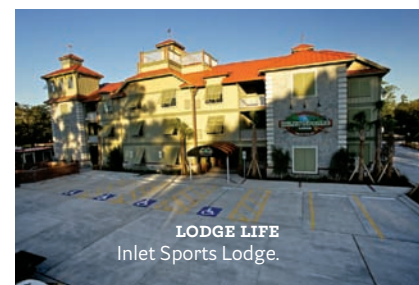
IN THE PINK

Pink Sands, the exclusive resort on the Bahamas' idyllic Harbour Island, is now offering a limited number of private estates on the picturesque property to be built to owners' specifications. Only 13 estates will be constructed adjacent to this favorite hideaway for celebrities. Of the privately sited building lots, priced from \$700,000 to \$1.9 million, 10 are available for purchase. Situated on 20 acres overlooking a beautiful stretch of pink sand beach, the resort's amenities available to estate owners include concierge, housekeeping, private dining, and a massage studio. Owners can choose to hire their own architects or pick out one of Pink Sands' turn-key plans; they are welcome to stay at the posh resort while their villas are being built. pinksandsresort.com.



Sporting Retreat

The **Inlet Sports Lodge**, a new 30-unit resort geared toward sport enthusiasts, opened its doors in Murrells Inlet, South Carolina this past November. A fractional-ownership resort, the Inlet Sports



Lodge contains studios and two-bedroom luxury suites and truly caters to sporting. The resort's amenities include a fish cleaning station, a courtyard with grills and a fire pit, and ample storage space for golf and fishing gear. The development also features a pool, a tiki bar, and Bliss restaurant, along with an owner's club room and concierge services to help plan fishing trips and sporting outings. The Inlet Sports Lodge also caters to eco-tourists, as Murrells Inlet is a natural spot with a wealth of outdoor activities to enjoy. inletsportslodge.com.

South Beach Beauty

Boulan offers cool condo-style living.

THINK INDULGENCE and boutique-style cool: Boulan South Beach redefines urban lifestyle in South Florida's posh beach setting. With gourmet kitchens and spa-inspired baths, the completely finished interiors of this 52-residence condominium building are every bit as alluring as its city and ocean views.

Opening its doors in January, the development includes one- and two-bedroom units, ranging from 668 square feet to over 2,000 square feet, and penthouse condominiums with rooftop access. Amenities include: a 24-hour valet; a concierge reception; boutique lobby and common areas; a meditation garden and courtyard, a fitness center, a landscaped rooftop oasis with pool, Jacuzzi and cabana beds; and private beach services.

Nestled in the heart of South Beach along historic Collins Avenue, Boulan South Beach is ideally located between The W South Beach and The Setai South Beach, an area known to offer an elegant lifestyle. It's also just steps away from multiple five-star restaurants, bars, night clubs, fine art galleries, world-class shopping, and one of the world's most premier beaches. boulansouthbeach.com.



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HOT PROPERTY **FAIRFIELD, CT**



On more than four acres in Fairfield, Connecticut, this 10,000-square-foot, six-bedroom estate, with six full baths and three half baths, offers 180-degree views of Long Island Sound, the coastline, and a golf course. Built in 1929, the Georgian Newport-style manor embodies understated elegance with its stately rooms that boast 10- and 11-foot ceilings. The estate's 18 rooms include reception halls, a library, a sunset room, a summer dining room, and a conservatory. Amenities include eight fireplaces, an elevator, and chef and party kitchens. The gated grounds offer sweeping lawns, a pool, a tennis court, terraces, courtyards, English gardens, and an 1,100-square-foot cottage. The harbor, beach, and Southport Village are only minutes away.

THE DETAILS: \$14,300,000, Anne Estelle, William Raveis Real Estate, Mortgage, Insurance, 203-307-4562, raveis.com.

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Market Watch

HOOP DREAMS LeBron

James purchased a three-story mansion in Coconut Grove, Florida, for \$9 million. The 12,000-square-foot home has six bedrooms, 8.5 baths, a wine cellar, a library, a home theater, a three-car garage, a guesthouse, an infinity pool, and a dock.

PRODUCER'S PALACE

George Lucas purchased an oceanfront estate in Carpinteria, California, for \$19.5 million. The contemporary home has 150 feet of beach frontage, glass walls, six bedrooms, four baths, a guest house, a lap pool, and fitness facilities.

GLITZ AT THE RITZ

The penthouse apartment at The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman is on the market at \$44 million. The 20,000-square-foot pad comes with a Rolls-Royce Phantom and a yacht. Estimated annual fees are between \$200,000 and \$300,000, which cover a chef and butler.



SIMPLY PUT
Ani Villas Anguilla.

Simply Understated

Minimalist splendor combines with Anguilla's rugged natural beauty at the luxurious Ani Villas.

ANI VILLAS is a spectacular contemporary estate perched on the cliffs of Anguilla's north shore. Separated as the North and South Villas, the two five-bedroom, 10,000-square-foot luxury homes commingle tropical elegance with Scandinavian design prowess. The fundamentals of earth, air, and water are represented by walls of textured raw woods, hardwood furnishings, floor-to-ceiling windows, glass balconies, a five-story open floor plan, and tranquil water gardens.

Arranged within desert, tropical, and indigenous landscaping, the seductive infinity

pools, expansive lounge areas, and elevated hot tubs positioned near the cliffs' edge capture the island's beauty at panoramic vantage points.

Directly below the villas, accessible by a short walking trail, the island's top snorkeling spot teems with marine life. Outdoor enthusiasts will enjoy the tennis court, mountain biking trails, the neighboring Greg Norman-designed championship golf course, and kayaks for exploring Little Bay. When privacy becomes too confining and the house staff all too familiar, Anguilla awaits new explorers. Hop in the complimentary house car and experience the island's burgeoning restaurant scene, its laid-back nightlife, or yet more of its renowned waters.

The two villas can be rented separately or together as an estate; a five-night minimum is required in either case. \$30,000-\$40,000 (villa), \$51,000-\$68,000 (full estate) per week. 264-497-7888, anivillas.com. —Paul Rubio

form and function are **one** Frank Lloyd Wright



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Bahamian Brawn

Baker's Bay, Discovery Land Company's latest venture, shows true grit and growth in the Bahamas. By **Scott Kauffman**

LOCATED ON Great Guana Cay about eight miles from the Bahamian island of Great Abaco, Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club is Discovery Land's newest private golf and resort-style community.

Discovery Land executives recently celebrated the grand opening of their Tom Fazio-designed golf course with good reason. After the global financial crisis sank dozens of luxury communities in the Caribbean from 2007 to 2009, Baker's Bay not only survived, but it thrived. Heading into the 2011 selling season, Discovery Land partner Steve Adelson is bullish about Baker's Bay.

His optimism is fueled by an estimated \$50 million in sales already written in the first part of 2011, not to mention another "\$15 million on the books," according to Adelson.

Adds Adelson: "Just based on holiday activity with the recovery in the New York and Northeast (U.S.) markets and some European

markets we're starting to market...we see 2011 as being a robust year."

That says a lot for a community where custom homes start at \$6 million, four-bedroom developer townhomes start at \$2.5 million, and single-family marina and ocean-front residences range from \$4.5 million to \$6 million. The planned 375-unit development has approximately 10 custom homes and 20 developer homes in construction.

Discovery has invested almost \$30 million in golf course and other infrastructure over the last 12 months, including the opening of a 200-slip state-of-the-art marina for yachts up to 250 feet.

"After the shock of 2007, '08 and '09, we're going back to our roots, so to speak," Adelson says. "High-net-worth individuals are no longer looking at real estate just as an investment. Now, they're looking at it as an investment in family."

Must Sea

LA SAMANNA BY ORIENT-EXPRESS Already renowned for its French Caribbean fare, La Cave, the world-class wine cellar at La Samanna by Orient-Express, is now offering a cheese cellar to pair up with some of the finest wines in the world. Guests can sample artisanal selections like Salers cheese coupled with Alpha Montes Chardonnay or Morbier cheese with Chablis Laroche Chardonnay. Regularly recognized by *Wine Spectator* for its extensive selection, La Cave features 12,000 bottles of wine, including 1,250 labels from 13 countries. A variety of 20 cheeses is delivered to the cellar twice weekly from the French fromagerie Maison Bordier. The resort also welcomes Executive Chef Vincent Wallez to its Le Réserve restaurant. Chef Wallez developed a menu that allows visitors to create customized meals based on fresh offerings and their preferences. When not sampling the resort's cuisine, guests can enjoy a sunset cruise, relax at the spa, or experience the vibrant scene in St. Martin. lasamanna.com. —M.G.

CELLAR DWELLER: La Cave.



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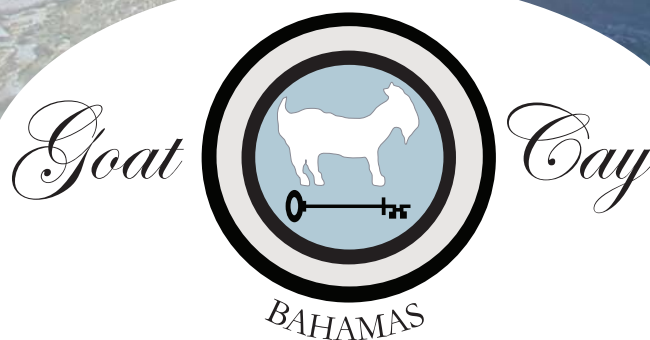
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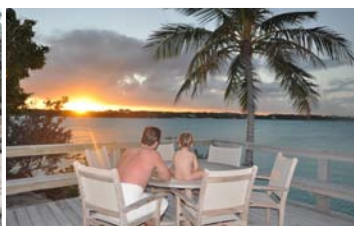




Goat Cay is located on Great Exuma, a jewel in the Bahamian necklace of over 700 Islands. Nestled on the tip of a secluded peninsula, it is only minutes away from the historic village of George Town.

The property, which rests atop a coral point, is surrounded by lush tropical foliage and a spectacular ocean view. It is a special haven for those who enjoy their privacy.

The surrounding area is renowned as a fishing and boating paradise and offers some of the best snorkeling in the Bahamas. George Town can be reached by air from Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Atlanta in less than 2 hours.



For more information or to book a reservation please go to
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Glass House

A coastal Massachusetts home is a breathtaking marriage between modern décor and old-fashioned functionality. By **Regina Cole**

TWENTY YEARS AGO, a woman glimpsed a house along the shoreline of Swampscott, Massachusetts. She fell hard for the Shingle-style structure, originally built as a summer retreat for wealthy Victorians. When it became available 20 years later, her family pulled up roots and moved to “Spindrift.”

Before the ink on the sale agreement dried, the homeowner called Siemasko & Verbridge, the design firm that had helped her transform previous homes. Thaddeus Siemasko, architect, and Jean Verbridge, interior designer, counseled her to spend one year getting to know the house. “The light changes, you develop patterns of moving through the rooms, and you learn what you love and what you want to change,” Verbridge says.

Siemasko & Verbridge moved the kitchen location to overlook the home’s glorious view, connected the garage to the house and built an office above it, and replaced the 1960s picture windows with hurricane-level fenestration. New terraces, lawns, and a fire pit were added, as well as direct access from the kitchen to the outdoors. Underused attic and basement space became teenage digs, a gym, and a wine cellar.

The interior design, done in green, gray, and bisque, draws on the owners’ collections of Biedermeier furniture, marine-inspired art, antique lighting fixtures, and historic American quilts. Jean Verbridge took design cues from the collections. “They provide interest, color, and patterns,” she says.

For example, billiard room built-ins and den walls lined with mahogany and anigre pay homage to the characteristic two-tone look of Biedermeier furniture. Chandeliers and sconces act as room jewels, while beloved oil paintings echo the seascape. The media room windows mimic Amish quilts in stained glass, while leaded glass graces others. Stained glass reappears in transoms and in the wine cellar, where wine-bottle bottoms form windows that allow light in without exposing vintages to sunshine. In a house filled with beautiful details, the novel use of glass provides special delight.

“People are drawn to the glass orbs on the newel posts,” the owner says. With clear ones on the first floor and amethyst on the second, the newel caps are an inspired grace note devised by Verbridge. “They speak of the ever-changing light outside,” she says.

The designer’s greatest satisfaction, however, comes from function, not form. “[My family uses] every room in the house,” she says, happy that the old house fits the busy life of a modern family.



SEASIDE SANCTUARY: Clockwise from top, orbs adorn newel posts at the foot of a stairwell; the new firepit; the kitchen/dining area; the exterior; and a billiard room.

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Deck the Walls

Colorful wall art is an unexpected way to liven up your living space.

PALM BEACH, Florida-based artist and interior designer Rhea (like Cher or Madonna, no last name) never worries about finding the right-sized frame for her works. That's because entire walls

are her empty canvas. Starting with the blank interior walls of waterfront homes in South Florida, Rhea creates surprising and often three-dimensional images that turn an entire room into a delightful piece of art.

"My clients may have a hobby or passion, such as snorkeling or ballooning, but often they just want something that is fun to look at, like clouds or castles," she says. While she is more than happy to fulfill her clients' wishes, Rhea also encourages everyone to become his or her own "wall artist."

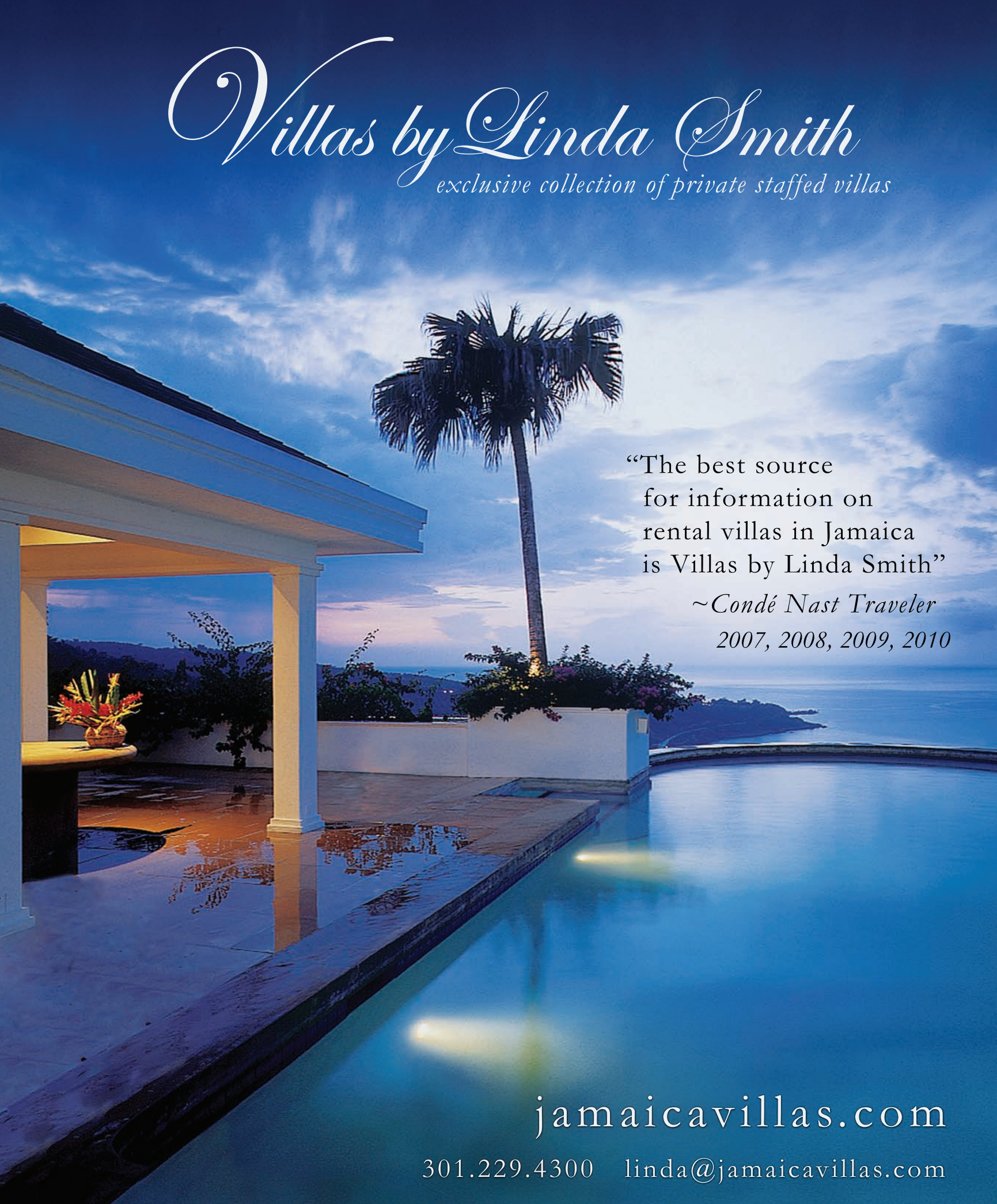
Of the ideal medium, Rhea says, "You don't need to worry about fancy paints because, after all, it's just a wall. Most of my paint comes from Home Depot, but you can also use acrylics or oils." She recommends that clients or do-it-yourselfers start with a sketch of what they want, followed by pencil marks on the wall to get the size and position right.

"Don't be shy about adding three-dimensional objects to your wall, either," she says. A hot-glue gun or clear silicone sealant will provide plenty of grip, which she used in one underwater scene to add a plastic Nemo toy, ceramic tropical fish, and shells from a local shop.

"I use flat glass stones or marbles for the bubbles above fish, and I like to add shells and brightly colored coral along the baseboard molding to create the effect of the sea bottom." In a room with walls the exact color of the afternoon sky, she painted fluffy clouds that seem to be floating right out the window. As a finishing touch, she added a faint half-moon for children to discover.

But walls aren't Rhea's only canvas: the artist turned the concrete floor of her own studio into the clear blues and greens of the Caribbean sea and then dotted the floor with brightly colored starfish that she applied using a hand-made stencil. "I have to laugh because visitors sometimes carefully step over the starfish until they realize they're just paint!"

The best thing about wall art? "If you don't like it," she says, "you can just paint over it!" gallarhea.com, 561-753-1382. —Chris Caswell

A photograph of a luxurious villa at dusk. On the left, a covered patio with white columns is visible, with a small table holding a vase of red flowers. A large, tall palm tree stands in the center, its reflection visible in the calm water of a swimming pool that occupies the foreground. The sky is a deep blue with some clouds, and the ocean is visible in the background under the twilight sky.

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THE DISH
Pork Illusion.



Pork Perfection

At La Vista restaurant at Los Sueños Marriott Ocean & Golf Resort in Costa Rica, Executive Chef Jose Prendas pulls a rabbit—or pig—out of his hat with his signature dish.

PORK MAY NOT SEEM like the most Caribbean dish out there (unless it's barbecued), but at Los Sueños Marriott Ocean & Golf Resort on the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, Executive Chef Jose Prendas is making his Pork Illusion entrée a natural fit for the fresh flavors and ingredients of the region.

Typically, Prendas revels in using fresh seafood and local fruits and vegetables, but because the resort's clients are from all over the world, he also aims for international appeal. "It's a fine balance," he says. —*Lisa Rogak*

Pork Illusion

SERVES 4

1-1/2 lb. pork tenderloin, cut into 4 portions
Salt and pepper to taste
1 tbsp. olive oil
1 bottle ale
2 tbsp. butter
1 carrot, peeled and diced
1 onion, peeled and diced
2 slices uncooked bacon, coarsely chopped
3 tbsp. all-purpose flour
12 oz. beef stock, divided

Bouquet garni (bundle of fresh herbs like bay leaf, thyme, and parsley)

2 tbsp. tomato paste

2 c. cooked long-grain rice

1/4 c. sweet chili sauce

1 large zucchini, very thinly sliced and lightly grilled

6 oz. fig demiglace, or substitute 3 oz. fig jam mixed with 2 oz. water

1 red bell pepper

4 sprigs cilantro

4 cherry tomatoes

1 fig, sliced into 4 wedges

2 cloves garlic, minced

Preheat oven to 325°F. Season pork with salt and pepper. Heat oil in large oven-proof skillet and sear marinated pork in pan on both sides until lightly browned. Add ale to pan and heat until liquid boils. Remove from stove and set in preheated oven for 10 minutes. In the meantime, prepare béchamel sauce:

Melt butter in a heavy saucepan over low heat. Add carrot, onion, and bacon and cook for 10 minutes or until tender. Add flour, stirring until lightly browned. Slowly pour in 1 cup of the stock, stirring constantly until mixture thickens slightly. Add bouquet garni, cover, and simmer for 30 minutes. Add remaining stock and tomato paste and cook for 30 minutes, stirring frequently. Strain sauce through a sieve, skim off fat, and adjust seasoning.

Warm the demiglace over low heat. Stir the béchamel sauce and sweet chili sauce into the rice. Line 4 half-cup square molds with the grilled zucchini strips, and pack the rice into the molds, making sure that the zucchini covers the rice. Heat one tablespoon of butter in a small saucepan and sauté the cherry tomatoes and figs until tender. Season with salt and pepper.

To serve, slice each tenderloin into six pieces. Place two tablespoons of demiglace onto a plate and arrange pork slices on top. Unmold the rice and zucchini, and arrange bell pepper and cilantro sprig on top. Spoon one tablespoon of demiglace onto the plate and set tomato and fig on top.

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Editor's Picks

Three more worthy hammocks for the rock star in you.

- ① Deluxe DuraCord Rope Hammock, \$169, and Tri-Beam steel stand, \$179.99, hatteras-hammocks.com.
- ② Kingcord Hampton Head Fabric Hammock, \$259, kingcord.com.
- ③ Outer Banks Hammocks Deluxe Double Porch Swing, \$275, obxhammocks.com.





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It's Electric!

An innovative boat owner turns his frustrations over a gas-powered motor into a whole new concept in boating. By **Chris Caswell**

WHEN HE GREW WEARY of trying to keep the engine running in his beat-up motorboat, then college student Marshall "Duffy" Duffield had no idea that he was about to create a mini industry. Replacing his boat's gas engine with an electric motor from a golf cart, Duffield discovered it was perfect for cruising the harbor: quiet, reliable, and eco-friendly. The electric motor uses no gas nor does it emit fumes, and a recharge costs merely pennies. In 1970, the Duffy Electric Boat Co. was launched to build "Duffys" ranging in size today from 14 feet to 22 feet.

Unquestionably the leader in the electric boat field, there are more than 2,000 Duffys on Newport Harbor in Southern California alone. A waterfront restaurant even has a "Duffy Seafood Platter" for boaters who pull up to their dock to pick up munchies for harbor cruising with friends. A company renting Duffys has weekend waiting lists, a local resort provides them for guests, and other Duffys can be found nationwide. They are popular on lakes where only electric power is allowed, and they meander insouciantly amongst the megayachts in Ft. Lauderdale.



CHARGE BARGE
The Duffy 18
Snug Harbor.

With their canvas sun canopies (sometimes fringed) and their comfortable seating, Duffys are undeniably cute. Roll-down windows provide protection from wind or rain, and optional heaters make them all-season. The essence of a Duffy is comfort, from the deeply cushioned seating to the mini-galleys that can be fitted with refrigerators and blenders.

Duffield, who had planned to design racing sailboats, builds as many as 1,000 a year and is clearly delighted at his business, although he admits, "I never thought I'd be known for the world's slowest boat!" It might be slow at six miles per hour, but the average Duffy can cruise for more than seven hours on a single charge. They're so easy to operate that even kids can get the hang of an electric boat quickly.

As with any successful business, Duffy has its competitors, including Lear Boats, started by Shanda Lear-Baylor, the daughter of Lear bizjet designer Bill Lear. The Lear 204 is a 20-footer with a unique retractable top that becomes a secure cover for the interior when lowered. A private compartment on the 204 holds a portable toilet.

Whether they like the idea of harbor cruising in silence or the eco-friendliness, it's no surprise that waterfront homeowners have embraced electric boating. duffyboats.com, 949-645-6811; learbaylor.com, 949-722-7757.

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ISLAND LIFE: Block Island is a perfect backdrop for Bernard's contemporary home.



Block Island Beauty

A movie industry maven makes this Rhode Island jewel the site for his dream vacation home. By **Anna Kasabian**

THE BEACHES and architectural purity of Block Island, Rhode Island, have captured the hearts of Tom Bernard, his wife, Nena, and their two children for 15 years. When the opportunity came about to purchase a two-acre hilltop property, designs for their year-round vacation home quickly followed.

"[Block Island is] listed as one of the last 100 great places in the world," Bernard says. "It's maintained so it doesn't change or get [visually] polluted with modern-day advertising."

Bernard, co-president of Sony Pictures Classics, and his family had few requirements; among them was having an outdoor observation tower, a guest

wing, and a layout that took advantage of the 360-degree ocean views. "It is a simple design; no unnecessary bells and whistles," Bernard says.

The Newport firm Estes Twombly Architects, Inc. took on the project—their fourth on the island—on property that James Estes says was once slotted for a phone tower that islanders, not surprisingly, did not welcome.

Says Bernard, "One of the great things about being here is you can find a beach with just one person on it. You've got Long Island Sound on one side and the Atlantic on the other, and you can even see the two bodies of water come together in a division of color."

The tower sits between the main house and the guest wing, offering a sense of privacy for guests and convenience for winter escapes, for which only the main house needs to be used. The main house consists of two bedrooms, a living room, and a kitchen; the guest wing has an entertainment room and garage on the first floor and two bedrooms above. This upside-down layout was embraced to allow the public spaces to capture the views.

There are mini-escapes within this Block Island escape, including the deck where the family comes together to watch the sunset, and the maze Bernard had designed to weave through the property's woods. "It's a natural walkway we've landscaped to create privacy. We cleared overgrowth and vines to expose some of the old trees and stone walls—all to create views as you walk," he says of his little piece of paradise.

Photographs by Warren Jagger

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TWICE AS FUN
Hobie Tandem Kayak.



HOBIE TANDEM KAYAKS The newest members of Hobie Cat's well-known line of water toys are two tandem kayaks, the Mirage Oasis and the Odyssey. Most kayaks are single-occupant boats, so the fact that these allow for two people is a big draw, especially for families or couples. Of course, if you prefer solo explorations, each can be paddled by just one person, too. Either way, the models are each about 14 feet in length, can carry plenty of gear—even fishing rods—and have padded seats. While the Odyssey is a traditional paddleboat, the Mirage Oasis features Hobie's Mirage-Drive pedal system. It's akin to an exercise stepper, wherein you alternate pedaling your left and right feet to activate underwater flippers. The flippers push the Mirage Oasis through the water with a bit more speed, while your hands and arms are free to point out birds and fish or take photos. MSRP: \$2,699 for the Mirage Oasis and \$849 for the base model of the Odyssey (\$1,199 with the deluxe package, which adds three more storage bins and other niceties). A handful of optional accessories are also available for both, including a mast and sail. *hobiecat.com.* —**Diane M. Byrne**

Yacht Watch

Turkey's Vicem Yachts enjoys a reputation for high-quality, all-mahogany yachts from 50 to 100 feet. The newest, the **Vicem 78 Cruiser**, blends classic and contemporary looks. Interior and exterior spaces emphasize entertaining and cruising in comfort. There's a full-beam master stateroom with a king-size bed. Friends and family can stay in the VIP stateroom, with a king-size bed, and two guest staterooms, one with a double bed and the other with twin beds. Satin-finished mahogany, rather than the usual high-gloss wood, lines the walls. Outside, there's ample space for lounging, including a sun pad on the foredeck, a Jacuzzi on the flying bridge, and a cockpit with a table and seats. \$4.3 million, *vicem yachts.com.* —**D.B.**



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Style

Face Time

Pieces to help keep time abroad and at home.



MACHINE AGE

The Bucherer Patravi TravelTec FourX,
\$52,900, carl-f-bucherer.com.
See page 48 for more watches.



GRAND GRENADA: LaSource, above, makes the perfect base from which to explore the riches of Grenada.

Bold Spice

Known for its wealth of spices, Grenada offers countless options for adventure and R&R.

GRENADA IS KNOWN as the Spice Island for its wealth of nutmeg, mace, cloves, and other spices, but the resorts and attractions on this 133-square-mile island also provide spice for the soul. Grenada is part of the the Grenadines, just 100 miles north of Venezuela, and with a population of almost 110,000, it's one of the more densely populated islands in the Caribbean. Year-round temperatures are idyllic, and there's plenty of sun even during the rainy season in the second half of the year.

The island's diverse landscape means there's something for everyone, including an abundance of pink sand beaches. But head a couple of miles inland and you'll encounter dense rainforests via hilly roads with countless twisty hairpin turns. In fact, the altitude change means that it's not unusual for your ears to pop as you climb through the rainforest.

Watersports aficionados can enjoy sailing, snorkeling, and diving opportunities throughout the island, though a popular starting point is Grand Anse

Beach. Snorkelers can explore Moliniere Point, a shallow, sheltered reef a 10-minute boat ride away, while nearby, divers can walk the decks of the *Bianca C*, a small cruise ship that sank off the coast in 1960. Whether you arrive by yacht or charter a windjammer for a day trip, warm waters off the coast provide plenty of sailing hours, while the island's marinas keep you well-supplied. A popular excursion features jaunts to other Grenadine islands, including Carriacou and Petit Martinique, though it's possible to head farther afield with stops in Mustique, St. Vincent, or St. Lucia.

Grenada provides a wealth of activi-

ties for visitors, whether you prefer to laze on the beach or hit the ground running. And don't miss St. George's, Grenada's picturesque capital city. Plan an afternoon to wander around the waterfront neighborhood known as Carenege for the best views of the centuries-old homes topped with red tile, and watch the yachts, boats, and ships as they glide in and out of the harbor. If you happen to be in town on Saturday, head for Market Square, when farmers, spice purveyors, and craftspeople come from all over the country to display their wares. *grenada grenadines.com.* —*Lisa Rogak*

THE ESSENTIALS GRENADA

① **WHERE TO STAY** Located on Pink Gin Beach, **LaSource** is an oceanfront resort that combines the best of summer camp, featuring group volleyball games, yoga classes, and archery lessons, as well as a daily all-inclusive spa treatment. 888-527-0044; *lasourceresort.com*.

② **WHERE TO EAT** Not only is the **Belmont Estate** a working agri-tourism farm—with the Grenada Chocolate Factory on the premises—but it also serves up great lunches, dinners, and killer

homemade coconut ice cream. 473-442-9524; *belmontestate.net*.

③ **WHAT TO DO** Hike a couple miles to the Seven Sisters Waterfall deep in the rainforest, with the guide services of **Telfor Bedeau**, a Grenada native who will give you the lowdown on every leaf and critter you pass. 473-442-6200. **Veronica's Visions** is a local boutique featuring handmade island clothing and a selection of nutmeg-based body products and foods. 473-437-8154; *grenada spicecloth.com*.



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& Spa Resort.

Riviera Respite

On the powder-soft shores of Mexico's Riviera Maya, Grand Velas All Suites & Spa Resort is a one-stop shop for sand, sea, sun, and pure pampering.

UPON PULLING UP to the AAA Five Diamond Grand Velas All Suites & Spa Resort, the resort's dramatic entrance—a giant, sleek white wall looming over a modern-day moat—indicates the luxury to come on the other side. Indeed, Grand Velas offers just that, from its spacious suites to its fail-safe service.

Grand Velas's 491 suites are divided among three areas: the premier Grand Class area's 89 oceanview suites have private plunge pools and Jacuzzis; the "family-friendly" area offers 197 oceanview suites with terraces, sitting areas, and, in some, private plunge pools; and a "jungle" area offers 206 suites amid lush vegetation.

All suites have private terraces, as well as amenities like whirlpool tubs, flat-screen TVs, wireless Internet access, and 24-hour room service. Some might find it easy to while away their stay in the confines of their suite, but Grand Velas offers plenty of reasons to venture out as well.

Resort guests would be well advised to start their stay with a visit to its world-class spa. A member of The Leading Spas of the World, the 99,000-square-foot facility is complete with a sprawling space dedicated to the Riviera Maya Water Journey, which includes hot and cold plunge pools, deluxe showers, bubbly underwater beds, saunas, steam

rooms, and an ice room. Spa treatments include massages, facials, and skin and body therapies using local and international ingredients and techniques. (The Oxygenating Facial felt refreshing after a weekend in the sun.) Treatments are customized, and spa therapists send spa-goers home with a list of products from their treatments should they want to prolong the effects.

Another place to recharge is at one of Grand Velas's many restaurants. Venues like Azul and Chaka are laid-back and offer buffet-style dining during the day, ideal for a quick breakfast before hitting the beach or lunch between activities. True standouts include Piaf for fine French cuisine, Sen Lin (located in the Riviera Maya Convention Center) for upscale Asian dishes, and the signature restaurant Cocina de Autor, which produces Spanish haute cuisine.

When it's time for fun in the sun, guests can stake their claim on a spot by the resort's tiered beachfront swimming pool, take a pair of giant-wheeled water bikes for a spin, snorkel along the shoreline, or take a day trip to a number of nearby attractions. A dedicated concierge team is at the ready to make guests' every wish and whim come true at Grand Velas. enrivieramaya.grandvelas.com. —**Lindsay Lambert**

The Agenda

XCARET The park offers swimming with sharks and dolphins, snorkel and sea-trekking tours, "snuba" diving, and eco-education. Xcaret also hosts cultural events, like The Sacred Mayan Journey in May and, in November, The Death and Life Traditions Festival, which coincides with Mexico's Día De Los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, celebrations. xcaret.com. **CHICHEN**

ITZA AND TULUM The site of this pre-Columbian Mayan city was voted one of the seven new Wonders of the World in 2007. Explore its stone buildings, its network of *sacbeobs*, or once-paved roads, and its Cenote Sagrado, a large natural sinkhole. Or, head to Tulum, site of a pre-Columbian coastal Mayan walled city. chichenitza.com, travelyucatan.com/tulum_mexico.php.

CANCUN AND COZUMEL Cancun is famous for its beaches and touristy hotel zone, rife with shopping, restaurants, and nightlife. Ideal for a more nature-based excursion, Cozumel, Mexico's largest island, lies 12 miles offshore and is replete with coral reefs that offer some of the region's best snorkeling. visitmexico.com.



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T H E

LANDINGS

St. Lucia

Time Is At Your Side

Dual-time zone watches for the road—and skies.

By **Lindsay Lambert**

- ① Ulysse Nardin Dual Time, \$19,900, ulysee-nardin.com. ② Patek Philippe Ladies' Calatrava Travel Time 4934G, \$27,200, patek.com. ③ Rolex Oyster Perpetual GMT-Master II, \$27,200, rolex.com. ④ Piaget Polo FortyFive Watch, \$19,900, piaget.com. ⑤ Bucherer Patravi T-24, \$5,600, carl-f-bucherer.com.





Ocean Club PARADISE ISLAND

\$2,230,000

Listing: 4550

Every element of Ocean Club Residences & Marina has been carefully designed to ensure your undisturbed relaxation. The Residences provide access to a private beach club, situated on one of the most beautiful beaches in the world, and an on-site marina. Homeowners enjoy full access to gourmet dining and spa facilities at the exclusive One&Only Ocean Club. Residents may also acquire a membership to the Ocean Club's championship golf course designed by Tom Weiskopf. Enjoy luxury living in this turnkey, 3 bedroom residence that overlooks the harbour – the centerpiece of the development.

Waterfront living in The Bahamas

Cape Santa Maria LONG ISLAND

\$632,000

Listing: 3560



Cape Santa Maria is located on the northwest coast of Long Island, in the warm, sunny Bahamas. Geographically it is known for its shallow, turquoise waters, its sheltered bay lined by white sandy beaches and lush green plant life. Untouched and undiscovered, Cape Santa Maria is unlike any place you have ever experienced. Mile after mile of powdery-fine sandy beach melts into the crystal clear blue water. A visit to Cape Santa Maria is an experience you will never forget.



Canalfront Elegance

LYFORD CAY, NASSAU

\$6,395,000

Listing: 4482

Located in the world renowned gated community of Lyford Cay, this beautiful 6,000 sq. ft. home has 5 bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms. Situated on a ¼ acre property with 150 feet of canal frontage. The elegantly decorated dining room, spacious master bedroom, living room, and main guest bedroom open out onto covered patios where you can enjoy the relaxing canal views plus entertain and relax around the pool. The dock can secure up to a 100-foot yacht and the boat lift will accommodate up to 20,000 lbs.

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Jetset Pets

By adhering to a few key tips, traveling will no longer mean having to part with your precious four-legged friends.

By **Paul Rubio**

AT SOME POINT in the lives of jet-setters comes a temporary yet tough farewell to the canines and felines who love them unconditionally. That's why pet lovers rejoiced when upscale hotels began rolling out the red carpet for their beloved friends. However, the intricacies of pet-friendly travel are far more complex than supervised doggie socials. Airlines have yet to match the pet-friendly paradigm, severely limiting choices for comfortable transportation. From domestic getaways to international immigration, it's a tangled web of terms and conditions, restrictions, and hidden charges. According to Chris Nichol of pettravel.com, advanced planning and due diligence are key to overcoming the diverse requirements for taking your precious pets on the road.

Fine Print Commercial Airlines Airlines differ when it comes to rules for pet types, breed restrictions, and whether pets can fly as carry-on baggage, checked baggage, or cargo. Checking a pet as luggage or cargo carries risk, especially with seasonal variations, extreme temperatures, delays, and airport mishaps. All pets require a certificate of good health from a veterinarian.

Pocket Pets To bring a small pet on a domestic flight as a carry-on, he or she must fit into a small International Air Transport Association-approved carrier with a waterproof bottom that fits under the seat in front of the passenger. He or she cannot weigh more than 18 pounds and must be less than 12 inches

tall. Note: most airlines will not allow more than two pets per cabin.

Size Matters A number of high-end hotel companies, like Ritz-Carlton, Four Seasons, and Mandarin Oriental, permit only small pets (usually less than 30 pounds) and may charge a one-time cleaning fee for the duration of the stay.

Pet Passport Outside the continental U.S., each country and territory imposes its own restrictions and immigration rules. Nichol recommends that all pet owners create six months in advance a

Pet Passport, a collection of all identifying and required documents for entering a given country. This will facilitate travel and avoid unwanted quarantine.

Flying Private This is the superlative method for bypassing commercial restrictions on quantity, size, and breeds.

Pooch Palaces Brands like Kimpton, Loews, and Fairmont are committed to welcoming all pets at no extra charge. Most properties even boast in-house mascots, who ham it up in the lobby for Scooby snacks.



Waterfront Paradise.... Stuart Florida



Oceanfront Lot in Gated Community

Build your dream home in Galleon Bay on South Hutchinson Island! Overlooking the Atlantic Ocean with gated entry, estate homes, miles of sandy beaches and breathtaking views! Close to shopping and restaurants. Two lots available. **\$795,000 and \$1,150,000**



Sought-After Oceanfront Condo

Don't miss your opportunity to own in The Dunes – a unique two bedroom, two and one half bath town house with all the charm of a Mediterranean village! Lots of outdoor spaces, heated pool, gated entry, tennis and stunning ocean and sunrise views. **\$529,900**



Beautiful Inlet and Ocean Views

Tastefully decorated and updated three bedroom, four bath condo in unique Sailfish Point Country Club. Perfect southeast exposures with inlet and ocean views. Club amenities offer guard-gated entry, golf, pool, oceanfront clubhouse, Har-Tru tennis and deep water marina. **\$695,000**



Panoramic River and Ocean Views

Sitting directly on the inlet with unparalleled views of the St. Lucie River and the blue Atlantic Ocean! Four bedrooms, five and one half baths, custom features, walls of windows and lots of natural light. Prestigious Sailfish Point Country Club amenities. **\$4,400,000**



Sailfish Point Condo on the Ocean

Three bedroom, three bath condominium in Sailfish Point Country Club. Fabulous new kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances, direct ocean views and country club amenities including championship golf, beach club, pool, Har-Tru tennis and deep water marina. **\$1,275,000**



Ocean to River Estate

Located on beautiful Hutchinson Island, this rare half-acre estate offers ocean and river frontage. Furnished with five bedrooms, five baths and eight parking spots! Includes boathouse, two boat lifts, two jet-ski lifts, elevator, sauna and so much more. **\$1,800,000**

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THE TOP 20 OCEANFRONT DEVELOPMENTS



Oceanfront living has different meanings for different people. To some, the truest oceanfront pleasure is realized the moment you step onto your boat and motor out to the high seas. To others, the consummate coastal experience is playing a round of golf where craggy cliffs meet the crashing sea in awestruck splendor. Some simply satisfy their innermost coastal connections by living amongst the pristine nature of a low-density development where the main amenity is Mother Nature's raw beauty.

By **Scott Kauffman**

THE KEY

- G** **GOLF** Great Abaco, Bahamas; La Paz, Mexico; Key Largo, Florida; Montego Bay, Jamaica
- M** **MARINA** St. Kitts; Herradura Bay, Costa Rica; Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands; Anacortes, Washington
- R** **RESORT** Kapalua, Maui, Hawaii; Punta Mita, Mexico; Willemstad, Curacao; Galveston, Texas
- E** **ECO-CENTRIC** Kiawah Island, South Carolina; Virgin Gorda, BVI; Bocas del Toro, Panama; Narragansett, Rhode Island
- P** **PRIVATE** New Providence, Bahamas; Kauai, Hawaii; Kona-Kohala Coast, Hawaii; Roatan, Honduras

M



ST. KITTS

CHRISTOPHE HARBOUR Upon its “official” launch in 2012, Christophe Harbour is positioned to propel St. Kitts to the forefront of high-end tourism in the Caribbean, highlighted by a 300-acre mega-yacht harbor and marina with full concierge and hospitality services. The 300-slip marina will be a designated port of entry with streamlined Customs and Immigration Services, featuring a private yacht club component and harbourside village that encompasses a collection of luxury shops and restaurants. The Beach Club is scheduled for an April 2011 opening, and the Beach House is one fine dining restaurant already open alongside four beachfront one-bedroom villas with private gazebos, decks, and plunge pools available for nightly rentals. South Carolina-based Kiawah Development, whose namesake Kiawah Island is a renowned destination, is currently dredging the harbor for mega-yacht depth and actually using that soil to build three golf holes that will play along the harbor. Many of the remaining golf holes, designed by esteemed golf course architect Tom Fazio, will play on a plateau 500 feet above sea level when it is scheduled to open in 2013. **\$600,000 to \$2.7 million, christopheharbour.com**

KEY LARGO, FLORIDA

G



OCEAN REEF CLUB Ocean Reef Club comprises two championship 18-hole layouts, a rarity in the Florida Keys. The Club’s courses, designed by Bob Von Hagge and Bruce Devlin in 1969, are in excellent condition. Ten years ago, the Dolphin Course underwent a \$3 million redesign and renovation under the direction of golf course architect Chip Powell. Golf course homes are nestled in tropical hardwood hammocks with fairway and sometimes lake views and

offer close proximity to the club marina and other major points within Ocean Reef. Ocean Reef became a private club in 1993, and the community-owned club now has close to 4,000 members and approximately 1,700 waterfront estates, private golf-course homes, condominiums, and boat slips. Waterfront properties offer water views, breeze exposure, and deep-water access for boats and larger yachts. **\$1 million to \$20-plus million, 800-319-7686, oceanreef.com**

R

WILLEMSTAD, CURACAO

SANTA BARBARA PLANTATION With the opening of the Hyatt Regency Curacao Resort and Spa and legendary golf designer Pete Dye’s Old Quarry” Golf Course, this historic island has now reached the level of other world-class destination resorts. And these impressive amenities don’t even include the deepwater Seru Boca Marina, the Tennis Center run by Peter Burwash International, or the powdery white sand beaches, colorful shallow reefs and turquoise waters offshore. The setting for all this is the 1,500-acre Santa Barbara Plantation, a \$700 million master-planned resort community 10 miles from Curaçao’s capital city of Willemstad. Besides the golf course, there is also a new 120-slip marina located near the hotel that can accommodate up to five megayachts up to 120 feet in length, dive boats, charter boats, and catamarans for evening dinner cruises. The community also features a private beach club for residents and their guests, business center, outdoor swimming pools, and boutique retail shops and miles of walking, jogging, and bicycling trails. **\$650,000 to \$8 million, santabarbaraplantation.com**



BOCAS DEL TORO, PANAMA

RED FROG BEACH RAINFOREST RESORT & MARINA Panama's Red Frog Beach Rainforest Resort & Marina is positioned to capitalize on the eco-tourism trend. Situated on Isla Bastimentos, approximately 30 miles from the border of Costa Rica, this island is renowned for its beaches and rainforest and is home to Panama's national marine park. Activities at the resort community include fishing, snorkeling, kayaking, surfing, hiking, bird watching, and cave tours. The resort offers spectacular Caribbean views, white-sand beaches, stunning architecture and landscaping, and a protected private marina—all next to a national wildlife preserve. The island is a 10-minute boat ride from Bocas Town, which has an eclectic Caribbean vibe with nightlife, restaurants, and an airport. Currently the villa residences are being rented to vacationers, and several villas are occupied by owners. Construction is ongoing at the resort and approximately 25 homes have been completed along with a jungle lodge called Bocas Bound. **\$400,000 to high \$700,000, redfrogbeach.com**

E



P



KAUAI, HAWAII

KUKUI'ULA The island of Kauai is no longer in the shadows of its fellow Hawaiian islands when it comes to world-class oceanfront living thanks to the opening of Kukui'ula on the island's southern coast. A private \$100 million clubhouse serves as the centerpiece of the community, while residents also have use of a spa, the Kukui'ula Golf Club, a Tom Weiskopf-designed championship golf course, and an array of swimming pools. The club also includes a community farm and 20-acre fishing lake. The 20,000-square-foot Plantation House, which overlooks Kukui'ula Bay, is a showcase of classic Hawaii style. A great room, with coffered ceilings and wood beams and an eclectic mix of furnishings collected from around the world, opens to a wraparound lanai with numerous seating areas offering all-day views of the Pacific, Spouting Horn, ocean sunsets and the finishing shots of golfers on the 9th and 18th holes. **\$1 million to \$3.6 million, kukuiula.com**

HERRADURA BAY, COSTA RICA

LOS SUEÑOS RESORT AND MARINA Based on its breathtaking Herradura Bay setting on the Central Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, Los Sueños Resort and Marina is a perfect escape for those looking to buy a vacation home in increasingly popular Central America. Of course, one of the main highlights at Los Sueños is the 200-slip marina, the first government-sanctioned, full-service international marina. Over the years, Los Sueños has proven to be one of the most successful resort developments in Central America with record-breaking home sales, fueled by the marvelous marina that is considered the best in Latin America for its world-class facilities and renowned bill fishery. (Having the highly acclaimed 201-room Los Sueños Marriott Ocean & Golf Resort nearby certainly helped.) Other top amenities in place are the Beach Club and 18-hole La Iguana golf course. The next eight years will see the completion of the remaining phases of the 1,100-acre Los Sueños, including the final phase of Marina Village, several hundred additional luxury residences, and the construction of an eco-lodge in the private 600-acre rainforest reserve. **\$589,000 to \$749,000, lsrm.com**



G

GREAT ABACO, BAHAMAS

ABACO CLUB ON WINDING BAY, A RITZ-CARLTON MANAGED CLUB When it opened more than five years ago, this \$250-million development was billed as the Caribbean's first true links-style golf course and one of the great new courses in the world. The 7,183-yard championship course's first 14 holes traverse wind-blown dunes next to Winding Bay. The final four holes conclude with a downhill 204-yard par-3 No. 17 that seems like you're hitting into the Caribbean and an elevated 572-yard par-5 No. 18 that runs along the ocean as crashing waves climb the seaside cliffs. Three years ago, an affiliate of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company acquired the property and subsequently introduced fractional real estate ownership options as part of the Ritz-Carlton Club. Additionally, there are estate lots ranging from \$520,000 to \$4 million; turn-key oceanfront/bayfront cottages starting from \$1.2 million; and 16 new Ritz-Carlton Destination Club residences with prices starting in the low \$110,000s per fractional interest. **\$1.2 to \$4 million, ritzcarltondestinationclub.com**

M



Abaco Club and Kapalua photographs, The Ritz-Carlton Destination Club



R

KAPALUA, MAUI, HAWAII

RITZ-CARLTON CLUB AND RESIDENCES, KAPALUA BAY Situated along one of Maui's most breathtaking beaches, arguably no other place on Maui is more captivating than Kapalua's spectacular 24-acre oceanfront setting overlooking Kapalua Bay. Beginning at the shoreline and terraced up a gentle slope, The Ritz-Carlton Residences, Kapalua Bay comprise just 84 elegantly appointed three- and four-bedroom fee simple whole-ownership condominiums, fashioned into just four intimate

low-rise structures. Ranging from approximately 3,002 to 4,271 square feet, including approximately 600-1,150 square feet of lanai space, these residences provide a Hawaiian sense of place and seclusion complemented by dramatic views of the ocean, mountains, and neighboring islands Lana'i and Moloka'i. Another new option at Kapalua is The Ritz-Carlton Club, Kapalua Bay, Hawaii's first fractional offering in a resort setting. **\$300,000 fractional interests; \$3.9 million wholly owned, kapaluabay.com**



KONA-KOHALA COAST, HAWAII

FOUR SEASONS RESORT HUALALAI Ke'olu, the Tom Weiskopf-designed members-only golf course at the luxurious Four Seasons Resort Hualalai, is named for the "gentle breeze" that brings a sense of calm and coolness to the Hualalai Club's "mauka" or mountaintop setting. The name is fitting because Hualalai's private residential community has been more than a breath of fresh air for Hawaii's upscale real estate market. At a time when many upscale private and resort-style communities struggled against recessionary headwinds, Hualalai Realty had another banner year at the prestigious 865-acre community located just 10 minutes from the Kona International Airport. Situated along the renowned Kona-Kohala Coast where exquisite resort communities and multi-million dollar home sites dot a 40-mile stretch of pristine oceanfront landscape, Hualalai is home to just 500 families and the perennially ranked AAA/Five Diamond Four Seasons Resort. The resort's gated residential enclaves, home to billionaires and celebrities alike, make Hualalai one of the world's most distinguished addresses. **\$2 million to \$30 million-plus, 800-983-3880; www.hualalairealty.com**



P



E

KIAWAH ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA

KIAWAH ISLAND Just 21 miles from Charleston, one of the newest residential enclaves at Kiawah Island is the Cottages at Cypress Point. In keeping with the developer's commitment to preserving the island's natural beauty, the residences will nurture and enhance a low-density environment while blending indoor and outdoor living. The Cottages at Cypress Point are a custom-designed collection of 23 built-for-sale homesites ranging from approximately 2,200 to 2,500 square feet. Priced from \$1.1 million to \$1.7 million, The Cottages are available in nine floor plans, each of which is designed to complement the area's centuries-old, natural wooded setting. All Cypress Point cottages will be made of natural stucco, copper roofs, and impact-resistant windows. Each home will feature a front and rear courtyard and a covered outdoor living area. **\$1.1 to \$1.7 million, kiawah.com**



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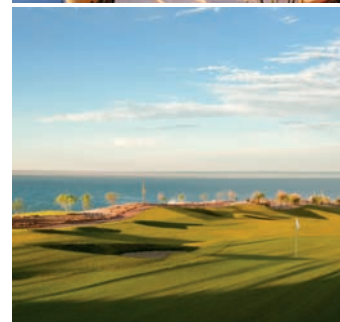
GRAND CAYMAN, CAYMAN ISLANDS

RITZ-CARLTON, GRAND CAYMAN Situated at the doorstep of the dynamic \$650-million Ritz-Carlton Resort, the DeckHouses at the Ritz-Carlton, Dragon Bay is redefining the meaning of marina living. Stretching sea to sea from the acclaimed Seven Mile Beach to the North Sound, Dragon Bay and The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman resort have set a lavish new standard of living on what is arguably the Caribbean's most prosperous, cosmopolitan, and safe island—Grand Cayman. The 360-acre Dragon Bay development, comprising the Residences at the Ritz, the DeckHouses and Secret Harbour, is distinguished by an unparalleled lifestyle experience enhanced with the unique Endless Service program, which includes interior designed turn-key furnishings, a fleet of luxury automobiles, and 36-foot Intrepid motor yachts available for use when in residence. Owners also have access to the legendary service and amenities of the adjacent Ritz-Carlton resort hotel. **\$4.4 to \$6.5 million, dragonbaycayman.com**

G

LA PAZ, MEXICO

COSTABAJA RESORT & SPA CostaBaja Resort & Spa opened last September in Mexico, and Hall of Fame golfer Gary Player unveiled his signature golf course two months later. CostaBaja Resort & Spa is the centerpiece of the 550-acre master-planned Costa Baja development and the area's first five-star resort. Just 10 minutes from downtown La Paz, CostaBaja overlooks the Sea of Cortez and offers 115 rooms with panoramic ocean, mountain, golf course, and marina views. Its challenging golf course is highlighted by 14 dramatic holes overlooking the Bay of La Paz. For potential owners, smaller hillside and golf-front townhomes are being sold in the Las Colinas neighborhood for \$580,900 to \$800,000, while similar-sized oceanfront condos in the VistaMar enclave are going for \$843,000 to \$1 million. Larger oceanview villas range from \$1.1 million to \$1.6 million. **\$580,900 to \$18.4 million, costabaja.com**



P



NEW PROVIDENCE, BAHAMAS

ALBANY Created by the partnership composed of the Tavistock Group and golf stars Tiger Woods and Ernie Els, Albany is nestled among 580 oceanfront acres just seven minutes from Nassau's international airport and two private airfields. Albany's name is inspired by the historic beachside mansion in the heart of the development that now houses a fine dining restaurant and oceanside lounge. Originally owned by French filmmaker and Inspector Gadget-creator

Jean Chalopin, Albany House made history as the site of two movies, most notably the James Bond film "Casino Royale." Among the superb multi-generational amenities to be found are a mega-yacht marina, an 18-hole championship golf course designed by Els, a full-service spa and fitness center, casual and fine dining restaurants, seaside bars, a family water park, kids' clubhouse, and an adult pool and lounge. **\$1.5 to \$4 million, albanybahamas.com**

VIRGIN GORDA, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

OIL NUT BAY On the eastern tip of Virgin Gorda and accessible only by helicopter or boat, Oil Nut Bay is a 300-acre community offering freehold whole ownership for only 88 families. Oil Nut Bay is a low-density property committed to integrating environmentally sensitive practices, such as maintaining 50 percent open space, incorporating ground-breaking carbon-neutral elements and the use of electric cars. Currently in the first sales phase, debt-free Oil Nut offers a variety of lot and home options, including 27 estate lots ranging in size from 1.5 to 10 acres and in price from \$1.95 million to \$5 million. Oil Nut Bay is committed to environmental excellence and eco-progressive policies and foundations. A prime example is local regulations allowed up to 300 units on the 300-acre property, but Michigan-based Victor International will only build 88 units, maintaining its commitment and history of low-density developments and environmental integrity. Other eco-friendly initiatives include wind and solar power and an on-site desalination plant. **\$1.95 to \$9.95 million, oilnutbay.com**

R



PUNTA MITA, MEXICO

PUNTA MITA Exclusive resort-style oasis situated along 9.5 miles of the Pacific Coast. Two Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Courses. Home to a Four Seasons Resort, and now a new St. Regis Resort. Need we say more? The visionary behind this spear-shaped picturesque peninsula along western Mexico's rapidly developing Riviera Nayarit is the Mexico's premier real estate developer, DINE. Located 28 miles north of the romantic town of Puerto Vallarta, Punta Mita is surrounded on three sides by gorgeous white-sand beaches and dramatic coves thanks to Banderas Bay, Mexico's largest natural bay and second largest in the world. Punta Mita will offer approximately 1,000 residences at full buildout. Currently, a range of properties suiting the different tastes and needs of buyers is available, from traditional Mexican-style villas with terracotta tile roofs and palapasto condos with chic urban décors. **\$700,000 up to \$14 million, puntamita.com**

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MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA

PALMYRA RESORT & SPA AT ROSE HALL Palmyra Resort & Spa stretches along 16 acres of Caribbean coastline within the world-class Rose Hall golf course resort community. Residents can relax at two seafront swimming pavilions, enjoy sparkling waters at a protected cove, or get pampered at the 30,000-square-foot Palmyra ESPA. Montego Bay's most prestigious enclave is recognized as one of the leading golf destinations in the world, highlighted by three stunning championship courses—White Witch, Cinnamon Hill, and Half Moon—designed by renowned architects Robert Trent Jones, Sr., Robert von Hagge, and Rick Baril. Simply put, Jamaica's white sand beaches, turquoise waters, and towering palms provide a breathtaking backdrop for a round of golf. Palmyra encompasses a private village built in the grand tradition of British Colonial architecture, from large villa homes to luxurious condominium buildings. **\$450,000-\$3,550,000, thepalmyra.com**



R

GALVESTON, TEXAS

DIAMOND BEACH A lazy river, world-class spa and fitness center, concierge service, and private beach are just a few of the compelling amenities of Diamond Beach, a five-star resort-style development on Galveston's prestigious West Beach. Diamond Beach is the island's only mid-rise condo community located behind the protective Galveston Seawall, a 10-mile stretch of 17-foot-thick concrete built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Just a year old, the pale-pink ultra-modern mid-rise is the inspiration of Houston developer Randall Davis. Situated on 8.5 acres on the Seawall's western edge, Diamond Beach is just steps from a private beach and views of the Gulf of Mexico. In addition to the 750-foot lazy river, a state-of-the-art fitness center with Gulf views, a private theater, and an indoor pool are among the \$4.2 million worth of amenities already built for its 120 homeowners. But the rarest amenity of all is its location: it's the only such development on the Texas Coast with both seawall protection and direct beach access, according to Davis. **\$400,000-plus, diamondbeachgalveston.com**

ANACORTES, WASHINGTON



M

SAN JUAN PASSAGE With its breathtaking views of islands and ferry-dotted waters, San Juan Passage pairs the intimacy of 19th-century seaside communities with the 21st-century design principles of traditional, walkable neighborhood design and sustainable green building practices. The 100 cedar-shingled homes are built with gabled roofs and deep covered porches and streets and park paths wind to the water, perfect for enjoying shoreline trails and sunsets. As for the water, 24-acre San Juan Passage offers

six nearby marinas that provide quick access to the San Juan and Gulf Islands. Anacortes, about 90 miles north of Seattle, is recognized as one of the major boating centers in the country, boasting the second-largest bare boat fleet in the world. Buyers at the 100-unit San Juan Passage have a variety of home styles inspired by historic coastal design, including cottage-style retreats to Harborside Series homes featuring dramatic water views from custom luxury homes. **\$369,000 to \$925,000, sanjuanpassage.com**



San Juan Passage photographs, kp-studios.com



ROATAN, BAY ISLANDS, HONDURAS

KEYHOLE BAY Featuring the world's second-largest barrier reef, this is a boater's heaven. One new place to enjoy in this growing Western Caribbean destination is Keyhole Bay. On the romantic island of Roatan, Keyhole Bay is nestled between rolling hills and Roatan's southwestern shore. Gentle tradewinds highlight breathtaking views of the Hog Islands and mainland Honduras in an idyllic setting that is only minutes from Roatan's lively beachfront village of West End and the famous West Bay Beach. For pure privacy, Keyhole Bay residents can enjoy waterfalls cascading into an infinity-edge pool just steps from a private beach. Keyhole Bay's master plan features 23 presold single-family estate lots, 45 luxurious condos, residential apartments, a clubhouse, retail shops, commercial offices, and a centerpiece pool and restaurant. The community was designed by EDSA, creators of Atlantis Paradise Island (Bahamas). **\$364,000-plus, keyholebay.com**

NARRAGANSETT, RHODE ISLAND

SURFSIDE NARRAGANSETT Picture panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean and Lake Canonchet within an intimate, eco-friendly, and maintenance-free condominium community, and you have the essence of Surfside Narragansett. This luxurious waterfront development is the perfect getaway situated directly across from Narragansett Town Beach. Beyond its beauty, Surfside is considered a leading "green community," having been honored as a finalist for the National Association of Home Builders "National Green Building" awards in 2009. Developed by Providence's Gilbane Development Company, Surfside Narragansett was nominated in the "Project of the Year—Remodel" category for the compelling transformation of existing 1970s apartments into luxury condominiums. The redevelopment of Surfside created a quaint seaside community within the Narragansett Pier Village while utilizing "smart redevelopment," where nine of the 10 buildings remodeled were pre-existing structures. The condominiums have earned the "ENERGY STAR Five-Star Verified Condition" label, with homes that feature high-performance, renewable resource products such as the Icynene Insulation System, Kultur wood flooring, and appliances that carry the ENERGY STAR label. **\$400,000-\$850,000-plus, liveatsurfside.com**



The MERCHANTS OF POOL

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OR FUNKY—
A WELL-BUILT AND
BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED
POOL IS THE CROWNING
JEWEL OF ALMOST ANY
OCEANFRONT ESTATE.
HERE, A GUIDE
TO SOME OF THE
MOST IN-THE-KNOW
BUILDERS.

By Gerald Beck

Oceanfront homes aren't typically sought for their modest size or offerings. With their own libraries, theaters, and gyms, these over-the-top homes are all about excess. But one spot in these homes always seems to get more play than any other—the pool, which is singular in its ability to provide complete escape. Following is a roundup of expert builders, including national powerhouse Blue Haven Pools and select Master Pool Guild members, who can

help create your dream pool.

In Alberta, British Columbia, **ALKA POOL CONSTRUCTION** (alkapools.com) boasts a history spanning more than 45 years. Begun by Graziano Severnigo in 1961 as a business building backyard pools, the outfit was purchased a decade later by Severnigo's brothers, Larry and Amedeo, creating the present-day Alka Pool, an industry leader and British Columbia's leading builder of pools thanks to its European craftsmanship.

What's to love? Alka Pool's innovations have included ozone sanitation, automatic floor-cleaning systems, and new safety standards.

South Carolina's **AQUA-BLUE POOLS, INC.** (aquabluepools.com), founded by Jerry Smith in 1977, is known for its high-quality gunite, vinyl, and fiberglass pools and for its complete pool systems. For clients, Aqua-Blue's complete-system approach means expert service, lower operating costs, and less maintenance.

Add to those qualities the fact that Aqua-Blue Pools is supported by in-house construction teams and craftsmen in the fields of custom stone, tile, brick, iron and woodwork, and custom deck surface treatments, making the company a one-stop shop for the perfect home pool.

Perhaps best known, or most unique, for its high-tech SmartFeatures, **BLUE HAVEN POOLS** (bluehavenpools.com) is established on a national level with 65 offices in the

Huber Pools,
Hawaii



Gib-San Pools,
St. Maarten



Aqua Blue Pools,
South Carolina



Watermania,
Guatemala (opposite)





*Blue Haven Pools,
South Carolina*



*Gib-San Pools,
St. Maarten*



*Blue Haven Pools,
Oklahoma*

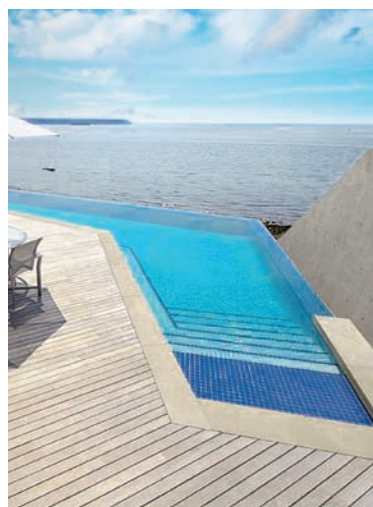




Symphony Pools, California



Aqua Blue Pools, South Carolina



Alka Pools, British Columbia



Huber Pools, Hawaii

U.S. Thanks to those Smart-Features—SmartBrite Color Quartz Interior Finish, SmartControls, SmartFilter with Microban product protection, and SmartSaver cleaning and filtration systems, to name just a few—Blue Haven clients, according to company insiders, enjoy pools that are cleaner, healthier, and more attractive and that involve less cost, upkeep, and chemical use, giving them the perfect reason to throw their own blowout pool parties.

A pioneer in the industry, **FLORIDA BONDED POOLS** (floridabondedpools.com) was the first company of its kind in the Jacksonville area and has built more than 8,000 custom pools since its start in 1964. The in-house team attributes its success to its commitment to customer satisfaction and relationship building, and to promoting the philosophy “a happy customer is the best advertisement.”

Founded in 1982 in South Texas by David Galloway, **GALLOWAY POOLS AND SPAS, INC.** (gallowaypools.com) prides itself on providing products and services that are customized according to

clients’ needs, from budget and space to aesthetics. The result? Picture-perfect pools ranging from sleek, simple stunners to lush palm-lined grottoes. Beyond the pool-building process, clients claim that the company’s efficient and persistent maintenance program has kept their pools in the best possible shape even several years after construction, meaning less time stressing and more time relaxing in the water.

The award-winning **GIBSAN POOLS** (gibsanpools.com), which operates build/design and retail operations in Ontario, Canada, offers not only pool design and construction, but also concept and landscaping services to create a complete and seamless look for its clients’ home pools. Whether your taste is classic and understated or more contemporary, Gib-San’s team of experienced designers, suppliers, and craftsmen can make it happen. To boot, the company’s head designer, Jay Middleton, also holds an art degree, offering additional creative edge, while the company’s cutting-edge CAD software

means failsafe and forward-thinking designs.

Coupled with the naturally beautiful, awe-inspiring landscape of its home state, **HUBER POOLS** (huberpools.com) of Hawaii builds pools that complement—perhaps even compete with—their gorgeous surroundings. In addition to the design and construction of spectacular pools with features like grottoes and waterfalls, Huber’s services include water features and customized outdoor environments. Arguably Hawaii’s most revered pool-building company, Huber’s master craftsmanship and impeccable service has earned the company an impressive roster of clients, including The Ritz-Carlton company, Ka’anapali Beach Club, the Marriott Wailea, West Maui Breakers, Kapalua Villas, Kahana Reef, Kahana Falls, One Napili Way, Kamaole Beach Club, Aina Nalu, Diamond Resorts and the Maui County YMCA.

Few destinations offer utter peace and tranquility in the way that Naples, Florida, does, and **NASSAU POOLS CONSTRUCTION, INC.** (nassaupools.com) will see to



Florida Bonded Pools,
Florida



Blue Haven Pools,
Florida



Aqua Blue Pools,
South Carolina

it that your Gulf Coast home is complete with the perfect pool to round out the laid-back setting. Nassau Pools's projects include commercial and residential pools for both the indoors and outdoors. Insiders say the company's aim is to combine aesthetics and function with the combined use of gardens, islands, and decks built from stone, coral rock, and other natural materials. For an even more dramatic effect, clients can opt for additional accessories like fountains, waterfalls, rock gardens, reflective ponds, and foot bridges, highlighted and accented just so with strategic, artful lighting. Going for longevity and durability? Ask about the company's innovative Pebble Pool Finish, which is said to be virtually indestructible.

Another South Florida outfitter, **POOL BUILDERS INC.** (poolbuildersinc.com) serves Palm Beach and Broward counties and caters to clients who want something a little out of the ordinary to set their outdoor pool and entertaining spaces apart from the crowd: a sunken, circular seating pit inside the pool, com-

plete with comfy couches and a chic table on which to place your cocktails—all without so much as dipping a toe in the water? No problem. In a place where the word "modesty" isn't part of the lexicon, Pool Builders Inc. will see to it that your pool lives up to the over-the-top yet sophisticated South Florida standard.

Everywhere you turn in Southern California, you're bound to bump into a jaw-dropping home whose backyard is built around mind-bending valley views and a spectacular swimming pool. With operations in the Simi Valley, **SYMPHONY POOLS** (symphonypools.com) caters to this elite clientele and oversees every step of the pool-building process, from conceptualization and design to construction, upkeep, and maintenance. Among Symphony's specialties are natural and free-form pools, vanishing-edge and perimeter overflow pools, traditional and formal pools, and pools with automatic covers. Like the design of your existing pool but want to spiff things up a bit? Symphony also offers remodeling services, sure to

bring your backyard star back into the limelight.

Central America may be known for its glorious beaches, but sometimes, even in paradise, nothing can take the place of a cool, calming pool. Based in Guatemala City, **WATERMANIA**, (watermania.com/gt), shepherded by its CEO, Jorge Martinez del Rosal, is the region's go-to builder. Martinez del Rosal's philosophy—"We don't sell pools; we sell a lifestyle"—is a mission statement born out of his desire to blend the natural beauty of Guatemala with the needs and wants of his clients.

Working closely with in-house architectural professionals, Watermania quickly gained a reputation as a innovative pool builder often sought by clients with unique and challenging coastal locations. Projects soon expanded into Belize and Honduras, and now Watermania enjoys a reputation in the swimming pool industry as a leader in innovation, safety, and design.

If you're shopping for an ocean home in the area, make fast friends with the team at Watermania—your pool will be the toast of the town.



Galloway
Pools,
Texas

Nassau Pools,
Florida





*Watermania,
Guatemala*

*Pool Builders, Inc.,
Florida*



LOS CABOS LUXURY

SOME OF THE MOST DESIRABLE REAL ESTATE IN THE WORLD IS FOUND AT THE SOUTHERN TIP OF MEXICO'S BAJA PENINSULA, WHERE THE MOUNTAINS MEET THE SEA.

BY MELISSA C. GILLESPIE



Lovers Beach, just one of Los Cabos' many breathtaking spots.



This page, clockwise from top left, golfing in Los Cabos; dining with a view; swimming by the sea; touring historic sites; outdoor entertaining areas in a Villas Del Mar home. Opposite page, from top, poolside lounging at the Westin Resort & Spa, Los Cabos; stylish designs and plush amenities characterize the accommodations at Villas Del Mar; a poolside living area at Villas Del Mar.



Located at the tip of the Baja Peninsula, Los Cabos is a blue-water paradise where the Sea of Cortez meets the Pacific Ocean. The warm desert climate blends with ocean breezes on an endless stretch of pristine coastline. It is comprised primarily of two towns: San José del Cabo to the east and Cabo San Lucas to the west. The two are linked by an 18-mile stretch of resorts, golf courses, and luxury residential developments.

Cabo San Lucas, noted for its nightlife, offers a variety of attractions, including The Marina, which features 380 slips accommodating vessels up to 200 feet. A popular tourist destination, it is well known for El Arco, a natural rock formation in the shape of an arch, which lies adjacent to Playa Del Amor (Lovers Beach) and, of course, big-game fishing. But it's also a hotbed for real estate investors and vacation homeowners. Most of the private residences are taking root in and around San José del Cabo; however, two of the top residential developments, both with some deep history in the area, are just steps from downtown Cabo San Lucas.

Located on the site of the former Hacienda Hotel, one of the first hotels in Cabo, Hacienda Beach Club & Residences is a private beach club and residential community offering resort-like amenities. Thirty years ago, developer Don Koll and his fishing pal John Wayne landed his Cessna on a dusty strip adjacent to the hotel (in what is now the world-class marina) for a weekend of deep-sea fishing. He kept his eye on the property, and when it became available, The Koll Co. purchased it from the Parr Family, its long-time owners.

Situated on 1,600 lineal feet of prime beachfront at Medano Beach, Hacienda today consists of 109 homes with three distinct styles: two-story detached beachfront villas, attached resort residences featuring views, and penthouses

atop four- to six-story buildings available for vacation rentals and for purchase (starting around \$650,000).

The other, Pedregal de Cabo San Lucas, is a gated, amenity-rich community featuring beautifully crafted oceanfront and oceanview homes. More than three decades ago, Architect Don Manuel Díaz Rivera purchased 330 acres that would become the development Pedregal, one of Cabo's most exclusive neighborhoods. Inside the gates, melding Old Mexico charm with modern luxury, are more than 340 homes built along cobblestone streets and the Capella Pedregal spa and resort.

Heading East

While some developers slowed or stopped work during the international recession, Los Cabos' premier residential community, Del Mar Development, where prices range from \$600,000 to \$10 million, continues to build and set the standard for luxury living in San José del Cabo.

Nestled along the Baja California coast beside the legendary One&Only Palmilla Hotel, the development consists of four distinctive communities: Villas Del Mar, Espiritu Del Mar, Oasis Palmilla, and La Montaña, featuring a stunning collection of beachfront, oceanview, and mountainside residences. The Villas Del Mar community is one of the most prestigious developments in Mexico, and prominent leaders of the corporate and celebrity worlds are among the residents of this exclusive, classically elegant area of oceanfront and hillside estates. Looking to spread out? The Oasis Palmilla community is the first gated community in Los Cabos to offer one-acre home sites.

This privacy and exclusivity is packaged with top-notch service through a tailored management program. The company's on-site 24/7 concierge team, including private butler and personal chef service, attends to residents' every need. For those owners who travel, Del Mar can oversee all household matters – from resetting clocks and repairing broken appliances to regularly turning over car engines and paying local bills.

Love the real estate but not ready for ownership? Quintess destination club offers Cielos Palmillas, an enclave of villas within the Del Mar community, in which members can rent stays at one of the single-level four-bedroom residences. Every home has a large terrace with a pool, a built-in spa, and a designated host who is available most hours of the day. (For us, having a dedicated contact on speed dial to assist with the intricate details of the sound system and climate controls proved quite useful.) Another amenity guests should





Hacienda Beach Club & Residences is steps from downtown Cabo San Lucas, the marina, and Medano Beach. Opposite page, from top, poolside at Hacienda; a chic suite at Hacienda awash in earth tones. This page, couple time on Medano Beach.

take care not to miss is the personal chef service—especially the fresh-made margaritas, salsa, and guacamole.

The Del Mar Development delivers a true luxury beach resort experience. Whether you are a part-time or full-time resident, you'll have access to the One&Only Palmilla spa, the Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course, the development's state-of-the-art fitness facility, Club Espiritu, and Club Ninety Six, known as one of Mexico's finest private beach clubs. Most impressive to us is that each staff member recognizes guests and residents by name, whether they are full-time homeowners or once-a-year visitors.

Just a short distance from the Del Mar communities is Querencia. Set atop a cliff with spectacular ocean views, the 1,800-acre vacation home community offers an array of real estate options providing the ideal community for golf lovers. Full-ownership real estate options, including home sites, villas, condominiums, and custom homes, range from \$550,000 to \$14 million.

Current amenities at Querencia include a 58,000-square-foot clubhouse that offers multiple dining venues, as well as a yoga pavilion, a Kids' Club, and a concierge team. Looking to improve your drive? We recommend Querencia's Yoga for Golfers, which incorporates a series of exercises that move the body toward greater strength and flexibility.

GETTING THERE **LOS CABOS**

Los Cabos is only a 2.5-hour flight from major Southern and Western U.S. airports. Flights leave daily from most U.S. and Canadian cities. The Los Cabos airport features a modern private jet terminal. Cruises arrive and depart daily from the international port. Climate: the sun shines 350 days a year; average temperature is 78 degrees; only 10 inches of rain per year.



Future property enhancements include the development of a second golf course designed by Gil Hanse, a Surf Club located inside a secluded natural cove in the Los Cabos corridor that will offer a casual outdoor bar and dining area, pool, spa, fire pit, and private beach cabanas; and new ocean-view residential offerings, including a new release of waterview lots, club villas and condominiums.

Another development making waves in the Los Cabos area is Puerto Los Cabos, which offers a true marina lifestyle. We love how this master-planned development incorporates so many personal touches throughout the property, including art collections hand-picked by the developer and thoughtfully displayed

around the boardwalk at the Marina at Puerto Los Cabos. Only the second in Los Cabos, the Marina is becoming a favored port to enjoy the region's exceptional sport fishing, whale watching, and sailing adventures. The area around the Marina is still under development, but plans are in the works for a hotel, restaurants, and shops.

Sprawling across 2,000 acres of seaside hills, over half of Puerto Los Cabos is reserved as a private residential community. Already established within Puerto Los Cabos is its beach club, the Front Nine of the Greg Norman Signature course, the Back Nine of the Jack Nicklaus Signature course, and several exquisite estates. Perhaps its most inviting opportunities are its custom home sites with views of the golf course and/or ocean. These are clustered in five distinct neighborhoods, each with its own charm. Within each enclave are myriad designs allowing for the personal taste of the owners; home sites start at \$195,000.

Whether your preference is a harbor, golf, or beach resort lifestyle, you'll find it here in the Baja Peninsula. From the traditional charm of Colonial Mexico to the vivacious growth of a luxury lifestyle, Los Cabos is truly paradise found.



Clockwise from top left, an aerial view of the Marina at Puerto Los Cabos, which will soon be home to shops, hotels, and restaurants; the surf beckons; residents enjoy some leisure time at the beach club's infinity pool; native landscape and architecture blend together beautifully, all at Puerto Los Cabos. Opposite page from top, Cabo San Lucas's famous arch stretches upward from the surf, sailing the cobalt-blue Sea of Cortez.



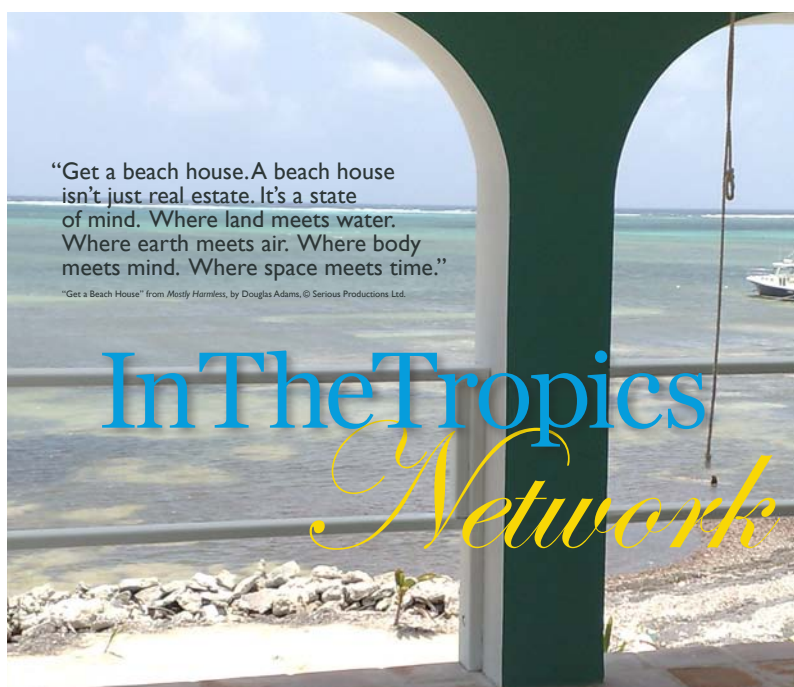
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“Get a beach house. A beach house isn’t just real estate. It’s a state of mind. Where land meets water. Where earth meets air. Where body meets mind. Where space meets time.”

“Get a Beach House” from Mostly Harmless, by Douglas Adams, © Serious Productions Ltd.

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Overlooking the Sea of Cortéz,
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El Encanto, elencantoloscabos.net; **Villas Del Mar**, villasdelmar.com; **Espiritu Del Mar**, espiritudelmar.com; **Pedregal de Cabo San Lucas**, pedregal.com; **Hacienda**, haciendacabosanlucas.com; **Oasis Palmilla**, oasispalmilla.com; **Querencia**, loscabosquerencia.com; **Puerto Los Cabos**, puertoloscabos.com.

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Matilde G. Sorensen

Dale Sorensen Real Estate Inc.
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EMAIL: msorensen@sorensenrealestate.com
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Matilde specializes in luxury oceanfront, intracoastal, waterfront, and golf communities on Vero Beach's barrier island and luxury communities throughout the Treasure Coast. Matilde has recorded sales in excess of \$600 million since she began her career in 1978, and is a Certified Residential Specialist (CRS) and Certified Residential Broker (CRB). She is also a member of Who's Who in Luxury Real Estate, Mayfair International Realty, Leading Real Estate Companies of the World, Luxury Portfolio, and Luxury Realty.

Maui, Hawaii



Mary Anne Fitch

Maui Estates International
500 Bay Drive, Kapalua, HI 96761
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Mary Anne specializes in Maui's most distinctive oceanfront, oceanview and golf course addresses in Kapalua, Kaaanapali, Wailea and Makena Resorts. Mary Anne has recorded sales in excess of \$400 million since she began her real estate career on Maui in 1989. She is a Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS) who was recently awarded Number One Residential REALTOR® - Island of Maui and Number Seven Residential REALTOR® - State of Hawaii by the Hawaii Business Who's Who in Hawaii Real Estate. Mary Anne strengths include her dedication to outstanding service, her integrity, excellent communication and negotiation skills and her commitment to long term client satisfaction.

Satellite Beach, Florida



Patricia Corcoran

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Fred Bradley

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A 28-year career in the real estate markets of Montecito and Santa Barbara has earned Fred a distinguished reputation in the industry. His 2008 sales record, including one of the largest individual transactions in the area's history, placed Fred among the top 25 of Sotheby's agents nationwide. With a degree in Art History from Williams College and an emphasis on architectural studies, Fred has gravitated to the marketing and sales of unique homes in the exclusive beachfront and foothill locales of Montecito, Santa Barbara and Carpinteria. If one is looking for the best of properties in any of these areas, Fred possesses the requisite skills and integrity of service necessary for a successful search.

The Bahamas



Gregory P. Graham

Graham Real Estate
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Greg's intimate knowledge of the business community and geography of The Bahamas make him one of the most qualified brokers on the island. The Graham family has an established history in The Bahamas, dating back to 1670. Being an avid boater, fisherman and outdoors sportsman Greg understands exactly what his clients are looking for when they visit in search of purchasing property. A member of the Bahamas Real Estate Association, Gregory Graham is the founder and president of Graham Real Estate, established in 1994. Greg offers his clients confidence, honesty and a straight answer.

Fort Lauderdale, Florida



Julie Jones

Premier Estate Properties
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Julie Jones immigrated from England where every person's residence is their castle and service excellence is deep-rooted in tradition. Julie facilitated almost half of Fort Lauderdale's ultra-luxury transactions in 2008, and manages \$209 million of the Premier Estate Properties' \$1.65 billion portfolio. This sales performance earned Julie's reputation as the "Go To" Broker for ocean or waterfront residences. Superior marketing techniques, detailed market knowledge, tenacious negotiating and high professional ethics make Julie the broker of choice for business leaders, pro-athletes and celebrities both nationally and internationally.

The Dominican Republic



Brian Brinkers

Case de Campo Resort
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As a Socialite and popular resident of Casa de Campo Resort for many years, Brian has the upper hand on property acquisition in The Dominican Republic. Even in today's market, the Dominican Republic continues to be a sound real estate investment with numerous fiscal incentives for investors, including a 10 year tax free status on capital gains. Private residences in Resort areas like CapCana, Roko Ki and Casa de Campo are some of the nicest properties available in the western hemisphere. The Dominican Republic is accessible by direct flights from many US Cities and offers a "Quality of Life" like no other. Here you will find spectacular golf, beautiful beaches, warm Caribbean waters and temperatures in the upper 80's.

Sarasota and Keys, Florida



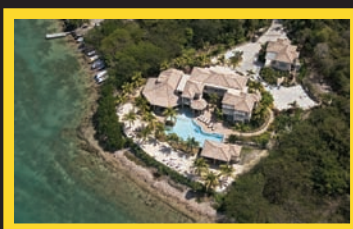
Teri Sax

Prudential Palms Realty
2 Avenue of the Flowers, Longboat Key, FL 34228
CELL: 941-228-5578
EMAIL: terisax@prudentialpalmsrealty.com

Teri's areas of expertise are the enchanting and coveted Keys off the Coast of Sarasota, Florida's cultural capitol. The barrier island of Longboat Key is universally regarded as one of the worlds most beautiful islands boasting luxury Gulf and Bay front residences, fine dining, shopping and, of course, 10 miles of powder soft sand beach. Teri has been involved in real estate since moving to Florida nearly nine years ago from Rochester, NY. A former school teacher, advertising marketer and freelance voice and on-camera talent, she has combined her unique background and skills to become one of the areas most successful real estate agents. Her commitment to her clients and her enthusiasm for their real estate needs has enabled her to consistently remain a top producer.



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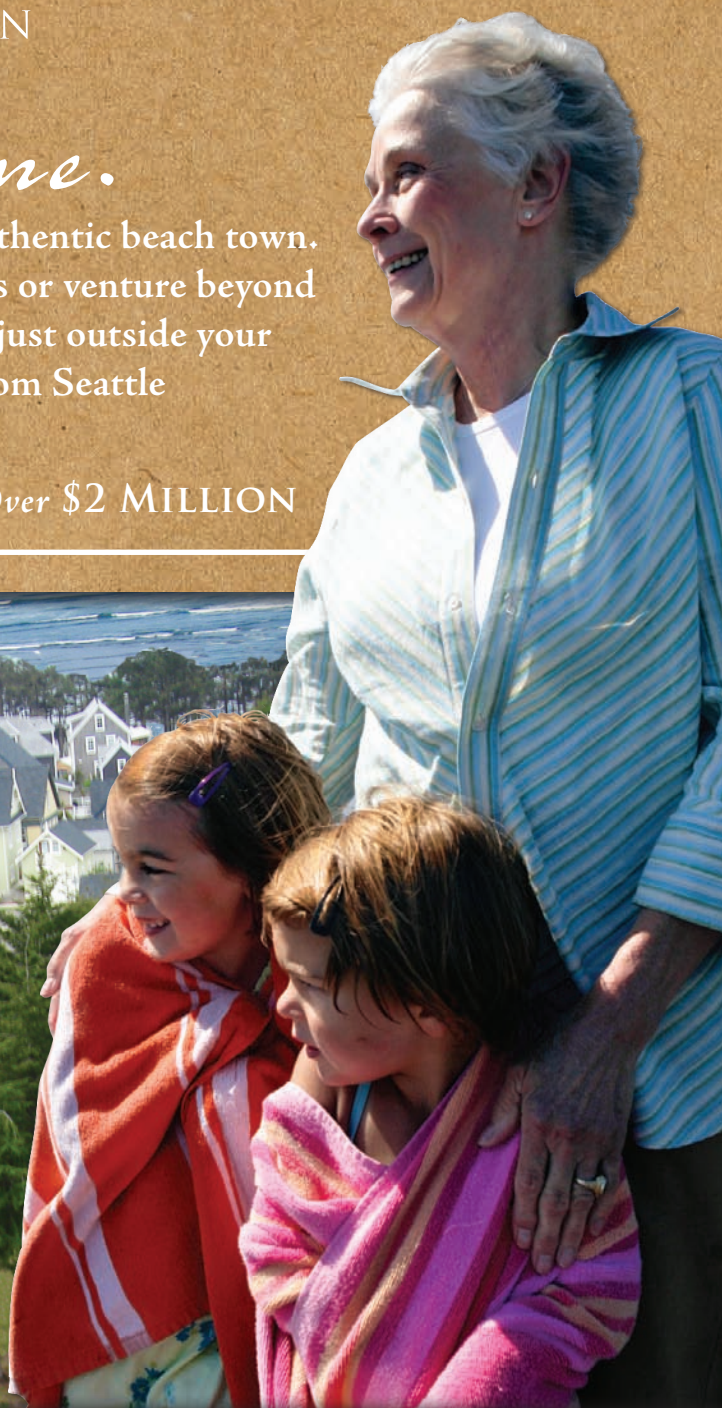
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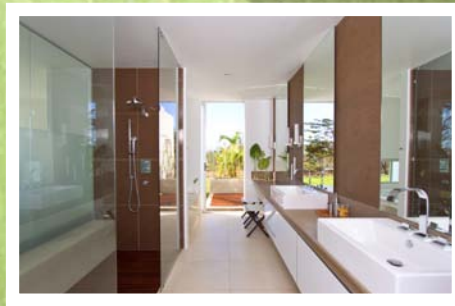
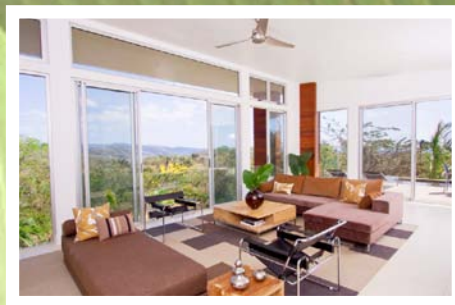
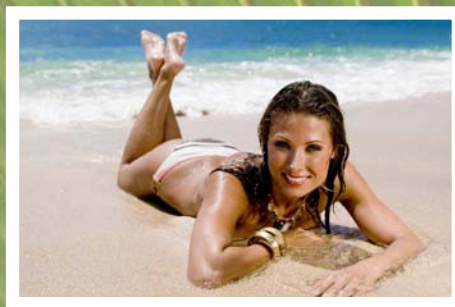
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Beachy Keen

Hollywood reporter and reality TV star Melissa Rivers dishes on sun, sand, and scuba diving. By **Deborah Geiger**

HAVING GROWN UP in “the business” and achieving a reputation all her own, California girl Melissa Rivers is perfectly suited (no pun intended) for her current work as a Hollywood red-carpet host, executive producer of *Fashion Police* on E! Network, and frequent contributor to *Access*

Hollywood Live. Her seemingly endless resume also includes stints at top-rated news organizations, authoring a book, and starring in more than a few reality TV shows. Recently, the single mother of one teamed up with her own famous mom, fashion police chief to the stars Joan Rivers, to star in *Joan & Melissa: Joan Knows Best?* on the WE network, a new reality show where—guess who?—moves into Melissa’s Pacific oceanfront home. Even with a considerable work schedule, the devoted mom and sometime beach babe does take the time to relax and enjoy the ride. Here, Rivers opens up to *Ocean Home* about her active oceanfront lifestyle, her favorite coastal destinations, and what makes her happy at the end of every day.

Where do you currently call home? L.A. I’m a beach girl; always have been. When it was time to buy my own house, I wanted it to be close to the beach. I’m one stoplight away. My whole backyard looks out to the beach.

Are there any beach activities or sports you enjoy? Yes! We surf, boogie board, play beach volleyball, tennis... My son Cooper, who is 10, did two years at surf camp.

What are some of your favorite coastal areas? Anything exotic or a must-see? For the last couple of

years, we’ve gone to Costa Rica. If you have the chance to go to Costa Rica, run. It’s an amazing place! Hawaii, Greece, Turkey, Corsica. South of France. Water in any permutation, I’m happy. I learned to scuba dive in St. Croix.

Sounds amazing. I love scuba diving; the whole thing, the wall dives. The best stuff is 40 to 60 feet down. You see the most, the best colors. I’ve done the Virgin Islands, the whole area. The deepest I’ve done is 100 feet. I’ve thought about getting my rescue certification.

With all of the water activities, any interesting wildlife sightings? In Santa Monica, I once saw a pod of dolphins out in the water. People were just standing there, watching, for about 20 minutes. It was amazing.

It seems like you are always working on multiple projects. Yes, they’re simultaneous! I grew up in L.A.; my parents moved out here when I was three. My mom lives in New York. I grew up in the business, but I still manage to keep certain things private.

You’re very close with your family. How do you balance everything? Balance? What’s that? [laughs] You know, when I’m driving home at night, and I’m coming out of the tunnel on Pacific Coast Highway, and I get that ocean view—it makes me happy every day.



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