

# WAVES

CARIBBEAN 2023

*READY, SET, GO!*  
CELEBRATE THE  
FREEDOM OF NORWEGIAN

*EXCLUSIVE!*  
THE HOTTEST DINING,  
SHOPPING, BEACH BARS,  
AND MORE UNDER THE  
CARIBBEAN SUN

*SPARKLE  
ON-BOARD*  
AND ASHORE WITH  
GORGEOUS GEMS







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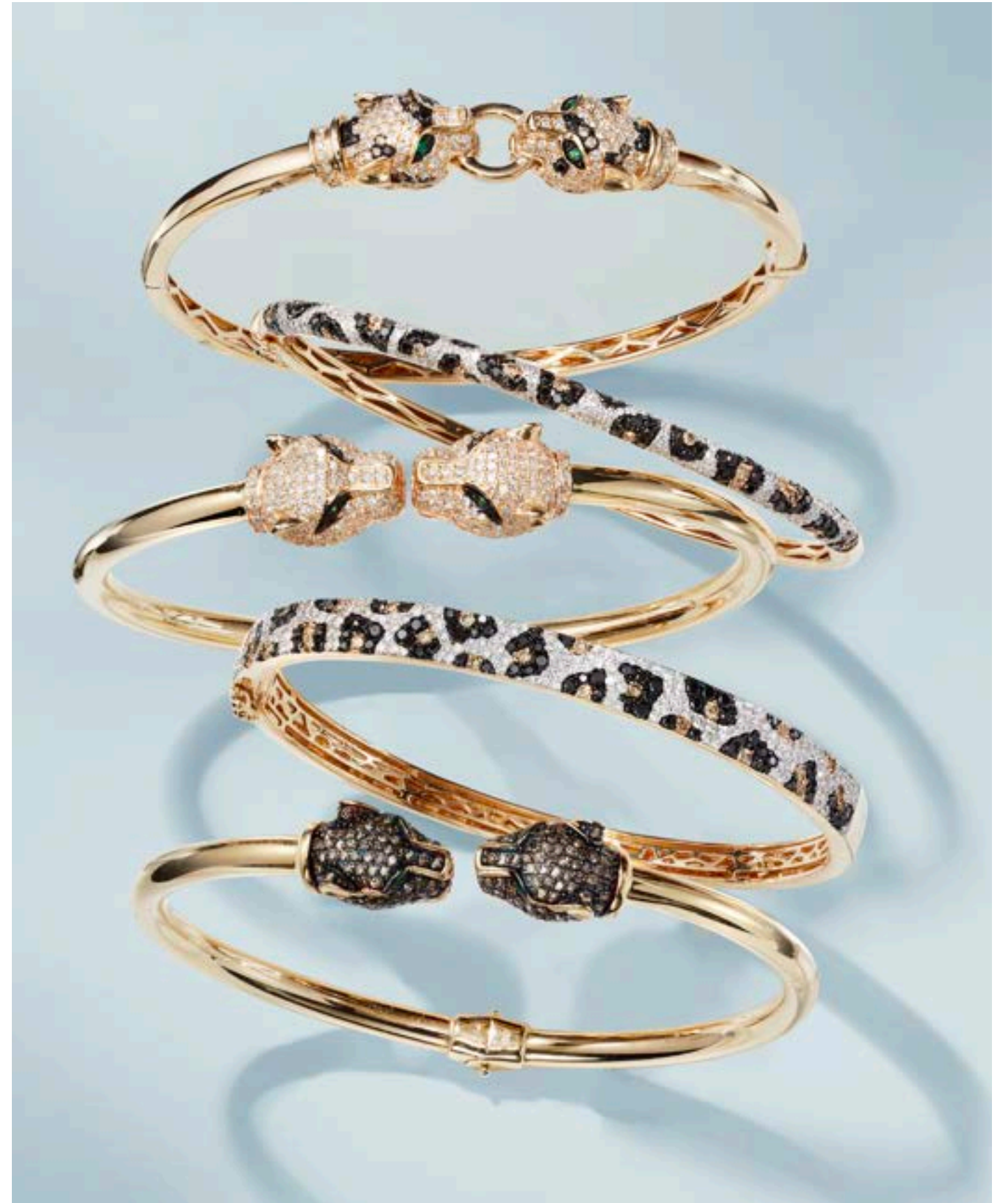


**EFFY**  
NEW YORK EST. 1979



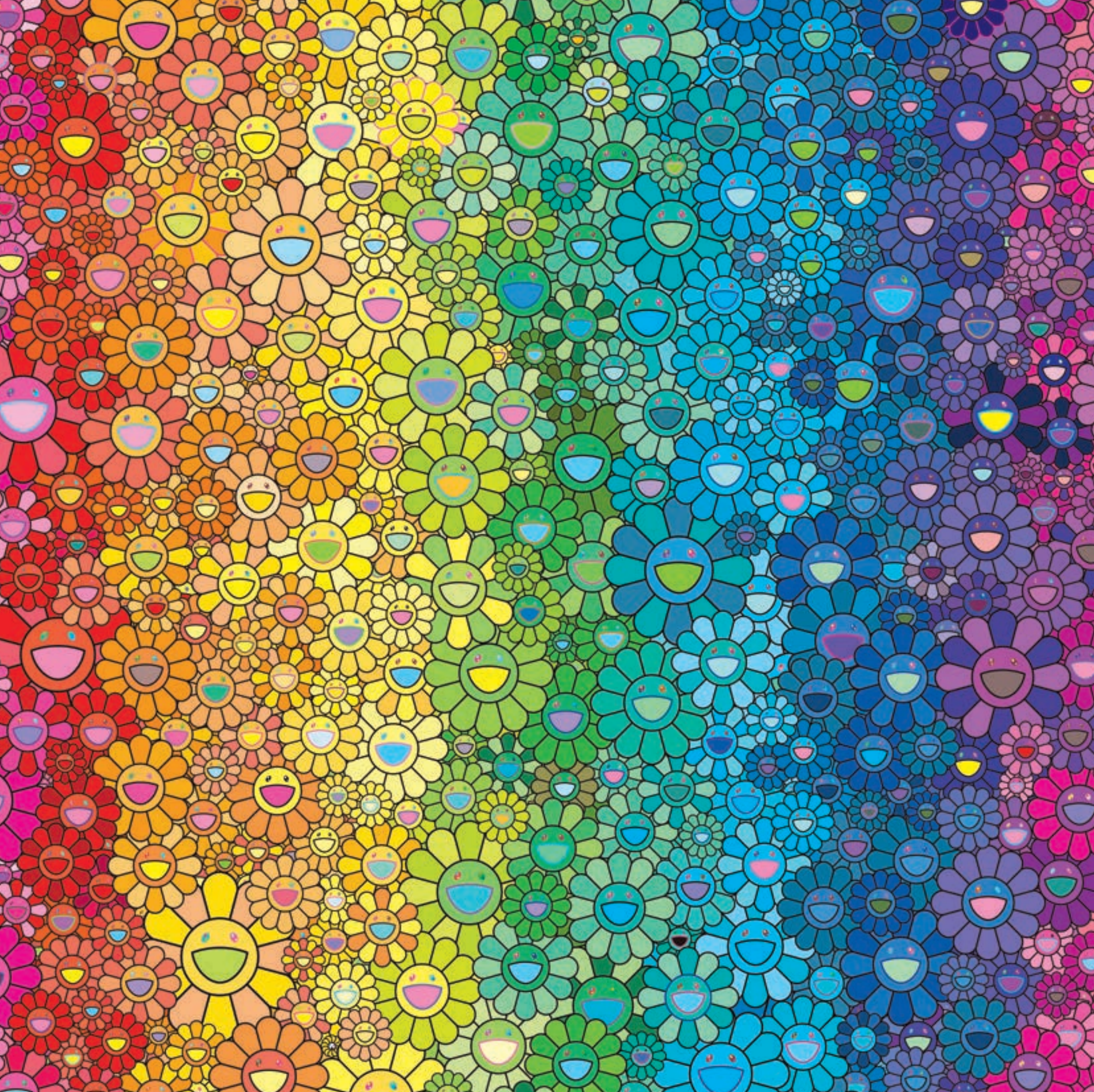


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# HUBLOT



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that can be treasured for generations.”

*Effy Hematian*



**EFFY HEMATIAN**

NEW YORK





**Welcome Aboard!** We are honored to present our exclusive publication for Norwegian Cruise Line—WAVES.

The new WAVES magazine is an integral part of the program, providing a deeper dive into the products, experiences, dining, and entertainment on your ship and ashore. Throughout the magazine, you'll find ideas for everything from limited-edition jewelry collections, fashion, and beauty to planning your next adventure. We also feature a unique Island Guide tailored exclusively for the Norwegian Cruise Line passenger.

As Norwegian Cruise Line's partner of expertise in duty-free luxury, we are excited to introduce an on-board expansion of our service and knowledge, the Port & Shopping Guide. You will now have your own personal guide helping you decide what to do, what to see, and most importantly, where to shop.

Tax and duty-free shopping, both onboard and ashore, have become an integral part of any cruise vacation. We invite you to visit the desk of our onboard Port & Shopping Guide for a one-on-one consultation. They are at your service to custom curate an amazing cruise experience based entirely on your requests and interests.

From our family to yours, we wish you a beautiful vacation!

**Bobby Hematian**  
President & Publisher



**Ready, set, go!** And we're off, off to an amazing adventure. We are thrilled to bring you the debut issue of WAVES, the exclusive on-board magazine for Norwegian Cruise Line passengers.

Get ready to unpack an incredible experience, filled with dining, shopping, sun-filled days, and dancing late into the night. Then recover with a day at the Mandara Spa.

Dive deeper into the freedom a Norwegian cruise experience offers with our Cruise Your Way section, an overview of on-board shopping options. Relax on-deck and plan your jet set reset with a weekend wonder cruise. While ashore, discover your new favorite lunch locale in St. Martin. Back on-board and ready for the evening? Grab your Kinky Boots, order one of our signature martinis from a famed NYC bartender, and take in a Tony-award-winning musical.

We have it all, for you to have it your way—after all, that is what freestyle is all about.

Shake it up and enjoy the ride!

**Tracy Squillante**  
Editor in Chief



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### READY, SET, GO!

Embrace your sporty self, dive into the pool in style, spritz yourself then spritz some more, care for your skin after a day in the sun, pamper and polish with panache, show some glitter, and go for the red with your lips.



## 40

### LUXE LIFE

Make a bold statement with a high-impact ring, dive into evening excitement with dramatic earrings, go for the bold, gents, wrap your wrist in wow-inducing luxury watches, prove that the eyes really have it, wrap it up in luxurious cashmere, and kick back a beautifully crafted martini.



TAGHEUER.COM



Only by pushing  
the limits of possibilities,  
you discover new dimensions.

**BEYOND THE EDGE**

TAG HEUER AQUARACER





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## CRUISE YOUR WAY

There's no place like Norwegian! Luxuriate in the spa with a few knockout treatments, explore the natural wonders ashore, embrace a world of far-flung flavors, settle in for top-notch entertainment, and plan for a long weekend away like no other.



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Lunch in style in the Caribbean, explore the pastel-hued byways of Bermuda with an insider, celebrate mythology come-to-life in legendary Greece, and embrace romance with a relaxed-chic style that invites intimate moments.



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## THE ISLAND GUIDE

Hello, island life! The best and the brightest insider finds under the Caribbean sun come to life in our glittering pages. Dive into all things delicious.

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DISCOVER OUR #1 FACE SERUM

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For all ages, all skintones, all skintypes.

<sup>1</sup>Clinical testing on 55 women after 2 weeks.  
<sup>2</sup>Clinical testing on 52 women after 1 week.  
<sup>3</sup>Consumer testing on 279 women after 3 weeks.



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# ESTÉE LAUDER



# WAVES

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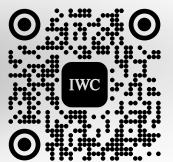
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# Contributors



**JASON OLIVER NIXON**  
*Global Editor at Large*

“My grandmother always said, ‘Enjoy the journey as much as the destination,’ and I think that cruising perfectly captures that mandate.” So says Global Editor at Large Jason Oliver Nixon, the former Editor in Chief of Gotham and Hamptons magazines and co-founder of North Carolina-based lifestyle brand Madcap Cottage. “I took my first cruise with my parents at the age of five from Venice to Barcelona, and the cruise bug really bit me. I love nothing more than unpacking once and having a glorious, easy, and action-packed entrée into new worlds and adventures.”

**MISHA PINKHASOV**  
*Global Features Editor*

The mismatch between Misha Pinkhasov’s name, accent, passport, and address makes one wonder: Who really is he? From a start in New York magazines, Misha moved on to the Paris fashion scene and a decade dealing with diplomats—then left it all for Lisbon. His book, *Real Luxury*, shook up the industry de luxe, which he teaches at Portugal’s premier NOVA University. When not edifying the leaders of tomorrow about luxury brands, he covers travel, culture, and lifestyles for global editions of *Vogue*, *Architectural Digest*, and more.



**GABRIELA LANGONE**  
*Fashion Stylist*

Since her childhood in New York, Gabriela Langone has always had a passion for beauty and fashion. She began her career by assisting a coterie of renowned stylists before breaking out on her own. Langone’s editorial clients include *V Magazine*, *Nylon*, *Issue*, *Shape*, *Harper’s Bazaar*, *Elle Girl*, *Marie Claire*, *GQ*, and *L’Officiel*, among many others. Langone’s commercial clients range from Lilly Pulitzer and Target to Birkenstock and Pepsi. Langone believes that style is a fashion footprint so, she says, “Let your style always be individual.”

**SACHA MARIC**  
*Photographer*

Fashion photographer and director Sacha Maric was born and raised in London and is a Fine Art graduate of the renowned Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design. Maric’s work has appeared in far-flung publications such as *Esquire*, *Marie Claire*, *V Magazine*, *Wallpaper\**, and *WSJ* magazine. Based in Brooklyn, New York, Maric is the proud father to three daughters. “As a photographer I love being able to work with different creative people on interesting projects, everything from fashion to beauty, art, and video.”



**TOM HAYES**  
*Photographer*

Long Island, New York-based photographer Tom Hayes has a passion for traveling the globe and photographing outdoor adventures with his wife, Sarah. But in the photo studio, Hayes focuses on shining a light on beautiful products, especially jewelry, making all the rich details of curated objects come to life. He says that he receives great joy from taking small and intricate works of art and making them feel larger than life, perhaps revealing the special qualities or telling a story along the way. When he isn’t in front of the lens, Hayes loves to garden, play tennis, and hike.



Stephanie Gilmore – Sally Fitzgibbons – Kelly Slater



# PANDORA



*It's your story*  
WEAR IT YOUR WAY



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FOR  
EVERY  
STORY

PANDORA  
THE ISLAND PLAZA  
DUTY FREE SHOPPING MALL

16838015



*Ready,  
Set, GO!*

Get ready for adventure with  
must-haves that speak to  
every style and sensibility.

*Edited by* TRACY SQUILLANTE





# Deep DIVE

Form and function come together swimmingly.

Photography by TOM HAYES

From top:  
Chronograph Quartz Stainless Steel  
& Titanium PVD Rose Gold,  
Three Hands Quartz Stainless  
Steel & Titanium PVD Blue,  
Three Hands Automatic Skeleton Swiss  
Movement Stainless Steel & Titanium  
All by **Locman**, locman.it.



Prop Stylist **Linden Elstran**

Ready, Set, Go!



# Trunk SHOW

Bold prints to get you noticed at the pool.



From left:  
18" Hydropeak Board Shorts  
by **Patagonia**, patagonia.com.  
Montauk Board Short  
by **Old Bull Lee**, oldbullshorts.com.  
Throwback Swim Trunks,  
by **Bonobos**, bonobos.com.

From left:  
The Sidestroke One Piece  
by **Summersalt**, summersalt.com.  
The Tulum One Piece  
by **Andie Swim**, andieswim.com.  
White Bikini top and Blue Drawstring  
Bottom by **Xhilaration**, target.com.



# CURVE *Appeal*

In the swim for all shapes and sizes.  
Sadly, pool boy not included.



# COOL & CRISP

Timeless, fresh fragrances to carry  
you from morning to night.



From left:  
H24 by **Hermès**, hermes.com.  
Aroma Extraordinaire by **Clarins**, clarins.com.  
Cool Water by **Davidoff**, zinodavidoff.com.  
CK Everyone by **Calvin Klein**, calvinklein.us.





# FIT TO FEEL FREE

Try these top ten ways to tone and tighten while you have some fun in the sun.



## 1.

### RYDE INDOOR CYCLING

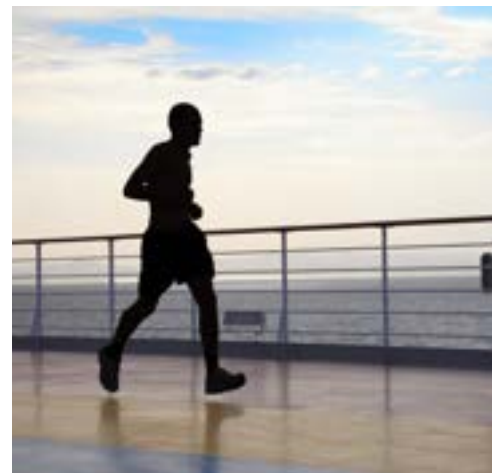
Your personal Peloton might be landlocked, but each state-of-the-art gym on-board boasts this amazing workout to challenge the body and relax the mind.



## 4.

### GET STEPPING

With a dozen decks to zip up and down, your ship is the ultimate Stairmaster. So, skip the lifts and take the steps instead! Your butt and your Fitbit will thank you.



## 5.

### LAP IT UP

Beyoncé just dropped her Renaissance album, and the on-board track is the perfect place to plug it into your playlist at a pace that works for you.



## 6.

### COLOR ME CORAL

Test your limits in open water with a snorkel through Bermuda's epic reefs. Check Bermuda's 100 for a list of the best dive sites around the island. [bermuda100.ucsd.edu](http://bermuda100.ucsd.edu)



## 9.

### GET BENT

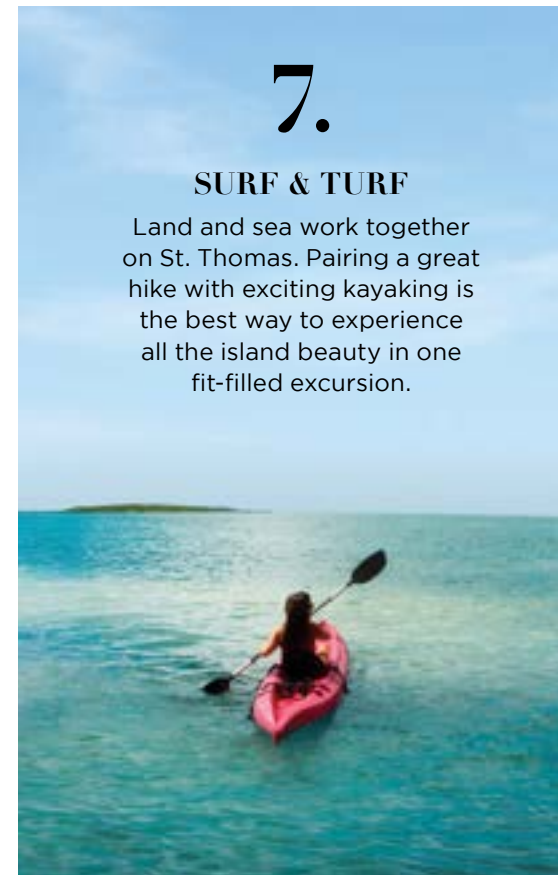
"I should try yoga," you've thought time and again. Norwegian Cruise Line has offerings from beginner classes to every level to set you straight as soon as you board and for the rest of your trip. Namaste!



## 7.

### SURF & TURF

Land and sea work together on St. Thomas. Pairing a great hike with exciting kayaking is the best way to experience all the island beauty in one fit-filled excursion.



## 10.

### DANCE, DANCE, DANCE

There is live music every night. So, after dinner, take 20 minutes to move your body with abandon. You'll feel lighter and sleep better too!



## 2.

### MONKEY AROUND

At Great Stirrup Cay, clamber over V-net bridges, up chimney climbs, and across cargo nets to challenge but not overwhelm your physical and mental strength.



## 3.

### ZIP IT UP

Zip lining is both an adrenaline rush and an excellent way to get a literal bird's-eye view of the Caribbean. There are 3,000 feet of options just in Great Stirrup Cay.





# Sun DOWNERS

Protect your skin before  
and after a day in the sun.

Photography by TOM HAYES



From left:  
Oil Free for Face Broad Spectrum SPF 60,  
by **La Roche Posay**, [laroche-posay.us](http://laroche-posay.us).  
After Sun Soothing After Sun Balm for  
Face and Body, by **Clarins**, [clarins.com](http://clarins.com).  
Sports BB Broad Spectrum SPF 50,  
by **Shiseido**, [shiseido.com](http://shiseido.com).  
Tonic Treatment Oil Firming & Toning  
for Body, by **Clarins**, [clarins.com](http://clarins.com).  
Play 100% Mineral Lotion SPF 30,  
by **Supergoop**, [supergoop.com](http://supergoop.com).

Prop Stylist **Linden Elstran**

Ready, Set, Go!



# REVIVE & Refresh

As the sun sets, reparative  
beauty takes center stage.

From top left:  
Lancôme Rénergie Lift Multi-Action Ultra Cream  
with 30 SPF by **Lancôme**, [lancomeusa.com](http://lancomeusa.com).  
Hydrating Sheer Lip Balm SPF 30 by  
**MD Solar Sciences**, [mdsolarsciences.com](http://mdsolarsciences.com).  
Caudalie Vinoclean Micellar Cleansing Water  
by **Caudalie**, [caudalie.com](http://caudalie.com).  
Pro Collagen Oxygenating Night Cream,  
Eye Revive Mask by **Elemis**, [elemis.com](http://elemis.com).

Ready, Set, Go!





From left:  
Scattered Light Glitter Eyeshadow  
by **Hourglass**, [hourglasscosmetics.com](http://hourglasscosmetics.com).  
Celestial Divinity Luxe Eye Shadow Quad  
by **Pat McGrath Labs**, [patmcgrath.com](http://patmcgrath.com).  
Healthy Glow Natural Eye Shadow Palette  
by **Chanel**, [chanel.com](http://chanel.com).  
Longwear Liquid Eyeshadow  
by **Chanel**, [chanel.com](http://chanel.com).



# GLITTERING GLANCES

Layer on a little glitter for nighttime drama.

14K White Gold Diamond Necklaces  
and Diamond Hoop Earrings by **EFFY**.  
Available on-board at the EFFY Boutique  
and [effyjewelry.com](http://effyjewelry.com).



From left:  
Lip Lacquer Luxe Matte in Overpower  
by **Tom Ford**, tomford.com.  
Lipstick in Magenta Mist  
by **Fashion Fair**, fashionfair.com.  
Stunna Lip Paint in Underdawg by  
**Fenty Beauty by Rihanna**, fentybeauty.com.  
L'Absolu Rouge Cream in Coquette  
by **Lancôme**, lancôme.com.  
Dior Addict Lip Tint in natural poppy  
by **Dior**, dior.com.



# *Late-Night* **LIPS**

Pucker up, ladies, and let the games begin.



# NAHLA

SIRI

TANZANITE, THE JEWEL  
OF ADVENTURE

AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY AT EFFY JEWELRY





## Rock STAR

Throw some punches  
with panache.



From top:  
14K Rose Gold Rose Quartz  
and Diamond Ring by  
**EFFY**, [effyjewelry.com](http://effyjewelry.com).  
14K Tri Color Gold Diamond  
Limited Edition Ring by  
**EFFY**, [effyjewelry.com](http://effyjewelry.com).  
14K Yellow Gold Madera  
Citrine and Diamond Ring by  
**EFFY**, [effyjewelry.com](http://effyjewelry.com).  
18K Rose Gold with 0.26ct  
Round Diamonds and Mother  
of Pearl and Alexandrite  
Round by **Mark Henry**,  
[markhenryjewelry.com](http://markhenryjewelry.com)  
18K Rose Gold Ring with 0.09ct  
Round Diamond and 0.79ct  
Round Alexandrite and 13.65ct  
Moonstone by **Mark Henry**,  
[markhenryjewelry.com](http://markhenryjewelry.com)

## Go for THE GOLD

As night falls, go for the glam.



From top left:  
Diamond and Mother of  
Pearl Lattice Earrings  
by **Kabana**, [kabana.com](http://kabana.com).  
14K Yellow Gold Green  
Amethyst and Diamond  
Earrings, 14K White and  
Yellow Gold Diamond Drop  
Earrings by **EFFY**, available  
on-board at the **EFFY**  
boutique and [effyjewelry.com](http://effyjewelry.com).



## Ring of FIRE

Gents, high impact is the name of the game.



From top:  
14K Yellow Gold Men's Ring with 1.10ct Round Diamond and 2.05ct Oval Tanzanite,  
14K White Gold Men's Ring with 1.15ct Round Diamond and 4.75ct Cushion Cut Tanzanite,  
14K Yellow Gold Men's Ring with 0.21ct Round Diamond and 3.80ct Onyx,  
14K Yellow Gold Men's Ring with 0.20ct Round Diamond and 0.29ct Round Blue Diamond,  
14K White Gold Men's Ring with 0.30ct Round Diamond and 0.66ct Round Blue Diamond  
All by **EFFY**, available on-board at the EFFY boutique and [effyjewelry.com](http://effyjewelry.com).

## In the NAVY

Fine craftsmanship was never so cool blue, tried and true.



From top:  
His and Hers Watches by **Hublot**, [hublot.com](http://hublot.com).  
Classic Fusion Titanium Blue 45mm,  
Classic Fusion Titanium Blue 38mm





# KORITE

*Luxuriously Canadian*

KORITE.COM

From top:  
Huxton in Crystal Black  
by **Raen**, raen.com.  
Aviator in Green Classic  
by **Ray-Ban**, ray-ban.com.  
Slayton in Beige by  
**Rag & Bone**, rag-bone.com.  
Percey in Tortoise by **Warby  
Parker**, warbyparker.com.



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**THE SHADE**  
Shield your eyes in timeless style.



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ON-BOARD**



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Turn up the heat  
with a classic  
cashmere throw.



100% Cashmere Pashminas in Dark Denim, Powder Blue, and Ballet Slipper. All by **Haven**, [haven-collective.com](http://haven-collective.com).



# REVERIE

LA TERRE

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OUR EXCLUSIVE DIAMOND FEATURES 112 HAND CUT FLOWER PETAL FACETS  
AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY AT EFFY JEWELRY

# CRUISE *Your Way*

From dining to dance numbers, wellness to whiling away the hours, live a vacation without limits.

*Edited By* MISHA PINKHASOV

**Vacations are about feeling free** and nobody knows how to give you that feeling better than Norwegian Cruise Line. Freestyle dining in our main restaurants and specialty dining packages give you freedom to choose among a world of formal, themed casual, and gourmet flavors. Our broad range of prize-winning Broadway performances and other artistic entertainment will encourage you to free your mind. Our private islands, Great Stirrup Cay and Harvest Caye, offer you guilt-free fun with sustainability initiatives to ensure their natural allures will be there for a long time to come. Inhale, exhale, breathe free in Mandara Spa's Thermal Suite. And whether you're still—sigh—on a schedule or have all the time in the world, weekend wonder cruises will let you reset like the jet set on a trip to Bermuda or idle around Iberia to discover the cities that discovered the world.





# An Eye FOR BEAUTY

Unwind your mind and burnish your body at the otherworldly, transporting Mandara Spa.



**When it's time to indulge in some "me time,"** head to the top of the ship for an adults-only ambience like no other. Mandara Spa, which brought the Asian spa concept from Bali to the world, has been recognized as the World's Best Cruise Spa by World Spa Awards. Together, the spa, salon, and neighboring Pulse gym and exercise classes form a world of wellness, fitness, and beauty embracing panoramic views that let your spirit spread to the far horizon.

## RELAX, REFRESH, RECHARGE

Pampering professionals soothe and rejuvenate you with a full menu of services and over 50 speciality treatments, from facials and acupuncture to Swedish, Herbal Poultrice, Deep-Tissue, Aroma-Stone, and Bamboo massages, to name a few. A variety of body treatments use massage, aromatherapy, and natural elements to tone, firm, cleanse and detoxify your body. Opt for anti-aging facials and grooming treatments to gently exfoliate skin, cleanse your pores, and soothe your face, hands, and scalp. Meanwhile, Medi-Spa cosmetic facial treatments are designed to soften wrinkles and restore a fresh and youthful appearance with instant results. You'll come back to your senses ready to take on the world. Get in fighting form with body composition analysis and expert consultations to design a fitness and nutrition plan then take in some personal training to put you on track for the future.

## NORDIC HAVEN

One thing the northern folk know how to do—well, besides soothing design—is play at the temperate extremes: finish

an intense workout one instant then plunge into a polar pool the next. In the Thermal Suite, experience the ultimate in heat and water therapy, while limits on the age and number of guests ensures this serenely styled space is never too noisy or busy. From early in the morning to late at night, relax on heated ceramic lounge chairs, or cushy chaises in front of floor-to-ceiling windows with faraway views. Herbal steam, sauna, salt bath, snow rooms, and tropical rain showers offer you different ways to soothe and stimulate your senses. Take a dip in the vitality pool for an array of air and underwater jets to wash away your worries, or enjoy a warm waterfall cascading over your shoulders.

## HELLO, GORGEOUS!

Heighten the look of your first night aboard—or your first day back home—with full-service salon offerings, from manicures and pedicures to hair styling and teeth whitening. Rich Frangipani Monoi Oil is legendary for its ritual uses in Tahiti and permeates throughout. After cleansing your hair, enjoy a deep scalp massage using this ingredient that eases away stress and leaves hair shiny. The Elemis Exotic Hand Ritual with Manicure and Sole Delight with Pedicure pamper your hands, feet, and nails to restore their beauty and suppleness: warmed aromatherapy oils nourish and condition, while the sublime sensation of milk lavishes its richness and healing action on your skin. Gentlemen, get dapper for the evening with The Shave of All Shaves. This treatment begins with the ultimate facial grooming, followed by an anti-aging treatment combined with face, scalp, hand, and arm massage. Fantastic for a formal night!



# A World of FLAVORS

The world is your oyster aboard Norwegian, where sweet and savory dining options will tempt the palate and the senses.



**Food is an integral part of the seagoing experience** that even the world's best land-bound hotels are hard-pressed to match. Between the ultimate luxury of daily breakfast in bed and the ultimate indulgence of a late-night buffet, it can seem like no culinary whim is out of reach. You'll find myriad dining venues on board, from intimately elegant to eclectically casual. And Norwegian Cruise Line's Free At Sea or Specialty Dining Packages give you the flexibility to try them all.

## FISH FANS

What goes better with limitless ocean views than flavors from the deep? For seafood in a modern setting, step into Ocean Blue to experience elegant, delicious dining on hamachi ceviche, pan-seared scallops on caramelized pork belly, or ahi tuna and avocado drizzled with pomegranate followed by Hong Kong-style snapper in soy, ginger, and lime broth, Mussels Bianco in white wine and garlic, beer-battered shrimp, and much more. Indoors or on The Waterfront, whether celebrating a

special occasion or enjoying a romantic evening, toast another perfect day from an extensive wine list.

Located right beside Ocean Blue, The Raw Bar is a casual place to grab a savory snack or settle in for an easy-breezy meal. Oysters, shellfish, crudos, and signature wines by the glass keep things light. Counter seating allows for guests to dine solo or with a group. And it's a perfect place to enjoy a post-show cocktail or dessert.

Norwegian's new contemporary sushi house, Nama, offers guests elevated dishes by master chefs who create upscale masterpieces. The venue debuted aboard Prima among a whimsical Japanese backdrop inspired by the restaurant's menu items, including a marble sushi bar evoking the marbling in high-quality sashimi, and subtle orange ambient lighting representing masago (fish roe).

## MEAT SEEKERS

Those who favor turf to surf, Moderno Churrascaria offers an authentic Brazilian steakhouse experience.

Churrascarias owe their origins to the fireside roasts (churrascos) of traditional Southern Brazilian cowboys (gaúchos), who after a long day of herding cattle, shared food and fellowship around a fire pit or grill. Start with an impressive bar of imported cheeses, olives, cured meats, and ceviche, plus tuna, French-bean, potato, hearts of palm, and shrimp-and-garlic salads. Be sure to save room for the delicious skewers of slow-roasted meats, including beef, pork, lamb and chicken—all carved tableside as you sip on sweet and citrusy Caipirinhas.

Or get a front row seat to flying shrimp, onion volcanoes, twirling knives, and other sizzling surprises at Teppanyaki Japanese Hibachi. It's a place to impress the whole family as you sit around a lively shared table

watching skillful chefs slice, dice, juggle, flip, and grill their way through steak, seafood, and chicken before your eyes. The fresh-fruit sashimi and chilled, sake-infused Wasabi Cocktail will have you flipping too.

For something more sedate, savor every bite at American-style Cagney's steakhouse—Wine Spectator's 2020 Restaurant Awards Winner. Pick from choice cuts of Angus Beef like traditional T-bone or tender prime rib. Then sip on a Speakeasy Martini while you wait: a roaring combination of Southern Comfort, apricot brandy, Grand Marnier, and Prosecco, and don't forget to order the made-from-scratch jumbo crab cakes and a side of famous truffle fries. Whether you're looking to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion, Cagney's is the

perfect place to get the whole gang together and toast to the good life.

Finally, for the best BBQ on the seven seas, dig into Q Texas Smokehouse for meats infused with delicious flavors accompanied by all the traditional sides, like baked beans, mac 'n' cheese, coleslaw, and corn on the cob. As dinner winds down, the atmosphere heats up with a contemporary country band roping you into a honky-tonk time!

## CONTINENT-HOPPERS

For flavors from further afield, Food Republic at Sea features specially crafted menus that reflect the cultural and culinary diversity of the world around us. From casual bites to elevated cuisine, Food Republic celebrates cultural and culinary diversity in every dish. Travel to Peru and indulge in a reinvented version of ceviche. Get away to Japan and try a new kind of sushi roll. Or have a hearty helping of noodles from China. With a variety of familiar favorites and unique additions from around the globe, you can travel the world without ever leaving the ship.

Go Parisian at Le Bistro, the most elegant and formal restaurant on-board. Crisp white linens, an intimate atmosphere, and white glove service deliver plates of rich French cuisine, like bouillabaisse and côte de boeuf. And whether you're a fan of white, red, or sparkling, the wine selection lets you find aromas you love—or discover new vintages. With only a few tables, and light music, Le Bistro is the go-to for a romantic date night. So leave the kids behind and fall in love all over again.

For elegance a la dolce vita, enjoy the finest ingredients at two vibrant Italian ristorantes: Onda by Scarpetta or La Cucina. Large tables, a wide variety of menu options, and casual atmosphere make these the best places on-board to enjoy a meal with the whole family. Dine on classic dishes like pasta carbonara or spaghetti with tomato and basil. Don't miss out on desserts like the Panna Cotta alla Vaniglia served with blackberry Marsala compote and crunchy meringue..

Last but not least, Pincho Tapas Bar is unlike any other restaurant at sea. Inspired by Spain's culture and cuisine, this venue goes beyond tradition with a menu of shareable small plates that redefine and improve upon centuries-old tapas recipes. Based on rich Mediterranean flavors, you can truly taste the passion on every plate.

*“Based on rich Mediterranean flavors, you can truly taste the passion on every plate.”*





# The ALLURE of NATURE

Two private island destinations hide sustainable secrets beneath their sparkling surface.

In 1977, Norwegian Cruise Line made a long-term commitment to The Bahamas with the acquisition of Great Stirrup Cay, and thus became first in the industry to offer a private island experience exclusively to its guests. Forty years later, the innovations continued, as the \$400 million Norwegian Edge investment program brought enhancements like expanded beaches, new dining venues, upgraded oceanfront bars, and improved cabanas, as well as a new sister destination—Harvest Caye in Belize—all with an approach that respects the idyllic nature of these unique environments.

Great Stirrup Cay's 270 resort-style acres amid a forest of coconut palms offer white sand beaches and crystal blue waters with a wide array of vibes and recreation. From buzzy Bertrand to siesta-perfect Fiesta, guests can go on Wave Runner, kayaking, and stand-up paddling adventures, take eco tours of the coral reefs and, explore the underwater sculpture garden, swim with pigs, snorkel with stingrays, or ride the ever-popular zip lines that run from the island's circa-1863 lighthouse for a bird's-eye view of it all. And food and drink are never far away with three dining options—Jumbey Beach Grill, Abaco Taco, and the Tropic Like It's Hot sandwich truck — and four bars where you can even use your on-board beverage packages within reach of every beach. In 2019, Silver Cove added an upgraded experience: an exclusive

enclave with a priority tender from the ship to a private lagoon hosting 38 luxury villas plus a Mandara Spa featuring the most incredible open-air, ocean-view treatment rooms, a new Moët & Chandon Bar, and the Silver Cove Restaurant.

Best of all, a stay at Great Stirrup Cay needn't be a guilty pleasure. In addition to being the first major global cruise company to eliminate single-use plastic water bottles, straws, plates, and cutlery, Norwegian Cruise Line partners with Nova Southeastern University to establish a coral reef restoration initiative that reduces the effects of natural and human stressors on the surrounding coral reefs.

Already in 2016, the company raised the level of its civic ambitions with the



opening of Harvest Caye, a 78-acre resort-style destination in southern Belize. In addition to its seven-acre white sand beach with abundant water sports, the island hosts a wide variety of attractions for guests, including a 15,000-square-foot swimming pool with a swim-up bar, a saltwater lagoon for water sports, 3,000 feet of ziplines, a ropes course, and suspension bridges from the 136-foot tall "Flighthouse."

Part of efforts to preserve wildlife and further education, Harvest Caye is also home to a wildlife sanctuary under the care of Tony Garel, an esteemed Belizean naturalist and wildlife expert. Guests can enjoy the butterfly garden, reptile terrarium, rescued birds of paradise aviaries, a manatee watch, mangrove eco tours, and lagoon nature

walk. All exhibits are operated by the Harvest Caye Conservation Foundation to promote wildlife preservation and education. Further afield, rainforest river excursions let you float down a slow-moving, crystal-clear river fed by mountain springs. Take in the spectacular rainforest scenery while listening to the ambient sounds of the jungle as you pass through a picturesque mountain gorge and look for keel-billed toucans, Belize's national bird.

Harvest Caye also offers guests access to the Belize Barrier Reef, the world's second largest. Norwegian Cruise Line team members participate in protecting and monitoring one of the few nesting sites for endangered hawksbill turtles to help baby turtles get a good start on survival each year, and partner with Friends for Conservation and Development to fund an anti-poaching program to protect wild scarlet macaws. Finally, they work



closely with the Clearwater Marine Aquarium Research Institute to protect manatee populations in the most critical areas of Belize.

From Harvest Caye, culture vultures can ride to the archaeological site of Nim Li Punit, a Mayan ceremonial site, or follow a Mayan herbalist and traditional healer on a guided walk along a canopied jungle path used to gather their medicinal plants and herbs. At Mango Creek and Independence, guests can witness local village life, with a detailed history of how the villages got their start in the 1940's as sawmill settlements, and visit a Pioneer Home to see how one of the first settlers of Mango Creek lived and raised a family.

Owned in partnership by the Belizean government and Norwegian Cruise Line, all restaurants, bars, and shops on Harvest Caye are entirely Belizean-operated, making this the only destination in Belize with a pier able to accommodate cruise ships in an authentically Central American destination. All team members working on the island are locals, and all stores in the shopping village, featuring popular name-brand retailers and Belizean crafts, are Belizean-owned to benefit the country's residents and its economy.





# GREAT PERFORMANCES

Unique-to-sea spectacles open your mind and set your spirit free.



Many cruise lines offer “Broadway-style” shows. But only Norwegian Cruise Line keeps customers coming back for uplifting, award-winning productions direct from the Great White Way.

Aboard Norwegian Encore, rock out to six-time Tony-award-winner, “Kinky Boots,” with original songs by Cyndi Lauper. A factory owner down on his luck crosses paths with a fabulous entertainer who inspires him to create something that saves the day. This Broadway sensation, based on true events, will have you clapping and cheering the story of this unlikely duo. Having swept 2013 with 12 Tony nominations, followed by six Laurence Oliviers, and two Grammys, “Kinky Boots” is sure to get your heels kicking.

Theatre hit “Six” swept stages around the world and now graces the seas aboard Norwegian Bliss and Breakaway. From Tudor Queens to Pop Princesses, the wives of Henry VIII tell their tales, turning 500 years of heartbreak into a 75-minute

celebration of girl power. These ladies might have green sleeves, but their lipstick is rebellious red. Written by Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss, “Six” took both the theatre world and the charts by storm with 11 Drama Desk and eight Tony nominations.

Get your glitter on aboard Norwegian Epic with legendary “Priscilla, Queen of the Desert.” Three drag divas take their show on the road across the Australian outback, and uncover challenges, secrets, and life-long lessons along the way. The 1994 blockbuster film won the Best Costume Oscar with over 500 outfits and 200 headdresses. With Tony, Drama Desk, and Olivier awards, the parade of disco and dance hits from the 70s and 80s means you’re in for a glamorous good time.

After success at the 2017 Edinburgh Fringe Festival, “The Choir of Man” is now a firm favorite aboard Norwegian Encore and Escape. Pull up a chair and raise your glass to high-energy dancing, live percussion, and hit songs



*“Pull up a chair and raise your glass to high-energy dancing, live percussion, and hit songs that flow as freely as the gorgeously hued cocktails.”*

that flow as freely as the gorgeously hued cocktails. You’ll feel right at home in The Jungle, the raucous English pub, where the talented cast performs everything from classic rock hits and pub tunes to sing-along favorites.

Swiveling hips. Steamy embraces. High-octane tempos. “Burn the Floor” on Norwegian Breakaway, Getaway, and Epic is not just hot—it sizzles! Gifted dancers, selected from the most prestigious competitions from around the globe, travel the world astounding audiences. Since 1997, this Ballroom and Latin dance theatre company has performed in over 130 countries and more than 300 cities, including on New York’s Broadway and in London’s West End.

“Oh, What A Night” is what you’ll be saying after an evening aboard Norwegian Bliss watching “Jersey Boys.” Journey from the gritty streets of Newark to global glamour and fame as you follow the true story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. Structured in four parts, each member of the band will rock your night with his own perspective on its history and timeless songs, including “Big Girls Don’t Cry,” “Walk Like a Man,” and “Can’t Take My Eyes Off You.” The original Broadway production took home Tonys for Best Musical and Best Performance, among eight nominations.

Last but far from least, kick off your Sunday shoes to experience the rocking hits and dynamic new renditions of “Footloose,” debuting at sea aboard Norwegian Joy. It is based on the Oscar-, Grammy-, and Golden Globe-nominated 1984 cult-classic film starring Kevin Bacon, and featuring the music of Grammy-winning Kenny Loggins. This four-time Tony-nominated musical celebrates warm hearts and open minds as a big-city transplant teaches his adopted hometown the joy of freewheeling, foot-tapping freedom of expression.







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## Jet Set Reset

A jaunt to Bermuda and back to let you feel like a billion.

**Once upon a time**, the storied Furness Bermuda Line sailed a set of stately ships between New York and Hamilton. Taking two nights to cross, they offered the perfect getaway for those disembarking to stay, or just spend the day before the return to reality. Popular as Prohibition-era party boats were for the seersucker set, they saw their glory days in the Deco of the 1930's—dubbed “the Millionaires’ Ships”—providing (those who could still afford it) a break from the gray days of the Great Depression. That glamorous reputation followed them through the nifty Fifties, revamped from military service to serve a globetrotting gaggle of newly prosperous East-Coasters seeking to toast away an autumn’s chill during the post-War bloom.

Nowadays, Norwegian Cruise Line offers a similar, simple little luxury. Picture pushing off from your Midtown pier just



before Happy Hour, in time to watch the lights come on above Broadway and the sun set beyond the Hudson. As your ship glides gently toward the harbor, Lady Liberty waves you on to the Verrazano Bridge, where the engines pick up the pace and the ocean opens to absorb the lilac light as you lift the last of your Prosecco, telling you it's time to dress for dinner.

A first night at sea always tingles with excitement. Explore delights on your palette, whether in ship's company in the towering Manhattan Room, in one of the two more intimate main dining rooms, Taste and Savour, more casually at the Garden Café buffet, or Local Bar & Grill (or even more intimately with room service delivered to you while still in your robe and slippers). Or start strong with one of the gourmet specialty dining options, from steakhouse, BBQ, and teppanyaki, to sophisticated seafood, French, Italian and world cuisines. After dinner, discover the night in a cozy wine, whiskey, or cigar bar, or one of the cosmopolitan cocktail lounges, upbeat breweries, and comedy, music, and

dance clubs.

Awaken to find yourself speeding southeast across the sea into the rising sun, with nothing ahead but a whole day to decompress. Maybe start with a workout, or breakfast in bed, before a Mandara Spa treatment or five (there are over 30). As the weather warms, take your beach time early in an adults-only cabana at Vibe. Stroll The Waterfront, or race around the Speedway, get in some golf swings, shoot some laser tag, or try your hand at the casino. Then relax on your balcony before getting ready for another glittering night. Today, time is yours.

In Bermuda, you'll find turquoise coves caressed by pink-sand beaches beneath green links crowned with white-roofed cottages. Dropping the gangway at dawn at the Royal Naval Dockyard gives you plenty of time and access to all of it. Spend the day (or up to three, depending on your itinerary) getting to know Britain's pastel Atlantic paradise. Head for sailing and snorkeling around the waters. Explore caves, shipwrecks,



## Iberian Idyll

**NCL's shortest voyage is an immersion in the sensuous sunshine of al-Andalus.**

**When Christopher Columbus set sail** from the Iberian Peninsula, it marked the turning point from the region's last vestiges as a Moorish vassal to an emerging imperial power of its own. For earlier that same year of 1492, Columbus' Spanish patrons, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, had ousted Emir Muhammad XII from Granada, completing the Reconquista that brought more than 700 years of Islamic rule on the European continent to a close.

Those seven centuries, however, give this westernmost reach of the Eastern Hemisphere its uniquely cosmopolitan character. From a base of Roman relics and Gothic genes, the Moors' influence rises like the sweet, spiced scent of orange blossoms in fanciful spires and soaring inflections of flamenco and fado, and place names from the Algarve to the birthplace of the Man of La Mancha.

Near Granada, at one end of the Costa del Sol, lies Málaga, your embarkation point for one of Norwegian Cruise Lines' shorts but richest adventures—a journey in its own right or the perfect anchor to start or end a



and bike trails. World-class golf courses are nearby, too. Tour colonial St. George and historic Hamilton, and shop at the Bermuda Craft Market. For an authentic taste, try Gosling's rum and a bowl of fish chowder.

The trip back gives you another blissful sea day to catch up on anything you might have missed. Spend it at the salon to put the polish on your reset. Capture your new tan for posterity with a studio photo or album session. Shop 'til you drop some coin for fragrance jewelry, duty-free goods, and designer brands. And for the grand finale, take in the shows: Freewheeling "Footloose," electrifying "Elements," or relive Beatlemania at the Cavern Club.

Long weekends might not be for rising early, but for this last morning we recommend it. As the city skyline stirs in the morning mist, the great green lady welcomes you home from your holiday with an outstretched arm—reliving the quintessential New York arrival of millions, dreaming of just such a life.



European tour. A dinnertime departure leaves you all day to explore ashore, even as far as the legendary Alhambra, once-palace of the Emir. High on their victory, Ferdinand and Isabella took up residence, and it was here that they heard Columbus pitch the expedition that would bring him America.

As the ship sails, meet your shipmates in one of the main dining rooms or delight in gourmet discoveries in the specialty restaurants, from steakhouses to French bistros, Italian trattorias, sushi bars, and more. Then settle into a sports bar or cocktail lounge, a seat at the casino, or for a tour of World Beats to hear percussive Irish tap dancing, the soulful cadences of New York City streets, and haunting drums from Africa.

In Spain, you will have learned to stay up late, so wander up on deck as you transit the Strait of Gibraltar, flanked by its eponymous British



exclave lighting up the shore to starboard and its Spanish equivalent, controversial Ceuta, glittering on the Moroccan shore to port. On a moonlit night, the shadowy headlands of Africa and Europe tower over you just eight miles apart and plunge 3,000 feet below your keel. As Mediterranean meets Atlantic, look left for Tangier.

Cadiz will spoil you with options. From its gulf, Columbus sailed to circle the globe, and 50 years later, Magellan left to finish what he started. Set off for Seville, an hour inland, where the Alcazar will dazzle with intricate tile-work and extravagant gardens, while the streets bustle past bar tables of tasty tapas. Or stay local to see a city said to be the oldest in Europe, founded by Phoenician traders, dominated by a domed cathedral. Walk the waterfront ramparts, hanging gardens, and cobblestone alleyways that hint at Old Havana.

Last stop: Lisbon. Head for the hills of this pastel-hued city to see sweeping water vistas, and quaint, crooked streets. Portugal's heyday as Spain's great rival during the Age of Exploration ended abruptly in 1755, its capital devastated by an earthquake and tsunami whose effects remain in the whale bone carcass of Carmo Convent and the regimented avenues of downtown Baixa, built by martial law. From here, it's only a short trip to the Algarve's alluring beaches, Sintra's fairy-tale castles, or the Douro River's wine-covered banks—to discover the country that discovered the world.



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# *Venture* OUT

From the hottest dining options under the sun to martini madness and an exclusive tour of Bermuda and the Greek isles, we invite you to fall under the spell that awaits on a far-flung cruise.





### 1. GRAND CASE, ST. MARTIN

Grab a cab in Philipsburg and cross the border into the less-harried French side for lunch in the island's tightly packed culinary capital, Grand Case. Perched above a sparkling beach and bliss-inducing, sapphire-hued waters, Océan 82 captures a relaxed-chic, fabulously French vibe with no pretense. Say hello to hostess with the mostest Chérline Charles who always dazzles with a sparkling smile as she watches over the open-air dining room. Expect spot-on dishes such as a stellar lobster fettuccini and a beautifully prepared Dover sole paired with a deliciously dry Provençal rosé. Stare out to sea and dream a tad before your taxi returns to carry you back to port. [ocean82.fr](http://ocean82.fr)



### 4. SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

Situated in the heart of wonderfully atmospheric, evocative Old San Juan, the Palacio Provincial is so much more than an historic, knockout hotel. The establishment's patio restaurant, Consular Restaurant & Bar, is a true urban oasis lavished with frondy plants, fountains, and comfortable furnishings. And while the food is delicious, it's really more about the peaceful courtyard ambience housed within a stunningly converted 19th-century government office building.

Perfect-for-sharing dishes include shrimp croquetas with an herb aioli, a selection of kicked-up pizzas and sandwiches, and terrific salads. Pair lunch with a knockout cocktail such as the rum-laden Fortaleza, and the mix is absolutely electric. [palacioprovincial.com](http://palacioprovincial.com)

## Let's Do LUNCH

Welcome ashore! You're ready to find your land legs and explore the charming, sun-kissed Caribbean destination that awaits. But after you have shopped, explored, and wandered, that most important question arises: Where to have lunch? Here, a handful of our favorite noonday delights.

Edited by JASON OLIVER NIXON

### 2. GEORGE TOWN, GRAND CAYMAN

Grand Cayman has become known as one of the top culinary destinations in the Caribbean with an ever-expanding array of top-tier restaurants. Says Grand Cayman-based chef Dylan Benoit, "We are very close to Miami and we get several cargo flights per week so the quality of the ingredients we can tap is off the charts." A favorite midday spot on the island is the Grand Old House, a former plantation that has been transformed into a top-tier eatery overlooking the water. Think colorful farm-to-table and sea-to-table dishes that will surprise and delight, such as conch fritters with a local mango salad and seafood curry rich with lobster, shrimp, mussels, and more. And, oh, the charming seaside-facing terrace! Note that the restaurant's wine list has over 2,400 selections so be sure to partake of a lovely vintage as you lunch in style. [grandoldhouse.com](http://grandoldhouse.com)



### 3. ORANJESTAD, ARUBA

A 15-minute walk from the cruise terminal will carry you to the West Deck, a charming al fresco eatery built over the beach with stunning waterside vistas. Embrace the "sandy, salty, happy" mantra tacked onto the restaurant's wall and you'll fall under the eatery's easy-breezy, kicked-back vibe. The West Deck is essentially a cool beach bar but with food and service that really elevates the experience. Order a potent cocktail from the "booze" menu (try the strawberry colada!) then sample the island coconut shrimp paired with a tango mango chutney, followed by island fish cakes drizzled with a curried cream. As the balmy trade winds kick up and a steel band plays in the distance, you might just discover your new happy place. [thewestdeck.com](http://thewestdeck.com)



### 5. RED HOOK, ST. THOMAS

Gwenn and Mark Snider, the owners of Lovango Resort + Beach Club sandwiched between St. Thomas and St. John, suggest heading to the bustling American Yacht Harbor in Red Hook for a blissful afternoon on the water. Disembark in Charlotte Amalie, wander a bit, then jump in a cab and head for the eastern shore of the island and the bustling marina that looks onto a dreamy bay and far-off St. John. The harbor's Tap & Still restaurant is straightforward and easy and offers, per their slogan, "Burgers. Booze. Beer." If that's your kind of thing then this is your kind of place. Lunch on a quarter pounder burger loaded up anyway you want and served on wax paper, or try Korean-style chicken wings accompanied by fresh-cut fries. A great, accommodating staff, too. After your meal, explore the marina's shops before zipping back to port. [tapstill.com](http://tapstill.com)

### 6. WILLEMSTAD, CURAÇAO

Unpretentious, easy, unassuming, and perched smack over the sea, De Visserij Piscadera packs a punch with its ever-changing daily assortment of fresh-caught fish and seafood. Dive into a stunning basket of grilled shrimp peppered with wedges of tangy lime accompanied by a side of fries and a bucket of Dutch beer. A super-friendly staff and knockout views round out a fun, relaxed meal. But be forewarned. As one fellow diner informed us, "Do not leave the restaurant before trying the tuna tartare. De Visserij serves the best we have ever tasted. Anywhere."





# Shake IT UP

Master mixologist *Ray Sakover* crafts his favorite martinis that showcase why this cocktail is a tried-and-true classic



*“Whether you are having a nice steak dinner or a casual drink with a friend, there is a martini for every occasion.”*  
—Ray Sakover



**The martini is having a moment.** Over-forties sip them, and millennials fit them in-between trips to Whole Foods. So what’s the appeal? “Martinis embody everything elegant about cocktails,” says Brooklyn barman Ray Sakover, who crafts an especially inspired variety. “A martini is meant to be savored from the first drop to the last. What I love most is that everyone has their preferred one, which makes it both universal and personal.” Here, Sakover pours his five favorites—dynamic, sophisticated, and easy to DIY.

## *Bamboo*

“The Bamboo is an early 20th-century variation on the 50:50 martini that swaps in sherry for gin. This is a low abv martini that is dry, slightly nutty, and silky smooth.”

### *Recipe*

1 part Fino sherry  
1 part dry vermouth  
Orange and Angostura bitters

## *Classic Dry Martini*

“The classic martini everyone knows and loves, this martini is an essential jumping-off point for those interested in diving into the wonderful world of martinis. Enjoy with an olive, a twist, or both, and occasionally with a dash of orange bitters.”

### *Recipe*

5 parts gin  
1 part vermouth  
Add an olive  
Finish with a lemon twist

Norwegian Cruise Line has partnered with Miami’s Bar Lab to stir up a cocktail menu that’ll make you feel good and do even better (for the planet, that is). Ask for our clean and fresh Pineapple Surplus.

## *Alaska*

“A little-known classic, the Alaska is a floral and slightly sweeter version of the classic martini.”

### *Recipe*

2-1/4 parts Old Tom gin  
3/4 parts yellow Chartreuse  
1 dash orange bitters  
Finish with a lemon twist

## *Vesper Martini*

“Invented by Ian Fleming in his classic novel *Casino Royal*, the Vesper is where shaking a martini is thought to have been popularized. I chose the Vesper Martini for its accessibility and cultural significance to the world of cocktails. As a bartender, I cringe when people ask for a shaken martini. However, I will make an exception for the Vesper.”

### *Recipe*

3 parts gin  
1 part vodka  
1/2 tablespoon Lillet Blanc  
Finish with a lemon twist

## *Martinez*

“The predecessor to the dry martini, this version dates back to the 1880s and is a rounder, sweeter concoction compared to the dry martini.”

### *Recipe*

2 parts sweet vermouth  
1 part gin  
1/2 teaspoon of maraschino liqueur  
1 dash orange bitters  
1 dash Angostura bitters  
Finish with an orange twist



# TICKLED *Pink*

From dining and beaches to shopping and cocktails, here is an insider's guide to the magical, pastel-hued island of Bermuda. Style guru *Elaine Murray*, a longtime Bermuda resident, welcomes us to her favorite island finds.



**A tropical, pale pink-hued oasis** smack in the Atlantic Ocean, Bermuda celebrates tradition and history with its eyes firmly fixed upon the future. Think Anglo-influenced nods paired with a throw-care-to-the-wind whimsy. Immaculate, pink-sand beaches and spot-on dining. Charming towns brimming with history and postcard-perfect architecture. Stunning vistas, luxurious resorts, and a relaxed elegance. Palms sway, balmy breezes blow, and your workaday cares quickly dissipate. Order a potent rum swizzle

cocktail and fall under the pastel-colored spell. But, specifically, where to go and what to do in Bermuda? Where to eat? And where to kick back with that tempting rum swizzle? Say hello to Elaine Murray.

Along with her Bermudian husband, Murray is the American-born co-owner of long-running, exquisitely edited Torwood Home boutique in Hamilton. A Bermuda resident for over three decades, Murray offers up her favorites finds on what she calls “this small slice

of paradise.” As Murray says, “Bermuda is like nowhere else in the world and yet somehow it feels so familiar, like you’re coming home despite a three-day ocean crossing. Bermuda is a place of relaxed sophistication offset with a large dollop of a don’t-take-yourself-too-seriously approach to life. I tend to laugh more in Bermuda, and isn’t that the key to life?”

Here, Elaine Murray’s Top Ten List of her number one picks, from eateries and fun shops to yummy cocktails and more.

## 1. START THE DAY LIKE A LOCAL

**I begin my day just like every local on the island** perusing the Obituaries page of our local newspaper, The Royal Gazette, available at my favorite bookstore, The Bermuda Bookstore on Queen Street. While you can read about the usual political squabbling and business news, perhaps the best way to get to know Bermuda is to learn how we permanently leave our paradise for, ahem, an even greater reward. You’ll learn that nearly everyone has a nickname, i.e., Robert “Baggy Socks” Clarence Burgess or Mildred Jane “Cookie” Smith. But, most importantly, you’ll see how much we love each other and how in Bermuda, family always includes “special aunts and uncles” (no relation) and that “special friends” will take high honor, too. Oftentimes you’ll be encouraged to wear “colors” to the funeral for a joyful send-off. My all-time personal favorite was the passing of veterinarian Dr. Robert Steele and the mandate, “At Bob’s request, no black will be worn, except for ladies’ underwear!” My kind of guy.



## 2. MEET A HIGHER POWER

**After exploring Parliament, take a walk to our beautiful cathedral.** The Cathedral of The Most Holy Trinity is located on Church Street (naturally) and for a small admission fee of \$3, one can shake off world events big and small for a moment of quiet reflection. It’s a lovely example of Gothic architecture and you might note, there isn’t a single building in Hamilton that is higher than the Cathedral. It’s proof that even politicians can be intimidated.



*“Be prepared. If you are invited to a true Bermudian’s home for cocktails, don’t even think of leaving before midnight. You’ll have plenty to eat but after a few rum swizzles you’ll probably have to cozy up in your host’s guest room for the night. And no worries, that’s how true Bermudian hospitality works!”*

## 3. LEAVE THE POLITICS AT THE DOOR

**Speaking of politicians—and when in Hamilton—take a walk over to Sessions House,** a grand Italianate building where Parliament is held. (Tours are daily from 10:30 a.m. except when Parliament is in session.) Just like the United Kingdom, our form of government is the Westminster system. Parliamentarians sit across from one another and say things like “my learned colleague” as they debate the business of the day. Should anyone veer off from proper protocol, the Speaker of the House will waste no time admonishing the offending MP with a bang of his gavel and a call to “Order!” Surrounded by portraits of former Speakers of the House and Her Majesty, the Queen, Bermuda’s Head of State, a parliamentary session can be wonderfully intense.





#### 4. CHARGE IT, PLEASE

**Where do I shop in Bermuda? Everywhere.** I believe in supporting our local economy as we have so many wonderful offerings on the island. Here are two favorites: for a combination of fashion, home décor, and inspired one-of-a-kind gifts with a global perspective, I go to Urban Cottage (Front Street). Owner Nicole Golden is simply a marvel and has even been able to help yours truly with something special despite my midsection! Check out the Habitat for Humanity ReStore, which is chock-a-block full of wonderful, gently used treasures. OK, I'll say it. Bermudians are house proud and love to change up their décor frequently. Think of it as an archeological dig without the hard work. You might even find a few pieces of your cherished crystal or china that for a few dollars you can tuck away in your suitcase. One visitor had to go out and buy new luggage so that she could take home eight panels of custom curtains from a very, very prominent Bermudian's home.

*“Don't forget to absorb the sounds of Bermuda. After our own long journeys we know we are finally at home when we hear the chorus of tree frogs serenading us at night...”*



#### 5. HISTORY LESSON

**You must visit the town of St. Georges, the original capital of Bermuda.** To get to this magical slice of island life go to the Central Terminal (located right next to City Hall on Church Street) where you can take a bus directly to St. George's every half hour. While you wait, you can take a quick peak at the beautifully designed City Hall by the late architect Will Onions. (Yes, his real name!) Once in St. George's, pay a visit to St. Peter's Church (the oldest continuously used church in the Western Hemisphere) and be sure to walk behind the church to the cemetery. Stories of families and the hardships of early life settling on a tiny volcanic rock are all here if you look closely. Go back in time and walk along Old Maid's Lane, Aunt Peggy, Needle and Thread, and Silk Alley. Peek at the stonewashed cottages and imagine life four hundred years ago. Take a stroll up Duke of Kent Lane and visit the Unfinished Church. When the congregation ran out of money back in 1899 they left the structure unfinished—yet not for a moment does it feel incomplete. Many a bride and groom have said their vows at the Unfinished Church. Perhaps building a life together should start at a place that reminds us that you can build the roof later, just make sure you have each other.



#### 6. IN THE PINK

**Bermudians are spoiled for choice when it comes to beaches.** Heck, many Bermudians live on their own beach! If you want to feel like you're on a private beach with your toes in the pinkest sand on the island, sneak away to Whale Bay Beach in Southampton. Pack a lunch and you'll probably have this wonderful beach nearly all to yourself. We typically grab takeaway from Brew, located on Front Street, for a beach day. Try their refreshing lemonade with raspberries with either a mixed salad or have a panini with prosciutto and mozzarella. We sit on a big blanket with an old umbrella and pinch ourselves for our good fortune.

### *All Ashore!*

In Bermuda, Norwegian's shore excursions offer something for everyone. Here are five favorites:

For explorers  
**Hidden Gems Exploration Adventure**

For the whole family  
**Aquarium, Caves & Highlights**

For beachcombers  
**Horseshoe Bay Beach Transfer**

For adventurers  
**Shipwreck & Coral Reef Snorkel Combo**

For swingers  
**Turtle Hill Fairmont Golf Resort**



#### 7. LET'S DO LUNCH

**I have two favorite spots for a sandwich.** I head to the Chatter Box Cafe on Reid Street (part of the Washington Mall) where I can say hello to everyone, including Minister Wayne Furbert, who is so wonderfully good-natured despite my mouthing-off tendencies. Try the turkey wrap with avocado, cheddar cheese, and bacon. Or I go to Dangelini's Café & Bakery on Front Street by the ferry terminal so I can catch up with more local friends and give the minister a break. My favorite? This girl loves a tuna melt. If I'm feeling like I deserve one, I finish off with a big cookie covered in frosting. Bliss.







## 8. HEART OF STONE

**If you're all beached out,** find time to bring the wee ones to Crystal Caves in Hamilton Parish (not to be confused with the City of Hamilton). It's magical. Then after they've cooled down from spelunking you can take them around the corner for the promised ice cream at Bailey's Bay Ice Cream Parlour. It's locally crafted and we serve it at our house all the time. Yum.

## 9. SMILE

**Bermudians are known for being some of the nicest people anywhere,** with the country even being ranked as one of the "world's friendliest islands" in Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards. The magazine quoted Mark Twain's observation of Bermuda as "that happy little paradise," and the place he'd rather stay than go to heaven. With its watercolors and gentle hills and bays, even the architecture and landscape seem to smile. All this welcoming warmth makes the place a breeze to explore and makes it a pleasure to discover its most intimate aspects, feeling like you've made new friends.



## 10. WHATS UP?

**My husband and I have several places that we love dearly for dining out** but whenever we need to be treated like family, we head straight for Portofino on Bermudiana Road. Owners Simone and his knock-out wife, Karen, have been taking care of us and our dog, Charlie (a Cavapoo!), for years. Want the local rock fish grilled or pan-fried? Done. You need a couple of pizzas for a large group? Done. For families with children, it's a godsend. Trust me.

When we dine "smart casual" (Bermuda speak for a bit more cleaned up, i.e., ladies can wear a simple dress or blouse and trousers, and gents are not required to wear a jacket and tie), we love to dine at Ascots Restaurant, housed within our favorite small boutique hotel, Royal Palms Bermuda on Rosemont Avenue. Before dinner, have a drink at Ascots' intimate bar or, as we like to say, our living room. Sitting on one of their comfy sofas or chairs or right at the bar, our standard go-to toast with a delicious Dark 'n Stormy is to "Raise your glass and lower your standards!" Works every time. If you want that "Where do locals go in Hamilton?" experience, this is one of the best. Begin with their local codfish cakes and be sure to try any local fish specials on offer such as the wahoo or rock fish. I'm always keen on their sirloin steak with a kinky peppercorn cream sauce. So good! The Royal Palms also has one of the prettiest gardens around, so be sure to sit a spell and admire the flora before or after dinner.



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# LIVING *Legend*

With its iconic white and blue architecture spilling down vertiginous cliffs to the sea, the fabled Greek islands are the stuff of mythology, literally. Fall under the spell of Mykonos and Santorini, the stars of the postcard-perfect Cyclades chain, and embrace the romance.

*Edited by* JASON OLIVER NIXON

**Close your eyes and dream of paradise.** That vision might entail blazingly white architecture topped with azure domes that flanks volcanic-crafted cliffs. Shield your eyes from the bright sun and take in the mirage of windmills, which stand tall like many-armed sentries. Colors are saturated and clear. Hyper-pink bougainvillea creeps hither and yon. Waters are sapphire, turquoise, and cerulean and cascade onto stunning beaches. Surfers ply wind-lapped waters, fishing boats bob in the harbor, and church bells peel in the distance. An infinity-edged swimming pool beckons in the distance, and, yes, that might be a flock of goats high atop a hill.

You find yourself in a charming taverna that opens onto an olive-shaded terrace and you blink twice.

A glass of retsina wine magically appears, and you savor the exceptional, pine-scented flavor. And, yes, you must

try the golden calamari that whisks by and perfumes the air.

Greek gods once frolicked upon these legendary shores.

And now it's your turn.

Welcome to the Cyclades.

## HELLO, MYKONOS!

The ship docks in Tourlos, which sits about a 30-minute walk from the island's bustling town, Chora, but take the cruise shuttle unless you don't mind the lack of sidewalks.

As you drive along the coast to the old town, take in the dramatic rocky landscape peppered with white-washed, cube-like houses. But don't let the far-flung, moon-like surroundings fool you, Mykonos is not an island that has yet to be discovered. The who's-who have been flocking to this once-rural escape since the 1960s (think Ari Onassis and Jackie O.), and today Mykonos is the most crowded

and popular island within the Cycladic archipelago. And that's the magical, incongruous duality. You can feast on the simplest of Greek delicacies and lose yourself in a narrow alley with stars twinkling overhead. Or you can sup on salmon karashi su miso from top toque Nobu Matsuhisa before dancing until dawn to the mashups of a top-flight DJ.

Chora, or Mykonos Town, wraps the harbor and boasts innumerable cafes and restaurants that look out onto pure blue bliss. Wander the charming byways filled with Candyland-plucked houses, shops, galleries, and restaurants. There are museums catering to folk art and archeology and atmospheric, time-stopped churches. Take photos in the Little Venice neighborhood with its charming buildings and bougainvillea-draped balconies that spill onto the Aegean. And don't miss the ring of windmills that stands tall above the city and that





once ground wheat and barley courtesy of the seasonal northern “meltemi” winds.

Order a coffee and traditional pastry on a terrace by the main harbor and watch the hustle and bustle as island life unfolds. Afterward, head for one of the many renowned beaches, each with its own unique vibe and sensibility. If you seek a lively and action-packed time, catch the bus to famed Paradise, Super Paradise, or Paraga. Families might opt for Ornos or Platys Gialos, and those who want something more unique might try Panormos and Agios Ioannis. Windsurfers should head to Kalafatis Beach, about 25 minutes from Mykonos Town. And don’t overlook super-chic Psarou Beach, home to the fantastic Nammos Mykonos beach club, the perfect spot to hobnob with the jet set (think anchored yachts aplenty). But even mere mortals can kick back for an exceptional lunch and enjoy the freshest of seafood before taking a dip in the jewel-like sea.

A beachgoer at Nammos strikes up a conversation as towels are shaken out and flip-flops kicked off.

“I come to Mykonos every year,” says the tall, tan New Yorker. “I love the mix of rustic and high-end, the historic and cutting edge, the endless sun, and the world of possibilities. There’s something for everyone to do on this magical island.”



*“Steeped in millennia-old history, Mykonos claims to be the site of the battle between Greek god Zeus and the fearsome Titans.”*

cats. After you’ve explored, hail a cab and head to the charming towns of lively Oia or more laidback Imerovigli for architecture and vistas that are, incredibly, even more wow-inducing.

Oia, for one, perches high, high above the sparkling caldera and houses stunning homes, shops, restaurants, and hotels carved from the volcanic rock. There’s nothing claustrophobic here, just improbably cozy and inviting caves as you have never seen before.

Over Aperol Spritz cocktails at the always-busy Hassapiko bar in Oia, a conversation strikes up.

“I adore Santorini,” says a well-heeled fellow American. “But you have to find those off-the-beaten-path moments. And be sure to come back and spend a few nights on the island so you can really tap the myriad experiences that an afternoon alone won’t allow. Staying in a cave hotel—and waking up to that view!—is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. And, of course, the sunsets in Oia are like nothing you have ever seen.”

As the day progresses, you might choose to relax by the sea, so make a reservation at one of the island’s numerous beach clubs that are perfect for lounging in style. And note that Santorini’s beach clubs are less frenetic than those found on the sister island of Mykonos, so you can really chill out without that thumpity-thump beat. Think high-style Nikki Beach that sits on the black beach at Monolithos, Theros Wave Bar (the massages here are amazing!), and the bohemian-styled, eclectic Yalos. Settle in for a spirited lunch before splashing about.

You’ll head back to the ship energized and, most assuredly, sun-kissed and smiling.



## SUBLIME SANTORINI

Cruise ships disembark by tender within Santorini’s stunning caldera, so expect plenty of action when you arrive at the bottom of the hill, aka Gialos, that leads up to the bustling town of Fira. Here, you can take the cable car up the hill, walk the 586 steps, or ride a donkey. Yes, truly, ride a donkey—it’s a bit wonky but, ultimately, wonderful.

When you hit town, chances are you will be ready for a spot of fortification, so settle in at one of the many cafés for a pastry and coffee. Get the camera ready for stunning whitewashed buildings with whimsical domes, stone-paved streets, and views of the sea and cliffs that will leave you reeling, but in a good way. Shopping options abound so stock up on gifts for the folks back home. And be sure to get off the town’s main drag to avoid the crowds: You will discover myriad surprise-and-delight moments such as tucked-away chapels, arches that frame the sea like a painting, and plenty of sunbathing







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# The ISLAND Guide

*Welcome to paradise!*

Now get ready to experience the best and the  
brightest of island fun.

By JASON OLIVER NIXON



# NASSAU

## Paradise Found



*My Nassau*  
**The charismatic *Dennis Skinner*, the head of VIP Services at The Cove at Atlantis Bahamas, shares the lay of the land with his five favorite Nassau finds.**

### 1. GOLF

**There are some incredible courses** to play on the islands including Atlantis' Ocean Club Golf Course on Paradise Island or the Royal Blue course at Baha Mar.

### 2. THE FISH FRY

**For local cuisine, visit Arawak Cay**, colloquially called "The Fry" or "The Fish Fry," where you can indulge in local dishes such as conch salad, cracked conch, peas n' rice, Bahamian mac n' cheese, guava duff...and the list goes on! Don't forget to "hydrate" (wink!) with local cocktails such as the Bahamamama, Yellowbird, Goombay Smash, or Sky Juice!

### 3. GRAYCLIFF

**This historic property in downtown Nassau** is not only a five-star restaurant but offers cigar rolling classes, their very own chocolatier, wine tastings, and tours on-property.

### 4. TRU BAHAMIAN FOOD TOURS

**This locally owned and operated company offers a variety of food and culture tours** that center around downtown Nassau. Tru's walking tours will whisk you through downtown's historic sights while you stop for tasty treats enroute.

### 5. DOWNTOWN NASSAU

**Nassau's downtown is full of wonderful shops, atmospheric restaurants, government offices and buildings, and, of course, the famous Nassau Straw Market.**



**N**assau, the capital of the Bahamas and the island chain's largest city, retains vestiges of its British colonial past paired with cutting-edge resorts that spill onto crystalline beaches and turquoise-hued waters. Think glorious scuba diving. Hollywood-worthy sunsets. Colorful Bahamian cuisine packed with sea-plucked flavors. Loads of activities for the kids. Markets aplenty, overflowing with just-caught fish and handwoven straw crafts. Forts. Fishing. Distilleries. Pirates. And so much more.

"We have been coming to Nassau for years and love how easy it is," says a well-heeled traveler whom we meet over drinks at the Baha Mar. "There are great hotels that have sprung up in recent years such as the Ocean Club, and downtown has some really relaxed, fun eateries. The Island House, a new boutique-styled hotel on the western side of the island, is one of my favorite resorts anywhere. And you

can always island hop!"

Downtown Nassau is the perfect spot to wander and just get lost. Candy-colored British colonial architecture pairs perfectly with buzzing markets where you can pick up loads of treasures for the folks back home. Settle into a charming café like Bon Vivants or Café Matisse and relax. Or take an easy ride over the bridge to Paradise Island and live large at Atlantis or tuck into a chic cocktail at the Ocean Club. You might also wish to visit one of the new super resorts such as Baha Mar with its trio of far-flung hotels and eateries overseen by the likes of Marcus Samuelsson. Better yet, hail a cab and enjoy a conch salad at relaxed, easy Dino's. Says island resident and interior design force Amanda Lindroth, "Dino's is a dream — an island-y, roadside shack with enormous charm and authenticity. It is only 25 minutes west along the beautiful West Bay Street. Perfection.



# COZUMEL

## Viva Mexico



**O**ften referred to as the most beautiful island in Mexico, laidback Cozumel is the antithesis of the raucous scene at anything-goes Cancun up the mainland coast. Think miles of pristine beaches and vast swathes of wild parklands that allow you to really turn off and get away from it all. And while there are the usual suspects of sprawling chain hotels, the island also offers a constellation of charming boutique hotels. Wonderful beach clubs, too. Terrific restaurants round out the Cozumel mix. And did we mention the jewel-like, sparkling waters that surround this unspoiled gem...

Cozumel's bustling downtown, San Miguel de Cozumel, sits on the island's northwest coast and offers ferry services that ply the waters between the isle and the mainland. Wander San Miguel's colorful streets: It's a great walking town with parks, galleries, bakeries, and more, and there are spot-on sunset views to be had from the waterfront. Stop for Mexican handicrafts at Los Cinco Soles and enjoy a spirited lunch of street tacos paired with a potent margarita. And be sure to get out of town, too! Explore the island's unspoiled nature with a Jeep tour, head to a beach club, or try your hand at snorkeling. If you're a diver, book an excursion to visit one of the island's famous dive sites. There's also sportfishing, Jet Ski rental, and numerous other outdoor activities. If you have an evening, too, plan to dine at Buccanos with its magical setting or sample Mayan cooking at Ix-Kool (try the ceviche with jicama and a habanero kick or the citrus-kissed cochinita pibil pork).



*My Cozumel*  
Global Editor at Large **Jason Oliver Nixon** first discovered Cozumel as a teenager and returns often decades later. Here, his five favorite finds on this magical, unexpected island. "I love that you can really turn off in pristine nature in Cozumel or kick back with cocktails at a groovy beach club or dine out in style without any pretension. Cozumel is truly a special place that often gets overlooked."

### 1. DIVING

**Cozumel is famed for its diving** thanks to the island's extensive reef system. There are sites for all abilities: Beginners might try Columbia Shallows while more experienced divers gravitate to Santa Rosa Wall or Colombia Wall with its cave, tunnel, and cavern systems. Watch for the gorgeously colored Blue Tang fish as you explore!

### 2. REMOTE BEACHES

The west side of Cozumel houses the majority of the hotels and beach clubs, but the eastern side of the island offers wonderfully remote beaches peppered with local dive bars such as Rasta's (try the coconut shrimp). Hire a taxi to carry you east then find the perfect spot, plunk down, and turn off.

### 3. BEACH CLUBS

**Book a day at a beach club.** Cozumel has numerous sea-facing clubs to choose from that offer everything from all-inclusive packages to spa services, swimming pools, restaurants, and endless water activities. Here are four of our favorites: Cabana Beach Cozumel (we love the private cabanas with healthy WiFi for our Instagram posts), Paradise Beach Cozumel (oh, the numerous toys such as the inflatable water slides and trampolines), Buccanos Beach Club (close proximity to town and fabulously crystal-clear waters), and Mr. Sanchos Beach Club (perfect for the lively, party hearty amongst you).

### 4. LOS CINCO SOLES

**Stock up on colorful treasures** for the folks back home at atmospheric, theatrical shop Los Cinco Soles. You'll find everything from Mexican silver to handicrafts—from Talavera pottery to folk art sculptures, black clay pottery, and rainbow-hued textiles. Their "Mexicatessen" offers traditional Mexican cooking essentials—from chocolates to coffee and cooking sauces. After shopping, wind down with a potent margarita at their Pancho's Backyard restaurant in the store's verdant patio.

### 5. PUNTA SUR ECOLOGICAL PARK

**Reserve a private Jeep tour** of the sprawling Punta Sur ecological park situated at the southern tip of the island. There's a lighthouse, stunning beaches, mangrove swamps, and plenty of wildlife—from crocodiles to an innumerable species of birds.



**P**erfect beaches. Turquoise-hued waters. Stingrays and starfish. Turtles. Caves. Stunning resorts. A bustling, charming downtown in the form of George Town. An appreciation for the beauty of nature. A wonderfully friendly populace. Dive sites aplenty (think bronze mermaids and a submerged submarine rescue ship!). A bioluminescent bay. Myriad cultures coming together swimmingly. A stunning culinary scene. Terrific shopping in George Town. Mix it all together, shake, shake, and pour. Welcome to Grand Cayman, a small slice of heaven situated south of Cuba and west of Jamaica.

George Town is the main hub and is perfect for exploring and some knockout shopping. Grand Cayman is a British Overseas Territory so traveling around the island by taxi might be the best option for many reasons (they drive on the left and there are roundabouts aplenty).

Once you reach your on-island

destination, do nothing for a spell. Truly. Sit under a palm tree beside the diamond-like waters and turn off. Your mental health will thank you. But if you need some action, there's plenty to be had. Grab your sunscreen and head to Rum Point beach, a 50-minute drive from the cruise terminal. It can get busy, but it's a great place to depart for a tour of the Stingray City sandbar. Plus, the beach has a restaurant, changing rooms, and showers, so it's a great place to take the kids. Hold a turtle at the Cayman Turtle Centre or take in the abundant starfish crawling about at Starfish Point. Seven Mile Beach is a stunner, but there are plenty of less-developed beaches—such as Smith Cove with its rock formations and stellar sunset vistas—on the island to enjoy. The diving is excellent with exotic-sounding names such as Devil's Grotto and Eden Rock. And don't miss the blow holes on the island's East End that shoot water some 20 feet up into the air.



*My Grand Cayman*  
**Barnabas Bako** of Italian eatery **Bàcaro** selects his five favorite things to see, do, and experience in Grand Cayman.

### 1. BARS

**I have two favorite bars on the island.** One is Cocoloba Bar & Grill at the Kimpton Seafire Resort + Spa where you can pair a great cocktail with spectacular sunset views on Seven Mile Beach. Try the guacamole. The other is Next Door which is a new speakeasy-type bar at Camana Bay.

### 2. CULINARY EXPERIENCE

**There are so many great restaurants on the island—we are very spoiled.** A few of my favorites include Agua Restaurant & Lounge, Ragazzi Ristorante Pizzeria, Calypso Grill, and sushi restaurant Taikun at The Ritz-Carlton. All are so good!

### 3. LOCAL EATERY

**My favorite local eatery is Mango Tree Bar & Grill.** The food is fantastic. I also love the jerk pork at Peppers Bar & Grill. Sometimes the simplest foods are the best.

### 4. BÀCARO

**Sure, I am biased but Bàcaro is the best restaurant** on the island. Enjoy a wonderful lunch on our patio with a glass of wine and watch the boats leave the yacht club as you experience culinary nirvana. We are the only tapas-style restaurant on island. Standouts include the mad deviled eggs, the beetroot potato gnocchi with green peas, and the lavish mixed grill.

### 5. PEDRO ST. JAMES

**This is the oldest stone building** on the island and a national historic site where you can learn about the wonderfully rich history of the Cayman Islands.



# ST. THOMAS

## *Beachy Keen*



One of the three glittering main islands in the United States Virgin Islands chain, St. Thomas, marries gorgeous vistas, sparkling waters, and world-class resorts—no passport required! Layer in spectacular cooking (from Creole fare to cutting-edge fusion), a stunning history, charming bays, boating opportunities aplenty, and heaps of shopping, and the mix is magnificent. But, oh, the unparalleled beaches on St. Thomas truly make this island a wonderland. Think perfect sand. Crystalline waters. Heavenly vistas. And a relaxed beach bar right where you'd want one.

Charlotte Amalie is the bustling main town on St. Thomas, and there are wonderful vestiges of history to explore—from the 99 Steps installed by the Danish who once owned this island to charming byways full of duty-free selections. St. Thomas is one of the most popular cruising destinations in the Caribbean so you will truly find something for everyone. Culture. Dining. Boating. Eco excursions. Sybaritic bays with fishing boats bobbing about. High-energy marinas filled with shops and restaurants. Hail a cab and head to much-lauded Magens Bay, perhaps visit Red Hook with its myriad eateries, dine at the Ritz or the Old Stone Farmhouse, or simply order a cool cocktail and watch the world wander by under the tropical sun.

*My St. Thomas*  
The concierge team at The Ritz-Carlton, St. Thomas, recommends the following five must-visits.

### 1. FAVORITE BEACH

**Magens Bay is considered one of the world's most beautiful beaches** and has a breathtaking bay that is ideal for swimming and snorkeling. This beautiful one-mile stretch is a public park and was donated to the people of the Virgin Islands by Arthur Fairchild. Beach chairs and floats are available for rent and burgers, pizzas, and other treats can be found at the snack bar. Lifeguards are on duty every day.



### 2. FAVORITE COCKTAIL

The Virgin Islands' tropical cocktails are not only famous among the locals but are also recognized globally. The Bushwacker is one of the best drinks ever created. But, of course, you would want to taste it in VI, a place where it is served at its best! The drink is more like a milkshake than cocktail but infamously strong. The key ingredients used to make this frosty concoction include Kahlúa, Amaretto, coco, rum/vodka, Bailey's, and Lopez.

### 3. FAVORITE RESTAURANT

**Located within The Ritz-Carlton,** Alloro offers fine dining with an Italian twist. Diners can enjoy locally sourced seafood, imported Italian specialties such as prosciutto, and a superb wine selection. Alloro will transport you to Sicily by way of St. Thomas with the fragrance of freshly baked bread in the air and the soft glow of moonlight reflected over Great Bay.

### 4. FAVORITE ART CULTURE DESTINATION

**Mongoose Junction is St. John's** premier shopping and dining destination. Mongoose Junction also offers guests a variety of art galleries and live music events. From The Ritz-Carlton, it is a five-minute drive to the ferry terminal and a 15-minute ferry ride to St. John.

### 5. FAVORITE POINT OF INTEREST

**The 99 Steps.** These historic (actually 103, not 99) steps were built in the mid-1700s and cut through the hills rising from the Charlotte Amalie harbor. The picturesque stairway features colorful flowers and pristine views, perfect for photo opportunities.



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# ST. MARTIN

*Double the Fun*

Split in half, the magical island of St. Martin/Sint Maarten packs a two-fold punch in a 37-square-mile footprint thanks to its lively Dutch/French dual personalities. The Dutch side bustles with activity and features stellar shopping, hopping nightlife, stunning seaside vistas, and the island's sleek international airport. The French side is a tad more relaxed with an emphasis on culinary masterstrokes, sophisticated shops, stylish beaches, and beach-facing, chic bars. On either side of the island, dress up or down and make a gorgeous day of it. And, no, you don't need to show a passport to hop from the Dutch side to the French and vice-versa—it's the oldest officially open border in the world.

Colorful Philipsburg is the beating heart of the island's Dutch side and offers a wonderful selection of colorful shops that feature everything from far-flung jewels to the perfect island-plucked gifts for the folks back home. Palm-lined Front Street is the main drag in Philipsburg and follows the curve of the bay. Walk from one end to the other and take in historic sites such as the historic

Pasangrahan boutique hotel, which once served as the royal guest house for Dutch royalty, or pop into a casino to try your hand with lady luck. Stop in at one of the local eateries to sample Johnny cakes, conch, or the national dish of callaloo, a hearty soup packed with greens, pork, onions, and more. Finish off the day in nearby Maho with its varied restaurant scene and pulsing nightlife scene that will carry you into the morning hours in high-octane style. Hail a cab in Philipsburg, and head to the French side of the island for a completely different experience that is more relaxed and less commercial. Wander the streets of Marigot and grab a French pastry before visiting the harbor-facing market, a great source for island-centric gifts. Equally, book a table for lunch in the culinary hub of Grand Case and settle in for oysters and grilled fish facing the sea. In fact, St. Martin is often referred to as the culinary capital of the Caribbean and boasts an impressive number of restaurants per square mile. Wind down at a charming beach on the French side and sip a cool glass of a Provençal rosé overlooking jewel-like islands on the horizon.



## *My St. Martin*

**Our friends at La Cigale restaurant on St. Martin's atmospheric Baie Nettle open their little black book to five island favorites.**

### **1. MIMOSA SKYLounge**

**Head to the Mimosa Skylounge in Maho** for terrific cocktails (try the fragrant margarita or the tiki) paired with great music and a wonderful, relaxed atmosphere.

### **2. KALATUA BEACH RESTAURANT**

**Head to Kalatua Beach Restaurant on Mullet Bay** for a terrific lunch on one of the most beautiful beaches on the SXM. From fresh burrata cheese with blackened tomatoes to thyme-smoked mahi mahi with a green pea mousseline, you can't go wrong.

### **3. BOAT EXCURSION**

**Take a boat excursion into the glorious waters** surrounding St. Martin. You might even decide to visit neighboring Anguilla's Prickly Pear Cay for a spirited lunch. On every excursion we discover new hidden and magical spots. Layer-in music and cocktails, and you'll have a truly magical day.

### **4. FAVORITE DINNER SPOTS**

**We are biased, but our La Cigale (The Cicada) sits in an oasis** of palm trees facing the bay and offers terrific sunset views. The cooking is exceptional—try the sea bass fillet paired with a leek fondue. We also love Mario Bistrot at the Cliff for the stunning location paired with terrific pastas such as the gnocchi with oysters and truffles. And Alina Restaurant in Maho offers superlative sushi with spot-on service.

### **5. FAVORITE NIGHTLIFE**

**Besides Mimosa Skylounge**, Maho has numerous other options for night owls—whether the casino or dancing the night away at long-running nightclub Mykonos. Everyone will find something here to suit their taste and vibe.







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# ST. KITTS Go Green



**T**he dual island nation of **St. Kitts and Nevis** has a certain cloud-shrouded, hyper-green mystique. Picture vertiginous peaks such as Mount Liamuiga, a volcano that is carpeted in lush rainforest vegetation and topped by a crater lake. From the volcano's summit, take in the magnificent vistas towards surrounding islands including Saba, Saint Barts, St. Martin, Nevis, and Antigua. And, yes, that was the sound of vervet monkeys chattering away in the trees above you. Far below beside the crystalline sea, St. Kitts offers crowd-free beaches, incredible diving thanks to spectacular coral reefs, golf, relaxed dining (think conch fritters and salt fish and dumplings on the local-eats list), and health and wellness options aplenty. Layer-in a warmth and generosity courtesy of the smiling locals, and you will truly feel welcomed. Explore the former sugar plantations such as the Wingfield Estate that were once the world's largest cultivators of sugarcane, sip a rum-loaded Pirate's Punch cocktail or three at the Shipwreck Bar & Grill, or kick back on

the beach at the Park Hyatt and take in a postcard-perfect sunset. And do mind the mongoose family that just scampered across the road. P.S. The average annual temperature ranges from 77-82 degrees Fahrenheit. Now that's bliss. Historic Basseterre is the capital of St. Kitts/Nevis and dates back to the 17th century when it was founded as a French colony. Walk this picture-perfect city of 14,000 residents and stop to sample the fresh fruit or purchase the wonderful crafts being sold by local vendors. There are numerous restaurants and shops looking onto Independence Square, the center of town, that make for the perfect place to sip a late-morning coffee at the Gallery Cafe. Book a walking tour of the city and learn about the impressive history that has carried Basseterre through the centuries. And be sure to get out of town: You can get anywhere in the island in 45 minutes or less—whether the Brimstone Hill Fortress or The Strip (aka, an atmospheric collection of beach bars and clubs)—and the best way to travel is by taxi, which are plentiful.

*My St. Kitts*  
*Yvette Burnham,*  
a longtime employee at  
much-loved Caribelle  
Batik, offers her five  
favorite St. Kitts must-dos.

### 1. TAKE A CATAMARAN SAIL

**Being out on the tranquil waters** while admiring the beautiful topography of St. Kitts and Nevis—and while listening to music and having drinks—is a great experience.

### 2. ST. KITTS SCENIC RAILWAY

**A ride on the Scenic Railway** is so serene and it's a great way to be reminded about the rich history of St. Kitts and why we are called Sugar City.

### 3. ST. KITTS ECO PARK

**A visit to the St. Kitts Eco Park** offers the perfect opportunity to purchase fruits, vegetables, and plants. Walk the grounds and through the fruit trees area where fruit-picking just might be allowed.

### 4. THE KITTITIAN HILL RESORT

**The Kittitian Hill Resort Development** is a great escape for some quiet time as you're nestled within the lush rainforests of Mt. Liamuiga. It's the perfect place for breakfast or lunch. Or book a day pass to use the pool.

### 5. CARIBELLE BATIK!

**The property is steeped in history** as it was the first land grant in the western hemisphere. In fact, the Wingfield Estate was owned by Samuel Jefferson, the great-great-great grandfather of Thomas Jefferson. Today, the great house has been transformed into Caribelle Batik, which sells a variety of beautiful and intricate batik patterns that will last a lifetime.



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# ARUBA

## Let's Go Dutch



**“I love the beaches on the southwestern tip of the island,”** says a recent visitor to Aruba. **“I literally had to be pulled away from the stunning waters.”**

**A** Dutch outpost sparkling in the southern Caribbean off Venezuela, Aruba beckons for endless fun under the sun, but it offers so much more than languid days spent upon the shore. The restaurant scene shines. Try your hand at the official languages of Dutch and Papiamentu—but not to worry, everyone speaks English. There are great hotels—hello, Boardwalk Boutique Hotel and The Ritz-Carlton. There's culture. Kid-friendly activities. Thanks to the island's arid climate, little runoff spills into the ocean, so expect unparalleled visibility as you splash about the cerulean-hued waters. Cactus abounds as do cactus “hedges.” And then there's that funny divi divi tree that always points to the southwest thanks to the island's trade winds. Thank those pesky trade winds for the siren song that lures windsurfers and kiteboarders from around the globe to the wind-whipped waters. Keep your eyes open for leatherback turtles that are among the species that lay their eggs on the island's coast. Try a typical Aruban dish such as curry goat, keri keri, and pan bati with their African, French, Dutch, and other

far-flung influences.

Port of call in Aruba is Oranjestad, and the capital city delivers plenty of action in the form of restaurants, shopping, and cultural attractions. But be sure to get out and explore the rest of this magical isle. Taxis are widely available and are a great way to get around the 20-miles-long and six-miles-wide (at its widest point) island. Plan to live in a swimsuit and comfortable top paired with flip-flops and water shoes (the island is largely igneous, so you don't want to tear up your feet on the rocks). While the days are hot and arid, the temperature cools off at night so pack a light jacket or sweater. The island's official currency is the Aruban florin but American dollars are accepted everywhere. It's a great island for families as there are myriad activities for the kids—besides the stellar beaches—including the fact that it is rated as one of the safest islands in the Caribbean. Hello, butterfly farms, donkey sanctuaries, caves, natural pools, and national parks that cover almost 20% of the island. So dive wholeheartedly into this island that claims to be one of the happiest places in the world.

### *My Aruba*

*Jurgen van Schaijk*, the managing director at the stunning Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort, offers his Aruba Top Five.

#### 1. EAGLE BEACH

**Eagle Beach is a beach neighborhood** located near the capital, Oranjestad, and is famous for its many low-rise resorts looking onto the widest public beach in Aruba. With its beautiful white sand and crystal-clear waters, Eagle Beach has consistently been rated one of the best beaches in the world by numerous travel publications.

#### 2. ARUBA ALOE MUSEUM

**Aruba Aloe Museum is interactive** and offers free guided tours every 15 minutes, providing guests with insight into the island's aloe production that dates back some 160 years.

#### 3. PALM BEACH

**Palm Beach is a resort area** situated on the northern coast of the island that is known for its calm waters and long sandy strip lined with bars and restaurants. Nearby, you will find the lush Bubali Bird Sanctuary, which is home to the island's beautiful herons and other migratory birds.

#### 4. THE BUTTERFLY FARM

**The beautiful Butterfly Farm nature sanctuary** is home to hundreds of butterflies in a rainforest-like enclosure. The Butterfly Farm offers guided tours, providing guests with insight on the evolutionary cycle of these remarkable creatures. Great for kids.

#### 5. THE GUADIRIKIRI CAVE

**The Guadirikiri Cave is famous for its two chambers** that are illuminated by the sunlight streaming through holes in the cavern's roof. The cave extends approximately 100 feet with the darker portions of the cave nesting hundreds of harmless bats.



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# SAN JUAN *Old-World Splendor*



**“It’s the best of the Old World meets the New,”** says one frequent visitor to San Juan. **“I can visit a fort that dates to the 16th century then have a spa treatment in a world-class resort, dine under the stars with cooking courtesy of a top-rated chef, and finish off the day by dancing until dawn fueled by a stash of knockout piña coladas. Which, by the way, were invented here.”**

**S**an Juan is a study in contrasts—from the fabled, centuries-old El Morro fort that hunkers above the old city to the cutting-edge resorts that line glittering Condado Beach. Mix in cobblestoned streets with centuries of stunning, pastel-hued architecture, knockout cooking, top-tier museums and cathedrals, wonderful snorkeling and day trips, a friendly, relaxed vibe, easy access to national parks, a pulsing nightlife, and, well, you might just fall in love. The second-oldest European-founded city in the Americas, San Juan celebrated the 500th anniversary of its founding in 2022, and this remixed, remodeled old lady was ready for her closeup. Viva Boricua! Hop in a cab at the port and head to Old San Juan to

absorb the historic vibes by walking and then walking some more. Whether it’s history, culture, old-school dining, or cocktails, you’ll find all of that within the candy-colored lanes that fill this atmospheric neighborhood. Forts. Museums. Throwback eateries. Layer the shock of the new into the centuries-old fabric in the form of boutique hotels, of-the-moment eateries, and cutting-edge, DJ-fueled nightlife, and the storyline truly intrigues and entices. Or head to a world-class resort on the nearby Condado with a good book and order a cool cocktail and soak up some sun as palms sway in the balmy breezes. After all, the beautiful and amazing Puerto Rico isn’t called the “isla del encanto,” the enchanted isle, for nothing.





*My San Juan*  
**Michael Tischler**, the guest relations manager at La Concha Renaissance San Juan Resort, offers up his San Juan Top Five.

**1. HIKING**

**My favorite place to hike**, the 29,000-acre national forest El Yunque, has beautiful trails with many wildflowers, interesting plants, and breathtaking waterfalls.

**2. FAVORITE COCKTAIL**

**The Coconut Mojito and the San Juan 500**, which we serve at La Concha but you can make it at home: Mix 1-1/4 ounces of Ron del Barrilito Tres Estrellas, 1 ounce acerola juice, 1/4 ounce simple syrup, 1/4 lime juice, 3 dashes of Angostura bitters, and 1 dried pineapple wedge as a garnish.

**3. SUNSET LOCATION**

**My favorite location for a sunset** is the Rincón or in the grounds of the El Morro fort in Old San Juan.

**4. FAVORITE NIGHTLIFE**

**My favorite nightlife spots** include Fifty Eight San Juan at La Concha and La Factoría in Old San Juan. And La Placita has a great variety of bars and restaurants and a vibrant nightlife scene.

**5. FAVORITE DINING OPTIONS**

**Santaella in La Placita, Luisa in Condado, and Sabrina Bistro** located on Calle Loíza. All three are exquisite and the culinary teams at each of these restaurants are super talented at making our signature local foods into fine-dining masterpieces.



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