

Home sweet home

A wave of new villas in the Caribbean could tempt all kinds of clients, finds **Alice Barnes-Brown**

The Rock Villa,
Bequia Beach Hotel

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DESTINATIONS

CARIBBEAN | VILLAS



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: CrystalSky 4-Bedroom Reserve Villa at Treasure Beach Village, Turks and Caicos; Hawksbill Villa, Turks and Caicos; Villa Maximin, BVI

PICTURES: Steve Passmore; Caribbean Jules Photography



ON THE HORIZON

🌟 Kempinski is coming to Turks and Caicos in 2028. Four beachfront villas will complement 119 apartments, a wine cellar, beach club and more.

🌟 Also in Turks and Caicos, Waldorf Astoria is set to open an island resort on Dellis Cay in 2028, including 10 beachfront bungalows with terraces and plunge pools.

🌟 The Elephant Tree Resort and Villas Tobago will mark the debut of Hilton's Tapestry Collection to the island in 2028, with 126 two or three-bedroom villas.

🌟 The Mandarin Oriental Puerto Rico, the brand's first Caribbean property, opens in 2028 and will feature 83 villas spread across Boquerón Bay.

Across the Caribbean, a swathe of villas have opened over the past year, offering the convenience, comfort and privacy of home and an ideal base for beach trips, rainforest adventures and everything in between.

Discover our pick of the Caribbean's hottest properties, from family-friendly villas within bigger resorts to intimate boltholes set deep in nature, and pick up some handy selling tips from operators who know the islands inside out.

BEST FOR...UNDER-12S

Treasure Beach Village at Beaches Turks and Caicos will open on March 1. A handful of four-bedroom villas on the white sands of Grace Bay will house up to 10 guests each, offering an easy place from which to enjoy all the amenities the resort has to offer.

Leah Marshall, director of sales at Unique Vacations, says: "With a coffee shop that turns into a cocktail bar, a 32-seat cinema and an infinity pool featuring a swim-up

bar and cabanas – plus waterslides and splash pads – Treasure Beach Village is like a whole new resort.

"The biggest suites are the Treasure Beach Crystal Sky Four-Bedroom Reserve Villas. Clients can enjoy ocean views from the roof terrace, which comes with its own private pool. If that's not enough, their every whim will be taken care of by personal butlers."

Book it: A seven-night all-inclusive stay for a family of eight in a Treasure Beach Crystal Sky Four-Bedroom Reserve Villa costs from £36,235 per family, based on four adults, two children and two infants sharing. Includes transfers and flights from Heathrow on October 25. sellingsandals.co.uk

Or try: Saint Lucian brand Bay Gardens Resorts is opening Sapphire Sands Villas in Rodney Bay this week, offering one, two and three-bedroom villas, an Asian-Caribbean fusion restaurant and access to the Coral Kidz Club at the adjacent Bay Gardens Beach Resort. Unlimited access to the Splash Island Water Park adds an extra kid-friendly USP.

Sackville Travel sells a seven-night stay from £14,970 for six sharing a Three Bedroom Beachfront Villa With Pool. Includes breakfast, transfers and flights from Gatwick, selected departures between July 20 and August 30. sackvilletravel.com

BEST FOR...TEENS

A recent addition to the Oliver's Travels portfolio is Villa Maximin in the British Virgin Islands. Within a 15-minute walk of wild Trunk Bay beach and a 20-minute drive from Tortola's airport, Villa Maximin is formed of two separate buildings with a pool each, so teens can splash about away from the grown-ups. Two barbecue areas overlooking the turquoise ocean are prime territory for memorable group feasts, but a chef can be hired, taking the stress out of catering for fussy eaters.

Fern Higgins, partnerships lead at villa specialist Oliver's Travels, says interest in the area is rising: "We've experienced 10 times the number of price checks for the British Virgin Islands this peaks period, compared with last year."

Book it: A seven-night stay costs from £11,365 per party of 10 for select departures between May 1 and November 20. Flights and transfers extra. oliverstravels.co.uk

Or try: Gemma Lewis, director at The Villa Collection, says: "We have just introduced the eight-bedroom Hawksbill Villa in Turks and Caicos. It's on the beach and offers a huge pool, games and media room, plus watersports, volleyball and a tennis court – the whole family will be entertained." From £6,957 per person for a seven-night stay between April 13 and November 21, based on 16 sharing. Flights and transfers extra. thevillacollection.com

BEST FOR...COUPLES

Bequia Beach Hotel in the Grenadines offers perfect pads for couples on the sleepy shores of Friendship Bay. Melissa Scarlett, Kuoni's senior product executive for the Caribbean, says: "Bequia Beach Hotel seems made for honeymooners – a hidden sanctuary where couples often feel they have ➤

DESTINATIONS

CARIBBEAN | VILLAS

BEST *of the* REST

Casa de Campo, Dominican Republic

Villa guests will enjoy a private pool, dedicated fitness centre and golf carts to get around the resort. Gold Medal sells seven-nights' all-inclusive in a Garden Villa from £2,279 per person, based on six adults and three children sharing. Includes flights and transfers. goldmedal.co.uk

Blue Waters Resort & Spa, Antigua

Four-bedroom Turtle Cottage features azure accents – from the sea views to the cushions – as well as a sunbathing terrace, private pool and fully stocked kitchen. If Only sells a seven-night stay from £22,539 per family of seven, including breakfast, transfers and flights departing August 13. ifonly.net

Secret Bay, Dominica

Two new villa types, the Zabuco Honeymoon and Ti-Fey Villas, sleep up to two adults and one child. They can be paired into connecting sets. Hummingbird Travel sells seven nights in a Ti-Fey Villa from £6,860 net rate for two adults, one child. Includes breakfast, excursion and transfers. Flights extra. hummingbird.travel

English Harbour, Antigua

Blue Bay Cottage, sleeping 10 guests, is at the heart of Antigua's English Harbour, with amenities and services such as pre-arrival shopping and car hire. From £1,524 per person for seven nights, based on 10 sharing, including flights. cgvillas.com



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: The Rock Villa, Bequia Beach Hotel, Bequia; Half Moon, Jamaica; Rondoal Butler Villa at Sandals St Vincent and the Grenadines



the island to themselves. Romance is completely effortless."

The Rock Villa, an eight-bedroom, adult-only bolthole that opened in November, can be hired by the suite as well as for exclusive use. All guests have access to a private treatment room, gym, Pilates studio, infinity pool and the beach, and a butler can bring cocktails and canapés at will.

Alternatively, the resort's two-bedroom pool villas – with kitchenettes and outdoor sofas – are a great option for honeymooners with little ones or friends in tow.

Book it: Kuoni sells a seven-night stay in a Two Bedroom Pool Villa from £3,449 per person, based on two sharing. Select departures in November. Includes breakfast, transfers and flights from Heathrow. kuoni.co.uk

Or try: Sandals St Vincent and the Grenadines is adding 20 new Rondoal Butler Villas in November; three villas will even feature a roof terrace equipped

with a telescope. From £5,139 per person based on two sharing, all-inclusive, with transfers and flights departing September 12, 2027. sellingsandals.co.uk

BEST FOR...FRIENDS

Half Moon resort in Jamaica's Montego Bay area has renovated its 19 villas and these opened in December, ahead of the main resort, following Hurricane Melissa. They now feature poolside cabanas with TVs, expanded alfresco dining areas and infinity pools.

That's not all. A new yoga pavilion exclusive to The Villas is ideal for friends to practise together, while access to Half Moon's fitness and sports facilities offers heart-pumping activities for groups to get into: they can explore on complimentary rental bikes, try watersports including pedal boats and Padi diving courses, or get their game on at the tennis and padel courts.

Sharon Booker, senior product executive for the Caribbean at

Inspiring Travel, says: "Staying at the Villas at Half Moon is like having Jamaica's best playground outside your door: golf, tennis, pickleball, an equestrian centre, every watersport you can imagine, plus trails, fitness classes and endless beach time."

Book it: Inspiring Travel sells a seven-night stay at The Villas at Half Moon from £4,165 per person, based on 12 adults sharing a Six Bedroom Garden Villa. Includes breakfast, transfers and flights departing September 1. inspiringtravel.co.uk

Or try: Apes Hill Barbados added the three-bedroom Villa Oasis and four-bedroom Hilltop Villas last year, with access to its championship golf course, plus sports facilities and nature trails. Carrier sells a seven-night stay in a Hilltop Villa from £3,695 per person, based on eight sharing. Includes breakfast, four rounds of golf, transfers and flights from Heathrow departing December 5. carrier.co.uk **TW**