

TRAVEL

LISTS THAT MATTER

SAVVY

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2005

Elizabeth Hurley's
**3 Hot Bikini
Beaches**

10 Great **Business
Getaways**

10 Wildest
Holiday
Kitsch Towns

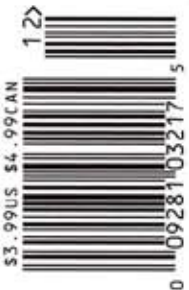
7 Best
**Ski Resorts
For Non-Skiers**

Chris Rock's
Brooklyn

Sofia
Coppola's
Paris



Caribbean Pleasures,
Stockholm Surprises,
Cool Ice Hotels





THE PALMS



THE BEACH HOUSE



SANDY LANE



EDEN ROC



EDEN ROC

5 Best New Resorts

There are hundreds of resorts in the Caribbean, so how do you find the new state-of-the-art ones? Luxury travel agent **Stacy Small**, president of Elite Travel By Stacy, in West Palm Beach, Florida, specializes in travel for affluent professionals, CEOs and managing directors that enlist her services put a premium on comfort and convenience. Small says there are three criteria to consider: First, guests want the amenities they enjoy at home, so hotels offering the best technology, such as WiFi, are critical. Second, great service is key. The final concern is cuisine. Here are her 5 new Caribbean resorts that fulfill every requirement.

THE COVE, ELEUTHERA, BAHAMAS

Secluded, yet easy to get to by ferry, island-hopper or yacht from nearby Nassau, The Cove is where urban chic means island charm. (There are no phones or TV.) Stylish, colorful accommodations are in 26 spacious bungalows steps from the famed pink-sand beach. Gourmet French cuisine is prepared by Lugo, a Paris-trained chef. There is easy access to Harbour Island, a charming Victorian-style community being touted as the St. Barths of the Bahamas. Added touches include preloaded iPods and 600-count linens.

THE PALMS, TURKS AND CAICOS

Since debuting earlier this year, The Palms has quickly become one of the Caribbean's

hottest new boutique resorts in a sought-after destination. The 72 suites feature marble and mahogany, and service has reached standards rarely seen in the region. Super-luxe touches include an infinity pool that offers aromatherapy mists, iPods for your personal use and a 15,000-square-foot spa with an outdoor meditation area. The serpentine-shaped pool is bordered by cushy circular beds. Best of all, you can float to a swim-up bar and restaurant. Former Le Bernadin chef Jasper Schneider turns out delicious dishes at Parallel 23, the resort's restaurant.

THE BEACH HOUSE, BARBUDA

It doesn't get much hipper than "The House" on the southern tip of Barbuda. An ethereal vibe pervades the property, with modern white pillars, white sofas and four-poster beds—the perfect complement to the stellar service. Of the 21 suites, those with ocean views and private decks are the most fabulous. Each guest has a personal service ambassador/butler. Here, it's more barefoot chic than glitz and glam, although it's the most glamorous "beach house" I've seen in a while.

DISCOVERY AT MARIGOT BAY

Come February, St. Lucia's gorgeous Marigot Bay will add a brand-new, 124-room

and -suite resort. I've seen the plans and I'm impressed. City chic will meet Caribbean style, resulting in rooms best described as "Philippe Starck meets Harry Belafonte." Each will have WiFi and other high-tech touches. Bay-view balconies and suites will feature private plunge pools. The resort, which is already taking reservations, is adjacent to a new Caribbean-style marina village, with shops, bakery, restaurants and an art gallery.

THE RITZ-CARLTON, GRAND CAYMAN

This resort, spanning 144 acres along Seven Mile Beach, will change the face of Grand Cayman when it opens later this fall. Built for both hotel guests and residents, no detail has been spared. Greg Norman designed the golf course, while Le Bernadin's Eric Ripert will be overseeing menus at two of the five restaurants. Add a 20,000-square-foot La Prairie Spa and a Jean-Michael Cousteau kid's program and little else is needed. Couples, families and golfers are already reserving rooms well into 2006.

4 Most Serene Spas

A vacation is a time to indulge yourself. Staring at stretches of aqua-blue water is hypnotic; having a professional masseuse soothe tired muscles is essential. So on any Caribbean escape, make time for a seaweed scrub or let your tensions melt away during an intense massage as the waves lap softly in the background. And do it in style. After all, ambiance is everything. **Christy Mogen**, operations director of Bliss Spas, supplied the 4 she considers to be the best.

CUISINART RESORT AND SPA, ANGUILLA

Panoramic views of azure waters and lush gardens surround you during mineral baths, massages, customized facials and more.

HOTEL GUANAHANI AND SPA, ST. BARTHS

With treatments developed by Clarins, feel completely rejuvenated after your aromatherapy session.



THE WESTIN, AT OUR LUCAYA, BAHAMAS

The spa specializes in treatments utilizing the natural elements of the islands, relaxing all of the senses.

SANDY LANE RESORT AND SPA, BARBADOS

Boasting a spectacular waterfall cascading into the large free-form swimming pool, the treatments are only half the enjoyment. Other amenities include the Chakra therapy room with a heated marble plinth and the hydrotherapy room with an underwater massage bath.