



CARIBBEAN HONEYMOON GUIDE 2008

The spirit of romance lies at the heart of the Caribbean. Whatever newlyweds desire from their honeymoon, whether it be a castaway boutique hotel with a top spa or an upbeat all-inclusive resort packed with activities; an eco-style retreat or a family homestay, the Caribbean delivers across a wide range of budgets. Many properties mentioned below, treat honeymooners like VIPs with extras such as champagne and fresh tropical flowers in their room on arrival or a candlelit dinner for two on the beach.

Why honeymoon in the Caribbean? The strong culture of each and every island promises a memorable honeymoon. Combine this with superb accommodation, high levels of service and stunning natural beauty, and you simply can't go wrong.

ANGUILLA

The tiny island of Anguilla is renowned as a friendly yet sophisticated island with 33 stunning beaches along its 35-mile coastline. It has a wide variety of accommodation and a reputation for fabulous cuisine.

Top properties: CuisinArt Resort & Spa, Cap Jaluca, Malliouhana Hotel & Spa, Cove Castle and Altamer Resort.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Viceroy Anguilla and Baccarat Temenos Resort & Golf Club.

Landscape: The island is flat and consists of coral limestone formation. White sand beaches also surround the island.

Activities: Golf, tennis, sailing and art galleries.

Contact: Anguilla Tourist Office.

T: 020 8871 0012

www.anguilla-vacation.com

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

Antigua, the largest of the Commonwealth Leeward Islands, boasts 365 beaches, one for every day of the year. It offers everything from luxury all-inclusive resorts to romantic hideaways in idyllic secluded coves. For couples in search of real peace and quiet, Barbuda is an exclusive jetset and nature lovers' hideaway.

Top properties: Blue Waters, Carlisle Bay, Curtain Bluff, Galley Bay, Jumby Bay.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Hermitage Bay (Antigua), Hodges Bay Club (Antigua), The Lighthouse Bay Resort (Barbuda).

Landscape: Antigua's stunning coastline curves dramatically with coves and harbours and endless sandy beaches. The rest of the island is low lying with undulating hills. Barbuda is a low-lying coral island, known for its untouched pink coral and white sand beaches.

Activities: Adventure seekers will enjoy the Antigua Rainforest Canopy Tour, a truly unforgettable high wire journey high above the verdant forest, or the huge choice of boat tours on offer ranging from eco tours by kayak to sailing, speedboats and yacht charters. For a calmer experience on the high seas, the enchanting Stingray City Tour is a must. For a land-based excursion, hire a jeep and explore the only existing Georgian naval dockyard, English Harbour, or head to Shirley Heights on a Sunday for rousing reggae music and breathtaking views.

Contact: Antigua & Barbuda Tourist Office.

T: 020 7258 0070

www.antigua-barbuda.com

ARUBA

This Dutch Caribbean Island, just 15 miles off the coast of Venezuela, boasts miles of pure white sand and

turquoise water. The island's capital of Oranjestad has charming Dutch-style architecture.

Top properties: Bucuti Beach Resort, Radisson, Hyatt.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Exclusive penthouse accommodation at the Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort.

Landscape: Aruba has a desert like interior with sand dunes and cacti – something of a rarity in the Caribbean.

Activities: Sea-trekking (a way of walking on the seabed without getting your hair wet), jeep safari, and wreck-diving.

Contact: Aruba Tourism Authority.

T: 020 7928 1600

www.aruba.com

THE BAHAMAS

The 700 islands and cays of The Bahamas are rich with honeymoon havens. Only 30 islands are inhabited, so honeymooners can charter a yacht to find deserted beaches and untouched cays.

Top properties: Atlantic Resort, One & Only Ocean Club, Kamalame Cay, Four Seasons Great Exuma at Emerald Bay, Graycliff for old Nassau atmosphere with four-poster beds. Valentines Resort, The Landings and Pink Sands on Harbour Island.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Pineapple Fields and The Cove on Eleuthera and Bimini Resort & Marina on Bimini.

Landscape: Green fringed with white beaches and coral reefs.

Activities: Romantic horse-drawn carriage tour of New Providence; diving to below 6,000ft; explore The Exumas islands under sail or by power boat.

Contact: Bahamas Tourist Office.

T: 020 7355 0800

www.honeymoons.bahamas.co.uk

BARBADOS

With miles of sun-drenched sands graced by towering palms, turquoise waters and caressing waves, Barbados is a lovers' paradise. Barbados infuses romance into every inch of the island from its dramatic east coast to the nightlife of Bridgetown.

Top properties: Sandy Lane, The House at Tamarind Cove, Colony Club, Treasure Beach Hotel, Cobblers Cove Hotel, Almond Resorts, The Sandpiper, Fairmont Royal Pavillion, Mango Bay Hotel.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: New Hibiscus and Hummingbird Suites at Treasure Beach Hotel.

Landscape: The landscape is relatively flat, composed mainly of coral with the peak of Mount Hillaby in the east. An almost continuous beach runs along the west coast.

Activities: Dine at star-studded Daphne's or The Cliff. Enjoy Taste of Barbados, the Jazz Festival and Crop Over. Take an island safari and tour the rum distillery.

Contact: Barbados Tourism Authority.

T: 020 7636 9448
www.visitbarbados.org

BELIZE

Belize offers a mix of tropical rainforests rich with wildlife, majestic mountains, and Maya temples plus spectacular fishing and river kayaking.

Top properties: Belize Legacy Resort, Portofino, Victoria House, Villas at Banyan Bay & Grand Colony, Mata Chica Resort, Ramon's Village, Kaana Boutique Resort & Spa and Chaa Creek Cottages & Spa.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Pelican Reef Villas, Sueno Del Mar and Reef Village Resort.

Landscape: Spectacular tropical rainforest, dramatic mountains and numerous offshore islands.

Activities: Explore the Maya temples; caving and

kayaking. Honeymooners can cocoon themselves on a private island, pamper themselves at an exotic jungle lodge or get away from it all in an oceanside condo or cabana

Contact: Belize Tourism Board.

T: 00 501 227 2420

F: 00 501 227 2423

www.travelbelize.org

BERMUDA

Situated 100 miles north of the Bahamas in the Atlantic Ocean, Bermuda is a very special archipelago of approximately 180 islands with two distinct seasons - spring and summer. Its capital, St. George, is a World Heritage Site and the oldest English-speaking colonial town in existence.

Top properties: Cambridge Beaches, Elbow Beach, the Fairmont Southampton, The Reefs.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Newstead Belmont Hills.

Landscape: With its craggy cliffs, pink sand beaches, rolling golf courses and distinct candy coloured architecture, Bermuda offers honeymooners absolute tranquillity.

Activities: Snorkelling and diving, horse riding along the beach, golf, shopping and a range of 'his and hers' treatments at top spas including Cambridge Beaches & Ocean Spa.

Contact: Bermuda Tourism.

T: 0800 883 0857

www.bermudatourism.com

BONAIRE

Located off the coast of Venezuela, Bonaire is the most eastern and the second largest of the Dutch Caribbean Islands. There are plenty of romantic places to stay from private villas to bungalows on the beach and sea view cottages. Bonaire is one of those unhurried places where you can totally kick back and relax after a hectic wedding.

Top properties: Captain Don's Habitat, Bellafonte Chateau de la Mar.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Plaza Resort.

Landscape: Extensive coral forests offshore, while on land the island features a 13,500 acre national park and 350 miles of nature trails.

Activities: Scuba diving, snorkelling, windsurfing, sea kayaking and sailing. Couples can also explore the 'kunuku' or 'outback' by bike.

Contact: Tourism Corporation Bonaire, European Office.

T: 00 31 23 543 0704

www.tourismbonaire.com

europa@tourismbonaire.com

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

When you choose the British Virgin Islands, you are assured of a memorable honeymoon exploring the many islands and bays. Honeymooners who prefer to stay on dry land are spoilt for choice with many small hotels, local inns, cottages and boutique hotels. **Top properties:** Rosewood's Biras Creek and Little Dix Bay; Peter Island, Guana Island, Bitter End, Long Bay Beach Resort, Sugar Mill Hotel and Necker Island.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Scrub Island Resort & Marina.

Landscape: An archipelago of 50 islands, cays and rocks, most of which are mountainous, lush and green.

Activities: Charter a yacht and sail around the many stunning bays where you can jump ashore in the evening for a romantic dinner in one of the many gourmet restaurants.

Contact: British Virgin Islands Tourist Board.

T: 020 7355 9585

www.bviturism.com

THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

The friendly British Crown Colony of the Cayman Islands is made up of three islands, Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. Apart from Seven Mile Beach, much of Grand Cayman is undeveloped with a green and richly floral interior and a pristine coastline made up of white

sandy beaches, coves and thriving reefs giving fantastic snorkelling right off the beach and world class diving. The Brac is more rugged with great hiking and diving. Little Cayman is the ultimate escape and has just 100 permanent residents.

Top properties: The Ritz-Carlton, The Caribbean Club and the Marriott Beach Resort all on Seven Mile Beach. The Southern Cross Club and Little Cayman Beach Resort both on Little Cayman. Also a wide range of luxury private villas and beach houses on all three islands available through Cayman Villas.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Mandarin Oriental. Additional private villas will be available in the exclusive Cayman Kai area of Grand Cayman.

Landscape: The landscape is relatively flat, with rocky coastlines and apart from Grand Cayman's Seven Mile Beach, small sandy coves.

Activities: Take a boat trip to Stingray City, explore the Botanic Park and Pedro St James Great House restoration and watch turtles hatching at Boatswain's Beach. Honeymooners can indulge themselves at the many local restaurants such as Grand Old House, The Wharf or Bacchus.

Contact: Cayman Islands Department of Tourism.
T: 020 7491 7771
www.caymanislands.co.uk

CUBA

From the seductive streets of Old Havana to the vast white sandy beaches of Varadero, the idyllic island of Cayo Ensenachos or Guardalavaca in the east, Cuba is a romantic yet truly adventurous honeymoon destination. The largest island in the Caribbean must be one of the most intoxicating places for couples with its lively capital which has attracted romantics like writer Ernest Hemingway. For honeymooners wanting to see the island's heartland, Trinidad, a charming

UNESCO world heritage site, is a must.

Top properties: Ambos Mundos, The Saratoga, Iberostar Grand Trinidad, Paradisus Princesa del Mar Resort & Spa, Varadero Beach Resort, Melia Cayo Coco, Sandals Royal Hicacos Resort & Spa, Royal Hideaway, Paradisus Rio de Oro and Moka in the Pinar del Rio.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: The Saratoga in Havana, The Big House in Vinales

Landscape: Impressive mountain ranges and fertile plains growing sugar cane and tobacco.

Activities: Water sports and golf, culture and heritage of 'Old Cuba'.

Contact: Cuba Tourist Board.
T: 020 7240 6655
www.cubatravel.eu

CURACAO

The name Curaçao, derived from the Portuguese word for the heart, speaks of romance. The main island in the Dutch Antilles, its capital Willemstad welcomes honeymooners with its candy coloured Dutch architecture and stucco facades. Many yellow-ochre manors have been converted into romantic hotels and restaurants.

Top properties: Floris Suite Hotel, Marriott Hotel, Hilton Hotel, Lions Dive Hotel, Papagayo Beach Resort, Howard Johnson Curaçao, SuperClubs Breezes Curaçao Resort, Hotel Kura Holanda.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Kontiki Beach Resort, The Renaissance Hotel.

Landscape: Unique flora and fauna, coral reefs.

Activities: Scuba diving, snorkelling, windsurfing, four wheel jeep safaris and hiking.

Contact: Curaçao Tourist Board Europe
T: 0031 10 4142639
www.curacao.com
info@ctbe.nl

DOMINICA

Dominica is the least developed of the Windward Islands and boasts a rainforest with over 100

species of birds. Hotels are mainly small, family run affairs some of them set in the old time buildings around the coast or hidden among the foliage.

Top properties: Fort Young, Zandoli Inn, Picard Beach Cottage Resort.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Silks Luxury Boutique Hotel.

Landscape: Rainforests, waterfalls, hot mineral streams and volcanic outcrops.

Activities: This low-key adventure island is a great option for honeymooners looking for an eco experience such as trekking or diving. Other activities include snorkelling, bird watching, nature hikes and whale watching in season.

Contact: The Discover Dominica Authority
T: 0800 012 1467
www.discoverdominica.com

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Tropical weather, warm people and affordable luxuries make the Dominican Republic the perfect setting for a romantic honeymoon. Newlyweds can kick off their shoes and unwind in the sun. Extravagant or intimate, exciting or relaxed, the country offers an immense variety of accommodation to satisfy every style and budget.

Top properties: Casa Colonial Beach & Spa Resort, Riu Hotels & Resorts, Paradisus Palma Real.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Majestic Elegance Punta Cana.

Landscape: Superb beaches fringed by thousands of palms, rainforests, desert and high mountains.

Activities: Golf, watersports and exploring the capital Santa Domingo.

Contacts: Dominican Republic Tourist Board.
T: 020 7242 7778
E: inglaterra@sectur.gov.do
www.godominicanrepublic.com

GRENADA

This beautiful island, known as the 'Spice Island' of the

Caribbean, is the second largest producer of nutmeg in the world and has more spice per square mile than anywhere else in the world. It also has a charming historic capital, a lush interior and fabulous white sand beaches.

Top properties: Spice Island Beach Resort, Coyabe Beach Resort, Calabash Hotel & Villas, La Source, True Blue Bay Resort, Blue Horizons Garden Resort, Grenada Grand Beach Resort, Flamboyant Hotel, Rex Grenadian, Maca Bana Villas and Laluna.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Mount Cinnamon and the re-opened LaSource.

Landscape: Rainforests, lakes and waterfalls, plantation houses and over 40 beautiful beaches.

Activities: Diving, snorkelling, sailing, hiking, whale and dolphin watching, river tubing, deep sea diving and bird watching.

Contacts: Grenada Board of Tourism.

T: 020 8877 4516

www.grenadagrenadines.com
grenada@representationplus.co.uk

THE ISLANDS OF GUADELOUPE

Honeymooners looking for a little French flair in the Caribbean will love Guadeloupe. Comprising five distinct islands between the Leeward and Windward Caribbean, Guadeloupe has it all from dense tropical rainforests to white powder beaches.

Top properties: La Cocoteraie, Auberge de la Vieille Tour, La Toubana, L'Eden Palm, La Créole Beach Hotel & Spa, La Pointe Batterie Residence & Spa, Le Diwali, Le Jardin Malanga, Les Petits Saints.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: La Plantation Resort Golf & Spa, Le Fort Royal.

Landscape: The landscape ranges from the dense tropical rainforest-clad mountains of Basse-Terre with their banana plantations, sulphur springs and waterfalls to the lower lying limestone

plateau of Grand-Terre with its mangrove bushes and classic white Caribbean sand beaches.

Activities: Honeymooners can island hop from Les Saintes to La Désirade via Marie-Galante on a catamaran cruise or explore the national parks, beach bars, markets and museums and admire the colonial architecture of stone and clapboard houses with their wrought iron balconies.

Contacts: Guadeloupe Islands Tourist Office.

T: 00 33 1 40 62 99 07

www.lesilesdeguadeloupe.com

JAMAICA

Jamaica is teeming with culture, nightlife and natural beauty spots, delicious and distinctive cuisine, soothing spas, a host of activities and attractions, historic houses and trails, botanical gardens and stunning white sand beaches.

Top properties: Strawberry Hill, Half Moon, Mocking Bird Hill, Ritz-Carlton Montego Bay, Jamaica Inn, SuperClubs Grand Lido Sans Souci Resort, Couples Negril, Sandals Whitehouse.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: The area of Port Antonio with resorts such as Geejam.

Landscape: Beaches, hills, mountains, rainforests, valleys, rivers and waterfalls.

Activities: Bamboo rafting, river tubing, kayaking, canopy tours, horse riding, mountain biking, dog sledding.

Contacts: Jamaica Tourist Board.

T: 020 7225 9090

www.visitjamaica.com

MARTINIQUE

A piece of France transported to the tropics, this beautiful mountainous island intoxicates honeymooners with its exotic flowers, black and white beaches and rainforest. The most developed of the French Caribbean islands, Martinicans are chic and renowned for their love of good food, hence the number of fine restaurants you'll find.

There is a surprising range of hotels from a few elegant five stars to tiny auberges set in old gingerbread houses.

Top properties: Sofitel Bakoua, Plein Soleil, Hotel Fregate Bleue, Le Domaine Saint Aubin.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Cap Est Lagoon Resort & Spa

Landscape: Mountainous with tropical rainforests. The coastline is varied with steep cliffs and volcanic black sand coves in the north and fine white sand beaches in the south.

Activities: 4x4 adventure trips, visits to rum distilleries and climbing Mount Pelée Volcano.

Contacts: Martinique Tourist Office.

T: 00 33 1 44 77 86 00

www.martinique.org

MONTSERRAT

Known as the 'Emerald Isle of the Caribbean' not just because of its lush green landscape, but for its Irish connections as well. Located approximately 50 miles southwest of Antigua, the island is 16km long and 10km wide and consists of four main mountain massifs.

Top properties: Tropical Mansion Suite, rental villas from Tradewinds Real Estate.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Tropical Mansion Suites.

Landscape: Two thirds of the island is an exclusion zone due to the active volcano, the rest is lush, green and tropical.

Activities: Volcano viewing, nature hikes, diving, fishing, sailing and cultural site visits.

Contacts: Montserrat Tourist Board

T: 020 7928 1600

www.visitmontserrat.com

NEVIS

Nevis is an ideal place for a honeymoon with its natural backdrop of the tropics, world-class service and a wide range of accommodation. Just two miles from its sister island St Kitts, Nevis offers newlyweds everything from outstanding natural beauty to a rich

history. Couples can enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides, hiking, snorkelling, stargazing or simply spending time barefoot in the sand.

Top properties: Four Seasons, Nisbet Plantation Beach Club, Montpelier Plantation Inn.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Nisbet Plantation Beach Club and Palms Spa, The Golden Rock Inn.

Landscape: Circular in shape, Nevis has beautiful beaches and is dominated by the peak of Mount Nevis in the centre of the island.

Activities: Land and water sports, in particular hiking, mountain biking, diving, golf and horse riding.

Contacts: Nevis Tourism Authority
T: 0808 234 2064
www.nevisisland.com

PUERTO RICO

This lively Spanish-speaking American territory is great for honeymooners looking for a big island feel and perhaps as an addition to a Caribbean cruise. The modern capital, San Juan has great bars, restaurants, casinos and sexy Latin dancing. Couples can also explore the colourful, narrow cobbled streets of historic Old San Juan. Alternatively they can escape the city buzz, hire a car and follow the panoramic routes through the mountains to a tropical rainforest in the east, underground caverns in the west and the wonderful desert climate of the south.

Top properties: El Convento in Old San Juan, The Horned Dorset Primavera in Rincon (west coast), The Water Club on Isla Verde beach, Las Casitas villas at El Conquistador.

Hot spots to watch in 2008/9:

La Concha Hotel, El San Juan Hotel.

Landscape: Diverse terrain from palm-fringed beaches on four coastlines to rugged mountain ranges and gently rolling hills.

Activities: Diving in the phosphorescent bays, wildlife

and ecology tours, and explore Old San Juan.

Contacts: Puerto Rico Tourism Company.
T: 0844 880 6867
www.GoToPuertoRico.com

ST BARTHELEMY

St Barts as it's more commonly known, is a great place to come for a chic champagne honeymoon. Loved by the likes of Liz Hurley and Cameron Diaz, this is a place to be seen. It also has great natural beauty, superb cuisine and lively nightlife.

Top properties: Guanahani, Le Toiny, Le Sereno, Village St Jean, Eden Rock, Hotel Carl Gustaf, La Banane.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Hotel Isle de France.

Landscape: Hilly with numerous coves and white sandy beaches. The highest peak above sea level is Morne Vitet.

Activities: Festivals all year round, watersports and deep sea fishing.

Contacts: Saint Barthelemy Tourist Office.
T: 00 59 0590 278727
www.st-barths.com

ST KITTS

St Kitts offers West Indian grace and elegance. The island is dominated by a dormant volcano and is connected to sister island, Nevis by a ferry service. Evenings are devoted to home-cooked meals on candlelit terraces at beautiful hotels such as Rawlins Plantation where the old sugar mill has been transformed into a romantic honeymoon suite.

Top properties: Ottley's Plantation Inn, St Kitts Marriott Resort.

Hot spots to watch in 2008/9: Ocean's Edge Resort opening 2009. Sugar Bay Club re-opening summer 2008.

Landscape: St Kitts, shaped like a paddle, is mountainous in the north with a low-lying peninsula in the south.

Activities: Golf, scuba diving and hiking.

Contacts: St. Kitts Tourism Authority
T: 020 7376 0881
www.stkittstourism.kn

ST LUCIA

St Lucia is a popular choice for honeymooners with its beautiful Pitons, charming capital of Castries, tropical rainforest, botanical gardens and welcoming local people. The friendliness of the St Lucian people, together with the strong French influence, adds to the romantic ambience of this island. St Lucia caters across a range of honeymoon tastes and budgets, from its many all-inclusive resorts to its unique boutique hotels.

Top properties: Jade Mountain, Discovery at Marigot Bay, Ladera, The Jalousie Plantation, East Winds Inn, The Landings.

Hot spots to watch in 2008/9: The Ritz Carlton, Paradis, Cap Maison.

Landscape: Hilly rain forest with two volcanic mountain cones.

Activities: Watersports, rainforest safaris, jungle biking and spa retreats, or St Lucia's annual Jazz Festival in May.

Contacts: St Lucia Tourist Board.
T: 020 7341 7000
www.stlucia.org

ST MARTIN/ST MAARTEN

St Martin/St Maarten has been shared by the French and Dutch for almost 350 years. Most honeymooners head to the French side for its lively capital with buzzy bars like La Bodeguita and great duty free shopping. Alternatively head to the St Maarten's capital Philipsburg and pick up some local arts and crafts. Adventurous couples can easily take a day trip to Nevis, St Kitts, St Barts or Anguilla.

Top properties: Le Domaine, Le Mississippi, Sonesta Maho
Hot spots to watch in 2008/9: La Samanna, The Westin St Maarten.

Landscape: Relatively flat on the west side but hilly in most

parts of the island, Atlantic and Caribbean coastlines.

Activities: Horse riding, diving and parasailing.

Contacts: St. Martin Tourist Office.

T: 00 590 590 875721

www.st-martin.org

St Maarten Tourist Office

T: 00 599 5422 337

www.vacationstmaarten.com

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES

St. Vincent is a lush, tropical mountainous island of fishing villages and stunning volcanic beaches. The Grenadines each have their own character such as Bequia, Petit St Vincent and Palm Island. The islands are a superb choice for a luxurious yachting honeymoon.

Top properties: Cotton House on Mustique, Petit Saint Vincent Resort, Petit Byahaut, Young Island, Grenadine House, Grand View Beach Hotel.

Hot spots to watch in 2008/9: Friendship Bay Hotel and Firefly Hotel on Bequia.

Landscape: 32 islands and cays, mountainous with luxuriant foliage and black sand beaches.

Activities: Cricket, football, tennis, hiking, horseriding in Mustique, golf, deep sea fishing and sailing.

Contacts: St. Vincent & The Grenadines Tourist Office.

T: 020 7937 6570

www.svgtourism.com

SURINAME

For an adventurous honeymoon, the South American country of Suriname is an intriguing option with much untouched nature and the intriguing wooden capital of Paramaribo.

Top properties: Torarica Hotel, Krasnapolsky Hotel, Residence Inn Hotel, Dan Paati River Lodge.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Kabalebo Nature Resort, Anaula River Resort.

Landscape: Low coastal plains, savannah and inland highlands, 85% covered in tropical rainforest.

Activities: Take a tour to the Maroon and Amerindian villages, swim in the rivers and enjoy the stunning rainforest scenery. Other activities include turtle spotting, exploring nature reserves and jungle safaris.

Contacts: Suriname Tourist Information Centre

T: 00 597 479200

Head office: Suriname Tourism Foundation

T: 00 597 424878/410809

www.suriname-tourism.org

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Unless you are coming for the Carnival, most honeymooners head for the slower pace of Tobago, baby sister of Trinidad, offers a taste of South America with a vast array of flora and fauna.

Top properties: Coco Reef Resort, Blue Haven, The Villas at Stonehaven, Halfmoon Blue.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Bacaolet Bay Hotel.

Landscape: Trinidad has three mountain ranges interconnected by gently undulating plains, while Tobago has flatter plains with a central main ridge.

Activities: Scuba diving, game fishing, bird watching, golf.

Contacts: Trinidad & Tobago Tourist Information Office.

T: 0800 804 8787

www.gotrinidadandtobago.com or www.visittrinidadandtobago.gov.tt

TURKS & CAICOS

There are many faces to the 40 or so islands and cays that make up the Turks & Caicos islands. There are the cute colonial streets of tiny Grand Turk, the bat caves of Middle Caicos, the iguanas on Little Water Cay and the endless beaches of Providenciales.

Top properties: Parrot Cay, Point Grace, Amanyara, Grace Bay Club, The Regent Palms.

Hot spot to watch in 2008/9: Molasses Reef, West Caicos.

Landscape: Flat and dry with limestone cliffs and sandy dunes.

Activities: Diving, spa, snorkelling, golf, big-game fishing, whale watching in

season, swimming with wild dolphin and great dining.

Contacts: Turks and Caicos Tourist Board.

T: 020 7222 2669

www.turksandcaicostourism.com

US VIRGIN ISLANDS

The well developed US Virgin Islands are made up of three main islands, St Croix, St Thomas and St. John and around 70 cays most of which are too small to be inhabited but are perfect if you charter a boat and want to explore.

Top Properties: Caneel Bay on St John; Carambola on St. Croix; The Ritz Carlton on St Thomas.

Hot spot to watch in 2003: Bluebeard's Castle on St. Thomas.

Landscape: white sandy beaches protected by coral reefs with a mountainous volcanic landscape covered in lush tropical vegetation.

Activities: golf, watersports, yachting, and duty free shopping.

Contacts: United States Virgin Islands Department of Tourism.

T: 020 7978 5262

www.usvi.net

For more information on the Caribbean and what do there contact the Caribbean Tourism Organisation on 020 8948 0057 or visit www.caribbean.co.uk

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