



THE SOUL OF
CELEBRATION

best of caribbean travel

AUTHENTIC EVENTS

The Culture of Carnival

MUSICAL FESTIVALS

Island Beats

CULINARY CAROUSING

Tastes Worth Traveling For

SUPPLIERS TO CELEBRATE

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Caribbean Portfolio**

ANSE CHASTANET & JADE MOUNTAIN

Inspired by Nature

Tranquility, romance and adventure—sister resorts Anse Chastanet and Jade Mountain are two of the Caribbean's most panoramic hideaways, located on the lush, tropical island of St. Lucia. Architect and owner Nick Troubetzkoy integrated St. Lucia's natural surroundings harmoniously into the design of his two resorts and into his guests' vacation experience.

Anse Chastanet is set amidst a private 600-acre estate with two soft sand beaches. The resort's two crystal-clear bays are part of the area's designated marine reserve, protecting miles of colorful coral reefs and tropical fish. With excellent diving facilities, an assortment



of adventure activities and forty-nine individually designed rooms and suites, Anse Chastanet is an attractive destination choice for those seeking a romantic, tranquil or active vacation experience

Rising majestically above this 600-acre beachfront estate is Anse Chastanet's resort within a resort, Jade Mountain—an architectural marvel created in celebration

of St. Lucia's stunning scenic beauty. Jade Mountain is one of the few Caribbean resorts awarded the coveted AAA Five Diamond rating. Its bold architecture offers mesmerizing views with grand sweeping spaces where bedrooms, living areas and private infinity pools glide into one another to form platforms of serenity, floating out into nature. Jade Mountain's sanctuaries are stage-like settings from which to embrace the full glory of St. Lucia's Pitons, an UNESCO World Heritage Site, and, of course, the eternal Caribbean Sea. 🌴

To learn more about these two resorts, visit www.jademountain.com and www.ansechastanet.com.



THE SOUL OF CELEBRATION

The Caribbean has always been a place of celebration, a destination where locals welcome visitors in rejoicing life to the fullest, with eccentric carnivals, artistic—and sometimes delicious—exhibitions, cultural festivities and daily revelry. The carefree nature and relaxing vibe of the islands create an atmosphere renowned for fun. Each island partakes in its own variety of traditional, musical and culinary events, so it's safe to bet that there's always something going on to give travelers a great excuse to party.

With the industry's overwhelming push for authentic travel, local events are one way to provide clients with just that.

For travel agents, the Caribbean has always been a good sell with its high-volume, year-round appeal. But, with the current online availability of travel resources, it's become vital for agents to do their homework and become experts on the local destinations they're selling.

Providing travelers with something they don't already know allows agents to add their own personal touch—an essential part of today's sell, according to the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA). Insider tips on travel-related options or enhancements help create value-added benefits for both agents and clients. With the industry's overwhelming push for authentic travel, local events are one way to provide clients with just that.

Travelers are reaching for a sense of community in the destinations they visit, so what better way to satisfy this craving than with internationally recognized celebrations of true Caribbean flavor. Plus, local ties can yield increased commission opportunities on extended stays as well as repeat visits.

This issue offers some of the Caribbean's most popular happenings that bring together local communities in celebrations heard around the world. And for more opportunities, check the many calendars of events provided by the islands' tourism boards. 🌴

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Read *Travel Weekly's* The Soul of Celebration edition of the Best of Caribbean Travel. Then, log onto TravelWeekly.com, and answer the questions online to enter. All of the answers can be found within this current issue. Just visit www.travelweekly.com/1011Caribbean to select from the multiple-choice options. If you answer all the questions correctly, your name will be entered to win a \$50 Visa gift card courtesy of *Travel Weekly!*



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Carnival



THE CARIBBEAN'S CALENDAR

Carnival celebrations generally take place during the same months every year, based on location. Below is a list of when these celebrations typically happen. For schedules of events and specific dates, contact the islands' tourism boards.

January	Bahamas Curacao
February	Aruba Dominican Republic St. Martin Dominica Cancun Martinique Puerto Rico Guadeloupe Trinidad & Tobago
March	Dominica Cancun Martinique Puerto Rico Guadeloupe Trinidad & Tobago
April	Jamaica St. Maarten Virgin Islands
May	Virgin Islands Bermuda
June	St. Lucia
July	Grenada Saba Antigua Barbados
August	Antigua Barbados Anguilla
December	St. Kitts Bahamas



THE CULTURE OF CARNIVAL

What originated hundreds of years ago as a Catholic tradition in Italy is now the Caribbean's most extravagant year-round festival known as Carnival. Colorful costumes, exotic masks and African dancers parade the streets of the Caribbean's diverse islands with one goal in mind—celebration.

These culturally unique parties got their start here as a pre-Lent celebration in Trinidad and Tobago. But now, the series of festivals span over the majority of the Caribbean's most popular destinations, including the Cayman Islands, the Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Cancun and more.

Because of the varying seasons of Carnival, travelers can almost always find a celebration that meets their vacation timeline—though most do partake during February and March, when the observance originated. Jamaica hosts the majority of its Carnival events during Easter week, and the Bahamas actually waits until the Christmas holiday to start its festivities. Some destinations, such as Anguilla and Barbados, use the slow months of summer to celebrate and attract an otherwise unlikely group of tourists to the Caribbean.

Given the diverse nature of this region, it's no surprise that every

destination celebrates the individual cultures of the area in different ways during Carnival. But, universal traditions include festivities such as street parties, extravagant parades, concerts and an elected king and queen of the celebration. Creative themes for these annual events are also a staple tradition that varies island-to-island, and also year-to-year. Great planning goes into these Carnival themes, months in advance, for dance and musical routines and costume design and sculpture.

Onlookers can admire the artistic work of the island's locals, listen in on the many musical competitions, attend a



Carnival ball, and even watch the judging of a festival pageant. Plus, children can participate in their own parades as well as traditional island games.

Self expression is a cultural must in the Caribbean and no other celebration does that better than Carnival. 🌟

ISLAND BEATS



Home to such musical legends as Bob Marley, the Caribbean has provided a stage for some of the most memorable concerts in the tropics. Celebrating music with the best of jazz, blues, reggae and more, the islands hosts a series of heart-pumping festivals that showcase some of the greatest musicians of our time as well as a rich collection of emerging island artists working their way toward international icon status.

Jazz is undoubtedly the Caribbean's music of choice. The best jazz concerts here include the **Barbados Jazz Festival**, held in January, which offers a mix of traditional jazz with R&B in a series of concerts and venues. 2011 marked the first year that the festival did not take place since 1993, but Barbados is eager to set the stage next year with an impressive line-up of performers.

Another popular destination for jazz enthusiasts is St. Lucia. **The St. Lucia Jazz Festival**, held in May each

year for the past 20 years, features a diverse group of performers and music, from new age jazz and fusion to rhythm and blues, with acts of international fame from the U.S., the Caribbean, Latin America, Africa and Europe.

The Puerto Rican Heineken Jazz Festival is yet another jazz fest of world renown, which features Latin jazz and big band performances. Held in June, this celebration is popular among the jazz know-it-alls because of frequent appearances by the genre's worshiped legends.

The Caribbean also hosts notable blues and reggae festivals annually, and Jamaica is a hot spot for both. **Jamaica's Jazz and Blues festival** offers concert-goers big names and big shows. In 2011, Natalie Cole, Ron Isley and Maroon Five were just some of the stars that graced this stage. Jamaica is also home to **Reggae Sumfest**, held each summer in Montego Bay. This festival is also praised for herding in big names, with performances by just about every Jamaican reggae act to exist, plus A-list stars such as Usher. 🌟



Music



GENIUSES OF A DIFFERENT GENRE

While the Caribbean is known for its jazz and blues, the islands also celebrate other genres for music lovers with different tastes. Upbeat performances, DJ sets and a younger generation inhabits these high-energy festivals.

The BVI Music Festival is internationally famed for its exciting beachside performances on Tortola's Cane Garden Bay. Grammy Award Winners wow festival-goers for a three-day stint in May.

DeJam Festival, presented by Antigua, is known in the Caribbean as "the ultimate party experience". This week-long festival takes place in September to celebrate the world's top DJs.



Carnival



NO FESTIVAL, NO PROBLEM

While most destinations hold their own version of a culinary festival, sometimes timing isn't always on your side. Regardless, travelers can dine on the best Caribbean cuisine in any of the destinations they choose. Have clients check Fodor's Top 10 Caribbean restaurants for authentic island cuisine:

- Coyaba Restaurant, Providenciales, Turks & Caicos
- The Cliff, St. James, Barbados
- Boston Jerk Centre, Port Antonio, Jamaica
- Blue by Eric Ripert, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands
- KoalKeel, Anguilla
- Le Tastevin, St. Martin
- The Verandah, Port of Spain, Trinidad
- Iguana Cafe, Guadeloupe
- Banana Tree Grille, St. Thomas
- Le Ti St. Barth Caribbean Tavern, St. Barthélemy

TASTES WORTH TRAVELING FOR

Caribbean cuisine is a staple in any island tradition, with flavors as diverse as the inhabitants that brought it here. Spanish, French, African, Indian, British influences and more inspire dishes, while local cooks use traditional as well as acquired styles of preparation. Devouring an authentic local meal is a cultural to-do when visiting this tropical region, and culinary festivals run rampant across these islands.

Here's a "sample menu" of some of the best food events to recommend to your clients.

ST. CROIX

One of the most highbrow culinary events in the Caribbean takes place on the small, and famously elite, island of St. Croix. Every April, a five-day showcase of the island's cuisine and wines takes place at the **St. Croix Food and Wine Experience**. Named one of the Ten Best International Food and Wine Festivals by Forbes Travel, this festival offers its guests an assortment of high-end wine dinners, cooking classes from world-renowned chefs and front row seats to exclusive cooking competitions. But, beware, because tickets to this first-class event do not come cheap.

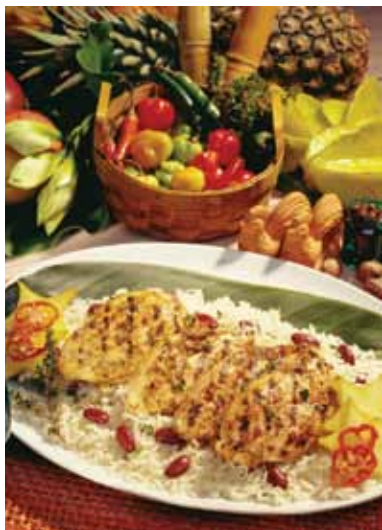
JAMAICA

Jerk spices are undoubtedly Jamaica's most renowned contribution to

Caribbean cuisine. The **Portland Jerk Festival** is held in July on the island's northeast coast at Folly Estate in Port Antonio, just a 45-mile drive from Ochos Rios. It's perfect for a day trip. This festival is, of course, famous for the spicy barbecue it serves, but also for the entertainment, with popular musical performances and carnival rides.

ANGUILLA

Seafood is at its prime in Anguilla, where the **Festival del Mar** celebrates the island's seafaring heritage in the fishing village of Island Harbour. Every Easter, islanders and visitors gather to celebrate the area's fishing, boat building and lobster catching industries with a day of beachside activities. With over 20 food stalls, this festival offers festival-goers the chance to dig into a variety of delicacies from the sea, while local string bands play and residents compete in crab-racing, deep sea fishing, swimming and more water sport fun.



ST. LUCIA

In St. Lucia, an island noted for its rum production and growing gastronomic fame, international gourmards and mixologists flock to the **St. Lucia Food and Rum Festival** each year to mingle with rum connoisseurs and taste some of the region's famed stock. Produced year round, St. Lucia's rum is aged for long periods of time in Bourbon or Cognac barrels. The most popular rum is the legendary St. Lucian Admiral Rodney Extra Old, which is complemented nicely when drunk with a taste of the island's dark chocolate. This year, the festival will be held from October 30 to November 2. 🌴

WYNDHAM RIO MAR BEACH RESORT & SPA

Rejuvenate on the Isle of Enchantment

For the ultimate fusion of tropical decadence and tranquility, look no further than Puerto Rico's Wyndham Rio Mar Beach Resort & Spa. Resting on the sandy shores of the island's northeastern coast, Wyndham Rio Mar is ideally situated on a 500-acre hideaway, tucked between the Atlantic shoreline and the lush foliage of El Yunque National Rainforest—a top Seven Natural Wonders contender. Travelers can keep future exploration in mind while relaxing in one of 600 spacious guest rooms or 72 lush suites, which feature private balconies overlooking mountain, garden or oceanfront views. The hotel also boasts a 7,000-square-foot spa and fitness center for guests'



health and rejuvenation needs. The Mandara Spa offers Caribbean-Balinese inspired spa treatments, with more than 25 soothing therapies, including luxurious facials, massages and wraps. For active travelers, the resort offers two world-class, 18-hole golf courses, designed by Tom and George Fazio and Greg Norman; an international tennis center; a dive center; two beachfront pools; and a

variety of water sports. Under the expert eye of Executive Chef Jan Pfeiffer, food is artfully prepared for 11 delectable on-site restaurants, which feature a variety international cuisine. The resort is also home to an array of caliente cocktails, including quite possibly the world's spiciest mixed drink, the Fire Pit Bloody Mary. This property also features the Wyndham Rio Mar Casino, which recently underwent a five million-dollar renovation, featuring some of the most popular slots and video poker machines in the Caribbean. 🌴

To book Wyndham Rio Mar, visit www.wyndhamriomar.com. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/WyndhamRioMar or www.twitter.com/RioMarWyndham.



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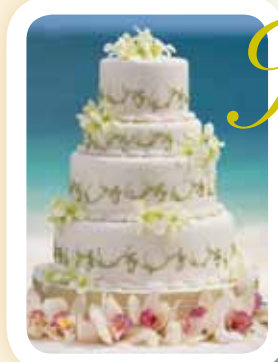
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KEYNOTE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Nov. 2

3:45pm | **Help Me Engage from Home**

Thursday, Nov. 3

11:00am | **President's Panel: Cruise Line Leadership Shares Insights**

Friday, Nov. 4

9:45am | **Top Suppliers Share Best Practices of Engaged Agents**

10:45am | **Satisfying the Future Leisure Consumer**

4:00pm | **Peer Power Panel: Top Agents Share Their Secrets**



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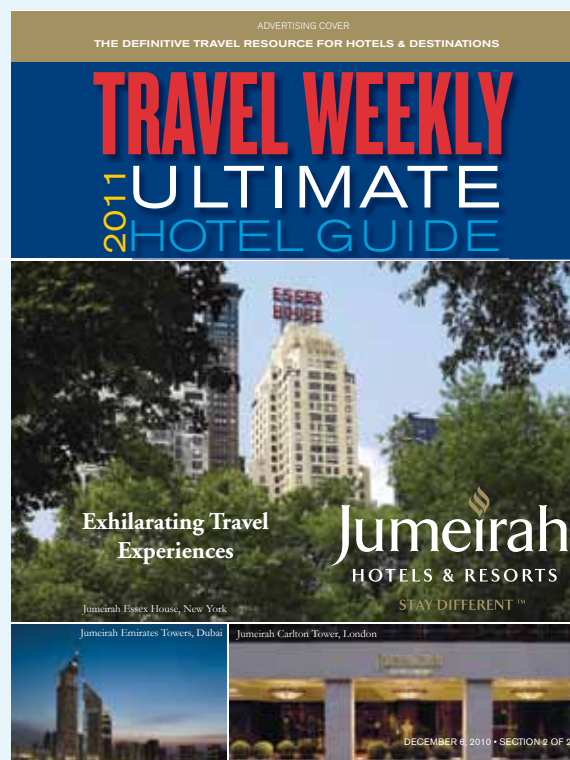
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As part of Meliá's group of all-inclusive hotels, Meliá Caribe Tropical truly sets the standard for family oriented, all-inclusive luxury at an unbeatable value in Punta Cana. With a spectacular beach, more than 1,100 spacious rooms and suites, 13 restaurants, 10 pools, two spas, a gym and a golf course, this Caribbean resort is the perfect choice for clients looking for an action-packed vacation experience.

Located on the eastern shores of La Altagracia, the easternmost province of the Dominican Republic, Meliá Caribe Tropical boasts a spectacular beach—only one of the resort's many impressive features—which offers unlimited, non-motorized water sports to all guests, including kayaking, windsurfing, water biking, snorkeling and more.

Meliá Caribe Tropical provides more action with its world-class golf course, located right across the street, an exciting casino within the property, eight lit tennis courts, and some of the most thrilling outdoor activities in Punta Cana, such as its very own climbing wall and zip line. Plus, theme parties, hosted by the resort, bring guests the hottest in music and entertainment on a weekly basis.

And for those travelers looking to relax,



seven on-property lagoon-like pools and the resort's YHI Spa offer serenity at its best.

The resort also boasts over a dozen restaurants to choose from, providing guests with a wide variety of international dining experiences, from beachside buffets and contemporary cuisine to Asian specialties and traditional French and Italian dishes. Plus, the resort features 14 bars offering fashionable cocktails and select international brand drinks.

Meliá Caribe Tropical is also the perfect destination to host large weddings or a celebration of romance with honeymoon or anniversary stays. The site

boasts spectacular beach and lush garden locations, with wedding gazebos suitable for cocktail parties, dinners and more.

And with the resort's prime location, just 20 minutes from Punta Cana International Airport, an hour and a half from La Romana, and three and a half hours from the capital, Santo Domingo, Meliá Caribe Tropical is a premier destination for quick and easy travels. ✨

For more information about booking Meliá Caribe Tropical, call 800.33.MELIÁ, or visit www.meliacaribetropical.com.

Local Experiences



Punta Cana's main shopping destination is the recently opened Palma Real Shopping Village, located just minutes from the resort. With a variety of stores to choose from, including clothing and accessories stores, jewelry shops, restaurants, banks, gift shops, a cinema, bars and other services, this shopping village stands as a commercial center for the east coast of the Dominican Republic. The village hosts a schedule of local events and shows for the public, from tributes to Bob Marley and famous musical guests, to BMX competitions and promotional events for clothing brands, making this a great destination to experience when staying with Meliá Caribe Tropical.



The staff at Meliá Caribe Tropical is ready to make your stay whatever you want it to be. Escape from it all with a quiet relaxing vacation on a white sand beach. Be adventurous and enjoy water sports and excursions or try your luck at the casino. While kids of all ages can enjoy a vacation right out of Bedrock at Flintstones Land!

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In Aruba, travelers can drive out to the southeastern corner of the island to explore the ecological preserve, Arikok



Arikok National Park, Aruba

National Park. And in the Dominican Republic, getting from the hotel to the dock to experience the best diving on the North Shore has never been easier than in a rental car. St. Maarten offers a unique, local shopping experience on Front Street, just a short drive away from a hike at Pic du Paradis, the island's highest peak. Visitors can experience more on their vacations with National Car Rental.

Travelers lucky enough to snag a business trip to the Caribbean or Latin

America can extend their stays—and car rental—to take in the beautiful sights of their surroundings once the meetings are over and the work is done.

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Visit www.nationalcar.com or www.facebook.com/NationalCarRental for more information about National.

Local Experiences



Beach in Curacao

The Curacao Carnival is one of the largest celebrations in the Caribbean, with parades, music, dancing and food. This exotic island Dutch colony in the Southwestern Caribbean has a rich heritage that is celebrated at Carnival by more than 50 nationalities. In early January through February, tens of thousands of spectators gather to witness the vibrant array of costumes and floats featured at the Curacao Carnival. Travelers can fly into Curacao International Airport, check in with National Car Rental and be on their way to experience this two-month long celebration, including The Grand Parade.

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AZUL BEACH HOTEL, BY KARISMA

\$21 Million Renovation

Karisma's premier boutique property, Azul Beach Hotel, has invested in a full-scale \$21 million renovation of its Bahia Petempich beach property, located in Mexico's Riviera Maya. Projected for completion this year, Azul Beach Hotel's transformation fuses Mexican architecture with contemporary interiors, and modern conveniences with spectacular Gourmet Inclusive dining, for an unparalleled getaway experience.

Designed to further enhance the guest experience, from check-in to checkout, the intimate boutique hotel has just unveiled expanded and renovated suites, two new restaurants, a Grand Salon banquet room, the Sky Wedding rooftop terrace, and a theater that will hold approximately 120 guests. This new performance space will feature shows such as Mexican Nights and Caribbean Nights, as well as circus performances.

As a part of the Gourmet Inclusive vacation experience, designed to provide guests with only the best of services, a la carte gourmet meals, premium alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, 24-hour room service and full-service concierge can be enjoyed, in addition to a variety of family-friendly and romantic activities and luxury amenities.

During the summer of 2011, two new



restaurants joined the property's extensive suite of delicious dining options, each of which cooks up fresh produce.

Celebrating the flavors of northern Italy, Roma uses the freshest ingredients to serve dishes that are prepared in the wood-burning oven in its open granite kitchen. Guests can choose from family sized or individual pizzas, as well as other world-renowned Italian favorites.

And for casual dining, the Latin-style bistro, Latino, specializes in culinary preparations, from the southern tip of the Americas to the northern part of Mexico. Refreshing and unpretentious, Latino is the perfect place for couples or family celebrations with enticing dinner selections, including an impressive kids menu.

Azul Beach is also known for its beautiful wedding and event spaces. With a wide array of wedding and vow renewal packages, Azul Beach Hotel provides brides-to-be with affordable Gourmet Inclusive weddings that can be customized to reflect individual style. The intimate Azul Beach Hotel is ideal for couples seeking attention and exclusivity.

To learn more about booking Azul Beach Hotel by Karisma, visit www.karismahotels.com.

Local Experiences



Karisma Resorts works closely with Lomas Travel, who has an outpost located on site at Azul Beach Hotel. Different tours allow visitors to explore Cancun, a leading destination in Mexico and the world, and all of its unlimited underwater and land activities. Lomas Travel offers a variety of Cancun sightseeing and adventure tours, excursions to Mayan ruins, swimming with the dolphins, zip-lining, catamaran cruises, horseback rides and more. Additionally, guests of Azul Beach can enjoy fresh produce at the 100,000-square-foot Greenhouse at El Dorado Royale.

Call your Preferred Tour Operator or 888 280 8810

karismahotels.com



Azul Fives pampers families with oversized 1, 2, and 3 bedroom suites, lavish rooftop lounge decks, a state of the art spa, beach butlers and beach beds. Families enjoy Gourmet restaurants with optional meal plans, family picnics, and veggies grown in our own Greenhouse as well as a kids club co-created with Fisher Price® and My Gym®. With top awards and customer satisfaction, our vacations have developed a cult following among children, parents, and grandparents. **Try it.**



The difference is. Gourmet Inclusive.

Please check website for full details. Certain restrictions apply. Promotion may be changed or withdrawn at any time without prior notice. Not responsible for errors or omissions.

ALMOND RESORTS

Authentic Caribbean Included

Almond Resorts offer all-inclusive escapes on the islands of Barbados and Saint Lucia—places of tranquility and escape. Waves lap gently at the shores while guests lounge on Caribbean beaches, forgetting anything exists past the endless ocean views. Visitors can indulge in authentic Bajan and Creole cuisine, learn a native dance or relax in the rejuvenating Caribbean breeze. At Almond Resorts, engaging experiences like these give vacations an authentic Caribbean twist, providing the perfect escape for singles, families and groups alike.

The Almond Resorts portfolio boasts four all-inclusive resort properties on the Caribbean islands of Barbados and Saint Lucia. Not only do the natural environments of these two islands differ, but also the distinctive experiences that your clients will find within each resort's family or adult-friendly environment.

From the private island cove of Almond Morgan Bay in Saint Lucia to the peaceful beaches of Almond Beach Club & Spa, Almond Casuarina Beach, and Almond Beach Village in Barbados, these alluring resorts offer unique Caribbean experiences for everyone, amidst lush tropical gardens, beachside pools and restaurants, and



spectacular ocean-side settings.

But, these premier all-inclusive destination experiences extend beyond the expected standard fare travelers are used to receiving and include daytime resort activities, children's events, a variety of land sports, unique classes, nightlife and entertainment, golfing, and an unmatched selection of water sports, including water skiing, snorkeling, windsurfing, kayaking and more. Plus, Almond Resorts provides guests with all the modern luxuries and advances they crave, while maintaining the authenticity of a true Caribbean escape.

These resorts also offer activity add-

ons for an additional charge, such as reef fishing in the sparkling Caribbean waters, excursions to explore island nature and culture, and relaxing spa treatments.

Almond Resorts' "For you. About you." promise extends to guests of every age. The Kids Club invites its smaller travelers, from newborns to 16-year-olds, to delve into island culture with activities designed to keep all ages engaged throughout the day.

To book your getaway, visit www.almondresorts.com, or call 800.4.ALMOND.

Local Experiences



Almond Resorts encourage guests to venture out and explore the surrounding island and its culture, and the properties offer tours that do just that. Guests can take part in exciting adventures such as rainforest sky rides through the rainforest of Saint Lucia or sea safaris in Barbados that take guests to snorkel at the famous wreck in Carlisle Bay. A rum and history tour serves tastings at traditional Bajan rum shops, while the popular extravaganza, Bajan Roots & Rhythms, entertains with costumes, music, song and dance in tribute to the musical history of Barbados. Other excursions include island tours, turtle feeding trips, submarine tours and sunset cocktail cruises.

REDISCOVERING EACH OTHER. INCLUDED.

When your clients need the perfect setting for a romantic getaway, Almond Resorts offers a unique, unforgettable all-inclusive resort experience. They can indulge in the best of the authentic Caribbean while reconnecting with each other. Relax in a safe atmosphere where they can do it all. Or do nothing at all. At Almond Resorts, your clients will find that doing as they choose, is always included.

AlmondResorts.com
800.4.ALMOND
BARBADOS · ST. LUCIA



MARTINIQUE

Make it Your Own!

Martinique appeals to discerning travelers of all ages with an appreciation for rich history, unique cultural heritage, nature, adventure and some of the world's most celebrated cuisines.

L'amour lives here, combining the legendary romance of Paris with the sultry allure of the tropics to create the ultimate honeymoon paradise. Distinctively unique hotel options, including Relais et Chateaux, ACCOR and Club Med properties, as well as boutique hotels, family resorts and private island villas ensure that Martinique meets the needs of its savvy travelers.

Passion here extends well beyond romance, with exceptional cuisine and musical pursuits. Guests can dine on a sublime combination of French and Creole cuisine worthy of the title "Top Caribbean Destination for Delectable Dining," as designated by *Caribbean Travel + Life* magazine in 2009; savor Martinique's exceptional rums, routinely judged among the world's finest; and feel the pulsating rhythm of Martinique's endemic musical forms—*zouk*, *biguine* and *chouval bwa*.

A full two-thirds of the island's 425 square miles is designated as protected parkland, ensuring that visitors will always encounter nature in her most pristine form.



Saint-Pierre, Classified City of Art and History

© Leppince

Beaches range in hue from sliver-grey volcanic sands to pristine white sands. Mornes, the small hills in the south, give way to towering peaks in the north, the tallest of which—Mt. Pelee—soars 4,600 feet into the clouds. Within the island's flat mid-section awaits mangroves perfect for kayaking expeditions.

But natural wonders here extend even beneath the waters that surround Martinique. The island boasts 90 dive sites—no two exactly alike—including the famed Diamond Rock and the wrecks of Saint-Pierre. It's no wonder Martinique was named "Top Caribbean Destination" by

About.com in 2010.

For those visiting via cruise ship, much of Martinique's treasures can be explored on full or half-day excursions. Those choosing to stay close to the ship in Fort-de-France are in for a treat, with the newly renovated Malecon promenade and La Savanne Park, providing ample opportunities for recreational fun, good food and relaxation.

For more information about Martinique, visit www.MartiniquePro.org, or contact Classic Vacations, Club Med or Pleasant Holidays to book your clients.

Local Experiences

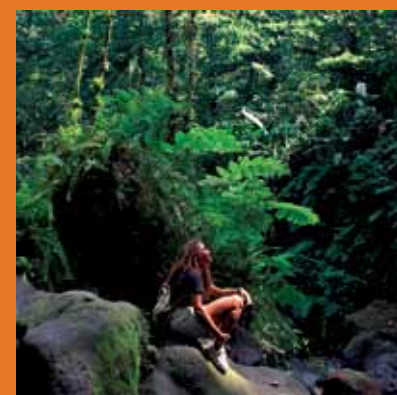


Lady at the Grand Marché

- **Lush North Atlantic** – Discover plantations, rainforests and historic Saint-Pierre.
- **Majestic South** – Witness Diamond Rock, a unique formation extending 600 feet above the sea, visit the picturesque village of Sainte-Luce, and explore pristine Les Salines Beach.
- **4X4 Tour** – Journey inland, through agricultural fields and across rivers.
- **Atlantic Coast Sailing** – Enjoy a full-day catamaran adventure with stops at protected Islets and Josephine's Bathtub.
- **Capital City** – Sites including Schoelcher Library, Saint Louis Cathedral, Le "Grand Marché" and La Savane Park await.
- **The Route of the Rums**– Martinique is renowned for its famous AOC rums. More than 11 historic distilleries are waiting to be discovered.

Martinique

Make it your own !



Cette publicité est cofinancée par l'Union Européenne. L'Europe s'engage en Martinique avec le FEDER.

ELITE ISLAND RESORTS

American Airlines' Nonstop Service

Elite Island Resorts represent an impressive collection of distinctive Caribbean beachfront properties in Antigua, Anguilla, Barbados, Grenada, Palm Island, St. Lucia and Tortola, BVI. Each property provides something unique to fulfill every traveler's desires, with offerings ranging from destination weddings and romantic escapes to family retreats and eco-vacations.

To coincide with American Airlines' new nonstop service from New York's JFK Airport to the sought after island of Antigua, Elite Island Resorts is offering a special promotion that will make this vibrant Caribbean destination even more accessible than ever. Travelers who book an all-inclusive



getaway to Galley Bay Resort & Spa, an exotic escape for couples; St. James's Club & Villas, a private 100-acre tropical oasis; or The Verandah Resort & Spa, noted for its panoramic views and island adventures, by September 15, 2011, will receive up to 30 percent off bookings, plus a free companion ticket on American Airlines.

More clients will now be able to

enjoy all that Antigua has to offer, as the sunny and friendly Caribbean destination, world-renowned for its 365 beaches—one for every day of the year. Magnificent coral reefs and shipwrecks encircle the island, providing safe harbors for sailors, tranquil bays for swimmers and exceptional diving for scuba enthusiasts.

This special Antigua promotion is based on double occupancy and cannot be combined with any other offers. Travel is valid from November 17, 2011, through January 2, 2012.

To book this promotion, visit www.eliteislandresorts.com/twoflyfree, or call 866.830.1606.

PALLADIUM HOTELS & RESORTS

Experts on what kids like

Palladium Hotels & Resorts are located beachfront in some of the most popular destinations in the Caribbean, including Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, Lucea, Jamaica, and Riviera Maya, Mexico. Nestled amidst landscaped gardens, these resorts offer amazing views of the Caribbean Sea along incredible beaches of white sands bathed by crystal-clear waters. Each resort features different facilities and services, including delicious dining, refreshing swimming pools, sports and entertainment activities, discotheques and relaxing spas that make your clients' stays unforgettable.

Palladium Resorts & Hotels know how important it is to travel with family and how planning for a vacation can sometimes become a real challenge. Therefore, these resorts offer everything from large family suites and babysitting services to special activities throughout the day and fantastic shows at night. But what really makes parents feel comfortable are the resorts' clubs. Specially designed with a kid's perspective in mind, these facilities offer children a fun-filled place where they can make new friends under the supervision of dedicated professionals.



The Baby Clubs, serving children ages one to three, feature outstanding facilities and amenities, including cribs, sound-proof

bedrooms, kitchens and a great selection of toys and games. Centrally located within resorts, parents can come by at any time to check on their kids.

Most Mini Clubs, serving children four through 12, offer large indoor and outdoor playground areas where kids can enjoy activities such as volleyball, painting, arts and crafts, and videogames. The resorts' entertainment teams organize groups according to age within a safe environment.

And we all know how demanding teenagers can be. So, Black & White Junior's Clubs, for children ages 13 through 19, offer longer hours and an extensive sports and entertainment program. These clubs boast the latest in videogames, computers, and pool and foosball tables. Some Resorts even have a special discotheque for this crowd.

The Baby Clubs, Mini Clubs and Black & White Junior's Clubs are just some of the splendid entertainment options you can offer your clients who plan on vacationing with Palladium, so kids, teenagers and parents alike can have a wonderful Palladium experience.

For more information, visit www.palladiumresorts.com.

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Local Experiences



With resorts in destinations of cultural heritage and natural settings, experiencing the area's offerings outside Palladium Hotels & Resorts help make vacations here even more worth the stay. Jamaica offers its visitors a blending of cultures from settlers all over the world with an international smorgasbord of legends and customs, while guests in Riviera Maya can make their way into the cradle of Mayan culture and discover archaeology, natural parks and famous sites such as Chichen Itza, Tulum and XCaret. And in Punta Cana, local activities are geared towards the more adventurous traveler, with explorations of caves, mangroves and deserted beaches, as well as excursions to destinations such as Altos de Chavon.

Exuberant **Nature**,
Ample **Spaces**,
Superb **Service...**

The Palladium *ex*perience...



Entering the world of **Palladium Hotels & Resorts** is like walking into an exotic paradise. The sheer beauty and grandeur of our carefully created, natural tropical gardens and ample spaces, extensive soft sandy beaches, exquisite first class culinary delights, refreshing pools and exciting entertainment for the entire family offer the ideal escape for a perfect vacation. Our kind and dedicated team will do just about anything to go that extra mile for magical and unforgettable moments.



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