

17 Reasons the Caribbean Should Be at the Top of Your Travel Itinerary

Here's your cheat sheet for everything new to know about our favorite cluster of islands.

BY SANDRA RAMANI ON NOVEMBER 15, 2018



Photo: Courtesy of Auberge Collection Resorts

Robb Report

ROBB REPORT

--
15TH NOVEMBER 2018

--
CIRCULATION

76,344

--
AVE \$2,090

--

RELATED ARTICLES

- You May Want to Book this Posh Presidents' Day Package Now
- Ponant Launches Cruise Ship with an Underwater Lounge
- The Hoxton Sets Up Shop in Buzzy Portland

The promise of sunshine and sandy shores draws travelers to the [Caribbean](#) every winter, but this year there is another reason to fly south, particularly for hotel junkies: A host of new and renovated properties are launching just in time for the holidays.

While 70 percent of the Caribbean islands were unaffected by 2018's Hurricanes Maria and Irma, others were hit hard—and many of their hotels have spent the past year renovating. Properties that were older or already had updates in the works have taken the opportunity to fine-tune their offerings (read: to make them over-the-top). "Not only have hotels in the Caribbean recovered, but forced closings allowed for some major enhancements to many properties," says Jack Ezon, president of Ovation Vacations, a Virtuoso agency. Virtuoso, which serves as a network for some of the top luxury-travel agencies in the world, estimates that 90 percent of the inventory in the impacted regions has reopened. By the end of next year, "luxury resorts will have spent over \$250 million to refurbish," adds Ezon. "Some (existing ones) will be essentially brand new."

All of this is good news both for the region's economic and social well-being and, of course, for fans of eye-catching design, gourmet cuisine, and stellar service. From revived classics in Puerto Rico and a stylish rebranding in [Anguilla](#) to a reborn private-island hideaway from Sir Richard Branson, here are 18 Caribbean standouts that will be calling you to our favorite island getaways this season (and if you should need some help choosing just which island to jet off to, take a look through our [breakdown of Caribbean islands by personality type](#)).



KITTEN & SHARK
TRAVEL LIFESTYLE & BRAND PR

Turks & Caicos

Beach Enclave Long Bay

Opened: November 1



One of Beach Enclave's new Long Bay Villas

Photo: Courtesy of Beach Enclave Long Bay Villas

Following the successful 2016 opening of its nine villas on the island's North Shore, the luxury rental/ownership company [Beach Enclave](#) launched phase two in November: a collection of three stunning rental villas overlooking Long Bay's three miles of white sand beach. Two more villas in this area are also in the works, while a third phase of 10 villas on Grace Bay will open in 2019. Set on the protected east side of the bay, the new residences are spread out over nearly one acre of lush land each and range in size from five to seven bedrooms. Each has a beach deck, fire pits, summer kitchen, and outdoor shower, along with an infinity pool and lounging areas. Enjoy activities like kiteboarding, yoga, and paddleboarding, or relax at your rental under the care of a private chef, housekeeper, and butler/concierge.

Robb Report

[ROBB REPORT](#)

--

15TH NOVEMBER 2018

--

CIRCULATION

76,344

--

AVE \$2,090

--



KITTEN & SHARK
TRAVEL LIFESTYLE & BRAND PR