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St. Kitts Marriott Resort and The Royal Beach Casino

Treasured Island

JEZ hopped aboard Delta's new direct flight to the tropical paradise of St. Kitts for a refreshing getaway.

The deep green, mountainous and unspoiled island of St. Kitts is one of a handful located in the lush Leeward Islands of the Caribbean. So if you are looking for a getaway that isn't overdeveloped or touristy, grab your bathing suit, hiking boots, golf clubs and lady luck (like we did) and head to this gorgeous hidden gem. Flanked east and west by the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea, St. Kitts occupies 23 miles, including a variety of honey-colored and volcanic-sanded beaches, mountains and a tropical rainforest.

Nature lovers and adventure seekers are encouraged to experience St. Kitts via a guided ATV tour, which offers panoramic views of the island and the opportunity to sample local fruit and the sweet-

est sugar cane. For those on foot, a guided hike to the top of Mt. Liamuiga allows hikers to tour rainforest and Black Rocks volcanic formations. No matter which mode of exploration one chooses—car, ATV, foot—it's difficult to miss the island's amusing monkeys (more monkeys inhabit St. Kitts than humans).

Visitors cannot leave St. Kitts without a few souvenirs. Basseterre, the island's capital city, provides an excellent selection of locally designed clothes, glass jewelry, handcrafted bamboo journals and, of course, the ubiquitous shot glass. For something uniquely St. Kittian, visit the Caribelle Batik factory, where hand-designed clothing, wall hangings and fabric have undergone a



Relax in the Emerald Mist Spa inside the Marriott



Unwinding never felt so good as it does when chilling poolside at the Marriott



Inside one of the beautiful guest rooms with a view at the Marriott



Enjoy libations and dancing at Tigers nightclub

sophisticated and artistic tie-dye process. Factory grounds are rich with romantic rainforest views—ideal for a wedding.

When it comes time to make a reservation, St. Kitts Marriott Resort and The Royal Beach Casino is the best place to stay for every traveler. Located on the north side along Frigate Bay Beach, the resort offers 513 guest rooms and suites, with either an ocean, pool or island view. Stay in a two- or three-bedroom garden suite with the family, or a cozy room for two with a private balcony. Dive into one of the property’s three freshwater swimming pools, and chill poolside while sipping a Ting With A Sting (a fizzy grapefruit rum cocktail and Caribbean specialty) and listening to live music.

Activities are limitless at the resort. Wave runners are available to rent, and volleyball games are common, as are water aerobics, foosball tournaments, games and general exercise courtesy of two 24-hour fitness facilities. There is also a kids club to keep the little ones occupied. In addition to the above listed activities, the resort’s concierge is only too happy to organize a game of golf just minutes away at the Royal St. Kitts Golf Club—an 18-hole, 71-par championship course designed to showcase the natural island terrain

with 83 sand bunkers and 12 lakes. Practice makes perfect at the driving range with a 20,000-foot tee deck with a hitting length of 500 yards. The club also offers weekly clinics for putting, juniors, mixed doubles and ladies’ golf.

For a day of pampering, visit the resort’s 15,000-square-foot Emerald Mist Spa with eight oversized treatment rooms that include two wet rooms and one couples room with a private Jacuzzi. JEZ recommends the Kittitian massage and Emerald Mist Signature Facial for a relaxing, hydrating experience.

Like a Las Vegas hotel, St. Kitts Marriott Resort offers The Royal Beach Casino and an incredible variety of dining experiences. Bet on your favorite football team, win a hand on blackjack, roll the dice in craps or try your luck on the slots. After working up



Clockwise from top left: Get your game on at the Royal St. Kitts Golf Club. It is not uncommon to see one of many green monkeys on the island. Authentic island cuisine is delicious. Test your luck at The Royal Beach Casino inside St. Kitts Marriott Resort.



an appetite at the gaming tables, satisfy it at any of the resort's six restaurants. The Royal Grille Steakhouse serves only the freshest cuts of meat and fish. (Try the filet special and the pepper-crusted tuna appetizer!) Or take a brief culinary sojourn to Northern Italy via the antipasto bar at La Cucina. For lighter bites, enjoy sushi in the lobby bar and ask its bartender, Tony, for a special "Tony-tini." Cap off any (and maybe all) evenings at The Keys Cigar & Rum Bar with a Cuban or Dominican cigar and a variety of sipping rums.

Although it is possible to spend a week dining at the resort, local island hot spots abound and are not to be missed. A 10-minute walk from the resort leads to a festive strip of nightlife and restaurants on Frigate Bay. Have sunset cocktails at the Shipwreck Bar before following the sand to Mr. X's Shiggidy Shack for freshly caught fish, such as an unforgettable plate of grilled spiny lobster. Before leaving the island, visitors are advised to take a day-trip to the neighboring island of Nevis, which is the perfect locale for uninterrupted beach time and Killer Bee cocktails at Sunshines. You even may decide to check in for a night at the acclaimed Four Seasons Resort Nevis (well worth it!).

St. Kitts is simply amazing and must be experienced firsthand to really get a sense of its spirit. When visitors finally leave the island (never an easy departure to make), they do so in a Batik shirt, sporting a golden tan, and have a little extra cash in their pockets—not to mention a new sense of exploration. Thanks to Delta Air Lines' new non-stop flight to the island from Atlanta, it has never been easier to experience St. Kitts. —ANN JONAS





Ocean's Edge Resort on St. Kitts is surrounded by natural beauty

Own a Piece of Paradise

ST. KITTS' HOTTEST INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

Looking for a beachfront investment home? Then consider Ocean's Edge Resort on St. Kitts—a 40-acre development by Newfound Resorts in conjunction with local island partners. The area is still relatively undeveloped, making it that much more attractive for smart investors ahead of the curve. In addition to Ocean's Edge, other developments are in progress, such as Auberge Resorts' Sandy Bank Bay and a Mandarin Oriental. Good news for investors (and yachtsmen), a marina also is being planned for the southeast side of the island overlooking Nevis.

A quick 10-minute drive from R.L. Bradshaw International Airport on St. Kitts leads to Ocean's Edge and its idyllic setting. The site of the property is not only breathtaking, but also surrounded by natural unspoiled beauty. It has been accepted into the Green Globe Benchmarking Program, which signifies Newfound Resorts' commitment to the environment.

Situated on Frigate Bay on a dramatic hillside facing the Atlantic Ocean, the property's views are spectacular and so is the privacy. Once construction is complete, the charming community of Ocean's Edge will be home to only 185 homes ranging from one- and two-bedroom beachfront and hillside condos to garden cottages and villas. All residences offer striking views and the essence of luxury living. Buyers may choose to design and/or build their own villas, or select a design to be built for them. Villa owners also can tailor the interiors of all residences to their liking. Whether investors purchase a one- or two-bedroom condo or opt for a cottage or villa, all of the

above are outfitted with state-of-the-art appliances and appointments; select properties also will feature private plunge pools.

In addition to the comforts of home, the community will feature several swimming pools, a spa and fitness center, clubhouse, tennis, two restaurants, and close proximity to the Royal St. Kitts Golf Club, one of the most scenic 18-hole golf courses in the Caribbean. The resident concierge can arrange a tee time or another activity, such as sailing, scuba diving, hiking or windsurfing.

A comprehensive property management plan will assist owners in maintaining their residence and overseeing it in a rental program. Maintenance and concierge service ensures stress-free ownership. St. Kitts also offers a Citizenship by Investment Program that entitles persons that make a minimum investment of \$350,000 for an approved island project (Ocean's Edge among them) to apply for citizenship in St. Kitts and Nevis.

Construction is well underway, and the resort is planned to open in mid 2009. To date, approximately 35 percent of the project is pre-sold. —BETH WEITZMAN

Price of Entry

(much less than many close by island offerings)

One-bedroom beachfront:
from \$350,000

Two-bedroom beachfront:
from \$629,000

Two-bedroom Hillside apartment: from \$551,000

Villas: from \$1.4 million to approximately \$1.8 million (includes land)

For more information, call 888.450.0080 or visit oceansedgest Kitts.com.