

WHERE  
TO *stay*

From out-of-this-world to family-friendly, there's accommodation to match every couple's needs, says **Cathy Winston**



*Exclusive Resort*  
**TAGOMAGO ISLAND, IBIZA**

Staying on your own private island doesn't have to mean enduring a long-haul flight – Tagomago is one of the last islands in the Mediterranean that you can hire exclusively, with stunning views across the sea to Ibiza a short boat ride away.

Around 1.5km long and only 870 metres wide, the island has just one chic villa in its centre, with five double suites and its own large swimming pool and outdoor whirlpool bath. The only other house is for staff, including a personal chef, who'll be discreetly tending to your every need. As well as plenty of mod cons, from a Bang & Olufsen sound system to fancy lights, there's plenty to tempt you outside as well.

The property is set in a pine-fringed nature reserve and you can swim and dive off the west coast of the island. An onsite captain will set up watersports, not to mention sailing out of your own private jetty with Formentera just 30 minutes away.

You can also make the short hop to Ibiza from the helipad within minutes to discover what the larger island has to offer – everything from nightlife to historic towns and gorgeous scenery.

**ESSENTIALS**

- **LOCATION:** [www.tagomago-island.com](http://www.tagomago-island.com)
- **PRICE:** From €141,250 (£113,000) a week with taxes, meals and transfers.
- **CONTACT:** T: 0845 269 1152. [www.quintessentiallytravel.com](http://www.quintessentiallytravel.com)
- **VERDICT:** Perfect for escaping the crowds without spending hours getting there.



*Exclusive Resort*  
**PETIT ST VINCENT, GRENADINES**

Designed to look almost uninhabited, the 22 cottages on this private Caribbean island are spread across its 115 acres, so you're almost guaranteed a personal stretch of coral-sand beach. If you want to be absolutely certain, you can rent the whole island.

And while the cottages are built in native stone and purpleheart hardwood – scattered over lush hillsides, on cliffs and by white sand beaches – the castaway experience also has luxury touches, from iPod docks to Nespresso machines, as well as air conditioning if the trade winds aren't quite cooling enough.

Following a major renovation last year, there's also a new barefoot beach bar and restaurant, with vintage Laurent Perrier Champagne and Chateau Lafite-Rothschild in the wine cellar – plus a hillside treetop spa for meditation and treatments.

You can eat on your veranda or have an island picnic made up. Or if you hoist the red flag above your villa, you'll be left in complete peace to snooze in a hammock. But if you can be lured out, there's everything from windsurfing, kayaking and snorkelling to sailing in the island's sloop to the uninhabited Tobago Cays and marine park.

**ESSENTIALS**

- **LOCATION:** PO Box 841338, Pembroke Pines, FL 33084, USA.
- **PRICE:** From US\$1,050 (£674) per cottage per night, including three meals.
- **CONTACT:** [www.petitstvincent.com](http://www.petitstvincent.com)
- **VERDICT:** No people and no distractions, but plenty of tropical romance.

IMAGES: SUPERSTOCK; PETIT ST VINCENT; LIZARD ISLAND

*Exclusive Resort*  
**LIZARD ISLAND, QUEENSLAND**

Around 17 miles off the coast of Queensland, this northernmost resort on the Great Barrier Reef is about as remote as you can get without giving up five-star luxury completely. And as it's only accessible by private plane from Cairns, you're guaranteed a secluded stay without even mobile phone coverage on the island to disturb you.

While there are 40 suites on Lizard Island, you can choose from 24 deserted white-sand beaches across the 2,500-hectare island. To guarantee no one disturbs you, the resort's honeymoon packages include private beach dining with a personalised tasting menu as well as private beach day trips with a gourmet picnic hamper.

Fringed with coral reefs, the resort has some of the world's best scuba diving and snorkelling on its doorstep, including the famous Cod Hole, along with an island lagoon, five-star dining and a spa.

For the ultimate romantic experience, stay in the Pavilion, with 270-degree views across the Coral Sea, its own private plunge pool and separate viewpoint. Or in one of the 15 Sunset Point villas, each with a hammock on its own private deck.

**ESSENTIALS**

- **LOCATION:** PMB 40, Cairns, QLD 4871, Australia.
- **PRICE:** Rates start from around A\$1,444 (£905) per night.
- **CONTACT:** [www.lizardisland.com.au](http://www.lizardisland.com.au)
- **VERDICT:** The ultimate desert island, complete with a large helping of luxury.







*Couples-only*  
SPA VILLAGE RESORT TEMBOK, BALI

On Bali's unspoilt northeast shore, looking down across the black volcanic sand to the sea, Spa Village Resort Tembok is designed to be a haven of peace, from the calm, relaxed location to the locally inspired treatments. No under-16s are allowed, mobile phones are banned in public places and there are no TVs in the 31 rooms.

Promising to provide a sanctuary from daily pressures, the resort will draw up a bespoke series of experiences, from spa treatments that include a starlit massage by the sea to more active programmes. Or you can choose from meditation, visits to local temples, diving, cookery classes and creative sessions, from crafts to dance.

But for couples preferring to relax by the water, there's a deep blue infinity pool looking out to the ocean, where guests can chill out in one of the thatched pavilions and watch the sampans sail by.

For added honeymoon glamour, stay in one of the two one-bed villas, Baruna and Samudra, each with its own private entry and plunge pool, as well as beds created by local artists that follow traditional Balinese designs.

ESSENTIALS

- **LOCATION:** Jalan Singaraja-Amlapura, No. 100 Desa Tembok, Tejakula 81171.
- **PRICE:** From around US\$265 (£170) for a Kamar room.
- **CONTACT:** [www.spavillage.com/tembokbali](http://www.spavillage.com/tembokbali)
- **VERDICT:** A perfect pampering experience surrounded by a tropical paradise.

*Couples-only*  
RENDEZVOUS, ST LUCIA

St Lucia's longest white-sand beach, in the northwest, is the stunning setting for this boutique couples-only resort. The all-inclusive resort has everything from meals and drinks, including alcohol, to activities included in the price.

There are four-poster beds in the 100 rooms and suites looking out to sea or across the seven-acre tropical gardens; there's also a private terrace, as well as the two miles of Malabar Beach (where pushing a flag into the sand will bring someone running).

And the resort promises plenty of honeymoon touches, from a romantic candlelit dinner on the beach to a private butler to serve dinner in your room, as well as a Champagne sunset cruise and honeymoon massage in the couple's suite at the spa.

But there's plenty to entertain newlyweds who don't want simply to lounge by the sea, with two swimming pools, a PADI diving centre and activities including waterskiing, windsurfing and archery, as well as mixology classes.

Finish the day in one of the three bars, including the new Champagne and Piano Bar, or one of two restaurants, especially the appropriately-named Trysting Place.

ESSENTIALS

- **LOCATION:** Malabar Beach, PO Box 190, Castries, St Lucia.
- **PRICE:** From £246 per room.
- **CONTACT:** [www.theromanticholiday.com](http://www.theromanticholiday.com)
- **VERDICT:** The traditional beach honeymoon with an all-inclusive twist.



IMAGES: CARLISLE BAY, ANTIGUA; LE BRISTOL, PARIS; RENDEZVOUS, ST LUCIA; SPA VILLAGE RESORT TEMBOK

*Family-friendly*  
CARLISLE BAY, ANTIGUA

A Caribbean setting and chic boutique hotel seem the obvious choice for a glamorous honeymoon – but Carlisle Bay's creche, children's club and cleverly designed suites make it ideal for a familymoon as well. With interconnecting suites, there's plenty of room for kids, while parents with under-fives are given the Beach Terrace Suites.

As well as welcome gifts, mini bathrobes, toy boxes on the beach, daily children's tea and an air-conditioned movie screening room, there are four complimentary clubs for ages six months to 19 years, plus an in-house babysitter. Older kids can try the over-14s' spa treatments, along with kayak turtle hunts, a rainforest zip-wire, wakeboarding and mocktail masterclasses, while there's a special chill-out room for teens. But as might be expected from the stylish Campbell Gray collection, there's plenty for parents to enjoy as well, with two acclaimed restaurants and a couple's room in the spa, the chance to have a candlelit five-course dinner for two on the jetty or beach, and rum workshops with an expert mixologist.

ESSENTIALS

- **LOCATION:** Old Road, St Mary's, Antigua.
- **PRICE:** Prices from around US\$635 (£405) per suite.
- **CONTACT:** [www.campbellgrayhotels.com](http://www.campbellgrayhotels.com)
- **VERDICT:** The combination of grown-up romance and great activities for all ages equals a family honeymoon with no need for compromise.



*Family-friendly*  
LE BRISTOL, PARIS

Forever associated with romance, Paris isn't just one of the ultimate honeymoon cities, it's also a great destination for families and children. And the kids' programme at the newly renovated Le Bristol, the first 'palace' hotel in France, helps set it apart.

On exclusive rue du Faubourg Saint-Honore and just steps from the Champs-Elysees, it's surrounded by French-style gardens, while the Seine is within walking distance. The babysitting service lets parents enjoy the three-star Michelin restaurant, elegant bar, three-storey La Prairie spa, Turkish baths and rooftop pool with sundeck.

Honeymooners will also love the opulent boudoir-style glamour of the 182 spacious rooms and 78 suites, decorated with Louis XV and XVI-style furniture.

Along with family-friendly connecting rooms and a kids' club, younger guests are given the hotel's signature white rabbit toy (Hippolyte) a themed treasure hunt, special children's menu, child-friendly toiletries in the bathroom and rabbit-shaped cookies.

ESSENTIALS

- **LOCATION:** 112 rue du Faubourg Saint-Honore, 75008 Paris, France.
- **PRICE:** Rooms cost from €850 (£670).
- **CONTACT:** [www.lebristolparis.com](http://www.lebristolparis.com)
- **VERDICT:** Stylish hotel with honeymoon chic; good if you've younger children.