

Pack Your Bags







TRADE WINDS TRYST

Find honeymoon heaven in St. Lucia where sun, azure seas, and island hospitality await your first holiday together as Mr. & Mrs.

By Michael J. Solender

our first journey as a married couple is a magical time for adventure, moments to share, and memorable beginnings of a lifetime filled with discovery and joy.

Listen closely and you'll hear the steel-drum rhythms of a Caribbean honeymoon calling, with the sultry and inviting spicy-tropical trade-winds of St. Lucia, only a four-hour nonstop flight from Charlotte on the other end. Honeymooners settle in easy with lush beaches, stunning aquamarine waters and an island vibe that's either chill or up-tempo to match your mood.







STAY

All-in-luxury welcomes newlyweds at the Royalton Saint Lucia Resort & Spa.

With the big-day behind you, it's time to focus on enjoying "us-time." This newkid-on-the-beach and their all-inclusive approach is a terrific way to honeymoon care-free.

Couples love the "swim-out" suites, luxe rooms opening out into their own private pool. All accommodations include rain showers, stocked mini-bars and 24-hr room service. Splurge and choose the Diamond Club suites. The resort within the resort is meant to spoil with extras like butler service and exclusive dining.

Have your butler draw a bubble bath, press your clothes or arrange for a special romance package: Dinner on the beach under the stars, champagne, a couple's massage at the spa and rose petal turndown.

Score a cozy cabana alongside one of the multiple infinity pools or hang-out right on the beach - there are plenty of hideaway spots where you and your sweetie can laze away the day.

PI AY

Saint Lucia is unique among West Indies islands in hosting the angular jutting Piton Mountains (actually volcanic "plugs") and the world's only drive-in volcano! You'll experience both and sail atop warm Caribbean waters on the full-day Tout Bagay excursion arranged for by Nexus Tours. Reef snorkeling, volcanic mineralmud baths, close-up views of the Toraille Waterfall, authentic creole lunch and a tour of the Morne Coubaril Estate are all part of this "everything St. Lucia tour."

Get your fit on the couple's way at the Roylaton Spa with custom treatments that renew and refresh. Start with a hydrating chlorophyll shot to cleanse and add alkaline to your blood and strengthen your immune system. Pair-up in the hydrotherapy bath where mineral-heavy waters flow from jets soothing achy joints and muscles. Now choose a couple's massage just for you - try the Revitalizing option with reflexology bliss is guaranteed.

Yoga your thing? You'll find classes daily on the sundeck overlooking the beach. Fit-walks, a complete gym, and water sports like kayaking and paddle boarding are also on hand.

After the sun sets-a show in itselfthere's nightly entertainment like dancing and mixing with other couples at the pulsing XS Disco Bar, cocktails and conversation at Martini Mix and live music and talent shows on the Royalton's large outdoor stage.

EAT

Dining choices are plentiful and best of all, you never need a reservation.

Spice things West Indies-style at Calypso where local specialties like conch fritters and Caribbean curried lamb stew are standouts. Hunter Steakhouse features an open kitchen where chefs carefully tend to filets and fresh local seafood like Dorado and Red Snapper.

Zen offers dinner and a show with teppanyaki table-top Asian-infused cooking, sushi and a chef that doubles as a comedian and a juggler. Other favorites include the grand buffets at Gourmet Marche where breakfast has incredible French pastries, omelets to order, a smoothie bar and ever tropical fruit under the sun. Be sure to visit Caffe Coffee Bar for specialty coffee drinks and the best Italian-style gelato on the island. CB

WEST INDIES WEDDING

Looking to get married with the sand between your toes and the sun sinking into the ocean behind you?

Royalton Saint Lucia's wedding planners can arrange to make your special day even better with some West Indies tropical magic. Several sunny outdoor ceremony options—each with ocean views-are available.

Vows up high on the Sky Terrace are extra special for mid-sized affairs and accommodate up to 120 guests. The Diamond Club Deck and Garden Gazebo will seat 40 and 30 respectively and a arand affair directly on the beach can be arranged for up to 200. Ready to "Trash the Dress?" Go right ahead and jump in the drink, the water is warm and you won't be the first.

Couples like the flexibility of holding a

reception at one venue, the wedding at another and dinner in yet another-The varied space here makes mix and match weddings easy to do.

With dedicated wedding planners, onsite salon, casual to elegant dining options, and vetted vendors, the resort makes the big-day turn key allowing you to focus on what's most important -each other.

More info: www.royaltonresorts.com/ royalton-saint-lucia