

THE TRAVELER'S GUIDE TO INSPIRED PURSUITS

MAY | JUNE 2013

VIRTUOSO LIFE

\$5.95

HOTEL PREVIEW

WHAT'S NEW NOW

PLUS:
YOUR GUIDE TO CRUISING



PUERTO RICO'S
HOTTEST PROPERTY,
PAGE 83



80

New wave: Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve.

80 STAR POWER

From the jungle to the city, six new hotels that will light up your nights. BY JULIE H. CASE

90 STRAIGHT FROM THE TOP

Three of the hotel world's major players discuss the state of high-end stays.

ON THE COVER

Hot spot: Positivo Sand Bar at Puerto Rico's brand-new Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOE SCHMELZER/TREASURBITE STUDIO

Wardrobe styling: Claudia Madrid. Model: Solimar/Element Model & Talent Management, San Juan. Hair and makeup: Leslie Aviles/Spa Botánico, Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve. Wardrobe courtesy of Marella Boutique, Olivia Boutique, Ferragamo, Oui, and Marcia Moran Jewelry, Puerto Rico.

94 YOUR CRUISE ATLAS

When, where, and how to set sail on seagoing cruises around the world. BY MARGARET LOFTUS

106 WHAT TO MAKE OF MONTENEGRO

Croatia without the crowds? One traveler ventures to the Mediterranean's newest hot spot to find out. BY ROBERT DRAPER

116 SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

Patagonia's rugged, unspoiled nature will blow you away. BY AARON GULLEY

126 THE SHORT AND WINDING ROAD

Sweet interludes along Maui's famed Road to Hana. BY KEVIN J. MIYAZAKI

DESTINATION INDEX

- Alaska 98
Amsterdam 30
Antarctica 98
Antigua 48
Asia 101
Aspen 136
Australia 100
Beijing 84
Cambodia 42
Cape Cod 50
Caribbean 97
Connecticut 48
Copenhagen 62
Ecuador 86
Maui 126
Mediterranean 96
Montenegro 106
Montevideo 80
Nicaragua 88
Paris 144
Patagonia 116
Puerto Rico 46, 83
South America 98
South Pacific 100
Space 31
Vienna 29
Zürich 52

JOE SCHMELZER/TREASURBITE STUDIO



Clockwise from top: Positivo Sand Bar, Spa Botánico's apothecary entrance, a guest room bath and outdoor shower, and José Andrés' golden touch.

BEACHY KEEN
DORADO BEACH,
A RITZ-CARLTON RESERVE
PUERTO RICO

JOE SCHMELZER

» "Sanctuary" defines this former coconut and citrus plantation, once owned by Laurance Rockefeller. Bordered by three miles of beaches, the new resort has buildings no taller than the surrounding trees and protected lagoons and coral reefs for swimming and snorkeling.

HIGHLIGHTS: Each of the 100 rooms and 14 suites grants beachfront access with floor-to-ceiling doors and patios or balconies. Of its 1,400 acres, the resort dedicates five to its botanical spa, where facilities

include ten glass-walled pavilions and private outdoor gardens with deep soaking tubs and showers coyly concealed behind lush foliage. Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ambassadors of the Environment program provides eco-adventures for adults, teens, and children.

THE EXPERIENCE: Purify in hot and cold pools, then ascend to a tree house for a massage at the open-air spa, where treatments inspired by Puerto Rican healers, the Mano Santos, employ natural, local ingredients.

ROOM TO BOOK: Most of the ground-floor rooms have a private walkway and infinity pool, but Su Casa, the estate's original 1920s hacienda, comes with an infinity pool and an *embajador* (ambassador) who stays at the four-bedroom villa on request to handle everything from bringing coffee and a paper in the morning to arranging outings or escorting guests to the spa. *Doubles from \$1,499, including breakfast daily and a \$150 resort credit. Su Casa from \$25,000.*

STYLE
IN RESERVE

Ritz-Carlton introduced its Reserve resorts at Thailand's Phulay Bay in 2009, followed by Dorado Beach, Puerto Rico, and is developing outposts in Mexico, Morocco, Oman, and Turks and Caicos. A primer on what sets the resorts apart with the hotel company's president and chief operations officer, Hervé Humler:

Ritz-Carlton Reserves in four words:

Exotic, luxurious, natural sanctuary.

What distinguishes a Reserve from traditional Ritz-Carlton resorts?

Reserves are boutique-style properties, with fewer rooms for a more intimate experience. Architecturally, these are low-density, low-rise retreats with large rooms.

Is a beach a requirement?

It's not a requirement – but frequently an ocean backdrop is the foremost contributor to a magnificent destination. Sometimes the most desirable getaway experience is simply lounging on a pristine beach.

Your favorite elements of the Dorado Beach property:

Its rich history and legacy. And since we built on the foundation of the former Rockefeller hotel, the rooms sit much closer to the ocean than what's permitted today due to building restrictions. Simply saying "room with a view" doesn't do it justice.