

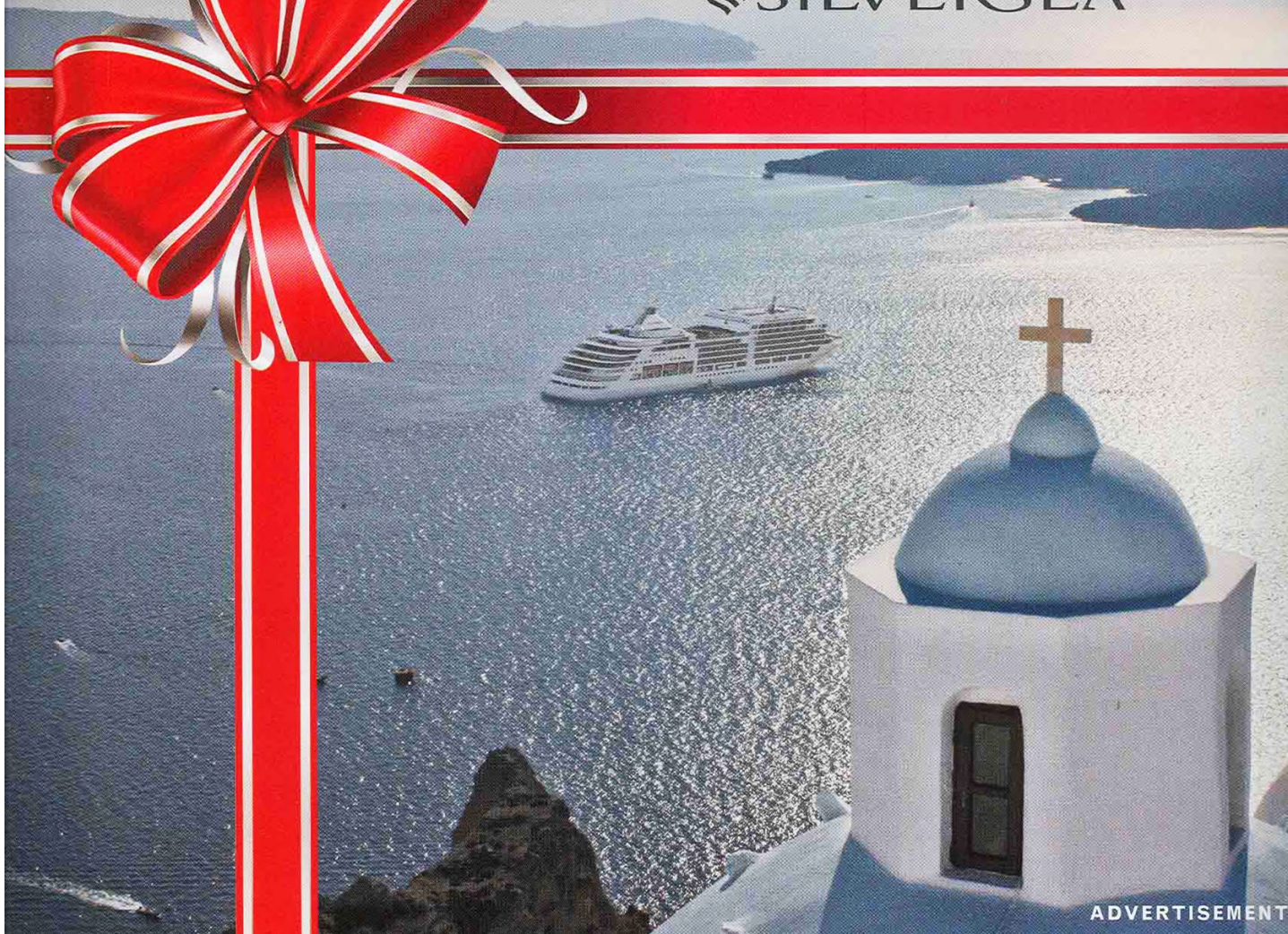
Inspiring and Educating Sellers of Affluent Travel

DECEMBER 2012

LUXURY TRAVEL ADVISOR

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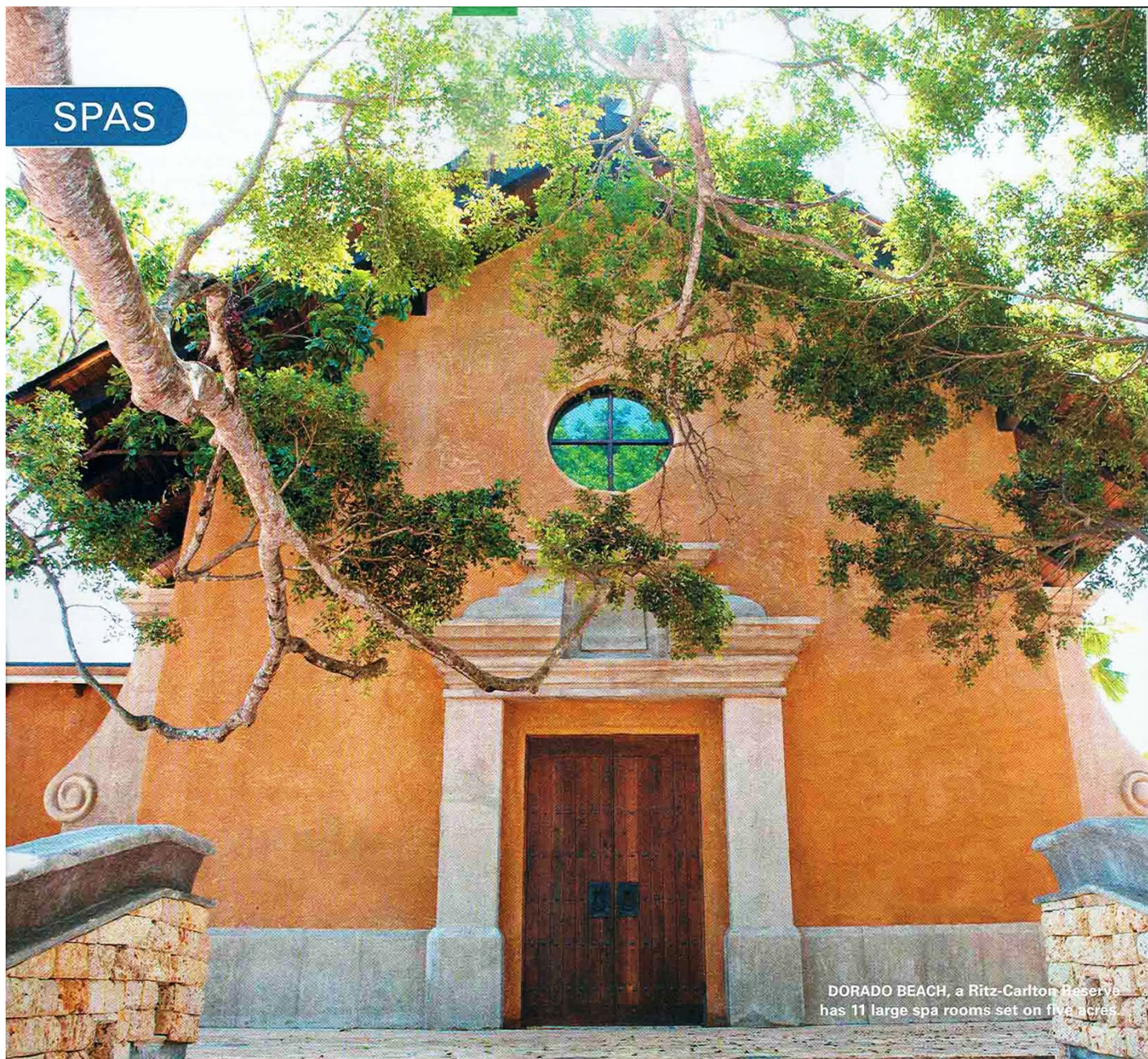


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SPAS



DORADO BEACH, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve, has 11 large spa rooms set on five acres.

Two New Caribbean Spas

Puerto Rico and Turks & Caicos are each sporting new luxury enclaves for pampering.

Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve (www.ritzcarlton.com) opens this month (December 12) on the former Laurance Rockefeller estate in Puerto Rico as a boutique resort. While you may have heard of its three miles of

beach along the Caribbean, its four-bedroom Su Casa villa and its Ambassadors of the Environment program by Jean-Michel Cousteau, you may not have gotten the scoop yet on the spa. Well, no worries, we've got your back.

There are 11 large spa rooms set on five acres. Nice Touch: The pampering facility will have its own herb garden with ingredients used in treatments. The herbs, designed for relaxation and medicinal

purposes, will be available at an Apothecary Bar, where guests get to select and mix the herbs and ingredients, which will be used in their treatments. Another perk from the local culture? Guests get a "Piragua,"





THE SPA AT THE RITZ-CARLTON will use Natura Bisse, ILA, Uspa and Soleil Organique products

a shaved ice treat, to enjoy while relaxing in the spa's Purification Garden. Contact the spa manager, Jennifer Wayland Smith (jennifer.wayland-smith@ritzcarlton.com) to set up special arrangements at the spa, which will use Natura Bisse, ILA, Uspa and Soleil Organique products.

When you're all refreshed and relaxed, be sure to head back to one of the guest rooms that have an upper-level terrace with an infinity-edge pool (bookable only by phone for now). If you can't snag one of those, you'll still be fine as all rooms and suites face the water.

The closest airport to Dorado Beach is in San Juan (SJU), which is about a 30- to 45-minute drive away; transportation is available via helicopter, town car, Bentley or Escalade.

Note: The hotel has yet to name its luxury travel advisor liaison but expects to soon.

As for Su Casa, that four-bedroom hacienda, it has its own private lawn which can be used for special events; it also has an infinity-edge pool with ocean views. Su Casa guests have access to a private tasting menu provided by the resort's chef, Jose Andres, as well as private dining on the beach. We say with digs like this, it may soon be drawing A-listers as it did in its former life when it was the Rockefeller enclave, playing hosts to such guests as Ava Gardner, Joan Crawford, Elizabeth Taylor and former U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve is run by its general manager, Alejandro Helbling (alejandro.helbling@ritzcarlton.com).

When *Luxury Travel Advisor* visited the **Regent Palms** (www.regentturksandcaicos.com) on Turks & Caicos last year, we heard that the 18-room, 26,000-square-foot spa was about to undergo some changes. It did indeed, reopening this