



# A TASTE OF

MARCH/APRIL '05 ISSUE

# TOTAL

VACATIONS

## Feature OF THE MONTH

### ST. BARTH

When you feel like being treated like royalty or want to rub elbows with the likes of Bill Gates or Brad Pitt then there is a beautiful, rocky island with volcanic origins just off the coast of Saint Martin. Saint Barthelemy or "Saint Barth (for those in the know)" is a 25 km jewel in the French West Indies surrounded by 15 other small islands. Its pristine coastline is punctuated with numerous bays and its marine life and pure air make St. Barth seem like a perfect little paradise to its visitors.

Getting to St. Barth is half the fun. Choose between a small propeller flight and a ferry from nearby islands. For a great photo opportunity, be sure to let your clients know to sit on the left hand side of the plane as close to the front as possible. Landing at the airport is a thrill ride-it appears that you will land right on the hilltop above the airport. This is quickly followed by a quick reverse of the throttle to keep you out of the ocean approaching fast at the end of a short runway.

There's no mistaking that you are in a French district once you arrive. The island is beautifully manicured and with a little imagination you could easily believe you were in the Southeast of France. Although English is widely used on the island the official language is French and you hear the accent from many of the 7,000 residents of this petite isle. Many European traditions can be found on the

island including tips (service is included in the prices on the menu) and the availability of wine and alcohol at the local supermarkets.

Getting around the island is an adventure with the winding, hilly roads revealing a spectacular view around every second corner. Taxis are not always and easily available. Renting a car is standard on this island and provides you complete freedom and flexibility. Make sure it is a four-by-four as many of the hills become quite slippery during and after rain. There are two gas stations on the island. Both close at about 5pm and only one has a 24-hour self-service pump so time your gas needs.

There's no shortage of activities on St. Barth. This little island has at least 7 different types of sand on its 14 beaches. Each has its own personality from the uninhabited Columbier Beach to the beauty of Gouverneur to the touristy St. Jean. Gustavia the capital is home for the shoppers. You will find all the brand stores here including Dior, Cartier, Chanel, Armani and Prada plus many others to suit every taste. The island caters to the elite and if you can think of doing it you can probably find it here-over the water, under the water or on land.

Restaurants abound to satisfy your culinary delights. Check out the place to be at Nikki Beach for the coolest vibes and a non-stop stream of happenings. Enjoy a summit experience with fine dining as the sun sets at Carl Gustaf. And be sure to try the Baz roll to the sounds of live music at the Baz Sushi Bar in Gustavia. For a vacation that has it all, St. Barth is your destination of choice. "There are not many places I am ready to go back to with so much more of the world to see", said Damian Reid of Total Vacations Marketing, "book me to St. Barth anytime!".

LAST CHANCE APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>!

Vote

Yes, it is that time of year again and we want our Valued Retail Partners to take this opportunity to VOTE for Total Vacations as your choice for Favorite Tour Operator. Voting can be done online at <http://travelpress.com/tpvote2005/>. Remember, Total Vacations offers your clients Total Flexibility to customize their package ANY WAY YOU LIKE IT!



## TOTAL REWARDS MEMBERS— APRIL FOOLS-NO JOKE!

Total Vacations is happy to offer our Total Rewards Members, \$10 per person Agent Incentive on any packages booked on April 1st, for any 2005 departure in honour of April Fools Day. (Not valid on group bookings).

## CUBA ANYONE!!!

Did you know Total Vacations offers an extensive Cuba product this year? We do! Cuba is a Canadian favourite every year. Canadians love the beautiful beaches, the warm breezes, and especially the never ending smiles on the welcoming local faces.

Total Vacations has teamed up with both Cubana Airlines and Air Canada to offer you packages to this lovely island. From the tranquil beaches of Varadero, to the old world charm of Havana we have it all. Why look anywhere else. Make Total Vacations your one stop shopping to the Caribbean and more. Be sure to check with Reservations to learn about our great options to Cuba.

## SANTANA BEACH RESORT

Santana Beach is a secluded colonial style resort situated overlooking the Caribbean, 15 minutes from La Romana airport and 45 minutes from Santo Domingo. This all-inclusive resort features 24hrs (drinks and snacks), 5 bars including a swim-up bar, and a sports bar, 5 restaurants (1 buffet and 4 à la carte), large tropical swimming pool with separate children's pool, daily organized activities, mini-club and supervised children's activities (ages 4-10yrs), children's playground, non-motorized sports, fitness center, billiards, day/ night tennis, casino (free entrance and drinks) and nightly entertainment. With its spacious accommodations, it is an ideal property for large families offering maximum occupancy of 5 adults or 2 adults and 4 children in the suites and 5 adults or 2 adults and 3 children in the family suites.

Wedding packages are also available starting at \$599 USD (booked and paid locally, prices subject to change) and complimentary honeymoon packages. If your clients choose to be married at the Santana Beach Resort keep in mind that this property offers FREE WEDDINGS! (Applicable to wedding groups with a minimum of 20 rooms or more). For more information on the Santana Beach Resort or on wedding groups call our reservations/ groups department at 1-800-769-4147.



## TOTAL VACATIONS NEW DEAL OF THE DAY!

Beginning in early February Total Vacations has been offering you our Total Deals of the Week. These represent incredible savings on some of our most popular product. And the best part is these savings are all on non-stop, direct flights down to destination, or with our regular scheduled flights. You do not want to miss these. Tied into these incredible savings have been some awesome Travel Agent Incentives (up to \$25 cash). We have given you the chance to score some really discounted packages, and earn money. It's incredible!

Have you been getting your DEAL OF THE WEEK sell-offs? We have been trying to make sure we fax or email everyone. But if we have missed you let us know. You can email us at [info@totalvacations.ca](mailto:info@totalvacations.ca) and request to be put onto our email list. That way you will always be up to date, and "in the know" about these great booking opportunities.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> NON-SMOKING HOTEL in GRAND CAYMAN

Effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005, the Comfort Suites & Resorts in Grand Cayman will become the first entirely non-smoking hotel in Grand Cayman. Smoking will be prohibited in any part of the interior of the building. Smoking will still be permitted in all outside areas.

## DESTINATION WEDDINGS and HONEYMOONS in PARADISE!

Do you have clients that recently got engaged or are in the midst of planning their honeymoon?... LOOK NO FURTHER!! Total Vacations understands the importance of planning that dream wedding or honeymoon. We offer a variety of ideal destinations to choose from with daily departures making it easier for your clients to schedule that special day. Many of our resorts offer great honeymoon specials that include free upgrades, special amenities and gifts to make your stay an extra special one. If your clients have dreamed about a romantic tropical wedding, most destinations offer a stress-free alternative to a traditional wedding at home. Some resorts go as far as offering FREE WEDDINGS! Call our Groups Department now at 1-800-769-4147 for more information on wedding groups.

Book your honeymoons by May 15/05 and EARN A \$25 AGENT INCENTIVE!  
[http://www.totalvacations.ca/pdf/Weddings-Honeymoons\\_Mar+16.pdf](http://www.totalvacations.ca/pdf/Weddings-Honeymoons_Mar+16.pdf)

