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Escapes

The Estates at Puntacana Resort & Club

WHAT Residences at an ocean-front resort.

WHERE The Dominican Republic.

AMENITIES Golf courses, restaurants, a spa and an equestrian center, among others.

PRICES Homesites range from \$330,000 to \$2 million.

STATUS Two new golf courses are in the works, and homesites are available now.

DEVELOPER Grupo Puntacana.

CONTACT (809) 959-7325 or www.puntacana.com.

DETAILS The Puntacana Resort & Club mega-development was founded on the east coast of the Dominican Republic nearly 40 years ago, making it a kind of elder statesman among Caribbean resorts. But rather than rest on its seasoned popularity, the resort, which now covers 15,000 acres, seems to be steadily moving forward with new projects. It now consists of the main 355-room hotel; a smaller boutique hotel that has villas with interiors designed by Oscar de la Renta, one of the development's investors; an 18-hole P. B. Dye-designed golf course; and five residential communities. Two of these communities are sold out, but three — Arrecife, Corales and Hacienda — have homesites,

ranging from about half an acre to two acres, on which buyers can either build homes independently or work with the developer to have houses built for them. Pre-built model homes and resales are also available. The most upscale of the remaining communities is the 625-acre Corales, where Mr. de la Renta, Mikhail Baryshnikov and Julio Iglesias, also an investor, are among the owners. A Tom Fazio-designed golf course open only to Corales residents and their guests is expected to be completed next month. And another new golf course, this one a second P. B. Dye design, is planned to open around the end of next year at the 750-acre Hacienda, the newest of the communities. Transportation is provided from the nearby Punta Cana International Airport, which is owned and operated by the resort's developer.

