

# Best Hotels in the Caribbean 2013

By Miriam B. Weiner

It isn't just the soft sands, the cerulean waves, or the breathtaking scenery you'll remember about your [Caribbean](#) getaway. It's also the hotel or resort in which you chose to stay. In fact, many vacationers determine which island to visit based on lodging options. After all, this is where you'll likely spend the majority of your time—this is where you'll eat, sleep, and play. Whether you're planning your honeymoon, your family getaway, or a wanton escape, you cannot afford to overlook the importance of finding the perfect hotel.



Don't worry, we're here to help. Based on an [unbiased methodology](#) that factors in the aggregate opinion of both travel experts and guests, U.S. News Travel has scoured the Caribbean in search of the best hotels. To take some of the guesswork out of booking a room, our editors scrutinized guidebooks, magazines, and review-based websites to find properties that consistently receive well-rounded praise.

The properties that appear on our first annual Best Hotels in the Caribbean rankings range from expansive all-inclusive resorts to intimate boutiques. They can be found anywhere from popular spots like [Jamaica](#) and [Punta Cana](#) to more exclusive destinations like [St. Barts](#) and [St. Lucia](#). While each hotel features a distinct sense of style, they've all earned a prominent place on our 2013 roundup of the Best Hotels in the Caribbean thanks to their inspiring ambiance, luxurious amenities, and spectacular service—all qualities that not only lead to a memorable vacation, but a good night's sleep.

## Best Hotels by Dest.

- ▶ [Anguilla Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Antigua Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Aruba Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Bahamas Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Barbados Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Bermuda Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Bonaire Hotels](#)
- ▶ [British Virgin Islands Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Cayman Islands Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Curacao Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Dominica Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Grenada Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Guadeloupe Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Jamaica Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Martinique Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Puerto Plata Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Puerto Rico Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Punta Cana Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Santo Domingo Hotels](#)
- ▶ [St. Barts Hotels](#)
- ▶ [St. Kitts & Nevis Hotels](#)
- ▶ [St. Lucia Hotels](#)
- ▶ [St. Martin - St. Maarten Hotels](#)
- ▶ [St. Vincent & The Grenadines Hotels](#)
- ▶ [Trinidad & Tobago Hotels](#)

## 1. Tortuga Bay

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

In a destination known for its luxurious, all-inclusive resorts, you'd think a boutique property would be overpowered. But in [Punta Cana](#), tiny Tortuga Bay has won the hearts of travel experts and guests alike. Sure, it may not have as many pools as there are days of the week or more dining options than you know what to do with, but previous travelers describe their stay here as total bliss. A part of the Puntacana Resort & Club complex, Tortuga Bay's villas—designed by fashion icon Oscar de la Renta—face golden sands, turquoise waters, and one of two golf courses. Guests can't help but exalt the lavish décor, but what earns Tortuga Bay the title of Best Hotel in the Caribbean is its customer service. Returning travelers rave that that they were remembered by name, while first-timers say that the staff's attention to detail is what sets Tortuga Bay apart from other luxury hotels.

# 10 Best Hotels in the Caribbean 2013

Miriam B. Weiner



◀ 10 of 10 ▶

*Courtesy of Tortuga Bay*

### 1. Tortuga Bay

#### **Punta Cana, Dominican Republic**

In Punta Cana, the Dominican Republic's vacation hotspot, Tortuga Bay proves that intimate boutiques triumph over brand-backed properties. Tortuga Bay trumps not only nearby competitors, but also every other luxury property in the Caribbean. According to Vincenzo Calcerano, the resort's general manager, Tortuga Bay seized the No. 1 spot thanks to its warm, friendly employees and their close attention to detail.

▶ See more photos of Tortuga Bay

#### **Find out more about:**

- ▶ The Best Hotels in Punta Cana
- ▶ The Best Hotels in the Caribbean

#### **Also check out:**

- ▶ The Best Hotels in the USA
- ▶ The Best Hotels by Brand



# Tortuga Bay

Cap Cana | Punta Cana, Dominican Republic 23000 [\[SHOW ON MAP\]](#)

Hotel Class: ★★★★★  
Reputation: **EXCELLENT**  
User Rating:  (275 reviews)

## Awards Received:

- ▶ AAA/CAA Five Diamond Lodgings
- ▶ Concierge.com Editors' Pick
- ▶ Conde Nast Readers' Choice List
- ▶ Conde Nast Traveler Gold
- ▶ Fodor's Choice
- ▶ Frommer's Exceptional

## Amenities:

- ▶ Room Service
- ▶ Internet Access
- ▶ Dining
- ▶ Parking
- ▶ Fitness Center
- ▶ Pool



[See all 32 photos >>](#)



**#1** in **Best Punta Cana Hotels**  
How We Rank Hotels

[Check Rates](#)

**How it Ranks:** Tortuga Bay ranks #1 out of 120 [Punta Cana Hotels](#) based on an evaluation of expert ratings and awards, as well as user reviews. The hotel scored high enough to make the exclusive U.S. News list of the [Best Hotels in the Caribbean](#).

**#1** in [Best Punta Cana Hotels](#)

**Our Take:** Sitting between Cap Cana Marina and Punta Cana International Airport along the Caribbean coast, Tortuga Bay appeases travelers with high-end preferences. Not many resorts can advertise spacious villas designed by fashion icon Oscar de la Renta. Guests rave about the food served on Oscar's signature tables at Bamboo (as well as at Tortuga Bay's seven other restaurants). And that's not the only name you'll recognize. Avid golfers will jump at the chance to play one or both of Tortuga Bay's courses, designed by Tom Fazio and P.B. Dye. Meanwhile, relaxation-seekers can take advantage of the Six Senses Spa, which features a full menu of massages and body scrubs. But what guests liked the most about Tortuga Bay was how different it felt from other Punta Cana properties, even its sister property, [The PUNTACANA Hotel](#). Many say that the 1,500-acre reserve—maintained by the resort's ecological foundation—was a refreshing break from the overcrowded Bávaro beach hotel scene.

# 2013 Best Hotels in the Caribbean Winners

1. **Tortuga Bay** – Punta Cana, Dominican Republic
2. **Hotel Saint-Barth Isle de France** – Baie des Flamands, St. Barts
3. **Eden Rock, St. Barths** – Baie de Saint Jean, St. Barts
4. **Jamaica Inn** – Ocho Rios, Jamaica
5. **Four Seasons Resort Nevis** – Charlestown, St. Kitts & Nevis
6. **Nisbet Plantation Beach Club** – Newcastle, St. Kitts & Nevis
7. **Jade Mountain** – Soufriere, St. Lucia
8. **Jumby Bay, A Rosewood Resort** – St. John's, Antigua
9. **Amanyara** – Providenciales, Turks & Caicos
10. **Seven Stars Resort** – Providenciales, Turks & Caicos
11. **Cap Juluca** – Maundays Bay, Anguilla
12. **Parrot Cay by COMO** – Parrot Cay, Turks & Caicos
13. **Spice Island Beach Resort** – Grand Anse Beach, Grenada
14. **Canouan Resort at Carenage Bay** – Canouan, St. Vincent & The Grenadines
15. **Curtain Bluff** – St. John's, Antigua
16. **The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman** – Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands
17. **CuisinArt Golf Resort & Spa** – Rendezvous Bay, Anguilla
18. **Regent Palms** – Providenciales, Turks & Caicos
19. **Sandy Lane** – St. James, Barbados
20. **Sugar Beach, A Viceroy Resort** – Soufriere, St. Lucia
21. **Petit St. Vincent** – Petit St. Vincent, St. Vincent & The Grenadines
22. **The Regent Grand Resort** – Providenciales, Turks & Caicos
23. **Casa Colonial Beach & Spa** – Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic
24. **The Fairmont Royal Pavilion Barbados** – St. James, Barbados
25. **Ladera** – Soufriere, St. Lucia
26. **Biras Creek Resort and Spa** – Virgin Gorda, British Virgin Islands
27. **Horned Dorset Primavera** – Rincon, Puerto Rico

*See photos of the 10 Best Hotels in the Caribbean*