

dkc NEWS from

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BRIDES

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travel



Right Play a round of golf together on the tropical course at Punta Cana, or simply bliss out at the renowned Six Senses Spa, far right

Love Islands

From remote and romantic retreats to chic European getaways, we've found seven of the world's most heavenly honeymoon islands



• DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

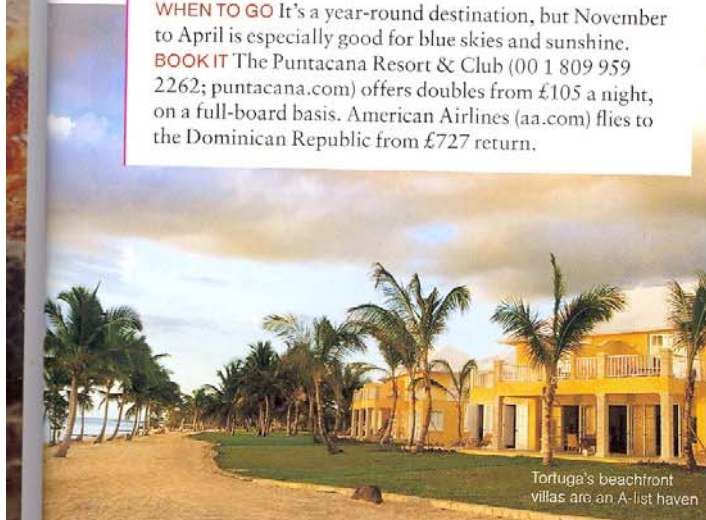
A Caribbean island with a funky Latin twist, the Dominican Republic may be known for its resorts, but, away from the crowds, you'll find an unspoilt idyll offering honeymoon bliss. With more than 1,000 miles of sandy beaches, plus colonial towns and rainforests, it's great for couples wanting to mix laid-back beach time with trips around the island. Cultural couples should check out the faded Zona Colonial in Santo Domingo, a UNESCO World Heritage Site dating back to Christopher Columbus. Sun-worshippers will love lazing away the days on the beaches around Punta Cana.

WHO GOES Musicians Sean 'P Diddy' Combs, Mick Jagger and Shakira, and Hollywood stars, such as Jake Gyllenhaal.

WHERE TO STAY Book a cute casita at the Puntacana Resort & Club, a gorgeous resort nestled in 105 acres of gardens on the east side of the island. Or, if your budget can stretch to it, book into a luxurious beachfront villa at Puntacana's boutique resort, Tortuga Bay. The 50 airy suites contained in 15 villas, designed by Oscar de la Renta, are stylish, private and exquisitely chilled. You can use Puntacana's facilities, which include two golf courses, eight restaurants and the Six Senses Spa. Tortuga Bay's powder-white beach, chilled-out pool area and restaurant are exclusive to its own guests, which is exactly why Uma Thurman and Penelope Cruz adore it.

WHEN TO GO It's a year-round destination, but November to April is especially good for blue skies and sunshine.

BOOK IT The Puntacana Resort & Club (00 1 809 959 2262; puntacana.com) offers doubles from £105 a night, on a full-board basis. American Airlines (aa.com) flies to the Dominican Republic from £727 return.



Tortuga's beachfront villas are an A-list haven