

The 10 Best Hotels in St. Barts

BY Angelina Villa-Clarke I November 16, 2023



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Anyone who has never been to St. Barts has a view on its ethos. "It's all about money," "It's way too social," or "Oh no, it's not for me,' they say. Regulars don't do much to contradict these assumptions—this is our secret place, and we want to keep it that way. It's true: getting here can sometimes feel like a Sisyphean task—the airport shuts at sundown, so if you miss your connection you have to overnight in Antigua or St. Maarten. And it's a magnet for the rich, particularly between Christmas and New Year, when billionaires parade their super-yachts in the port of the capital, Gustavia. Passers-by—like ornithologists spotting a rare bird—pass the time identifying which boat belongs to whom (such as Bernie Arnault's Symphony or David Geffen's Rising Sun). It all adds to the allure of this citronella-scented adventure playground, which curiously, despite the glitz, manages not to feel vulgar or ostentatious.

When it comes to hotels, St. Barts is home to some of the best in the Caribbean —sleek boutique stays where sustainability and luxury intertwine effortlessly.

For our top picks, the below are the ultimate places to stay in St. Barts.

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Le Barthélemy Hotel & Spa

It doesn't get any more idyllic than Le Barthélemy Hotel & Spa's crescentshaped, talcum-powder beach. The intimate hotel has just 44 rooms and suites and is found on the shores of Grand Cul de Sac, on the north-east of the island. Impeccably designed interiors channel a high-end French aesthetic—sharp lines are softened with cream linen sofas, crafted tables and hand-crafted ceramics. In short, it's impossibly elegant. Some suites have their own pools, others have delicious outdoor showers, and there's always a glimpse of the turquoise ocean from every corner. There's a cinematic infinity pool and a breezy al-fresco restaurant — Amis St Barts — overseen by Michelin-recognized chef Jéremy Czaplicki. Its ceiling sculpture of handblown glass fish in the colors of the ocean may distract you from the inventive menu of coconut-crusted eggplant, crab bisque with banana coulis, and yellowfin tuna served with marinated watermelon—but not for long. Meanwhile, at Le Spa at Le Barthélemy, it's a match made in oceanic heaven with La Mer facials and body treatments. For sundowners, head to the rooftop bar, Whiskey, Tango, Foxtrot (known as WTF), for chill-out tunes and a Flamingo cocktail. A member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World, the hotel has one eye on sustainability and offers coral restoration and zero-waste cooking classes for guests. —Angelina Villa.



Le Barthélemy Hotel & Spa

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