Caribbean DREAMING

White sands, turquoise waters and year-round sunshine... what's not to love about the Caribbean? Here are our favourite spots for a honeymoon in 2023

The beautiful Bahamas defines the word paradise with its tropical palms and sugar sand beaches



The Bahamas

Lying close to Florida, north of the Caribbean Sea, the Bahamas is a sunseeker's paradise that comprises over 700 islands fringed by coral and glittering azure waters. The Bahamas is a postcard-worthy tropical destination and a honeymoon here is all about relaxation - think glorious boat trips, sunbathing and lazy days spent snorkelling. Each of the main islands is a little different so you'll fall in love no matter your travel style. We particularly love the idyllic Exumas islands with their white sugar sands - not to mention the adorable swimming pigs! For blissful accommodation, consider Kahari Resort where you can sleep in one of 12 tranquil waterfront bungalows.

Cuba

If you're looking for an authentic and stripped-back experience for your honeymoon, consider the beautiful island of Cuba. A classic destination in its own right, Cuba offers something extra special - it's a vibrant and heady choice that oozes old-world charm. Of course, white sandy beaches play a part here, but cultural Havana is often the lure. The colonial capital is renowned for its colourful streets, vintage cars and buzzing nightlife making it a magical setting for a unique break. While other Caribbean islands offer luxury aplenty, ultra-lavish five-star resorts aren't as abundant here - but don't let that stop you from booking. Boutique hotels are lovely for a honeymoon with highlyrated properties including AIS Boutique Residency and Residencia Santa Clara.



Jamaica is a fun and lively destination that's perfect for a luxe honeymoon escape

Antigua's Shirley Heights delivers breathtaking views across the harbour

Tobago is a nature

lover's paradise and

is a wonderful eco honeymoon option

Antigua

The twin islands of Antigua and Barbuda are famed for their pristine beaches, sultry sunsets and secluded hotels - an amazing choice for a refined tropical escape. Antigua is the larger of the two and is filled to the brim with scenic spots. Better still, as one of the Caribbean's smaller islands, you'll never be far from where you want to go. In terms of beaches, the island boasts 365 - and although you won't visit them all, you'll definitely fall in love with those you do! Make sure you see Antigua's colourful capital St John's and celebrate at a sunset party at Shirley Heights, too - it's a magical setting overlooking the English Harbour. For somewhere to stay, check out Blue Waters Resort & Spa or adults-only COCOS for a romantic, rustic-chic option.

Tobago

If you want something different to the glitz of large resorts, Tobago is the island for you. While luxury isn't shunned here, this is a destination with a rustic approach - favouring idyllic tropical retreats that make the most of nature. Very much an eco-friendly destination, Tobago has been leading the way in conservation. In fact, its Main Ridge rainforest has been protected for more than 200 years. If you're a nature-loving couple, you'll undoubtedly find plenty to enjoy from wildlife tours to kayaking and hiking. You'll also want to check out Bon Accord Lagoon where you can see bioluminescent waters twinkling in the moonlight. As a laid-back option, you'll find lots of peaceful accommodation. The Villas at Stonehaven promise a secluded hideaway, while Castara Retreats is a gorgeous treetop hotel with an added sprinkling of wellness.

Jamaica

Home of reggae and rum, there's no place quite like Jamaica! A culturally diverse country with breathtaking scenery, your days here can be filled with so much more than lounging on the beach. For active couples, rafting, horse riding and hiking are a must - you'll be treated to tumbling waterfalls and lush mountainous jungles. Or, if you want a view from the water, hop on a catamaran cruise and soak up the sun. There'll be plenty of time for dancing under the stars, too - this island is about good beats and good vibes, after all! If you're wanting to indulge, this is also the right place. You'll find incredible luxury hotels in Jamaica that were made with honeymooners in mind - be sure to check out Sandals and Couples Resorts for the ultimate romantic escape.

Grenada

For an under-the-radar destination, you'll want to note Grenada. The epitome of paradise, this diverse country is pristine, laid-back and free from bustling crowds - perfect for a chilled-out honeymoon. If you're a foodie, you'll love this destination, too. Making the most of locally-grown spices, the cuisine you'll find is fragrant, flavourful and delicious. There are plenty of sweet treats to enjoy here as well - from nutmeg ice cream to quality local chocolate. For things to see and do, Grenada won't disappoint. Spend your days strolling the picturesque capital, celebrating on a sunset cruise and diving at the underwater sculpture park. To make your trip extra special, upscale hotels like Silversands Grenada, Spice Island Beach Resort and Calabash Grenada will deliver pure honeymoon bliss.

Gorgeous Grenada offers a picturesque setting for a unique and relaxing break



St Lucia

St Lucia is an

natural vistas

ultra-romantic island with jaw-dropping With its dramatic scenery, lush St Lucia is a picture-perfect setting for a loved-up escape. This island goes hand-in-hand with honeymoons - it's one of the Caribbean's most romantic destinations and has lots to offer newlyweds. Combining palm-fringed beaches with acres of untouched rainforests, nature lovers will be in paradise. The Pitons are an iconic natural site here – if you're up to it, a hiking trip will give unrivalled island views. Or, if you want a chilled-out activity, make the most of the volcanic landscape with a visit to the mineral-rich mud baths. As a honeymoon hotspot, you'll find many luxe resorts in St Lucia, too. One of our favourites is Jade Mountain, which boasts gorgeous open-air rooms overlooking the sea.

Barbados

With its sun-soaked beaches and warm hospitality, it's easy to see why visitors return to Barbados year after year. This is an island that's loved by many - including famous faces who regularly stay at the swanky Platinum Coast resorts. Glittering sea activities are obviously a must in Barbados - the crystal waters are teeming with marine life and you'll find plenty of shipwreck dive sites, too. Is surfing more your thing? Barbados is a world-class surfing destination that's great for pros and beginners alike. When it comes to somewhere to stay, you'll find a wealth of romantic hotels. We love the sophisticated Colony Club as well as Cobblers Cove for a peaceful retreat in paradise.

As well as breathtaking beaches, Barbados offers visitors plenty to see and do

> Makuna Kaftan in Paradise Jungle, £75, Dancing Leopard

Penny Tote Straw Bag, £45, Crew

Clothing

What to pack

Orange Scalloped Edge Floppy Hat, £28, Oliver Bonas

Anya Madsen Red Bikini Top, £16.99, and High Waist Bikini Bottoms,

E14.99. M&Co

Wide Fit Knot Wedge Sandal, £30, V by Very