

ISLAND HOPPING

The oldest surviving lighthouse in the West Indies, the Hog Island Lighthouse's beacon guides weary travelers to leave their cares behind as they discover the wonders of Atlantis, Paradise Island in the Bahamas.

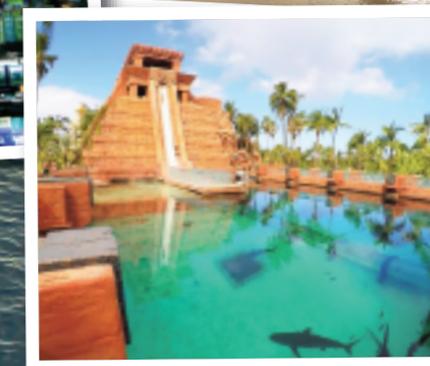
A guide to some of the best casino resorts in the Caribbean

BY SEAN CHAFFIN

Crystal clear waters, perfect beaches, and endless cool vibes. Friendly people and magnificent cuisine. A trip to a Caribbean island makes for a perfect getaway, and that doesn't just include sipping rum drinks and soaking up some sun with the sand between your toes. By day, travelers can take a dip in the Caribbean Sea or zipline across some lush green forests, and then hit a resort casino by night.

The region's magnificent resorts and hotels offer a stay in style with plenty of activities, amazing food and cocktails, as well as top-notch service. They also feature some bustling casinos with slot machines, traditional table games, sports betting, and a growing poker scene. With fall and winter weather bringing cooler temperatures in much of the U.S., plenty of sun and fun still awaits you at some great Caribbean destinations.

Grab the sunscreen and a swimsuit. The beach and plenty of exploring await you – and don't forget your lucky charm! A jackpot or big win will only make that white sand, blue water vacation even better.



The Reef, Cove and Royal towers of Atlantis rise from the lush foliage of Paradise Island.



BAHAMAS

Hurricane Dorian may have ravaged some of the islands that make up the Bahamas, but much of the island remains open for business. That includes many of the country's resorts and tourist destinations. As the country tackles the destruction left behind on many islands, tourism industry officials say the best way to help the island is to board a plane and spend some money on a great vacation.

According to *TourismToday.com*, tourism accounts for 60 of the country's gross domestic product and employs about half the Bahamian work force. The Bahamas offers easy access for American visitors and just a short flight from Florida. With that in mind, here's a look at some great properties that will please beach lovers and gamblers alike.

Atlantis, Paradise Island

This pristine and picturesque property is located on Paradise Island, right next to New Providence island and the city of Nassau. The island is easily accessible and offers serene white sand beaches and fun for the whole family. Built to mimic the mystery and romance of the famed lost city of Atlantis, the property features several hotels with names like Beach, Coral, Reef, and Royal. Atlantis offers numerous amazing pool experiences, a cool beach vibe with stunning views, its own lagoon and harbor, and restaurants of every variety with delectable cuisine.

For families, one feature certainly stands out on this sprawling property. The Aquaventure water park features heart-racing waterslides, a river with rolling rapids, a water-play fort, more than 20 swimming areas, private cabanas, and much more in a tropical environment with greenery surrounding the entire park. Visitors don't even have to be hotel guests. The park offers day passes for guests of other properties. Add to your aqua adventure with a visit to the Marine Habitat for an underwater view of sharks, tropical fish, rays, and more.

Some gambling at the property's casino includes ocean vibes with 85 table games including craps, baccarat, roulette, blackjack, and more.

That also includes 700 of the latest slot machines, a large sportsbook, and high roller and private gaming areas. For the last 16 years, the resort also hosted the PokerStars Caribbean Adventure tournament series. Book your vacation in Atlantis and start your own adventure. For more information visit atlantisbahamas.com.

Baha Mar, Nassau

This amazing resort is located on the island of New Providence and in the city of Nassau. Visitors to Baha Mar won't be disappointed. The property offers luxury at every turn and is situated on Cable Beach – perfect for a lazy day basking in the island's crystal aquamarine waters as billowy clouds drift by.

The property is actually three hotels in one – all with cool elegance, brilliant views of the Caribbean, and ultracool pools for epic relaxation. Make your choice of stay in the stylish Rosewood, cool SLS, or modern Grand Hyatt – each offering stunning beach views and an epic selection of pools.

The thrilling casino (top) features 119 tables, over 1,000 slots and views of the ocean. Luxury awaits in this villa bedroom at the Grand Hyatt Baha Mar.



Brilliant dining and entertainment options are also numerous including unmatched seafood (check out 3 Tides Cafe) and bars and clubs for every taste. Head out for a great nature experience including checking out sea turtles, dolphins, and the country's iconic bird at Flamingo Cay.

Along with a great beach experience, some nightlife might include a visit to the property's casino – complete with more than 1,000 slot machines and 119 tables games featuring blackjack, baccarat, roulette, and more. Poker fans will enjoy some Texas hold'em and the Baha Mar has become a regular host to PartyPoker Millions tournament events. With high-class ambience, sip a cocktail and gamble in style at the Baha Mar. For more information, visit www.bahamar.com

The Hilton at Resorts World, Bimini

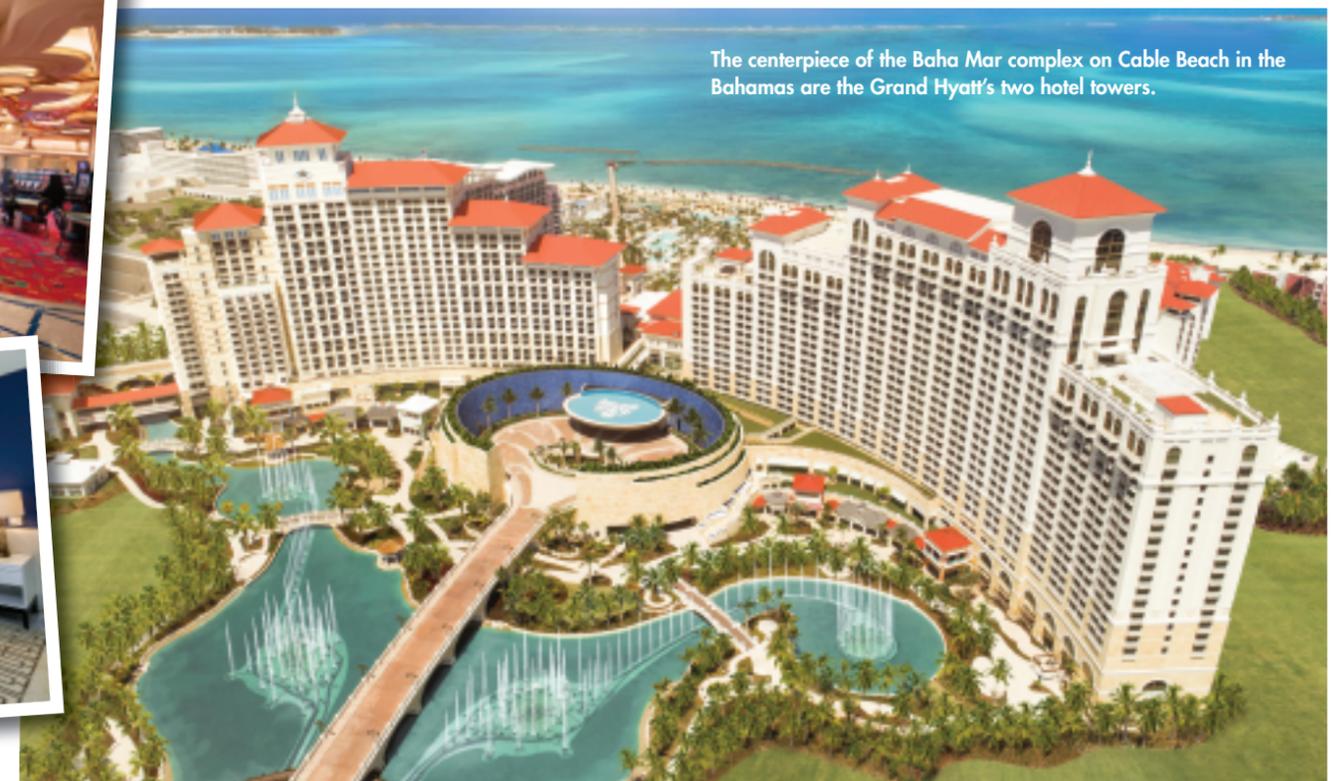
Plunge into crystalline turquoise waters on the tiny Bahamian island of Bimini. The Hilton at Resorts World offers plenty of seclusion and makes for the perfect getaway on the closest island to the U.S. coast – just 50 miles from Miami. Visitors will gaze in awe at miles of white sand beaches. Simply grab a chair on the beach and enjoy.

The island was even home to Ernest Hemingway from 1935-37. The novelist fell in love with the island, apparently spending his days on adventures, drinking rum, boxing with locals, boating, and fishing. Visitors will enjoy their own adventures at this 750-acre beach-front resort. Resorts World offers a luxurious stay in one of the property's luxurious rooms. Or book a more secluded stay in a private condo. Hop in a golf cart to tour the island or head to one of the property's numerous infinity pools – a brilliant Caribbean oasis awaits. A visit to the Serenity Spa and Salon only adds to this lavish vacation experience.



Whether arriving by yacht or plane, it's a short trip to Bimini, just 50 miles from Miami, FL. The Hilton at Resorts World Bimini offers 350 luxury rooms for your perfect escape.

The 10,000-square-foot Resorts World Bimini Casino allows players to gamble in style. Visitors will not only have a modern casino to wager at, but brilliant surroundings and sweeping views of the oceanside. Take a seat at popular table games like blackjack, baccarat, craps, roulette, or more than 160 slot machines. For a bite to eat and a bit of nostalgia while gaming, head to the on-site Hemingway's sports bar and restaurant for gourmet burgers and wings. And just like the place's namesake, a rum drink should definitely be in order. For more information, visit www.rwbimini.com/hilton-hotel.



The centerpiece of the Baha Mar complex on Cable Beach in the Bahamas are the Grand Hyatt's two hotel towers.



Party (and relax) like a rock star at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Punta Cana.



Water lovers will also have 13 expansive, magnificent pools to choose from with four swim-up bars and three kids pools complete with water-slides and activities for those under 16. There are numerous other activities for kids including the Kidz Bop experience, where they can become a young music star.

For adults, nightlife at the property includes live entertainment and concerts. There are numerous restaurant options and all-inclusive doesn't just mean so-so at this property - with numerous bars and restaurants from quick bites to plush sit-down dining. Numerous other activities and amenities are available including the world-class Hard Rock Golf Club at Cana Bay, designed by Jack Nicklaus Golf. If all that weren't enough, gamblers can pick a night or two and head to the casino. The 45,000-square-foot venue features 40 tables, 450 slots, and an exclusive VIP area. Poker players will find regular tournaments and cash games. Gamble in style in the D.R. For more information visit www.hardrockhotelpuntacana.com

And Then There's...

ARUBA

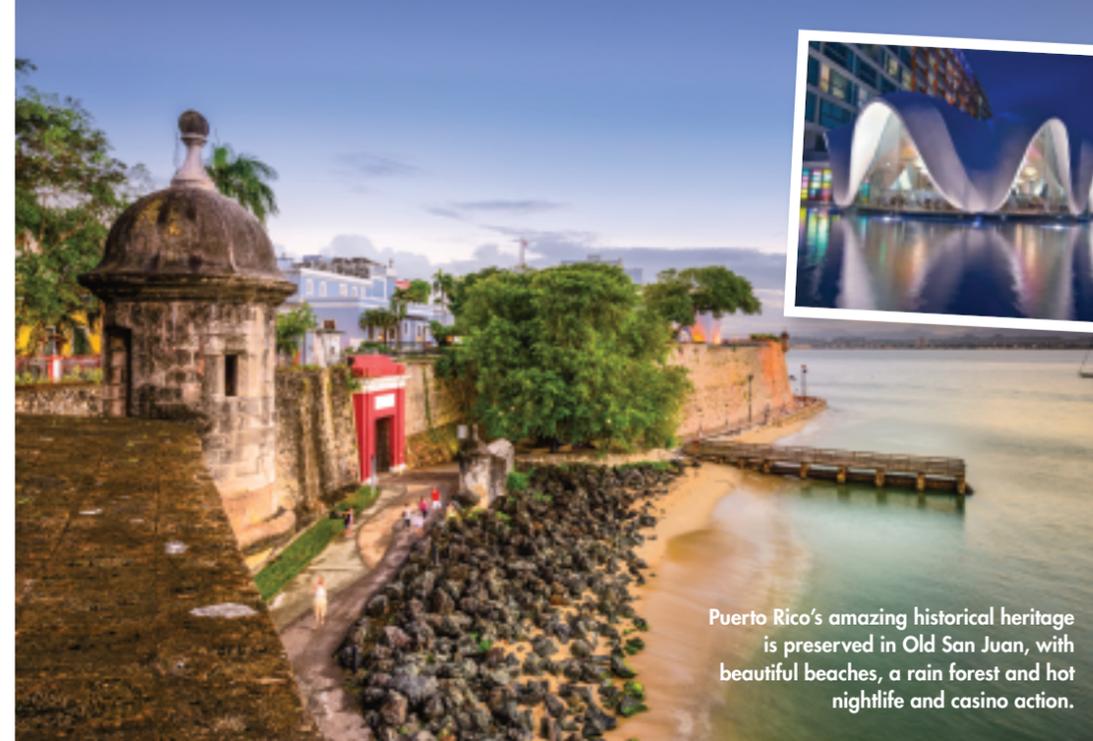
This tiny Dutch island is located in the far southern Caribbean with unbelievable beaches and some top-notch casinos. There are several casino resorts to choose from and it's known as the "Las Vegas of the Caribbean." A favorite is the [Renaissance Resort and Casino](#), a unique Caribbean property in that it's owned and operated by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Atmore, Alabama. The tribe also owns the three Wind Creek casinos in Alabama and one in Pennsylvania as well as one casino in Nevada, greyhound tracks in Alabama and Florida, and another [Renaissance](#) casino resort in Curacao, another Dutch island near Aruba.

Other luxury options include the [Ritz-Carlton](#), a premier property with amenities travelers have come to expect from one of the best names in travel. The casino resort will have gamblers living the high life and the 15,000-square-foot venue houses 300 slot machines and 17 table games as well as live entertainment and the only baccarat table in Aruba.

The [Alhambra Casino](#) is also a popular property with numerous table games and almost 500 slot machines. While this property may not be a resort, it is located just steps away from the white sands of Eagle Beach, and feature top-notch shopping and dining options. Other gambling and resort options await. Bring your sunscreen and a lucky attitude. Win or lose, you're still in paradise.



In the heart of Aruba's capital, Oranjestad, the Renaissance Aruba Resort and Casino offers 556 tranquil rooms and suites, along with two casinos



Puerto Rico's amazing historical heritage is preserved in Old San Juan, with beautiful beaches, a rain forest and hot nightlife and casino action.



Casino del Mar at La Concha Resort in San Juan, P.R.

option with an infinity pool overlooking Old San Juan.

For those looking to explore the island, there are some other casino resort options including the [Holiday Inn El Tropical](#) in Mayaguez, the [Hilton Golf and Casino Resort](#) in Ponce, and others. Puerto Rico is a large island compared to most others on this list. If you've got the time, rent a car and map out your own route. Some tropical vibes and hopefully some winning awaits.

ST. MAARTEN

This is the smallest island in the world governed by two different countries - half the island is Dutch and the other half is French. That offers some interesting dynamics and history. The island is also home to stunning beaches with numerous outdoor activities available. For gamblers, head to the Dutch side for several places to gamble, as there are no casinos to be found on the French side.

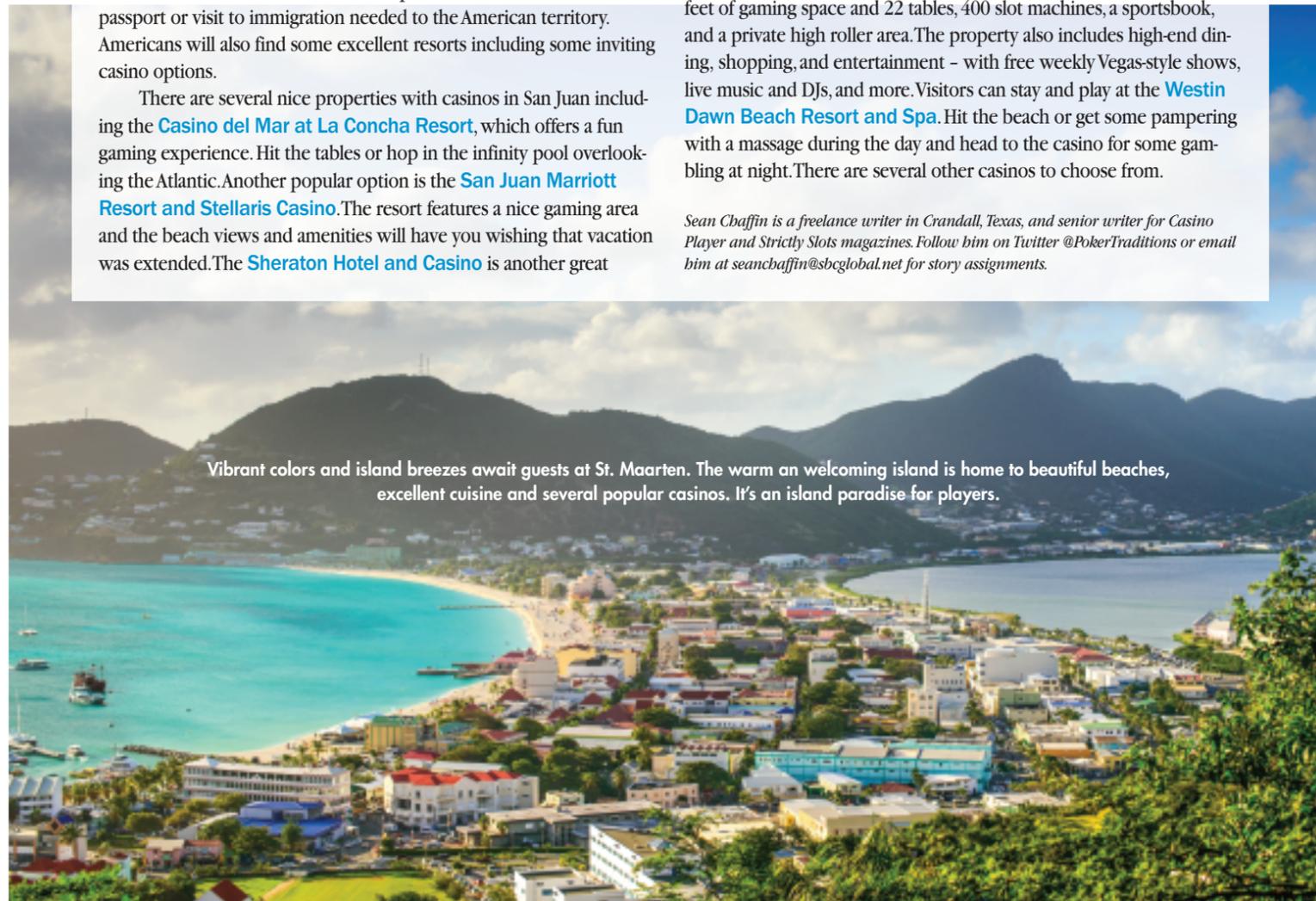
[Casino Royale](#) is the largest on the island with 21,000 square feet of gaming space and 22 tables, 400 slot machines, a sportsbook, and a private high roller area. The property also includes high-end dining, shopping, and entertainment - with free weekly Vegas-style shows, live music and DJs, and more. Visitors can stay and play at the [Westin Dawn Beach Resort and Spa](#). Hit the beach or get some pampering with a massage during the day and head to the casino for some gambling at night. There are several other casinos to choose from.

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PUERTO RICO

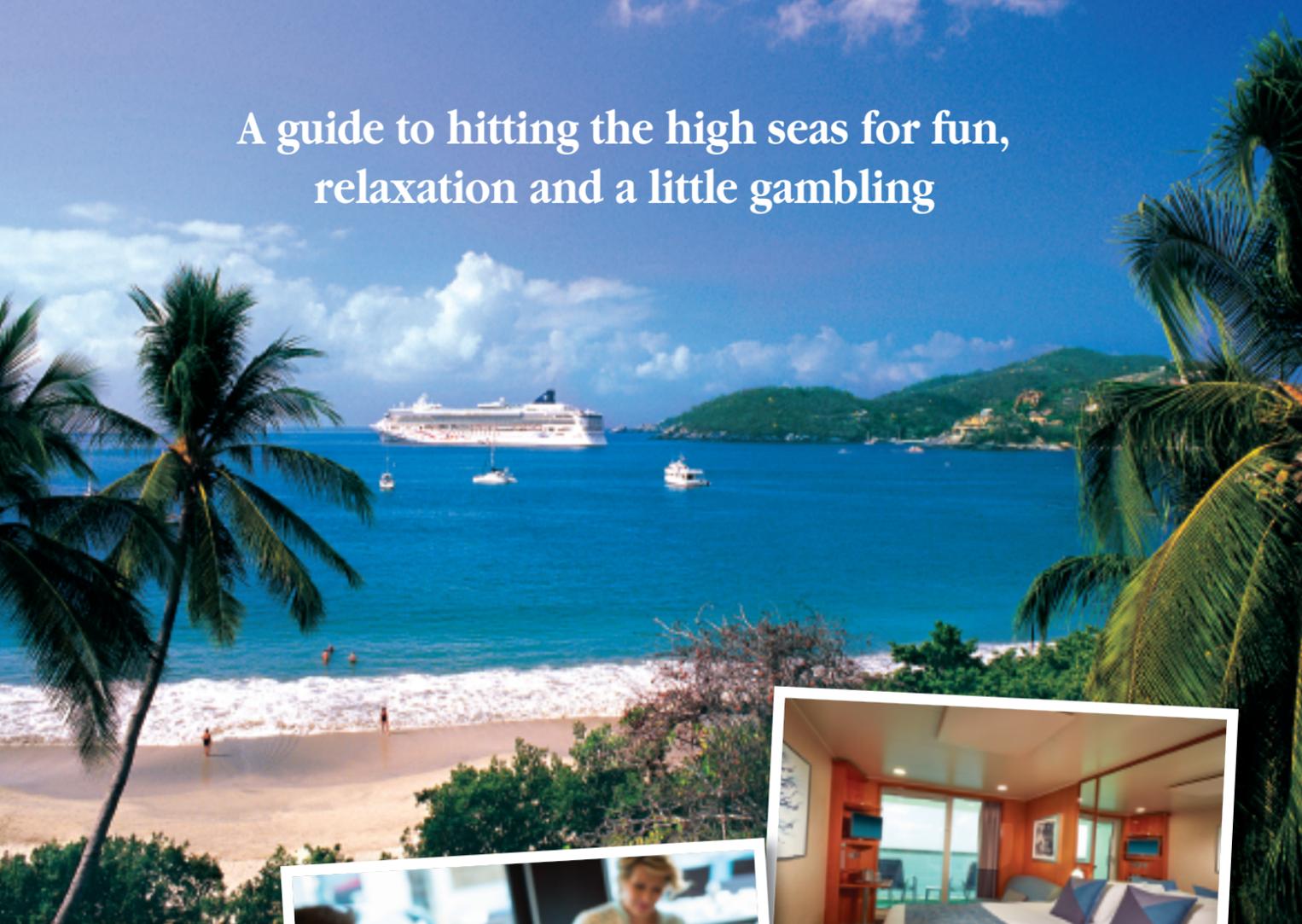
There are some definite advantages to heading to the Island of Enchantment: the beautiful beaches, mountains, and El Yunque rainforest; the friendly people; excellent cuisine; and some amazing historical heritage including the El Morro colonial Spanish fort in Old San Juan. Visitors from the U.S. will also find it a short trip and a convenience with no passport or visit to immigration needed to the American territory. Americans will also find some excellent resorts including some inviting casino options.

There are several nice properties with casinos in San Juan including the [Casino del Mar at La Concha Resort](#), which offers a fun gaming experience. Hit the tables or hop in the infinity pool overlooking the Atlantic. Another popular option is the [San Juan Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino](#). The resort features a nice gaming area and the beach views and amenities will have you wishing that vacation was extended. The [Sheraton Hotel and Casino](#) is another great

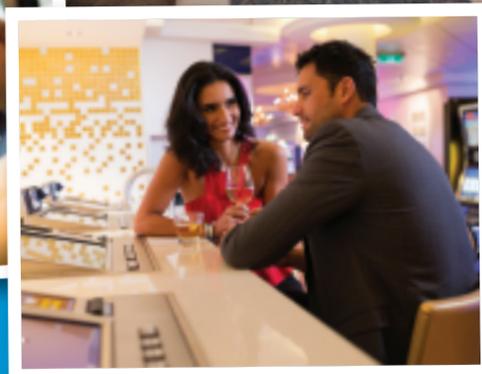
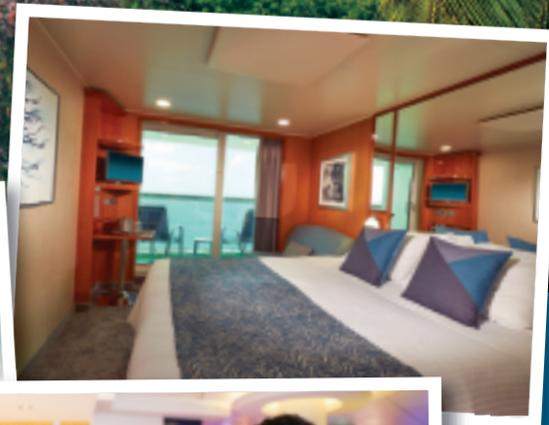
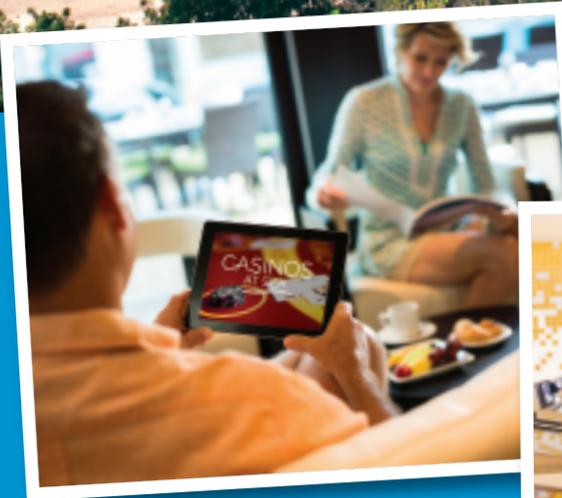


Vibrant colors and island breezes await guests at St. Maarten. The warm and welcoming island is home to beautiful beaches, excellent cuisine and several popular casinos. It's an island paradise for players.

A guide to hitting the high seas for fun, relaxation and a little gambling



With some of the newest ships in the industry, Norwegian Cruise Line offers contemporary and spacious staterooms and suites. The NCL Casinos at Sea Rewards program allow slots and tables players to earn points while they play onboard.



DICE, CARDS AND CRUISING

BY SEAN CHAFFIN

The Norwegian Star sails by Mexico's Pacific Coast.

If a vacation mixed with some craps, blackjack, or slot machines is in your future, a cruise through the Caribbean can be a great way to relax and spend some time with friends and family. The great food, luxurious amenities, and stops in some picturesque exotic locations make cruising the perfect way to get away.

With most cruises offering casinos as well, hitting the tables at night after working on your tan makes for a great way to unwind. Play your cards or machine right, and you just might walk away a winner. But honestly, who's not a winner when on vacation in the Caribbean?

Norwegian Cruise Line

Hit the high seas for some Caribbean cruising with this popular carrier. Cruisers won't be disappointed with a getaway courtesy of NCL. With great food, cocktails, and entertainment, booking a cabin or stateroom can make for a vacation you won't forget. NCL offers several locations to set sail with destinations throughout the Caribbean, and it's one of the region's top cruise lines. Plan your trip from several ports including Miami, New Orleans, New York, Orlando, and San Juan.

One of the great things about a cruise is the opportunity to visit several destinations during one relaxing trip and NCL offers several cruises for every travel interest. Some top destinations include Mexico, Belize, Honduras, St. Kitt's, Barbados, St. Lucia, British and U.S. Virgin Islands, Bahamas, Jamaica, Caymans, and more. Choose among numerous excursions for that next port of call - from ziplining and snorkeling to hiking and exploring Mayan ruins.

On board, visitors will be treated to excellent service, top-notch dining and cocktails, spas, pools, and so much more. For kids, the ships' aqua parks are popular destinations with waterslides and lots of fun on the top deck. Plenty of areas are also available for adults to soak up some sun and relax. Add some nightlife and drinks for some more fun and to get ready for that next port stop. NCL offers a casino on most ships and a visit for some gambling can also make for a nice way to unwind. Throw a few dollars down and grab some chips for the roulette, blackjack, or craps tables. Or maybe poker slot machines are more to your liking - with denominations starting at a penny. NCL has the traditional games gamblers have come to enjoy.

Poker players will even find regular tournaments to get in on the action with the Sixth Annual Norwegian Poker Challenge on the ship Getaway set for Dec. 1-8. This cruise hosts the \$350,000 Main Event plus three additional tournament events as well as daily cash games. Gamblers shouldn't forget to join the Casinos At Sea rewards program, which applies to NCL and its other brands Oceania Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises. Sign up and earn a complimentary shore excursion benefit. Book your cruise for a seafaring adventure. To book your next trip visit www.ncl.com.



Norwegian Cruise Line's Casinos at Sea rewards program features five tiers, allowing guests to play and earn points to redeem rewards across all their brands.

Casinos At Sea Rewards Program

Casinos At Sea is the cruise industry's only multi-branded rewards program; allowing guests to play, earn points and redeem rewards across all their brands - Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises. They've designed their casinos with comfort in mind so you can relax and unwind from your hectic schedule playing your favorite games. With over 4,000 slots and table games across their fleet, there's something for everyone. You'll see why Casinos At Sea is award-winning and the leader in cruise ship gaming.

Membership in their exciting Casinos At Sea rewards program is free to guests 18 years of age or older. The program consists of five aspiring tier levels.

JADE: No minimum points required and beginners are welcome.

PEARL: Earn 5,000 points during the evaluation period.

SAPPHIRE: Earn 15,000 points during the evaluation period.

RUBY: Earn 35,000 points during the evaluation period.

ELITE: Earn 100,000 points during the evaluation period.

Equipped with the latest, greatest and most popular table games, reel and video slots, hybrids or video poker machines, you can bet there is a winning machine waiting for you. Whatever you play, get ready to ride the lucky streak.



2019 BEST OF GAMING WINNER

- Best Cruise Destination
- Best Cruise Line Rooms
- Best Cruise Line Players Club

**2019 BEST OF GAMING
WINNER**

- Best Overall Cruise Line
- Best Cruise Line Casino
- Best Cruise Line Comps
- Best Cruise Line Suites

The new *Celebrity Edge* sails into the smooth sea and sunset. Celebrity's fleet sets the standard for modern luxury travel. Unrivaled onboard experiences satisfy every appetite and the Blue Chip Club rewards players in Celebrity's elegant cruise casinos.



Celebrity Cruises

Nothing compares to the award-winning sailing experience with Celebrity Cruises. Step aboard and make your way to their casino. The Vegas-style casino rivals the biggest and best land-based casinos, with custom limits, better odds across a variety of games, and a smoke-free environment.

While you may not be a celebrity, expect VIP treatment on a trip with Celebrity Cruises. With numerous cities to embark on that next seabound getaway, including Boston, New Jersey, Fort Lauderdale, Miami, San Juan, Tampa Bay, and more, Celebrity is an easy option for most Americans to depart for some big fun. Destinations include the Bahamas, Key West, Mexico, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and numerous others.

Enjoy your favorite slot machines and table games and set sail to the most fascinating ports of call in the world. Then, relax comfortably in unparalleled luxury accommodations with outstanding amenities, plus all the distinct features that make a Celebrity Cruises vacation extraordinary.

Feel at home and unwind in beautiful Concierge Class, spa-inspired AquaClass, or luxury Suite Class accommodations. Savor sumptuous meals at one of the 10 globally-inspired restaurants with menus designed by a Michelin-starred executive chef and wines from the largest wine list at sea served by world-class sommeliers.



Celebrity Cruises has dedicated staff and programs available to take care of every vacation detail. And as a member of the Blue Chip Club loyalty program there are a host of great benefits to enhance the casino vacation experience, including personal land-based booking services to assist with bookings and on-board perks like free slot play/table promo chips.

So, relax, recharge and play the hottest slots and table games on a modern luxury vacation. Plan for exciting game nights at this distinguished casino where sophisticated ambiance merges with captivating atmosphere for plenty of live floor action. State-of-the-art technology meets the familiar games you love to play including over 2,015 slot games, 148 table games and much more available across the fleet.

With late hours, action-packed casino cruise tournaments, and Lady Luck on your side, there's no limit to the exhilarating experiences you can have. You'll quickly discover why Celebrity Cruises and their casinos are the win-win vacation combination you deserve. Visit www.celebritycruises.com for more information.

Royal Caribbean

As the name implies, this cruise line also specializes in offering some great oceangoing fun through the Caribbean. Book a trip from Baltimore, Boston, New Jersey, Fort Lauderdale, Galveston, and numerous other locations to destinations throughout the Caribbean and Mexico as well as Bermuda.

Families will find plenty of opportunities for onboard fun and interesting shore excursions. That can include amenities like water parks, laser tag, pool parties, mini golf, and much more. Adults will enjoy delectable dining and cocktails as well as numerous shows and entertainment options. A simple nice afternoon in a deck chair for some sunbathing and deep thought might also be in order. Soak up some rays and just enjoy the surroundings at sea.

At Royal Caribbean's Casino Royale, travelers will enjoy a thrilling gambling experience and a great night out. Bettors have plenty to choose from - slot machines, craps, blackjack, baccarat, roulette, video poker, and Texas hold'em. Jump in a blackjack, poker, or slots tournament for some added fun. Join the Club Royale rewards program to take advantage of casino promotions.

There's something for everyone on a Royal Caribbean cruise, where you really are treated like royalty. Beaches, beauty, and some betting may be in your future - get cruising. For more information, visit www.royalcaribbean.com.



Discover endless thrills for every kind of adventurer onboard any of Royal Caribbean's ships. Find your slice of Vegas at sea in Royal Caribbean's Casino Royale.



Crystal Cruises

Renowned as "The World's Most Awarded Luxury Cruise Line," Crystal Cruises offers an all-inclusive luxury vacation experience accentuated by exquisite cuisine, including complimentary specialty dining at Prego and Nobu Matsuhisa's only sea-going restaurants; engaging enrichment at the Creative Learning Institute and Computer University@Sea; elegant gaming at the Resorts World at Sea Casino; lavish production shows and intimate piano bars; and beautifully appointed staterooms and suites, most with private verandah.

Sailing innovative global itineraries to virtually every corner of the earth, today, Crystal Symphony and Crystal Serenity offer travelers unforgettable vacation experiences highlighted by Crystal's unique brand of personal touches and attention to detail. Glittering and stylish with fabulous chandeliers and an air of energized excitement, enjoy thrilling games of chance at Resorts World at Sea casino aboard Crystal Serenity and Crystal Symphony. Resorts World at Sea features a full range of table games in a lavish and friendly surrounding. Offering a great selection of the most popular slots and video poker machines, along with a full range of table games, Resorts World at Sea caters to high rollers by offering a special limit private gaming room designed with the high-end player's every need in mind. The Genting Rewards program lets players accumulate points while they play and redeem them for onboard spend.

With Crystal, luxury is personal. Visit crystalcruises.com to find your voyage.