

7 APR 1996

For Six Month Period Ending _____
(Insert date)

Name of Registrant

Registration No.

Aaron D. Cushman & Associates, Inc.

2572

Business Address of Registrant

35 E. Wacker Drive, Suite 850, Chicago, IL 60601

I-REGISTRANT

1. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following:

(a) If an individual:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (1) Residence address | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (2) Citizenship | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (3) Occupation | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

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CRIMINAL DIVISION

(b) If an organization:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| (1) Name | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (2) Ownership or control | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (3) Branch offices | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in item 1.

Los Angeles office located at 2029 W. Century Park East closed
March 31, 1996.

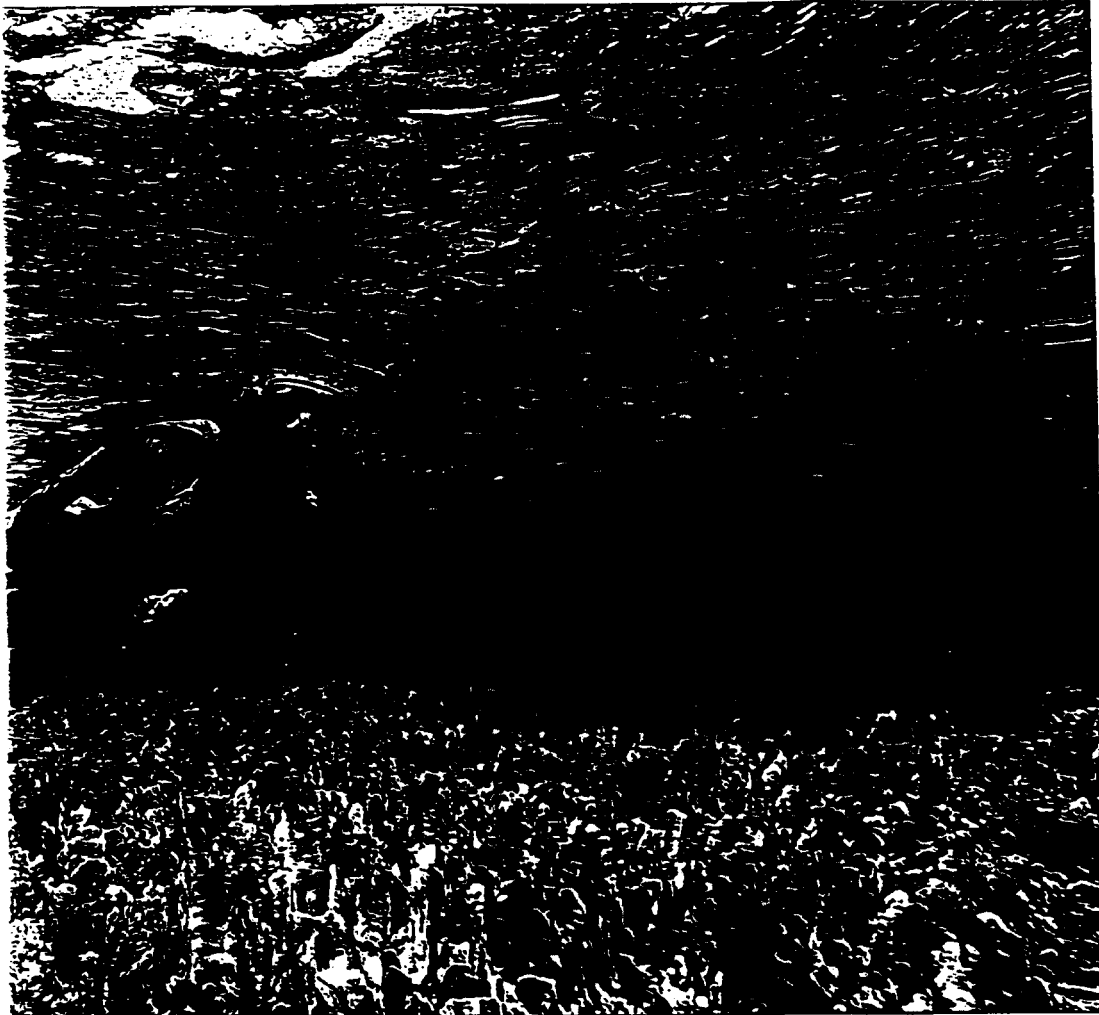
IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4, and 5.

3. Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position	Date Connection Ended
Elizabeth Wilson	Vice President	3/14/96
Miriam Trokan	Vice President	11/17/95
Steven Knipstein	Vice President	3/15/96

STEPHEN FRANK — WATERHOUSE STOCK PHOTOGRAPHY



Providence island provides an underwater break from Nassau's bustle. The Out Islands offer respite above the surface.

scene. Runaways head for the slower rhythms of Abaco and other less populated Out Islands.

■ **Best value:** Breezes Bahamas (800-859-7873, \$140 per person, two-night minimum, includes three meals daily—with alcoholic beverages—as well as airport transportation, all sports activities and taxes and tips). This adults-only SuperClubs resort, which opened over Labor Day on Nassau's Cable Beach, is for vacationers who spend freely on food and drink and enjoy casino razzle-dazzle and cruising for tacky T-shirts.

■ **Affordable luxury:** Bluff House Club and Marina (809-365-4247, doubles start at \$80). A rustic retreat where a visitor can doze in a hammock on a white sandy beach without seeing another person all day. The 4-mile Coco Bay Beach, one of the best in the Bahamas, is a 15-minute stroll away.

PUERTO RICO

San Juan is great for a long weekend, but vacationers with a little more time might want to head for the quieter west coast of Puerto Rico, near Mayagüez. The lush region is the place to explore (either on foot or by car) Puerto Rico's mountainous interior and rain forests. For the truly budget-conscious, the tiny island of Vieques, located 7 miles off the east coast, offers quiet, unspoiled beaches, fresh seafood and simple, inexpensive accommodations.

■ **Best value:** Vieques's La Casa del Francés (809-741-3751, doubles from

\$90). Built in the late 1800s, this Victorian house is located near the fishing village of Esperanza.

■ **Affordable luxury:** Rincón's Horned Dorset Primavera (809-823-4030, singles from \$150, doubles from \$224, non-refundable weekly packages offered through Caribbean Inns Ltd. at \$1,998 per couple, breakfast and six-course dinner nightly). A hideaway resort

MAZIN — GAMMA / LIAISON



DANIEL JONES — WATERHOUSE STOCK PHOTOGRAPHY



TORTOLA. Long Bay (left), vintage house in West End (above)

touch of luxury. Remember, rates spike up to 50 percent during the mid-December to mid-April peak season.

THE BAHAMAS

Although technically Atlantic islands, they appeal to sun seekers and are closer to home than Caribbean getaways, starting just 50 miles off the Florida coast. Nightlifers go for Nassau's glitzy casino

Travel

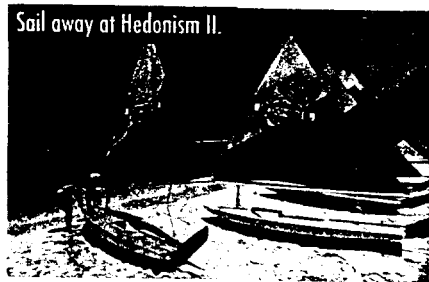
ALL-INCLUSIVE RESORTS:

THE CARIBBEAN'S BEST DEAL

At the Caribbean's all-inclusive resorts, you prepay your entire vacation and never touch your wallet again.

WHAT ARE ALL-INCLUSIVES?

IT USED TO BE THAT YOU COULDN'T predict what a vacation would cost. You paid up front for airfare and hotel but, oh ... those extras. So Club Med began packaging vacations, but you still had to buy a string of poppet beads to pay for drinks. Along came SuperClubs and Sandals, which promised

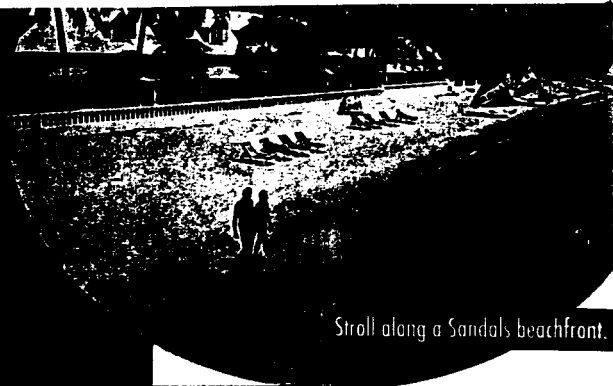


240

to be truly all-inclusive and included all drinks in their price. Now other resorts have caught on to the fact that vacationers like the predictability of all-inclusives, and they are the resort success story of the decade.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

As always, it pays to read the small print, since what is and isn't included varies. In general, all-inclusive resorts charge one price for a package that includes transfers to and from the airport, accommodations, three meals a day (with wine and beer), snacks, bar drinks, land and water sports, activities and evening entertainment. Some also include excursions. All include service, so tipping is unnecessary. Some are not strictly all-inclusive and charge for



Stroll along a Sandals beachfront.



Sandals St. Lucia is a tropical paradise.



Active singles play at Club Med.

sports such as horseback riding and deep-sea fishing. And of course, Club Med still sells the poppet beads.

WHO GOES?

In the beginning these resorts were an extension of the after-work bar scene:

Singles went to all-inclusives to meet other singles. Though a few still have that meat-market reputation, some are now restricted to couples, others are designed for families, and still others appeal to a mix of couples, singles, kids and even people over fifty.

WHAT'S THE APPEAL?

The greatest appeal is that you know in advance exactly what your vacation will cost, so you can budget or save for it. And if you take full advantage of all the offerings—go sailing and snorkeling, toss down a few drinks before dinner, have a midnight snack and dance late into the night—it's quite a good deal. If, on the other hand, you're a teetotaler, on a diet or just want to lie on a beach with a book, you probably

won't get your money's worth. Keep in mind that most all-inclusives offer *lower* off-season prices through mid-December.

BUT ARE THEY NICE?

Like anything else, you get what you pay for. There are some all-inclusives that have bird feeder-size rooms, three boring buffets a day and minimal sports equipment. But there are others, like Sandals St. Lucia, that compare well to any Caribbean resort. SuperClubs' Sans Souci Lido in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, is thoroughly glamorous and has always been one of the Caribbean's best. And Swept Away, in Negril, Jamaica, has what is arguably the finest fitness and sports facility of any resort hotel.

WHAT ARE THEY REALLY LIKE?

Sandals St. Lucia

On an island renowned for dramatic scenery, this pretty, pink resort (one of Sandals' nine properties) is its own natural wonder with a verdant hillside golf course behind and magnificent golden-sand beach below. Young couples flock here, drawn by pictures of its romantic setting and luxurious accommodations, and they get what they expect. The resort is amazingly unregimented, with a choice of different accommodations and five specialty restaurants. And it is completely hassle-free—from the time the smiling staff meets you at the airport to the time they take you back. A four-day/three-night vacation starts at \$905 per person, double occupancy, from December 22 to March 31.

Couples, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

One of the very first all-inclusives, Couples was designed to please the very people it's named for. Its setting? A beautiful beach surrounded by aquamarine waters and lush mountains. Amorous couples like its secluded hammocks, intimate Jacuzzis and private offshore island for sunbathing in the nude. The resort also offers a choice of restaurants (including the over-water Bayside), excursions and horseback riding tours. Best of all, should you be so inclined, Couples includes a free wedding (clergyman, license, champagne, cake, flowers, music and attendants) in your vacation package. A four-day/three-night vacation starts at \$623 per person, double occupancy, from December 22 to March 28.

Club Med Turkoise, Turks and Caicos Islands

An even male-to-female ratio and world-class water sports draw young, single professionals from Los Angeles and the Northeast to this resort on Provo, one of the Turks and Caicos, which lie southeast of the Bahamas and are reachable by air from

true turquoise color and clear enough for sensational snorkeling and scuba diving (which costs extra), and the beach is white and expansive. You'll also find the sumptuous buffets and charismatic staff for which Club Med is famed. A special four-day/three-night Short Stay (which doesn't require the usual Club Med initiation or membership fees) varies from \$330 to \$475, per person, double occupancy, between now and April 30. It does *not* include airport transfers or bar drinks.

Breezes, Nassau, Bahamas

The newest of the seven SuperClubs resorts, set on 1,800 feet of magnificent Cable Beach, was designed to be affordable. But less expensive doesn't mean inferior. In fact, Breezes is absolutely up-to-the-minute, with an in-line skating track and fitness center. You can spend your days sailing, windsurfing, playing tennis or frolicking in five pools. There are two restaurants and a beach bar, plus the expected piano bar and disco. But Breezes encourages guests to get out and enjoy Nassau: shopping on nearby Bay Street and gambling at the almost-next-door casino. Though Breezes' prices are normally quoted per night, a four-day/three-night weekend package costs \$495 per

person, double occupancy, from December 23 to April 12. Midweek prices are lower.

Poinciana Beach, Negril, Jamaica

If swinging in a palm-shaded hammock on a soft, white beach is your idea of paradise, then Poinciana is for you. An hour and a half west of the Montego Bay airport, this resort offers mountain scenery, lush landscaping and rooms with views of the translucent blue sea. Couples, singles and families from the United States and Europe flock here to windsurf and snorkel, bike and play volleyball and enjoy the funky atmosphere of nearby Negril village. Though Poinciana's prices are normally quoted per night, a four-day/three-night package costs \$594 per person, double occupancy, from December 15 to April 15.

Bolongo Limetree Beach Resort,

St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Just a ten-minute ride from Charlotte Amalie, the Caribbean's duty-free shopping capital, this friendly resort beckons to couples and families with its variety of activities and glorious snow-white crescent beach. Limetree's lush tropical vegetation—as well as the iguanas that casually stroll around the property—is particularly striking. If lazing (*Continued*)

TRAVEL

Continued from page 241

on the beach, playing tennis or working out at the gym isn't enough, you can take a half-day snorkel trip or an all-day sailing trip to St. John. The resort offers wedding, honeymoon, scuba and tennis packages and provides a free shuttle to other Bolongo Beach resorts. A four-day/three-night vacation starts at \$626 per person, double occupancy, from December 23 to April 8.

Hedonism II, Negril, Jamaica

It's sort of a nonstop, round-the-clock party. Unlike other Caribbean resorts, SuperClubs' Hedonism II—true to its name—is for people who want to let loose and try just about anything. It has ceiling mirrors over the beds, and one section of its beautiful beach is set aside for nude sunbathing. It also has a three-to-one, male-to-female guest ratio. Mostly singles gather here to enjoy the sun, play organized beach games and dance the night away in the disco. Nighttime revelry can also include cabaret shows and toga, pajama and reggae beach parties. Since the idea is to mingle, there are no TVs or telephones in the rooms. And guests do mingle—at the five bars, two Jacuzzis, pool and gym. Be warned: Hedonism's motto is Be wicked for a week. A four-day/three-night package costs \$725 per person, double occupancy, from December 23 to January 5, \$675 from January 6 to April 12.

Free information

to help you plan your vacation

CARIBBEAN ALL-INCLUSIVE RESORTS

1 Sandals Resorts: Set on dazzling beaches on several islands, these couples-only resorts lure with their romantic ambiance and variety of activities.

2 Hedonism II, Negril, Jamaica: It's where the men are, so be wicked for a week, even sunbathe in the nude at this nonstop partying resort.

3 Bolongo Limetree Beach Resort: A glorious beach and lush landscaping entice you to this popular St. Thomas getaway. Terrific duty-free shopping nearby.

4 Couples, Ocho Rios, Jamaica: Secluded hammocks, a private island and a spectrum of excursions at this romantic couples-only resort.

5 Club Med Turkoise: Socializing and world-class watersports are the main draws at this sensational resort in the Turks and Caicos islands.

6 Poinciana Beach Resort, Negril, Jamaica: Mist-covered mountain scenery and a serene beach surround this pretty pink resort that appeals to couples, singles and families.

7 Breezes: These newest, affordably priced SuperClubs are like cruise ships on the beach, so eat, drink and enjoy the activities.

CARIBBEAN GETAWAYS

8 Sapphire Beach Resort, U.S. Virgin Islands: Set on one of the world's most beautiful beaches, this affordable St. Thomas resort has great water sports and tennis.

GLAMOUR, NOVEMBER 1995

Note that it will take at least six weeks for information to reach you.

This offer is open only to residents of the United States and Canada. Please type or print clearly.

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GO! Winter's great

LIFE
ON VACATION

November 3, 1995

From skiing and ice fishing to scuba diving
and golfing

While some
costs go up,
bargains may
head to sea

By Cathy Lynn Grossman
USA TODAY

Just as weather buffs study nature for clues about the winter to come, travel experts look ahead on the trend trail — and they like what they see.

More travelers. Higher spending. New Caribbean resorts. And some choice bargains on the horizon.

Unfortunately, the experts can't predict the weather itself. Already this year an earthquake rattled Pacific Mexico, hurricanes whacked Cozumel and the U.S. Virgin Islands and a January thaw melted ski season in New England.

But resorts are scrambling to prepare for winter travelers and optimism reigns among the experts.

"We are going to have a good winter," forecasts James Cammisa, publisher of *Travel Industry Indicators*. "If the stock market doesn't tumble, there are people ready to spend."

Americans may take nearly 140 million vacation trips in December, January and February — a steady, if not spectacular, increase from the 136.5 million vacations taken last winter, says U.S. Travel Data Center director Suzanne Cook.

Travel spending will continue its year-long rise, due in part to increased costs for airfares, beach and ski resorts. Airfares may climb about 3% during 1996. But "I don't expect anything dramatic," says David Swierenga of the Air Transport Association.

Resort room rates could climb 5%, up from \$101.56 per night average this year, says Randy Smith of Smith Travel Research.

"Resorts are going to do very well this winter. High demand for both ski and beach destinations will support aggressive pricing," he says.

Ski-lift tickets rose \$3 to a record \$52 at Aspen, Colo., but the average price (\$31.39 nationwide in winter '94-'95) is not expected to climb more than 3% to 5%, says Stacy Gardner of the National Ski Areas Association. Weather makes the '95-'96 season too chancy to predict but Gardner doesn't expect sharp changes: Ski visits have averaged 50 million to 54 million for more than 15 years.

Winter season also is a favorite for Caribbean sun-seekers. And this year, island fans can sample new spots from Nassau to Tobago, says Veronica Stoddard of *Caribbean Travel & Life*.

Nassau in the Bahamas has tiny, superb Compass Point, with lodging for 18 people in candy-colored cottages, and the vast Atlantis water theme park hotel with 1,150 rooms.

SuperClubs, a Jamaican all-inclusive resort chain, opened *Breezes* on Nassau's Cable Beach and another *Breezes* in Montego Bay, Jamaica, both in September.

Also new in Jamaica: Braco Village Resort, east of Montego Bay, opened in May with its own little village including a town square and "characters" such as the Fruit Lady and Coconut Man.

Le Grand Courian is the first new luxury property on Tobago, the tiny island off Trinidad. This is the place for "people who want something different and out of the way with great snorkeling, diving and birding," says Stoddard.

In search of savings? Consider a cruise.

Cammisa forecasts slow growth in cruising as new ships add berths to an already crowded fleet. Shoppers can find cabins in '96 at '94 prices.

"This winter, the bargains will be excellent," he says.

escapes

While some costs go up, bargains may head to sea

By Cathy Lynn Grossman
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LOOKING PAST THE STORMS

Most, if not all, of the region is ready for winter visitors, though getting there may be more work

By FRANCES FRANK MARCUS

IN September, after Hurricane Luis howled through the island of Dominica, bashing crops, knocking down trees and pushing the Caribbean into a casual seaside inn, the innkeepers went to work cleaning up and repainting.

The 11-room Castle Comfort Lodge — homey and comfortable but, no castle — came through shinningly. Water had flowed into the lower level but the rooms were soon livable again, the facade fresh white and the porch overlooking the sea as pleasant as ever.

But the telephone kept ringing with questions from anxious reservation holders. The owner's wife, Ginette Petyman, could only shake her head.

"People were worried," she said, "about hurricanes in February." The hurricane season ends on Thursday.

The Caribbean is reaping a whirlwind of worries in the wake of September's hurricanes and lesser storms. Though most of the damaged islands are ready for visitors, two weeks before the winter season begins, the storms' effects continue. According to 425 travel agents surveyed in a poll in late October said reports of damage had caused a drop in Caribbean travel.

"It's the worst season we've experienced since the 1930's in terms of the number of storms," said Michael Youngman, the Caribbean Tourism Organization's sales director. "It was an incredibly bad season."

Even islands that escaped major storm damage are having problems, largely because of air-service curtailment. "Nature took good care of us," said Mike Myers, the owner of Saba Deep Dive Center, alluding to the minor damage to his island. "The irony now is, we've been economically devastated because the airport on St. Maarten has been closed to tourism." Saba's air service is dependent upon St. Maarten's international airport, which reopened to tourists on Nov. 1.

With air service to the region still curtailed and wholesalers still somewhat leery of the hardest-hit islands, travelers to the Caribbean will have to work harder to get there.

Some travelers are turning to Caribbean Connection Plus, of Trumbull, Conn., (203) 261-8603, which develops and sells packages to island-hoppers and is urging clients to route trips through San Juan, where connections can be made with inter-island airlines, whose prices are more competitive.

The company president, Carol Banner, is promoting a new package, "In Search of Volcanoes," to add to its other packages like "In Search of Sharks." The volcano package features islands with extinct, dormant and live volcanoes and little or no hurricane damage: St. Eustatius, Martinique, Grenada and either Montserrat or Dominica, depending on seismic events. Montserrat's volcano is belching steam, ash and, on occasion, rocks. Scientists advise not to sightsee near the volcano, though the island is open to tourism.

According to travel wholesalers, winter bookings indicate that the beneficiaries of September's disasters include Aruba, which is outside the hurricane zone; Barbados, which was virtually untouched; and Jamaica, St. Lucia and the Bahamas, which were not hit. All are ready with new attractions. Aruba recently opened Tierra del Sol, an 18-hole Robert Trent Jones golf course, the island's first. Aruba also has a new 413-room Marriott Resort and Casino.

Barbados has a new 18-hole Robert Trent Jones golf course at the Royal Westmoreland resort in St. James. Jamaica and the Bahamas have new Superclubs all-inclusive resorts: the 400-room Breezes Bahamas and the 124-room Breezes Montego Bay. In January a Superclubs competitor, Sandals, will open the 186-room Sandals Royal Bahamian on Nassau.

St. Lucia now has nonstop air service from Kennedy International Airport on the recently privatized BWIA International Airways. St. Lucia's popularity was growing even before the storms, with 47,997 American tourists traveling there from January to June, a 13.7 percent increase over the same period last year. BWIA has also started twice-a-week service to Tobago from New York and Miami, and in December and January will fly nonstop once a week from Miami to St. Kitts.

And there is a fresh gambling attraction in the Bahamas: Marriott's Crystal Palace resort on Nassau has installed a sports betting bar called Sports Book. Next door is Phil's Sports Bar and Deli, where gamblers can watch the action on 10 32-inch television screens and snack on kosher pickles — perfect for sports lovers who loathe the sun.

Following is an island-by-island report:

FRANCES FRANK MARCUS contributes to *The Times* from New Orleans.

NEW YORK TIMES
November, 26, 1995
Circ: 1, 770, 504

New York, NY
Times - National Ed.
New York City Met Area

Sunday 6UN 340.061

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LUCE

PRESS CLIPPING

Jamaica

Jamaica Tourist Board, 801 Second Avenue, 20th Floor,
New York, N.Y. 10017; (212) 856-9727

In Jamaica, scenery seems to have run amok. Hundreds of miles of coastline alternate between beach, wetland and limestone cliffs. In the Blue Mountain/John Crow Mountain National Park, Blue Mountain Peak soars to 7,402 feet.

The central mountain range is the source of hundreds of rivers, streams and waterfalls. Custom-designed hiking, canoeing, birding or botany tours can be arranged with Sense Adventures, telephone and fax (809) 927-2097. The cost of a tour is from \$50 to \$100 a person a day.

Day outings from Ocho Rios include a trip to Port Antonio's Blue Lagoon and rafting on the Rio Grande with Tropical Tours, (809) 952-0400. The air-conditioned bus travels along the scenic north coast to Portland's Blue Lagoon for snorkeling, boat rides and lunch, then into the Rio Grande Valley and a two-and-a-half-hour rafting trip to St. Margaret's Bay. Fruit and drinks are served on the bus. The all-inclusive cost is \$70 a person.

The terrain creates many variations of microclimate and flora, a diversity echoed in the culture and accommodations — from small eco-lodges to opulent hotels, including the growing all-inclusive resorts. Almost half the hotel rooms are in all-inclusives or hotels that offer inclusive deals. Even budget-priced resorts have now upgraded the basic room-meals-drinks-tips package to include water sports, gyms and saunas, among other extras. Two international chains, Superclubs and Sandals, offer a glut of sports and frills for one all-inclusive price.

Superclubs' premium hotel, for couples and singles older than 15, is the Grand Lido, (800) 859-7873 or (809) 957-4013, fax (809) 957-4317. It has 200 one-bedroom suites with sunken sitting rooms and private patios or balconies and is on a two-mile white sand beach and 22 acres of grounds in Negril, an area noted for its live reggae shows in the open air. Double occupancy rates: \$1,295 a person for three nights in a one-bedroom suite. Offshore in Bloody Bay, the resort's 147-foot yacht offers evening cruises. Frills include weddings, marriage licenses, champagne and wedding cake.

Superclubs' family resort is the 207-room Boscobel Beach, (800) 859-7877 or (809) 975-7331-8, fax (809) 975-7370, near Ocho Rios, with nannies, bicycles, a computer lab, tennis lessons and a petting zoo. The food includes Continental cuisine, barbecue and hot dogs. For two parents and two children under 14 in the same room, the rate starts at \$3,150 a week. The price for an extra child under 14 is \$50 a night.

The six Sandals resorts on the north coast, (800) 726-3257, fax (305) 667-8996, are for couples only, and guests at one can eat, drink and play at the others at no extra cost. The flagship Sandals Montego Bay, with 26 acres and 244 rooms and suites, lies on a large private beach. There are four restaurants and tropical gardens. The double-occupancy weekly rate starts at \$3,420 for two people in a junior suite with an ocean view.

Nearby is the 52-room Sandals Inn, on five acres with a public beach across the road. About half the rooms have balconies and face the sea. The weekly double-occupancy rate for two people starts at \$2,200.

The 180-room Braco Village Resort, (800) 654-1337, fax (516) 223-4815, midway between Montego Bay and Ocho Rios, is the newest — thus the most inclusive — resort on Jamaica. It has an Olympic-size pool, a private beach 2,000 feet long, a choice of restaurants, and a simulated Jamaican village complete with courthouse, soccer field, rum shop and Peanut Man. The double-occupancy rates are from \$175 to \$225 a person a night. Minimum age, 16.

Near Port Antonio in eastern Jamaica between the coast and the hills is the 10-room Hotel Mocking Bird Hill, (809) 993-3370, fax (809) 993-7133, a Caribbean-style villa with bungalows, views of the Blue Mountains and the sea. It is a five-minute drive from the beach at Frenchmen's Cove. Double-occupancy rates range from \$120 to \$140, including tax and service charges. Valley Hikes, run from the hotel, offers tours through the countryside. Rates start at \$10.

Breeze & beach included

Club Fortuna: Package deals are just right

By Bill Reed
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Three delicious, exotic buffet meals a day — *included*.

Tennis on lighted outdoor courts, plus lessons — *included*.

Use of sailboats, kayaks, sailboards, plus sailing lessons — *included*.

A pool and a 1,200-foot white-sand beach a few strides from your room — *included*.

Nightly entertainment — *included*.

Tips — *included*.

What wasn't included in our three-night, four-day stay at Club Fortuna Beach in the Bahamas?

A \$3 charge to make a long-distance phone call home.

That was our total tab when we checked out — \$3.

Now, that's what I call an "inclusive" vacation.

All for \$964 for the two of us for four days and three nights.

It seemed too good to be true, but one look at the pastel-colored buildings bounded by trees, the beach and the ocean convinced my wife and me that we were in the perfect getaway spot.

Instead of glitz and sparkle, the Italian-owned-and-operated resort offers an easygoing and friendly atmosphere, clean and comfortable accommodations, and a variety of activities to suit all tastes and interests.

Yet, its most attractive feature is the simple beauty of its site — the red flowers of the bougainvillea, the fresh ocean breezes, and

See **BAHAMAS** on T8

At Club Fortuna, a package deal includes all the best amenities

BAHAMAS (from T1) that sparkling, blue water.

How did I find such a secluded, little-known oasis?

It was two months before the May 4 birthday of my wife, Valerie, and I hadn't come up with any brainstormers on how to celebrate it.

I looked into Cape May, but we'd been there.

I called some country inns, but we had done that.

So, getting nervous, I asked our travel agent for help.

I wanted something exciting, exotic and relaxing, but we could only get away for three or four days.

Mexico and the Caribbean were too far away, she said. How about the Bahamas?

We had been to the Bahamas twice, to Paradise Island and Grand Bahama Island, so I wasn't overly excited.

But she knew of a place that she had heard great things about, from fellow travel agents and clients whom she had sent there. As she described the relatively new (two years old), medium-sized resort, she handed over a brochure showing a gorgeous beach.

She closed the deal when she explained that Club Fortuna is a "moderately priced" semi-inclusive resort, meaning everything but liquor and motorized water sports were included.

The \$964 package, from Apple Tours, included the room, three meals a day, airfare, departure taxes, and transportation to and from the resort.

That price wasn't much more than

I was looking at for two nights in Cape May or at an inn or a Stateside resort. And it was \$200 to \$400 less than staying at one of those all-inclusive resorts like Sandals.

Sold.

Settling in for the 2½-hour flight on Carnival Air, I flipped through the in-flight magazine until I noticed an article about a new line of resorts, Breezes, that was opening in Nassau and Montego Bay.

SuperClubs, a Caribbean resort group that owns five "super-inclusive" resorts in Jamaica, was opening Breezes as a way of entering the moderately priced market, according to the article.

"While our position in the upscale market . . . is secure, we also want a share of the 'value' market, which is growing exponentially in the '90s," SuperClubs chairman John Issa said in the article.

After reading the article, I felt more comfortable with my decision to try "moderately priced" Club Fortuna.

After claiming our luggage and clearing customs, we headed outside Freeport International Airport for our shuttle. There were signs for a half-dozen or so resorts, and most of the people from our charter lined up for the Ramada Inn.

Only three other couples were waiting for a ride to Club Fortuna. *Uh-oh.*

Our apprehension lasted only as long as the 10-minute taxi ride, however. As soon as we drove up to the resort and saw the beach, we knew we had hit the jackpot.

We were greeted by Audrey Salciccioli, the resort hostess, who assembled the eight of us for our orientation. Although she'd probably given the same spiel hundreds of times, she joked and giggled and made us feel welcome.

Since we were a little early for the 1 p.m. check-in, Salciccioli told us to enjoy lunch in the dining room, and then our rooms would be ready.

More curious than hungry, we headed over to the dining hall and found a huge selection of salads,

fruits and vegetables, hamburgers, veal, chicken and pizza, plus a table filled with desserts. We intended to sample a few things and ended up filling our plates to overflowing. Everything was delicious — we knew we'd better swim and play plenty of tennis, or else we'd be leaving with some extra "baggage."

We also were impressed with the handsome, casual dining room and its vaulted ceiling, varnished wood tables, and terra cotta floor. It was not air-conditioned, but huge windows along two walls let in the ocean breezes, and ceiling fans kept the air moving.

Eager to take a swim, we got our key and found a room identical to the one pictured in the brochure. It wasn't opulent, but it was clean, casual and breezy. There were two queen beds and tile floors, and the wall facing the beach was all glass. A door opened onto a porch just large enough for two chairs and a cocktail table — perfect for reading a book with a cool drink at hand and a view of the garden.

Most important, the air conditioner was turned up to the max. We knew we'd have a haven from the 95-degree days and would have comfortable sleeping.

The beach offered as much or as little as we could want.

The water was the bluest we'd ever seen, with patches of aqua in the distance. As we reclined on chaises longues, the sound of the waves lapping easily at the fine, white sand could have lulled us to sleep.

But we weren't going to waste this getaway by sleeping on the beach.

No way.

We coated ourselves with sunblock, reclined the chaises longues just right, opened our novels, and read on the beach.

And read.

And read.

That may sound dull, considering there was a jazzercise class and dance lessons at the pool, a beach volleyball game a few yards away, and Sailboats and kayaks waiting to be ridden.

Continued on next page

If You Go

■ You can make reservations directly with Club Fortuna (809-373-4000), but then you'll have to make airline reservations separately. The most economical way is to book the trip through a travel agent, since packages like the one offered by Apple Tours can save you money on airfare.

Hooked on a relaxing oasis beside the ocean

Continued from preceding page
No sale. (OK, I did play a few games of volleyball.) Once we opened our books, we were hooked. We'd read a chapter, enjoy a sip of wine cooler, gaze at the ocean — and dive back into the tales woven by Tom Clancy and Judith McNaught.

When we got hot, we'd take a dip and cool off.

Then, it was back to our books.

On the beach, in the dining hall, strolling around the grounds, we enjoyed a strong sense of privacy, as if we were in a bubble and could see everyone but they didn't see us. We didn't feel compelled to make friends or to strike up conversations or even to say "Hi" as we passed other guests. It wasn't that we were being anti-social or snobbish. Rather, it was because we were in a distinct minority — only 20 percent of the guests were American.

Club Fortuna is owned and operated by an Italian company (Ventacub by I Viaggi del Ventaglio), and about 60 percent of the guests are from Italy (later in the summer it would be 80 to 90 percent). The rest were from Germany and South

America.

Many of the staff members also were from Italy and Germany, although they all spoke English. In fact, when they put on the nightly entertainment, it was almost entirely in English.

We thought Club Fortuna was a long way for Europeans to travel when they could spend a sun-and-fun week in the Mediterranean. Salciccioli explained that travel packages are available for a reasonable price, so Europeans can afford to try a different resort each year and can venture beyond the Mediterranean.

Regardless of the cultural mix, the atmosphere was friendly and relaxed. Most guests were about 30 to 45 years old and seemed to be traveling as couples.

The nightly shows were a lot of fun, mostly because of the staff members' enthusiasm. One night, they put on *Grease*, with lip-synching; another night they offered a variety of skits and acts. Some of the staffers were more talented than others, but that didn't matter. It was kind of like watching Mickey Rooney or Spanky and Our Gang putting on a backyard

show.

Afterward, you could buy a drink at the bar and enjoy it on the beach, around the pool or in the lounge while listening to the keyboard player. Most of the music was foreign, and several guests and staff members sang with him while others danced.

Those who felt lucky were only a short taxi ride from two casinos — the larger Princess Casino in Freeport and the older Lucayan Beach Casino in Port Lucaya.

Each casino is near large "international" shopping areas that are open during the day and that also attract shoppers from the cruise ships docked at Freeport.

But, for us, the beauty of this vacation — and of Club Fortuna — was that we didn't have to go any farther than a few hundred yards from our room to enjoy sun-filled, relaxing days and breezy, refreshing nights.

And, when it came time to check out, we could pay the bill in cash.

Starting this month, Club Fortuna will become an all-inclusive resort, meaning that liquor and safe-deposit boxes in each room will be included.

NOV 12, 1995

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LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

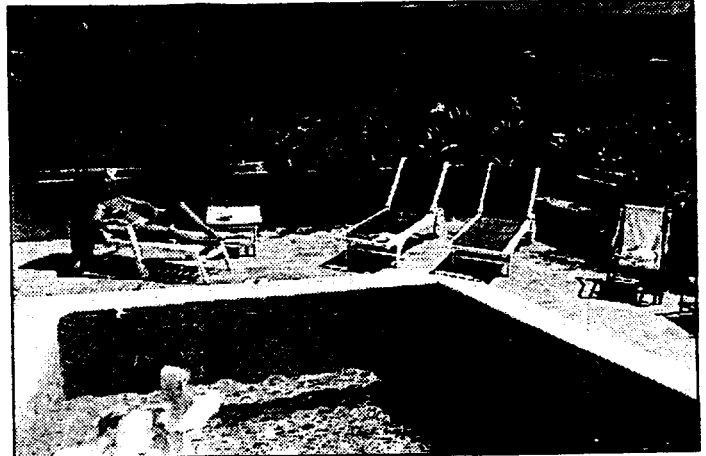
New resorts, packages make Caribbean more enticing

What's new in the Caribbean? New air service, new golf courses, new hotels and new amenities for a new season.

The long-awaited opening of the Royal Westmoreland Golf Course on Barbados has been welcomed by both Bajans and visitors as one of the best and most challenging courses in the Caribbean. Its 18 holes of championship golf is already attracting world attention.

Not too far away in Aruba, Tierra del Sol opened last winter as Aruba's first championship golf course, designed by Robert Trent Jones II to preserve the wildlife and natural vegetation.

Three new and very affordable hotels open in St. Lucia this Winter. Auberge Seraphine, a



Photos by Ron Choate

NEW SEASON: Club Jamaica Beach Resort is Jamaica's newest all-inclusive resort.

Montego Bay both opening this past September. Breezes is the new brand of SuperClubs all-inclusive resorts, more moderately priced.

La Cabana All Suite Beach Resort & Casino, with a reputation as one of the leading family resorts in Aruba, has expanded its kid's program and introduced the 'Club Cabana Nana' plan with various levels of activities for tots to teens including miniature golf. The spacious suites at the resort provides more comfort for families.

Biras Creek, in British Virgin Gorda, now under new ownership, will be opening shortly following a redesigning of the 32 guests suites and restaurant, remodeling of the oceanfront pool. The new owners vow not to change the "rustic luxury" that has attracted repeat guests for years.

Air Jamaica is soaring to new heights now as a privatized airline with refurbished interiors, upgraded ground handling service with a real Jamaican smile and inflight service that includes a champagne breakfast in economy class as well as first class.

BWIA is another airline that has been privatized. New Winter service will include daily

non-stop service from Kennedy International to St. Lucia and twice-weekly one-stop flights to Tobago from New York. Added service to Barbados and Antigua are also part of the new program.

Club Med, with 12 resorts in the Caribbean and Mexico, has several unique, money-saving devices for consumers including the "Wild Card" geared at the singles market, the "Couples Wild Card" aimed at the couples market, the "Family Escape" plan for a hassle-free vacation for the entire family, and the "Forever Young" reduced price stays for vacationers 55 and over.

The Radisson Cable Beach has recently begun a \$15 million enhancement program which includes a new facade and entry; newly designed lobby; open staircase tower spanning more than three stories with an observation deck; a seven-acre, sprawling outdoor playground of lush, tropical landscape and a second luxurious pool and lagoon areas with waterfalls and rock scapes; a pool bar with swim-up access; a state-of-the-art misting system; and an outdoor children's adventure playground. ♦

NEW SEASON

22-room Georgian-style hotel has opened overlooking the Vigie Yacht Marina. Rooms are priced from \$55 a night. Bay Gardens is a 53-room hotel with handicapped-accessible facilities on Rodney Bay within walking distance to Reduit Beach. Room rates begin at \$45 a night with children under 12 free in same room with adults. The 62-room Rainbow Hotel opens in February on Rodney Bay with a tennis court, gym, swimming pool and conference room. Rates start at \$90 a night.

Even Sandals Resorts, the leading all-inclusive Caribbean resort company, has something new with the expected opening of Sandals Royal Bahamian on Jan. 12, 1996. The resort will have 196 rooms, five restaurants, state-of-the-art exercise center, optional spa services, and Summer rates all Winter.

SuperClubs has recently launched two new resorts with Breezes Bahamas and Breezes

Bowdens

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The annual California Dream Days promotion, aimed at Canadians travelling in that state in winter, is rolling around again. Some 400 lodgings, attractions, rental car agencies and shops are offering discounts of 20 per cent or more to visitors from north of the border. The promotion continues until Feb. 29. A detailed directory of participating businesses is available at travel agencies and Air Canada ticket offices.

→ → →

Villas a la Carte, which specializes in rentals of private villas in the Caribbean, says it now has listings of some 800 such properties on islands throughout the region. The villas have from one to 10 bedrooms and the weekly rates range from \$800 US to \$12,000 US, depending on the time of year and the size and location of the house. This season the company is also offering a land-and-sea holiday that combines a stay in a villa with a chartered sailing trip in the Grenadines. For details, phone (514) 739-8731 in Montreal.

→ → →

Two new all-inclusive resorts have just opened in the Caribbean — Breezes Bahamas and, in Jamaica, Breezes Montego Bay. The moderately priced resorts are operated by the same company that operates SuperClubs properties such as Jamaica Jamaica and Grand Lido Negril.

→ → →

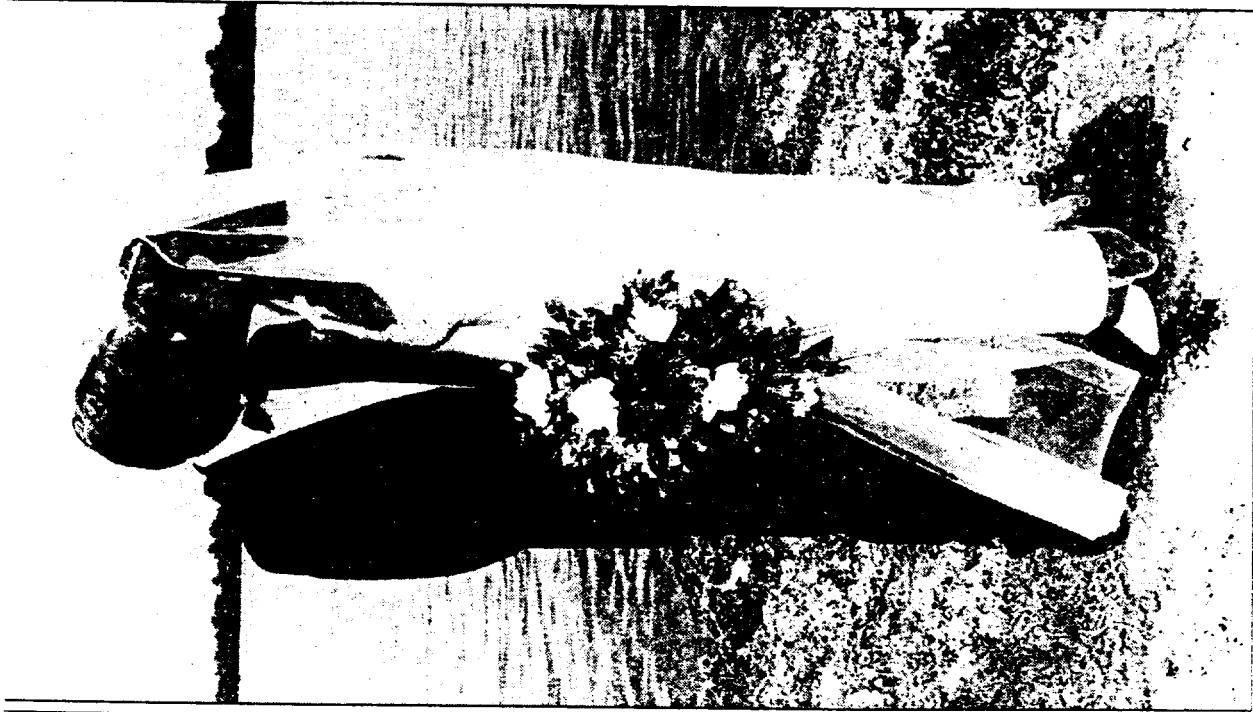
Crystal Cruises says each of its Panama Canal sailings this winter and spring will feature big-band entertainment plus a food and wine festival. Assorted master chefs and wine connoisseurs will share their expertise, while guest bands include Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadian orchestra, conducted by Al Pierson, on the April 23 departure. The cruises range from 10 to 13 days. Rates begin at \$2,399 US per person, not including air fare to and from departure ports.

Compiled by Felicity Munn of The Canadian Press

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How lovers walk down those isles

PHOTO BY THE NEW YORK POST'S CAROLYN...

By BRENDA FINE

THE Caribbean has always been the perfect place for a honeymoon. So perfect, that many engaged couples today are deciding to join forces and go for the whole shebang — the wedding and honeymoon all in one.

And why not. For one thing, combining the two events can be a huge budget-saver. According to a recent report in *Forbes* magazine, the average wedding in the United States costs about \$20,000. Many Caribbean resorts will orchestrate the entire ceremony for just a few hundred dollars. And this includes the works — minister, cake, flowers, music, romantic setting and even witnesses, if you don't have any of your own.

Couples can further control costs by picking and choosing from the resort's "wedding menu" — a series of add-ons that can range from videos to horse-drawn carriage rides.

Some all-inclusive resorts don't charge anything extra at all — wedding costs are covered as part of their rate.

Island weddings are usually short and sweet: Head for the flower-covered gazebo overlooking the sea, exchange vows, kiss the bride, share a champagne toast — and let the honeymoon begin.

Although most Caribbean islands welcome non-resident weddings, there are always strict governmental requirements to be observed. These include fulfilling specific waiting peri-

Some resorts will throw in a whole wedding for free

ods (how long you must be in the island before you can marry), obtaining the necessary licenses and completing all the paperwork. Regulations can differ radically from island to island, so couples planning a Caribbean wedding should be sure to double-check all the specific local formalities.

One sure-fire way to cover all the legal bases is to put yourself in the hands of a local wedding planner, an invaluable service many resorts provide as part of the cost. These experts have arranged dozens (if not hundreds) of weddings, so they know exactly what's required, which papers you must bring along, how long the wait, how much the fees. These experts know the ropes on tying the knot.

SuperClubs is a group of resorts in Jamaica that includes just about every wedding expense as part of its all-inclusive rates. (The only added charge is for a photographer.) Not only is the entire ceremony cost-free, but each individual **SuperClub** resort tosses in its own special perk.

Couples staying at Grand Lido in Negril, for example, can get married on the *M/Y Zein*, the resort's 147-foot yacht that was once a wedding gift to Princess Grace and Prince Rainier of Monaco from Aristotle Onassis.

See **WEDDINGS** on Page 57

TRAVEL

Budget weddings: two down the isle

WEDDINGS from Page 45

At **Jamaica Jamaica**, the **SuperClub** in **Runaway Bay**, honeymooners get free golf, a horse-and-buggy ride and a video of the wedding.

All-inclusive resorts are popular with honeymooners because they provide hassle-free surroundings: no tipping, no hidden charges, nothing to sign for.

In addition to covering almost all the expenses of an on-site wedding, **SuperClubs'** up-front price includes an air-conditioned room or suite, all meals and beverages, all water sports, boat cruises (at Grand Lido and **Jamaica Jamaica**), all activities, equipment and instruction, airport transfers and taxes.

On Barbados, at the luxury **Royal Pavilion** resort, a wedding planner extraordinaire creates a worry-free environment for the bride and groom-to-be. Working with the couple for months in advance, **Kim Headly-Small** leaves no detail untouched. She expedites all the paperwork, escorts the couple to the ministry to obtain the marriage license, arranges for the pastor, and books the church if the couple prefers a church service to a beach ceremony. In a pinch, she'll stand in as matron of honor.

One of **Royal Pavilion's** special wedding touches is its signature two-tier wedding cake — one tier for the wedding day, the other to take home. The cost for all this is \$333, added onto the couple's room rate.

On Grenada, the **Renaissance** Resort incorporates a charming tradition into its island-style weddings. Following the ceremony, a young palm tree is planted in the couple's honor. This becomes their tree, a tangible symbol they can visit.

The resort also offers a number of honeymoon packages with such perks as upgrades to a beachfront room with balcony, candlelight dinner and complimentary wine.

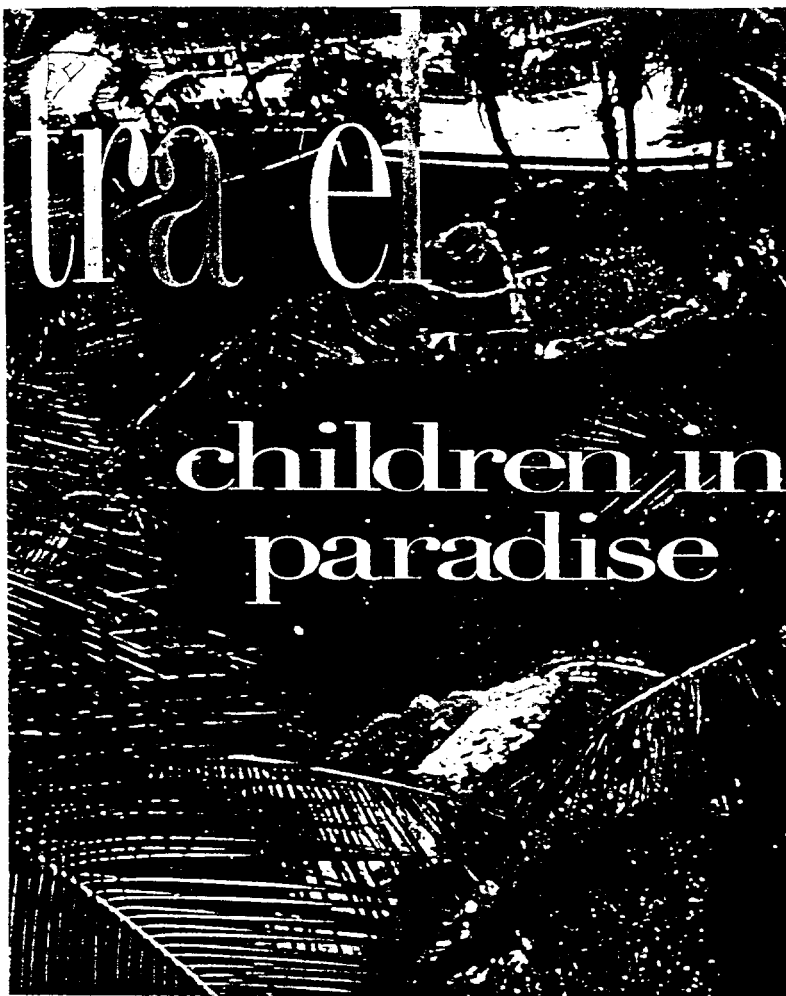
Jalousie Plantation Resort & Spa in St. Lucia, a romantic complex whose 320 acres sprawl from beachside to halfway up a mountain, offers dramatic settings for a wedding. Because the property sits between the Pitons — the island's famous twin peaks — just about every backdrop is spectacular.

Most couples wed on the **Great-house Lawn**, a green swath that slopes from the plantation house down to the black-sand beach. An expert staff member at the all-inclusive resort arranges the weddings. They include such extras as spa treatments for bride and groom, hairstyling for the bride, a three-tier cake and a candlelight dinner for the bridal party (up to six guests). The price is \$500 per couple over the regular resort rates.

FAST FACTS

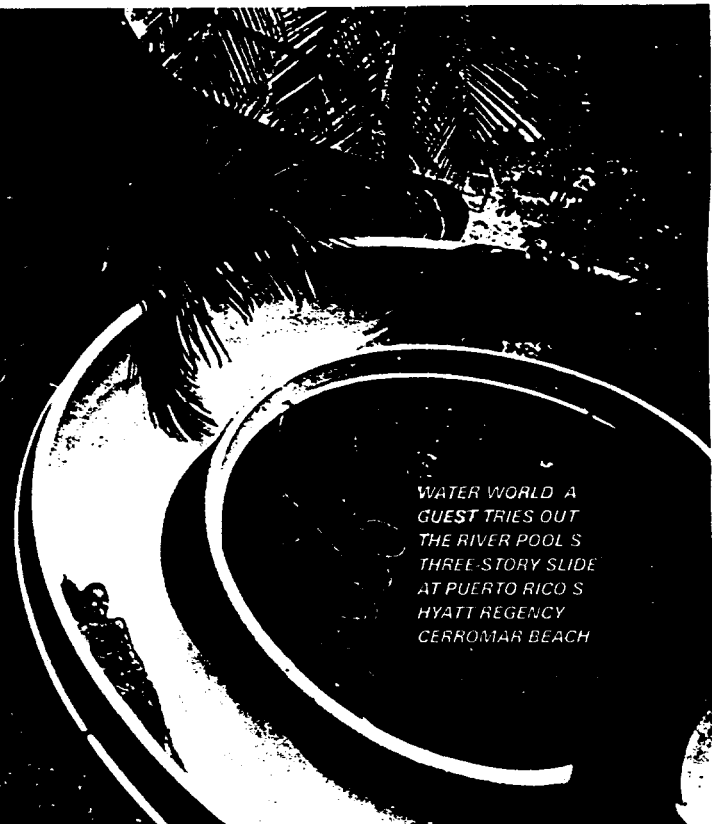
Find out about regulations regarding length of residency, blood tests, birth certificates, divorce agreements, license fees. These can be as high as \$200 (in the Cayman Islands), or none at all (in Puerto Rico and the French West Indies). In the British Virgin Islands, the fee is \$110, payable in BVI postage stamps.

For info: **SuperClubs** (Jamaica), (800) 859-7873; **Royal Pavilion** (Barbados), (800) 283-8666; **Renaissance Grenada Resort**, (800) 468-3571; **Jalousie Plantation & Spa**, (St. Lucia), (800) 392-2007.



travel

children in paradise



WATER WORLD A GUEST TRIES OUT THE RIVER POOL'S THREE-STORY SLIDE AT PUERTO RICO'S HYATT REGENCY CERROMAR BEACH

As the Caribbean's most exclusive resorts open their doors to the Raffi and Barney set, Michael Pollan explores whether "kid-friendly" can mean "parent-friendly" too.

I think it was the "relaxed fit" blue jeans that made me really appreciate what a sweet deal this is, stepping through life as a baby boomer. Approaching 40, expanding just a tad through the mid-section, I figured the time had probably come for me to hang up the 36-inch jeans I'd been wearing since college. But at every juncture in the baby boomer's life, the world seems miraculously to rearrange itself around the shape of his vanity or convenience. How else to explain the recent recalibration of the canons of coolness to admit such absurdities as 50-year-old rock stars or the game of golf? So it happened that instead of forcing me to go on a diet or graduate to a more burgherish waist size, the people who make jeans decided to help me and my generation out by actually recalibrating the size of a pair of (still) 36-inch jeans, a move I would have thought only God or the Greenwich Observatory had the power to make.

I figured I'd caught an equally nice break recently when my wife, Judith, and I went looking for a vacation spot in the Caribbean that would welcome our two-year-old son. For it appears that something akin to the polite fiction of the relaxed fit has come to the world of travel, and it goes by the name "child-friendly." We discovered that *child-friendly* is now the byword at even the most exclusive island hideaways, the kinds of places where only a few years ago toddlers were about as welcome as chimps. How convenient that the very resorts

that catered to singles when I was single cater to parents now that I am one of those. So perhaps "parent-friendly" would be a more accurate description of the new approach. As Brian Parmelee, the young manager of the exceedingly child-friendly Four

Seasons Resort on Nevis, explained it to me, "Folks in our market are having kids later, at a time in their lives when they've got more disposable income. And since nowadays both parents often work, they feel more guilty about leaving the kids at home than our parents did."

So it was not just as a family but as a demographic target that Judith and Isaac and I set off last winter for the more upscale regions of the child-friendly Caribbean, making landfall at three resorts: the Hyatt Regency Cerromar Beach Resort & Casino on Puerto Rico, Malliouhana on Anguilla, and the Four Seasons on Nevis. Different as these places are, all shared a premise about which it was hard not to be at least a little bit skeptical: that a child's and an adult's conception of paradise can occupy the same place and time.

A few days at Cerromar puts this theological conviction to the test. Only nominally on the island of Puerto Rico, this 500-room outpost of the Hyatt chain is an expertly realized theme resort. It's hard to imagine a place more child-friendly than Cerromar, especially if the child in question is old enough for water extravaganzas or for Cerromar's camp program. But parent-friendly? This isn't so clear-cut.

As the shrewd designers of child-friendly resorts understand, there can be too much of a good thing, even family togetherness. Hence the advent of the resort day camp for children, a blessed institution for which parents owe a large debt of gratitude to the *travel* 208



PLAYTIME: MALLIOUHANA'S NEWLY BUILT CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND IN ANGUILLA

Hyatt corporation. Though Isaac was not quite old enough to enroll, the three-to-twelve-year-olds I observed at Camp Hyatt seemed thoroughly absorbed in the day's activities. I was especially impressed by the verve of the young, uniformed counselors as well as the enthusiasm of the kids, who never looked back as their parents dropped them off on their way to the golf course or gym. Isaac and I spent most of our time at Cerromar watching the big kids screaming their heads off as they braved the spectacular three-story water slide and navigated what I was told by one six-year-old boy was "probably the coolest pool in the world." This "pool" is actually a one-third-mile-long, four-foot-deep freshwater river that winds its way through a lush, synthetic tropical landscape much like the kind you'd find in a really good zoo. The river has a current (22,600 gallons a minute, I was informed), and you can ride it in a (rented) inner tube, a fifteen-minute journey in which you slip down along a sequence of water slides, cruise by a Jacuzzi tucked into a grotto, stop in for a pop at a pool bar with submerged barstools, drift beneath waterfalls, and then wind up at last in a large fake lagoon with a fake tropical island in the middle of it where I half expected to run into Gilligan.

The whole spectacle set Isaac positively vibrating with excitement. Oh, sure, there were "adults" who seemed to be enjoying the river pool, too, downing implausible drinks at the pool bar, but I couldn't help thinking, Is this what we've traveled all the way to Puerto Rico for? Yet Puerto Rico is nowhere to be found in Cerromar. Hyatt might

just as well put the entire ersatz landscape under a big dome in New Jersey and save everybody the airfare.

I allowed for the possibility that Judith and I were the curmudgeons of Cerromar until we began comparing notes with fellow parents. Several volunteered the same kind of formulation you often hear about *Barney & Friends*, the transcendently insipid public-TV show: "It's great for the kids, but this is definitely not a place we'd come to by ourselves." Why would anyone, without a case of arrested development? The rooms are featureless, the beach is packed and not especially pretty, and the hotel service is lackadaisical at best (our room was never made up before three in the afternoon). What we tried of the food at both Cerromar and its sister resort next door, the Hyatt Dorado, was top-drawer food-court fare: impressive in its multicultural diversity but, like the Cerromar landscape, faintly synthetic. The prices were

also bracing: entrées from \$26 to \$40, tariffs I suspect Hyatt would have trouble collecting if not for the fact that its guests are more or less captive—San Juan is a half hour away, and realistically, you couldn't tear your kids away from this place if you tried.

This would seem to sum up the Cerromar approach to child-friendliness, which owes a lot to Disney: Keep the kids so completely entertained, the parents will have no choice but to tag along for the ride. Yes, the case can be made that to some degree child-friendly is parent-friendly by definition: Unless the kids are having a good time, the parents don't stand a chance. And it's true that there were times at Cerromar when Isaac was sufficiently diverted—by kiddie pool, by game room—that Judith found herself reading an actual book by the pool, an almost supernatural event in the life of a toddler's parent. One afternoon I even got to take a snooze on the beach, stretching out in the zebra-striped shade of a palm tree. A fine, fine moment—until, that is, Daz, the giant green Barney look-alike that serves as the Camp Hyatt mascot, came prancing down the beach to spoil it.

We were happy after a few days of this to escape to Anguilla, a small, quiet island with a resort famed for its elegance and charm—a place we were surprised to learn had gotten into the child-friendly business. In fact, it seemed a little unfair to be comparing a Hyatt mega-resort with an intimate, owner-managed hotel like Malliouhana, which turned out to be one of the most *travel* ▶ 210

kidding around the Caribbean

Some island resorts are now catering to families, and others—the kind where guests usually go to get away from the under-twelve set—are revising their policies and being decidedly more accommodating. Here, a guide to a few of the island outposts with the best setups for kids. Prices are based on high-season rates.

HYATT REGENCY CERROMAR BEACH RESORT & CASINO
Location: Puerto Rico.

Size: 504 rooms.
Special program: Camp Hyatt for three-to-twelve-year-olds, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.
Facilities: Water rides, activity center, separate pools.
Activities: Swimming, biking, hiking, dance and Spanish lessons, arts and crafts, talent shows, movies, sports clinics, and spa treatments for teenagers.
Additional services: Baby-sitting, \$8 per hour.
Food: All restaurants

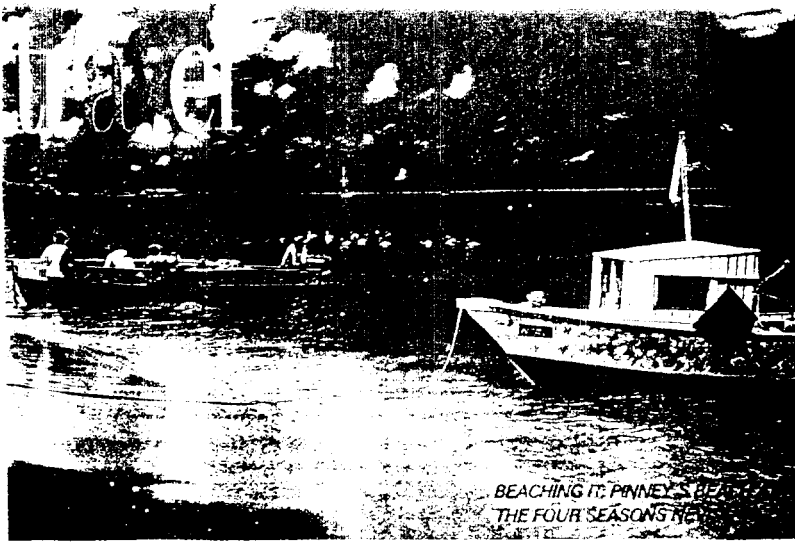
serve children's menus.
Price: Double rooms start at \$310. Camp Hyatt is \$40 per child per day; evening program, \$28.
Phone: (800) 233-1234.

MALLIOUHANA
Location: Anguilla.
Size: 53 units (doubles, suites, and two-bedroom villas).
Special program: Child care and supervised activities for two-to-twelve-year-olds, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Facilities: Beachside playground, paddling pool,

and video arcade.
Activities: Arts and crafts, Ping-Pong, basketball, Windsurfing, sailing, and waterskiing for older kids only.
Additional services: Baby-sitting, \$4 an hour.
Food: Children's meals available in dining room after 7:00 p.m. Room service is the only other option.
Price: Doubles from \$480, kids' program included.
Phone: (800) 835-0796.

FOUR SEASONS RESORT NEVIS
Location: Nevis.
Size: 196 rooms.
Special program: Kids for All Seasons,

geared toward children under nine, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Facilities: Well-equipped and staffed activity center.
Activities: Craft projects, nature and science walks, cooking classes, story hour. No water sports.
Additional services: Toys, games, books, and videos furnished upon request. Baby-sitting, \$22 for four hours.
Food: During school vacations, the grill serves a children's buffet; supervised meals during camp hours. **Price:** Doubles from \$600, kids' program included. **Phone:** (800) 332-3442. ▶ 210



BEACHING IT: PINNEY BEACH
THE FOUR SEASONS

lovely and well-run resorts we ever visited. But if Cerromar is the kind of place you would go to on a visit with kids, the considerable pleasures of Malliouhana are probably best appreciated without them. Not that Isaac didn't thoroughly enjoy the powdery white sands and limpid waters of Meads Bay, or the French cuisine prepared to his specifications by Malliouhana's brilliant and obliging kitchen (Michel Rostang, the two-star chef, pays regular visits from his headquarters in Paris). But Isaac's parents couldn't help thinking Malliouhana was perhaps more child-tolerant than -friendly—and some of our fellow guests proved a good deal less than that.

Perhaps this is inevitable in so refined and luxurious a setting. In the presence of Limoges porcelain and cut crystal, even the most well-behaved child will exhibit certain simian traits. The fact is that Malliouhana, understandably reluctant to compromise any of its sophisticated charms, has made comparatively few concessions to its youngest guests. There's the Children's Place, a small, well-equipped encampment where Isaac frolicked in the kiddie pool (yes, it's a "frolic" kind of place) and climbed on a large cedar play structure under the watchful eye of a friendly young Anguillan named Alison. There's a good baby-sitting service. And there's an appealing children's menu (quite possibly the only children's menu in the world featuring chicken air-shipped from Bresse, France), which the kitchen is happy to supplement.

Well and good, except the dining room, which by Caribbean stan-

dards is somewhat dressy to begin with, doesn't open for dinner until seven—past most toddlers' bedtime. So every evening at six, two waitresses drove up to our palatial garden suite in a golf cart outfitted with a food warmer, set an impeccable table with crisp linens, Christofle silver, cut crystal, and elegant china, and served the little prince his dinner. Malliouhana's most important contribution to Isaac's vocabulary was *room service*, an institution the absence of which at home has come as a crushing disappointment.

Anguilla is justly famous for its beaches, and Malliouhana has two exquisite ones, with coral sand as fine as talcum powder and water as still and clear as a bath. The hotel has a superb staff of 200 (when the place is full there are only half as many guests), and we found that even out in the middle of the beach, somebody would magically appear to grant our unarticulated wishes, producing a bottle of mineral water in a bucket of ice just as the sun reached its midday fiercest. Up from the beach by the main building—a lovely confection of white stucco loggias stepping up a promontory to command the bay—is a terraced patio of small pools linked to a Jacuzzi by a trickling waterfall. Like the dining room, however, the pool area—as hushed as the stuffiest of country clubs—seemed something less than child-friendly. Even when silent and perfectly comported, Isaac at poolside drew the kinds of looks that John Belushi might have earned in Newport or Cap d'Antibes. Retrospectively, I appreciated at least this about Cerromar: There was absolutely nothing Isaac could possibly have done at the pool in Puerto Rico that would have raised an eyebrow or tensed his parents.

When Judith's radar started picking up chilly vibes directed at Isaac, I figured she was imagining things—until we started to meet the other guests. One afternoon in the gym we struck up a conversation with a 30-something woman from the Upper East Side of Manhattan, furiously pedaling away on an Exercycle while reading an issue of this very magazine. Judith had Isaac perched on her hip, and the woman mentioned how terribly she was missing her own three-year-old, parked back on Park Avenue with Grandma. So why didn't you bring her along? "Oh, no," she said, seemingly horrified at a suggestion that appears in Malliouhana's own brochure. "I just don't think this is an appropriate place for children." I momentarily regretted all the work we'd put in teaching Isaac not to bite people. *travel* ▶ 212

CLUB MED ELEUTHERA

Location: Eleuthera.
Size: 288 rooms.
Special program: Family village program (also in St. Lucia and the Dominican Republic) keeps children one and older busy day and night.
Facilities: Nursery, children's dining room, clubhouses.
Activities: Arts and crafts, games. Kids over four can take part in waterskiing, scuba, sailing, golf, tennis, soccer, and softball; child-size equipment provided. Circus workshop, where kids learn to use trapeze, trampoline, and tight wire.
Additional services:

Baby-sitting, \$6 an hour. A pediatrician is on call, and two nurses are on-site. Staff is trained in first aid and CPR.
Food: Three child-friendly restaurants; kids' clubs serve supervised meals at lunch and dinner. A nutritionist prepares infant meals.
Price: All-inclusive weekly packages start at \$805 per adult; \$525 per child. During Kids Free Weeks, youngsters five and under stay free.
Phone: (800) CLUB MED.

BOSCOBEL BEACH

Location: Jamaica.
Size: 207 rooms.
Special program:

A nursery for infants over six months operates from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.; kids' clubs for ages four to twelve open until 10:00 P.M.; teen club closes at 11:00 P.M.
Facilities: Playground, computer lab, video arcade, wading pool, movie theater.
Activities: Introduction to Jamaican culture, reggae dance classes, fashion shows, visits to local animal farm, tennis. For teenagers: watersports, disco parties, bicycle tours.
Additional services: "SuperNannies" available, \$2.50 per hour.
Food: Chefs barbecue

lunch and dinner for kids; three other restaurants serve kid-friendly fare.
Price: Doubles start at \$81 per person for three nights. One child under four stays free; each additional child is \$50 per day.
Phone: (800) 889-SUPER
CASA DE CAMPO
LOCATION: DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
Size: 300 rooms, 150 luxury villas. Family villas available with maid service or baby-sitter.
Special program: Kidz 'N Casa, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., children ages three to twelve.

Facilities: Clubhouse, pool, tennis courts.
Activities: Face painting, horseback riding, water skiing, tennis, scuba, sailing, golf, tennis, soccer, and softball; child-size equipment provided. Circus workshop, where kids learn to use trapeze, trampoline, and tight wire.
Additional services: Baby-sitting, \$6 an hour per child.
Food: Children's menu at nine restaurants.
Price: Double rooms begin at \$290; family villas range from \$445 to \$1,015.
Kidz 'N Casa is \$15 per day per child, free with a villa.
Phone: (800) 877-3643
Compiled by Jennifer Pierce Barr

And then there was the equally gracious older couple Judith and Isaac met on the beach, who patiently explained to her that at these rates, guests simply should not have to put up with the presence of children. "That's precisely what people here are paying so much money to get away from!" And I suppose they have a point, as did the woman on the *Exercycle*. Malliouhana's guests are shelling out thousands of dollars for a few precious days of frictionless existence, and the resort—with its impeccable service, its superb and inventive cuisine, its scrupulously groomed garden setting—comes remarkably close to fulfilling that promise. There just happen to be a great many people for whom the picture of paradise simply does not contain real live children. So why is a place like Malliouhana even trying to find a way to include them?

Blame, or credit, the sovereign baby boomer. When on my last day on Anguilla I spoke with Leon Roydon, the English industrialist turned hotelier who built Malliouhana and now runs it with his son, he told me that he started the children's program not as a marketing gambit but as a way to accommodate two distinct factions among his regulars: the increasing number of youngish guests who were having children, and an older, more "staid" clientele who resented having kids around—particularly, Roydon mentioned, in the pool area. By building the new playground and kiddie pool all the way down at the far end of the beach, Roydon figured he could satisfy both camps at once. This explained a lot, not least of which is the name Malliouhana had

picked out for its new facility, which suddenly sounded perhaps a bit more imperative than friendly: the Children's Place, indeed.

On the puddle jumper from Anguilla to St. Kitts, where we were going to meet the Four Seasons launch for the half-hour crossing to Nevis, Judith and I reviewed the trip so far. We'd found a paradise for children on Puerto Rico and another for adults (if not parents) on Anguilla, but all indications pointed to the conclusion that these were exclusive and alternative universes that would probably never occupy the same physical space on Earth. Yet soon after arriving at the Four Seasons we began to wonder if perhaps we hadn't written off a bit too hastily the possibility of a rapprochement.

Nevis is a dormant 3,000-foot emerald volcano that rises precipitously from the Caribbean and, most days, is crowned with the halo of clouds that gives the island its name, which comes from the Spanish word for snow. As our launch neared shore, the 350-acre resort came into view: a sprawl of low wooden buildings presided over by towering palms (the hotel is built on the site of a coconut plantation).

The dramatic approach by sea notwithstanding, our first impression of the Four Seasons was not terribly auspicious. Pinney's Beach might be the best stretch on Nevis, but after the sands of Anguilla it was nothing to write home about: a one-lane strand of coarse tobacco sand that gets uncomfortably hot in the middle of the day (it does go on for miles, however, and is wonderful for walking or jogging). And the resort's designers, who probably should be brought up on charges before the American Institute *travel* ▶220

5720 Grown-up Negril lures seniors



Mature Traveller
Helga Loverseed

It was around 7 a.m. An elderly man, as wide as he was tall, was standing by the edge of the ocean, doing some morning exercises. As he moved, his skin rippled down his body like the waves that lapped at his feet. Close up, he looked like one of those corpulent Buddhas that you see in Chinese temples, only this one was moving, rather than beaming beatifically at the world. Not only that, he was stark naked — a startling sight, especially at that hour of the morning.

The scene was Negril on the west coast of Jamaica, a destination known for being somewhat avant-garde. Its reputation as a place to commune with nature started in the 1960s when young and beautiful hippies, drawn by the readily available ganja (marijuana), came here to set up communes. Tourists still come here for a "natural" experience (there are several nude beaches, though the drug dealing has been cleaned up). The difference is, they are not young anymore, and some are not particularly beautiful.

The 60-plus crowd (irreverently nicknamed the "wrinklies" by one local) have discovered Negril. While some vacationers come to frolic naked on the sun, most opt for the more conventional pleasures of an all-inclusive resort. (Though some of those also have discreetly-hidden nude beaches.)

At **Grand Lido**, for example, an upscale resort set amid nine hectares of land, guests can snorkel, swim, sail, play tennis and golf or sample the more modern sports of para-sailing and sea-kayaking. The resort is part of the **SuperClubs** group (other properties include **Jamaica/Jamaica**, **Hedonism II** and the luxurious **Sans Souci**).

Guests can also hob-nob with fellow vacationers on a luxurious, 147-foot (44.8-metre) yacht, the **MV Zein**, which was once owned by Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis, who gave it to Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier of Monaco as a wedding present. Vac-



Rooms at the **Grand Lido** give the impression of relaxed elegance.

(Photo by HELGA LOVERSEED)

IF YOU GO

Jamaican resort
Older crowd is drawn to quiet, elegant surroundings.

STAYING THERE

An all-inclusive holiday at Grand Lido ranges from \$935 (U.S.) (three

nights, beachfront junior suite) per person (double occupancy), to \$1,890 (one week). Each additional day costs \$270. The all-inclusive package includes accommodation, food, drinks and sports facilities.

INFORMATION

SuperClubs, P.O. Box 222800, Hollywood, Fla., 33022; phone (800) 859-SUPER.

tioners, if they feel so inclined, can sunbathe on deck in the buff, but mostly the yacht is used for sunset cruises around Bloody Bay, on which **Grand Lido** resort lies. Rather than doff their clothes, the majority of guests dress up to the nines. Tarting oneself up for dinner is part of the daily ritual.

As is the case at most all-inclusive resorts, the food at **Grand Lido** is plentiful and varied. One can tuck into lavish buffet meals at the Gran Ter-

raza, a large, open-sided dining hall cooled by gentle tradewinds, or chose to eat at three smaller, more intimate eateries — La Pasta (an Italian taverna where casual dress is the order of the day), the more elegant Cafe Lido (continental cuisine) and Piacere, where nouvelle cuisine dishes are served by white-gloved waiters to the sound of soothing piano music.

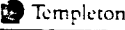
Offering guests the choice of eating on their own rather than in a more communal setting is part of **Super-**

Clubs' strategy to woo older, wealthier travellers to this particular resort. No children are allowed here (the minimum age is 16) and while there are plenty of singles and couples, the clientele is not the party crowd that frequents some of the other resorts around the island.

The bedrooms, too, are aimed at an upmarket clientele. My junior suite, which was on two levels, had a king-size bed and a living area with a sofa, armchairs and a door leading to a private patio. The decor — white stucco walls and tiled floors — was pleasantly soothing and the slatted shutters, which could be adjusted to cut out the sun and admit the ever-present tradewinds, kept the room cool. Beyond the bedroom, a short walk across the lawn led to a palm-lined beach — a three-kilometre crescent of sand which held the water in a wide embrace.

PERSONAL AFFAIRS

LIVE FROM TORONTO
 See Sir John Templeton in person in Toronto. Hear and see him via live video simulcast in Vancouver, Calgary and Montreal. Thursday July 27, 1995 at 2 p.m. Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto



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Saturday, July 15, 1995

Spending your money

Where to look for off-season vacation deals B20
 A hammock to hang around in..... B20
 BMW's hatchback has convenience and style..... B20
 Move in another dimension with the Spaceball..... B20

Growing your assets

Common Wealth: Tips for buying and selling homes... B19
 Managing Your Money: How to play tumbling mortgage rates..... B19
 Where You Live: When renting a cottage makes sense B19

Right place, wrong time brings summer travel deals

BY HELGA LOVERSEED
 Special to The Globe and Mail

S NOWBOUND Canadians seeking a respite from winter chills flee to Jamaica in January or Florida in February. But how about Arizona in August?

That may sound odd, considering temperatures can soar to a searing 45 degrees Celsius. But the fact is, Arizona and many other hot-weather destinations can be bargain vacation spots in the summer. Many hotels and resorts hurt for business, a fact that is reflected in rates that can run up to 50 per cent below peak season prices.

And it isn't just where temperatures soar that summertime travel bargains can be found. The trick is to go off-peak. Choose a ski resort in the summer, or stay in a city hotel on weekends. Even cruise lines have times when they could do with extra bodies to fill their berths.

So where are the bargains? Here are some bets that will warm your spirits without putting a chill on your wallet:

Arizona

As crazy as taking off to the desert in the midst of the summer may seem, if you plan your day sensibly — follow the lead of the locals and avoid the midday sun — you can have a wonderful time. It may be hot, but temperatures drop in the early morning and evening and it's dry.

A major magnet for outdoor types and health nuts is Tucson and its environs, home of the famed Canyon Ranch Spa and other such resorts. The city is at the foot of the Santa Catalina mountains and the mix of rugged peaks and the Sonora Desert makes for a magical setting. There are tons of things to do — golf, tennis, hiking and horseback riding through the desert saguaros.

Typical of summer rates are the golf packages at the Westin La Paloma, a luxury resort with spa facili-

Arizona in August? Bargains abound when you take off-season trips at off-season prices.

ties. A double room (including a round of golf) starts at a daily weekday rate of \$150 (U.S.) a couple — a saving of more than \$250 a day over the winter season. Call Westin reservations at 1-800-228-3000 or the hotel direct at (602) 742-6000.

Jamaica

Jamaica is another hot-weather destination worth considering. The island's year-round temperatures hover around 30 degrees, but there are always cooling trade winds, particularly on the west coast.

Jamaica has taken the Club Med concept — all-inclusive resorts with good food, scenic settings and organized social and sporting activities — and perfected it in the form of its SuperClubs and similar hotels.

And deals abound. The SuperClubs group, which includes Grand Lido and Hedonism II (famous for its nude beach) in Negril; Boscobel Beach, a family-oriented resort near Ocho Rios; Jamaica, Jamaica, in Runaway Bay (a great place for sports); and the Sans Souci Lido (a spa and honeymoon spot) in Ocho Rios, offer off-season rates up to 10 per cent off winter prices. They go even lower — up to 25 per cent off — in September and October. Prices vary according to the resort, type of accommodation and length of stay, ranging from \$875 at Hedonism II for five nights (with meals) to \$1,150 at the Sans Souci. Contact a travel agent or call 1-800-859-SUPER.

Whistler

Come summer, there still is plenty to do in a ski mountain environment — everything from bird watching to canoeing. (You can find snow on Whistler's neighbouring peak, Blackcomb, but the runs are strictly for gung-ho glacier skiers.)

Better still, in this part of British Columbia, July and August are considered off-season — and rates for accommodation drop to a third of February and March prices.

Renting a condominium at a ski resort can be quite reasonable, particularly if you're travelling with a group. Condos are often rented at a daily or weekly fixed-price, instead of per person, so the more people who share the cost, the cheaper the accommodation.

Prime properties are closest to the ski slopes, though in summer, proximity to the pistes matters much less. At Wildwood, one of more than 60 accommodation complexes available — ranging from bed-and-breakfast homes to luxury hotel suites — a two-bedroom, self-catering unit with a fully equipped kitchen runs \$110 (Canadian) a night, based on a five-day stay. Condos outside the boundaries of the village of Whistler, for instance in Whistler Creek, cost an average \$85 a night, for a two-bedroom unit.

For further information, call 1-800-WHISTLER (944-7853) or (604) 932-4222 direct.

City hotels

In most cities, downtown hotels catering to business travellers and the convention trade are busy from Monday to Thursday. But come Friday morning, their rooms empty out, rarely to fill up again until the following week. Hotel occupancy rates across the continent averaged a lacklustre 65 per cent last year.

That prompts many hotels to cut rates on weekends. A recent random, cross-country sampling turned up the following daily weekend rates for a double room, compared to their weekday prices in brackets: the Sheraton-Landmark in Vancouver,

\$145 (\$175); the Radisson Plaza in Calgary, \$89 (\$119); and the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza in Toronto, \$129 (\$159).

Still, finding a weekend rate deal this summer will prove harder than in previous years: with the high U.S. dollar, Americans are flocking north while more Canadians are non-daying at home. So you may have to shop around a fair bit.

Also ask about packages, which can sometimes outdo weekend rates. For example, for the price of a room on a slow week, a hotel might throw in extras like tickets to a baseball game, discounts at certain stores or free parking (parking alone in a downtown area can add a daily \$10 to \$12 to the price of a holiday). And consider heading to less-touristed cities, where rates can be lower — Saint John, say, instead of Halifax, or Regina instead of Calgary.

Cruises

There are some bargains to be found in the cruise business, though not as many as one might imagine. Unlike hotel companies, cruise lines can move their accommodation around in order to find passengers. Ships sail to where the market is — hence the wide range of itineraries, from the Bahamas to Bangkok.

Some companies do, however, keep part of their fleets in the Caribbean year-round. In this case, the same rule about bargains applies as for land-bound hotels in hot weather destinations. Off-season means August and September.

Cunard, for instance, which covers the world with its luxury vessels (including the Queen Elizabeth 2), keeps the 796-passenger Cunard Countess plying the Caribbean. During the "value" season (the week of Aug. 26), a one-week cruise ranges from \$995 (U.S.) to \$1,705 a person, versus December rates of \$1,310 to \$2,115. In September, rates drop by another \$70. Contact a travel agent, or call 1-800-5-CUNARD (528-8273).

Travelers drawn to worry-free vacations

It was only 17 years ago in 1978 that John Issa launched Couples, the first all-inclusive resort in Jamaica. It was a new concept at that time, capitalizing on the great success of Club Med (1960s) where all meals, activities and watersports were included in the pre-paid price, and resorts such as Bolongo Club Everything in St. Thomas (1974), which included breakfast, all activities, watersports and even some sailing excursions in its pre-paid vacation concept.

John Issa and Couples took the inclusive vacation to the all-inclusive extreme by providing everything under the resort roof for free including all meals, drinks and every activity. Couples was instantly successful and John Issa opened the all-inclusive Hedonism II for singles.

In 1980, Butch Stewart, an appliance trader in Jamaica, saw an opportunity and opened the first Sandals Resort in Montego Bay. Today, John Issa's SuperClubs and Butch Stewart's Sandals Resorts are the two largest chains of all-inclusive resorts with more than 20 properties between them on a dozen different islands.

At the same time, other independent resorts got on the all-inclusive bandwagon and converted



A PERFECT STAY: Sandals has one of the largest chains of all-inclusive resorts in the Caribbean.

what amounts to about 20 percent of the Caribbean hotels into all-inclusive resorts.

But others have come along to perfect the concept. Almond Beach Resorts, with two resorts on Barbados, opened Almond Beach Club, a laid-back, luxury resort for couples or singles in which a dine-around plan provided free dinners at some of the top local restaurants along the famous Gold Coast of Barbados. Sightseeing provided

the all-inclusive guest a total Barbados experience. The company opened Almond Beach Village, a 292-room resort with a family section including suites and adjoining rooms as well as a selection of children's facilities and activities. With four restaurants and its dine-around plan it's hard not to be comfortable in this all-inclusive.

Jack Tar Village Beach Resorts, with five all-inclusives around the Caribbean including

Cancun, offers one of the most affordable all-inclusive vacations without sacrificing quality. Jack Tar caters to all guests including couples, singles, families and active vacationers. The five resorts also offer a diverse cultural atmosphere as they are located in different destinations. St. Kitts, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Cancun are among the best Jack Tar Villages.

SuperClubs, meanwhile, has opened Breezes, its more affordable all-inclusive resort, and will be expanding that concept throughout the region.

Sandals, which has long perfected the couples-only, all-inclusive resort concept, continues to expand, and is opening Sandals Beaches Negril, the first in a new chain of Sandals which will welcome families, singles and couples.

But not all resorts that call themselves all-inclusive are indeed all-inclusive resorts. Some resorts are just adding all-inclusive packages for those guests who don't want to be hassled with having to reach into their pockets for every meal, activity or tips. The concept works well at some resorts such as the Americana in Aruba, but read the brochure to see what is included. ♦

S P A R E P O R T

Serenity Playgrounds

Health-indulgent Caribbean retreats • By Chelle Koster Walton

Sweat fashionably, reward elegantly, relax completely: That could be the motto at the Caribbean spas springing up now. Most are attached to luxury resorts and have little to do with self-deprivation. And though there's hiking, tennis,

sailing, scuba and more, it's usually up to you how strenuous a regimen will be.

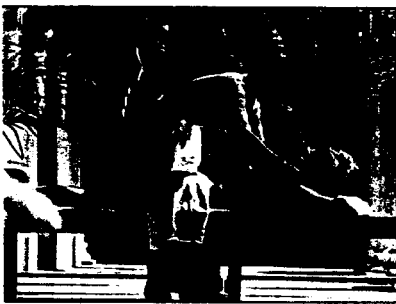
Some have a sea focus, capitalizing on their location to create a European spa style. Others concentrate on sports and fitness. Still others ply you with pure luxury and self-indulgence. Though the lines between them blur, these general categories can help you sort through the options and select

these spas should begin with a bath or swim in the saltwater. Throughout the day, the sea is invoked in salt scrubs that exfoliate skin and seaweed wraps that soften it. Steam baths, special showers, mud packs, massages and bubble baths can leave you limp as a leaf, but sports and fitness

mindful vacationers. Among them are Dutch St. Maarten's Port de Plaisance, Jamaica's Swept Away Resort and St. Lucia's Jalousie Plantation. Le Sport and La Source serve up lots of activity. At all of these resorts, you can slip into the underwater world via snorkel or dive tank or skim

anything else. At Jamaica's Sans Souci Lido, your massage might take place in a seaside gazebo where the waves lull you as much as the scented oils. The spas are not the centerpiece at these spots. Instead, spa treatments are meant to be stress-relieving indulgences, like a personal attendant and private villa, intended to make a classic Caribbean resort vacation go over the top.

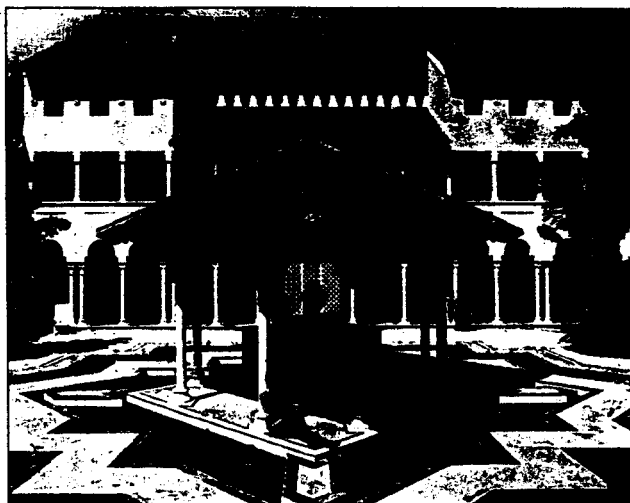
Down to the sea in style: Like Le Sport on St. Lucia (below), Caribbean spas are long on luxury.



your favorite kind of Caribbean serenity.

It's become chic for resorts to label facilities "European spa," but at any spa worth its water, this refers to balneology, or bathing therapies, and thalassotherapy, the French seawater and seaweed treatments undergoing a Caribbean renaissance on the French islands. Yet even the spas that tout themselves as European havens—St. Martin's Privilege Resort, St. Lucia's Le Sport and Grenada's La Source—incorporate eclectic pampering methods.

In the proper spirit of becoming one with the sea, a day at



classes can balance out the lethargy if you like. With their French influence, European-style spas don't deny you rich food, but light menus are often available, along with plenty of healthy local fruit.

At some resorts, the sea means sports. More and more, Caribbean spas are touting their outdoor and indoor playgrounds to hook active, health-

across the aqua waves in a kayak or on a Windsurfer. You can work up a sweat in aerobics class, pump iron in a gym, hike past old plantations or dance to reggae on a terrace. However you burn off the fat, spa payoffs are still plentiful.

While most Caribbean spas are preoccupied with pampering, some don't pretend to do



A WEEK ON UNWIND: WHERE TO GO

A week of rejuvenation at a Caribbean spa can cost from about \$1,300 to over \$3,000 at a luxury resort. At some, the price includes everything: sports, meals, spa treatments. At others, spa packages are the best choice if pampering is a high priority. Here, winter rates quoted are for seven nights, per person, double occupancy.

Privilege Resort, Anse Marcel, St. Martin; 800-932-3222. \$2,240-\$2,800. The Health Spa package includes one-way helicopter transport, breakfast and one other meal daily, sports,

There are islands for all tastes

Some other fine white beaches include Seven Mile Beach on Grand Cayman Island, 7-mile long Negritl beach in Jamaica, and 6.5-mile-long Le Diamant Beach on Martinique.

Nowhere are there more couples-only resorts than in Jamaica. The all-inclusive Sandals chain has six properties: Tr Montego Bay, Ocho Rios, and Negritl; and Superclubs, another chain, runs Couples in Ocho Rios (which started the whole all-inclusive phenomenon). Swept Away in Negritl has, as a bonus, the most complete sports facilities in Jamaica. Of course, just because a place caters mainly to couples doesn't mean it's romantic, and none of these places are as romantic as the exclusive resorts mentioned above, but they are all-inclusive, which pleases many big-eaters, hard drinkers and sports enthusiasts.

Sandals and Super Clubs also are popular places to get married. For a fee, the hotels will organize a wedding on the beach with non-denominational minister, champagne, photos and attendants dressed in old-fashioned Jamaican garb.

In Jamaica, Hedonism II, a member of the Superclub chain, often tries to live down to its name, with wet-T-shirt contests, nude sunset cruises, and much mingling and swapping. The Grand Lido Resort, next door to Hedonism II, is a more classy Superclub catering to singles and couples: Sams Souci, a spa on the beach in Ocho Rios, is not so much a "meat" market, as a comfortable place to come solo for fitness classes, health treatments and spa cuisine at an all-inclusive price.

An all-inclusive vacation spells rejuvenation

By Loriann Hoff Oberlin

THE YEAR—MAKE THAT YEARS—HAD been challenging ones. A new house, major remodeling, new schools and jobs, and finally, the birth of a baby, three months early at that! It had been ages since my husband and I, six-year-old son and brand-new baby had been away from our own four walls!

So where does a family in desperate need of rest and relaxation pack their bags and fly off to? The answer: An all-inclusive resort. Since we favor the Caribbean climate, our options were indeed somewhat limited. But then, we found **Boscobel Beach**, situated on a private bay ten miles east of Ocho Rios, Jamaica.

Boscobel, I'm convinced, saved our sanity, and I know solidified our family ties. Being an all-inclusive resort, everything was included—our meals, drinks, water sports, equipment and instruction, entertainment, accommodations and airport transfers. There was organized child care for all ages, from a well-staffed infant nursery to arts & crafts, reggae dancing and pirate treasure hunts for six-year-olds.

There's something about knowing your children are cared for, and having fun, that lets a parent unwind. My husband and I enjoyed snorkeling together, curling up with good books and dining in the resort's adults-only restaurant, I could just feel the tension fade away. Why I even came home with braids to complete the cultural immersion!

If a week like this sounds expensive, it's not really out of reach when you consider all that's included. At Boscobel up to two children (under age 14) stay free sharing a room with their parents. A six-night stay during summer in a Lanai or Mountain View room costs \$1,200 per person (more during season). Junior suites run \$1,300 per person. Airfare is extra, but check your travel agent for packages or charters.

Everything is paid in advance, similar to booking a cruise. We locked our wallets away and never needed them again, except for our gift shop purchases and nighttime baby-sitting. But even those expenses were reasonable. Evening baby-sitting cost \$2.50 per hour per family (up to three children). We would have paid more for a private baby-sitter at home. Organized activities for older kids were free and available until 10 pm.

If you stop to consider that meals, bar drinks, entertainment, sports, child care and tours are all extra at most destinations, it doesn't take long to see the advantages to an all-inclusive resort. Even a cruise, where child care is occasionally provided and meals are always included, leaves you with a tab for drinks and shore excursions.

At Boscobel Beach, all rooms come with pull-out sofas for the little ones. Cribs are available upon request. Lanai rooms are small but offer easy access to the beach. Large junior suites and one-bedroom suites, some with dividing doors and two bathrooms, are also available. In each

room, you'll find air-conditioning, mini-refrigerators, hair dryers, radio, color televisions with cable and telephones. Many rooms have private terraces, some overlooking the Caribbean; others giving you a gorgeous view of Jamaica's lush mountains.

Strollers are a familiar sight, and with ramps throughout the property, it's easy to find your way to the beach bar & grill, water sports desk, gymnasium, skin care center, billiard room, table tennis, arts & crafts centre and games arcade (no tokens necessary...it's part of the price!). These are just the amenities on the beach boardwalk.

Take the beach elevator to the roof, and you'll discover a large family pool (complete with volleyball net and basketball hoop) and nearby barbecue park. Daily, at noon and at five, you'll see the resort's **Supernannies** gather the children and feed them lunch or dinner. Always on the children's menu are hamburgers, hot dogs and fries, but other dishes include escoveitch fish, ziti pasta and sauce, salads, fresh fruit and desserts, even cotton candy and ice cream. Take a few more steps and see the swings, four lighted tennis courts and the mini petting zoo, on resort property.

Within the main building, there's a terrace restaurant and pavilion for buffets, a disco and billiard area. Follow the bear signs to the recently renovated nursery, kids center, beauty salon and gift shop.

Boscobel offers daily bicycle tours, banana boat rides, waterski instruction, windsurfing, sunfish and catamaran sailing. My husband enjoyed the complimentary scuba instruction and free dives. And while we chose to remain at the resort, others ventured to Dunn's River Falls, toured a plantation, brought back souvenirs from a shopping excursion or improved their game at the **SuperClubs Golf Club**, all part of the package.

Also a part of the property is an upscale duty-free shop, the adult's only pool, piano bar and Allegro Italian restaurant where reservations are required for a leisurely full-course meal.

With a constant focus on the family, a nurse is available 24 hours and a doctor remains on call. *The Boscobel Times* lists activities and locations so it's easy for your kids to meet up with their new friends. Signing in and out is necessary. There is a two-hour bus ride from the airport in Montego Bay, but even this is pleasant with complimentary drinks before boarding and the bathroom break halfway.

For parents who need a genuine break, Boscobel is a treasure, a place for rejuvenation and a vacation spot where memories are made to last a lifetime. Isn't that what the best vacations are all about? ■

Loriann Hoff Oberlin is a freelance writer based in Pittsburgh.

The Romance of the Caribbean

NEW YORK, NY TIMES
NOV. 12, 1995
Circ: 1,770,504

NEW YORK, NY
TIMES-NATIONAL ED.
NOV. 12, 1995
Circ: 340,061

The Caribbean was made for romance and the romantic. From private islands in the sun and luxurious villas to small hideaway hotels and major resorts designed and built with couples in mind, there is a setting to match nearly every daydream.

Jamaica has always appealed to romantics of all ages. There are posh small inns where the two of you can have all the privacy in the world as well as large resorts with wall-to-wall, around-the-clock activities. The Jamaica Inn in Ocho Rios is a classic small resort, formal and elegant with 45 rooms, gorgeous views of the sea and a crescent beach with individual palapa sun shelters for two. Beyond the sand and elegant dining, nearby off-campus activities include touring Firefly, Noël Coward's residence at Port Maria, rafting on the Rio Grande, golf and tennis. Romantics can even hold their wedding at the Jamaica Inn; with all the extras the complete wedding package, offered by general manager Rudi Schoenbein, costs less than \$500.



COOKIE KINKEAD



COOKIE KINKEAD

But Jamaica is also known for larger all-inclusive resorts with a full compliment of activities. There are seven couples-only Sandals resorts on Jamaica, each with rates covering rooms and suites with king-size beds and dining in four to five restaurants. A "Stay at One, Play at Six" plan allows couples to sample the facilities of all the Sandals resorts including scuba, golf, tennis, sailing, snorkeling, and waterskiing.

Since Sandals is an innovator of couples vacations it's no surprise that the company would also be a leader in packaging weddings. "WeddingMoons" combines all the parts of a wedding and honeymoon in one package, and starts at \$500. The resort's on-site wedding coordinators see to everything from flowers to music, a Caribbean wedding cake, champagne celebration, and a wedding-day video.

The five SuperClubs resorts on Jamaica are keyed to specific interests: family, grand luxury, active sports, etc. At three of the locations lavish wedding packages are free to guests. Choose Jamaica Jamaica on the North Shore at

Runaway Bay (good for golf, tennis and beach lovers) or San Souci Lido in Ocho Rios (for adults seeking personalized service) or Grand Lido in Negril (luxury with attentive service). Wedding arrangements include minister and marriage license, champagne, traditional Jamaican wedding cake, flowers and witness for free in an exotic locale — such as the

147-foot private yacht *Zein*.

The Caribbean provides the broadest spectrum of romantic vacation choices, from nonstop action resorts to serene hideaways. The Bahamas have always been a favorite romantic locale, especially since the islands are so close. For bright lights and casino action with loads of beach activities, there is

the Nassau Marriott which has honeymoon packages featuring champagne, fruit baskets, two honeymoon shirts, dinner at the Sole Mare restaurant, seaside buffet breakfasts and discounts on all the activities.

Special perks for newlyweds are also offered by the Radisson Cable Beach Casino & Golf Resort. Despite its size—18-hole golf course, 18 tennis courts, racquetball and squash courts and every watersport imaginable—romantics find plenty of quiet corners, including nine restaurants.

But once you get to the Out Islands of The Bahamas, all a short flight away, you could be on a desert island half a world away. You will find dozens of places away from the buzz of Nassau—like the Cotton Bay Club on Eleuthera. This recently renovated mid-size resort of 45 rooms offers golf, tennis and various watersports, plus a full range of other activities.

Barbados provides just the right mix of getaway possibilities and traditional Caribbean pleasures for honeymooners. For the ultimate in upscale romance, the twin Pemberton

*The Caribbean
provides the broadest
spectrum of romantic
vacation choices...*

New SuperClubs Open in Jamaica And The Bahamas

There's something new under the sun this winter—two brand-new properties from SuperClubs, the company that pioneered the concept of all-inclusive vacations. Breezes Bahamas, on beautiful Cable Beach in Nassau, and Breezes Montego Bay, right on Doctor's Cave Beach, in Jamaica, continue the tradition of including all meals, drinks, sports, and entertainment in one affordable flat rate. Tipping, of course, is not permitted. Both clubs are only minutes from the airport on the respective islands, so all-inclusive vacations start almost immediately. And each has satellite TV and a hair-dryer in every room; four bars, including Hurricanes disco; a piano bar; tennis courts; fitness center; and watersports.

At the 400-room Breezes Bahamas, prices start at \$250 a person, double occupancy, for two nights (\$860 for seven nights); at the 125-room Breezes Montego Bay, they begin at \$230 a person, double occupancy, for two nights (\$700 for seven nights)—through December 22, 1995. For reservations or more information, call your travel agent or SuperClubs at 800-859-SUPER (extension 493).



Impossible Get Packing!

You may assume that a tropical, midwinter vacation would be costly, but there are wonderful bargains if you look in the right places.

We did some investigating to help you find a vacation that's affordable and enjoyable for every family member—including the youngest.

Here are a number of family-oriented warm-weather destinations and some expert money-saving strategies to help get you there. ►

These affordable vacations are ideal for the whole family

BY
MARION ASNES

PETER MURPHY

Getaways

can Youth Hostels, a network of 5,000 hostels, costs \$35 a year; call 800-444-6111.)

The Caribbean: Surprisingly Affordable

An inexpensive midwinter Caribbean vacation is not an impossible dream. A few family resorts offer deals just after the holidays, when the rest of the world has resumed its work and school routines.

For example, in January, Club Med Family Villages has a Kids Free Week. Meals and children's programs are included (kids aged five and under stay free, although there's an annual \$20 membership fee per child). The Kids Free Week option is available at Family Villages in Ixtapa, Mexico; Punta Cana, Dominican Republic; St. Lucia; Eleuthera; and Florida. For each parent in a

family group, one child stays at no charge (call 800-CLUB MED).

Another January special is available at the Franklyn D. Resort, a family-oriented getaway in Jamaica. Grandparents and children stay free if you reserve a suite.

Meals, drinks, sports equipment (except scuba gear), and children's activities are

included. Your kids will love to observe marine life in the coral reefs during the complimentary glass-bottomed boat ride. (For information, call 800-654-1FDR).

Other reputable Caribbean resorts for families include Boscobel in Jamaica, Sapphire Beach in St. Thomas, and Atlantis in the Bahamas. No matter which island you

On a Tight Budget? Visit a National Park

Hotel rates and packages can change from month to month. No matter what your destination, make sure you get written confirmation on your reservations.

■ For a family on a budget, there may be no better winter vacation destination than a state or national park, according to Helena Koenig, president of The Ticket Counter, a travel agency in Chevy Chase, Maryland. "Parks have inexpensive accommodations, and they feature free programs like guided hikes and slide shows."

■ Central Florida's Blue Springs State Park (904-775-3663) in Orange City, for example, is a natural

habitat for manatees, the huge, placid aquatic beasts that sailors once mistook for mermaids. You can rent a two-bedroom cabin (linens included) with a kitchen and screened porch for \$55 a night. ■ The beaches at Cinnamon Bay Campground (800-539-9998) on the U.S. Virgin Island of St. John feature a terrific offshore coral reef for snorkeling. Families can rent tents for \$70 a night or cottages for \$90. Die-hard campers can rent bare sites for just \$15—the least expensive Caribbean vacation imaginable. Cinnamon Bay also has meals at \$26 a day for adults and \$21 for children.

Jamaica up to par for golfing vacation

By JEFF WILLIAMS

NEWSDAY

Most people don't travel to Jamaica just to play golf. They go for the warmth, the beaches and the atmosphere. But you can go to play golf, and it's not a bad idea. You can still go to the beach, still get your fill of jerk chicken and Red Stripe beer.

Golf in Jamaica is mostly on its north shore, from Negril at the far west to Ocho Rios closer to the eastern end. Seven of Jamaica's nine golf courses can be found along that strip on the Coast Highway, A-1. You can also find about a thousand shacks that use the jerk process to cook meats. The other two golf clubs and the other thousand jerk shacks can be found outside of Kingston.

The best and most expensive of all Jamaican golf courses is at the Tryall Resort. The course has been the host of the Johnnie Walker World Championship of golf, though they change the holes around a bit for good television viewing.

If you stay at the Tryall Resort, just west of Montego Bay, it can cost as little as \$60 to play the course. If you're not a guest it can cost as much as \$125. The catch on the smaller greens fees for guests is that it can easily cost you close to \$400 a day to stay at Tryall.

The course twists itself up the hillsides and slides back down to the beach. It's got plenty of length from the back tees at more than 6,900 yards at a par of 70. Play the course shorter for a better experience. Not even the world's best players tear this baby up from the back tees each December.

Tryall has a substantial golf school run by Nelson Long Jr., the pro at the Century Club in Purchase, N.Y. Nelson brings along several of his former teaching assistants at the club, including Darrell Kestner and Rick Meskell, two of the best professionals in the New York area. Three-day schools are conducted in March. For information on the schools, call the Tryall pro shop at (809) 956-5681.

"Tryall is a very substantial course," says Meskell. "I think it's kept in the best shape of any course on the island and certainly is in better shape than the average Caribbean course."

A really lovely hole at Tryall is the fourth, a par 3 that was not part of Ralph Plummer's original design. It plays across the Flint River where it spills into the Caribbean, and if the wind is blowing full force, it's a desperately difficult little number.

To the far west of Tryall is Negril Hills, Jamaica's newest

course with the final nine holes barely a year old. It will cost you about \$35 with cart to play this course, and you better take the cart. This course has more ups and downs than Thunder Mountain and you don't want to be walking it in the strong Jamaica sun.

Nearby at Negril Hills, there is a 7-mile beach, should the urge hit to sunbathe (clothing optional) before or after your round. On the course itself, there are pretty views looking inland. You can stay at the Swept Away Resort and play Negril Hills for little or nothing.

Just east of Montego Bay are three courses close together off the Coast Highway: Ironshore Golf and Country Club, Half Moon Bay Golf Club and Wyndham Rose Hall. The Half Moon Bay Club is a Robert Trent Jones layout next to the highway on a fairly uninteresting stretch of land. Jones did what he could by making the bunkering forceful and the greens a bit fanciful, with more undulations in them than the average fair way.

Wyndham Rose Hall has a course with plenty of undulation throughout. There will be sidehill lies and cursing about bad bounces that give you some really awkward lies, but hey, you're in Jamaica, so relax and play your next shot, mon.

Ironhorse is a little track that is fairly lush. It has fine views of the Caribbean to the north and the tropically lush hills to the south, and it's a good place to have no worries; just bat the ball around.

Still farther east near Runaway Bay is the Superclubs Runaway Bay Golf Course. Superclubs is one of those all-inclusive places, from greens fees to rum drinks. It's unlikely you'll be playing any serious golf here, but that's not the point.

The Sandals Golf and Country Club is another up and down course. It's short and to the point.

Near the Kingston area is the Caymanas Golf Club, at which they played the Jamaican Open until 1987. There is a short course near Kingston called Constant Spring, which is very tight and bordered by a residential neighborhood. For a quirky round, it's worth a morning, but don't drive down from the north shore for it.

Jamaican caddies are not known to be quite as adept as their Scottish counterparts, but they don't cost all that much, maybe \$20 at the most, and they can be entertaining. They are also known to improve your lie in the rough on occasion.

Asbury Park, NJ
Press
Monmouth Mat Area

Sunday SUN 227.533

NOV 19, 1995

N3790

PHOTO

Going nude doesn't have to mean lewd

By YOLANDA T. NAVARRA
STAFF WRITER

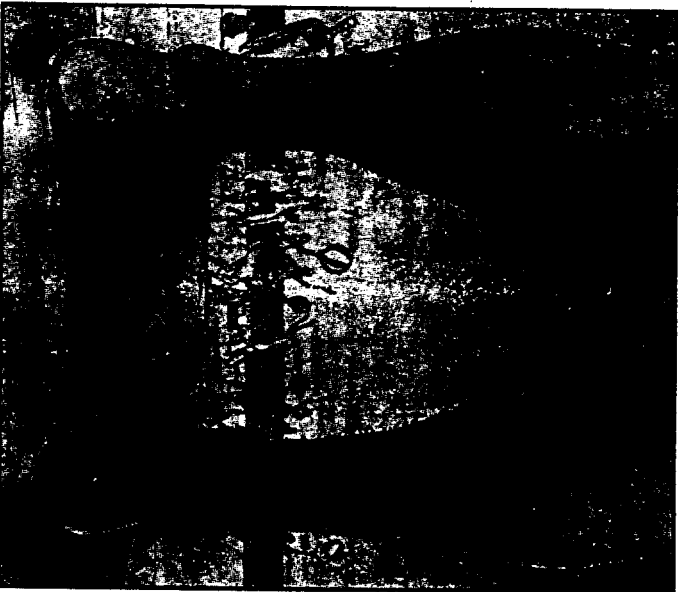
Up until last year, I was a novice when it came to nude beaches.

My first visit to Gunnison Beach on Sandy Hook, during summer, was slightly uncomfortable. I spent most of the time worrying I'd be sunburned from head to toe or that I'd see someone I knew. But after not being burned and not seeing any familiar faces, my focus turned inward. I realized how much I enjoyed the freedom of nudity.

After a few more visits, my significant other and I were invited to a mostly nude party for couples. Nude swimming in a large, heated pool and resting in a spa were so enjoyable, we decided to try leaving clothes behind for our next vacation.

We chose a three-day stay in August at Club Paradise, a nudist resort in Land O' Lakes, Fla., and a five-day trip to Hedonism II in Negril, Jamaica.

At Club Paradise, the key is relaxation. Couples, singles and families swim, play tennis, exercise in the workout room, eat in an excellent restaurant overlooking a lake, dance in a night club and sing karaoke while nude all the time. People not only vacation there, some live there.



STEVE BREEN/STAFF ILLUSTRATION

There are condominiums and small homes on the premises, as well as a beauty salon, massage therapist and boutiques in the pool area.

The crowd at Paradise, other than a sprinkling of children, was generally 30 to 60 years old. Everyone was friendly and helpful, keeping to themselves unless spoken to, which this traveler appreciated.

Hedonism II was different. There was rowdiness in the air. There were more single people and a party atmosphere prevailed, though it wasn't obtrusive. The disco pumped loud, bass-heavy music until 5 a.m. every morning. Some nights had themes, including toga night and pajama party night. An all-inclusive price encouraged people to drink more than they might have otherwise.

Ted Friedli, an area travel agent who arranged our trip, said the party atmosphere at Hedonism II can vary, depending on when you go.

"During Christmas, New Year's and spring break can offer more of a party atmosphere than if you go during the low season. It's the only resort that caters to younger singles and nobody else. It's a younger crowd."

As far as service, he said, "It's middle of the road.

Please see **Nude**, page F4

Going nude not necessarily lewd

From page F1

You get what you pay for. It's medium-priced, so you get better service than you'd get at an all-inclusive Holiday Inn, but not as good as an all-inclusive Hyatt, or Sandals, which is couples only."

Heavenly freedom

I had no complaints about the service at Hedonism II. At times, we even found clothes folded that we had left rumpled. In the dining area, there was a constant flood of servers. The resort also has a restaurant called Pastafari, where you can order from a menu when the buffet doesn't suit your appetite. The food was better than I expected, with delicious seafood dishes every day, a good variety at every meal and a salad, bread, fruit and dessert bar.

Hedonism features two small beaches: the nude beach and the prude beach, which was the larger of the two. On either beach, you don't have to go far for a drink. Daiquiris flow all day long. Surprisingly, most of the 30 and older crowd was on the nude beach, while the single crowd clung to the prude side, where everyone kept their bathing suits on.

Let me stop here if you're wondering what difference it can make having a bathing suit on or off. Swimming in the warm, clear water without having to empty the sand out of my bathing suit bottom can be described only in one word: heavenly.

At the same time, the whole issue raised some questions in my mind. Why does it seem many people associate nudism with immorality? Why do some people equate nude beaches with "anything-goes" behavior? Why is it assumed that people can't be trusted to respect each other's space?

I admit there's a possibility of unwelcome advances, but that can happen anywhere, whether or not a person is fully clothed. And there are certain nudist circles that center on sybaritic behavior. But there are also many nudists who simply want to enjoy being naked outdoors.

During my vacation and beach visits, I frankly didn't know what to expect. But I was surprised at how considerate and respectful people were — and how wholesome the experience was.

Reunions of regulars

Here's a case in point. While wading in the water our second day in Ja-

maica, we struck up a conversation with two other couples about a rainbow that had appeared over the water the previous day. They were two sisters — wonderful people — from Pittsburgh, Pa., traveling with their husbands. This was their fifth consecutive summer vacation in the same place.

"Five times!" I exclaimed, nearly spilling my drink into the Caribbean. "Why would you want to go to the same place five times?"

They said there were no nude beaches where they live. For one vacation each year, why go anywhere else and chance having a lousy time? (I suddenly felt extremely grateful for Sandy Hook.)

An executive on the return airplane flight told us he had been to Hedonism II 11 times. He said he felt very comfortable there and had gotten to know many repeat visitors. He said a group of people synchronize their vacations for informal reunion parties. For me, that's taking things a little too far.

Vanity fades away

Friends asked if I felt uncomfortable when it became obvious I was being stared at. Not really, I discovered. People look at each other all the

time and will not stop if you happen to be naked — and it's OK. It comes down to feeling secure enough to not worry about what anyone is thinking and relaxed enough to enjoy your freedom from clothing.

But it's not natural, some may argue, because people don't walk around naked in most places. I would respond that it is natural. There was a time, before civilization as we know it, when people were naked outside, unless it was too cold or they preferred wearing fig leaves.

They didn't have fancy jeans, Armani suits, sun dresses or swimsuits. They didn't worry about being in style or out of fashion.

My experience made me think materialism may have distorted our opinions of ourselves and others. Wouldn't it be nice to not worry about where your bikini is riding up or falling down? Or how that shade of red doesn't match your skin tones?

So, does going naked make a person more or less vain? I'd say less. We're not our Calvin Klein jeans.

If you meet people, unclothed on the beach, who have never seen you naked, you'll notice you're all blessed with the same anatomical parts. It's a very democratizing experience.

WHAT: Nudist resorts.

WHERE: Club Paradise, Land O'Lakes, Fla. Poolside hotel rooms cost \$65 per night (for one or two nights) and \$60 per night (three or more nights) during winter and spring season (Feb. 3 to May 31); \$55 per night (one night) and \$50 per night (two or more nights) during the off-season. Also available are two-bedroom condos, which sleep up to six people, with a full kitchen, for \$100 per night (one night) and \$90 per night (two or more nights) for the high season and \$90 per night (one night) and \$80 per night (two or more nights). All-inclusive packages are also available; telephone 1-800-237-2226.

WHERE: Hedonism II, Negril, Jamaica. Prices vary from about \$1,000 for seven nights during low (hurricane) season to \$1,500 during summer season. The cost includes air fare from Newark Airport, per person for seven nights, all-inclusive; telephone 1-800-859-SUPER.

If you've ever considered taking a nude vacation, I suggest starting at a beach like Gunnison Beach at Sandy Hook. You might find you get so used to the freedom and comfort of nudity, you'll feel uncomfortable, even awkward, when you have to wear a bathing suit.

When you get over your self-con-

sciousness, you may realize — as I did — that it makes you feel more confident in other situations.

You also might want to try other things without the worry of what to wear — nude sailing, roller blading, tennis, dining — or maybe even an entire vacation.

Plenty of beauty to recommend vacation in Jamaica

By LISA ADDISON
San Antonio Express-News

NEGRIL, Jamaica — It's a lazy afternoon on a sun-drenched beach and a wedding is going on. Men in Speedos, women in bikinis and little kids in their birthday suits watch a young German couple kiss.

When the wedding is over, the couple poses for photos and offers cake to strangers. Ahhh, Jamaica.

Legend has it that when Errol Flynn, the washbuckling, romantic film star, visited Jamaica in the 1940s, he described it as "more beautiful than any woman I've ever seen."

It's still quite beautiful, but Jamaica has changed a great deal since the days when Flynn roamed the island.

The downside is that the crime rate is higher than it used to be, many residents are unemployed and drugs are rampant.

Visitors should be careful going out alone late at night — as they would in any unfamiliar U.S. cities.

One afternoon at a crafts market I attempted to take a photo of a man who was weaving. He ran after me with a ma-

chete-type knife, yelling that I must pay him if I wanted to take his photo.

But there are still many positives in this tropical paradise.

The third largest of the Caribbean islands, Jamaica is 146 miles long. It's mountainous, with about half of the island more than 1,000 feet above sea level. Blue Mountain Peak reaches 7,402 feet.

The water is a beautiful blue-green; tree frogs sing at night; the weather is nice almost year-round; and nearby resorts offer amenities galore.

At the Poiana Beach Resort, youngsters can swim, play games, paint, make crafts or take part in educational activities, while their parents snorkel, scuba dive or jet ski.

Kid's offerings include Camp Anancy Fun & Nature Park, featuring miniature golf, fishing, carousel rides and paddle-boat cruises.

There are other amenities besides child care. Set aside a half-hour one afternoon and get a massage in a beach hut while listening to waves crash against the shore.

Poiana's water-sports include guided scuba diving and snorkeling, scuba for begin-

ners, windsurfing, sailing, pedal boats, kayaks and glass-bottom boat tours. Night dives and underwater cameras also are available.

Land recreation includes beach volleyball, billiards, lawn and table tennis, croquet, basketball, horseshoes, shuffleboard and garden chess, three weekly bicycle tours to the village of Negril, a light-house and craft market, and a 24-hour exercise gym.

For a different experience — one that isn't for everyone — check out SuperClubs Hedonism II. The clothing-optional resort caters to singles and couples who seek total escape. Guests must be older than 18.

One afternoon, a woman who braids hair on the beach passed along this tidbit: "Dear, there are only two things you can be here at Hedonism II — a prude or a nudie."

If you're also a prude and don't want to partake of everything the resort offers, no problem. Guests can stroll along the beach in their swimsuits. But be forewarned that you might see some eye-popping sights.

The property is on 22 acres of landscaped gardens along Negril's seven-mile beach, on Ja-

maica's western shore. Hedonism II's sports and recreation facilities include: air-conditioned squash courts, badminton, basketball, volleyball, shuffleboard, table tennis and cycling.

Nighttime is when Hedonism II really heats up. Themed parties — such as Toga Night, the Pajama Party and the Reggae Beach Party — are organized weekly. The disco opens at 11 p.m. and closes when the last guest leaves.

You might head over to the T-Water Hotel one evening and enjoy a beach party and dinner on the beach. There's an interesting story behind the hotel's name. When the owners' daughter was a baby, she couldn't pronounce the letters S. Seawater was pronounced Teawater, hence the T-Water Hotel.

The hotel's beach party features an all-you-can-eat barbecue buffet, pumpkin soup, fruit

and several choices of dessert. For entertainment, check out the limbo contest or the reggae dancers.

The Home Sweet Home hotel, on the cliffs of Negril, offers an off-the-beaten-path experience.

You can enjoy breakfast overlooking the sea. Although it doesn't cater to clothing-optional guests, it does feature a clothing-optional area for sunbathing.

Travel in Jamaica requires special information

Here are a few things that tourists should be aware of when visiting Jamaica:

- If traveling directly from the United States, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands, Americans can enter Jamaica with proof of U.S. citizenship, photo identification, return ticket and sufficient funds.
- A tourist card is issued on arrival for stays of up to six months.
- Traffic moves on the left in Jamaica.
- Medical care is often lim-

ited and doctors and hospitals usually expect immediate cash payment for health services.

- U.S. medical insurance is not always valid outside the United States.
- Crime is a serious problem in Kingston, and the U.S. Embassy suggests that flights in and out of there be scheduled for daylight hours.
- Purse snatching and pickpocketing occur frequently in Kingston, especially on public transportation.
- Be wary of walking after

dark in Kingston, and of taking unlicensed taxicabs.

- Resorts featuring self-contained facilities offer a higher degree of security.
- U.S. citizens are subject to the laws of the country in which they are traveling. Criminal penalties for possession, use, and dealing in illegal drugs — including marijuana — are strict, and convicted offenders can expect lengthy jail sentences and fines.

Source: Consular section of the U.S. Embassy in Jamaica.

New York, NY
Times
New York City Met Area

Sunday

SUN 1,770,504

NOV 12, 1995

N4068

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS



Terry A. Knox, Charles P. Ramseur

Terry Ann Knox, a daughter of Mary V. Knox of Reading, Pa., and the late John W. Knox, and Charles Phillip Ramseur, the son of Patricia and Charles F. Ramseur of Brooklyn, were married yesterday in St. Ann, Jamaica. The Rev. Raphael Mason, a nondenominational minister, performed the ceremony at the Jamaica Jamaica, a resort.

The bride, 36, and the bridegroom, 33, work at the Meridian Bank in Reading, she as a loan administrator and he as a manager of consumer loan programs. She graduated from Davidson College and received a law

degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Mr. Ramseur is a graduate of Lehigh University.

The bride's father was a laborer at the American Chain and Cable Company, a former manufacturer of steel parts in Reading. Her mother is a retired nursing assistant.

The bridegroom's parents work for the City of New York, his mother in Manhattan as the director of the Office of High School Admissions and his father in Brooklyn as a supervisor with the Department of Social Services.

Jersey City, NJ
Jersey Journal
Hudson Ed.
Jersey City Mat Area

Saturday

D 30.584

NOV 4. 1995

N3874

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS



JORDAN-HUGHES - Tifanni G. Jordan of Jersey City, a graduate of St. Peter's College in Jersey City and a teacher in the Kansas City School System in Missouri, has wed R. Danan Hughes of Bayonne, a graduate of the University of Iowa and a football player for the Kansas City Chiefs in Kansas City, Missouri. Tifanni is the daughter of Andrea Davidson and Anthony Jordan of Jersey City; R. Danan is the son of Vermette and Robert Hughes of Bayonne. The wedding was held June 27 on Boscobel Beach, Ocho Rios, Jamaica. The couple honeymooned in Jamaica and now live in Kansas City.

ALEXANDRIA JOURNAL

NOV. 14, 1995

Circ: 5,283

ARLINGTON JOURNAL

NOV. 14, 1995

Circ: 6,756

FAIRFAX JOURNAL

NOV. 14, 1995

Circ: 42,677

Springfield, VA
Arlington Journal
Washington DC Met Area

Tuesday

D 8.756

NOV 14. 1995

N14688

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

Carlson — Schmalhofer

On Saturday, Aug. 19, Erica Lyn Carlson of Burke was united in marriage with Markus Klaus Schmalhofer of Munich, Germany.

The couple exchanged vows at a bilingual Nuptial Mass celebrated by the Rev. Cedric Wilson at the Old Post Chapel, Fort Myer.

The bride, daughter of retired Lt. Cmdr. Richard and Lyndorcas Carlson of Burke, is a 1988 valedictorian of Lake Braddock Secondary School and magna cum laude graduate of James Madison University. She is a teacher with Fairfax County Public Schools at her alma mater, Lake Braddock.

The groom, son of Herr and Frau Rudolph Schmalhofer of Munich, is a recent MBA graduate of the University of Munich and is employed with Peat Marwick LLP.

Members of the bridal party included friends; both brothers of the bride, Tim and Chris Carlson; the groom's brother, Andreas, and cousin Eva Schmalhofer.

An international dinner-dance reception was held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott. The newlyweds honeymooned at the San Souci Lido, Ocho Rios.

New Paltz, NY
News

Wednesday

W 5,000

NOV 1, 1995

N47547

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

Talk of the Town

**NEW PALTZ
TRAVEL CENTER INC.**

New Paltz Travel at The Cherry Hill Center, has a great new innovation in vacation travel: **SuperClubs**. A **SuperClubs** vacation means freedom. Freedom to choose the resort that perfectly matches your personality. Each one designed to provide the ultimate vacation, perfectly matched to your lifestyle. From the elegance of **Grand Lido Negril** to a slightly wicked week at **Hedonism II** to the high-tech golf and tennis schools at **Jamaica Jamaica**. From the magical romance of **Couples** to the family fun of **Boscobel Beach**, they make your dreams come true. For the

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TRAVEL AGENT
New York, NY

WEEKLY

59.018

NOV 20, 1995

M17752

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

F.Y.I.

✓ **ZENITH MERGER?**

TA hears that New York-based Zenith Travel is in merger discussions with a major agency in Chicago. Zenith President Andrew Pesky would only say his firm is "exploring all kinds of possibilities—buying, selling, merging—but everything's in the exploratory stage."

✓ **HVB DEPARTURE**

Cathleen Johnson has resigned as senior vice president-marketing for the Hawaii Visitors Bureau. Johnson has held the post for the past 18 months since moving from Daniel J. Edelman Public Relations in Chicago.

✓ **WYNDHAM HIRE**

Wyndham has lured former Boston-based Sheraton executive Ed Stahl to Houston to replace Caren Kline as corporate vice president-marketing.

✓ **IST TAPS HALL**

Suzanne Hall, vice president-marketing at New York-based Jet Vacations, has moved to IST Cultural Tours as vice president-marketing and sales, replacing Chris Vukelich, who left IST in October.

✓ **SUPERCLUBS VP**

George "Skip" Muns starts today as Jamaica-based SuperClubs' vice president-sales and administration. Muns is replacing Paul Pennicook, who moved to Sandals last month.

TRAVEL WEEKLY
Secaucus, NJ

SEMI-WEEKLY

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NOV 13, 1995

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PRESS CLIPPINGS

SuperClubs Extends Winter Savings Deal

NEW YORK — SuperClubs has extended its Winter Early Booking Savings offer until midnight Nov. 21.

For example, guests can save up to \$405 per couple on stays of six nights or longer at Grand Lido and Sans Souci Lido.

The savings promotion also applies to Jamaica Jamaica, Boscobel Beach, Hedonism II, Breezes Montego Bay and Breezes Bahamas.

Call (800) 859-SUPER.

EN ROUTE TO: THE BAHAMAS

Demand Seen Growing As New Resorts Come On-line

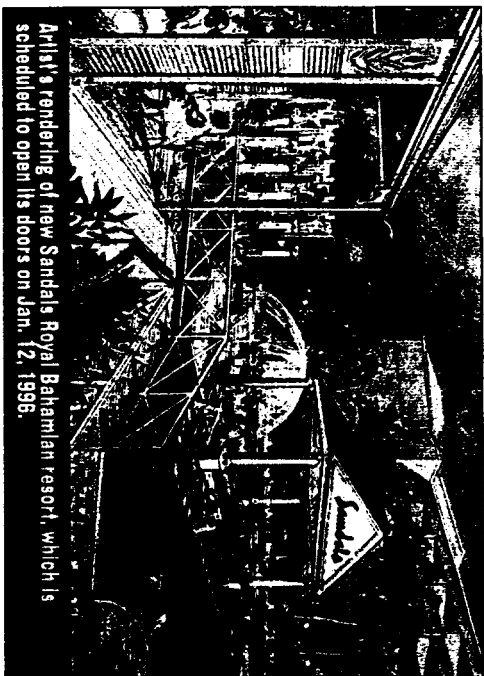
BY SUZANNE SMITH JULIANO

NEW YORK — Interest in the Bahamas generated by the opening of Atlantis, Paradise Island last winter is likely to further intensify this year, as several new all-inclusive resorts come on line and other resorts improve their properties.

This winter will see the addition of two newly renovated all-inclusive resorts to Nassau's product offering: SuperClubs' new Breezes Bahamian resort, which opened two months ago; and the new Sandals Royal Bahamian, scheduled to open its doors in January.

This new competition has spurred existing properties on Nassau and Paradise Island to renovate

Competition Spurs Renovation To Existing Properties



Artist's rendering of new Sandals Royal Bahamian resort, which is scheduled to open its doors on Jan. 12, 1996.

their properties as well. The result for travel agents and their clients: a better (and possibly more pricey) product all around.

In addition to raising the image of Nassau and Paradise Island in

the minds of agents and consumers and broadening the market of travelers to the island, hoteliers are hoping the investment in the island's hotel plant and improvement of the product

will enable them to bring up rack rates, which had suffered in the past as a result of discounting in the market. "Last year saw a move forward in occupancy," said George Myers, chairman of the Myers Group, which operates the Radisson Cable Beach Resort. "This year we're seeing occupancies and rates increasing."

SuperClubs opened Breezes Bahamas, its first all-inclusive resort on the Bahamas, on Sept. 2, with a total investment of more than \$25 million. Formerly the Ambassador Beach Hotel, the property was purchased last September from the Bahamian government and completely renovated.

The 400-room resort, set on

1,000 feet of Cable Beach, 10 minutes from Nassau International Airport, is being marketed under the Breezes brand of SuperClubs all-inclusive resorts, a new brand of moderately-priced all-inclusives designed for value-conscious travelers.

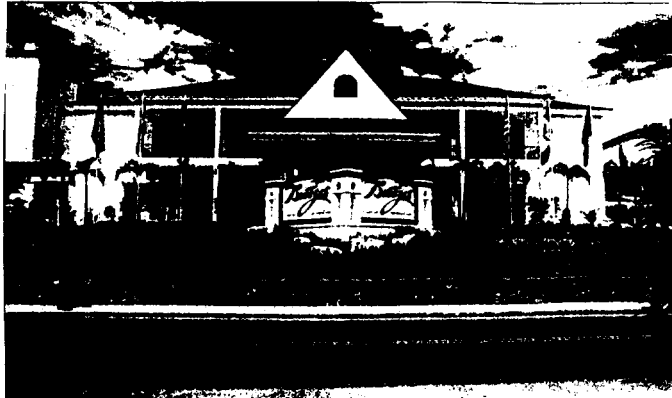
SANDALS' DEBUT

At the other end of Cable Beach, Sandals Resorts' first Bahamian property, Sandals Royal Bahamian, is slated to open Jan. 12, 1996. Sandals purchased the hotel, previously the Le Meridien Royal Bahamian Hotel, from the Bahamian government last January; the property is currently undergoing a \$20 million renovation and expansion.

Spread over 13 acres on Cable Beach, the resort will feature 196 rooms in six categories, five restaurants, entertainment in an open-air amphitheater, a water-sports pavilion, and an exercise center and spa. Steven Ziadie, previously general manager of Sandals Antigua, will serve as general manager of Sandals Royal Bahamian.

To promote the resort, Sandals will offer summer rates during the winter season, with rates starting at \$505 per person for a minimum two-night stay.

In contrast to the mega-resorts that populate much of Nassau,



SuperClubs invested more than \$25 million in its new Breezes Bahamas resort (above), which opened to guests two months ago.

The arrival of Breezes and Royal Bahamian has also spurred the Paradise Island Fun Club, the only all-inclusive on Paradise Island, to renovate and upgrade its property. The resort is currently closed while a new front entrance, lobby and front desk, lobby bar and night club are being constructed.

The resort is also putting in an 18-hole miniature golf course, shooting cages and batting cages, as well as a pro shop, food, snack and drink outlets, all of which will be included in the all-inclusive price. The property will re-open on Dec. 1.

"We had to do that because now we have all-inclusives such as Sandals and SuperClubs coming," said owner Joseph Moinian. "So we wanted to do the renovations. We can't afford to look tired."

Guest rooms are being renovated, with new soft goods, carpeting and color scheme, from now through December of 1996. Including the guest rooms, a total of \$6 million is being spent on the renovations.

As a result of the increased interest in the Bahamas, the Paradise Island Fun Club, which averaged an 81 percent occupancy between

January and April of last year, is expecting to do at least 5 percentage points higher, Moinian said.

The improved hotel product, as well as the improving image of the destination, has enabled several properties on Nassau and Paradise Island to bring up their rack rates.

Atlantis, Paradise Island has been able to increase its room rate by \$40 percent and still maintain a 90 percent occupancy rate since Jan. 15, according to Richard Cortese, senior vice president of operations for Atlantis.

The Radisson Cable Beach has also been able to raise its rates. "We've been able to move our rates along, and by the winter of '96 we'll be able to further move them," said George Myers, chairman of The Myers Group, which operates the Radisson property.

"We kept our prices the same for 1995/96 for two reasons: we had all these all-inclusives coming into town and I wanted to stay ahead of the competition; and since we were closing the hotel for a small period, I didn't want to hit people with a high price," Moinian said. "But our rack rates for '97 will certainly go higher. We're looking at somewhere about 5 to 10 percent."

TOUR & TRAVEL NEWS/
TTG NORTH AMERICA
San Francisco, CA

WEEKLY

51.919

NOV 20, 1995

CARIBBEAN / BAHAMAS & BERMUDA

Consumers Want More Nassau; Ops Move To Comply

By SUZANNE SMITH JERIANO

NEW YORK — All the buzz about the improvements taking place in Nassau, Bahamas, and the new resorts opening there has created renewed interest in the destination among consumers. Tour operators are filling that demand with increased packaging out of several markets this winter.

In the Midwest, northeast and southeast, tour operators are increasing frequency of their scheduled and charter tour programs in anticipation of a strong winter season to Nassau.

More Packages Will Be Offered Out Of Several Markets This Winter

"The interest in Nassau started last year on the East Coast, and it's making its way around the country," said Ray Mathes, director of market planning for Apple Vacations. "It seems people's curiosity about Nassau is piqued. Atlantis stirred a lot of publicity, and when you have Super Clubs or Butch [Stewart of Sandals] going into new places, it stirs up a lot of interest."

New Growth

Jamaica's accommodations industry continues to blossom

Jamaica's collection of resorts and hotels continues to grow, giving visitors greater variety and choice in island accommodations.

Many properties also have renovated or upgraded facilities and added new features. Following is a round-up of the major news involving the island's lodging companies:

Breezes. The SuperClubs chain of inclusive resorts this September opened Breezes in Montego Bay, its newest Jamaican property.

Breezes Montego Bay, along with another new Breezes in Nassau, the Bahamas, are also the first properties in a new line of resorts for SuperClubs:



Adventurous visitors at SuperClubs' Boscobel Beach.

moderately-priced, all-inclusive resorts designed for value-con-

scious singles and couples.

Breezes Montego Bay is a five-story resort set on Doctor's Cave Beach. All of its 124 rooms and suites — ranging from oceanfront, one-bedroom suites to standard rooms — feature air-conditioning, direct dial telephones, satellite televisions with VCRs, clock radios, safety deposit boxes and hair dryers.

Recreational facilities and activities include a complete fitness center, nautilus equipment, aerobics and aquacize classes, tennis court lighted for night play, volleyball, swimming pool and jacuzzi.

Water sports include windsurfing, sailing, kayaking, snorkeling and waterskiing. Scuba diving, deep-sea fishing, day cruises and golf at a choice of two nearby clubs are available at an extra cost.

The resort has three dining outlets and four bars.

As with all SuperClubs resorts, the Breezes vacation includes accommodations, meals and snacks, premium brand drinks, land and water sports with instruction and equipment, recreational activities and entertainment and airport transfers. Tipping is not permitted.

SuperClubs operates five other resorts in Jamaica:

Boscobel Beach near Ocho Rios; Grand Lido and Hedonism II, both in Negril; Jamaica Jamaica in Runaway Bay, and Sans Souci Lido in Ocho Rios.

For more information call (800) 859-SUPER.

SuperClubs' New Breezes Introduce Moderate Rates

Reed Travel Features

NEW YORK — The winds of change are blowing at two SuperClubs properties that opened simultaneously on Nassau, Bahamas, and on Jamaica.

Breezes Bahamas and Breezes Montego Bay officially opened Sept. 2, with SuperClubs chairman John Issa ceremoniously opening the doors at his two newest inclusive properties.

Breezes is the latest SuperClubs brand, a moderately

priced product.

Issa said the goal is to reach a market slightly different from that already familiar with the company's other Jamaica properties.

The 400-room Breezes Bahamas is set on 1,000 feet of Nassau's Cable Beach, 10 minutes from the Nassau airport. It is the first inclusive resort in Nassau.

Formerly the Ambassador Beach Hotel, the property was purchased and renovated at a

cost of more than \$25 million.

Breezes Montego Bay, with 124 rooms, is a newly constructed facility located on Doctor's Cave Beach, a short drive from the Montego Bay airport.

"Both Breezes Bahamas and Breezes Montego offer all the amenities of a Super-Inclusive vacation," Issa said, using the company's term for its package programs.

Breezes vacations include accommodations, all meals, un-

limited premium-brand drinks, unlimited land and water sports with equipment and instruction, entertainment, free weddings, airport transfers and hotel taxes.

Tipping is not permitted.

Gary Williams, former general manager of Hedonism II in Negril, is the general manager of Breezes Bahamas. Neville Hudson, former resident manager at Grand Lido, also in Negril, is the general manager of Breezes Montego Bay.

For more information or to make reservations, call SuperClubs at (800) 859-SUPER.

SELLING ALL-INCLUSIVES

JEFFREY LAIGN



When you book
one of SuperClubs'
all-inclusive
resorts,
your clients
will save money
and have an
unforgettable
Caribbean
vacation.

Leave home without it. That's the easy-to-sell concept behind all-inclusive resorts, where you don't need a credit card to cash in on a value-added vacation. In the last few years, all-inclusives have sprung up throughout the Caribbean, proving so popular with vacationers that many "a la carte" hotels now offer all-inclusive packages.

"There is something very special about being able to pay one price and have a good idea of what you're getting before you arrive," says Richard Doumeng, vp of Bolongo Resorts, a pioneer of the all-inclusive concept on St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Today, he says, "People are still bargain hunting, and this is still a growth market."

What type of client goes for all-inclusives? "Initially we attracted a younger market," Doumeng says. "In addition, all-inclusives are extremely popular with honeymooners. But we are also seeing older couples and more mature, experienced travelers now."

Making up the fastest-growing market at the all-inclusive Bolongo Limetree Resort are people over 45, especially families with teenagers. "God knows, they can eat," Doumeng says. "With an all-inclusive, all your meals are included in the price."

At Breezes Bahamas, SuperClub's new mid-priced resort on Cable Beach, clients come from all walks of life, says Hedda Smith, sales director, but share one goal. These are people who want to get the most for their money."

With everything included—food, drinks, tips, activities—guests never have to leave the resort. But if they don't venture out from time to time, they'll miss the charm and ambience that characterize so many of the islands.

That's why Bolongo Limetree encourages locals to stop by for dinner or a drink with guests. "We try to give people a feel of the Caribbean, not just our property," says Doumeng.

To give you a feel for selling Caribbean all-inclusives, here's a rundown of some of the properties that wait your clients.

SANDALS

You can't talk about all-inclusives without mentioning Sandals, which operates resorts—most are couples only—in Jamaica, Antigua and St. Lucia. Last month Sandals opened the Royal Bahamian in Nassau; next summer it will unveil a resort in Barbados and a family-singles-couples hotel in Negril.

Rates at Sandals resorts are based on per-person occupancy with a minimum 3-night stay (except for

Sandals Royal Bahamian, where the minimum is two nights). One price includes all meals, drinks, accommodations, and water sports. Prices here are good from Dec. 22 through March 29. (800) SANDALS.

Sandals Montego Bay. Spread over 26 acres, this 244-room resort is on the largest private white-sand beach in Jamaica, surrounded by brilliant tropical gardens. Rates range \$675 for three nights to \$3,075 for seven.

Sandals Royal Jamaican. Reflecting Jamaica's plantation heritage, this is among Sandals' most elegant resorts. On 17 acres, the 190-room property offers continental breakfast in bed and gourmet dining on a private offshore island. Rates are \$700-\$1,995.

Sandals Negril. Best known for its gorgeous seven-mile beach, Sandals Negril is popular with watersports enthusiasts. The 21-acre, 215-room resort is secluded among lush palm groves. Rates: \$805-\$2,425.

Sandals Ocho Rios. This 237-room resort boasts 15 acres of fragrant tropical gardens, where guests enjoy babbling brooks and tranquility on a white sandy beach. Rates are \$725-\$1,810.

Sandals' Dunn's River. Featuring Jamaica's largest swimming pool, the 256-room, 25-acre resort is distinguished by Italian ambience. Rates are \$820-\$2,495.

Sandals Inn. Nestled on five acres, this cozy, 52-room resort abounds with romance. Rates are \$565-\$1,285.

Sandals Antigua. Damaged by Hurricane Luis, the resort on Dickenson Bay was to reopen this month. Rates are \$850-\$2,495.

Sandals St. Lucia. A 273-room beachfront resort on 155 lush acres and a half-mile stretch of crescent-shaped beach. Rates: \$905-\$2,960. (See Onsite Review October's RECOMMEND, p. 89)

Sandals Halcyon Beach. Sandals' second resort on St. Lucia, this luxurious 170-room property is on 3,600 feet of pristine white-sand beach. Rates: \$850-\$2,185. (See Onsite Review in October's RECOMMEND, p. 98).

Sandals Royal Bahamian. At the western end of Cable Beach, this property offers 174 rooms. Rates range from \$560 for two nights to \$2,220 for seven nights.

SUPERCLUBS

For a hassle-free vacation, send clients to SuperClubs, with luxurious resorts in Jamaica and The Bahamas. Under the "super-inclusive" plan, meals are feasts, cocktails have a kick and activities are unlimited.

"SuperClubs prides itself on the high level of service, quality and value offered to guests," says John Issa, company chairman, who opened Jamaica's first all-inclusive in 1976: Negril Beach Village (now called Hedonism II). (800) 859-SUPER. Rates are pp dbl.

Jamaica, Jamaica, in Runaway Bay, caters to golfers, tennis players and watersports enthusiasts. Jan. 6 to April 12 rates are \$745 for three nights and \$1,505 for seven nights.

Hedonism II in Negril is the ultimate for pleasure seekers; \$675-\$1,365, Jan. 6-April 12.

Boscobel Beach near Ocho Rios is the only super-inclusive resort for families. From Dec. 16 to April 12, guests pay \$815-\$1,645.

Sans Souci Lido in Ocho Rios, a AAA Four-Diamond resort, indulges guests with Old World elegance in tropical surroundings. Dec. 23 to April 12, a veranda suite ranges from \$1,035-\$2,100 for three to seven nights.

Grand Lido in Negril offers unparalleled elegance and luxury in a junior beachfront from \$1,125-\$2,275; Dec. 23 to April 12.

Breezes Bahamas, on New Providence's fabled Cable Beach, opened September under a brand catering to the mid-priced market. From Dec. 23 to April 12, rates range from \$135 midweek to \$165 weekends.

Breezes Montego Bay, which also opened in September, has a super-inclusive vacation at affordable prices. Dec. 23 to April 12, a 2-night standard room stay ranges \$345-\$1,050.

ALLEGRO

Book Allegro Resorts in the Dominican Republic and clients enjoy Old World charm in the birthplace of the New World. Allegro's rates, good from Jan. 3 to April 2, are pp dbl. (800) 858-2258.

Fun Royale on Playa Dorada in Puerto Plata is surrounded by a Robert Trent Jones 18-hole golf course and a short walk away from an enchanting beach; \$90.

Fun Tropicale, also on Playa Dorada, is a place that offers fun in the sun for people of all ages; \$80.

Tropics on Juan Dolio Beach offers a place to sit back and relax, knowing that whatever you want is right there waiting for you; \$79.

Decameron Club & Casino is a place where you can leave all your worries behind and indulge in unlimited pleasures; \$89.

Club on the Green on 16 beautifully landscaped acres at Playa Dorada is \$95.

Playa Grande in Rio San Juan features a beautiful blue ocean and luxuriant green mountains; \$100.

Bavaro in Punta Cana boasts a glorious 20-mile stretch of dazzling beach; \$115.

Costa Linda on Juan Dolio beach features watersports in the crystal-clear sea; \$82.

Diamond Costa Caribe, offers sand, sun and fun; \$105.

Luperon in Puerto Plata offers fun for the entire family on 40 luxurious acres of tropical landscaping; \$90.

CLUB MED

When it comes to all-inclusives, don't overlook the granddaddy of them all. Club Med opened its first hotel shortly after World War II, and today its resorts are worldwide. In the Caribbean, you'll find Club Meds in The Bahamas, Turks & Caicos, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and St. Lucia.

Each Club Med is a village in its own right. At Club Med Columbus Isle on San Salvador in The Bahamas, for example, cottages are painted in vibrant tropical colors and decorated with a \$2.5 million collection of native arts.

Club Med offers packages for singles, couples, families and special-interest groups. For rates, call (800) CLUBMED.

For additional supervalues on an island-by-island basis, check out these all-inclusives.

CARIBBEAN

CTC-19

Future trends of Caribbean tourism

The Caribbean Tourism Organization focuses on the Internet to encourage tourism to the region.

Roads in the Caribbean and on the Internet led to the **Nineteenth Annual Caribbean Tourism Conference (CTC-19)** held September 6-10 in Nassau, Bahamas. More than 1,200 delegates representing all sectors of Caribbean tourism attended the conference sponsored by the **Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO)** at the Marriott Crystal Palace on Cable Beach.

The theme of the conference, Trends in Information Technologies and Future Attractions, focused on recent developments which speed and facilitate disseminating information on Caribbean tourism. CTO itself is instituting its Caribbean Travel Planner on CompuServ, which will provide information on attractions, hotels, restaurants and shops throughout the Caribbean. CTO also announced its own Web Site on the Internet, offering more than 300 screens sponsored by its members.

Growing use of Internet

In his keynote address, **Max Hopper**, former chairman of American Airlines Sabre Group, commented on the growing linkage between computer systems and travel agents. According to

him, although less than ten percent of travel agents routinely use the Internet, this segment will increase rapidly. Agents already are familiar with obtaining information by computer, since 85 percent of agents make reservations on Computerized Reservation Systems (CRSs). It is only natural for agents to become Internet surfers in providing the most current information to their clients. Agents also should be aware that Internet users are an excellent market to pursue, since they are younger, higher-income consumers, who purchase leisure travel more frequently than the general population.

In his opening remarks, CTO's *chairman*, **Thomas Jefferson** (minister of tourism of the Cayman Islands), highlighted the theme of CTC-19, stating that "global technology is democratizing the marketplace. The information highway has brought consumers into the equation as equal partners." According to Minister Jefferson, the future of tourism depends not only on providing greater access to information, but also on increasing access to its attractions. He further commented, "To remain competitive, we need to stay on top of these advancements.... Just as important, however, we must not lose

sight of the unique and original 'software' which brings so many visitors to our shores — our natural beauty, our diverse cultures, and people whose hospitality keeps visitors coming back."

Member presentations

Many members of CTO presented their latest promotions and developments during conference sessions.

At the Trinidad & Tobago press briefing, **Clifford Hamilton**, the *executive director* of its **Tourism Development Authority**, provided a presentation on its new advertising campaign. A new logo, combining design elements from a carnival mask, the sun, and notes from a steel drum, symbolizing the two-island nation, will be used on ads that will appear in consumer, specialty and trade publications.

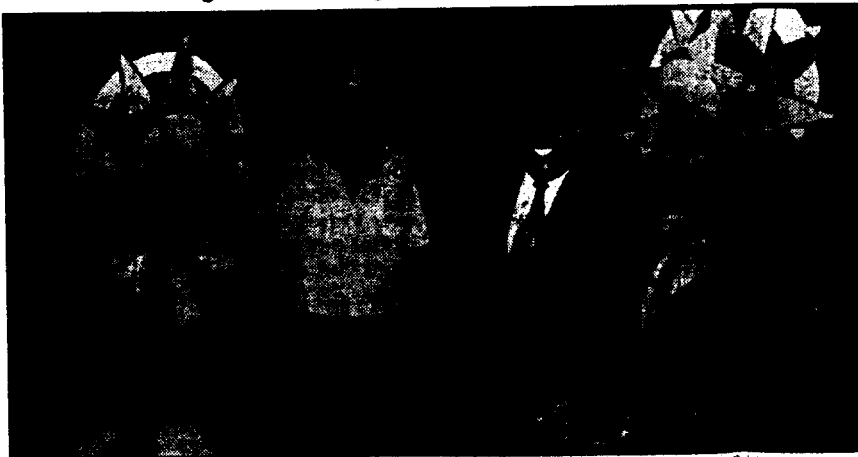
Mr. Hamilton also announced that direct service between New York and Tobago will be instituted this fall on the newly privatized **BWIA**. Hotel capacity on Tobago will expand significantly to 1,600 rooms with the opening of three hotels: *Le Grand Courlan*, the *Manta Lodge*, and *Coco Reef Resort*. It is expected that there will be a further expansion to nearly 2,000 rooms during the next five years.

Barbados will be the site of CTC-20 in 1996. At the **Barbados Tourism Authority's** breakfast, a major promotional campaign targeting Visa members was announced. And the island's cruise ship terminal will be expanded to accommodate more ship arrivals.

Bahamas renaissance

CTC-19 was an excellent opportunity to witness the renaissance of Bahamas tourism. During the last two years, over \$500 million of private funds has been invested in several tourism projects. **Frank Watson**, *deputy prime minister/minister of tourism* of the Bahamas, said at the conference, "Tourism is not the business of government alone or even primarily. Tourism is a team effort. Slowly but surely, we are bringing together the public and private sectors in a dynamic combination."

(continued on page 26)



The exciting sounds and vibrant colors of Junkanoo entertained guests at the recent reception celebrating the official opening of SuperClubs Breezes Bahamas. To help kick off the opening, Honorable Frank Watson, deputy prime minister and minister of tourism (second from right), joined SuperClubs Chairman John Issa during a sunset cocktail reception held during CTC-19.

HOTEL & MOTEL MANAGEMENT
Duluth, MN

SEMI-MONTHLY

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NOV 6, 1995

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LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS



Conference calls for bells and whistles

NASSAU, BAHAMAS—Frank Watson, Bahamas' Minister of Tourism (second from right), joined SuperClubs Chairman John Issa (second from left) at the 19th Annual Caribbean Tourism Conference.

NOV 20, 1995

Caribbean Rhythm: Hotels Develop At A Steady Pace

BY TONI GIOVANETTI

MIAMI— Hotel developers are building and seeking new sites in the Caribbean as an increase in tourism makes the region more appealing than ever, according to a report by Scott Berman, managing director here of Coopers & Lybrand.

Stay-over visitor arrivals to the 32 island countries were up 57% in 1993 over Caribbean Tourism Organization figures recorded in 1986. Annual growth in tourism has risen to 6.7% since 1989, compared to less than 4% for the prior two decades, according to the report.

Published in the latest issue of Hospitality Directions, Berman's report finds that expanded air service, improved tourism infrastructure, increased marketing budgets, a reduction in traveler costs and a boom in South American tourism are making the Caribbean market the focus of development efforts by at least half a dozen U.S.-based hotel chains, as well as many international hotel companies.

The revival in development that had

stopped in some areas in the '80s and is new to others is also influenced by changes in government policy allowing more construction, in addition to a trend of new construction of mid- and economy-segment limited service properties, according to Berman.

"What we're seeing is that the Caribbean is starting to become a destination that's less expensive and now we have a Sleep Inn and a Comfort Inn on the Cayman Islands—and they're doing extremely well," Berman said. "Ten years ago, that would have been unthinkable. It indicates that the Caribbean does appeal to a much bigger market than it traditionally has."

Attractive Destinations

Major U.S. chains that are pursuing development in the region include Marriott, Hyatt, Holiday Inn, Radisson, Hilton, Wyndham, Renaissance, Ramada, Choice and Sheraton. Aruba and Cayman Islands are undergoing the greatest increase in tourist arrivals, with a 13% surge in Aruba and an 8% rise in the Cayman Islands since 1989 as more hotels have opened. Other longtime destinations have become more attractive to developers for other reasons, according to the report, which cites Puerto Rico for its transformation into a major transportation hub; Jamaica for its niche reputation as an all-inclusive mecca; and the Bahama islands as cruise ship ports due to their close proximity to Florida.

Puerto Rico's revival led to the construction of the first major resort on the island when the \$250 million El Conquistador Resort & Country Club opened in late 1993, the first on its

scale there in 20 years, Berman notes. Since then, Tishman Realty began construction of the Westin Rio Mar Beach Resort & Country Club nearby.

Berman credits Hyatt with leading the development of the region in the past several years with the opening of highly successful resorts in Aruba, Grand Cayman Island, Dorado in Puerto Rico and St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

"The Hyatt in Aruba has really become a model for many hotel developments in the Caribbean because it is a leader in Aruba for its performance in exceeding all projected budgets and forecasts," Berman said. "It was the right product in the right location with the right facilities. A lot of people watched what had been accomplished and are trying to emulate it."

All-inclusive resorts have become the newest and most promising lodging products in recent years, particularly in Jamaica, where the first one, Couples, opened in 1978, according to the report. With 17 all-inclusive resorts that have average occupancy of more than 70%, the trend is expected to continue and spread to other islands. All-inclusive resorts are also being built in the Dominican Republic and St. Lucia. Two of the all-inclusive resort companies, Sandals and SuperClubs, are expanding into the Bahamas, Barbados, Antigua and Grenada.

Other recent developments include: the renovation and redevelopment of a resort now named the Atlantis Paradise Island Resort in Nassau, Bahamas; a Four Seasons resort in Nevis; the renovation of the San Juan Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino; the opening of the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino; the construction of a hotel in the Cayman Islands by Columbia Sussex hotel group; the renovation and opening of the Clarion Atlantik Beach and Golf Resort in Freeport, Grand Bahama; the opening of a Comfort Suites in Ocho Rios, Jamaica; the construction of a Wyndham resort in San Juan, Puerto Rico; and the awarding of an Aruba time-share project to Marriott.

NOV 13, 1995

M17756

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

Dynamic Duo of SuperClubs Properties Open on Islands

Reed Travel Features

NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS — What's new on Nassau and Jamaica? The answer, my friend, may be blowing in the ... breeze?

Two SuperClubs properties opened simultaneously on Nassau, the Bahamas, and Jamaica. Breezes Bahamas and Breezes Montego Bay officially opened Sept. 2, with Super Clubs chairman John Issa ceremoniously opening the doors at his two newest Super-Inclusive properties.

Breezes is the latest SuperClubs brand, a moderately priced product designed for the value-conscious vacationer. Issa said the goal is to reach a slightly different market than those who are already familiar with the company's other Jamaica properties.

"Although more moderately priced, Breezes will still deliver quality, offering the same attention to service for which SuperClubs is known," Issa said.

The 400-room Breezes Bahamas is set on 1,000 feet of Nassau's Cable Beach, 10 minutes from the Nassau interna-

tional Airport. It is the first all-inclusive resort in Nassau.

Formerly the Ambassador Beach Hotel, the property was purchased and completely renovated with a total investment of more than \$25 million.

Breezes Montego Bay, with 124 rooms, is a newly constructed facility located on Doctor's Cave Beach. The first Super-Inclusive site in Montego

Bay, it is a short drive from the Montego Bay airport.

"Both Breezes Bahamas and Breezes Montego will offer all the amenities of a Super-Inclusive vacation," according to Issa.

Breezes vacations include accommodations, all meals, unlimited premium brand drinks, unlimited land and water sports including equipment and instruction, entertainment, free wed-

dings, airport transfers and hotel taxes. Tipping is not permitted.

Gary Williams, former general manager of Hedonism II in Negril, is the general manager of Breezes Bahamas. Neville Hudson, former resident manager at Grand Lido, also in Negril, is the general manager of Breezes Montego Bay.

Contact SuperClubs at 800-859-SUPER.

NOV 13, 1995

Jamaica

Island Sees a Continuing Increase in 1995 Visitor Arrivals

By Lisa Gaines

NEW YORK — Based on current tourism trends, 1995 will most likely go down in the books as an excellent year for Jamaica's tourism business, according to Noel Mignott, deputy director of tourism, advertising and public relations for the Jamaica Tourist Board in New York.

Mignott said U.S. arrivals increased 5 percent from January to June compared with the same period last year, and have continued to rise during the summer.

If the trend keeps up, Jamaica will host some 660,000 stop over arrivals from the U.S. in 1995, up from nearly 630,000 a year earlier.

The island owes some of this year's good fortune to luck, said Mignott; unlike most of its neighbors to the east, Jamaica escaped damage from the destructive hurricanes that struck the Caribbean this season.

New properties opening on Jamaica this year, such as Braco Village Resort in Runaway Bay and SuperClub's Breezes MoBay, also helped boost tourism, he said.

"New rooms and good quality rooms generate more interest in Jamaica," according to Mignott. As for the tourism outlook for 1996, "we hope to continue the momentum," he said.

The tourist board plans to use its tried-and-true advertising strategies for the upcoming winter season, which include television spots in traditional markets (New York and Chicago), national cable TV ads and print advertising in consumer and trade publications.

The cable TV ads, which have been used for several years, have proven to be very successful in attracting visitors from non-traditional markets, Mignott said,



New hotels and good luck are contributing to Jamaica's high arrival numbers. Above: Jamaica's famous Dunn's River Falls.

adding that charter flights and better access from major hubs also have been factors.

"Jamaica has become well-known with consumers across

the U.S.," he said. Some of those non-traditional markets include Pittsburgh and Fort Lauderdale, which have good feeder service

Continued on Page 66

Visitor Numbers Continue to Increase

Continued from Page 61
to cities serving Jamaica.

Advertising has even been effective in drawing visitors from as far away as Alaska, said Mignott.

New Air Jamaica service to be launched this year will significantly increase access to the island.

The airline, which will begin daily flights from Newark in December said it plans to start up service from Chicago early next year and Los Angeles by next summer, pending government approval and delivery of aircraft.

The JTB official said excellent air charter coverage has prompted several special interest groups to take a closer look at Jamaica's tourism product.

If its advertising budget permits, the JTB would like to step up its promotion to golfers and

divers, two special interest markets that have become significantly more important to Jamaica in recent years.

Honeymooners continue to contribute heavily to Jamaica's tourism industry. "We've cornered the market there," said Mignott.

Meanwhile, the JTB reports that to date it has bestowed the title of Jamaica Travel Specialist on some 2,000 retail agents in the U.S.

Agents who complete an educational correspondence course can display their credentials to clients and are put on a list to receive updated Jamaica travel information and fam trip invitations.

The JTB, which receives thousands of calls from interested consumers, turns over many of these sales leads to the specialized agents.

CARIBBEAN/BERMUDA

Trends in technology dominate 19th Caribbean Tourism Conference held in Nassau, The Bahamas

By Frank Rosci

Hundreds of travel agents, hoteliers, airline, cruise line and car rental sales and service personnel, other travel industry suppliers and representatives of Caribbean governments met to discuss issues and concerns of mutual interest; and to learn about some of the major waves and trends shaping the industry during the **19th Caribbean Tourism Conference (CTC)** of the **Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO)** at Nassau, The Bahamas, September 6-10, 1995.

Talk of technology dominated the conference, themed "Trends in Information Technologies and Future Attractions", from the keynote address to the final workshop. In light of the astonishing technological change, characterized by the rapid and rampant global computer revolution, sweeping society and the travel industry; and continually emerging relationship of environment and tourism, another highly technical marriage, CTC-19 offered agents a sudden and sobering look at the future.

Opening ceremonies

In his keynote address, **Max D. Hopper, president, Max D. Hopper Associates, Inc.**, took delegates for a trip through Cyberspace, speaking with candor about the often harsh realities of the "Brave New World"

agents face, with the growing popularity of the Internet; on-line services, such as **CompuServe, Prodigy and America Online**; and the probability that interactive TV will someday in the foreseeable future be a part of daily life. Each of these forces has the potential to reduce the role agents play in booking services, and, some say, even eliminate it.

"While not as complete as an agent's CRS terminal," Hopper said, "consumers can now make airline, car and hotel reservations, and handle the purchase transaction electronically. While the volume of reservations booked on-line is limited, the figures are trending upwards."

To remain competitive, agents must acquaint themselves with the new technologies, including CD-ROMs, electronic mail and virtual reality, and become more familiar at using them, Hopper recommended. The good news is that while agents may lose some business, most consumers will continue to rely on them for their knowledge and expertise when planning travel.

A small trade show featuring 13 high-tech exhibitors, including **Info-Systems, Tempe, AZ; CompuServe, Columbus, OH; and TravelFile, Whitefish, MT**; provided agents with the time and space to find out more about available computer services.

General sessions

The conference's first general session, "The Impact of New Technologies on the Caribbean and its Agency Partners in the Global Marketplace", offered closer looks at Cyberspace, with a panel of experts outlining views on how technology—everything from the advancement of ticketless travel to the advent of ASTA Net in November—will descend on the travel industry.

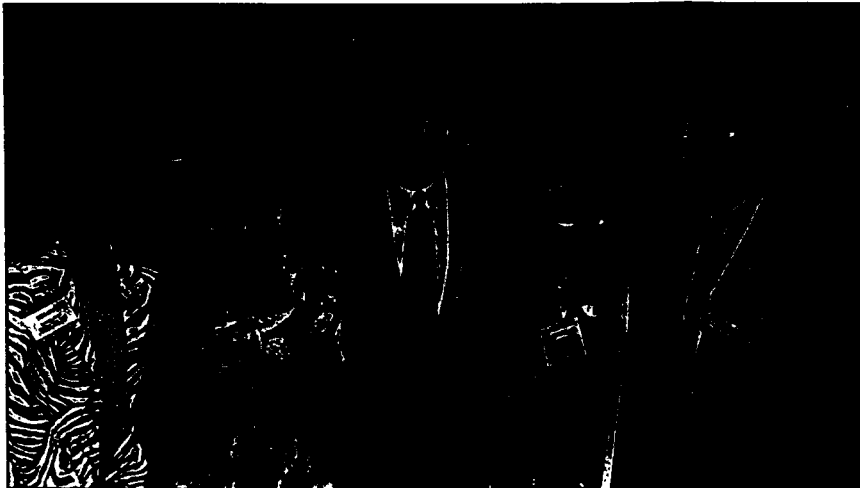
Panelist **Scott Wayne, director of communication, WTO, Madrid**, suggested the mass of information on the so-called World Wide Web actually may increase the need for travel agents, who will be sought out by clients to sift through and sort out the abundance of ever-accumulating data.

General session two, "The Growing Influence of Entertainment on Vacation Travel Choices", moderated by **James Cammisa, analyst and publisher, Travel Industry Indicators, Miami, FL**, gave agents timely input on how travellers now seem to favor venues that offer escape and entertainment at every turn.

Leading sites are Las Vegas; Branson, Missouri, the new hotspot for country music, with its 24 theaters and 5 million visitors annually; super-sized theme park Walt Disney World; and the \$330-million ships of Celebrity Cruises with their high-tech touches, that

(continued on page 40)

Photo—Bill Cancellare



Photograph taken at the Caribbean Tourism Organization's CTC-19 held on Cable Beach in Nassau, Bahamas at the Cable Beach Radisson Hotel and Marriott Crystal Palace Hotel. Shown during a coffee break hosted by the Jamaica Tourist Board are (l to r): **Joanne Hunt, Pompton Plains Travel, Pompton Plains, N.J.**; **Derek Whittingham, Jamaica Tourist Board, London, England**; **Candy Hayes, Approved Travel, Elizabeth, N.J. (president of the Garden State Chapter of CTO)**; **Michael Youngman, CTO, NYC., NY**; **Amira Abdou, Empress Travel, Lakewood, N.J.** and **Stephen R. Strachan, Air Jamaica, Nassau, Bahamas.**

19TH CARIBBEAN TOURISM CONFERENCE

(continued from page 38)

include fiber optic video walls, Cammisa said.

At the third general session, "Agents Sound Off: The Perennial Quest for Better Understanding and Communications with Our Agency Partners", agents found a forum for voicing opinions about industry problems. Points raised ranged from addressing departure taxes (either dispensing with them or building them into covered costs) to questions about the relative position and practicality of all-inclusives, and better coordination between CTO and its member chapters, a challenge initiated by **Philip Van Oppen, Travel Professionals**, Mercer Island, WA, and *president* of CTO's Pacific Northwest Chapter.

Workshops

The conference's four workshops, "Surfing the Net", "How CTO On-line Destinations Information can Marry Up the Best with Caribbean Product Information", "Tourism and the Environment: Is Technology the Answer?" and "From Visions to Reality", a Caribbean Ecotourism Support Network (CESN) presentation, focused on technology, and its impact from the office to the outdoors.

Among the most eye-opening was the third, "Tourism and the Environment", at which developer **Stanley Selengut** described how his four properties—*Maho Bay Camps, Harmony Resort, Estate Concordia* and *Concordia Eco-tents*—on St. John in the USVIs were built in union with nature, using recycled materials. When asked why so few Caribbean-based hoteliers have followed his lead Selengut said the craft of ecotourism is a sensitive discipline that must be understood before it can be implemented.

Joy Douglas, Urban and Regional Planner, Development & Alternatives Jamaica Limited, announced the formation of CESN, which agents may join for as little as \$25 a year.

Travel agent reaction

Several travel agents, who sell the

Caribbean, gave CTC-19 good marks for content. "Since becoming an agent six years ago, I've attended CTC every year. Each conference gives me more and more I can use to book the Caribbean, and the chance to actually see the product," said **Lorraine Thompson, sales representative, American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc.**, Baltimore, MD.

Another agent, **Adina B. Raven, travel consultant, Alpine Travel Inc.**, Closter, NJ, was attending her first CTC. "Since I plan to specialize in the Caribbean, this was a great opportunity to hear firsthand about new ideas, and to do hotel site inspections," Raven said.

Island updates

As at previous CTCs, a number of CTO member states took the opportunity to announce new directions and plans. Here is a brief look at some of their major developments.

The Bahamas—Touting a new attitude and new promotional plan, "The New Islands of The Bahamas", these most familiar of islands are out to remake themselves and their image. In Nassau, for example, \$500 million in new developments and capital improvements has been invested in various projects and properties, including the \$1.5 million renovation of *Bay Street*; \$17-million *Breezes, Superclubs'* newest all-inclusive resort, a first for *The Bahamas*; \$8.5-million *Sandals Royal Bahamian*, opening Nov. 15, 1995; \$250-million *Atlantis Resort and Casino*; and small but satisfying 20-room *Compass Point Resort*.

Barbados—Site of CTC-20, September 4-7, 1996, Barbados has much to offer, from Bridgetown's newly renovated \$6-million cruise facilities to the capital's new Sherbourne Conference Centre. **The Barbados Tourism Authority** announced its first ever Super Value Package, a series of seasonal value offerings, ranging in price from \$499 to \$1,325 through Dec. 15, 1995.

Cayman Islands—Biggest news out of these small, safe and satisfying islands is a continuation of what has put them on the map, namely dive tourism, augmented with a push into the booming family market. In keeping with that effort, a number of

tourist sites, including Pedro St. James Castle, the oldest existing structure in the Cayman Islands is being restored at a cost of \$6.2 million. Newest hotel in the islands is the \$50-million, 340-room *Westin Casuarina Resort* on Grand Cayman.

Trinidad & Tobago—Another Caribbean destination in the process of changing its image is Trinidad and Tobago, said *director of tourism* **Cliff Hamilton**. A new public awareness campaign, highlighting the cultural diversity of Trinidad, and the sun and fun of Tobago; three new resorts on Tobago are the 135-room *Coco Reef Hotel*, 78-room *Le Grand Courlan* and 22-room *Manta Lodge*; new direct **BWIA International Airways** flights are from New York and Miami; and a new tourism information database service (800-748-4224 or 201-662-3403) for travel agents is intended to help in tourism development.

Grenada—The "Isle of Spice" has two new hotels, said the **Hon. Grace Margaret Duncan**, new *minister of tourism*. The 15-room *Blue Orchid Hotel* opened Sept. 1 and the 32-room *Mariposa Beach Hotel* will be ready in time for the 1995-96 winter season. Also *Coyaba Beach Resort* will add 30 guestrooms by early November. Work has begun to restore Fort Frederick and Fort Matthew in St. George's.

Jamaica—Tourism remains very strong with more than 1 million stopover and 600,000 cruise visitors in 1994, said the **Hon. John A. Junior**, *minister of tourism*. Among new hotels on the popular island are the 124-room *Breezes Montego Bay Resort*; and 180-room *Braco Village Resort*, Jamaica's first all-inclusive village. *Fort Belle Suites*, featuring 57 one-bedroom suites, is scheduled to open in January 1996.

St. Lucia—As this island paradise continues to grow in popularity, 31 small properties, ranging in size from three to 62 rooms, have pooled their marketing resources to create the "Inns of St. Lucia", offering visitors everything from guest houses to villas. In addition, three new hotels will open for the winter season. These are the 22-room *Auberge Seraphine*; and 53-room *Bay Gardens* and 62-room *Rainbow Hotel* at Rodney Bay. □

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Newly Opened Resorts Target Moderately-Priced All-Inclusive Market

SuperClubs recently opened two properties on the same day with the debut of Breezes Bahamas and Breezes Montego Bay. Breezes is the new SuperClubs' brand which is being pitched at the value-conscious vacationer looking for a "more moderately-priced" all-inclusive arrangement. "We are very excited about

the simultaneous openings of the two newest members of the SuperClubs family," said John Issa, the group's chairman. "With Breezes Bahamas and Breezes Montego Bay, we will reach a slightly different market of vaca-

'Breezes will still deliver quality and value'

tioners from those who have come to know us in Jamaica."

Issa pledged, "Although more moderately priced, Breezes will still deliver quality and value, offering the same attention to service for which

SuperClubs is known."

The 400-room Breezes Bahamas is set on Nassau's Cable Beach. The property, formerly the Ambassador Beach Hotel, was purchased and completely overhauled at a total cost of US\$25-million.

Breezes Montego Bay, with 124 rooms, was constructed from the ground up, explained

Issa. The newest Jamaica SuperClubs property is located on Doctor's Cave Beach.

The SuperClubs chief stated: "Both Breezes Bahamas and Breezes Montego Bay will offer all the amenities of a super-inclusive vacation at a more affordable price."

According to Issa, both Breezes resorts will offer vacations that include accommodations, all meals, unlimited premium brand drinks, unlimited land and water sports with equipment and instruction, entertainment, free weddings, transfers and hotel taxes. The SuperClubs' "no tipping" rule has been applied to the new properties.

SOUTHEAST TRAVEL
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Miami, FL

MONTHLY \$6.000

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LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS



BREEZY OPENING - The exciting sounds and vibrant colors of Junkanoo entertain guests at the opening of SuperClubs' Breezes Bahamas. Between the two costumed performers are John Issa, SuperClubs chairman, and Frank Watson, deputy prime minister and minister of tourism for The Bahamas.

Bowdens

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Friends Resorts take over management of 2 Jamaican resorts

Two Jamaican resorts will come under the management of Friends International

Resorts on Dec.15 -- SeaCastles in Montego Bay and Point Village in Negril.

Primarily marketed to families, SeaCastles is an all-inclusive resort with air-conditioned suites and satellite TV.

The new management is to provide special amenities for children 2-11 that include a 'Kiddies' restaurant, an arts and crafts pavilion and video room.

Point Village, which has 256 suites in a beach front setting, is also a family-oriented resort providing "a buccaneer village fantasy experience". It will offer similar new facilities for children.

Elsewhere in Jamaica, Breezes Montego Bay is now open. The second in the new line of moderately-priced SuperClubs resorts, Breezes is on Doctor's Cave Beach in the heart of Montego Bay and has 124 rooms and suites, two restaurants, a beach grill, disco and piano bar.

It is designed to attract a wide range of vacationers including adult couples and singles.

Scheduled to open in January in Kingston is Fort Belle Suites, the newest of Jamaica's Elegant Resorts.

Located in the elite suburbs of St. Andrew, with a panoramic view of Kingston to the south and the Blue Mountains to the east, Fort Belle has 57 1-bedroom suites, luxuriously furnished in elegant tropical style.

All have dual balconies and fully equipped kitchens and are geared to senior business executives. There is a conference and business centre, gymnasium and exercise room, restaurant, pool and tennis court. For information and reservations call (809) 968-2890.

The US\$13 million refurbishing program at the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort in Montego Bay is nearing completion.

The first all-inclusive Holiday Inn in the world, it will focus on family vacations and will have a full and free children's' activity program.

(416) 750-2220

Travel Courier (Nat'l. Ed.)

Toronto, ON

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Canada



CARIBBEAN NEWS

CONQUEST TOURS HAS moved its high season (Christmas to April) weekend Cancun departures from Toronto from Saturdays to Sundays, with a change in carrier from CanAir to Canadian Airlines....Conquest will continue to offer its Tuesday departures from Toronto via Canada 3000, and its Tuesday departures from Halifax via CanAir....

OBSESSION TOURS HAS added San Juan, Puerto Rico, to its lineup....Obsession has packages of three nights or more, with flights on USAir....the tour operator features the Caribe Hilton, the Radisson Normandie Hotel and the Radisson Ambassador Plaza....all packages pay a 12 per cent commission....for more information, call (416) 657-1355 or 800-461-0265....

THE RECENTLY OPENED Royal Bay Resorts & Villas in the Turks & Caicos Islands wants its smallest guest to enjoy their holiday as much as its larger ones....the resort runs a special "Kids Clubs" every days from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., including such activities as hermit crab races, sand castle competitions, face painting, tumbling, crafts, kite flying and beach games....afternoons are reserved for excursions to plantation ruins, mini-golf, iguana viewing and glass-bottom-boat rides....another unique portion of the program allows participants to "cook" with the cook, and "clean" with the housekeeping staff....one of the island's story-tellers is also brought in for daily story time....call 800-822-3900....

RESIDENTS AND VISITORS to St. Maarten/St. Martin recently took part in a 32-kilometre relay race

to re-create the historic folk tale that established the Dutch/French border on the Caribbean island....the annual "Around the Island" relay race is held to commemorate St. Maarten/St. Martin Day on Nov. 11, the anniversary of the treaty signing that established 347 years of peaceful coexistence between the Dutch and French....

LEGEND HAS IT that island boundaries were established by a Dutchman and Frenchman who started back to back in the centre of the island and walked to opposite coasts, staking out turf as they went....the Frenchman is said to have taken with him two bottles of water while the Dutchman took two bottles of beer, which explains, according to island folklore, why the Frenchman covered more ground before needing a nap....the French have 43 square kilometres, while the Dutch have just 25....other upcoming events on the Dutch half of the island include the fourth annual Christmas decorating contest from Dec. 15 through Jan. 6, 1996; the 16th annual Heineken Regatta March 1-3, 1996; and the 27th annual Carnival from April 16 through May 2, 1996....

THE NEWEST ARRIVAL on Jamaica's tourism scene is the all-inclusive Breezes property in Montego Bay....Breezes is a new line of all-inclusives from the SuperClubs chain with most of the features of a SuperClubs property, but lower rates....Sandals Resorts will launch a new all-inclusive product in Jamaica next year when its Beaches Negril resort opens....

JAMAICA

TRAVEL WEEKLY
NOV. 16, 1995
Circ: 50,490

More Than Just Beaches, Island Features Array of Attractions

Negril

Negril's laid-back style has earned it the title of the "do-as-you-please" capital of Jamaica.

Nude sunbathing is not uncommon, and bathing suits are appropriate attire just about anywhere.

This coastal resort area, located on the westernmost point of the island, is famous for its seven miles of white-sand beaches and spectacular sunsets, which are celebrated daily at Rick's Cafe.

Negril was discovered in the 1960s by young Americans who stayed in inexpensive houses and enjoyed the rustic, bohemian flavor of the area.

It since has become more mainstream, attracting developers of upscale hotels and inclusive resorts.

The crowds are more sophisticated than they were 30 years ago, but it has remained something of an adults-only playground.

The area consists of three protected bays, and not far offshore is a coral reef where excellent scuba diving is available.

In Negril, it is easy to get around; visitors can rent a car, bicycle or moped to travel up and down Negril Beach.

Along the highway joining Negril with Montego Bay at Kenilworth are the ruins of a sugar factory and distillery, remnants of Jamaica's colonial past.

Modestly priced, small hotels can be found in Negril along with the expensive, inclusive resorts, but Jamaican law requires that no structure in Negril be built higher than the tallest palm tree.

Inclusive resorts include **Grand Lido**, **Hedonism II**, **Swept Away** and **Sandals Negril**.

The tradition here is to gather at Rick's Cafe in the evening to watch the sunset, sip a banana daiquiri and enjoy a variety of entertainment, including live reggae music, jugglers and fire eaters.

The town's only building of historical note is the Lighthouse, for which admission is free.

Ocho Rios

Located on Jamaica's north central coast, about a two-hour drive from Montego Bay, Ocho Rios has become a major tourist destination and cruise-ship port in recent years.

Visitors cannot help but be attracted to the area's lush rain forests, beautiful waterfalls and white-sand beaches.

A trip to Ocho Rios would not be complete without a visit to Dunn's River Falls, one of the area's most popular attractions.

The gorgeous, 600-foot falls are best experienced by climb-

ing them; the friendly guides lead visitors on the safest route.

Climbers clasp the hand of the person in front of them, and the human chain slowly makes its way up the cascades and pools.

A bathing suit and old sneakers are the suggested attire, and changing rooms are available.

For a look at the flora of Ocho Rios, visitors can drive through Fern Gully, a three-mile stretch of rain forest where tropical ferns abound.

The journey through the mountains will take travelers past the 30-foot fern tree and more than 550 other native fern varieties.

About 20 miles east of Ocho Rios is Firefly, the mountaintop house once owned by Noel Coward, the British actor/author/raconteur, who entertained numerous celebrities here, including Errol Flynn, Sean Connery, Laurence Olivier, Vivien Leigh, Katharine Hepburn, Elizabeth Taylor and Queen Elizabeth II.

The four-acre estate, which

has undergone a major restoration, is under the management of Island Outpost on behalf of the Jamaican National Trust.

Open to the public, the house features a photographic exhibit of Coward's famous guests and displays of his paintings and belongings.

Tours are available.

Prospect Plantation, just east of Ocho Rios, provides an interesting look at plantation life. Touring the grounds in a canopied jitney, tourists will see exotic fruit trees and a number of trees planted over the years by famous visitors, including Winston Churchill, Henry Kissinger and Charlie Chaplin.

Visitors also can traverse much of the plantation on horseback.

Chukka Cove also offers horseback tours on scenic trails as well as riding, jumping and polo instruction.

About four miles east of Ocho Rios is Harmony Hall, a 19th century great house that today is an art gallery displaying and selling works by local artists.

A restaurant serving creole-style cuisine draws visitors to the estate at lunchtime.

A favorite nighttime activity is Jamaican Night on the White River, a romantic torchlight

boat ride that includes a picnic feast on the river banks and entertainment.

The four-hour trip is \$36 per person, including the meal and drinks.

Beachgoers have a selection of sandy spots to choose from. Mallards Beach is popular with cruise ship passengers, but Turtle Beach, adjacent to Mallards, is less crowded.

Some of Jamaica's most exclusive resorts and the largest number of resorts on the island catering to families are in Ocho Rios.

Smaller, top hotels include Jamaica Inn and Plantation Inn. Additionally, the Jamaica Grande, Jamaica's largest convention hotel, is located here.

Inclusive resorts are **Sans Souci Lido**, **Ciboney**, **Enchanted Garden**, **Couples**, **Sandals Dunn's River**, **Sandals Ocho Rios**, **Club Jamaica** and **Bosco-Bel Beach**, the island's first inclusive resort designed specifically for families.

Runaway Bay

Runaway Bay is 17 miles west of Ocho Rios and often is considered a part of the larger resort area, but the area has nurtured its own collection of fine resort hotels and smaller properties and has become a

Continued on Page C34

CARIBBEAN INCLUSIVE PACKAGES FOR MULTI-ISLAND CHAINS

• WeddingMoons are Sandals Resorts' all-inclusive wedding packages offered by all of the group's nine properties in Jamaica, Antigua and St. Lucia.

All WeddingMoons include a justice of the peace or clergyman. Additionally included are tropical flowers, Caribbean wedding cake, champagne celebration dinner and wedding day video. Most resorts offer a host of other treats such as morning or sunset island cruises, massages, gift baskets and personalized candlelight dinners for the bride and groom.

For the couple who wants more variety, some WeddingMoons packages include private cocktail parties and the opportunity to marry on one island, then honeymoon at other Sandals locations.

Couples may also choose deluxe accommodations in Sandals' suites or villas and a second honeymoon trip to any of the company's resorts. Wed-

dingMoon prices are determined by the couple's choice of wedding, room and length of stay. Prices for the wedding alone start at \$500 in Jamaica and \$750 in Antigua and St. Lucia. Call (800) SANDALS.

SuperClubs provides weddings free as part of vacation packages. In addition to arranging all details and hosting the ceremony, SuperClubs provides marriage license, witnesses, flowers, champagne and wedding cake.

Couples can choose from a wide variety of settings, including a gazebo overlooking the Caribbean; aboard the 147-foot yacht Zein; in a garden, or on a private island. Some resorts offer additional services, such as a facial for the bride or champagne. Video packages are available from \$175 to \$240; photography packages, from \$150 to \$180.

The cost of the honeymoon varies widely, depending on which of the chain's seven resorts is chosen. A seven-night stay at the new Breezes Montego Bay costs \$1,050 per person in-season and \$840 during the summer.

A similar product at Grand Lido on Negril cost \$2,100 in-season, and \$1,785 during the summer. Call (800) 859-SUPER.

HOTELS FEATURE: TRAVEL AGENTS' BEST



TRAVEL AGENTS' BEST Hotels & Resorts

In the fierce competition for hotel guests, unique and outstanding service distinguishes the best hotels from the rest. For the second consecutive year, *Official Hotel Guide* (OHG) has polled travel agents on their personal picks of the world's best hotel properties and chains in several categories. The results of the Reader's Choice Survey identify the world's best in hotel service, quality and value.

Travel agents cite examples, such as private helicopter service at the Peninsula Hong Kong and personalized business cards at the Lanesborough in London as services that make hotels truly memorable.

Also capturing the attention of savvy travel agents are special services like pet-pampering at The Pierre in New York, pool side manicures at The Manele Bay

Hotel in Lanai, Hawaii, and breakfast in bed delivered by canoe at the Bora Bora Lagoon Resort.

"Travel agents are the pulse of the hospitality industry; they are truly in touch with what today's discriminating travelers want from their hotel stay," says Jack Kennedy, senior vice president, Reed Hotel Directories

Group. "We consider our readers to be the real experts in the field who, on a daily basis, recommend and book more hotels than the average travel agent. Who better to judge the industry's best than our agent subscribers?"

OHG polled more than 20,000 subscribers of its 1995 issue for the best in categories such as luxury, service,

romance, value, architecture, environmental friendliness, skiing, golfing, scenery and more. The OHG is a publication of the Reed Travel Group/Hotel Directories Group. For more than 30 years, OHG has earned the reputation of providing the most detailed, unbiased worldwide hotel information available of any source, print or electronic. Reed Travel Group is the world's largest supplier of information and services for the travel industry.



BEST LUXURY HOTEL NORTH AMERICA
Agents say The Ritz-Carlton (second year) Laguna Niguel, California, is No. 1. They also like The Ritz-Carlton, Naples, Florida, and Four Seasons, New York.



BEST LUXURY HOTEL PACIFIC ASIA

The Peninsula Hong Kong is No. 1. The Regent, Kowloon, Hong Kong, and the Raffles Hotel, Singapore, also rate highly.



BEST LUXURY HOTEL EUROPE

Hotel Cipriani & Palazzo, Venice, Italy, is No. 1. Other choices are Hotel Ritz, Paris, and Claridge's, London.

FEATURE: TRAVEL AGENTS' BEST **HOTELS**



BEST LUXURY HOTEL LATIN AMERICA

Copacabana Palace, Rio de Janeiro, is No. 1. Travel agents also like two hotels in Buenos Aires—the Inter-Continental and the Park Hyatt.



BEST HEALTH SPA NORTH AMERICA

The No. 1 choice is the La Costa Resort & Spa, Carlsbad, California. Other favorites include the Canyon Ranch Spa, Tucson, Arizona, and Golden Door, San Marcos, California.



BEST VIEW

Chateau Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada (second year) is No. 1. Views from Banff Springs Hotel, Alberta; the Princeville Hotel, Kauai, Hawaii, and Bora Bora Lagoon Resort, Tahiti are also great.



MOST ROMANTIC HOTEL OR RESORT

Agents' No. 1 pick is the Hilton Waikoloa, Kamuela, Kohala, Hawaii; others that rate highly include Las Brisas, Acapulco, and Princeville, Kauai, Hawaii.



BEST FAMILY RESORT

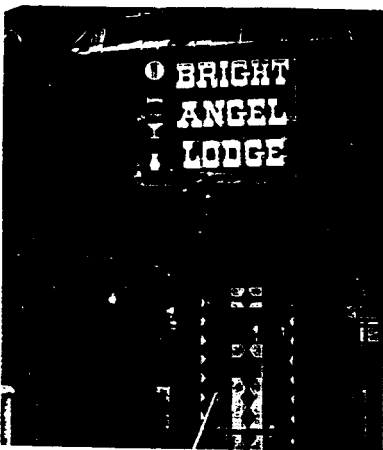
Boscobel Beach Hotel, (second year) Ocho Rios, Jamaica, is No. 1. Agents also like Franklyn D. Resort, Runaway Bay, Jamaica; Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida, and Hilton Waikoloa Village, Kamuela, Kohala, Hawaii.



BEST HONEYMOON RESORT OR HOTEL

Sandals Negril, Jamaica, is No. 1; others are Princeville Hotel, Kauai, Hawaii, and Bora Bora Lagoon Resort, Tahiti.

FEATURE: TRAVEL AGENTS' BEST **HOTELS**



MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY HOTEL

Bright Angel Lodge & Cabins, Grand Canyon, Arizona, is No. 1. Agents also choose Westin Bayshore, Vancouver, Canada, and the Boston Park Hotel.



MOST DRAMATIC ARCHITECTURE

Go to South Africa to see agents' No. 1 choice, The Palace, Sun City; and then to the Luxor, Las Vegas; Westin Regina, Baja, California, and Hotel del Coronado, San Diego.

OFFICIAL HOTEL GUIDE'S 1995 READERS' CHOICE

PREFERRED HOTEL CHAIN IN EUROPE

1. ITT Sheraton
2. Inter-Continental Hotels
3. Hilton International

PREFERRED HOTEL CHAIN IN NORTH AMERICA

1. Marriott International
2. Hyatt Hotels & Resorts
3. The Ritz-Carlton

PREFERRED HOTEL CHAIN IN LATIN AMERICA

1. ITT Sheraton
2. Westin Hotels & Resorts
3. Inter-Continental Hotels, Hilton International

PREFERRED HOTEL CHAIN IN ASIA/PACIFIC

1. Hyatt International
2. ITT Sheraton
3. Mandarin Oriental, Four Seasons/Regent

BEST VALUE CHAIN IN EUROPE

1. Best Western
2. Inter-Continental Hotels
3. ITT Sheraton, Forte Plc, Hilton International

BEST VALUE CHAIN IN NORTH AMERICA

1. Marriott International
2. Holiday Inn Worldwide

3. Hyatt Hotels & Resorts

BEST VALUE CHAIN IN LATIN AMERICA

1. ITT Sheraton
2. Inter-Continental Hotels
3. Hilton International, Holiday Inn Worldwide

BEST VALUE CHAIN IN ASIA/PACIFIC

1. ITT Sheraton
2. Hyatt International
3. Holiday Inn Worldwide

FAVORITE GOLF HOTEL OR RESORT

1. The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia
2. The Phoenician, Scottsdale, Arizona
3. Doral Golf Resort & Spa, Miami, Florida

FAVORITE SKI RESORT

1. The Little Nell, Aspen, Colorado
2. Stein Eriksen Lodge, Park City, Utah
3. Hyatt Regency Resort, Beaver Creek, Colorado; The Ritz-Carlton, Aspen, Colorado; Northstar-at-Tahoe Resort, Truckee, California

FAVORITE RESORT FOR SENIORS

1. Hotel del Coronado

2. Sheraton El Conquistador, Tucson, Ariona
3. Days Inn Lake Buena Vista Village, Florida

FAVORITE RESORT IN NORTH AMERICA

1. The Phoenician
2. The Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel, California
3. La Costa Resort & Spa, Carlsbad, California; The Cloister, Sea Island, Georgia; Boca Raton Resort & Club, Florida

FAVORITE RESORT HOTEL IN CARIBBEAN

1. Four Seasons Resort, Nevis
2. Sandy Lane Hotel, Barbados
3. Sandals Dunn's River, Ocho Rios, Jamaica; Little Dix Bay, Virgin Gorda, BVI; Peter Island Resort, BVI

FAVORITE RESORT HOTEL IN EUROPE

1. Loews Monte Carlo Hotel, Monaco
2. Villa D'Este Grand Hotel & Sporting Club, Cernobbio, Italy
3. Brenner's Park-Hotel & Spa, Baden-Baden, Germany

FAVORITE RESORT HOTEL IN ASIA/PACIFIC

1. Bora Bora Lagoon Resort,

- Bora Bora Island, Tahiti
2. Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong
3. Four Seasons Resort, Jimbaran Bay, Bali, Indonesia; Peninsula Hong Kong; Regent Hong Kong

FAVORITE RESORT HOTEL IN LATIN AMERICA

1. Llao Llao Hotel & Resort, San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina
2. Copacabana Palace Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
3. Sheraton Rio Hotel & Towers, Rio de Janeiro; Las Brisas, Acapulco, Mexico

HOTEL CHAIN MOST RESPONSIVE TO TRAVEL AGENTS

1. Marriott International
2. The Ritz-Carlton
3. Hyatt Hotels & Resorts, Holiday Inn Worldwide, ITT Sheraton

HOTEL/RESORT OFFERING BEST SERVICE

1. Peninsula Hong Kong
2. Oriental Bangkok
3. Claridge's, London; The Lanesborough, London; The Ritz-Carlton, New York

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Travel Courier (Nat'l. Ed.)

Toronto, ON

Magazine

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INDUSTRY SNAPSHOTS

The Caribbean Tourism Organization's (CTO) travelling roadshow rolled into Toronto last week, providing area agents with an opportunity to update their destination and product knowledge on the region. The event featured both seminars and a tradeshow.



Lynda Plisell, area sales manager, Canada for the Puerto Rico Tourism Company (l), had a chance to tell Janet Nunn of S & J Hometown Travel all about the island.



Sonya Alvarez (l) joins her husband Gabriel Alvarez, director of the Cuba Tourist Board and Agnes Couper, marketing assistant for the Cuba Tourist Board at the CTO show.



Here's a fine foursome: Air Canada Vacations' (ACV) Paul Kocsis poses with Nancy Hay of SuperClubs, ACV co-worker Vicki Ioannou-Theophilou and Travel Courier's David Wilde.



Hola Sun's Jennifer Card (l) and Bob Auld (r) welcome Rosemarie Wilson of Wildwood Paradigm Travel to their booth at the show.

Cuba's reliance on tourism builds

By Steve Bergsman

H&MM Phoenix Bureau

HAVANA—After the revolution that brought Fidel Castro to power in 1959, the 500,000 American tourists that annually visited Cuba stopped coming.

This seemed only natural at the time because, under communism, tourism was no longer a vital economic sector.

Today, however, with the country severely in need of hard currency, it has once again turned to tourism, and miraculously, after 35 years of neglect, the Cuban tourism industry is making a strong comeback. The revival comes despite an embargo that prevents Americans from returning.

"Tourism is the most important industry in Cuba," said Eduardo Fagundo, sales manager for SuperClubs' Club Varadero in the resort town of Varadero. "It is a priority of the country, of the government."

While there is some hyperbole in the statement, the sentiment is right on target.

In 1994, tourism surpassed sugar as the largest contributor to the Cuban economy, with earnings at \$850 million. This year, the country expects to earn \$1 billion from the tourism sector, said Miguel Bruguera del Valle, vice minister with the Ministry of Tourism (which was created in 1994).

Boost from government

To boost the tourism sector, the government has established five hotel, tourism and commercial companies, all of which compete with each other. Cubanacan S.A., as an example, has interests in restaurants, boutiques, travel agencies, marinas and tour companies. It is probably the largest hotelier in the country, with nearly 45 hotels and tourist villas.

Since the early 1990s, hotel-room supply has been growing at 4,000 to 5,000 additional rooms a year. Today, the country boasts 24,000 rooms and expects to have 50,000 rooms by the

continued on page 49



SuperClub's Club Varadero has seen occupancies up to 20 percent higher than



SUPERCLUBS
CLUB VARADERO
(super InclusiveSM)

★★★★

On the beach, 5 minutes from the Centre of Varadero.

160 airconditioned suites with balcony, telephone, satellite TV, and view of the sea.

Buffet Restaurant, Snacks, Wine and Lunch and Dinner, 3 Bars, International Bar Drinks, Beach Bar, Fitness Centre, Aerobics, 2 Lighted Tennis Courts, Swimming Pool, Jacuzzis, Indoor Games Room with Pool, Table Tennis, Board and Electronic Games, Water Sports, SCUBA Diving and various other Recreational options - instruction. ALL INCLUDED.

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SUPERCLUBS
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(super InclusiveSM)

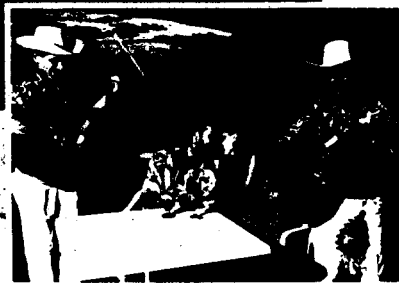
★★★★

En bordure de mer et à 5 minutes du centre de Varadero, cet établissement vous offre 160 suites climatisées avec balcon, téléphone, TV satellite et vue sur la mer.

Restaurant-buffet, collations, vin au déjeuner et au dîner, trois bars, un piano-bar.

Deux courts de tennis avec éclairage, piscine d'eau douce, gymnase, aérobics, jacuzzis, salle de jeux, billard, ping-pong, sports nautiques, plongée et autres distractions, toutes avec moniteur. TOUT INCLUS.

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TRAVEL FILE

CUBA



VARADERO IS CUBA'S most developed resort area and is "certainly the place for people who want to experience a large variety of dining and nightlife options," he says, adding Varadero's beach is the "best in the Americas."....another Cuban destination getting particularly high marks from Niddery is Trinidad, which has received United Nations World Heritage Site status because of its Spanish colonial architecture....Havana and Santiago, Cuba's first capital, also have a historical ambience....Alba's program has properties ranging from two stars to the very upscale, such as SuperClubs' Varadero location....the tour operator also offers Grupo Sol

7

public relations
sales promotion
marketing



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fax (212) 856-0429

**SUPERCLUBS
PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT
DECEMBER 1995**

NATIONAL CONSUMER PUBLICITY

BOSTON HERALD

Circ: 228,447

December 10, 1995

CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

Circ: 354,281

December 10, 1995

NEW YORK POST

Circ: 408,204

December 22, 1995

A feature story by on the new Breezes properties appeared in the December 10 *Boston Herald*. The agency pitched the travel editor, Mark Chapman, on the openings and provided information on the other SuperClubs resorts, resulting in their mention and the inclusion of the 800 number. The agency-issued releases about Breezes also appeared in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* and the *New York Post*.

NEWARK STAR-LEDGER

Circ: 675,531

December 31, 1995

GOLF WEEK

Circ: 59,307

December 16, 1995

The agency's release announcing the name change of Jamaica Jamaica to Breezes Runaway Bay received coverage in this major daily and golf publication.

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN
NEWS

Circ: 453,342
December 3, 1995

Grand Lido's free weddings policy received extensive coverage nationwide, a result of the resort's inclusion on the *Official Hotel Guide's* "Most Unusual Services" list.

KANSAS CITY STAR

Circ: 429,387
December 24, 1995

SAN JOSE MERCURY
NEWS

Circ: 337,247
December 24, 1995

THE TORONTO SUN

Circ: 250,517
December 24, 1995

YOUNGSTOWN

VINDICATOR
Circ: 129,758
December 31, 1995

SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE

Circ: 121,707
December 24, 1995

WATERBURY

REPUBLICAN
Circ: 76,358
December 24, 1995

SAN LOUIS OBISPO
COUNTY TELEGRAM-

TRIBUNE
Circ: 31,764
December 23, 1995

MADISON CAPITAL
TIMES

Circ: 22,977
December 21, 1995

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Circ: 608,467
December 3, 1995

Boscobel Beach is mentioned in an article on family travel over the holidays.

WESTWORLD

Circ: 470,000
Winter 1995

SuperClubs is included in a positive article on all-inclusive travel.

KANSAS CITY STAR
Circ: 429,337
December 3, 1995

SuperClubs is listed with the 800 number as an option for all-inclusive travel.

SOUTHERN LIVING
TRAVEL GUIDE FAMILY
VACATION
Circ: 65,000
December 1995

SuperClubs' seven resorts and a brief description of each are included in a round-up of all-inclusive resorts in the Caribbean.

ALLENTOWN AAA
TRAVELER
Circ: 76,000
December 1995

SuperClubs is featured, with a photo, in an article on all-inclusive, "worry-free" travel.

TRADE PUBLICITY

TOUR & TRAVEL NEWS
Circ: 61,919
December 18, 1995
TRAVELWEEK BULLETIN
Circ: 7,500
December 7, 1995

The agency-issued release announcing the name change of Jamaica Jamaica to Breezes Runaway Bay received extensive trade coverage.

TOUR & TRAVEL NEWS
Circ: 61,919
December 18, 1995
TRAVEL AGENT
Circ: 59,018
December 4, 1995

The agency's release about the new appointment of Skip Muns received trade coverage.

RECOMMEND
Circ: 58,814
December 1995
TRAVEL WORLD NEWS
Circ: 38,888
December 1995

The opening of the new Breezes properties continues to receive trade publicity, a result of agency releases.

TRAVEL WEEKLY
Circ: 50,328
December 7, 1995

Grand Lido's inclusion on the *Official Hotel Guide's* "Unusual Services" list is mentioned in this article.

CANADIAN TRAVEL
PRESS WEEKLY
Circ: 13,210
December 7, 1995

The new address of SuperClubs' Canada office is publicized.

CANADIAN TRAVEL
PRESS WEEKLY
Circ: 13,210
December 7, 1995

A feature story on SuperClubs' Club Varadero is included in this Canadian travel trade publication.

VISITING JOURNALISTS/MEDIA

- Agency arranged a visit by the Golf Channel to Breezes Runaway Bay December 17-18. A segment will air on their show, "Golf Central."
- Alerted Sue McManus to visits by two journalists on a JTB-sponsored press trip. Agency followed up with Teddy Thompson, freelance writer and Mary Maholly of *Outbound Traveler* upon their return.
- Coordinated press visit for Melinda Stubbee of the *Durham Herald-Sun* (circ: 65,045) January 18-21.
- Organized a press visit for Steve Silverman of the *New York Post* (circ: 408,204), on assignment for the paper's "Weekend Getaway" section. The agency negotiated complimentary airfare on Bahamas Express for the writer.
- Secured the opportunity to host a dinner for the SATW Directors Meeting at Breezes Bahamas on January 9. A group of 25 top travel writers will be in attendance.

NEWS BUREAU

In December, agency developed and/or distributed the following press releases:

- "It's 'First Class All the Way' With SuperClubs"
- "Caribbean Vacations With A Green Conscience"

- “SuperClubs’ Boscobel Beach Named ‘Best Family Resort’ For Second Consecutive Year”
- “Steve Ford, Travel Expert, Joins SuperClubs Super-Inclusive Resorts”
- “There’s Nothing Like Having 12 Ultimate Men In Your Bedroom”

During this period, agency maintained ongoing communication with the following:

Magazines

- Faxed information on Boscobel Beach to Deborah Faria of *Baby Talk* magazine (circ: 1,154,492). Article is slated for the May issue.
- Provided information on Breezes Bahamas to Sally Killbridge, travel editor at *Bride’s Magazine*.
- Sent a current press kit to Bradley Orlow at *New York magazine*, for SuperClubs’ inclusion in the honeymoon section advertorial.
- Provided copy and a slide of Breezes Bahamas to Mike Romano of *The New Yorker*, for inclusion in the magazine’s “At Large” travel agent newsletter.
- At the request of Sue McManus, sent a current press kit to Randy Johnson at *Hemispheres magazine*.

Travel Trades

- Provided trade information to Caribbean editor, Kristin O’Meara, at *Travel Weekly*.
- Sent a slide of Skip Muns to Linda Rodgers at *Travel World News* to accompany the news of his appointment.
- Sent slides of Breezes Runaway Bay to Martin Elder at *Travel Agent* magazine.
- Arranged an interview with John Issa for Sue Smith Juliano at *Tour & Travel News* for her article on all-inclusives.

Newspapers

- At the request of Zein Issa, sent slide and bio for John Issa to Andrew Onowen at *Sunday Business* in England.
- Faxed recent press releases to Peter Starr at *Caribbean Week*.

Miscellaneous

- Faxed information on Breezes Bahamas to Liberty Travel.
- Fact-checked copy by Melissa Rivers on Sans Souci Lido for inclusion in a *Fodor's Guide*.
- Sent a Grand Lido logo to Christine Withers at Bachrach Clothing Inc. for inclusion in the company's spring issue catalog.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Greenpeace Membership

- Researched the requirements for SuperClubs' corporate membership in this organization and drafted a letter for inclusion.

Kenny G Invitation

- Drafted a letter at the request of Zein Issa to Kenny G, inviting his family on vacation at SuperClubs after his house burned.

Promotions

• **St. Valentine's Day Promotion**

This promotion involved 20 radio stations in the midwest market, chosen by the agency. SuperClubs received inclusion in a series of radio spots, for a total promotional value of \$288,000.

• **Rainbow Room Valentine's Day Promotion**

Agency attended a meeting to begin the planning of this promotion. SuperClubs' trip donation will be in exchange for inclusion in a New York Times advertisement, a press release, attendance by a SuperClubs representative at the luncheon announcing the winning couple.

Breezes Bahamas Grand Opening

- Faxed a "Save the Date" alert to key media for the grand opening scheduled to take place January 25-28. Began airline negotiations for the press trip. Coordinated with GAT Marketing on the implementation of scheduled events.

Wacky Wedding Ideas

- Researched additional companies that make sandcastles/cakes for a wacky wedding event.

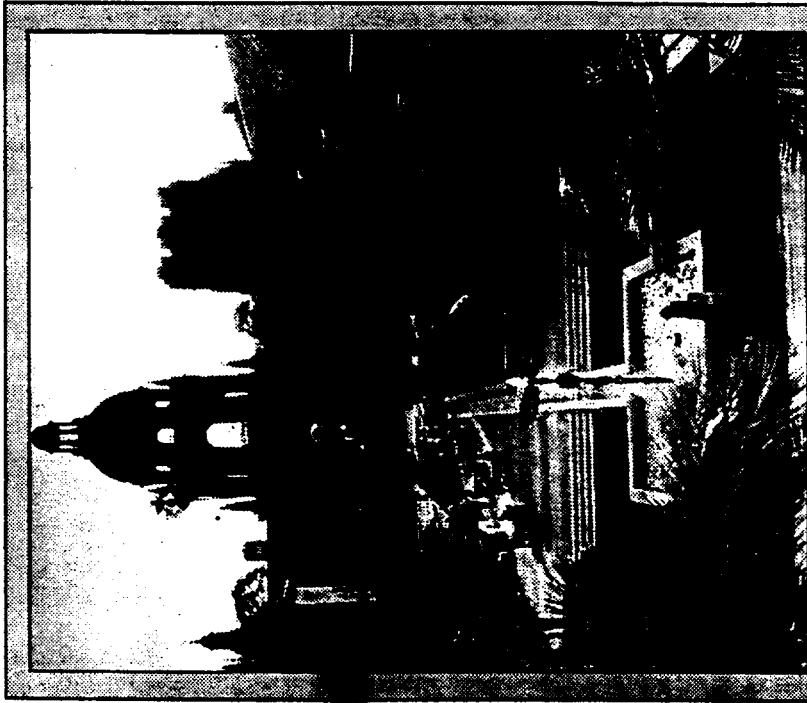
Other

- Compiled a list of key media quotes from publications that covered SuperClubs in 1995, per the request of Zein Issa.

Administration/General

- Received updated list of regional sales managers from Randy Russell.
- Maintained and updated media lists.
- Monitored public relations budget.
- Maintained regular, day-to-day contact with client.

Fresh 'Breezes' blow through the Caribbean



Smell the roses Travelers heading for the 82nd anniversary of Robert Peary in Pasadena, Calif., will find plenty to see and do. From City Hall to museums and gardens, Pasadena presents a quiet contrast to Los Angeles. Call (818) 785-8311. □

ples resort with multiple restaurants and a yacht, and Hedonism II, also in Negril, favored by couples and singles looking for uninhibited fun.
Call (800) 859-7873.

Custom homes

Oakwood Corporate Housing has started a winter vacation program in South Florida, offering furnished apartments with recreational facilities at less-than-hotel prices for visitors staying at least a month.

Travelers can custom-order their accommodations, specifying such things as location, apartment furnishings and recreational facilities in Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Palm Beach, Boca Raton and South Beach and other areas.

Rates start at \$77 per day or \$2,300 per month for a one-bedroom apartment. Studios and two-bedroom units are also available. Minimum stay is 30 days.

Linens, dishes, utensils, pots and pans are included, as is weekly maid service. A private phone number is available and can be operational upon arrival.
Call (800) 897-4998.

N.E. ski conditions

Call the following numbers for the latest information on ski conditions around New England:

- Massachusetts: (800) 227-6277
- New Hampshire: (800) 258-3608
- Vermont: (802) 229-0531
- Maine: (800) 533-9595; (207) 773-SNOW in Maine
- Connecticut: (800) 282-6863
- Ski Watch: WJMN-FM 94.5, 15 reports daily. □

HERALD TRAVELER

SuperClubs, one of the top all-inclusive resort chains in the Caribbean, is developing a new line of "Breezes" resorts, and it is converting Jamaica Jamaica, one of its existing resorts, to become the flagship of the new brand.

Jamaica Jamaica will be known as "Breezes Runaway Bay" and will join Breezes Montego Bay and Breezes Bahamas, both of which opened in September, in catering to active couples and singles looking for a moderately priced, all-inclusive vacation. Breezes operates under the parent chain, with one price covering accommodations, meals, drinks, sports and activities, with no tipping allowed.

Breezes Runaway Bay is on Jamaica's north shore, 42 miles from Montego Bay, and has an 18-hole championship golf course, the island's only golf school and the longest stretch of beach on the north shore. Tennis is also offered, along with all watersports except water skiing, which is not allowed to protect the nearby coral reef. There's also a fitness center, horseback riding, carriage rides, shopping excursions to Ocho Rios and Dunn's River Falls, a disco, a nightclub with live music, a piano bar and a beach bar.

In addition to buffet dining, daylong snacks, afternoon tea and midnight snacks, guests can dine at Martino's, a full-service

Italian restaurant.

Breezes Bahamas is set on Cable Beach in Nassau. Breezes Montego Bay is the only resort on Doctor's Cave Beach.

SuperClubs also has Sans Souci Lido in Ocho Rios, a luxurious all-suite resort; Bosobel Beach, a family resort; Grand Lido in Negril, a romantic cou-

Sunday

SUN 354.281

DEC 10, 1995

N4220

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

Wintertime escapes run hot and cold



BY CATHY LYNN GROSSMAN
USA Today

New island resorts

Winter also is a favorite for Caribbean sun-seekers. And this year, island fans can sample new spots from Nassau to Tobago, says Veronica Stoddart of Caribbean Travel and Life.

Nassau in the Bahamas has tiny, super hip Compass Point, with lodging for 18 people in candy-colored cottages, and the vast Atlantis water theme park hotel with 1,150 rooms.

SuperClubs, a Jamaican all-inclusive resort chain, opened Breezes on Nassau's Cable Beach and another Breezes in Montego Bay, Jamaica, both in September.

Also new in Jamaica: Braco Village Resort, east of Montego Bay, opened in May with its own little village including a town square and "characters" such as the Fruit Lady and Coconut Man.

Le Grand Courlan is the first new luxury property on Tobago, the tiny island off Trinidad. This is the place for "people who want something different and out of the way with great snorkeling, diving and birding," says Stoddart.

In search of savings? Consider a cruise.

Cammissa forecasts slow growth in cruising as new ships add berths to an already crowded fleet. Shoppers can find cabins in '96 at '94 prices.

Bahamas Adventure

ONLY 50 MILES FROM Florida lie the 700 sun-drenched islands of the Bahamian archipelago. With a history that encompasses British, Spanish, African, and American culture, the region offers experiences that suit any traveler. I was there for the first Annual Great Bahamas Seafood Festival, designed to show the strides the islands have taken as a culinary center.

Although virtually any kind of international food can be found here, some dishes are unique: Conch (pronounced "konk") is the national delicacy, its firm, white meat eaten in chowders, salads, and fritters. Also popular are the Bahamian stew fish, local rock lobster, pigeon peas 'n rice, Johnny Cake (a pan-cooked bread), and Guava Duff, king of island desserts, made with guava fruit pulp.

The Nassau Marriott Resort & Crystal Palace Casino should be about finished with its \$30-million face lift by the time you read this. It is one big place, with every resort amenity, including an enormous casino. There are no less than nine restaurants and three lounges — Chinese, Italian, Bahamian, American, deli, just name it. My first foray was at the elegant Sole Mare. The room is elegant, the service formal, the menu Italian fortified with Bahamian. I began with the specialty of blackened conch, which came brutally spiced but excellent, and ended with the guava duff.

The next morning, I stopped off at The Shoal, a popular, large, and casual place serving American food with a strong Bahamian twist. The courageous who order the traditional breakfast, boiled and stewed grouper served with Johnnie Cake, are rewarded with a bounteous meal.

Breezes is a new resort, designed to keep guests well-contented within its own enclave. The all-inclusive tariff covers accommodations, all meals and snacks, wine with meals, unlimited premium bar drinks, sports, and entertainment. The lunch buffet was a large, colorful affair.

I took dinner at the amazing Atlantis, Paradise Island. This large beachfront complex is a pleasure city unto itself, with sports, nightlife, a huge casino, five pools, a spectacular outdoor aquarium, even a see-through pedestrian tunnel running under a lagoon filled with sharks and

Sheldon Landwehr



stingray. Brunch was had at the resort's island-casual Seagrape. The buffet was pure local — rice and beans, plantains, and you guessed it, conch and grouper. The conch chowder was excellent — a savory blend of conch and heady spices that went perfectly with the salt air and ocean view.

For dinner, I headed over to the famous Café Johnny Canoe, a wildly popular place for locals and visitors who come for its nonstop music and dancing, as well as to enjoy the general — if loud — conviviality and good food.

Junkanoo is a twice-a-year Bahamian blast that rivals Mardi Gras in its audacity and color. On Dec. 26 and Jan. 1, the streets are jammed with merry-makers. People display "costumes" that are elaborate, brilliantly colored, and complex, towering edifices

Junkanoo is a twice-a-year Bahamian blast that rivals Mardi Gras . . .

that encompass whole scenes with life-size figures and even horses — yet require only one person to carry them, a stunning balancing act. Despite the costumes being made of lightweight materials such as papier mache, the bearers must change places frequently. All of this is accompanied by rhythmic islands music and dancing.

If you miss Junkanoo, you can at least visit the Junkanoo museum. See the costumes, catch live performances, buy souvenirs.

If you've even wanted to indulge in the lifestyle of the rich and famous, visit Graycliff, the inn of choice for a long list of royalty, celebs, and the world's wealthy. It is the epitome of understated elegance, an uncompromising oasis of old world charm. Graycliff is the only five-star Relais & Chateaux in the West Indies. My special seafood festival dinner here, amid antique fur-

nishings reminiscent of the British Colonial period, was a moment to savor. Beginning with Bahamian lobster encased in puff pastry and coddled in a saffron cream sauce, through a velvety cream of scallop soup, to the rich banana souffle dessert, it was richly rewarding. Entrees were filet of sole in tomato pouch with Champagne beurre blanc and grilled tuna filet on grilled radicchio, tomato, and sweet pepper salad. I finished with a selection from the hotel's award-winning cellar of port and fine cigars.

One day, I headed to see the latest triumph of hotel magnate extraordinaire Chris Blackwell, who as owner of Island records gave the world the music of Bob Marley, the Rolling Stones, Bon Jovi (among others), and now has given Nassau his Compass Point, a whimsical mini-resort of 18 colorful, huts, cottages, and cabanas. It has been discovered by the celebrity crowd, and in one week, guests included Cindy Crawford, Phil Collins, Sean Connery, Jimmy Buffett, and Lenny Kravitz. I took lunch in the Compass Point Restaurant, which served a satisfying California-Bahamas meal amidst its out-islands decor.

Back at the Nassau Marriott, I strayed into their casual Goom-bay Mama, a price-fixed restaurant, and found a comforting selection of Bahamian, American, and Italian cuisines — top notch Buffalo wings, to say nothing of pizza, a juicy burger with waffle fries, and, yes, meatballs and spaghetti. You know how you get certain yens. Ah, but there are plenty of conch and grouper specialties too — just in case you didn't get your fill.

FROM THE HIP: An unusual gift idea: the Heartland Brewpack, from Union Square Brewery, two 23-oz glasses and a jug of micro-brewed beer, \$25. *** **CHRISTMAS EVE:** Wood-burning fires warm the scene at Moran's (10 Ave @ 19 St.), with their usual menu of steaks, lobsters, and seafood. *** **CHRISTMAS DAY:** Cornelia Street Cafe serves a festive dinner from 2-10 p.m., \$35.

Scores of Sheldon Landwehr's reviews, plus recipes and more, on the Internet at <http://www.sheldonlandwehr.com>
Questions about dining? Send email to Sheldon@nypost.com, or write 145 West 45th St., NY, NY 10036, (212) 221-3706.
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Sunday SUN 875.831

DEC 31, 1995

N3832

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

Disney Institute resort customizes vacations

The Disney Institute, a mix of sports, entertainment and learning facilities, will offer a special "premiere season package" to mark its opening Feb. 9 at Walt Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

The institute is the first Disney Discovery Resort at Disney World.

Rates for a minimum three-night stay start at \$349 per person, double occupancy.

The offer, available through May 18, includes accommodations, a one-day visit to Walt Disney World and other benefits. Programs include cooking, design, entertainment, animation, gardening, performing arts, sports and fitness, and activities for youngsters 10 to 17.

Reservation deadline in March 15. Information can be obtained by contacting a travel agent or a Disney Insti-

Jamaica Jamaica, one of six Superclubs in Jamaica, will become the flagship of the company's new line of "Breezes" resorts.

After a short transition period, the hotel will be known as Breezes Runaway Bay.

The hotel chain specializes in "super inclusive" packages, in which all costs are covered in a flat fee.

More information is available by calling (800) 859-SUPER.

✓ ✓ ✓

Several vacation packages in Virginia Beach, Va., including boat trips for watching whales, are available.

The "Whale Watch Boat Trips" are sponsored by the Virginia Marine Science Museum.

The trips will run daily except Tuesdays and Thursdays through March 30 or until the whales migrate from the area.

The annual migration of the humpback whales, among the world's largest mammals, occurs within a short boat ride off the shores of Virginia Beach.

During the trips, some whales surface as close as 100 yards from the boats.

More information is available by calling the Virginia Beach Visitor Information Center at (800) 446-8038.

✓ ✓ ✓



Disney Institute participants will set their own pace.

TRAVEL UPDATE

tute Vacation Consultant at (800) 496-6337.

✓ ✓ ✓

Barbados will celebrate its third annual "Paint It Jazz" festival on Jan. 10-14.

Featured will be a variety of jazz

GOLFWEEK

Dec. 16, 1995

Circ: 59,307

GOLFWEEK
Orlando, FL

WEEKLY

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DEC 16, 1995

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LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

NEW NAME: Jamaica Jamaica, one of the six SuperClubs resorts on Jamaica, is now known as the Breezes Runaway Bay. Two other all-inclusive SuperClubs resorts have joined the new Breezes brand name: the **Breezes Montego Bay and Breezes Bahamas.**

The resort at Runaway Bay features an 18-hole golf course, golf school and a five-star scuba program, and the parent company expects it to be the flagship of the new Breezes lineup.

For information, call 800-859-7873

— *Compiled by James Y. Bartlett*

P1612
LUCY PRESS CLIPPINGS

Resorts worldwide cater to the unusual



So you're tolling on the beach at the stupendous Little Palm Island resort in the Florida Keys and the sun is making you thirsty. What's a body to do?

Mim Swartz
Not to worry. Just raise the little pink flag on the pole by your beach chair and someone will come running to take your drink order, then deliver it pronto.

The same kind of service exists at the Moorish-designed Cap Juluca on the island of Anguilla in the Caribbean. Not only are there cocktail service flags at the beach, but there's complimentary Evian water and chilled towels. Sounds good to me.

Those two hotels were among more than a dozen lauded for unusual services in the second annual Reader's Choice Survey Awards sent to more than 20,000 travel agents who subscribe to the *Official Hotel Guide*.

The survey also asked the agents to name the best hotels in the world.

Hotels topping the list are:
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Hong Kong's aforementioned The Peninsula also is one of those singled out for most unusual services. It offers airport transfers in a restored 1934 Rolls-Royce Phantom, one of only two ever made,

plus use of the hotel's private helicopter for tours of the city. Still others on the most-unusual services list:
■ Pampered dogs dine on biscuits shaped like bones with their name spelled out in edible letters and cats dine on fresh tuna served on fine china. — **The Pierre**, New York
■ Snow and ice removal from guests' cars in the parking lots. — **The Rusty Parrot Lodge**, Jackson, Wyo.
■ Swimming with sharks during their feeding times and breakfast in bed delivered by canoe. — **Bora Bora Lagoon Resort**

■ Swimming with dolphins as part of the hotel's Dolphin Learning Center. — **Hilton Waikoloa Village**, Kamuela/Kohala, Hawaii
■ Personalized business cards with guests' name, room number, fax and phone number, plus 24-hour personal butler service. — **The Lanesborough**, London

■ Tarot card readings and personal meditation, plus one-on-one fashion consultation. — **Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa**, Sonoma, Calif.
■ Pool side manicures and pedicures, plus flower lei greeting and chilled towels at check-in. — **The Manele Bay Hotel**, Lanai, Hawaii

■ Complimentary French bague at check-out from the hotel's on-site bakery. — **Hotel Sofitel**, Houston
■ Complimentary weddings, including marriage license, wedding cake, champagne, flowers and non-denominational marriage officier. — **Grand Lido**, Negrit, Jamaica

■ Three types of reading glasses

in its Veranda Restaurant for guests who have trouble reading the menu when they've forgotten their eyeglasses. — **Turnberry Isle Resort & Club**, Miami
■ For children, a "Sun-Dial-A-Story" extension line with two-minute, pre-recorded nursery rhymes and children's stories. — **Sundial Beach & Tennis Resort**, Sanibel Island/Captiva Island, Fla.

■ New flights to Zihuatanejo: Good news for vacationers heading South of the Border this winter. Continental Airlines will begin non-stop service Dec. 14 between Houston and the Mexican resorts of Zihuatanejo/Ixtapa.

■ If you're saying "WHERE?" that's the problem. Tourism officials believe that because of a lack of air service, not many people know about the tiny town of Zihuatanejo and its sister created-from-scratch resort, Ixtapa. They're on the Pacific coast about 130 miles north of Acapulco.

You've been able to get there via connections in Mexico City — and still can — but officials say American tourists are reluctant to have to change planes at that airport. However, I did so last month and it was easy. No problem.

At any rate, Continental will have three flights weekly in both directions — Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays — and they're timed to make convenient connections from various cities in the U.S.

If you have tidbits to pass along for Travel Editor Mim Swartz's column, send them to Stopovers, Travel Section, Rocky Mountain News, 400 W. Colfax Ave., Denver 80204.

DEC 24, 1995

KANSAS CITY STAR

Dec. 24, 1995

Circ: 429,387

N3364

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

ITINERARY

Trip Wire



Can we help? Some of the most unusual services offered by hotels, from a survey of travel agents by the Official Hotel Guide:

■ Dog biscuits shaped like bones with the pooch's name spelled out in edible letters and fresh tuna on fine china for cats

at the Pierre in New York.

■ Snow and ice removal from guests' cars in the parking lots at the Rusty Parrot Lodge in Jackson, Wyo.

■ Swimming with sharks during their feeding times and breakfast in bed delivered by canoe at the Bora Bora Lagoon Resort.

■ Tarot card readings and personal meditation, plus one-on-one fashion consultation at the Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa, Sonoma, Calif.

■ Poolside manicures and pedicures, plus flower lei greeting and chilled towels at check-in at the Manele Bay Hotel, Lanai, Hawaii.

■ Complimentary weddings, including marriage license, wedding cake, champagne, flowers and non-denominational marriage officer at the Grand Lido, in Negril, Jamaica.

■ Three types of reading glasses in its Veranda Restaurant for guests who have trouble reading the menu when they've forgotten their eyeglasses at the Turnberry Isle Resort & Club in Miami.

I was just thinking: It's a wonderful life — and a great time of year to check out the new Jimmy Stewart Museum in Indiana, Pa., the actor's hometown.

The museum is filled with memorabilia from Stewart's childhood, Hollywood career and military service, as a World War II bomber pilot. Admission to the museum is \$5; call (800) 835-4669.

Also new: The New Victory Theater, which is being billed as New York's first permanent theater for young audiences, opened this week.

The New Victory will present operas, plays, dances and films by, among others, the Jim Henson Foundation and the Metropolitan Opera Guild. The theater is at 209 W. 42nd St.; (212) 564-4222.

Free Advice



Family ties: A new free kit, "Generation Journey: A Kit to Connect Families," is available from Fairfield Inn by Marriott and AT&T. The kit has strategies and resources for researching and documenting family history and

TOP 10 Theme parks

The top 10 amusement parks in the world, according to the 1995 readers' poll of *Inside Track*, a newspaper dedicated to amusement parks:

1. Cedar Point, Sandusky, Ohio
2. Knoebels, Elysburg, Pa.
3. Kennywood, West Mifflin, Pa.
4. Disneyland, Anaheim, Calif.
5. Holiday World, Santa Claus, Ind.
6. Six Flags Magic Mountain, Valencia, Calif.
7. Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Williamsburg, Va.
8. Walt Disney World Magic Kingdom, Orlando, Fla.
9. Six Flags Mid-America, St. Louis.
10. Six Flags Over Texas, Arlington, Texas

GEOQUIZ QUESTION

Into which sea does the Yukon River empty?

— See *Travel Watch*, Page 4, for the answer.

Chicago Tribune

tips for planning reunions and other activities such as family yearbooks and on-line bulletin boards.

For a copy, write to Generation Journey, c/o the Fulfillment Center, 8220 Ambassador Row, Dallas, Texas 75247.

Reservations, please: Fodor's Travel Publications has a new toll-free, 24-hour reservations line, (800) 363-6771, for booking domestic hotel rooms reviewed in its guides (including Mobil Travel Guides).

Road Wary



More about the Web: In its first case of cyberspace wrist-slapping, the U.S. Transportation Department has fined Virgin Atlantic Airways for misleading advertising on the Internet.

Virgin Atlantic, which has routes between London, New York and Los Angeles, agreed to pay the \$14,000 fine, half of which will be waived if the airline stays clean. The airline had not disclosed some flight costs on its World Wide Web site and listed a fare that no longer was available.

Compiled by Mary Lou Nolan, *The Star's* travel editor, from staff and wire reports.



Luxury hotels that do everything for you but tuck you into bed

BY MIM SWARTZ
Scripte Howard News Service

SO, YOU'RE lolling on the beach at the stupendous Little Palm Island resort in the Florida Keys, and the sun is making you thirsty. What's a body to do?

Not to worry. Just raise the little pink flag on the pole by your beach chair and someone will come running to take your drink order, then deliver it pronto.

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at Cap Juluca on the island of Anguilla in the Caribbean. Not only are there cocktail service flags at the beach, but there's also complimentary Evian water and chilled towels.

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- Best Luxury Hotel, Pacific Asia — The Peninsula, Hong Kong.
- Favorite Resort Hotel, North America — The Phoenician, Scottsdale, Ariz.

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Hong Kong's aforementioned The Peninsula also is one of those singled out for most unusual services. It offers airport transfers in a restored 1934 Rolls-Royce Phantom, one of only two ever made, plus use of the hotel's private helicopter for tours of the city.

Among others on the most-unusual-services list:

- The Pierre, New York: Pampered dogs dine on biscuits shaped like bones with their names spelled out in edible letters, and cats dine on fresh tuna served on fine china.
- Bora Bora Lagoon Resort: Swimming with sharks during their feeding times and breakfast in bed delivered by canoe.
- Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa, Sonoma: Tarot card readings and personal meditation, plus one-on-one fashion consultation.
- Grand Lido, Negril, Jamaica: Complimentary weddings, in-

cluding marriage license, wedding cake, champagne, flowers and non-denominational marriage officier.

■ Turnberry Isle Resort & Club, Miami: Three types of reading glasses in its Veranda Restaurant for guests who have trouble reading the menu when they've forgotten their eyeglasses.

■ Sandial Beach & Tennis Resort, Sanibel Island/Captiva Island, Fla.: For children, a "Sun-Dial-A-Story" extension line with two-minute, prerecorded nursery rhymes and children's stories.

(416) 750-2220

The Toronto Sun

Toronto, ON

Dailies

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24 Dec 95

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2206 EGLINTON AVE. EAST
SUITE 190, SCARBOROUGH, M1L 4T5

New adventures at Universal Florida

05720

RUMORS, ROSES AND RASPBERRIES:

RUMOR: Universal Studios Florida, which soon become known as Universal City Florida. Like the original movie and entertainment studio in Hollywood, Calif., the expansion of its Orlando location is just one more step in the local rivalry with the mega Walt Disney World.

By 1999, Universal City Florida will embody two theme parks: the extraordinary "studios," already a superlative success; and a 12-acre entertainment complex, called Universal's Islands of Adventure. By then, four themed hotels will, like Disney, invite people to stay "on property." These will include an 18-hole golf course and villa community. As though tourists need more to choose from in central Florida.

ROSE: Lufthansa German Airlines has introduced its first totally non-smoking flights between Canada and Germany. Five thousand respondents to a survey on this issue overwhelmingly approved (84%) of the courageous move. Europe has been slow (by North American trends) to recognize the growing non-smoking preference, but Lufthansa takes it one step further with plans to

expand its new clean-air flights to all points in Europe (of 90 minutes or less), starting April 1996.

ROSE: The *Official Hotel Guide*, the most trusted hotel directory used by travel agents, has surveyed those agents to select the world's best hotels and resorts.

Some of the world's most unusual services listed include: swimming excursions with sharks at the Bora Bora Lagoon Resort, as well as breakfast in bed, delivered by canoe! If you want a drink on the beach at Little Palm Island in the Florida Keys, just plant your little pink flag! Wanna take pooch to New York City? Stay at The Pierre

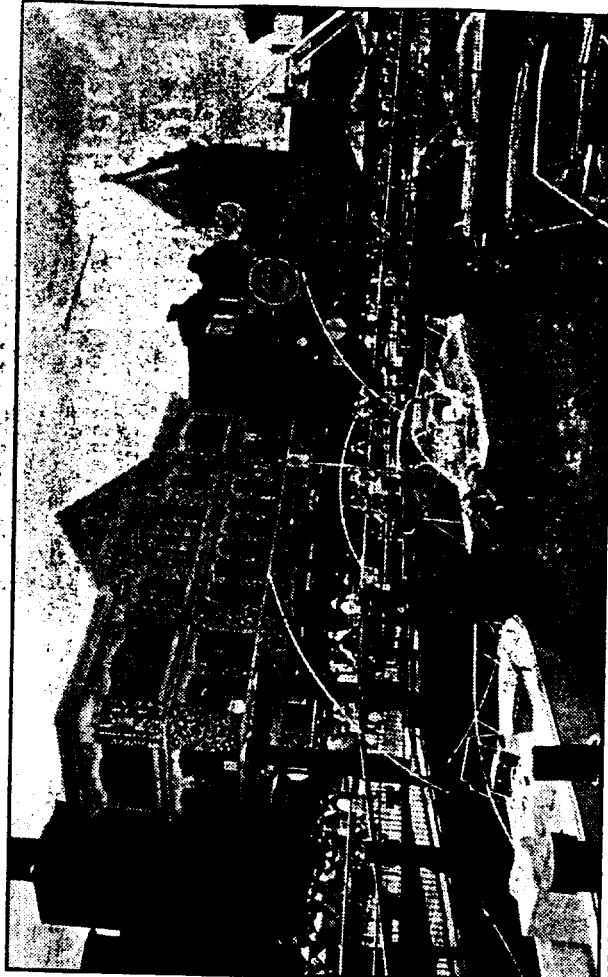
and they'll provide a comfortable wicker bed-basket complete with a personalized bone! No money for a wedding? At SuperClub's Grand Lido Negril (Jamaica) the hotel picks up the tab for the marriage licence fee, the wedding cake, champagne, flowers and non-denominational marriage officer.

DEALS:

Near: Snow, that's the most important thing when it comes to snowmobilers. And



Jane
STOKES
TRAVEL BITS



WEST MEETS EAST ... Universal's San Francisco is almost like the real thing.

now Pickarel Lake Lodge in Burke's Falls, sweetens the pot by opening its newly renovated facility. Just 2 1/2 hours north of Toronto and just west of Algonquin Park, the resort features an indoor pool, sauna, hot tub, fitness rooms, new lakefront dining, plus king and queen suites with fireplace and Jacuzzi. For larger parties, consider the four-bedroom executive chalet.

Snowmobile rentals are available, but the lodge offers free use of cross-country skis, snowshoes and toboggans. Rates include three meals and range from \$85 per person per day, Sunday to Thursday, up to \$120 for the king suite. Weekend rates start at \$95 per person, per day, Friday and Saturday, up

to \$140. Enquiries, 1-800-461-5582.

Far: Perhaps tropical gardens will lure you into a luxury cruise. Visit the horticultural pride of Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Guadeloupe, Caracas and Grenada, as well as the desert gardens of Aruba, aboard the five-star *m.v. Zenith of Celebrity Cruises*. Prices start at \$2,115 per person, double occupancy and include private receptions, on-board lectures, five shore excursions and more.

Contact any location of Carlson Wagonlit Travel, or call 416-236-1921.

WINN: Keep an eye on this column for our contest with Canadian Holidays, starting Jan. 7, 1996. You could win a four-night trip for two to Nassau.

Youngstown, OH
Vindicator
Youngstown Met Area

Sunday SUN 129.758

DEC 31, 1995

N4416

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

4 FAVORITES AROUND THE WORLD

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UNUSUAL SERVICES

- **PAMPERED DOGS** dine on biscuits shaped like bones with their name spelled out in edible letters and cats dine on fresh tuna served on fine china. The Pierre, New York.
- **SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL** from guests' cars in the parking lots. The Rusty Parrot Lodge, Jackson, Wyo.
- **SWIMMING WITH SHARKS** during their feeding times and breakfast in bed delivered by canoe. The Bora Bora Lagoon Resort.
- **SWIMMING WITH DOLPHINS** as part of the hotel's Dolphin Learning Center, The Hilton Waikoloa Village, Kamuela/Kohala, Hawaii.
- **PERSONALIZED** business cards with guests' name, room number, fax and phone number, plus 24-hour personal butler service. The Lanesborough, London.
- **TAROT CARD** readings and personal meditation, plus one-on-one fashion con-

sultation. The Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa, Sonoma, Calif.

- **POOLSIDE MANICURES** and pedicures, plus flower lei greeting and chilled towels at check-in. The Manele Bay Hotel, Lanai, Hawaii.
- **COMPLIMENTARY** weddings, including marriage license, wedding cake, champagne, flowers and non-denominational marriage officer. The Grand Lido, Negril, Jamaica.
- **THREE TYPES** of reading glasses in the Veranda Restaurant for guests who have trouble reading the menu when they've forgotten their eyeglasses. The Turnberry Isle Resort & Club, Miami.

LUXURY

- **BEST LUXURY HOTEL, EUROPE** — Hotel Cipriani and Palazzo Vendramin, Venice, Italy
- **BEST LUXURY HOTEL, NORTH AMERICA** — The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel, Calif.
- **BEST LUXURY HOTEL, LATIN AMERICA** — Copacabana Palace, Rio de Janeiro
- **BEST LUXURY HOTEL, PACIFIC ASIA** — The Peninsula, Hong Kong

RESORTS

- **FAVORITE RESORT HOTEL, NORTH AMERICA** — The Phoenician, Scottsdale, Ariz.
 - **FAVORITE RESORT HOTEL, CARIBBEAN** — Four Seasons, Nevis
 - **FAVORITE RESORT HOTEL, PACIFIC ASIA** — Bora Bora Lagoon Resort, Bora Bora Island, Tahiti
- Source: Mim Swartz, Scripps Howard News Service

Pampering guests is their pleasure

If hedonism marks fine hotel, these are tops

By MIM SWARTZ
Scripps Howard News Service

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Reader Choice Survey Lists the best hotels in the world

By **Mim Swartz**
Scripts Howard News Service

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San Luis Obispo, CA
COUNTY TELEGRAM - TRIBUNE

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DEC 23 1995

P1462

LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

Travel Notes

Favorite hotels and resorts around the world

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■ **Favorite Resort Hotel, Caribbean** — Four Seasons in Nevis (followed by Sandy Lane in Barbados and (tied) Sandals Dunn's River in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, Little Dix Bay in Virgin Gorda, British Virgin Islands, and Peter Island in British Virgin Islands).

■ **Favorite Resort Hotel, Pacific Asia** — Bora Bora Lagoon Resort, Bora Bora Island, Tahiti (followed by Mandarin Oriental in Hong Kong and (tied) Four Seasons Resort in Jimbaran Bay, Bali, The Peninsula in Hong Kong and The Regent in Hong Kong).

Hong Kong's aforementioned The Peninsula also is one of those singled out for most unusual services. It offers airport transfers in a restored 1934 Rolls-Royce Phantom, one of only two ever made, plus use of the hotel's private helicopter for tours of the city.

Still others on the most-unusual-services list:

■ **Pampered dogs dine on biscuits** shaped like bones with their name spelled out in edible letters and cats dine on fresh tuna served on fine china.

■ **The Pierre, New York** — Snow and ice removal from guests' cars in the parking lots.

■ **The Rusty Parrot Lodge, Jackson, Wyo.** — Swimming with sharks during their feeding times and breakfast in bed delivered by canoe.

■ **Bora Bora Lagoon Resort** — Swimming with dolphins as part of the hotel's Dolphin Learning Center.

■ **Hilton Waikoloa Village, Kamuela/Kohala, Hawaii** — Personalized business cards with guests' name, room number, fax and phone number, plus 24-hour personal butler service.

■ **The Lanesborough, London** — Tarot card readings and personal meditation, plus one-on-one fashion consultation.

■ **Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa, Sonoma, Calif.** — Poolside manicures and pedicures, plus flower lei greeting and chilled towels at check-in.

■ **The Manele Bay Hotel, Lanai, Hawaii** — Complimentary French baguette at check-out from the hotel's on-site bakery.

■ **Hotel Sofitel, Houston** — Complimentary weddings, including marriage license, wedding cake, champagne, flowers and non-denominational marriage officer.

■ **Grand Lido, Negril, Jamaica** — Three types of reading glasses in its Veranda Restaurant for guests who have trouble reading the menu when they've forgotten their eyeglasses.

— Scripps Howard News Service

Breakfast in bed sent by canoe? It's at one of best hotels

By Mimi Swartz

Scripps Howard News Service

So you're lolling on the beach at the stupendous Little Palm Island resort in the Florida Keys and the sun is making you thirsty. What's a body to do?

Your beach chair and someone will come running to take your drink order, then deliver it pronto.

The same kind of service exists at the Moorish-designed Cap Juluca on the island of Anguilla in the Caribbean. Not only are there cocktail service flags at the beach, but there's complimentary Evian water and chilled towels.

Those two hotels were among more than a dozen lauded for unusual services in a survey of more than 20,000 travel agents who subscribe to the Official Hotel Guide.

On the most-unusual-services list:

■ Pampered dogs dine on biscuits shaped like bones with their name spelled out in edible letters and cats dine on fresh tuna served on fine china. — The Pierre, New York.

■ Snow and ice removal from guests' cars in the parking lots. — The Rusty Parrot Lodge, Jackson, Wyo.

■ Swimming with sharks during their feeding times and breakfast in bed delivered by canoe — Bora Bora Lagoon Resort.

■ Swimming with dolphins as part of the hotel's Dolphin Learning Center — Hilton Walkoloa Village, Kamuela/Kohala, Hawaii.

■ Personalized business cards with guests' name, room number, fax and phone number, plus 24-hour personal butler service. — The Lanesborough, London.

■ Tarot card readings and personal meditation, plus one-on-one fashion consultation. — Sonoma Mission Inn &

Spa, Sonoma, Calif.

■ Poolside manicures and pedicures, plus flower lei greeting and chilled towels at check-in. — The Manele Bay Hotel, Lanai, Hawaii.

■ Complimentary French baguette at check-out from the hotel's on-site bakery. — Hotel Sofitel, Houston.

■ Complimentary weddings, including marriage license, wedding cake, champagne, flowers and non-denominational marriage officer. — Grand Lido, Negri, Jamaica.

■ Three types of reading glasses in its Veranda Restaurant for guests who have trouble reading the menu when they've forgotten their eyeglasses. — Turnberry Isle Resort & Club, Miami.

■ For children, a "Sun-Dial-A-Story" extension line with two-minute, prerecorded nursery rhymes and children's stories. — Sun-Dial Beach & Tennis Resort, Sumbel Island / Captiva Island, Fla.

'Tis the season to take the holidays on the road

By WENDY A. FUTHILL

If Thanksgiving weekend got you in the mood to travel, perhaps you should treat your family to a vacation this holiday season.

Mary Lou Abbott, an editor at Vacation Publications, a Houston-based organization that publishes such nationally known magazines as Vacations and Travel 50 & Beyond, said the hot ticket right now is an "outdoors-oriented trip that includes nature, action, the Old West and Indian Country, which include hiking, biking and canoeing."

"Activities to keep all ages happy is the key to a good family vacation," Abbott said.

For example, she said, one hot vacation spot is "Four Corners," where Southwestern Colorado, Eastern Utah, Northern Arizona and Northern New Mexico meet.

Here a family can dig for dinosaurs just outside Grand Junction, Colo., discover Indian history and go on Jeep tours of the backcountry in Colorado, including Mesa Verde and the famed Indian Cliff Dwellings.

Abbott said a week to 10 days is a good amount of time to spend in this area.

"The food is reasonably priced,

N.M., which Abbott said is about 9,000 feet above sea level.

"It's a neat, low-key area to explore," she said. "There's no big razzle-dazzle, just the outdoors."

For Texans looking to travel eastward, Abbott said Louisiana is rging with ideas of Cajun hospitality. "Louisiana is a family-oriented area with lots of rich, Cajun history," she said.

Abbott recommends a tour of Southern Louisiana. "You could go to Lafayette and over to Baton Rouge and down to New Orleans and back around," she said. "Families can do whatever suits their fancy -- from old plantation tours to three-day cruises on the Delta Queen up the Mississippi (River) out of New Orleans."

One actively any adventure-seeking Louisiana-bound vacationer might consider is the swamp-boat tours, where catching a glimpse of an alligator or other wildlife indigenous to the Pelican State is possible.

For families seeking an adventure on the open seas, Carol Pace of Sit-travel suggested a cruise on either Carnival or The Big Red Boat cruise lines. Both cruise lines offer packages that offer stop-offs at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

"The family might choose a three- or four-night cruise and combine it with a Disney stay of three to four nights," Pace said, noting The Big Red Boat package includes a special tuck-in service for children.

"The Looney Tunes characters on board the ship will come and entertain and tuck in the children," she said. "It's great to have the Tasmanian Devil or Yosemite Sam come to the cabin to tell the kids good night."

Also on The Big Red Boat, there is a night baby-sitter and even an all-night sleeper so Mom and Dad can have some time to themselves.

The newest member of the Disney family -- slated for a February 1996 opening -- is the Disney Institute. "It's for singles, couples and families with children 10 years old and older," Pace said. "There will be a 38,000-square-foot sports and fitness center, a full-service bar and condominium-style accommodations."

"Families can choose from over 80



Ben Blankenburg photo

For those who want a winter vacation with some excitement, the Copper Mountain Resort in Colorado offers skiers five wide-open bowls and the challenge of its majestic, award-winning slopes.

hands-on programs in video, radio, animation, culinary arts, the outdoors, storytelling, music, photography, organic gardening and more."

Pace, who predicts the institute will score big with families, said classes can be shared by the entire family or designed to cater to individual family members.

A big hit among travelers is the all-inclusive vacation, and Pace said such a package is offered to the Franklin D. Resort -- or Boscombe Beach resort in Jamaica.

For one price, the family can enjoy food, drinks, water-sports activities, tours, golf, nightly entertainment and much more," she said. "These resorts also include a 'nanny' that is assigned to the family to check in.

suggested seeking housing accommodations at state parks.

"Many have unique, but historic lodges and offer resort-type activities," she said, including fishing or hiking, either on-site or nearby.

For example, she said, at the Davis Mountains State Park, nestled half-way between El Paso and Midland, lodging starts at about \$55 a night, and includes breakfast.

One of the lodges was built during the Depression Era and features white adobe construction, open-beam ceilings and handmade furniture.

"It (Fort Davis) is probably the best preserved historic site in the nation and dates back to Civil War times," she said, noting the vacation spot is about 5,000 feet above sea level.

"The nanny is on call from 9 o'clock in the morning to six in the evening for baby-sitting, should the adults have tours, golf or beach plans."

While these vacation ideas aren't seasonal, Abbott said a Colorado ski trip always is a popular option, especially toward the end of the season.

"Nearly all the resorts drop their prices," she said. Some resorts, such as Crested Butte in central Colorado, offer free skiing at that time.

Lodging, she said, runs \$50 to \$70 a night and can include free skiing. These special offers usually are available during the last two weeks of the ski season, which is in April. For the budgeting traveler, Abbott



Bob Winsell photo

For a holiday getaway, the historic hamlet of Breckenridge, Colo., offers four mountains and a quaint, small-town atmosphere.

by 5720
On a slow retreat to the horizon, a brilliant setting sun cast a column of gold across the waters of Montego Bay. Only a few bronze bodies remained on the silky sand beach of Sandals Royal Jamaican Resort, soaking up the last rays of the day. Playful Caribbean breezes carried the scent of tropical blossoms and exotic bird songs filled the air.

you can

story by donna carter

illustration by russ willms

have it

all

Leave your wallet at home for an exclusive inclusive vacation

ONLY STEPS FROM THE BEACH, BENEATH AN ARBOR OF green leaves and cream-colored blossoms, an exquisite bride in a flowing white gown exchanged marriage vows with a handsome man in a grey tuxedo. On a nearby table, elegantly draped with a starched white cloth, awaited a gourmet wedding supper, sparkling champagne and a traditional wedding cake. Here in this tropical Utopia, dripping with huge hibiscus blooms and verdant vines, the young couple began their future together.

At many Caribbean resorts, open-air weddings such as this are just a part of a growing major attraction — the all-inclusive vacation. Not only are wedding couples jumping on the bandwagon of prepaid one-price holidays, but millions of people of all ages are developing an infatuation for the “all-inclusive” getaway.

The concept of all-inclusive vacations was spawned in the Caribbean by a small Jamaican resort in the 1950s, to be popularized in the next two decades by the Club Med chain. By 1980, the idea of one-price holidays had caught fire in the mass market and new companies like Sandals sought to perfect and redefine the initial strategies of all-inclusive.

Today, the Sandals family of ultra all-inclusive resorts in the Caribbean is joined in this blue water playground by SuperClubs, SunSwept, Couples, several Radisson properties in the Caribbean and Mexico, Bolongo resorts in the U.S. Virgin Islands, several independents and Club Med, which is still very much in the picture.

What keeps these resorts both going and growing is people's passion for them. Vacationers who opt to pay for their vacations up front are looking for a no-hassle, worry-free holiday, which the all-inclusives strive to fulfil. Not having to think about tipping, which is *verboden* at most inclusive resorts, is another factor. Travellers find it reassuring to know everything is paid for and there is no chance of overextending budgets. Being able to put their wallets away and exist in a carefree, cashless environment is also appealing. Moreover, with extensive resort-based activities, gourmet dining and ample amenities, rather than feeling restricted, most couples prefer to stay within the complex, except for sightseeing and souvenir shopping.

Popularity of the all-inclusive concept has fostered a proliferation of resorts — creating a new dilemma for vacation-seekers. The question for many is, which one to choose? Each resort is

x 7457



When you've done all there is to do at an all-inclusive, enjoy the next best thing — nothing.

Rios, Jamaica. "Take sufficient time to shop around, ask questions and thoroughly explore the options of various resorts," he advises. Petrone and his wife, Anita Ciconne,

version, called WeddingMoons, includes an on-site wedding co-ordinator, justice of the peace or clergyman, tropical flowers, Caribbean wedding cake, champagne dinner, photographer and a wedding day video. Special treats include a romantic cruise, manicures, pedicures, gift baskets and personalized candlelit dinners for the newlyweds. Wedding prices range from \$500 to \$750 Cdn., depending on the resort location and options selected.

did just that and were not disappointed. The couple gave SuperClubs 10 out of 10 marks for service and accommodation, contending that, at least for them, "all-inclusive is the only way to go."

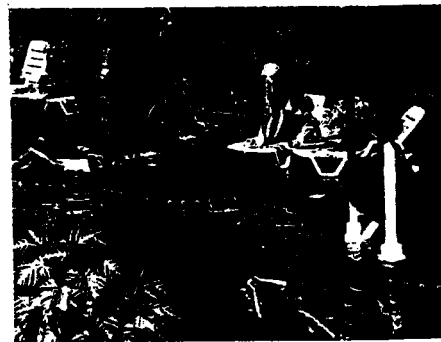
The WeddingMoons package is designed to blend with Sandals all-inclusive plan, which includes accommodation, limitless premium-brand drinks, gourmet dining, anytime snacks, superior entertainment, water sports, tennis, golf, local taxes, airport transfers and baggage

different and has a unique personality; some have special options, others have exclusions and, most important, the full meaning of all-inclusive can differ from one resort chain to another. Some provide off-property shopping and sightseeing excursions, while others charge.

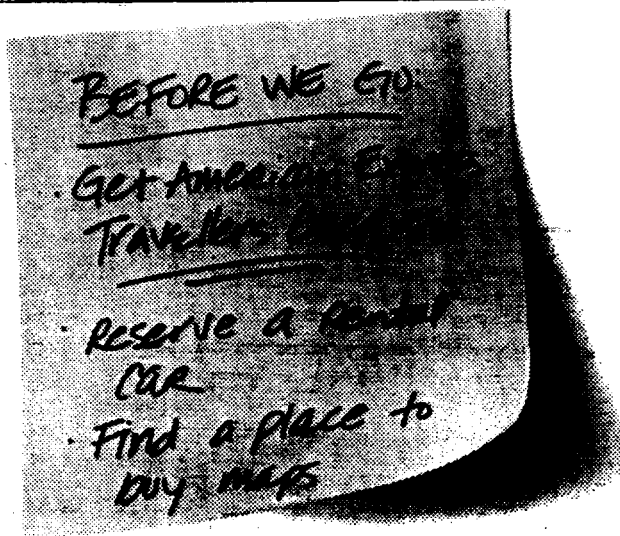
Their sentiments were echoed by Canadians David and Nicole Pitino who spent a two-week honeymoon in August at Sandals Ocho Rios. They too are committed to the all-inclusive concept saying they will do it again, perhaps on another island. Like Petrone and Ciconne, the Pitinos caution all-inclusive holiday shoppers to thoroughly research resort options and make certain that what is meant by "all" is clearly defined and what you see in the color brochures is what you can expect to get.


Good advice comes from John Petrone, a Canadian communications specialist, vacationing recently at SuperClubs' Sans Souci Lido resort in Ocho

For instance, most all-inclusive resorts offer a wedding package but packages can differ from one resort to another. Sandals'



Photos: Sandals Resorts

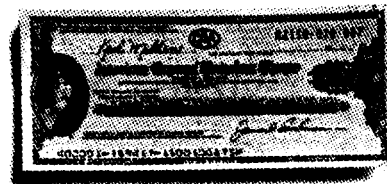


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handling. Tipping is taboo. The Pitinos, for example, paid approximately \$6,000 (all prices are in Canadian funds and don't include airfare) for their Sandals two-week package.

SuperClubs promises free-of-charge weddings and, in addition to arranging all the details and performing the ceremony, the chain's five resorts in Jamaica cover the cost of a marriage licence, minister, witnesses, tropical flowers, champagne and a traditional Jamaican two-tier wedding cake. Video and photography services are extra and range in price from \$150 to \$240.

The SuperClubs' one-price holiday, which can include a free wedding, covers accommodation, meals, snacks, premium-brand cocktails, use of all land and water sports facilities with equipment and instruction, entertainment, recreational activities, hotel taxes and airport transfers. Again, tipping is not permitted. After shopping around and taking advantage of a 10 per cent credit card discount, John Petrone was able to tie down a two-week holiday for two with SuperClubs for \$6,600. "This is a first-class vacation at a very good price," he says.

One restriction that would exclude

other vacationers from many all-inclusive resorts is children. Club Med accommodates families at some of its establishments, although to date, the majority of all-inclusives in the Caribbean cater to couples only. Boscobel Beach is SuperClubs sole family resort, while none of the Sandals properties currently accommodate small fry, although a new resort is planned for Negril that will welcome families and singles.

Another factor that separates some resorts from others is location. Most are beach-front establishments while some, like Jamaica's luxurious Ciboney resort in Ocho Rios (a division of Radisson hotels), are nestled in the hills above the sea. From the Ciboney lush garden estate, sprinkled with red-tile villas and a grand plantation-style house with European-style spa, the view of the Caribbean is magnificent. Just minutes from the ocean, a shuttle transports guests to Ciboney's private beach-front club. Although Ciboney is not restricted to couples, its rate structure is somewhat prohibitive for the single guest.

While Jamaica offers the greatest concentration of all-inclusive resorts, both beach front and otherwise, the Caribbean

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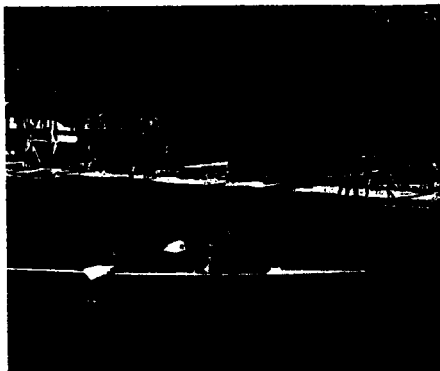


Photo: Sandals Resorts

islands are dotted with plenty of good choices. The SunSwept chain, for example, has established resorts on the islands of Grenada and St. Lucia. Its La Source resort, Grenada, is a splendid seaside oasis near the colonial town of St. George's. The emphasis here is on pampering and rejuvenation with the one-price package including seaweed wraps, facials, salt rubs, Swedish massage, stress management, meditation, Tai Chi and yoga.

The sun-kissed U.S. Virgin Islands, an American territorial archipelago since 1917 and popular cruise ship stop, also offer all-inclusives. The Bolongo chain, on the island of St. Thomas, includes two one-price resorts: Club Everything and the Bolongo Limetree Beach Resort, each with rates starting at \$1,152 per person for a four-day stay.

The ever-expanding Sandals chain pushed beyond the boundaries of its six Jamaican resorts, establishing two more on the island of St. Lucia and one on Antigua; another is about to open at Cable Beach, Grand Bahamas. To sweeten its all-inclusive package, Sandals introduced an "island-hopping option" whereby couples can split their stays between resorts on the islands of Antigua, St. Lucia and Bahamas, with the only restriction being a minimum three-night stay at each property.

Barbados' first all-inclusive venture, The Almond Beach Club, has recently expanded from a couples-only destination to include families in its new Almond Beach Village. Facilities include four restaurants, including a family restaurant with children's menus, nine swimming pools, one just for children and a nine-hole golf course. There are even local excursions especially for children. Recognizing that guests may want to sample traditional Bajan cuisine, the resort features an intimate Bajan restaurant and, for those who want to try local restaurants, Almond Beach Club's dine-around program organizes transportation to and from outside restaurants — and picks up the tab!

In the broad scheme of travel, all-inclusives are still a relatively new concept with no end in sight to a phenomenal growth pattern. Both SuperClubs and Sandals are opening new resorts in the Bahamas, with much of the demand for expansion driven by return visitors. SunSwept, for instance, credits nearly 50 per cent of its occupancy to repeat business.

The philosophy behind this new wave of all-inclusive resorts is simple: one guaranteed price for a sunny climate with balmy weather, a warm-water sea, sandy beaches and luxurious resorts that offer tropical drinks, fantastic feasting, golf, snorkelling, sailing, scuba-diving, windsurfing and, always, service with a smile. As Gordon "Butch" Stewart, head of the Sandals empire, maintains, "If you can't leave your credit cards at home, take the word 'all' out of all-inclusive." ■

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LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

All-inclusive resorts are smart, bar tab or no

By DONALD D. GROFF
Special to The Star

My husband and I are considering a Caribbean vacation at an all-inclusive resort, but we don't drink. Will that undermine the value for us? All-inclusive resorts provide

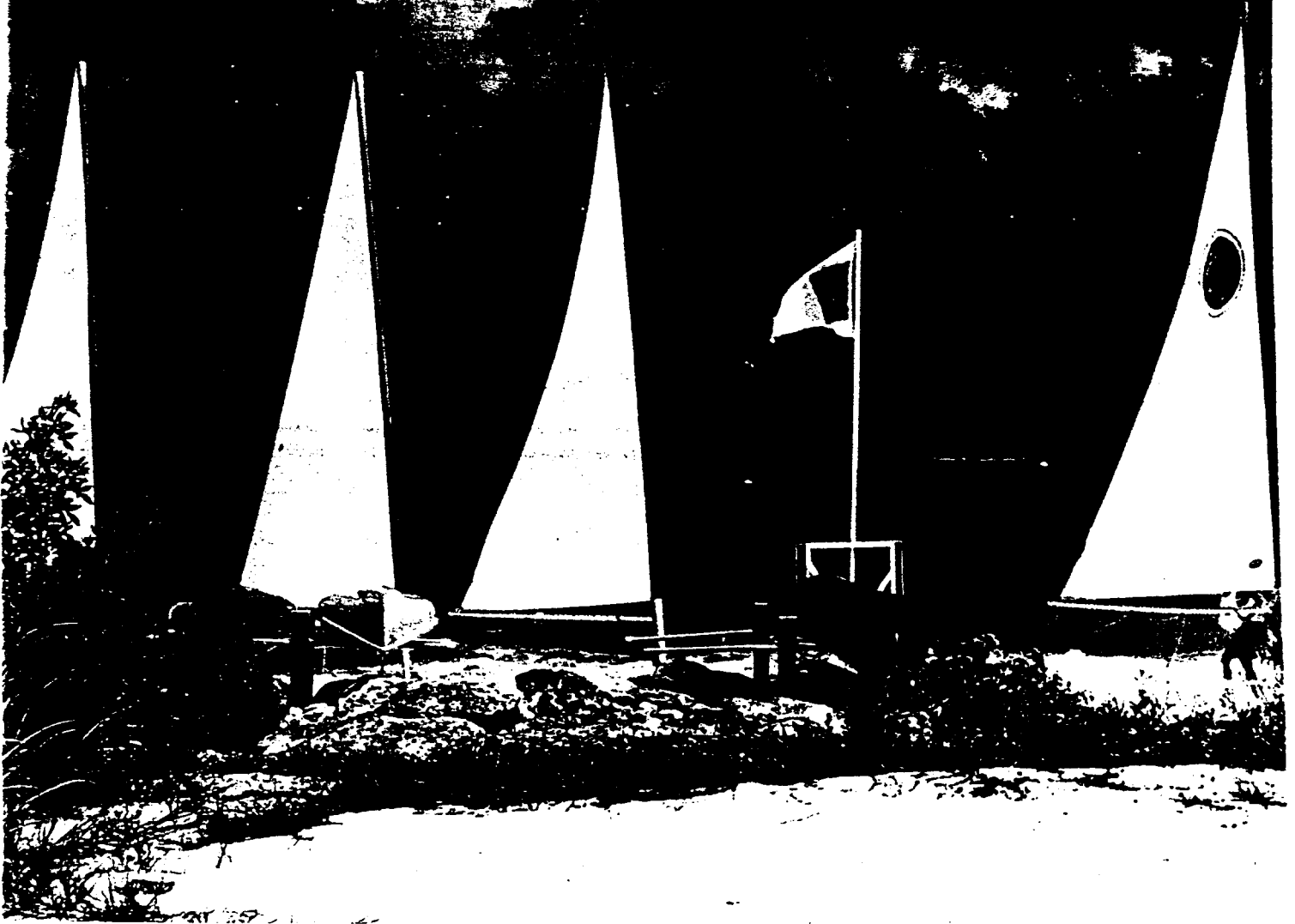
some of the best values in the Caribbean — regardless of whether you drink alcohol while you're there. The "all-inclusive" designation usually means lodging, meals, sports, entertainment and, sometimes, all bar drinks. Even if you don't

Q&A

drink alcohol, consider that a Coke or bottled water can cost \$3 or more in a resort setting.

A travel agent can suggest all-inclusive possibilities. Among companies with all-inclusive resorts on various Caribbean islands are Club Med, (800) 258-2633; Suncoast Clubs, (800) 859-7873; and Sandals, (800) 726-3257.

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A vacation is no fun if you're constantly worried about the cost. That's why all-inclusive resorts have become so attractive to today's travelers. You know in advance almost exactly how much your trip will cost, plus you have the convenience of never having to reach for your wallet or wait for your tab.

Some all-inclusive resorts carry hefty price tags, but you may actually save money in the long run. This is es-



pecially true if you plan on a vacation with lots of recreation, eating, and drinking.

Find out exactly what's included in your travel package before you book your trip. Some resorts throw in everything down to the last strawberry daiquiri; others require separate payment for drinks, certain menu items, and selected activities. It's also a good idea to inquire about packages that allow you to stay at one re-

sort while taking advantage of the restaurants and activities at nearby resorts.

If possible, arrange your travel plans so that you arrive and depart on a weekday. (Caribbean airports are especially busy on weekends.) Also, take some cash with you—even though you've paid up front, you'll need some money for incidentals, trips outside the resort, and departure taxes.

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Club Med: For information call 1-800-258-2633.			
Buccaneer's Creek, Martinique	\$735/week	Singles, couples, sports lovers	Located on French island, international ambience, very sportive
Caravelle, Guadeloupe	\$784/week	Couples, singles	Located on French island, international ambience, best beaches
Columbus Isle, Bahamas	\$1,050/week	Couples, scuba divers	Best snorkeling and scuba diving, newest and largest dedicated dive center
Eleuthera, Bahamas	\$910/week	Families, beach lovers	Free children's programs (ages 1-11), sailing and scuba schools for kids
Paradise Island, Bahamas	\$840/week	Couples, singles, tennis/golf lovers	Intensive tennis program
Punta Cana, Dominican Republic	\$749/week	Families, watersports lovers	Free children's programs (ages 2-11), circus workshops, excellent watersports
St. Lucia, West Indies	\$805/week	Families, scuba divers	Intensive horseback riding and scuba programs, free children's programs (ages 2-11)
Turkoise, Turks & Caicos	\$875/week	Singles, couples, scuba divers	Dedicated dive center, best watersports
Sandals Resorts: For information call 1-800-726-3257.			
Sandals Antigua	\$1,725-\$2,495/week	Couples only	Essence of a Caribbean village, no building taller than the palm trees
Sandals Dunn's River, Jamaica	\$1,660-\$2,495/week	Couples only	Has Jamaica's largest swimming pool
Sandals Halcyon, St. Lucia	\$1,725-\$2,185/week	Couples only	Private patio or balcony for every room
Sandals Inn, Jamaica	\$1,145-\$1,285/week	Couples only	Smallest, most intimate resort with 52 rooms
Sandals Montego Bay, Jamaica	\$1,365-\$3,075/week	Couples only	The company's flagship resort, private beaches, tropical gardens
Sandals Negril, Jamaica	\$1,635-\$2,425/week	Couples only	Most luxurious, located on 7-mile-long Negril Beach
Sandals Ocho Rios, Jamaica	\$1,470-\$1,810/week	Couples only	Fragrant gardens, brooks, and white-sand beaches
Sandals Royal Bahamian	\$1,635-\$2,565/week	Couples only	Very luxurious, opening in late fall 1995
Sandals Royal Jamaican	\$1,425-\$1,995/week	Couples only	Luxurious service, including breakfast in bed and afternoon tea
Sandals St. Lucia	\$1,695-\$2,875	Couples only	155-acre resort along a half-mile stretch of beach
SuperClubs: For information call 1-800-859-7873.			
Boscobel Beach, Jamaica	\$1,085-\$1,785/week	Families, singles, couples	SuperNanny program and supervised children's centers for four age groups, up to two children under 14 free
Breezes Bahamas	\$110-\$210/day	Singles, couples (16 years and older)	Unlimited land and water sports, "Hurricanes" disco and piano bar, 900-foot beachfront on Cable Beach
Breezes Montego Bay, Jamaica	\$840-\$1,400/week	Singles, couples (16 years and older)	Unlimited land and water sports, "Hurricanes" disco and piano bar, world-famous Doctor's Cave Beach
Grand Lido, Jamaica	\$1,715-\$2,625/week	Couples, singles (16 years and older)	Evening cruises and cocktail gatherings onboard a luxury power yacht, 24-hour room service, free weddings
Hedonism II, Jamaica	\$1,085-\$1,470/week	Couples, singles (18 years and older)	Windsurfing school, circus workshops, themed parties, free weddings
Jamaica Jamaica	\$1,120-\$1,925/week	Couples, singles (16 years and older)	Golf school with unlimited greens fees and PGA pro-supervised tournaments, unlimited tennis, free weddings
San Souci Lido, Jamaica	\$1,610-\$3,325/week	Singles, couples (16 years and older)	Full-service European-style spa overlooking the Caribbean, free weddings

*Per person based on double occupancy. Rates vary depending on length of stay, type of accommodations, and season.

All-Inclusive Caribbean Vacations Offer Worry-free Travel

Have you been thinking about a trip to a warm and sunny place, but aren't sure how much it will cost, or what an all-inclusive package is?

Ask your AAA travel agent about an all-inclusive vacation. All-inclusive vacations include accommodations, meals, entertainment and various activities. When you book an all-inclusive vacation, there are no hidden costs - you know your total package price up front.

If you are planning a trip to Jamaica, or to one of the other islands in the Caribbean, there are several all-inclusive options available. Your AAA travel agent can help you decide the best accommodations to fit your taste and budget.

Braco Village Resort

Braco Village Resort, Jamaica's first all-inclusive resort for singles and couples, is located in Rio Bueno, thirty-two miles east of Montego Bay and thirty miles west of Ocho Rios.

Designed as an authentic Jamaican village, Village Braco has as its nucleus a Town Hall, a Jamaican restaurant, a continental restaurant, a sidewalk cafe, pastry shop and beach grill.

Unique resort activities, such as soccer, dominoes and cricket, enhance the flavor of the Jamaican holiday experience. Guests may also play tennis, jog, and hike on 85 acres of trails, exercise in the gym and aerobic center, windsurf, sail, scuba dive, swim in the Olympic-size pool or bask in the sun on the 2,000-foot white sand beach.

Braco Village Resort packages include: transfers to and from the airport; all meals, wine with lunch and dinner; all bar drinks, including specialty local drinks; use of all sports and entertainment facilities; all hotel taxes and service charges. No tipping is allowed.

Sandals Resorts

Sandals, the Caribbean's #1 Ultra All-Inclusive Luxury Resorts for couples only, has launched the "Ultra All-Inclusive" vacation concept. All meals, drinks, room accommodations, entertainment, airport transfers, taxes, gratuities, sports activities and unlimited instruction are included in one price.

Sandals now has a total of eleven resorts: six in Jamaica - Sandals Montego Bay, Sandals Royal Jamaican, Sandals Ocho Rios, Sandals Negril, Sandals Dunn's River, and Sandals Inn; two in St. Lucia - Sandals St. Lucia and Sandals HALEYON Royal Bahamian and Sandals Barbados.

Guests staying at one of the Sandals properties in Jamaica can enjoy the facilities at any of the other six island resorts without additional charge. Guests staying in St. Lucia also have access to the facilities at both resorts on that island.

SuperClubs®

"Super-Inclusive," as defined by SuperClubs, means worry-free, hassle-free, truly all-inclusive Caribbean holidays with no hidden costs.

SuperClubs Super-Inclusive holidays include: accommodations; all meals, SuperSnacks and premium brand cocktails; unlimited use of all land and water sports facilities, including equipment and instruction; entertainment; recreational activities; complimentary weddings; hotel taxes; and airport transfers - with absolutely no tipping allowed.

SuperClubs operates seven properties. Boscobel Beach near Ocho Rios, is the Caribbean's only Super-Inclusive Resort for families, designed to offer children and adults an equally appealing vacation experience. Sans Souci Lido, a AAA Four Diamond Resort in Ocho Rios, indulges guests who seek Old World elegance combined with contemporary luxury. SuperClubs properties include: Grand Lido and Hedonism II in Negril, Jamaica Jamaica in



SuperClubs Sans Souci Lido



Sandals Resort

Runaway Bay, Breezes Bahamas and Breezes Montego Bay.

For more information or to plan your all-inclusive vacation, contact AAA Travel Services.

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LUCE PRESS CLIPPINGS

Zohni-Moore

WATERFORD, Mich. — Mona Zohni, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Mostapha Zohni of Shamokin, and Jeffrey David Moore, son of Robert and Roberta Moore of Farmington, N.M., were married Saturday, Oct. 28, in the Victoria Wedding Chapel, an old Mediterranean villa on Silver Lake in Waterford, Mich. Rev. Gloria Patterson performed the ceremony, which was held in front of an antique fireplace.

Daniel Moore, brother of the bridegroom, served as best man. Groomsmen were Tom Norek and Omar Zohni, brother of the bride.

Leslie Wayne was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Jaya Reddy and Amy Jones.

The couple honeymooned in Jamaica the week of Thanksgiving. They stayed at "Jamaica, Jamaica," an all-inclusive resort located between Montego Bay and Ocho Rios.