

15 of the best new hotels and villas in the Caribbean

From a chic Mustique masterpiece to overwater villas on Antigua, our expert shares the exciting new pads you should have on your radar

As a frequent traveller to the Caribbean for the past 27 years, I'm constantly impressed with how the region always comes up with exciting new places to visit and stay every year. This season is no exception and after our stuttering summer many of us will be eager to plot a break to these charismatic islands with their winning blend of guaranteed sunshine, dream beaches, lilting sounds and, well, yes, delicious rum cocktails.

The good news is, there are some impressive new hotels and villas to consider, although most of these are at the pricier end of the market. For families and the budget-conscious, booking a package holiday to an all-inclusive resort is the smart way forward. If you're after a deal look to destinations served by multiple direct flights from the UK, such as Barbados, Antigua and Jamaica, and note that Virgin Atlantic has a flight sale running until the end of September. Here's our pick of the best new places to take your sunhat in the coming months.

Villa La Palma, Mustique



Villa La Palma is an effortless blend of Palladian grandeur and tropical elements
Beachfront designer pad

Back on the market after three years, this restored masterpiece originally designed by Oliver Messel sits beside the perfect sands of L'Ansecoy Bay. Pairing Palladian grandeur with Asian accents, the immaculately composed residence features lush gardens with shell-lined paths plus a pool and library. There's room for twelve guests and the six staff include a butler and chef. Tommy Hilfiger's fabulous villa, Palm Beach, is right next door and there are two Kawasaki Mules (UTVs) so you can whizz off to the Wednesday night Jump-Up at Basil's Bar in five minutes.

Details Seven nights' self-catering for twelve from £48,560 (mustique-island.com). Fly to Mustique via Barbados