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romantic caribbean destinations

THIS SPREAD: **Parrot Cay**
Providenciales, Turks &
Caicos Islands



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The question has been popped and the champagne uncorked, “Will you?” has become “I do” and wedding planning is now honeymoon dreaming. With so many factors to consider from location to his and her compatible itineraries, why not narrow it down to a few gems? Known for luring couples with its natural beauty, sandy shorelines and an ambiance of pure romance, more couples than ever are choosing island getaways in areas like Turks and Caicos, British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands. Synonymous with seclusion and luxury, these destinations afford a unique experience for their guests.

Located on a private island within Turks and Caicos, Parrot Cay offers 1,000 unspoiled acres, including a secluded mile-long beach. Take a private speed boat right up to this honeymooner’s dream and choose



THIS SPREAD: **The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman** Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands

216



217



between one of the villas or houses for your stay—all equipped with private plunge pools and just scant steps from the sand. A wellbeing resort and COMO Shambhala Retreat, try an Asian-inspired massage, one of the Ayurvedic therapies, or a non-surgical facial treatment. There is also yoga and Pilates pavilions on the grounds and, for more hands-on couples, there are floodlit tennis courts and an array of watersports available on the premises.

Turks and Caicos has one of the longest coral reefs in the world, making it a premier diving destination. Grab a waterproof camera and explore the sea anemones and shipwrecks of this underwater world together.

Located on an archipelago of three picturesque islands and plunked right onto Grand Cayman's famous Seven Mile Beach, The Ritz-Carlton Grand Cayman's sprawling 144-acreage stretches to the world-renown dive waters of the North Sound. If luxury is your thing, The Ritz has you covered from the deluxe accommodations through-

THIS PAGE: **Villa Aquamare**
Mahoe Bay, Virgin Gorda, British
Virgin Islands



218



out to Blue Tip (a Greg Norman designed golf course) and Silver Rain (a La Prairie Spa with signature treatments that fuse Swiss science with Caribbean ingredients). For foodies, there is Blue by Eric Ripert showcasing an epicurean journey of seafood dishes caught by Grand Cayman's local fisherman.

Whimsically coined Hell in the West Bay, be sure to visit this area that consists of short black limestone formations that are thought to resemble what Hell might be like. While swimming is not allowed, you can enjoy the panorama from the viewing platforms.

Located on Virgin Gorda's scenic western coast in the British Virgin Islands, Villa Aquamare is truly the *crème de la crème* for couples seeking exclusivity. Meaning "water of the sea," Aquamare overlooks the pristine and tranquil Mahoe Bay Beach and features a trio of private five-bedroom villas. The beauty continues seamlessly into the interior and out onto the expansive private balconies complete with

lavish outdoor showers and individual waterfront infinity pools ideal for a midnight dip à deux. Feel like indulging in a spa treatment? An Aquamare esthetician can bring the experience of a detoxifying body wrap to the privacy of your room or enjoy a hot stone massage under the shade of a thatched palapa at the water's edge. Try chartering one of the property's yachts and explore neighboring islands, then toast to your new life together over an in-villa dinner prepared by one of the resort's private chefs.

Experience The Baths on Virgin Gorda. This spectacular expanse of giant boulders strewn along a white-sand beach is believed to be remnants of a volcanic eruption. Couples can share a private moment in the caves and grottos formed by the rocks.

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