

Rendezvous with Love on St. Lucia

The island's premier couples-only boutique hotel awaits you

On seductive St. Lucia, one of the Windward Islands of the Lesser Antilles, you'll discover a private haven for lovers with 100 luxurious guestrooms and suites tucked into seven lush acres of tropical garden along a two-mile stretch of limited-access Caribbean beach. Designed for destination weddings, romantic honeymoons and vow renewals, Rendezvous, the Escape for Romantics, is an all-inclusive resort dedicated to courtship, flirtation and the tender passions.

"There is an element of quaintness [in ambiance and service] that Rendezvous prides itself on," says Nigel Theophilus, general manager of a paradise that rivals the Garden of Eden. "We strive to make guests feel as relaxed and comfortable as possible, so they truly experience a memorable romantic getaway."

Everything at Rendezvous is designed for twosomes. For example, there are couples massages at the Pavilion Spa, set in two open-air gazebos with views of the sea. Water sports for couples include water-skiing in tandem or kayaking in two-person canoes. For more leisurely cruising, try paddling two-by-two in a pedal-operated craft known as a pedalo.

Start your day at the Terrace Restaurant, where casual meals are served buffet-style on the beach from early morning until late evening. A weekly beach party celebrates Caribbean barbecue and culture, while menus change daily. Build your appetite for lunch with water sports such as windsurfing, sailing or scuba diving. The Seaside Pool offers a swim-up bar, open until sunset, for those inclined to lounge.

Wile away the afternoon playing tennis, practicing on the resort's putting green or joining in a game of beach volleyball. Other on-site activities include dance lessons, mixology classes, aerobic and aqua fitness classes and working out with cardiovascular exercise equipment and free weights. Relax with board games, take a walk on Malabar Beach or nap in the hammock on your room's comfortable terrace or balcony with the sound of the waves on the nearby beach for accompaniment.

At the Pavilion Spa, consider a Swedish massage, aromatherapy or a salt loofah rub. Not reserved for honeymooners, during the Honeymoon Massage you and your partner will discover new intimacy as you learn proper Swedish massage techniques with the help of the certified massage therapists.

When you are ready to venture forth, Castries, St. Lucia's busy capital city, is only two miles away. The hotel can arrange a cycle tour of Castries with a guide, or you can wander on your own. Because the island was formerly a British colony, English is spoken everywhere, from the Craft Market where you can buy locally made ceramic, wooden and straw products to the street vendors hawking local seafood.

You can also arrange for trips to see the natural wonders of St. Lucia, such as a drive-in volcano, the twin extinct-volcanic peaks known as the Pitons, which rise 2,600 feet above the sea, and magnificent rainforests and banana plantations on the island's south side. Explore the island's early history at the Pigeon Island National

Landmark, with remains of the Arawak and Carib Indians who originally inhabited the island and ruins of barracks built by 18th-century British and French colonists. Or stroll through Soufrière, on the island's west coast, one of the most scenic towns in the Caribbean.

End your sightseeing with a special evening at The Trysting Place, the hotel's elegant formal dining room, the perfect setting for an intimate candlelit meal. The resort offers your choice of bars for after-dinner cocktails and entertainment, including the Terrace Bar overlooking the water, where you can try local drink specialties, and the Piano Bar, open until 2 a.m. every night. Entertainment includes dancing on the Terrace to a live band and floor shows that acquaint you with St. Lucian music and culture.

For the ultimate romantic escape, book a special five-night stay this fall in either a spacious Verandah Suite or a Luxury Ocean Front Room on the beach. Along with access to all of the hotel's regular amenities, you will also receive a helicopter tour of St. Lucia, the chilled champagne, tropical fruit basket and fresh floral display usually reserved for honeymooners, and a complimentary Honeymoon Massage.

Contact your travel agent for more information on planning your romantic rendezvous with love on St. Lucia.

Rendezvous, the Escape for Romantics
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