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Traveller

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A HOLIDAY
IN THE
MALDIVES

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

FEBRUARY 2011 £3.90

**Discreet
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Marrakech

Our guide to
the highlights

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Where to take
your Valentine

Europe's best villas



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MOST WANTED

*Ocean
Coast
Scene*

Looking for a hot island destination this spring and can't choose between somewhere stylish in the Indian Ocean or the glorious Caribbean? Try this handy guide...

The **CARIBBEAN**...This long stretch of islands spans from the southern tip of Florida down to the coast of Venezuela, including glamorous spots such as the Bahamas, through to more untouched islands like St Vincent & the Grenadines. The Caribbean is best avoided during the hurricane season (June to November), and all the islands have their ideal times to go, so be sure to check before booking. British Airways, Virgin Atlantic and American Airlines fly direct to many islands, though you can also connect to the islands on regular flights to Miami (flight time: seven hours) and Antigua (flight time: nine hours). *ITC Classics, Carrier and Seasons organise great trips here.**

The **CARIBBEAN**

**OUR FAVOURITE
HOTELS INCLUDE...**

1. Sandy Lane, Barbados
sandylane.com
2. Four Seasons Nevis, West Indies
fourseasons.com
3. Peter Island, Tortola
preferredhotels.com
4. One & Only, Ocean Club, Bahamas
oneandonlyresorts.com
5. The Jalousie Plantation, St Lucia
jalousieplantation.com



MOST WANTED

Hit the big blue stylishly equipped and perfectly prepared, says **Christina Arfwedson**



*If you are planning an active island-hopping holiday, look to **CRAGHOPPERS** to fill any wardrobe gaps. It's known for its comfortable and functional outdoor clothing that's ideal for both hot and cold climates. The **NosiLife** collection uses fabrics that have built-in insect-repellency and sun protection. Craghoppers.com*

Technology corner

The brains behind **BANG & OLUFSEN** have taken a firm step into the 21st century with the new **BeoSound 8** – a docking station for iPads, iPods or iPhones (with a connection for Macs too). This neat package comes in black or white with customisable speaker covers and, as with all Bang & Olufsen products, quality of sound is king. It even comes with a switch that adapts the sound to where it is positioned in the room. However, sound is traded for portability, so look on it as something for your weekend home rather than to take to the beach. £895, bang-olufsen.co.uk
Ps. Don't miss Bang & Olufsen's iApp – it gives you access to 10,000 internet radio stations for use with the BeoSound 8.

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The **INDIAN OCEAN**...Framed on each side by the African and Australasian continents and Indian subcontinent, the Indian Ocean is the world's third largest ocean and includes islands from Madagascar to the Maldives. The best time to visit hotspots Mauritius and Maldives is October/November to April; visit the Seychelles in December/January and from July to August. Take the seven-hour flight to Dubai International Airport with Qatar Airways, Etihad or Emirates - from there you can get one of the regular hopper flights to most of the islands. Emirates Tours, *Elegant Resorts and Kuoni* organise great holidays to this part of the world.**

OUR FAVOURITE HOTELS INCLUDE...

1. Fregate Island, Seychelles
fregate.com
2. Villas Valriche, Mauritius
villasvalriche.com
3. Long Beach, Mauritius (opening April 2011)
sunresortshotels.com
4. Baros, Maldives
baros.com
5. Les Pavillons, Mauritius
naiade.com

NEWSFLASH

Stay fighting fit on holiday with two great products. **Bee Prepared** (from £14.99, *victoriahealth.com*) is an easy aid to a healthy immune system on the go that includes the potent bee propolis extract. **Bimuno** (£6.99, Boots and Tesco) has prebiotic properties that tackle the onslaught of tummy troubles directly, and by killing harmful bacteria in your system, also boost the immune system.



Barksides sandal, £85
Radley radley.co.uk



Sunglasses, £169
Burberry sunglasshut.co.uk



L'Eau d'Issey Florale, £47.50 (EDT 50ml), Issey Miyake. Available at all leading department stores

RETREAT AT THE BODYHOLIDAY, LESPORT, ST LUCIA

Miles of style



DUBAI AIRPORT.COM; ONTARIO; E.COM; ETHAD AIRWAYS.COM; EMIRATES.COM; EMIRATES TOURS.CO.UK; ELEGANTRESORTS.CO.UK; ALON.CO.UK