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coastal getaway

GOLDENEYE ORACABESSA, JAMAICA

JET-SET BOHEMIANS and creative types have flocked to GoldenEye since the mid 20th century, when it was the cliff-top retreat of Ian Fleming, who wrote 14 of his James Bond novels here. Fresh from a two-year overhaul courtesy of its current owner, Island Records founder Chris Blackwell, the property has morphed from private villa rental to full-fledged 22-room hotel. But thanks to Blackwell's irrepressible, highly personal touch, the mood remains the same: a tropical playground for well-traveled expats from some latter-day Noël Coward play. Amid gardens of banyan and mango trees, the new waterfront cottages have ultramodern amenities (kitchen appliances by Renzo Piano) and design flourishes from Blackwell's stylish friends (including Barbara Hulanicki of Biba and Pink Sands fame). Fleming's original three-bedroom villa is available for booking and still features the writer's own desk, carved out of Jamaican red bulletwood and surrounded by louvered windows looking out to the sea. *Oracabessa Bay, St. Mary; 876/975-3354; goldeneye.com; doubles from \$536.*



ISLAND TIME

From top: Lounging on a daybed in one of GoldenEye's new Beach villas; grilled lobster with jerk butter from chef Conroy Arnold; a veranda nook overlooking the lagoon. Opposite: Outside one of the new Lagoon suites, where the decks lead to water's edge.



Seaside lullaby: Each room at GoldenEye comes with a sound system programmed with Island Records music, so you can let Bob Marley croon you to sleep.



5 more coastal getaways

Turtle Beach Bungalows at Christophe Harbour ST. KITTS

Four hand-hewn wooden pavilions stretch along the sand dunes on quiet St. Kitts. Although it's part of Christophe Harbour—ultimately destined to become a 2,500-acre development with a 300-acre marina and an 18-hole, Tom Fazio-designed golf course—for now, this feels like a true hideaway, complete with private plunge pools and direct-from-your-patio access to the ocean. **Top table** Beach House, the hotel's restaurant, is the best on the island, specializing in seafood from the Basseterre market (we recommend the wahoo tartare). *Turtle Beach, Southeast Peninsula; 800/881-7180 or 869/466-4557; turtlebeachbungalows.com; doubles from \$550.*

Rancho Pescadero

TODOS SANTOS, MEXICO Live the life of a refined beach bum at this wellness-focused Baja Peninsula resort, owned by an American former CEO who traded the corporate world for a simpler life by the surf. Most of the 27 suites face the water, and shaded daybeds, swimming pools, and mangrove trees dot the grounds. Guests get complimentary use of surfboards, boogie boards, and bicycles for cavorting on land or sea. **Morning jolt** A smoothie of locally made yogurt and tropical fruit is a delicious refresher after a 9 a.m. yoga class in the oceanfront pavilion.

GREAT VALUE Parcela No. 53, San Juan de Dios; 910/300-8891 or 52-1612/135-5849; ranchopescadero.com; doubles from \$200, including breakfast and daily yoga classes.

Cas'almare

FAVIGNANA, ITALY A simple cottage built from golden tuff stone was recently converted into this waterfront enclave on Sicily's rugged, picturesque Favignana Island, a summer destination for Italians in the know. The intimate hotel—just five guest rooms, a breakfast room, and

a central living area awash in soothing seaside colors—is furnished in chic Euro fashion (bold Ingo Maurer light fixtures and canopied beds with Bellora linens). Contemplate the turquoise Mediterranean from a teak table at the adjoining beach club, then take to the waters on one of the hotel's two boats. **Best spot to soak all day** Room No. 4's freestanding bathtub, perfectly positioned in front of the window to catch the ocean breeze. *Strada Comunale Frascia; 39/335-492-929; casalmarefavignana.com; doubles from \$260.*

Sankara Hotel & Spa Yakushima

YAKUSHIMA, JAPAN A sense of mystery and magic pervades this secluded retreat on a southern Japanese island covered in old-growth cedars. The 28 airy suites and villas have teak furniture and rattan lamps—fashioned by Balinese craftsmen, but interiors are decidedly Japanese, with sliding screens and delicate porcelain cups from Kyoto. **Dinner for two** Chef Chiharu Takei can craft personalized meals from locally sourced ingredients: a risotto of Asahi crab and bamboo shoots, for example, followed by grilled Nakayama sirloin in a yuzu-and-pepper sauce. *553 Haginoue, Mugio, Yakushima-cho, Kumage-gun, Kagoshima; 81-997/473-488; sankarahotel-spa.com; doubles from \$515.*

Anantara Kihavah Villas

BAA ATOLL, MALDIVES A quick seaplane ride from the capital of Male lands you on a private island ringed by white sand, coconut palms, and a reef that harbors schools of tropical fish. Ask for an overwater villa, then dine at one of the world's only underwater restaurants while gazing out at the ocean floor. **Into the deep** A dive master leads expeditions to search for gentle whale sharks in parts of the Indian Ocean beyond the Baa Atoll. *011-960/750-8400; anantara.com; doubles from \$1,170.*