

# Watch Journal

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## GOLDENEYE

One of Jamaica's treasured hideaways gets a luxurious update.

By Nate Storey

Credit Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee and Island Records founder Chris Blackwell for single-handedly infusing Jamaica's overwrought resort landscape with a clutch of low-key, stylish hotels that are the antidote to their all-inclusive counterparts: Strawberry Hill in the Blue Mountains, Port Antonio's Geejam, the cliffside Caves in Negril, and GoldenEye, Ian Fleming's former estate and the place the author dreamed up his most famous character, James Bond. Hollywood soon flocked, but now there's reason anew to visit the secluded getaway on the northern coast's Oracabessa Bay. In February, GoldenEye will unveil a new oceanfront bar and rooftop terrace, freshwater pool, and 26 octagonal beach huts by local architect Ann Hodges. The interiors are the work of former fashion designer Marika Kessler, whose Potosi Farms in nearby Cockpit Country supplies many of the island's restaurants. She outfitted each of the one- and two-bedroom huts with custom Jamaican-made furniture, African fabrics, outdoor bamboo-enclosed showers, and a color palette of blue, coral and green. While the additions up the hotel's luxury quotient, the draw here is still the same as it was on opening day in 2011—a blissful position between the Caribbean Sea and a placid lagoon, cloistered among untouched mangroves, a world away from the cruise shipping day-trippers. [goldeneye.com](http://goldeneye.com)

RIGHT: The Gazebo lounge

BELOW: A bridge over the lagoon

OPPOSITE TOP: An overhead view of GoldenEye

OPPOSITE BOTTOM: A sunning pavilion

GOLDENEYE HOTEL & RESORT  
Oracabessa, Jamaica



Photos: Courtesy GoldenEye





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