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The Caribbean Hotel Sustainability Awards 2022

April 22, 2022

To mark Earth Day, Caribbean Journal Invest is highlighting those at the forefront of the sustainability movement in Caribbean hospitality.



“This year’s Caribbean Hotel Sustainability Awards celebrate the people, hotels and projects that are a model for the sustainable future of the Caribbean,” said Alexander Britell, Editor-in-Chief of Caribbean Journal Invest. “From climate to natural resources, the Caribbean is at the epicenter of this century’s global challenges; that means the region can and should be a model to the world.”



Secret Bay.

Hotel of the Year: Secret Bay, Dominica

Gregor Nassief’s Green Globe-certified masterwork at the northern tip of Dominica is built into the heart of the landscape in the cliffs of Portsmouth. It’s defined by a sweeping sustainability management philosophy, one that highlights both the essence of eco-tourism and environmental impact, one that extends from a commitment to purchasing from local suppliers to pollution prevention, zero plastic waste and the preservation of native ecosystems on and off property. The hotel even has its own Green Team, with an exacting, full-time focus on ensuring sustainability. Perhaps most notably, the entire resort is sourced from sustainably-sourced Guyanese hardwood — and was built completely without heavy machinery. As the hotel grows as a full-fledged residential resort with its recently-launched expansion, it will continue to serve as a model for future eco-focused developments in the region.



Rockhouse in Negril, Jamaica.

Boutique Hotel of the Year: Rockhouse Hotel and Spa, Jamaica

The Rockhouse shows that sustainability is not just about green energy. The Negril-area cliffside hotel has long had a strong commitment to the environment, from minimizing its use of natural resources to growing produce at an on-site organic farm and reusing garden waste. And then there's the Rockhouse Foundation, which since 2004 has set the regional standard for community impact — with nearly \$6 million in investment in modernizing seven local schools in Negril and, more recently, an impressive food distribution drive for at-home learners during the pandemic.



The Golden Rock resort in Statia.

New Hotel of the Year: Golden Rock Resort, Statia

It was going to be a challenge to build the first-ever luxury hotel on an island that's long been off the radar of most travelers. But what the new Golden Rock Resort has achieved is extraordinary, a contemporary luxury resort that manages to fit in seamlessly with its pristine, untouched surrounding destination. The Golden Rock also has a strong sustainability focus: the entire property is powered by solar panels, a helophyte filter to clean water and a reverse-osmosis water generation system.



A villa at The Strand, which just broke ground.

Development of the Year: The Strand, Turks and Caicos

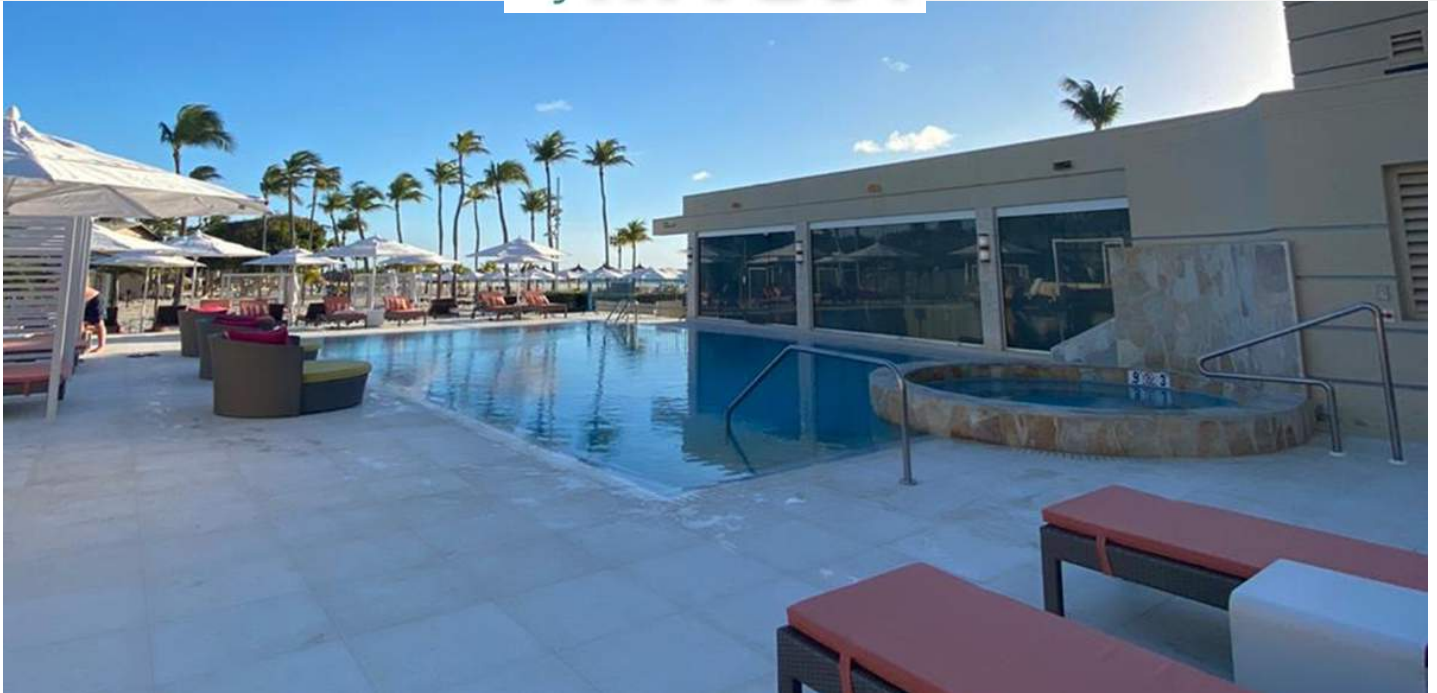
This new residential community on Cooper Jack Bay is set on 2,300 feet of shore frontage, with completion slated for 2025. The property is uniquely offering solar packages on all of its villas, thanks to a partnership with Turks and Caicos-based Renu Energy TCI. It's a development by John Fair. With the continued surge in real estate investment in Turks, this could be an exemplar for the TCI going forward. It's designed by a partnership between RAD Architecture, Inc. and Modus Operandi.



Rosewood Little Dix Bay in Virgin Gorda.

Design Company of the Year: OBMI

Oil Nut Bay. Rosewood Little Dix Bay. Hermitage Bay. Scrub Island. OBMI has been behind some of the region's most noteworthy projects in recent years. But it's also been the region's most celebrated sustainable design firm, As OBMI puts it, the company "focuses on place-specific architecture to emphasize environmentally-sensitive design." Or as OBMI's Doug Kulig puts it, "creating sensitive, unique and appealing design is in our DNA." And that's meant more work not just on green design but on environmental protection design strategies, and energy conversation — in the process, reinventing the role of a Caribbean design firm.



Executive of the Year: Ewald Biemans

Perhaps no hotel has made sustainability a bigger focus over the last few decades than Aruba's Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, the adults-only property on the island's Eagle Beach. Bucuti has always been at the cutting edge of the movement, focused on both broad environmental management and little touches like high-level air filters in the rooms. More recently, though, the hotel took a broader step under Biemans' stewardship, becoming the Caribbean's first carbon-negative hotel.

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Jamaica's Mystic Mountain Is For Sale

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Mystic Mountain, the Ocho Rios-area adventure attraction in Jamaica, is on the market, Caribbean Journal Invest has learned. Wilfred Baghaloo, the licensed trustee from PricewaterhouseCoopers Jamaica, was appointed the receiver-manager of the project in February. The property has a ...



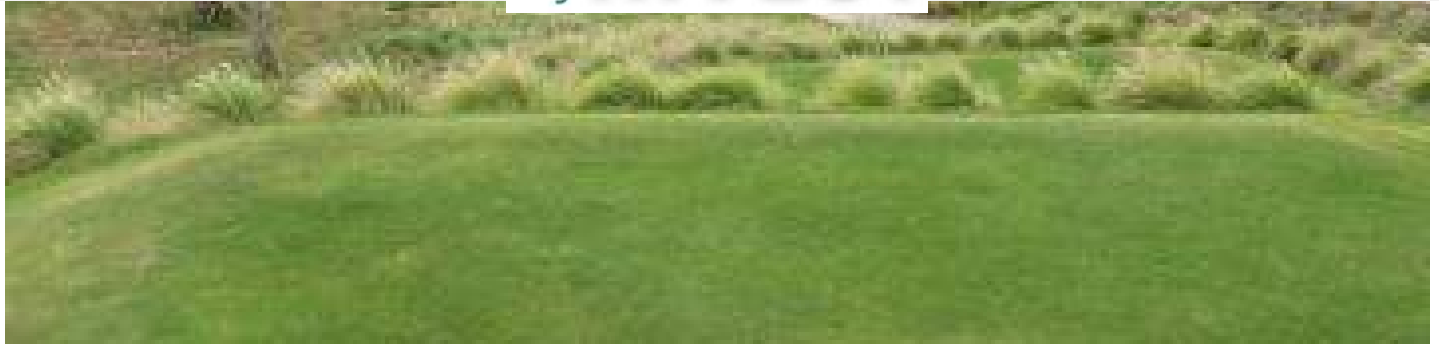


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