

ST.VINCENT & THE GRENADINES – WHAT'S NEW?

(February 2008) Visitors to St. Vincent & The Grenadines will experience more choice than ever before thanks to a number of exciting new hotel openings and renovations, from small boutique properties to comprehensive resorts:

- Buccament Bay Resort, including The Island Sanctuary – new resort on St. Vincent
- Grenadine House – new hotel on St. Vincent
- Bequia Beach Hotel – new hotel on Bequia
- Friendship Bay Resort – renovated hotel on Bequia

Buccament Bay Beach Resort – brand new resort opening on St. Vincent 2008 - 2009

Buccament Bay Beach Resort – the first development of its kind in the region – is a luxury spa resort currently being constructed by Harlequin Properties on the idyllic and unspoilt tropical island of St. Vincent. The resort will be situated on the undiscovered south west coast, providing visitors with the first and only option to holiday in this undiscovered part of the island, accessible in just 45 minutes by a new 3 million dollar public road that is being built from the airport. The wide bay enjoys the calm waters of the Caribbean Sea and the deserted cays, rocks, sand bars and lagoons are teeming with sea-life, making it perfect for snorkelling and diving.

The complex will be managed by an independent resort management company, and accommodation will range from five-star hotel studios to apartments and one to four bedroom villas. Harlequin is also offering the opportunity to purchase an investment property within the resort with guaranteed Return on Investment.

With several restaurants and bars, a casino, cinema, live music venue, stunning white sandy beach, diving and watersports centre, and the Harlequin Sports Academy, which will provide expert cricket, football and tennis coaching, there will be no shortage of activities to keep guests entertained. For those in search of relaxation and rejuvenation, there will be an Island Sanctuary Spa offering a range of restorative treatments and therapies designed to stimulate, purify, soothe and de-toxify. What's more, golf enthusiasts won't be disappointed with the new 18 - hole course that is being created just ten minutes away.

The first phase of the project will launch in late 2008, with the remainder due to open in 2009. The project currently employs 388 people, and aims to permanently employ approximately 1,500 people, of which the vast majority will be local residents. For more information visit www.harlequinproperty.co.uk.

Harlequin is also creating **The Island Sanctuary** – an exclusive private retreat situated on an island made of soft white sand in the Buccament river, reached only by a private bridge and hidden away from the rest of the resort by a boundary of lush tropical greenery. The island will be home to luxurious one and two bedroom oriental-style villas, each with their own private grounds that include a large swimming pool and covered area for relaxation and massage. For that added touch of luxury, butlers will be on hand for guests' every need. There will also be a fine dining restaurant and a 20,000 square foot spa designed to revitalise guests in complete tranquillity. For more information visit www.theislandsanctuaryandspa.com.

Bequia Beach Hotel – new hotel opening on Bequia in 2008

Owned by the same developers as Grenadine House, the newly built contemporary Bequia Beach Hotel is set in a huge garden in Friendship Bay on the island of Bequia, overlooking Mustique. An air of colonial elegance pervades the property, with spacious rooms and bespoke furniture personally designed by the owner.

The first phase of the development, consisting of six villas and 12 rooms including a penthouse suite, launched in December 2007. The infinity pool, Blue Tropic Cafe and beach bar also opened before Christmas. The six villas comprise of three one-bedroom bungalows and three two-bedroom, two-bathroom 1,100 square ft villas with plunge pools. All 12 hotel rooms have a colonial décor and modern bathrooms, and the penthouse suite boasts glass doors leading onto a huge balcony with sun beds and an outdoor hot tub.

A further 46 suites are in construction in six separate buildings, all with large terraces offering stunning views over the bay, and some with both indoor and outdoor bathrooms. These are due to launch late 2008. Rooms start at USD 320 per night. For more information visit www.bequiabeach.com.

Grenadine House – renovated hotel opened on St. Vincent in July 2007

The former Camelot Inn has undergone a complete renovation and re-opened its doors last summer as Grenadine House - St. Vincent's first boutique hotel. Set above residential Kingstown Park, this privately owned hotel offers an oasis of calm and elegant comfort to visitors, with sumptuous fabrics, subtle colour schemes and stylish furniture – with a Caribbean

twist. The 20 guest rooms offer views of the tropical gardens or the bay and the outlying island of Bequia, and have spacious bathrooms complete with a range of Molton Brown toiletries. Guests can enjoy a dip in the pool, cocktails at the cosy stone-walled West Indies bar, a traditional afternoon tea at the Terrace, or a fusion of Creole and Western dishes at the Sapodilla dining room dating back to the 18th Century. The hotel is steeped in history, having been the home of British ambassadors 100 years ago, and more recently housing the Pirates of the Caribbean film crew and cast. Rooms start at USD 170 per night. For more information visit www.grenadinehouse.com.

Friendship Bay Resort – recent renovation on Bequia

The four star Friendship Bay Beach Resort, situated in a 10-acre tropical garden on Bequia, has recently re-opened after a major refurbishment. Owned by a Swedish couple, the interior décor is an intriguing mix of Scandinavian chic and Caribbean flair, with an added Asian influence. The resort offers an atmosphere of barefoot luxury and most of its 26 rooms are located right on the beach. Also famous for its outstanding cuisine, the resort's two restaurants are the most popular on the island. For those wishing to explore the beautiful Grenadine islands by sea, the hotel offers 'sail and stay' packages linking with luxury yachts and catamarans. Prices start at £50 per person per night. For more information visit www.friendshipbay.vc.

For more information on St. Vincent & The Grenadines visit www.svgtourism.com.

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