

The 10 Most Anticipated New Caribbean Hotels For 2019 And Beyond



Jim Dobson Contributor

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Silversands Hotel in Grenada SILVERSANDS

Following the devastating effects from Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017 that heavily damaged 30% of the islands in the Caribbean, there is a remarkable comeback underway. Many previously affected properties have now opened and a large slate of new developments and resorts are planned to launch in 2019 and 2020. I spoke with several travel experts in the Caribbean and they are enthused about the increase in remodeled, refurbished and brand new resorts opening in the coming years.

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"It's an exciting time in the Caribbean, which is seeing tremendous growth in its new hotel pipeline. That's particularly on islands like Dominica, which is experiencing a full-fledged renaissance," said Alexander Britell, publisher and editor of my favorite island website [Caribbean Journal](#). "The region is welcoming a remarkably diverse collection of hotels and resorts this year, from luxury small-

island boutiques to gleaming new all-inclusives."



Rock House Turks and Caicos GRACE BAY RESORTS

Patricia Affonso Das, President of [Caribbean Hotel and Tourism](#), tells me, "We got a peek into the future as over 5,000 new hotel rooms came online regionally in 2018 with over 25,000 more in the construction and planning stages. Existing hotels continue to invest in refurbishments and introducing new services and amenities. We witnessed an unprecedented surge in new airlift into the region, presenting more opportunities to entice travelers to our shores. Investor and government confidence in Caribbean tourism's future was further buoyed as hundreds of millions of dollars were spent on upgraded and expanded airport facilities.



Itzana Resort & Residences in Belize ITZANA

I spoke with former CHTA President and famed St. Lucia hotelier Karolin Troubetsky and she says, "A lot of new development took place in the Dominican Republic. Personally, I am excited about Silversands Grenada which only just opened. I definitely want to go to Dominica with Secret Bay reopened, as well as the Kempinski Cabrits and Jungle Bay. All in all, I am excited as we see a great mixture of new properties opening, from small boutiques, luxury chains, to more

commercial but exciting all-inclusive brands."

Frank Comito, Director General, and CEO of the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association tells me "Much of the growth is occurring at the luxury end. We are seeing a number of destinations stepping up with new and upgraded properties in 2018 with more planned for 2019. Destinations like Antigua, Cayman Islands, Grenada, St. Kitts, The Bahamas and Turks and Caicos and have opened new luxury properties.

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The Dominican Republic and the Mexican Caribbean are now seeing the results of a deliberate thrust several years ago to attract luxury resort investments, taking all-inclusive resorts to a new level, with AMResorts leading the way. Sandals Resorts has upgraded several of its properties in the region and Jamaica is seeing new high-end investments. The Cays along Belize are also witnessing significant investments."

Here are the Top 10 new properties we are most excited about as well as many more on the pipeline to open in 2019 and beyond.



Cabrits Resort & Spa Kempinski in Dominica KEMPINSKI



Cabrits Resort & Spa Kempinski in Dominica KEMPINSKI

Cabrits Resort & Spa Kempinski / Dominica

One of the most talked about launches set to open late 2019, the new Kempinski will be located outside Portsmouth on the northern tip of the island and will have 160 rooms, and a spa. The luxurious tropical destination is surrounded by the Cabrits National Park in Dominica, home to 365 rivers, waterfalls and hot springs. Its four room categories include Junior Suites, Bays Suites, Executive Suites and a Presidential Villa, which will have two bedrooms, indoor/outdoor living spaces, kitchen, private pool, and a private spa treatment room.

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