

june 2024

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Onsite/Onboard Reviews

Aeneas Route, Turkey

Cunard's *Queen Anne*

Plantation Resort on Crystal River

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Both images: Culinary offerings at the Love by Britto restaurant on board *Sun Princess* (top); Presidential suite at Casa de Campo in the Dominican Republic (right).

ON THE COVER: Recommend saying "I do" on a secluded sandbar in The Exumas in The Bahamas. (Photo credit: The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism.)



Destination Romance—Trends for Two

By Lydia Gregory & Laurel Herman

Resorts and destinations in Mexico and the Caribbean are elevating the romance and wedding scene with fresh, innovative offerings and packages, setting the stage for couples to create unforgettable moments and celebrations.



Jr. suite with plunge pool at Cayo Levantado Resort in Samana, Dominican Republic.

Dominican “I Do’s”

The Dominican Republic has more than its fair share of off-the-charts venues for romance, starting with the iconic **Casa de Campo**. Sprawled across 7,000 gorgeously manicured acres, it offers 250 guestrooms, 50 villas, eight restaurants and three Pete Dye golf courses, not to mention a beach, a marina, an equestrian center and the spectacular Altos de Chavon, a replica of a 16th-century Mediterranean village that’s just begging to be in wedding videos and albums. This is the place for weddings from 10 to 5,000, and brides can choose from the unique open-air tent on the water of the Marina Riverside Center or the 5,000-seat amphitheater in the village, just to name two venues.

Another extraordinary choice is the eco-friendly **Cayo Levantado Resort**, which puts an entire private island at the service of the happy couple. Director of Sales Areli Rosales shares the resort has numerous “dreamy settings: from a typical barefoot wedding on white sands with complete privacy on your own private beach, to a Victorian-style terrace for those who love the idea of a wedding but prefer to wear heels.” They also offer a shamanic union for “free-spirited couples,” as well as more traditional officiants.

The property has 10 luxurious categories of suites, including every amenity and a personal ambassador. Rosales points to the beachfront villas with “breathtaking sunrises” and the 1-bedroom villas with a view of Samana Bay, a private plunge pool and “the best sunset views,” as favorites for couples. Ask about the Bridal Suite, and bridal parties can enjoy a 20 percent discount on spa services for group bookings and VIP check-in privileges.

Contact Information

AIC Hotel Group: allinagents.com

Atlantis Paradise Island: atlantisbahamas.com/travelagent

The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism: bahamas.com

Blue Diamond Resorts: bluediamondresorts.com/travel-professionals

Casa de Campo: casadecampo.com.do/travel-agents

Cayo Levantado Resort: cayolevantadoresort.com

Palladium Hotel Group: pro.palladiumhotelgroup.com

Sandals Resorts: taportal.sandals.com