

REAL *weddings* & HONEYMOONS

MARTHA STEWART

True Romance

Stunning
Celebrations
Full of Ideas
You'll Love!

PLANNING YOUR
DREAM GETAWAY

GORGEOUS
GOWNS
IN CLASSIC
SILHOUETTES

Plus

Where to
Get Married Now
Amazing New
Venues From
Coast to Coast

GETAWAYS

ISLAND COMEBACK

Less than a year after Hurricanes Irma and Maria, the beloved honeymoon destinations in the Caribbean and surrounding region are very much open for business. The recovery is ongoing and—like rums and accents—varies island to island, but the following spots (including St. Barts, shown here) all deliver on white-sand beaches and luxurious hotels.

TEXT BY ADAM ERACE AND SARAH HORNE GROSE



PUERTO RICO

Head here for Spanish colonial architecture, an electric restaurant scene, and magnificent beaches—no passport required.

WHERE TO STAY

Condado, the ripple of sand between Laguna del Condado and the Atlantic, has been San Juan's jet-set address since the mid-1900s. New to its lineup of storied properties is the **Serafina Beach Hotel** (from \$225 per night, serafinabeachhotel.com), the first hotel from New York's Serafina Restaurant Group. Its 96 white-and-gray rooms have floor-length windows with water views, and it's home to an Italian-Puerto Rican restaurant, aMare; and PiñaCo, a lobby bar that serves mojitos until midnight and detoxifying green juice in the morning. **Las Casitas Village, a Waldorf Astoria Resort** (from \$499 per night, lascasitavillage.com)—part of the bluffside El Conquistador on the island's northeast point—reopens this



Watermelon radish and beet "carpaccio" at Verde Mesa

September; its terra-cotta-tiled mini villas are staffed by butlers who can stock your fridge and arrange rainforest expeditions. And in October, **Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve** (from \$699 per night, ritzcarlton.com) in sleepy Dorado will reclaim its status among Puerto Rico's finest luxury resorts. A former Rockefeller estate, the low-slung sanctuary blends seamlessly into the jungle with gardens and lagoons.

WHERE TO EAT

Skip the in-room Nespresso and go straight to **Café Cuatro Sombras** (cuatrosombras.com), set in a handsome, wrought-iron-tattooed Old San Juan building. According to owner Pablo Muñoz, the storms devastated the island's coffee industry, and having a cup of local arabica brew is an easy and delicious way to support it. Grab lunch (think radish carpaccio with pickled beets, and fresh local juices) a couple of blocks away at **Verde Mesa** (787-390-4662), a cozy dining room with mismatched

antique chairs that reopened with the help of a Kickstarter campaign. And **Jose Enrique** (joseenriquepr.com) continues to lead the culinary scene with his namesake no-reservations restaurant (which he turned into a volunteer-run soup kitchen after the storm) in Santurce, a short drive away. Get there early (say, 5 P.M. for dinner) for the shortest wait and broadest menu; written on a whiteboard, items get erased as they sell out. The crispy whole fish with tropical fruit salsa often goes first.

WHAT TO DO

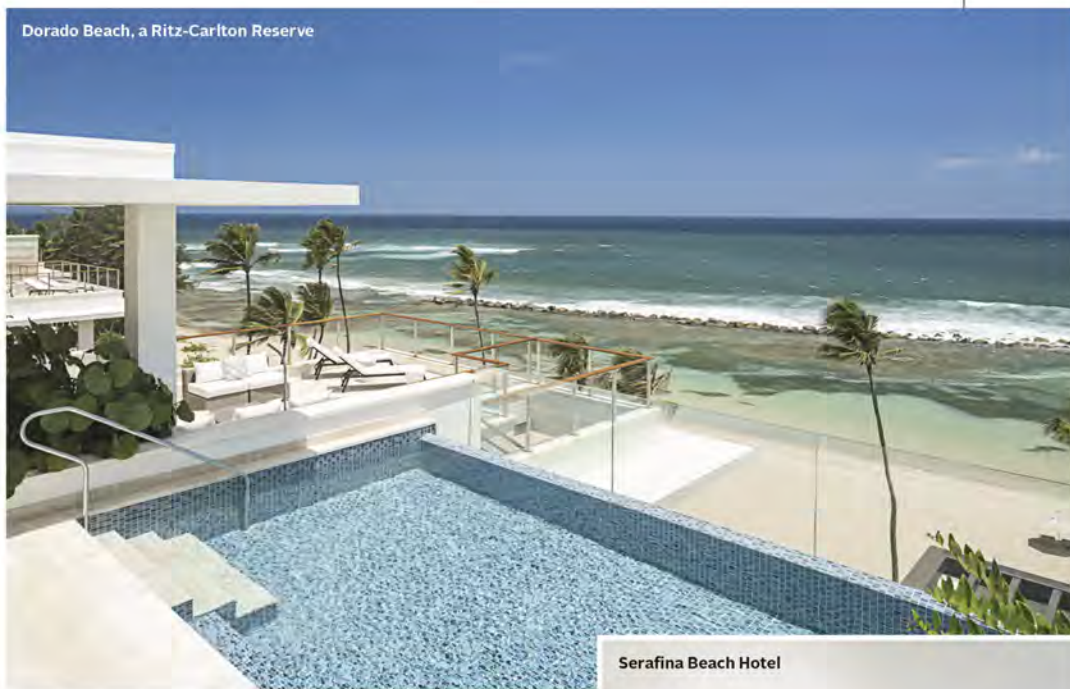
Take a break from the sun with some local culture (and welcome air conditioning) at a couple of San Juan's most esteemed institutions. The **Museo de Arte de Puerto Rico** (mapr.org) is housed in a grand former hospital with a sculpture garden; its collection, featuring works by island artists from the 17th century to the present, was

spared during Hurricane María. Then walk over to the **Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico** (mac-pr.org), which focuses on works by Latin American, Caribbean, and Puerto Rican artists.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

See PuertoRico.com has launched a volunteerism arm, *Meaningful Travel*, in the wake of María, linking up travelers with locals on *Rebuild Days* all over the island (sepuertorico.com/en/meaningful-travel).

Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve



Serafina Beach Hotel

