

The Westerly House Hotel – Luxury Boutique Hotel: Platinum Coast, Barbados

Summary

The Platinum Coast in the St. James province of Barbados is undoubtedly the haunt of the glitterati and one of the best known stretches of beach in the Caribbean. With its pristine sands, endless watersports and bevy of fashionable restaurants and boutiques, it's easy to see the appeal of this part of Barbados. But our Westerly House is a small luxury hotel that breaks the mould in offering holidays or honeymoons in Barbados with an air of quiet sophistication. It manages to retain a Caribbean feel, with impeccable service and a beachfront location to die for. The romantic hotel's philosophy is to make this your luxury home in Barbados. In short, the serene glamour of this adults-only environment is the anathema to all the bling of its famous neighbour, Sandy Lane.

Details

Let's deal with the obvious first; the prices may not be in the same league as those at Sandy Lane, but this hotel is undeniably expensive. But then again all hotels are expensive on this coast; that's the price of rubbing shoulders with the *celebs*. So what do you get for your money here?: a wonderful beachfront location, an exclusive and cocooned environment and fabulous food. But the real clincher is the impeccable service. Friendly without being intrusive, your white-robed "ambassadors" will tend to your every need and seemingly materialise even before your request forms on the lips.

The "home from home" philosophy starts with a complimentary champagne breakfast every morning. Bottled water is provided free of charge throughout the day, as are fruit and ice-cream treats on the beach. High tea is also thrown in, and there'll always be port and torte waiting for you when you get home in the evening. Oh, and there's the half hour complimentary jet-lag massage on offer, just to ease you into holiday mode, and whilst this is by no means an all-inclusive resort hotel, there are many watersports available on the beach free of charge.

Set on the road that runs along the Platinum Coast, the hotel resembles a castle on the outside (you'll even be driven over moat-like water gardens to enter), with white walls, dark wooden floors and minimalist styling on the inside. Tropical gardens with floating pools and fountains lead through the open-air lounge to the beach and pool gardens beyond. By night the beach and gardens are lit by thousands of fairy lights and flaming torches; a most enchanting setting. There's an acclaimed Italian restaurant, but if you want to make the evening really special, you can commandeer a private gazebo on the beach for a romantic candlelit dinner "a deux".

You'll probably come to Barbados with a list of "must-dos". There's the shopping in Bridgetown and Speitstown, plus the little boutiques in Holetown near the hotel. There are trips to the east coast and Bathsheba, the renowned surfing spot, where the Atlantic pounds the island. There are jungle treks, tours round the historic sugar plantations, rum distilleries and seasonal carnivals, not to mention Jazz festivals, performing arts seasons and "Crop Over". There's even a trip to a polo match (a big pastime here, with Jodi Kidd's family owning a stables nearby) or game of cricket. But the likelihood is that, like most guests, once you've arrived you'll find yourself simply relaxing on the glorious golden sand most days, indulging in little more than a Sunday brunch at a local plantation house or an evening at the hotel's weekly champagne cocktail party where local art and diamond jewellery are showcased. Well, a little bit of bling never hurt anyone!

Barbados is the perfect Winter Sun destination: easy to combine with a stay in Miami or as part of a "puddle-jumping" multi-island Caribbean holiday.

For more images see www.c-boutiquehotels.com

To book this hotel call 08717 500070



Facts & Figures

34 Guest Suites, all with private terrace or balcony:

- Garden View Junior Suite – Large room with open-plan sitting room, with garden views; some have glimpses of the sea.
- Ocean View Junior Suite – Large room with open-plan sitting room, with ocean views
- Garden View 1-bedroom Suite – Spacious suite with bedroom, separate sitting room, 2 bathrooms. Some have private pool.
- Ocean View 1-bedroom Suite – Spacious suite with bedroom, separate sitting room, 2 bathrooms and Ocean View from both bedroom and sitting room.
- Luxury Ocean View 1-bedroom Suite – Largest room with spectacular views of the Caribbean Sea. Large bedroom, sitting room, and large private balcony/patio.

All rooms have: Feather-topped pillows, duvets and Egyptian cotton linen. Ensuite bathrooms (all with bathtubs) – Plasma screen cable TV – DVD players – Telephone & Wifi – Air-Con/heating – Safe – Hairdryers

Hotel facilities: Pool & Jacuzzi – Direct Beach Access and Beachside Gourmet Restaurant (closed Mondays Jun-Nov) – Personal Ambassador Service – In-room massages – Gym – Small Library, Business Station & Board Games – Complimentary watersports (Kayak, Snorkelling, Boogie Boards, Windsurfing, Water-skiing, Tube Rides, Hobie-Cat sailing) – Gardens – Veranda – Bar

Also at and around hotel (extra cost): Golf – Bike Hire – Boat tours & hire – Other watersports (e.g. jetski & scuba) – Tennis

Prices include: Champagne breakfast, half-hour jetlag massage (must be booked 24 hrs ahead), nibbles on the beach, High Tea, Port & Torte in the evening, water-taxi service along the coast. NB. This hotel is an adult-only environment; no guests under 18yrs. The rooms and bathrooms are due to be refurbished shortly

Can be hired for functions – please ask for details

Regional Highlights

- Days relaxing by the pool or enjoying watersports the beach; there is a reef which is excellent for snorkelling/diving. Walk down the beach for a spot of celebrity watching at Sandy Lane
- Stroll around the quaint nearby settlement of Holetown, or visit Bridgetown for its shopping
- Boat trips along the coast or glass bottomed boat rides
- Nightlife, as low-key or upscale as you like, with gourmet restaurants to casual "roti-bars", plus seasonal festivals and parades
- Visit to historical sugarcane plantation houses (enjoy brunch at exclusive Fisher Pond Plantation, but book ahead) or tour the local rum distilleries
- Jungle treks inland, or visits to the surfers' East Coast
- Spectator sports – a day at the polo or cricket – both favourite Bajan pastimes
- Golf at the famous Sandy Lane course (heralded as one of the top ten courses in the world)
- Warm tropical temperatures all year round – a great Winter Sun destination and perfect to combine with a stay on other Caribbean islands or a city break in Miami

Location

Nearest airports:
Nearest direct flight from UK
Nearest shops & restaurants:
Nearest Beach

Barbados Bridgetown
Barbados Bridgetown
Doorstep, or Holetown (1 mile)
On the beach front

