



THE GRAPEVINE

WINTER 2023



I am grateful for all that is close at hand, our hard-working teams at both hotels, our loyal guests, my family and the fact that I live in Beautiful Barbados. There is a local saying, 'God is a Bajan'. On the other hand, the world is increasingly troubled with divisive politics and sadly, wars being waged.

I stayed in Barbados rather than travelling in the summer and during our closures in September we were happy to be able to do some lovely upgrades. I live on site at Coral Reef, as many of you know who attend the weekly cocktail party at my home and was subjected to lots of construction noise but it didn't bother me at all. With no guests to be disturbed at the time, I was quite relaxed and happy to know the results would be enjoyed by all of the guests after we re-opened. I see guests playing on the refurbished tennis court by my home every evening.

We have been most fortunate to have had very busy hotels over the last year and are delighted to welcome back so many familiar faces and also lots of new ones too, who have departed with firm promises to return!

I am not one to toot our own horn, so to speak, but at this stage of my life I can happily reflect on where we've come from the small hotel that Budge and I came to in 1956 and to consider all the dedicated staff that have worked with us over the years and the fact that my family have taken the hotels from strength to strength. It is also heartening to see the next generation showing an interest and taking up roles in the hotels.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and all the very best for a peaceful and prosperous 2024.

Cynthia O'Hara

CYNTHIA O'HARA
CHAIRMAN



PICTURED THE O'HARA & CAPALDI FAMILIES



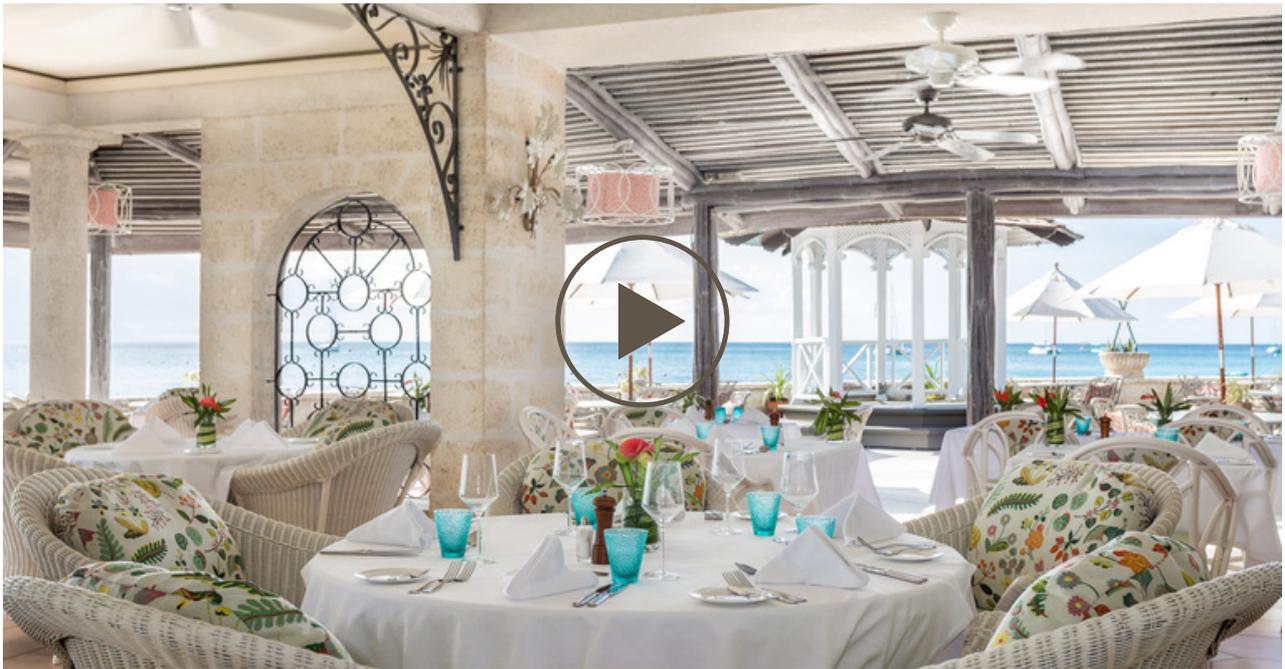
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RENOVATIONS

During our annual September closures, we were delighted to tackle many projects, some of which are behind the scenes, but many of which we are pleased to say guests will definitely notice and enjoy.

CORAL REEF CLUB



THE REEF RESTAURANT & TERRACE

The Reef Restaurant has been given a complete refresh with its rattan and wicker furniture in soothing cream colours and enhanced by pretty Schumacher fabrics. The Coral Terrace has had further enhancements with the installation of a hand carved coral seating area in the classic Olivier Messel style and beautiful fabrics in the newly lush setting, the best place for sundowners or lunch by the sea.





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THE MAIN POOL

The main pool has been completely refurbished with a fresh look to the colonial inspired gazebos in white and furnished inside with classic Colefax & Fowler fabric, refreshed furniture, new stone deck and cushions throughout.

In addition, buzzers are now on the umbrella stands to enhance the level of service in this area.



THE GYM

The gym has been completely refurbished and has new Life Fitness treadmills, bikes and a Smith machine along with a Waterrower. In addition, we have re-surfaced our tennis courts. We are ready for those who have fitness top of mind and The Spa is equally ready for the wind down - massages, yoga and all of the other wonderful treatments that our dedicated team offer. The Spa just celebrated its 15th anniversary and we're proud that so many clients say how new it still looks, testimony to the way our team upkeep and care for The Spa.

TENNIS COURTS

Our tennis courts were re-surfaced and are in great shape for some good games between guests and for the complimentary tennis clinics we offer, with our fantastic visiting tennis pros who host daily afternoon sessions.





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CORAL REEF CLUB X THE HIDE'S CHEF OLLIE DABBOUS

In October Michelin Starred Chef Ollie Dabbous of the highly acclaimed Hide Restaurant in London joined us at Coral Reef Club for a prestigious chef collaboration. Chef Ollie worked alongside Executive Chef Hance Bannister collaborating on a locally inspired menu for several unforgettable dining experiences.



[Click here to see the Chefs in action](#)



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RENOVATIONS

THE SANDPIPER



THE JUICE BAR



The eponymous Harold's bar, overseen by the one and only Harold - who guests and we, say can never retire! - has been joined by a little addition tucked neatly into the garden next door. Inspired by the younger generation who like to balance their rum with their fresh juices, the Juice Bar offers a healthy alternative, serving freshly squeezed juices, fresh coconut water and frozen yoghurt, with a herb garden alongside. The knowledgeable team at the Juice bar will also create individual fresh juices and shots and have numerous options other than what's on the menu. Although touted as the healthy alternative - shh, on the quiet, we do also serve our own soft serve ice cream, with Sandpiper's special dark chocolate salted 'Flake'.

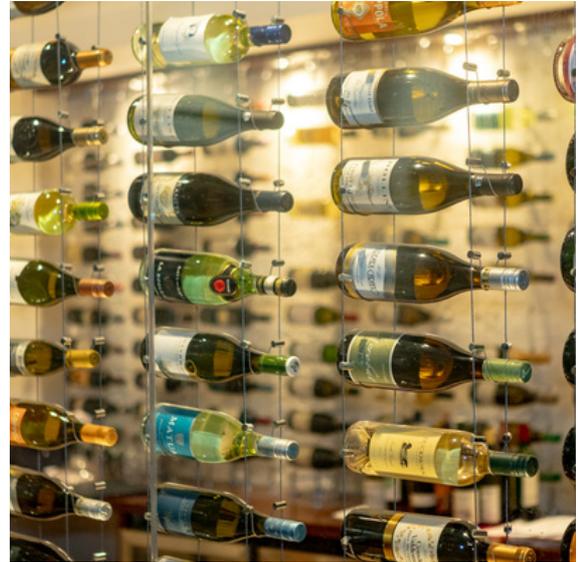


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THE WINE CELLAR

To balance out all that healthy living, we have given just as much attention to wine as we have to fresh juice. Our revamped wine cellar has a stunning new appearance enhancing the views from the restaurant and displaying our excellent cellar in a far more inviting manner. The glass cellar boasts a state-of-the-art temperature-controlled design and proudly showcases an extensive array of wines and champagnes.



THE GYM

Similarly to Coral Reef, Sandpiper has also completely renovated the gym, glassed to overlook the garden and creating a much improved setting along with some new equipment.



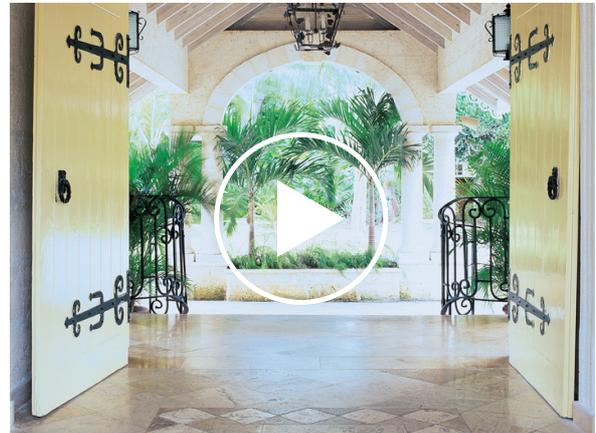
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EXPERIENCES

A-CLASS ARRIVAL

We have hosted some wonderful beach dinners since offering this enhanced experience. Please do let us know if you'd like to plan something special for two, or a dinner party up to eight persons. Here's a glance of our A-Class Arrival, available at both hotels, a journey that begins from your arrival at the airport and seamlessly continues throughout your holiday.



TOP OF THE WORLD



THE SUITE LIFE



For those who are seeking a truly special private dining experience in beautiful private surroundings, The Suite Life at Coral Reef Club or The Top of the World at The Sandpiper allow us to provide you with just that.

For a table of 2 to 8 persons.



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CHEF SHELINA PERMALLOO

At The Sandpiper, winner of BBC's Master Chef UK, TV Personality, Restaurant Owner and Cookbook Author joined The Sandpiper during the Food & Rum activities. Pictured is Chef Shelina working alongside our very own Chef Andrew on a dish that was featured at Sandpiper's restaurant.

Guests also enjoyed a special rum showcase with local mixologists, and a beach barbecue at Harold's with fire eaters and live entertainment to round off the Food & Rum Festival.



Our Food & Rum activities occur in the heart of the Barbados Food & Rum festival in October.



VEGAN & SALADS

We have carefully designed a selection of plant-based dishes and vibrant salads to cater to a range of tastes and dietary needs. Our chefs have poured their creativity into crafting recipes that not only showcase the beauty of plant-based ingredients but also deliver a burst of flavors. From hearty and protein-packed vegan entrees to crisp, refreshing salads bursting with fresh local ingredients, our goal is to provide a dining experience that is both satisfying and nourishing.





THE TEAM

We took the time this summer to reconnect and also train our staff as we rolled out new features to both hotels.

STAFF TRAINING



Training is essential in our programme each year as we re-open the hotels and we are delighted that our staff that have been with us for years are still eager to refresh their skills and acknowledge that they can keep learning. We said goodbye to many who retired and thanked all who have helped us welcome guests over so many years and to make Coral Reef Club and The Sandpiper the special places that our guests tell us they are. We welcome new members to the team and look forward to long and happy working relationships with them too. They will no doubt soon come to understand that it's a two-way street. Our team makes our guests feel welcome and our repeat guests make our new staff welcome!

TEAM BUILDING AT THE SANDPIPER



Here are some photos from The Sandpiper's recent team building activities, we're sure you'll spot some of your favourites in the heat of things.

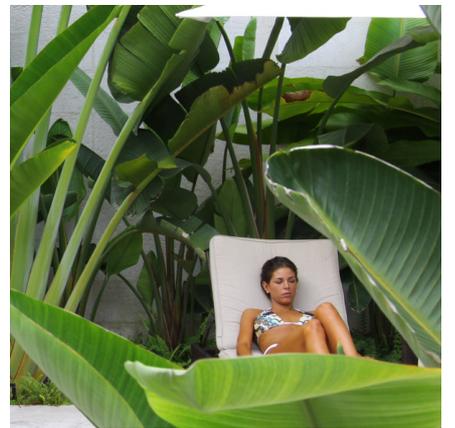
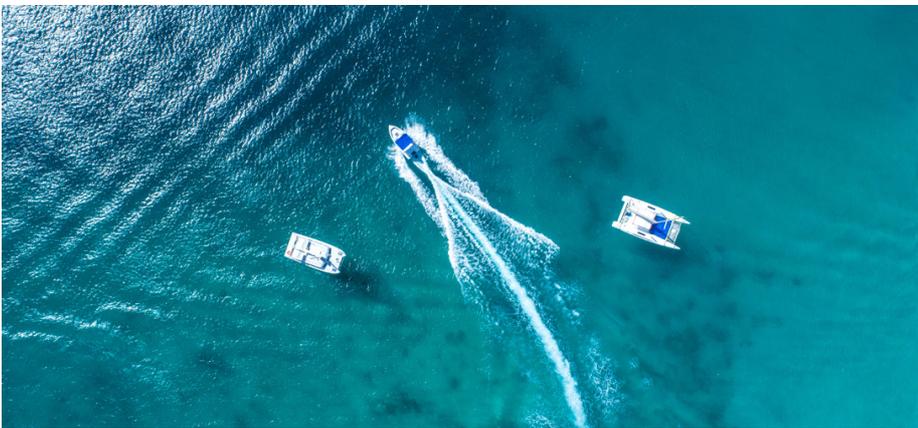
IT WAS A PARTY!

After two years of COVID-related restrictions preventing us from honoring our staff, this year marked a momentous occasion as we hosted a joint staff party, uniting the teams of Coral Reef Club and The Sandpiper. The evening was an opportunity for everyone to don their finest attire, indulge in exquisite dining, savor delightful drinks, and revel in a night of pure celebration! The event was a resounding success as we danced the night away on a warm and unforgettable summer evening amidst the lush gardens of Coral Reef Club.





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Pictured: The Honourable Mia Mottley
Source: PMO

PRIME MINISTER MIA AMOR MOTTLEY FEATURED IN THE WORLD'S 100 MOST POWERFUL WOMEN 2023 LIST

Honourable Prime Minister, Mia Amor Mottley, has made Forbes' 2023 Most Powerful Women in The World, listed at number #99. This inclusion underscores her significant contributions and influence on the global stage. It is a testament to her leadership style and the effectiveness of her governance.

AIRLIFT TO BARBADOS



BRITISH AIRWAYS

Enjoy regular flights from London Gatwick – Bridgetown.

VIRGIN ATLANTIC

Enjoy 24 flights a week with Virgin Atlantic. From January 8th 2024, Barbados will now see double daily flights, London Heathrow - Bridgetown, along with four weekly flights from Manchester - Bridgetown.

NORSE AIRLINES

Starting from 29th October 2023 the Norwegian airline is offering flights from London Gatwick – Bridgetown.

UNITED AIRLINES

In September 2023, United Airlines launched a year-round service from Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) and Dulles International Airport (IAD) – Bridgetown.

AMERICAN AIRLINES

From December 21st American Airlines will resume its service between Charlotte Douglas International Airport - Bridgetown, along with its regular MIA – Bridgetown flights.