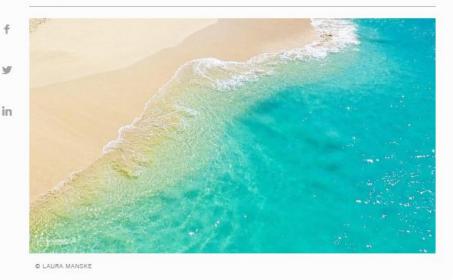
Forbes

Good News Winter 2019 Travel: A Beloved Caribbean Island's Post-Hurricane Comeback





Daydreaming about tropical travel for winter 2019? There is no better way to cheer the comeback of Caribbean islands that faced the heartbreaking fury of twin hurricanes Irma and Maria in September 2017 than by turning your fantasy into a reality. The especially good vacation news: Many of the impacted hotels and villas that were able to rebuild now showcase appealing novel facilities, increased amenities and improved infrastructure, elevating visitors' overall experiences. Eager to woo travelers anew, lodging rates have also been favorably adjusted. One of the most inspiring revival stories is Anguilla (rhymes with vanilla), a British overseas territory approximately 10 miles north of the dual-sovereignty island of Saint Martin (French) / Sint Maarten (Dutch).

With pristine sugary white sand beaches, tranquil vibes, serene low-lying landscape — only 16 miles from East End to West End; three miles at its widest stretch — and scores of spacious villas, Anguilla has long been an alluring, coveted hideaway, especially for celebrities and business moguls. Now it further dazzles. For devoted foodies, a sumptuous array of superb chef-driven restaurants excel. At only 35 square miles and with fewer than 15,000 residents, Anguilla astoundingly nurtures more than 100 restaurants — world-class fine-dining venues and notable beach-side shacks. Feast on tender langoustines, melt-in-your-mouth jerk chicken and sustainably-caught crayfish and red snapper.

Here, the best of boosted Anguilla. Stay tuned for additional reports about other islands' post-hurricane developments.

Where to Stay & Play



Francipani Beach Resort o thierry dehove photography / Francipani Beach resort

The intimate, boutique-size Frangipani Beach Resort (photo above), peacefully welcoming on Meads Bay, is family owned and operated, which means guests garner even more personalized attention from staff and galvanize an understanding of authentic Anguillian culture. Its flavorful Straw Hat Restaurant remains popular. A new rooftop lounge and Balinese-theme spa add sparkle. Focusing on sustainability and renewable energy, solar power will soon be incorporated into the property. At beachfront cabanas, massage therapists ease stress away while ocean sounds serve as soothing background music.

For more info and ideas, go to Visit Anguilla.

Based in NYC, Manske has been an on-staff editor at many top magazines, as well as a freelance journalist. She has been called a trend-spotter, culture connoisseur and idea genie. Her book is "Family Travel: The Farther You Go, The Closer You Get."

Manske has visited most US states, 80+ countries and 70+ ships. She believes in the power of travel to transform, inspire and unite us.

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