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## Chic boutiques for a sexy getaway

**BY JANE REYNOLDS**

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There's something about boutique hotels that make them sexier than your average getaway: Smaller spaces and dark corners, personalized service, and often diligent attention to detail make them well-suited for the romantically-inclined. We picked our favorite boutiques that have all the necessary trappings for romance.

### GRAMERCY PARK HOTEL

New York City

The Gramercy Park Hotel currently sets the bar for New York cool - hence the celebrities in the lounge and the paparazzi on the sidewalk. Couples that want to stay in the center of New York's nightlife will do well to choose this utterly unique hotel.

Handsome. Old-world. Bohemian-chic. These are all words that come to mind to describe the rooms at the Gramercy.

No cookie-cutter bathrooms here. The vanity area is open to the bedroom but can be closed off by French doors. The toilet and shower/tub each have their own walled-off areas. A window and a tiled seat in the shower, and the giant soaking tub, are particularly nice touches.

The Rose Bar, an exclusive, velvet-heavy lounge, routinely draws a well-heeled crowd and is a chic space for couples to cozy up.

## GEEJAM

Port Antonio, Jamaica

The Geejam is made up of only five private, high-tech cottages on the lush (and therefore rainy) foothills of Port Antonio. The service is extraordinary and the setting is gorgeous; couples can enjoy the views from pretty decks.

The five private abodes - all different - are sheltered from prying eyes by dense flora - think: a cabin, crossed with a bungalow, crossed with a Japanese teahouse. The Ska room, seen here, is composed of a single room, a tiny bathroom with a walk-in shower, and a huge wraparound terrace that comes with a private outdoor whirlpool.

The significantly larger Drum and Bass suite, attached to the recording studio, boasts a direct view of the sea from its private terrace. You can also overlook the sea in the Drum and Bass suite while soaking in a tub designed by Philippe Starck.

Although Geejam is not directly on the beach, it's only a 10-minute drive from one of world's most beautiful beaches, Frenchman's Cove. There is also a small beach at the foot of the property.

## THE SETAI MIAMI BEACH

Miami

Paradise doesn't come cheap. Striking but sober mood-lit design, impeccable service, huge rooms, three pools (each a different temperature), and a prime beachside location make the Setai one of the best hotels in Miami.

The hotel's 85 rooms may lack SoBe flavor and direct ocean views - but they're gorgeous, gigantic and filled with luxurious amenities. There are also 39 rental suites available in The Tower building.

One of the hotel's unique, sexy features is the black granite soaking tub in the middle of the guest rooms.

The hotel's carefully manicured grounds, lined with sweeping palm trees, a lush, walled-off pool complex, and a spotless beach, more successfully balance relaxation with the colorful South Beach surroundings.

With three splendid pools, a world-class spa and a state-of-the-art gym, Setai guests want for nothing.

## HOTEL SHANGRI LA SANTA MONICA

Los Angeles

Hotel Shangri La is a slick and inviting 70-room boutique overlooking the Pacific. Its iconic Art Deco exterior has the curvy contours of an elegant ocean liner.

Inside, the same Art Deco aesthetic, with a dash of minimalism, prevails. Ultra-comfy rooms look pristine, feel lavish yet unfussy and include almost everything a couple could desire.

The sleek, white-tiled bathroom includes a peek-a-boo window so you can see the tub from the bed.

Secreted from the street in an interior courtyard, the chic pool area comes with music, plenty of room to chill out and delicious food and cocktails. Its design plays on the hotel's nautical theme.

The restaurant's outdoor seating area near the pool conjures up images of a private yacht en route to Casablanca or Istanbul.

## SIVORY PUNTA CANA

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

One of the few boutique hotels in Punta Cana, the quiet, 55-room Sivory lures mostly couples to its secluded location. At Sivory, everything is designed to promote relaxation - from the comfortable rooms to the spa to the reflecting pool attached to the lobby (shown here).

Guest rooms are modern, beach-chic and big.

As for the bathroom, I'll go ahead and say it: A two-person whirlpool and a two-person shower with two shower heads on opposing walls can make for a phenomenal couples vacation.

The Honeymoon Suite at the Sivory also comes with a private outdoor whirlpool.

Sivory has a small pool with lounge chairs built into it along with plenty of additional lounge chairs lining the perimeter.

The open-air Aquarea Spa & Wellness Center draws more guests than the beach or the pool. Even better, access is free.

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