



## Aruba... a safe bet for honeymooners

Imagine a table set up on the beach, illuminated by flame torches and candlelight. Waiters serving a five-course meal of Caribbean shrimp, lobster, chocolate mousse and, of course, champagne. Sound romantic? It's all part of the honeymoon treatment at Bucuti Beach Resort on Aruba's dreamy Eagle Beach.

Aruba, in the heart of the southern Caribbean, two-and-a-half hours from Miami, fits the honeymoon bill perfectly, with its uncrowded sandy beaches and turquoise sea. But what sets it apart from many islands is the hospitality – Aruba is a happy, crime-free place. It's also outside the hurricane belt with

temperatures averaging 30°C all year round. Sunsets are a speciality. When you're tired of sipping cocktails and eating al fresco, you can hire a jeep to shop in the old Dutch capital Oranjestad and tour the rugged cactus-studded windward coast. Or explore the undersea world on a Da Palm Island Seatrek, where you use a helmet with a constant surface air supply to walk along the seabed and visit an ocean wreck. On other days, you can join a snorkelling cruise from Pelican Pier along Palm Beach or walk along Mumba Beach for a dreamy Aruba Ariba rum punch at dusk.

**Best beach:** Eagle Beach.

**Best beach bar/restaurant:** Pirates Nest at the Bucuti Beach resort.